



Photo by Erich Boekelheide

Panelists Andrei Sinyavsky, Fruim Yurevich, Vladimir Voinovich and Leonard Schroeter share a light moment during Wednesday's discussion of dissident literature and human rights

## Soviet dissident writers reveal political strife

By CHARLENE BELL  
Of the Emerald

For Soviet writers, freedom of speech frequently outweighs the value of one's own life.

It's no accident that writers are in the forefront of the Soviet Union human rights movement, agreed participants of a panel discussion on dissident literature and human rights Wednesday night.

The discussion was part of a four-day symposium on Soviet Literature and Human Rights sponsored by the Russian and East European studies department and the Oregon Committee for the Humanities.

Panel members included Soviet satirical writer Vladimir Voinovich, Soviet-emigre writer Andrei Sinyavsky and wife Marianna Rosenavna, University political science Prof. Joseph Fiszman, Russian Prof. Fruim Yurevich, Portland State University Prof. Ladis Kristof, and Voinovich's lawyer, Leonard Schroeter.

The human rights quest in the Soviet Union reached literary circles during the period known as the "Kruschev thaw," when Soviet Premier Nikita Kruschev permitted a softening of censorship.

"The intelligentsia began to demand an

explanation for the terrors incurred under Stalin's persecution of Soviet artists. When the government provided no explanations and no guarantees of further abuses some began to seek their own answers," said Sinyavsky, a concentration camp survivor.

When asked what incentive remains for modern Soviet writers, Sinyavsky answered, "The desire to write can be compared to love. What incites a man to love a particular woman? You can love from a distance — yet you will be unhappy all your life and reproach yourself for not expressing your love."

The panelists noted that westerners don't understand why the Soviet emigre does not concern himself with the more "meaningful social issues" like strikes and shortages.

"You must first have the right to speak, then you can begin to address the other more 'meaningful' concerns," Sinyavsky said.

However, Voinovich said the government-approved literature that exemplified Stalin's concept of "social realism" influences more people than all the great Russian masters' works combined.

"Yet now, government propoganda calls for self-sacrifice on one hand, and yet, on the other hand, it calls for betrayal of friends, and cowardice," Voinovich said.

### Takes job at USC

## Architecture dean resigns

Robert Harris, dean of the University's School of Architecture and Allied Arts for the last decade, has announced his resignation.

Harris, 45, accepted an offer to lead the University of

Southern California's architecture program in Los Angeles. His appointment is effective Aug. 1.

Harris joined the University faculty as head of the architecture department in 1967 and

was named dean in 1971.

University Pres. Paul Olum called Harris' resignation "a severe loss for us. He's a very good dean."

During his long tenure as dean, Harris worked to obtain additional state funding from the Legislature to maintain state college and university buildings. In particular, he pushed for funding of a new building for the school.

The 1979 Legislature authorized initial design work and placed the addition at the top of the 1981 higher education capital construction priority list, but the state's budget problems forced the elimination of all construction funds from the budget.

Harris previously taught architecture at the University of Texas at Austin for seven years. While teaching there, Harris also was in private practice and served as a consultant to the city of Austin.

Harris graduated from Rice University and holds a master's degree from Princeton University.

## Thefts hit campus theater

The library isn't the only campus area plagued by theft.

The University Theatre also has received its share of wallet and purse thefts — and just recently, tap shoes from its upcoming production of "Anything Goes," according to theater director Grant McKernie.

Theft has been a problem at the theater all year, but the recent upsurge has prompted the student players association "Mask and Buskin" to organize volunteers to watch the backstage areas during shows, McKernie says.

Despite the groups' efforts, a wallet was stolen during the recent production of "Buried

Child."

The empty wallets and purses often are found discarded — one wallet even was found at Lane Community College, McKernie says.

Thefts also have occurred in the Robinson Theatre basement, where make-up, costume, dressing rooms and student lockers are located.

"We've had to institute a strict policy for the cast and crew of 'Anything Goes,'" McKernie says. "All belongings are kept in one place. That's made money less available, so now it seems clothing is the target."

Two pairs of shoes were taken during the show's Tuesday rehearsal.

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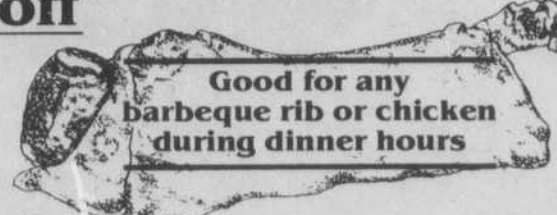
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