

Efficient management paid off

# Eaton leaves 'credible' student government

By PAUL TELLES  
Of the Emerald

"The whole thing we talked about last year," says Dave Eaton, who ended his term as ASUO president Friday, "is that when you come into this job you can't expect to change the world."

Following last year's mishap-ridden ASUO under Scott Bassett, Eaton thus tried to establish an agenda of higher-education issues on which the ASUO could have an effective voice. For the most part, Eaton feels he's accomplished the goals he set.

At the top of the list was re-establishing the ASUO as a credible voice in University life. Consequently, Eaton says he tried to approach his office as a management problem, concentrating on efficient operation of the ASUO executive and programs rather than political coups.

"Without this kind of thing, no matter how good of a politician you are, your office isn't going to work."

Along with Chris Moore, his

vice president for administration and finance, Eaton pared away at the ASUO's incidental fee budget, reducing the incidental fee for the first time in years.

"We think we cut the budget without seriously affecting the programs," Eaton says.

Through it all, Eaton's office heard little program criticism of his and Moore's budget recommendations, in sharp contrast to the criticism heaped on the Incidental Fee Committee. Eaton suggests this may be because the programs knew why the ASUO executive recommended budget cuts, while the IFC often acted on the basis of subjective judgments.

This new-found credibility carried over into the ASUO's relationship with the University administration, Eaton says.

After early disagreement over the athletic department's share of the incidental fee, the student government and the administration closed ranks as they tried to prevent any serious damage to the University in the midst of its budget crisis.

"There was a lot of mutual respect on each side," Eaton says. "They (the administration) seemed to have a concern for our opinions, and they listened to us."

Although he sometimes has disagreed with this year's ASUO, University Pres. Paul Olum frequently has said he respects Eaton's judgment and takes his opinions seriously. Eaton says this may be because he and his staff haven't made a show of opposing the administration at every turn.

"You can end up looking real good because you're putting down the administration," he says. "But you're not accomplishing anything."

Because the Legislature hasn't finished its session, Eaton says he can't yet evaluate the success of his legislative initiatives, although things seem to be going pretty well.

For instance, SB 720, aimed at reducing the state higher education board's control of the incidental fee, originally was thought to have almost no chance of passage during this

session. But now, with support from Sen. Ed Fadeley, D-Eugene, and Senate Pres. Fred Heard, D-Klamath Falls, the bill has a chance of passage — at least in a compromised form, Eaton says.

The ASUO-originated instructional development bill, which would establish a retraining program for University professors, has almost unanimous agreement from legislators, Eaton says.

No one yet knows how higher education will fare in the funding battle in Salem, but Eaton says he thinks the ASUO has done its part to prevent any catastrophe.

Last month's student rally on the Capitol steps did a great deal to convince legislators of student support for higher ed, and testimony by Eaton and ASUO vice president Rich Wilkins also was effective, Eaton says.

So Dave Eaton leaves the office to Wilkins, who was elected last month in a landslide victory, feeling that he has earned his keep.

Other than the athletic fee increase levied this fall, Eaton says his only disappointment as ASUO president was the failure to publish an ASUO program guide that is expected to be finished sometime this summer.

Eaton says he feels he's been worth the six cents each student contributed each term to his stipend.

"If somebody comes in here and says I'm not worth their six cents, I'll buy them a beer."

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## Vice presidents to take office; Wilkins creates another post

Less than a week after taking office, ASUO Pres. Rich Wilkins has appointed his vice presidents.

Along with law student Gus Palmitessa, who was elected vice president in last month's election, the vice presidents will be former Incidental Fee Committee member Kathy Stebner, former IFC member Jim Edmunson and John Stewart, assistant director of the Off-Campus Housing.

Although Wilkins says he plans to maintain the office management system used by his predecessor, Dave Eaton, he has added one vice presidency to the traditional three.

Under the old system, the vice presidents were responsible for state and university affairs, administration and finance and programs and publicity.

Under Wilkins' plan, Edmunson will be responsible for program administration, Stebner will be responsible for university and academic affairs and Stewart will be responsible for state and public affairs.

Palmitessa will be an executive vice

president, reporting directly to Wilkins and responsible for the office management tasks formerly delegated to the president's administrative assistant. That position has been eliminated.

Each of the new vice presidents will coordinate the activities in several areas, Wilkins says, allowing for better delegation of his authority. "I figured the least amount of people you can have directly reporting to the president, the better."

The state and university affairs desk will be split into two.

University and academic affairs will be responsible for ASUO projects on campus, like the student faculty committees and the quarterly Guide. State and public affairs will be responsible for state and local responsibilities like lobbying and public relations.

The program administration desk will combine program budgeting duties formerly in administration and finance with program advocacy duties from programs and publicity.

Each vice president will have a staff of administrative assistants and project administrators.

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## THE de Frisco's TRADITION



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- 1852 "Honest" Henry Meigs, alias "Don Enrique de Frisco," developer of San Francisco's North Beach area, opens San Francisco's famous Bush St. Music Hall. The de Frisco's tradition is born.
- 1854 Meigs splits for Tahiti loaded with \$17,000 worth of wine and gourmet delicacies, after appropriating over \$1,000,000 from city treasury.
- 1877 "Don Enrique" dies in Peru a multi-millionaire builder of the famous railway system over the Andes that "couldn't be built". To celebrate the completion, Meigs threw perhaps the most extravagant party ever — a five steamship cruise — costing 4-5,000,000 in today's dollars.
- 1977 On the 100th anniversary of Meigs' death, Dick Meigs, great, great nephew of the "beloved rogue," opens Eugene's de Frisco's, dedicated to the memory and style of his illustrious ancestor. The tavern featured Eugene's first serious selection of imported beers in a traditional atmosphere of solid oak and brass that would have made "Honest Henry" feel right at home. Rosewood backgammon tables were built to exacting specifications in memory of Uncle Henry's highly refined sporting instincts, and darts were introduced.
- 1978 de Frisco's introduces world famous Heineken and Guinness Stout on draft to the Eugene area. Among the many distinguished bottled beers introduced to Eugene at de Frisco's during this time were Elephant Malt Liqueur, Watney's and Pilsner Urquell, the original pilsner beer.
- 1978 de Frisco's completes the expansion of Eugene's Landmark tavern in an attempt to better meet the demands of the beer drinking public. de Frisco's also starts hosting Eugene City Backgammon Championships annually.
- 1979 de Frisco's adds to its fine assortments, Champagne on tap, and Bass ale, also on tap. Bottle beers introduced for the first time in the Eugene area include Moosehead Lager, Orangeboom, Foster's from Australia, and Samuel Smith out of England's oldest brewery. Weekly backgammon tournaments begin every Monday Night.
- 1980 John Courage, a fine English pilsner is added on tap. Dart tournaments begin every Sunday Night, and a dart challenge match with Portland's finest begins. Eugene loses the first challenge and owner Dick Meigs is "pied".
- TODAY Dick Meigs and his dedicated staff carry on the de Frisco's tradition, serving the world's outstanding beers to Eugene's discriminating drinkers...and Meigs is practicing his dart game so he is not "pied" in the next challenge match with Portland.

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