

TV show scheduled

Legislators, University administrators, students and faculty representatives will discuss the higher education budget crisis during a Monday night television special.

Broadcast from 7 to 8 p.m. on KEZI channel 13, the hour-long show will focus on a four-member panel composed of University Pres. Paul Olum, Oregon State University Pres. Robert MacVicar, higher education board chancellor Roy Lieuallen and OSU prof. Cliff Trow, who also is a state senator and member of the Revenue Committee.

Jack Hammond of KEZI says members of an invited studio audience probably will include former ASUO Pres. Dave Eaton, ASUO Pres. Rich Wilkins, faculty member Larry Pierce, legislators Ed Fadeley, Mary Burrows and Larry Campbell, and representatives of the University classified staff and administration.

Hammond says the panel and audience will discuss several aspects of the budget problem.

'Things are better' Hawk still hoping for funds

By ANN PORTAL
Of the Emerald

Although there are indications that the tide may be turning for the higher education budget, no one wants to sound too optimistic.

"Things do look better," says Ray Hawk, vice-president for administration and finance, "but none of us know where the Legislature is going to come down."

Hawk says the Legislature currently is thinking about restoring \$20 to \$22 million of the \$30 million that would be cut from the higher education budget if no new revenues are approved.

The portion given to the University still would require an additional 3 to 3.5 percent cut — in addition to two earlier cuts that removed 6 percent of the budget — but would allow the preservation of all departments and schools, Hawk says.

But the \$20 to \$22 million restoration would have to be funded by new taxes, says Sen. Ed Fadeley, D-Eugene, and House republicans are refusing to pass additional higher education funds.

Fadeley says that even though higher education supporters are waging a tough battle, optimism is unwarranted and premature until Republicans decide

they want to fund higher education. Meanwhile, the budget still is held up in the House Revenue Committee, he says.

However, Hawk says he believes the Legislature may come through with the additional funds, and that although another 3-percent cut would hurt the University, many prophesied cuts could be saved.

"It may mean we can avoid the things we've talked about," he says. So far much of the talk has centered around the possible elimination of three schools and 10 departments at the University.

In the event of a restoration, smaller cuts would be made by leaving positions unfilled and by trimming budgets University-wide, Hawk says. The process would be "a case of looking at everything to see where we get by," he says.

For instance, Hawk says he could instruct the physical plant director to not water the lawns or paint any buildings. Priorities will have to be set at a later date to avoid "a tendency to panic," Hawk says.

"We don't really want to do these dastardly deeds until we know where we stand," he says.

Keith Jackson, assistant higher education budget director, says he is unwilling to make any guesses on the

budget's outcome. Although the State Board of Higher Education is beginning to budget for the coming year, Jackson says the board has selected an "arbitrary" reduction and will not assign each of the state universities and colleges a final dollar amount until the Legislature passes a budget.

"We're in a holding pattern right now," he says.

Jackson estimates the final higher education budget now may not be approved until late August or early September.

In the meantime, Hawk says he feels the University's refusal to identify vulnerable areas has proved to be the right strategy.

"The assumption is that you're dropping something because it's less valuable than something else," but actually many different factors are considered, including a service's expense and the benefits gained, he says.

The administration's adamancy about waiting to make budget decisions will mean a long and anxious summer for University faculty, students and personnel.

"The budget is dominating our world right now," Hawk says.



Photo by Matt Meyer

Bike racks along 13th Avenue are intended to teach cyclists to use the bikeway, University planners say.

University initiates bikeway trial

The bicycle racks parked along the south half of 13th Avenue on campus are part of a long-range "experiment," according to University planners.

The placement of the racks along the heavily used street is designed to train cyclists to use the bike lane painted along the north side, says planner David Rowe. Until now, the lanes — painted last fall as part of the campus bikeway system — have been largely ignored by bicyclists.

Several minor accidents and "a lot of near-misses" were reported last school year as a result of bicycle-pedestrian collisions in the closed-off area, says public

safety director Oakley Glenn. However, Glenn says the worst accidents occur on the portion of 13th Avenue in front of Oregon Hall and the dormitories, where automobile traffic is not restricted.

The racks, which were relocated from outside other campus buildings last week, were placed in the street "to provide some direction for people to understand how the campus bikeways are to be used," Rowe says.

"Ultimately, those would be covered bike racks," he says — if this initial phase of the experiment proves successful. Later in the year the experiment will continue

and racks will be moved to both sides of the street, with a bike lane down the center, Rowe says.

Still later, the racks will be placed in the center, with one-way bike lanes marked on each side of 13th Avenue.

Rowe says the current setup may prove to be the best because it allows more space for other activities, such as street fairs. But he stressed the need for student evaluation in determining which design would best serve bicycles and pedestrians. Students who want to comment should call the physical plant at 686-5243.

ESCAPE deadline set for Monday

The last day to register for ESCAPE credit is Monday.

Students interested in earning credit for volunteer work in community service can register at the ESCAPE table in the EMU Main Lobby. ESCAPE students earn one upper-division credit for every three hours they work per week.

"Hands on experience is learning by doing," says ESCAPE director Jim Doty. "It's not theoretical. It's directly applicable for life."

Summer term is a good time to enroll in ESCAPE, he adds. "It's a good chance to get away from campus in the good weather."

Any student can enroll in ESCAPE and no prior experience in community service is necessary. Up to nine hours may be earned per term.

Placement opportunities include nursing centers, corrections agencies, legal aid offices, child care centers, hearing and speech centers and halfway houses.

Several community agencies — including Switchboard and Pearl Buck — have an extra need for volunteers because of recent budget cuts, Doty said.

For more information call ESCAPE at 686-4351.