

# opinion

## Sex discrimination stains the state system

A class action suit alleging Oregon's eight public colleges and universities discriminate against women faculty was certified in U.S. District Court Tuesday. From the statistics submitted by the plaintiffs there is little reason to doubt the claim of sex discrimination will be proved.

It is quite startling to see that even in the State System of Higher Education, where one of the

### OURS

spoken ideals is truth, discrimination appears

The suit alleges women faculty are discriminated against in pay, promotion, tenure, professional duties, sabbatical leave, grant-application support, administrative and adjunct appointments, salary support and grievance mechanisms.

The suit was filed by 13 women faculty members from five of the colleges and universities in the state system. Specific allegations of sex discrimination will be brought by the individuals in court. But there is reason to agree that the charges of discrimination are true systemwide.

District Court Judge Helen Frye, in a written opinion said, "The plaintiffs have made an adequate showing that the board (of higher education) heads a statewide system that practices sex discrimination."

That's quite a damaging statement but one which can be backed with excerpts from the University's own affirmative action report issued April 1981. These statements are indicators of areas of possible discrimination at the University.

"Compared to last year, the percentage of women appointed to 1979-81 academic positions declined. The percentage of new minority appointments decreased from that of past years in both full-time and part-time positions at all ranks."

Judge Frye noted that the plaintiffs "have presented statistics tending to show a statewide

### YOURS

#### Offended

I am writing with reference to Tuesday's front page article titled "Few View Olum Induction" with the sub-headline, "Student Apathy Scolded."

I was very offended at the implication that students were "apathetic" about wanting to see Paul Olum's inauguration. As a student, I would very much have liked to have attended, but I did not know that I could.

I work in the German department as a clerical assistant. I knew the professors were invited; we received several announcements concerning this, but not one single announcement concerning the students being welcome ever came across my desk.

As to the quote from Wilkins saying you must "flood the campus with information," if a memorandum had been sent to all departments asking that instructors announce to their classes that students were invited to attend, the turnout most probably would have been larger. In comparison to much of the trivial announcements that we deal with daily, this one would have been most welcome.

I would like to personally apologize to Pres. Olum. I am very sorry. I wanted to be there but I did not think I would be welcome.

Shelly Harris  
Junior, journalism

#### Sinking ship

An article appeared on the front page of the Emerald on Tuesday which attempted to justify the few number of students who attended Paul Olum's inauguration. I found the article to be utterly pointless.

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pattern of disparity between men and women faculty members in promotion and access to upper-echelon positions in addition to pay differentials."

The University report went on to cite discrepancies in faculty salaries here. Men receive an average salary of \$24,840, while women receive only \$18,648.

The percentage of women appointed to full-time academic positions is also declining — as are minority appointments in both full-time and part time positions the University report states.

The state system, unlike the University, lacks adequate affirmative action goals. The discrimination suit relates directly to the state board's affirmative action failure systemwide.

### THEIRS



"HAW! OBVIOUSLY ANOTHER EXAMPLE OF YOUR FAMOUS SENSE OF HUMOR UNDER PRESSURE — RIGHT, RON?"

Here we are, in a time where cutbacks have become the rule rather than the exception, and the Emerald wonders why students did not come in droves to Olum's ceremony. School pride diminishes when funding diminishes. It's as simple as that. It's no slight against dear Paul; it's just characteristic of a sinking ship. How many sailors would rush to the party being held for their new captain when news of imminent disaster abounds? Not many, if any. When it comes right down to it, observation of ceremony is low on the list when the school's going to pot.

It's not lack of information on the event that prevented hundreds or even thousands of Duck students from crowding the stands at Mac Court, as ASUO President Wilkins guessed. It's not lack of promotion, either. It's not even a "self-centered philosophy" that caused only 30 to 40 students to take Sunday afternoon off and observe the inauguration.

It's plain and simple a fact of life that practically all of the University's 18,000 or so students don't give a hoot about an inauguration. And why should they? Olum has been serving as president for the last year, anyway.

As a final note, I'd like to say that the money used on the inauguration certainly could have been used for educational programs instead. But, alas, a bit of sparkle in the form of pomp and circumstance is just too valuable to skip. And anyway, it didn't cost too many thousands of dollars.

Jay Leisner  
Senior, finance

#### Crack down

In the past two months the Islamic Republic of Iran has executed over 1800

(Amnesty International statistics) revolutionaries in an attempt to crack down on the opposition which is growing daily. This figure does not include a great number of the masses who are being executed on the streets without trial.

Over the past two years, the Islamic Republic has been unable to solve the country's problems due to its reactionary nature and as a result of this has increased its oppression on the opposition. Daily, an average of 20 people are executed and hundreds are arrested. The Islamic Republic is accusing the members of the opposition of being U.S. mercenaries while it is shamelessly making deals with imperialist nations in order to survive its severe economical crisis. By suppressing the resistance of the Iranian people the Islamic Republic is directly serving the purpose of the U.S. imperialism, because the U.S. knows that if a true and just revolutionary government comes into power its interest in the crucial region of the world will definitely be endangered.

The Muslim Student Association has supported this regime in Iran from the start and still continues to do so. The MSA never mentions or explains the suppressions and executions performed by this regime it supports.

We therefore invite all freedom loving people to join us in exposing this criminal regime and its supporters. We would like to ask the Muslim Student Association why the Islamic Republic of Iran is executing the revolutionaries who had joined the people in the struggle against the Shah. We would also like to ask them why the Islamic Republic is releasing the members of the Shah's secret police (Savak) who were responsible for executing the Shah's atrocious crimes. Also, we would like to know how the Muslim Student Association justifies its support of a regime which takes pride in

executing pregnant women as well as children from the ages of 9 to 17.

Farhad Lankarani  
I.S.A.

#### Poor handling

I am writing concerning the very poor organization used in running the University of Oregon Invitational Tennis Tournament (October 9-10). The officials in charge of running the tournament both upset and angered a number of players when, without notice, they cancelled all of the adult divisions.

I feel my experience is typical with that of others. I arrived at the covered courts at 11 a.m. for my first match only to be hastily told that my division was cancelled and I would not be playing so I could leave. When I attempted to inquire why the division was cancelled, pushy officials simply said there wasn't time for it.

As if failing to notify the players of cancellations in advance wasn't bad enough, the officials were also very rude and inconsiderate in answering questions from the curious players. In addition, they had the gall to ask non-playing participants to donate their entry fee to the school tennis team rather than receiving a proper refund.

In future tournaments officials should be organized enough to structure ample time for play in all divisions, attempt to be more considerate in their dealings with the participants and develop a more effective way of informing players of cancelled matches. If these simple improvements cannot be made such tournaments should no longer be run.

Nicholas Beres  
Freshman, journalism

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