

Phones, services vanish as staff pinches pennies

By Steve Knight
Of the Emerald

Many University staff members are scrambling to survive last year's budget cuts, even as the Legislature is revving up to begin a new round of slashes.

"We're mailing out fewer letters and pulling out telephones in Oregon Hall — and trying to provide at the same time the basic services students and faculty have every right to expect," says Jerry Moseley, associate provost for student affairs.

Services in Oregon Hall, which "grease the wheels" of the University, require a large inventory of routine supplies, such as paper, pencils and postage.

Those supplies are paid for out of a "services and supplies" fund, which gobbles 23 percent of the University's total budget.

When the Legislature cut a significant portion of the University's budget last summer, funds intended for services and supplies were transferred to other areas to help meet the budget deficit and keep the University from declaring financial exigency, Moseley says.

Reduced service and supply funds coupled with increasing costs are reflected in cuts to student services, Moseley says.

Since the 1980 budget cut, the number of telephones in the admissions office has been cut in half, requests for transcripts have fallen behind by 1000 (because of fewer staff positions), and the mailing of grades has been discontinued, he says.

Registrar Wanda Johnson says she objects to the idea of not mailing grades, although the new practice of handing grades out saved the University

\$4,100 in postage in two terms.

She says the Office of the Registrar has come to rely on volunteers, particularly in arena registration, to weather the budget cuts.

"Without volunteers, we'd be in big trouble," she says.

Meanwhile, Gov. Vic Atiyeh asked the Legislature again Monday for a 10-percent cut in higher education.

Moseley says further cuts in the services and supplies fund would be crippling.

"Last year's cut went to the quick," he says. "We're well past the fat and now into the marrow. Another cut would topple many of our major services."

Johnson expresses similar sentiments.

"There's a certain fixed cost in registering students. S and S (services and supplies) couldn't survive another cut."

Volunteers still needed

Security conference shapes up

Most of the details for the Feb. 25-27 National Security Conference have been ironed out, but conference planners are still looking for volunteers, says coordinator David Isenberg.

Most of the speakers are confirmed, Isenberg says, and the main job of conference planners now is to publicize the event. Isenberg, director of the University Veterans Associa-

tion, has had a major hand in planning the conference.

Conference planners have been contacting national and local media, preparing publicity for the campus conference, and taking other steps to ensure a maximum attendance at the event, he says.

Isenberg says the conference will be unique because it will allow both sides of issues to be heard.

Among the speakers at the conference will be Maj. Gen. Robert Cocklin (USA-ret.), executive director of the Association of the United States Army, Ray Cline, former Deputy Director of the Central Intelligence Agency, Charles Moskos, a military sociology professor at Northwestern University, and William Taylor, director of Political-Military Studies at the Georgetown Center for Strategic and International Studies.

Providing childcare and sleeping accommodations for conference attendees are just two of the steps being taken to encourage attendance by people from other cities easier, he says.

The planners are also getting good response to their appeals for student volunteers to serve as ticket takers and other logistical capacities, Isenberg says.

Conference attendance is expected to average 400 people for each of the speaking events. An admission price of \$1.50 per event for University students, faculty, and staff — \$2 per event for others — should allow the conference to break even financially, he says. Conference passes will sell for \$8 for those affiliated with the University and \$12 for others.

Lane commissioners protest budget cuts

A resolution voicing concern over proposed University budget cuts was adopted Wednesday by the Lane County Board of Commissioners by a 4 to 1 vote.

The resolution, authored by commissioner Jerry Rust, states the board is "concerned about further reductions in the University of Oregon and Lane Community College budgets."

It continues by saying the board suggests reductions be made only after examining the entire system, "with the intent of reducing duplication," of educational

programs.

"We're really worried about what's happening to the University," said Scott Lieuallen, chairman of the board of commissioners.

But, Lieuallen added, the motivation for passing the resolution was the impact University cuts will have on the economics of the community.

"The affect on the community... will be tremendous," Lieuallen said, adding millions of dollars will be lost if proposed cuts are carried out.

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