

# 'List' with law school cut unconscionable

The suggested closing of the University Law School by the academic affairs office of the State Board of Higher Education, announced by Pres. Paul Olum to the University Assembly Wednesday, is another in a long series of unconscionable actions by the state board.

That the law school is among a list of schools to be considered cut is both bewildering and poorly thought out. The academic affairs office "list" consists of programs duplicated within the state system, according to Clarethel Kahananui, acting vice-chancellor for academic affairs. Some of the considered "duplications" are hazy distinctions at best. Kahananui said that while the law school is not duplicated in the state system, there are two private schools with law programs in the state.

How can the academic affairs office rationalize listing the University's law school for closure as a duplicate program because two private law schools currently exist in the state? There is more than a single dissimilarity between the University's law school and that of the private institutions.

The University law school is the only accredited public law school in Oregon. That the program is available to University students, i.e. the public, needs to be reiterated and stressed. The two private law schools in the state are at Willamette University and Lewis and Clark College. They are exactly that — private.

The closing of the University's law school would eliminate access to a law education for Oregon residents through the state system of higher education. The egalitarian goal of providing as wide a choice of curriculum as possible in the state system is made a mockery of by the academic affairs office's "list".

Of greater consideration is the strict admission requirements and exaggerated expenses of a law education at a private institution. Not many of

the more than 500 students enrolled at present in the University's law program could afford to transfer to a private law school if the University's law school is closed. Academic standards at the University's law school are high, though the competition for entry is not as cutthroat as with a private law school.

But the recommended closing of the law school is only the tip of the iceberg. Also at issue with the academic affairs office's "list" is the overriding of each state institution's autonomy. The "list" of areas for reduction and elimination defies each institution's ability to determine its

own curricular goals.

Olum doesn't believe that cuts of such magnitude were ever intended by the Legislature. The idea of eliminating overlapping programs at state institutions is good — although, the reason for eliminating some programs, such as the entire law school at the University, is not soundly reasoned by the academic affairs office.

Nothing will be decided until the end of this month. Olum, in a impromptu press conference Thursday, cautioned students "not to be concerned." He stressed the University "will not close the law school."



## letters

### Gayness and post office

In my four years as a University student (which spans over eight years) there are two problems that have continued to plague the University. One is the inept, poor management of the University Post Office. The other is the acceptance of the homosexual community on campus. I'm not against a maleman or you can letter be gay, but all punning aside.

First, I'm sick and tired of walking in to the Post Office and every stinking time there's a line of five to ten people. Now to people like me who only need a few stamps now and then, this can be very irritating, especially when the person in front of you is trying to send a package parcel post, registered and first class, all at once. Couldn't they have one line for just stamps and the other for strictly personal business? To me that seems pretty reasonable.

The other thing that makes me sick is when I open up the Emerald and see something about "Gay Pride" on campus. If students are wondering why fees are going up, maybe its because groups like these are receiving University funding. The homosexuals should not be sponsored by the University with such things as an office in the EMU or the Koinoinia Center. I am against what they do and what they believe in. Acceptance of their right to organize is one thing. Supplying them the means to do so infringes upon my rights. They have chosen to become a minority. Let them use their own means to further their cause, however unrighteous.

OSU seems to be able to handle both of these problems. They have a separate line for stamps in their Post Office and the "Gay" (yech) Group receives no

funding from the University. I'd like to see our campus do the same.

David Thomas

### Judeo-Christian

In response to "Groups fight to revise culture", Jan. 21.

From whence, oh editor, come the rights that thou squeakest about?

Like it or not, the rights we enjoy were born out of a Judeo-Christian (i.e. Bible-based) worldview. Most of this nation's founders believed, more or less, in an eternal Creator who established laws for the physical and moral realms. Out of this worldview these men forged a framework of principles that gave Man greater freedoms than he had ever known.

Remember the Declaration of Independence?

"We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all Men... are endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness..."

However, the same Creator who endowed Man (and Woman) with inalienable rights also imposed upon him inviolable restrictions and unavoidable responsibilities — the three R's if you will.

Unfortunately, Modern Man has used the first R to suppress or ignore the other two. Thus screaming "Rights! Rights!" the "me generation" has deprived more than 10 million unborn infants of their right to Life — a right of paramount importance, for without it one can have neither Liberty nor Happiness.

Furthermore, in the name of "rights" this generation has licensed all manner of depravity that would

have shocked the wigs off our forefathers. Yet when Christians point out that we have gone far beyond our forefather's intentions, they are met by cries of "Separation of Church and State!" (This phrase is not in the Constitution. And the original intent of the First Amendment was not to keep the Church out of the State but to keep the State out of the Church.)

Tom Visoky  
Graduate, journalism

### ASUO lobbying

The ASUO is coordinating a lobbying effort at the state legislature during the special session.

Our efforts, however, will not be successful unless every student writes their legislator and informs them of the need to save higher ed.

At the University we are facing the prospect of the loss of departments and schools along with a 62 percent increase in tuition over the biennium. Along with this scenario of "less for more" we are faced with rising unemployment and inflation rates and decreased availability of federal financial aid. Many of us will undoubtedly be forced to leave school.

The perception of students, in Salem, is that students really don't care enough to vote, and since they don't vote, they don't pose a threat. We must change that perception, we must fight to save this school. Write your representatives and senators, become involved in the electoral process, then and only then will our voice be heard in Salem. It must be done now. For more information contact the ASUO at 686-3724.

John Stewart

## staff

The Oregon Daily Emerald is published Monday through Friday except during finals week and vacations by the Oregon Daily Emerald Publishing Co.

News 686-5511  
Advertising/Business 686-3712  
Classifieds 686-4343  
Production 686-4381

Editor Sally Hodgkinson

Managing Editor Gabriel Boehmer

News Editor Harry Esteve

Assistant News Editor John Healy

Photo Editor Bob Baker

Graphics Editor Max DeRungs

Editorial Page Editor Cort Fernald

Sports Editor Steve Spatz

Associate Sports Editor Jeff Dickerson

Entertainment Editor Matt Meyer

Night Editor Gabriel Boehmer

### Associate Editors:

ASUO Dane Claussen

Community Marian Green

Departments and Schools Debbie Howlett

Features Caroline Petrich

Higher Education Ann Portal

Politics/Environment Ron Hunt

### General Staff:

Advertising Director Darlene Gore

Classified Advertising Sally Oljar

Production Manager Ann Peterson

Controller Jean Ownbey