

emerald

Board interviews chancellor finalist

By Ann Portal
Of the Emerald

Higher education's main problem in Oregon is not the state board, the chancellor or the organization of the college and university system, a finalist for chancellor of the State System of Higher Education said Wednesday.

The primary problem confronting the state's colleges and universities is that they are badly underfunded, and rapidly eroding, said William Davis, currently president of the University of New Mexico.

"Something has to change," Davis said to the press after a two-hour interview with members of the State Board of Higher Education.

He said education leaders must sit down with legislators and citizens of the state and decide just where the institutions are headed, and what level of higher education taxpayers are willing to support.

"You have to decide what league you want to play in," Davis said. The state must eventually settle on a fiscal package that is not just a Band-Aid for declining salaries and neglected deferred maintenance, he said.

Davis said he feels the state system is not overbuilt, and that closing an institution would not provide large savings and is not

practical as a short-term solution to a long-range problem.

He said he does not favor moving the chancellor's office to Salem, because it would soon be perceived as "another part of the bureaucracy." He did suggest stationing an assistant chancellor in the capital city to work with legislators and give the chancellor an office there.

Moving the chancellor's office into its own building, separate from any of the institutions, could remove the appearance of favoritism that some schools complain the University now enjoys, Davis said.

Davis, who has been president at the University of New Mexico for seven years, previously was the president of Idaho State University for 10 years.

During those 10 years, he took a year off in 1972 to run unsuccessfully for the U.S. Senate. He lost by only 20,000 — of 161,000 votes — but he said he decided to "leave politics to those who do it well."

Davis also was head football coach at the University of Colorado in 1962 and served 13 years in the U.S. Marine Corp Reserve. He has a bachelor's degree in physical education, a master's in education administration and a doctorate in higher education.

Although Davis is under consideration for the position



Photo by Duane Schrag

Bud Davis, president of the University of New Mexico, met Wednesday with members of the press after a two-hour interview as part of the search to fill the chancellor's seat.

because he was nominated, he said he is interested because "it would be a real challenge."

Oregon's colleges and universities retain their "prestige and reputation," in spite of the system's funding problems, Davis said. He said that in his 17 years as president at Idaho and New Mexico, he has never had to cut back to the point of financial exigency, which he called "bad for the institution, bad for morale."

Davis said the state government "absolutely" should pick up the tab for higher education if the federal government withdraws. In New Mexico, the state legislature already has set up a \$1 million work-study program, he said.

When tuition increases as much as it has in Oregon during such a short period, it begins to provide a "real financial barrier" to students, Davis observed.

The State Board of Higher Education meets to discuss the chancellor candidates during an executive session Friday morning at the University. Board Pres. Ed Harms said that although a chancellor may be chosen Friday, board members probably will not officially approve him until their March 10 board meeting. The new chancellor will be announced as soon as the candidate accepts the board's offer, Harms said.

Senate recommends no 'dead week' finals

By Debbie Howlett
Of the Emerald

University students will not be required to take final examinations during "dead week" — at least not if the University Senate meeting is any indication of things to come.

Wednesday afternoon the Senate passed a unanimous recommendation to the University Assembly, which, if passed into law, will limit final exams to finals week only.

A "constant flow of complaints" received by the ASUO prompted the legislation, said Gale Graham, a senator from the ASUO offices.

Graham said exams given the week before final exams reduced the quantity and quality of the education students spent their money for. He also cited undue pressures that were put upon the students.

The motion reads that tests worth more than 20 percent of the final grade are not allowed during the period students refer to as "dead week," and that no finals in any "guise" would be allowed at all. The motion qualifies term papers and projects as acceptable, if they are provided for in a class syllabus within two weeks of the start of classes. Make-up exams, for normal tests also will be allowed during dead week.

"This will bring up the high level of education that this University should offer," said Graham.

The wording of the original motion was changed through a "friendly"

amendment — an informal amendment that is agreed upon without a vote of the Senate body.

Katherine Eaton, chair of the Senate, also noted that this was the first vote of the year without abstentions.

The Senate also voted to change legislation requiring 2 percent of the faculty's signatures for nominations to various committees such as the advisory council and the University Senate. It was amended to read 10 (signatures) instead of 2 percent. Two percent is roughly 18 faculty members.

In other Senate business a motion by biology prof. Bayard McConnaughe that would boot ROTC off campus was dismissed without discussion. Seven senators voted in favor of the motion.

A motion to express "no confidence" in the State System of Higher Education and Chancellor Roy Lieuallen which was defeated by the University Assembly last month, was reintroduced to the Senate after changes were made in the wording. Holly Jones, head of the reference department, introduced a substitute to that motion.

After discussion by the senators that the substitute motion might not be agreeable to the originator of the motion, Thomas Brady, a history professor, the original and the substitute were asked to be voted on separately.

Brady's motion was defeated and a quorum of the Senate prevented action on the substitute motion.

Neither McConnaughey nor Brady attended the Senate meeting.

First time in two years

State higher ed board visits University today

Members of the State Board of Higher Education will pay a formal visit to the University for the first time in two years today.

The all-day session is intended to give board members first-hand knowledge of some of the University's strengths in teaching, research and service, according to University Pres. Paul Olum.

Different programs are highlighted each time board members visit so they can become familiar with the breadth and depth of the University's excellence, Olum said.

Board members, who will be hosted by faculty members and students throughout the day, will hear a morning presentation on the integration of a liberal arts education with professional training that responds to society's needs. That presentation will be held in 143 Straub Hall from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m.

The panel for the discussion, moderated by Robert Berdahl, dean of the college of arts and sciences, includes Barbara Mossberg, assistant English professor; Everette Dennis, journalism school dean; Robert Gilberts, education college dean; and Stephen Hedetniemi, head of the computer and information science department.

Board members will attend an afternoon discussion, moderated by Olum, concerning the connections between University research and various efforts to attract high technology industries to the state.

The discussion's panel includes Michael Menaker, biology professor; Barry Bates, associate physical education professor; Marjorie Wool-lacott, associate physical education professor; John Moseley, associate physics professor; and Virgil Boelkelheide, chemistry professor. The talk lasts from 2 to 4 p.m. in Room 214 Science II.

While eating lunch at Dunn Hall, the board will learn about the elements of the University residence hall and family housing program that are unique in the state system of higher education.

During their visit, they also will have brief exposure to selected ASUO programs, the EMU, the Student Health Center, the health, physical education and recreation college, and the architecture and allied arts school.

The visit marks the beginning of another round in the 11-member governing body's two-year cycle of visit to all eight state colleges and universities.