

# Faculty should postpone salary increase

Much like the rancor and the applause that met Pres. Paul Olum during Wednesday's convocation, some sound and some unsound methods of dealing with the University's \$1.4 million budget cut were proposed.

Olum, for all the flak he has had to dodge, still has the courage to be belligerent in the face of the budget reductions. If for little else, he can be admired for never stoically accepting the bad cards the State Board of Higher Education deals the University. When pressed as to what departments he would cut, Olum loudly responded, "If I had to cut schools... I would resign." Not many doubted that Olum would indeed resign rather than eliminate schools.

Olum's suggestions for dealing with the new cut included a faculty furlough, an "educational leave" for faculty, or a postponement of a faculty salary increase.

Possibly the most damaging actions, if taken — from a student viewpoint — are the faculty furloughs and the "educational leave."

In each of these cases the students will be suffering. Faculty furlough and "educational leave" effectively reduces the number of active faculty. More so than faculty furloughs, "educational leave" increases the ratio of students to faculty, which is already quite high. It almost goes without saying that instruction will be handicapped by this reduction of available faculty. The number of courses will be restricted by a limited number of faculty. The amount of students allowed to enter a given course will have to be increased.

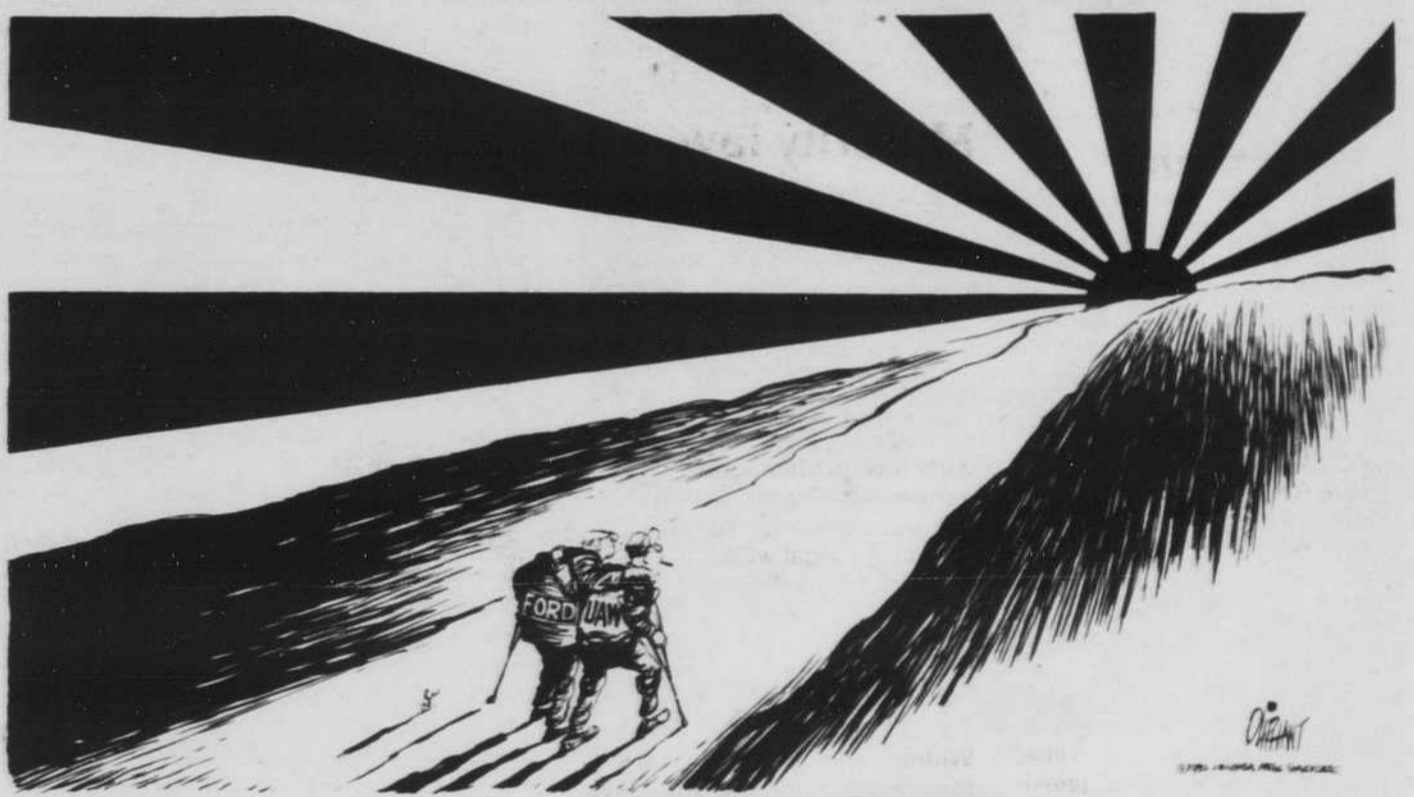
The furlough and "educational leave" will result in fewer faculty to instruct a greater number of students. The "assembly-line", education-factory environment will become the norm at the University. And with the continually escalating

cost of tuition, fees, books and related expenses, not a lot of students will desire such an anonymous, mass-produced product that is packaged and labeled as "education."

Probably the least damaging means to deal with the \$1.4 million reduction is to postpone for six months a raise in faculty salaries. Granted, the University faculty are paid ridiculously low salaries according to the national average at equivalent universities and colleges. Granted, many members of the University faculty are worth twice

what they are paid. Yet, there have been no substantial salary adjustments for University faculty with all of the past budget reductions.

While students see tuition and fees climb near the point where they can no longer afford to go to the University, faculty salaries remain fairly constant. It may be time, as with the United Auto Workers and Ford Motor Company, for the faculty to opt for the economic integrity of the University and postpone their salary increase.



ALLIANCE FOR SOME SORT OF PROGRESS

harry esteve

## editor's note

It was an ugly murder — a young mother of four, stabbed to death in the storeroom of a Springfield Dari-Mart.

Springfield residents responded to the recent killing of Karen Karn, a 36-year-old store clerk, with the shock and dismay that always surrounds tragedy. But one response was a little different.

When Tom Gates, a self-employed Springfield resident, heard about the murder he quickly formed what he calls a "crime deterrent" group. He named it CATS — Citizens Against Terrorism in the Streets.

CATS received immediate attention, according to Gates, from businessmen, housewives and police officers, especially "the officer on the street." It also received attention from the Lane County Sheriff's Office and the media because, let's face it, an anti-terrorist organization suddenly popping up in Springfield, Oregon merits some attention.

CATS will act as a liaison between citizens and law enforcement agencies, Gates says, helping people report crimes against property and training people to "immunize themselves against crime." It will also set up a trust fund to offer rewards for apprehension of criminals.

But some law enforcement agencies aren't sure they want to be associated with CATS. A representative of the sheriff's office says he isn't sure that "terrorism" is an accurate description of the type of crimes that happen in Springfield. Gates says all local law enforcers "support us in

concept."

Others are a little concerned with Gates' background. It appears he was connected with a "motorcycle gang" in California several years ago. Gates also says he took several police officer training courses in an effort to get a job as a policeman. "I never graduated," he says.

Gates' present line of business also has raised eyebrows. As owner of "Survival Consultants" Gates spends a lot of time training people how to store food, defend their property and use a weapon in case of a national emergency.

Gates insists that his business and his "crime deterrent" group will be kept separate. But he also says he will refer people who want to carry weapons for protection to "a self-defense training program." He insists CATS is not a vigilante group. But he also says he wants crime victims to report to his group if they don't want to talk to police.

Is this a group dedicated to enhancing public and police cooperation? Or is it part of a growing trend toward armed self defense?

"It's a pretty black and white situation," Gates says. "You're either for crime deterrents or you're a criminal. What can I say?"

It's a sentiment that smacks of Zane Grey fiction. Gates aligns himself with the belief that a properly handled gun is among the best "crime deterrents."

CATS is an example of an emotional overreaction to a complex problem — a response that is nearly as ugly as the crime that stirred it.

## letters

### Vaseline

Let's see: 4.4 cents times 16,000 students is about \$700. That is a lot of vaseline.

Seriously, Lysne, the organization you want is the Ku Klux Klan. Hurry and present a request to the IFC. Don't forget to budget for rubber sheets.

R. Ludescher

### Bookstores

By allowing adult bookstores to remain open — anywhere — society legally condones sexist and degrading attitudes towards women and even children.

Mr. Kuhn, in regards to your letter, "our mothers and sisters and daughters" are paying right now whether it be as a direct result of physical violence or of pornography available in adult bookstores.

Are you serious with your remark "show you care"??

Teresa Steimle  
student

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