

emerald

Private gifts boost University budget

By Ann Portal
Of the Emerald

Funds raised by the University Foundation increased 87 percent last year, adding \$4.2 million to a needy University budget.

"We're really pleased with it," says Curt Simic, vice president for University relations. "The most exciting thing about it is the number of people who are coming forward to help the University."

The \$4.2 million is only the amount of cash actually received last year. An even larger amount has been pledged through "planned giving," the money is not collected until the death of the donor. "The big money isn't going to come in until the future," Simic says.

Nearly half the donors last year were not connected with the University in any way, other than possessing what Simic calls a "desire and appreciation" for quality higher education in Oregon.

While alumni donations increased 112 percent from 1979-80 to 1980-81, non-alumni gifts increased 184 percent, according to the foundation's recently released annual report.

Increasing the base of support was the foundation's primary goal, set 3-and-a-half years ago, Simic says. That's been accomplished, with about 10,000 people now listed as potential donors. The next step is to encour-

age permanent endowments and capital to fund "bricks and mortar" work like a library addition, he says.

Simic says the foundation has drawn some flack from state legislators about state money being used to raise additional money. Last year, the foundation office received \$180,000 from the state, which it turned into \$3.6 million through its fund-raising efforts, he says.

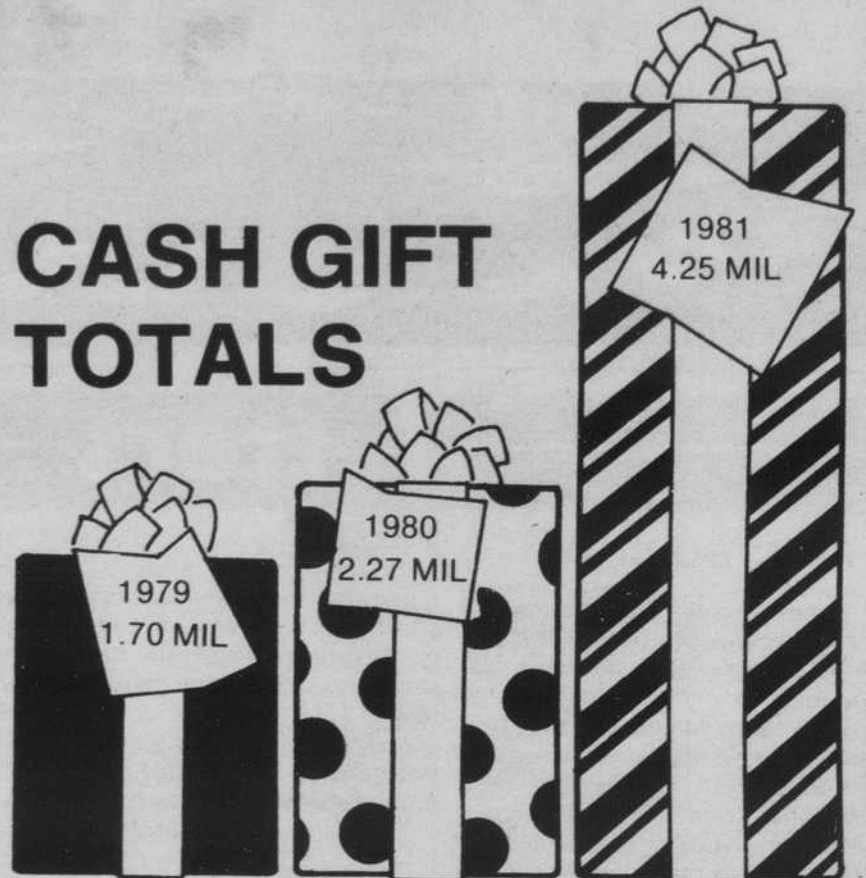
The University administration decided to pay the foundation director's salary this year out of funds raised, so the foundation receives only \$150,000 during 1981-82, according to Simic.

He says the foundation may one day be entirely self-supporting. "My intention is that we'll pull it all the way back, if you've got a chance to make it on your own, you're going to have to do it," he says, adding "at least we have the option."

Simic, who has been acting director of the foundation since Doug Wilson left in the fall, says the success of the University's fund raising is due mostly to "good organization" — thanks largely to Wilson. He expresses equal confidence in Wilson's replacement, Russell Picton, who began his new job this week.

Students also are getting involved in fund raising. Twelve University students have staffed a "telethon" project this year aimed at out-of-state areas with heavy concentrations of alumni, such as San Francisco and Seattle.

CASH GIFT TOTALS



Graphic by Max DeRungs

Union leaders say 'no way' to renegotiation

By Debbie Howlett
Of the Emerald

University Pres. Paul Olum has hit a snag in balancing the University budget. At least where decreasing salaries for classified staff is concerned, says Becky Bragg, an administrative assistant at the University and president of the University local of the Oregon Public Employees Union.

Brenda Cochran, president of the Graduate Teaching Fellows Federation, agrees that the same "snags" in the OPEU contract are the problems that the GTFF faces, but their involvement is two-fold, as employees and as students.

According to both groups, the biggest problem is in re-opening the union's contracts to renegotiate salaries. Re-opening the contract would require a majority vote of union members. Bragg and Cochran both say "no way" to even submitting the issue for a vote.

Because OPEU represents all state employees, Bragg, who also serves as OPEU district director for Lane County, says that she feels there is no reason for an inequity in pay just because an employee works for a university rather than the Department of Transportation.

"There isn't any point in asking us to take a salary decrease when it's not something being shared by every state employee."

The GTFF has also announced that they will not consider reopening their contract either because, according to Cochran, "If you re-open the contract, you go back to the beginning and may lose what you've gained."

While both women agree that other ways to balance the budget exist, they're taking a hard line on salary reductions.

The GTFF, says Cochran, has spoken with Olum, and some alternative solutions were discussed. One possibility, is to reduce the Full-time Equivalent of the GTFs, something that Cochran says she is not anxious to do.

In a recent letter to Olum, the GTFF executive board "urged" Olum to "take a stronger stand and take a position which would transmit a more compelling message to the legislators in Salem."

They termed Olum's plans as "higher education taking it's teaspoonful of economic medicine quietly, as it has always done in the past."

The FTE reduction is the "lesser of two evils," says Cochran.

Bragg insists that the only way to reduce classified salary costs is to lay-off classified staff.

"Our position is; we have a clause in our contract that states in the event of a financial crisis there will be lay-offs, we've negotiated in what order those will occur," says Bragg. The lay-offs will be in order of seniority, she adds.



Photo by Bob Baker

At a recent convocation, a University employee illustrates the frustrations of forced budget reductions.

Draft rally set for Thursday

A demonstration: "We say: no arrests! no draft! no war!" reads the handout from the Coalition Opposing Registration and the Draft.

Eugene's CORD is sponsoring a demonstration Thursday in protest of upcoming prosecutions of draft registration resisters. The demonstration begins at noon at the Federal Building, 7th Ave. and Pearl St.

There are at least 900,000 non-registrants in the United States, says CORD counselor James Lewontin, and they will probably be prosecuted — selectively — in late spring.

"Despite official assurances draft registration has nothing to do with actual inductions, U.S. leaders are propelling us toward the real thing," a CORD statement says.