

Davis' task, a challenge to the utmost

William Davis, current president of University of New Mexico, was named chancellor of the Oregon State System of Higher Education on Friday. Davis' appointment was the final twist in the State Board of Higher Education's search for a successor to Roy Lieuallen.

Many view Davis as the board's conciliation choice. He was one of the board's top three candidates (and tied with Weathersby in the voting 5-5) — but not the priority selection. That number one candidate was George Weathersby, Indiana's commissioner for higher education.

Weathersby was the board's top choice, but at the announcement of his selection he balked, and asked for a higher salary. Weathersby's present position with Indiana higher education pays better than the post of chancellor in Oregon.

Some observers of the board's selection process took offense that Weathersby agreed to negotiate and then turned around and argued the salary was too low. He must've known the salary range when his name was submitted to the board's search committee. Davis, as a result of Weathersby's tentative selection and the salary negotiations that ensued, withdrew his name as a candidate.

Negotiations between the board and Weathersby broke down Thursday. Weathersby said it was the salary and the attitude of the board itself. The same night, Davis was asked by the board to reconsider the job. He did so — and was hired late Friday night.

There is a tendency now to look at Weathersby as "the-one-that-got-away." The thinking is that he'd have been the doctor Oregon's sickly higher education desperately needed to recover. Whether Weathersby would've stemmed the de-

cline of Oregon higher education will never be known. Speculation on Weathersby's "chancellorship does a disservice to Davis and what he may accomplish in his tenure as the chancellor.

Davis — a solid administrator with experience as president of the University of New Mexico, a candidate for the U.S. Senate, a football coach, and a credible lobbyist — has never had to deal with an educational system in a condition like

Oregon's. He has said he is eager to undertake the challenge of the chancellorship, and considers it an "unusual professional opportunity."

In this recession-plagued state, with budget cuts to colleges and universities seemingly levied every month, Davis will be challenged to his utmost. He may indeed be up to the challenge, and perhaps exceed the expectations of those who consider him second choice.



letters

A remedy

At last, a remedy for the financial ills plaguing our ailing University: Simply persuade all instructors to reroute their copying business from Kinko's to Oregon Hall. There, industrious workers can boast of a 3900 percent profit from their obviously efficient transcript-reproduction operation.

Thanks to a surplus of financial acumen and a deficit of ethical scruple, the staff of the registrar's office devised the ingenious scheme of charging students \$2 for an unofficial copy of their transcript. What a bullish mark-up. Since a single "Xeroxed" copy costs \$.05, the remaining \$1.95 must represent an Herculean effort on the part of the down-trodden laborers who must suffer grievous mental distress confronting the files and expend exhaustive athletic effort beating a path to the "Xerox" machine. And, of course, the technological prowess required is nothing less than expertise.

Clearly, the task of transcript copying is formidable; it is no wonder that gratuities mailing is

unthinkable. No decent student would further tax the office workers; their 3900 percent profit is already well-earned.

So, I repeat, the answer to our money woes can be found in that bastion of financial and bureaucratic wizardry, Oregon Hall.

Claudia Mazzie

Mock senate

Someone is always complaining about student apathy, but nobody recognizes the efforts made by campus groups to combat it. The Political Science Student Union has done quite a bit in this regard. The PSSU is sponsoring a class next term called the Mock U.S. Senate. The class will simulate the Senate through committee hearings, press conferences and a two-day session of the entire Senate, as well as other activities.

Class members will be assigned to role play senators, executive department officials, lobbyists and newspaper reporters. The class will teach students how the Senate works, as well as have actual simula-

tions. Many urgent issues will be discussed, including U.S. policy in El Salvador, the Voting Rights Act, New Federalism, and Reagan's budget cuts.

There will be two hundred or more positions available, so anyone and everyone is invited to sign up for the class (PS 407). You could represent Barry Goldwater, Gary Hart, Ted Kennedy, Howard Baker, or almost one hundred other Senators. You could also be an executive

official like Al Haig, James Watt or David Stockman, as well as a lobbyist for the NRA or Common Cause.

We will also be running two or three newspapers, so anyone interested in being a reporter is welcome. There are still a few Chairman's positions open; if you are interested in one of those, or you would like more information, contact the PSSU office in 823 PLC.

Please participate, it will be

fun and it will help to build greater student awareness of the world.

*Gordon Bluechel
Kelly Buntjer
Marc Spence
Political science*

Inaccuracy

I wish to correct an inaccurate quote in Debbie Howlett's article about Defense department funding for research. Since Dr. Dale Grace receives no DOD funds I did not say nor imply that he "studies grasshopper movements for us in tanks." Dr. Grace, as a matter of fact, studies memory and learning behavior in grasshoppers and the Office of Naval Research is interested in his studies but has not funded any research. I did tell the reporter that the Army seems interested in grasshoppers because they would like to have a "walking machine." I urged the reporter to discuss the specifics of his research with Dr. Grace. I'm sorry she didn't do so.

*Charlene Curry
Research Information Officer*

Letters note

The Emerald regrets that the volume of letters received and the space limitations of this page have prevented us from printing every letter submitted this term. If your letter has not as yet appeared, and you wish to have it published, please resubmit it to the Emerald offices, EMU 300, at the beginning of Spring term. Other letters remaining from Winter term will not be considered for publication.

Letter writers are advised

that letters over 250 words will not be accepted. Letters from students, faculty, classified staff and University administration will have priority consideration. Because of the volume of letters — letters in response to other letters that are responding to printed letters will be less likely to appear.

The Emerald reserves the right to edit any letter for length, style, or content. The Emerald also reserves the right to decline to print a letter submitted. Publication is dependent upon space available.

staff

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