

emerald

Faculty salaries fail to compete

By Debbie Howlett
Of the Emerald

Average Faculty Salary at 76 Major Public Universities in the USA 1980/81 (50 states represented)

1 California (Berkeley)	33,500	26 Massachusetts	26,600	51 Nebraska	24,400
2 Alaska (Anchorage)	32,700	27 Hawaii	26,500	52 OREGON	24,300
3 Pennsylvania	31,400	28 Wyoming	26,500	53 Oklahoma	24,300
4 Michigan	31,000	29 Georgia	26,300	54 Nevada Las Vegas	24,200
5 UCLA	30,900	30 SUNY - Binghamton	26,200	55 Tennessee	24,100
6 North Carolina	29,600	31 Colorado	26,100	56 Utah State	24,100
7 Illinois	28,900	32 Florida State	25,900	57 Oklahoma State	24,100
8 Wisconsin	28,400	33 North Carolina State	25,800	58 Alabama	24,000
9 Ohio State	28,300	34 Rhode Island	25,800	59 Mississippi State	23,900
10 SUNY - Albany	28,300	35 Nevada Reno	25,700	60 Idaho	23,900
11 Arizona	28,200	36 Texas A & M	25,700	61 Arkansas	23,800
12 Connecticut	28,200	37 Louisiana State	25,600	62 Iowa State	23,700
13 Rutgers (N.J.)	28,100	38 Texas	25,500	63 Kansas State	23,600
14 Michigan State	28,000	39 Virginia Polytechnic	25,500	64 OREGON STATE	23,500
15 Virginia	27,900	40 Missouri	25,400	65 Mississippi	22,900
16 Purdue	27,700	41 Univ of D.C.	25,400	66 New Hampshire	22,800
17 SUNY - Stony Brook	27,700	42 Colorado State	25,300	67 Vermont	22,700
18 Washington	27,500	43 Delaware	25,200	68 West Virginia	22,400
19 Minnesota	27,300	44 Maryland	25,200	69 Montana State	21,700
20 SUNY - Buffalo	27,300	45 South Carolina	25,200	70 North Dakota	21,700
21 Arizona State	27,100	46 Kentucky	25,200	71 Montana	21,500
22 Utah	27,100	47 Washington State	25,100	72 North Dakota State	21,400
23 Indiana	26,800	48 Florida	25,100	73 Maine	21,200
24 Iowa	26,800	49 New Mexico	25,000	74 South Dakota	21,200
25 Penn State	26,700	50 New Mexico State	24,800	75 South Dakota State	20,100

Source: AOF Program Planning Committee

Average salary levels for University faculty are no longer competitive with salaries offered by other universities for new, talented faculty members, according to one University department head and two deans of schools. As a consequence, the University is finding it increasingly difficult to keep faculty members here.

The lessening capacity for the University to compete nationally has become demoralizing and frustrating, says James Tattersall, head of the economics department and a past president of the Association of Oregon Faculties.

"There is a real problem in faculty morale," Tattersall says.

Recently, a senior faculty member resigned and moved south, "not entirely for monetary reasons but also due to our general climate of rotten news," he says.

The rotten "climate" seems to be raining on more than just the economics department. Robert Berdahl, dean of the arts and science college, related several instances of not being able to offer competitive salaries and of faculty members leaving the University for higher pay elsewhere.

One mathematics professor — a Ph.D. — I was offered \$23,400 by the University. "That was our top offer, it was the best we could do," Berdahl says. But the University's top offer was almost \$8,000 under what the professor accepted from another institution.

Berdahl also pointed out two other faculty members that left the University for at least \$10,000 more than they were making in Eugene.

Graphic by Max DeRungs

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Community pitches in at Alton Baker

By Marian Green
Of the Emerald

Money for Lane County parks may be in limited supply, but there's no shortage of local support as offers of volunteer help pour in from the community.

In Eugene, community effort is most noticeable at Alton Baker Park, where at least a half dozen organizations have donated labor and money and another 100 groups have phoned in offers of assistance, says parks division spokesperson Chuck Schrader.

The parks division — like most county services — had its funding slashed this year. The budget for Alton Baker Park is \$105,000, half the amount needed to run the 375-acre park, Schrader says.

"The budget basically does not provide sufficient funds to maintain that park or any other park," he says.

So since last year, the parks division has been circulating pleas throughout the county for help with the parks, Schrader says. And the community has responded.

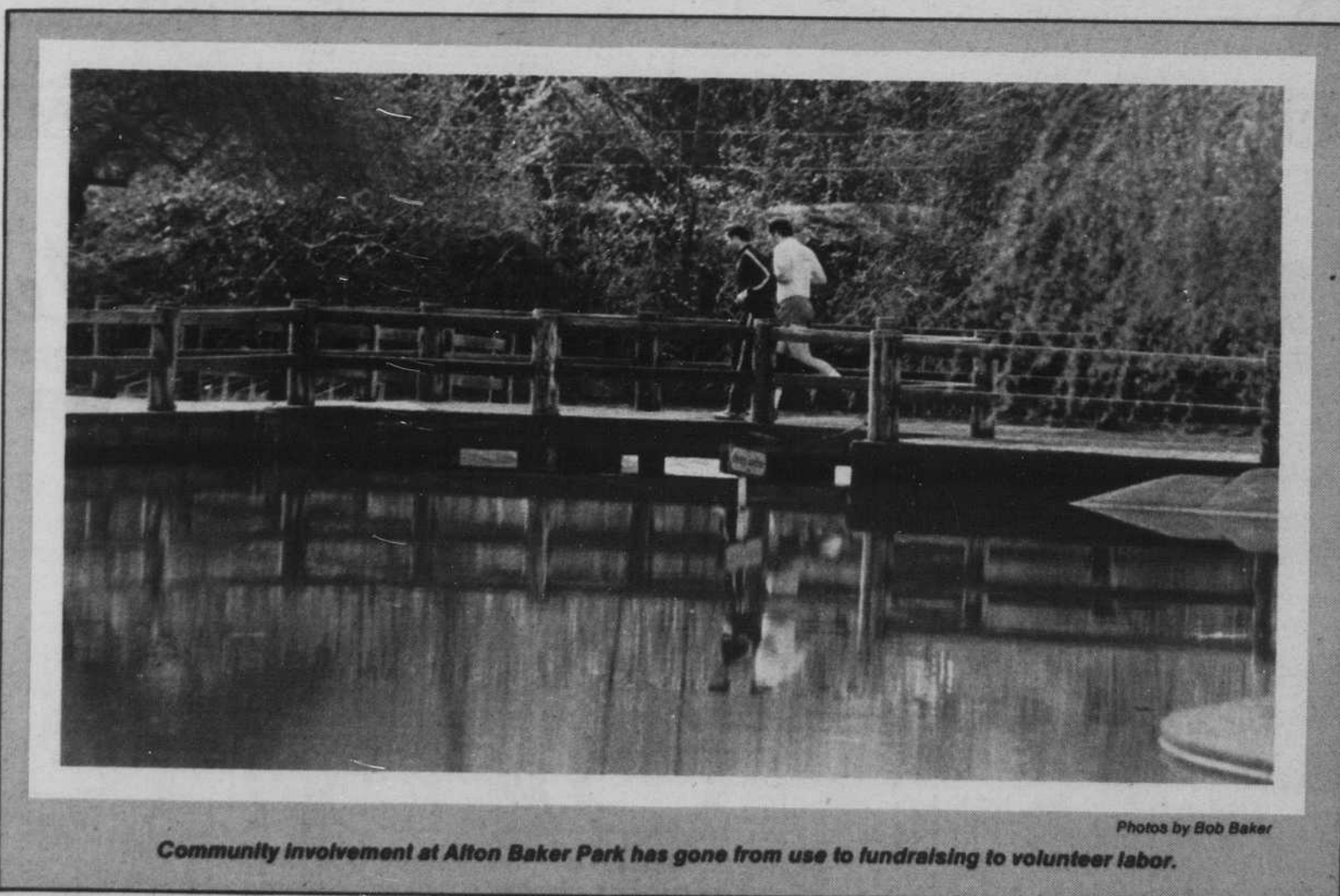
Area Rotary Clubs donated \$120,000 for the Alton Baker Park amphitheater. The Active 20/30 Club built the children's play structure. Pre's Foundation and local running clubs have banded together to maintain Pre's Trail. The Toastmasters Club has been spreading the word about park needs.

And within the last week, Schrader has received more than 100 phone calls inquiring about the Adopt-a-Park program, in which groups or individuals help maintain the parks.

Age is no barrier to helping out, he says. "I've had a number of parents call to volunteer their kids."

"It's a super idea," he says. "Without those people, things could be worse than they are now."

With just two park workers to maintain the 17 metro-district parks, which total about 600 acres, Schrader says the division can guarantee only basic health



Photos by Bob Baker

Community involvement at Alton Baker Park has gone from use to fundraising to volunteer labor.

code requirements, such as clean restrooms, emptied garbage cans and sufficiently mown grass.

"That's about all we're going to be able to do," he says. "There's not going to be a neatly mown lawn."

Volunteers will pick up where the county leaves off, clearing overgrowth, planting shrubs and wildflowers and removing some blackberry brambles, Schrader says.

"What they're going to be doing is a lot of work that would not be done at all," he

says.

The value of this volunteerism is inestimable, Schrader says.

"You can't put a figure on someone planting wildflowers."

More than 1.3 million people visited Alton Baker Park last year, he says.

And that's a conservative estimate because it accounts only for car visitors, he says. The county couldn't afford to hire employees to count pedestrians and bicyclists this year, he says. The last count, which was taken in 1974, showed

more than 350,000 bicyclists toured the park's trails.

Schrader says he hopes the citizen involvement will lead to better treatment of park facilities and less toleration of vandalism.

On April 17, the county commissioners and parks advisory committee members are hosting a brown-bag lunch work party at Alton Baker Park. All Lane County residents are invited to pull on heavy work gloves and put their backs into improving the park, Schrader says.