

ASUO 'drives' for voters

By Dane Claussen
Of the Emerald

This fall's voter registration drive spearheaded by the ASUO will be more comprehensive and goal-oriented than last year's, says Ann Portal, vice president for state and public affairs.

This year's effort, however, won't simply be a drive to increase student voter registration, she says.

"Registration is a means to an end," Portal says.

A "three-pronged" program consisting of a voter registration drive, political fair, and "get-out-the-vote-type drive" will be designed to ensure that students vote once they are registered, she says. The campus precinct consistently has had the lowest percentage vote turnout regardless of the number of students registered, Portal adds.

However, a registration goal — 6,000 students — was set despite the fact it is unclear how many students are already registered.

"We're trying for a lot more students," Portal says. "We're not just making it a public service."

The object is to "create a student vote" bloc that can have a noticeable effect on elections outcomes, she says.

Voter registration will be available at the Street Faire, political fair, dormitories, in the EMU, and at other places or events, with the most intensive efforts being made the third or fourth week of October, Portal says. And plans call for all students who register to be either called or sent a postcard reminding them to vote just prior to the November election, she says.

The ASUO is attempting to

enlist the help of the Student University Affairs Board, University Students Political Action Committee, Student University Relations Council, Political Science Student Union, Residence Hall Governance Committee and other organizations to help in the drive, Portal says. A group of student leaders will make up a Voter Registration Steering Committee, she says.

Voter registration is a high priority for the ASUO, and will become first priority for the state and public affairs office following a "Legislative Conference" being held Sept. 24-25 in conjunction with an Oregon Student Lobby meeting at the University, she says.

"Our goal is not to register all

students at any cost," she cautions however.

Not only will all registration efforts be performed by volunteers, she says, but both those registering and those being registered have to be careful.

Out-of-state students shouldn't register unless they want to change their residency and have checked how their residency would effect their scholarships and other standings, Portal says. Foreign students cannot register, but students from many other Oregon counties should be able to register for their home districts, she adds.

ASUO representatives have had meetings with county elections officials to find out procedures and the law.

When needing the right tool Tool Library can lend a hand

Begging, borrowing or stealing are three unsavory alternatives when needing a tool to finish a job — whether it be to mow the lawn or build a loft.

The ASUO funded Tool Library makes borrowing the easy alternative to begging or stealing.

The student run library loans a variety of hand and power tools to students or community members, usually for three days at a time.

It is located on an alley between 15th and 17th, near the Agate Street offices and the Food-Op.

Students deposit their current student I.D. card to check out a tool, and are charged for the borrowing depending on the item. The charge is \$5 per day, which is for the maximum borrowing period.

Drills, saws, sanders, routers, car tools, garden tools, and household cleaning tools are among the tools the library has ready at hand to lend.

The library also has a "fairly complete library" of how-to books and manuals, according to John Shepard, library desk clerk.

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Lawyer

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In addition, Spinner says he enjoys working with people when fees are not a major issue in the relationship. Dealing with clients is easier that way, especially since he can spend as much time on a case involving a small sum as a large sum, he says.

The variety of subjects and the "refreshing approach to problems" that he has contact with in the campus setting keep the job interesting, Spinner says.

"Just meeting a lot of interesting people" is a motivating factor as well, he says, adding that foreign and graduate students use the service in disproportionate numbers.

"I haven't had a raise there in two or three years," Spinner says. "That's because I make my own budget and I haven't asked for one."

The Legal Services office will be open 40 hours a week. Spinner will be available for client counseling 20 hours per week.

Legal Service's telephone number is 686-4273.

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