

Resource center control under question

By Richard Burr
Of the Emerald

The development of a student activities resource center has prompted questions over student control of student programs.

The resource center, an activity planning center for student groups not funded by the ASUO, is under the jurisdiction of the ASUO, but this was not accomplished without discussion over administration control. And further discussion lies ahead.

ASUO Pres. C.J. Balfe asked Frank Geltner, EMU assistant director and University program consultant, to be an adviser to the new vice president of program development last spring, according to Geltner. This was the first time ASUO and the EMU had made an effort to coordinate activities, he says.

"Somebody got the idea that the administration was plotting to take some sort of steps to take control of ASUO programs," Geltner says. That isn't his intention, he adds.

When Geltner's responsibilities were suddenly increased, suspicions were aroused, Balfe says. Perhaps the University program consultant's responsibilities should have been increased gradually, he says.

But Geltner's proposal sounded like administration control to Kevin Kouns, an ASUO comptroller and former SEARCH director.

Although Geltner says he is accountable to students because his salary is paid through incidental fees, Kouns says the program consultant is responsible only indirectly to students.

"Student control to me means the right to hire and fire," Kouns says. "Under these guidelines Frank

Geltner should not be advising the ASUO."

The ASUO and EMU Director Adell McMillan, "asked Frank Geltner to increase the existing portion of his job description which focuses on providing 'consultation and assistance to University groups interested in planning and presenting educational activities,'" according to a draft memorandum from Balfe and Gerry Mosley, associate provost for student affairs, written this summer.

The office of program consultant "put a magnifying glass on what we've always been doing," Geltner says.

"What I was attempting to do was to find a way where ASUO and the EMU could work together in a joint effort toward consultation and assistance," he says.

The ASUO and Geltner have since agreed that the center belongs in the ASUO office. The ASUO program development office has plans to expand and include the center, says Vincson Green, ASUO vice president of program development.

But the controversy has not died with the resource center agreement.

Geltner requested additional office space in EMU Suite One. The EMU Board housing committee rejected his request.

Geltner says he needs the additional office space for exposure of his office, which is located now in the Cultural Forum office. He also has the conference room in Suite One.

Although he favors student programs receiving office space, Geltner's possible expansion does not concern him, Green says.

"As long as he doesn't take away from programs, I don't care," Green says.



Photo by Mark Pynes
Frank Geltner is assistant director of the EMU and University program consultant.

High tech firm donates cash, goods to higher ed

Tektronix, a Portland-based electronic equipment company, gave higher education's high tech programs a \$3.5 million shot in the arm.

Tektronix president Earl Wantland announced donations of \$2.5 million from the Tektronix Foundation and another \$1 million in equipment from the company at a press conference Wednesday.

The donation could be just the right medicine for an ailing Oregon economy and an equally unhealthy system of higher education says Chancellor Bud Davis.

"The vitality of quality higher education and outstanding research universities will serve as a magnet to attract new industry," Davis said.

The money will be directed toward public institutions for programs of engineering, computer science and solid-state technology. Most of the funds and equipment will go to Portland State University, but part of the gift will go to private schools, the University of Portland and the Graduate Center.

"A significant portion of the funding will go to Portland State University as

soon as the university develops suitable programs in the area," said Tom Long, vice president of Tektronix.

"Most of the money that is going to Portland State will be used for new teaching positions or salary adjustments," Long said.

The University is expected to receive some funding from the five-year program, although nothing has been definitely allocated yet.

"Oregon is competing with practically every other state in the union to attract new industry. We'll compete far better when our high technology education is developed," Wantland said.

The grant focuses on three main objectives:

- The development of electrical engineering and computer science programs.
- The upgrading of equipment used in engineering and computer science classrooms and laboratories.
- And the development of a regional capability in a state-of-the-art solid state research called "III-V Compound."

Board faces angry men

Motel owners, educators plead cases

By Debbie Howlett
Of the Emerald

Cliff Moran, representing a group of angry Ashland businessmen, will testify before the State Board of Higher Education today at a meeting on the Portland State University campus. The board will also hear from another angry group, high school administrators from small school districts around the state.

Moran owns the Valley Entrance Motel which sits directly across from the Southern Oregon State College campus. Moran and several other Ashland businessmen are upset because they say the college is taking away their business by renting rooms and selling meals to tourists, instead of only educational groups.

The high school administrators say Davis is moving too quickly with proposals to increase entrance requirements at the state's public colleges and universities.

The board is scheduled to take action on the entrance requirements proposal at today's meeting, while the administrators are pushing for postponement.

As a result of the Ashland businessmen's complaints, the city's Chamber of Commerce set up a task force to look into the problem and come up with

recommendations.

SOSC housing officials have admitted to "making three mistakes." They apologized and promised to be more careful in the future.

But apparently the businessmen aren't satisfied, Moran has asked for, and been given, time to make his case before the board.

The controversy at the Ashland campus stems from the school renting unused dormitory space, mostly during the summer, to educational groups and conventions. The practice is common, every state system institution with housing facilities operates under the same or a similar type of procedure.

The Ashland community's largest economic resource is tourism, due largely to the Shakespearean Festival Moran and the other businessmen complained that the college houses tourists, thereby forcing area businesses to fold.

While the board will listen to Moran, they will not be required to take action today.

In other business, the board will consider the purchase of three pieces of property, one section adjacent to the SOSC campus, and two in Corvallis.

The Chancellor, Bud Davis, will also give his monthly report to the board.

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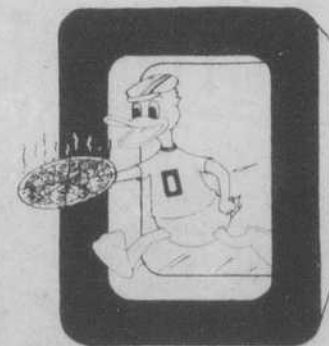
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