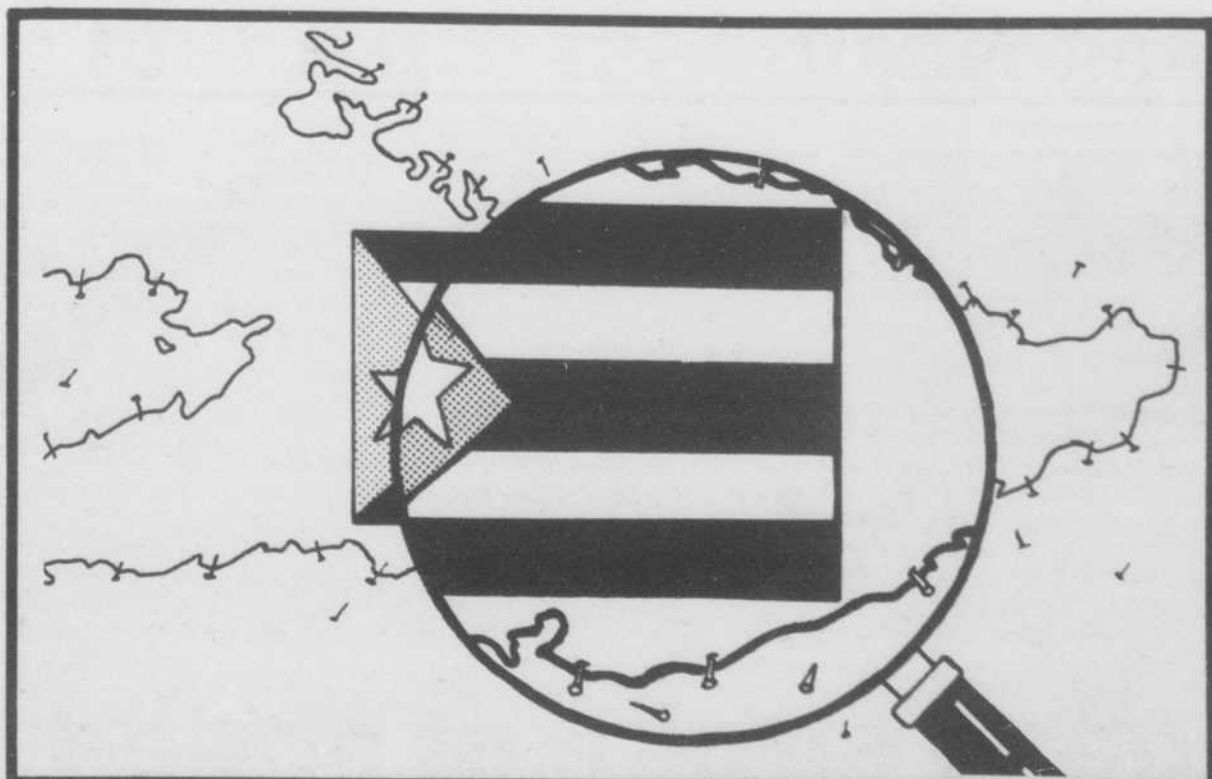




Graphic by Shawn Bird

Cuba group loses IFC funding

By Richard Burr
Of the Emerald

A Cuba cultural-information group is abandoning its incidental fee funding because of changes in its membership mix.

The Cuba Study Group, which received \$60 last year, did not turn in goal statements to the Incidental Fee Committee because it has fewer students and more community members, says group member Kevin Kouns. A program cannot receive funding unless its goals are approved.

"So we felt it wasn't reasonable to ask for money," Kouns says.

Some group members left to work for Committee and Solidarity with the Central American People, a local chapter of a national group that supports negotiations to include guerilla forces in the El Salvadoran government, he says.

Because of the transformation, monthly meetings are "more of a social event," with members discussing Cuban current events to maintain knowledge learned last year when they studied the country in their spare time, Kouns says.

The group's dissolution is disappointing in light of the trouble the program had in securing funding, says group member Kirk Lambert.

The IFC unanimously approved \$60 for the

group despite an ASUO Executive recommendation against funding the program. Former ASUO Pres. Rich Wilkins vetoed the allotment, saying the group was one of two new programs having "very small utility to the students and no track record whatsoever."

"They should come back (for funding) after a year of activity," he added.

The IFC unanimously overrode the veto. The committee overturned the veto "in the spirit of cooperation" on the recommendation of the IFC's group liaison, says Karsten Rasmussen, last year's IFC chair.

The group showed initiative and had justifiable goals, adds David Gibson, ASUO vice president of finance and administration and a member of last year's committee.

A sociology professor and an assistant professor also had supported the group but said it couldn't be funded through the sociology department, he says.

But such reasoning failed to persuade last year's ASUO vice president of finance and administration.

"We thought it was a bogus program," says Alan Contreras, ASUO comptroller. "We didn't believe that it would be the kind of program that would benefit the students."

Film planning class set

Students interested in starting a film series may attend an information session entitled "What's a Film Program?" Wednesday at 3 p.m. in EMU Century Room E.

The session, directed by Jan Warren, EMU program adviser, and Linda Ednoff, EMU scheduling assistant, will answer frequently asked questions related to planning a film program.

The meeting is part of a series of "informal/informative" sessions sponsored this term by the ASUO office of program development and EMU program counseling office.

Aid forms available

The 1983-84 financial aid forms, which were delayed due to late congressional decisions, are available in the financial aid office during regular office hours.

The forms are similar to last year, but students should read the directions carefully and ask the financial aid office for help on any problem or question they may have, says Marilyn Bader, the financial aid counselor.

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