

opinion

Room for rent

Let's be creative with the room located off the EMU Fishbowl. Commonly known as the TV room, the EMU Board took out the television this term because the room was being used by "transients" to come out of the rain.

The room also was used by soap opera addicts and sports fans for a quick fix.

Now the 17 x 17 foot room stands desolate, awaiting greater things to happen. The EMU Board has yet to vote on a new mission for the room.

So the Emerald still has time to submit a list of ideas. And here they are:

Make the room an extension of the Fishbowl; add a few tables.

Invite some entrepreneur to open a coffee bar with good fresh ground coffee and pastry — the room would be packed.

With easy bathroom access, the room is natural for a tavern.

Accommodate the video freaks; the board could make the place an arcade — only quiet games, please.

The room has a window and tile floors. This would lend nicely to a hottub room. Renting tubs would not only bring in money for the EMU — like arcades, beer and good coffee, it would increase student interaction.

The room has a little platform that easily could be extended to form a stage. How about a little theater? It could be used for noon-time performances, stand-up student comedians or scenes from University Theatre productions.

Do something with the little room off the Fishbowl — even if it means bringing back the television and the bums.

letters

Precious little

As a graduate student, I have watched with interest and amusement the Oregon student government's reaction to Rep. Richard Springer's legislative proposal to make student incidental fees voluntary. As one of over 2,000 graduate students who are older, married, or are single parents, receive precious little for our incidental fee dollars, I applaud and salute Rep. Springer's initiative.

The ASUO and the Incidental Fee Committee have chosen to react to this proposal like Chicken Little and predict the end of civilization as we know it, instead of trying to understand why Rep. Springer feels the way he does or why an overwhelming majority of Oregon students view student government as a joke.

Let's face it gang, over 80 percent of all incidental fees are already allotted by mandate of the higher education system or by the 10-15 percent of the student population that voted in last year's election.

The world won't end if the approximately 20 percent remaining is cut out; the 80 percent mentioned before will simply become part of our tuition instead of the current nickel and dime approach of the incidental fee system.

There is substantial discontent over this fee and what it supports and how that is decided. Most students know what we want to spend our money on and we don't need a group of petty, disinterested student leaders nor the Emerald, which receives much of its operating budget directly or indirectly from these fees, to tell us what we need.

I dare the ASUO to place the idea of a voluntary student fee on the spring ballot — I predict the highest student turnout in years in support of this measure. However, we all know our elected leaders aren't interested in what students want; they just want to keep their positions of power and their paychecks coming in. For all their revolutionary chatter, they're really very status quo. So, the only hope to change this charade lies in Rep. Springer's legislative initiative — give 'em hell, Richard!

Roger Olsen
graduate student

Servants

Re: Robert Payne's letter about the IFC.

I, too, have followed the IFC's actions in the past few weeks,

but with a different point of view. Rather than power-hungry children, I see them as public servants giving up a good deal of their time and peace of mind and trying to do a job which will not fully satisfy anyone in the end.

They are humans. They'll make mistakes. They'll get irritable when the decisions are rough, when a hearing is dragging on and members wish they were home studying. Instead of having dinner with their children they're at that meeting taking all that flak.

But they're doing it. Some computer assistance or consistent standards could be helpful. But for now, someone has to take the sow's ear of a budget and try to make a silk purse for next year's students. They have my thanks for their efforts.

Jennifer Soyke
senior, biology

Good dragon

Wednesday night I had the pleasure of attending University Theatre's production of "The Last Dragon" and excuse the pun, but, "totally awesome" is the best word I can think of to describe it.

Everything about the play from the costumes and special effects to the fantastic musical score was simply amazing. To top it all off, the entire play was written, directed and produced by our own University faculty and students which makes the whole thing an original production. Even the music was written by fellow student Chris Foote.

Generally speaking, I am not an avid theater buff because most of the plays I've seen were pretty boring. However, after seeing "The Last Dragon" once I am looking forward to seeing it a second time. For those of you who haven't seen it, it would well be worth your while to do so and I guarantee you won't be disappointed.

Mike Cutter

Regrets

I regret that my "serious misconceptions" have offended Doug Marker, ACLU director. In objecting to ASUO use of tuition funds, I was a stereotype, money-hungry business major, not realizing I am supposed to recognize and finance homosexuals, Jews, environmentalists and other minorities.

How dare I question Tom Birkland's right to support his precious SNUFF through my tuition funds. Surely such infidels as myself must be financially forced to become "aware" of America's diverse society through benevolent IFC projects.

I am sarcastic for good reason. Liberals may feel strongly about societal awareness and political issues, but does that justify forcefully taking \$624 in incidental fees over four years from me to fund homosexuals, minorities, and a school newspaper that endorses socialism and authoritarian rule? That is a violation of my civil rights — what about me?

I challenge the constitutionality of such coercion. The ASUO, under the disguise of "social and cultural mind broadening" is promoting poli-

tical movements with my money. That is socialism. I am not for nuclear disarmament, yet, I am forced to support it financially and am called a Nazi and McCarthyite for disagreeing. That is political coercion — authoritarianism.

Although I dislike ASUO spending, I am coerced to pay them \$52 a term anyway. I guess I don't matter. My purpose is to promote public welfare. Marxism?

I suggest, therefore, that incidental fees become optional in Oregon universities so that those of us already "aware" may learn here without losing our political or monetary freedom.

Randy Shepard
business admin.

Debate ROTC

Answering my statement that I would like to see ROTC proponents enter into the debate more actively than they usually do, instead of trying to minimize discussion, Col. Wolfgram states "a debate ought to come to a common agreement. The only thing that will satisfy him is removal of the program from the University."

This argument could as well read: "The only thing that will satisfy them is to have a military appendage attached to the University."

It is true that reaching consensus is often a very valuable and desirable outcome of discussion and debate. Sometimes, however, people sincerely seeking the same goal, such as world peace, start from such opposite basic premises as to how to achieve that goal, that consensus is impossible.

This does not mean that debating the issue is of no value. It may serve to clarify some of the issues, both for those participating in the debate and for others.

In this case the basic point at issue is: Under present world conditions does a military approach to human problems contribute to our security and well being — or is it self-defeating and contributing toward our destruction?

This is one of the most important and complex questions of our time — one with profound implications for all facets of our lives — our national policies, our economy, our relations with other peoples, and our personal lives.

It is upon the controversial aspects of questions that all of us stand in greatest need for clarification and understanding. This can only be achieved by thinking about them, discussing them — not by avoiding them.

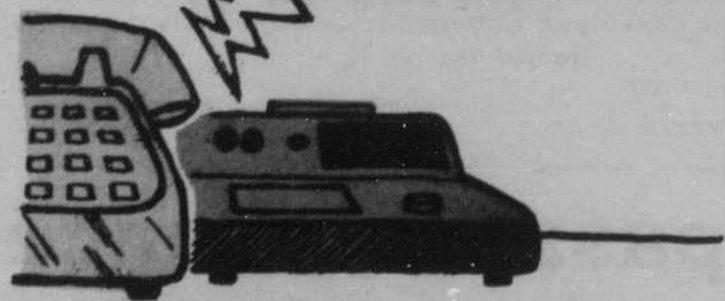
As an educational institution, rather than a military camp, it is one of the most important responsibilities of the University to promote in every way possible more widespread consideration and education with respect to these questions.

I would not want any class of students to be deprived of the opportunity to see their faculty and administrators grapple with questions as to the responsibilities of universities and their relationship to the larger society.

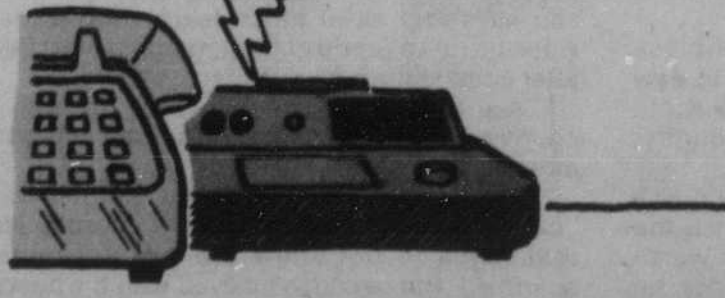
Bayard McConaughy
professor, biology
Friday, February 25, 1993

wordplay

(BEEP) HELLO, THIS IS JIM HANEY. I'M NOT IN RIGHT NOW, BUT IF YOU LEAVE A MESSAGE I MIGHT CALL YOU BACK. I SAY MIGHT BECAUSE I GET A LOT OF WEIRDOS CALLING ME UP HERE ASKING ME TO RESIGN AND OTHER THINGS...



LISTEN, I ADMIT WE HAD A ROUGH TIME LAST WEEK, BUT THIS WEEK WE PLAY ARIZONA AND ASU AND WE'RE GONNA WIN. BELIEVE ME, THIS TIME NOTHING CAN GO WRONG...(CLICK) CAN GO WRONG...(CLICK) CAN GO WRONG...



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