

Kouns disputes his dismissal

Former ASUO comptroller says constitution violated

The ASUO Constitution Committee heard testimony Thursday in the disputed firing of an ASUO comptroller.

ASUO Pres. C.J. Balfe fired Kevin Kouns a week ago for failing to keep office hours. Kouns appealed to the committee because he said Balfe did not follow the firing procedure outlined in the ASUO green tape notebook.

John Moore, director of the Office of Executive Coordinator, asked the committee to dismiss the case because the notebook rules do not apply to the ASUO Executive and the matter does not involve constitutional interpretation.

The notebook was written for the benefit of student programs, and its rules do not apply to the president's office, Balfe said. The ASUO Executive administers programs, he said.

The ASUO Constitution distinguishes between the ASUO Executive and programs, Moore said. The Incidental Fee Committee does not require the president's office to submit goals as other programs do, he said.

The ASUO Executive office is a program as exemplified by its annual requirement to seek funding from the IFC like other programs, Kouns said. If presidents cannot be held accountable for their personnel practices, they may make "arbitrary and capricious" decisions, he said.

Balfe violated several green tape notebook



Kevin Kouns

rules in the firing, Kouns said. The president did not allow a week between the termination notification and the day of termination, he said.

Kouns was fired because he missed office hours a week ago, which was the "final straw," Balfe said. Kouns had missed entire weeks of office hours, he said.

Kouns said some absences were due to sickness. Because Balfe and Kouns agreed to resolve the situation, Kouns said he had not missed office hours without contacting the office.

The committee will release its decision Thursday.

Bay calls for \$3 fee increase

By Richard Burr
Of the Emerald

The athletic department probably will request a \$3 increase in incidental fee funding per student, athletic department officials said Thursday.

The athletic department probably will ask \$18 a term from students, said Rick Bay, athletic department director.

Students now pay \$15 per term, but with game admission that totals \$17 per term, he told Incidental Fee Committee members at an informal question-and-answer session.

The department is asking for an increase to cover free game admission and inflated costs, Bay said. More students would show up for athletic events with free admission, he said.

The sole difference between free admittance and charging admission is that the money is paid ahead of time, Bay said. Students are more likely to attend games under the plan because they don't have to scrape for money on the day of the game, he said.

The plan also would keep the athletic teams competitive with

other universities, Bay said.

Costs have increased because the University salary freeze has been lifted, said Mike Easterly, athletic business manager. The University also is hosting more expensive Pacific 10 games next year, he said.

Better teams will be playing the Ducks, meaning the department will have to pay a higher percentage of attendance revenue to the visiting squads, Easterly said. The visiting teams also will attract larger crowds, increasing operating expenses, he said.

If the \$18 fee was adopted, the department still will have a projected budget deficit of about \$600,000, Bay said. The department would have to borrow to finance the deficit if "things don't fall into place," he said.

The department could get about \$240,000 if the football team gets on television, Bay said. The Ducks have better chances than ever before to get on television because the TV networks' two-year contract requires 82 new teams to be televised during the contract, he said.

The department also probably

will hold three rock concerts next year, instead of one to absorb part of the deficit, Bay said.

University Pres. Paul Olum said department officials would have to present contingency plans to him if they anticipate a deficit.

Jeff Nudelman asked Olum how he would justify funding the athletic department to an irate student who does not benefit from it. A limited number of students benefit from funding any program, including such student programs as Survival Center, Olum said.

"The question is whether a significant number benefit," he said.

Olum also defended the legitimacy of negotiations between ASUO and IFC officials and the athletic department. Negotiations are not a "shadow game" in which the fee amount has been predetermined, he said.

Olum said he has never overruled a student government decision and hopes he won't ever. But the University president must protect the student bodies of the future, he said.



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