

opinion

Students on Senate

The Task Force on Faculty Governance has made some worthy suggestions in slimming the University bureaucracy next year — except for one.

The composition of the Senate will not be improved by reducing the number of students from 18 to two. The faculty presently holds a two-thirds majority. To decrease student input on decisions of University policy to a token two students decreases the representativeness of the Senate, undermines student input into University governance and needlessly breaks down the lines of communication between faculty and student opinion.

The suggestions — to empower the Senate to actually take action on all non-controversial issues, reduce Assembly meetings to four times a year, return to a college of arts and sciences/professional and other schools faculty nominating process, make the Committee on Committees (how's that for bureaucracy to the second power?) a "creature" of the Senate instead of the Faculty Advisory Council are good moves to strengthen the Senate and reduce the public hearing format of the University Assembly.

As the Task Force report points out, faculty attendance at the University Assembly is usually low, the same people come, and "in the absence of an important issue, there is a tendency to descend to the trivial level in dissecting other issues."

"The Task Force believes that the (University) Assembly would be less reluctant to give more power to the Senate if the faculty held a larger proportion of the votes."

What the Task Force fails to point out is that faculty don't care enough to attend the Senate meetings.

The student members attend meetings and because of the poor attendance of the faculty often have been a majority. They do not vote in a block except on Students University Affairs Board issues. They vote their departments and conscience.

To proportionally reduce the number of students and faculty would have been a decent suggestion. To penalize the student voice for poor faculty attendance is punishing the innocent.

Student University Affairs Board Members and ASUO officers have "specifically" been invited to attend the May 18 faculty forum on the proposed governance recommendations, according to Prof. Sanford Tepfer of the Faculty Advisory Committee and the Task Force.

Should the faculty forum consensus still recommend that students be reduced from the Senate, the current SUAB Senate members will not have a chance to vote on the motion, according to the original legislation to place them there.

Students should make sure their SUAB representatives attend — it's a crucial meeting to maintain their voice on the Senate. Faculty need to be convinced of student interest in University policy, in case last week's demonstration didn't reach them. SUAB members should get to work. This is one instance where the current ASUO administration can work with the faculty to make sure future students have a voice in University government.

1985 standards

The State Board of Higher Education voiced strong support Friday for the chancellor's proposal to increase admissions standards for state system schools by 1985. It's good to hear.

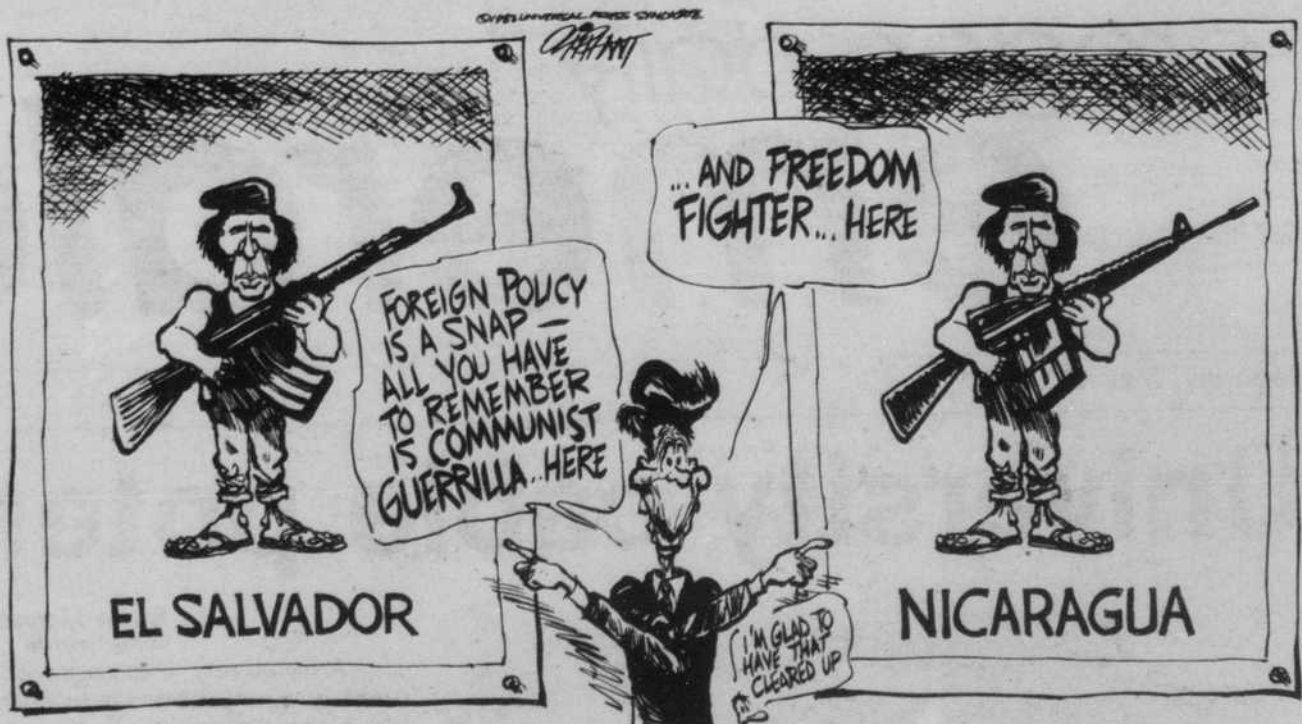
Recommendations called for a gradual phase-in of the admissions standards between 1986 and 1990. State Board members should start building a dam to stop the "rising tide of (educational) mediocrity" and implement the increased standards by 1985.

The 1985 date will be waived for students from school districts who could not provide the preparatory classes.

For the rest of the college-bound high school students, the increased standards in English, math, science, and social studies will be an asset in making it through freshman year. The prepared freshman will not have to take remedial classes at college costs and will be better prepared to take a college load. Attrition rates for college freshman would decrease.

There seems to be little doubt the higher education board will approve the fall 1985 implementation date. They should not let unresponsive school districts and lazy counselors get the better of them. It's a good move toward encouraging, even forcing, students to prepare for college.

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letters

Intrinsic

Those who support the forced compliance of ROTC with affirmative action policies are accused of using this as an underhanded means of obtaining a different, unrelated end: the banishment of ROTC from our campus.

Do people honestly believe, however, that the military's discrimination against homosexuals has nothing to do with ROTC's questionable presence here at a liberal arts institution?

The U.S. military is a machine which functions solely by its power of coercion; it teaches its officers to obey without question. They must align themselves with military/political policy created within a centralized, hierarchical system of power which finds its voice in the Pentagon.

What if these policies are wrong? What if they serve only to encourage Central American genocide or wreak global destruction through the use of nuclear weapons? An officer who may come to question these policies cannot express his/her views in the public/civilian sector. Rather, such leakage would be viewed as disloyal and unpatriotic. There is no room in the military for philosophical debate; only for the mindless, technical expertise that college students have to offer in an increasingly dangerous war effort against Russia.

Western society's dictum concerning homosexuals — that they are perverted and subhuman — springs from the same source of white-male domination that threatens the peace of our planet and the lives of our children.

I challenge people of insight to affirm this intrinsic connection and take a moral stand.

Let ROTC comply to standards of equality, or else let them pack up and leave.

Sarah Barton
Junior, English Lit.

Noble military

In recent weeks, the ROTC has generated a great deal of controversy and dismay among students. The University Assembly's decision to postpone Cheyney Ryan's proposal, which would have forced ROTC to allow gays into the scholarship program, has left many students angry.

Well, I think I have a viable solution to this matter which calls for a change in attitude. As citizens of the United States of America, we should all take great pride in our campus ROTC. ROTC should stand as a symbol of all the Vietnamese, Koreans, and Central Americans that have been killed as a result of fighting against the Imperial Military Machine of the United States. In the name of ROTC, we should all feel proud of our country's noble military achievements all over the globe, including the annihilation of Vietnamese villages and the dropping of the atomic bomb on Hiroshima. Had our brave soldiers not been so successful we would probably have "commies" in the EMU at this moment.

It gives me a warm feeling inside to know that ROTC is just steps away from class. Perhaps we should commemorate a national holiday on the steps of ROTC in memory of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. We could call it "Nuclear Pride Week" or better yet, "ROTC Awareness Week." Paul Olum and Steve Wolfgram could be the masters of ceremony. Folks,

ROTC is not just another institution, but rather a place on campus to preserve our capitalist ideologies and remind everyone that we are not going to surrender our 7-Elevens, McDonalds, and Chevrolets to a bunch of filthy and aggressive Third World guerrillas.

Steve Pacheco

Baseball people

I join a great many people in education and sports fans in congratulating Larry Hansen, Sandy Vaughn and those people who breathed a bit of life back into the only 100 percent U.S.A. American sport — baseball.

Historically, sports have been a rich part of our American education heritage. Historically, more and more Universities have gone the route of "pay more and get less" in their sports program. This is a subject that is easy to research either locally or at any geographic area. What does it cost for a "free lunch" at the University level? It is so futile, and so academically irresponsible.

Larry Hansen of Don Kirsh' era stepped forward and offered to "coach." Sandy Vaughn of Oregon Team sports, the Erb Memorial "Team Sports," responded positively, "if you have enough people to compete."

The result has been a competitive opportunity for young men of Oregon that has astounded, pleasurable, the followers of sports in general and baseball in particular.

Let us join the baseball people in keeping this great American game at a realistic, educational place in Oregon, and at "Oregon."

Bill Bowerman
alumnus, Eugene

oregon daily emerald

The Oregon Daily Emerald is published Monday through Friday except during exam week and vacations, by the Oregon Daily Emerald Publishing Co., at the University of Oregon, Eugene, OR, 97403.

The Emerald operates independently of the University with offices on the third floor of the Erb Memorial Union and is a member of the Associated Press.

News and Editorial 686-5511
Display Advertising and Business 686-3712
Classified Advertising 686-4343
Production 686-4381
Circulation 686-5511

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News Editor
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