

Education subcommittee delays final higher ed budget decision

By Debbie Howlett
Of the Emerald

SALEM — A legislative subcommittee on education has scheduled another work session today to deal with the State System of Higher Education's budget proposal.

In a meeting Wednesday afternoon the Ways and Means subcommittee discussed parts of the 1983-85 budget proposal for Oregon's public colleges and universities. The subcommittee dealt only briefly with the general budget proposal.

Final recommendations for the entire budget should come at a work session next week, said Rep. Wayne Fawbush, D-Hood River, subcommittee chairman.

The state system budget proposal will probably be cut \$4-8 million by the end of the hearings. Sen. Rod Monroe, D-Portland, says the \$4 million figure has been approved by members of the House Revenue Committee, the Ways and Means Committee and the state system. Monroe is a member of the education subcommittee.

In brief dealings with higher ed's general budget proposal, Sen. Mike Thorne, D-Pendleton, questioned the allocation of \$1 million to the University for additional funding of computer science. Nearly \$2 million has been proposed for improvement of state

system computer science programs.

The subcommittee discussed budgets for the agricultural experiment station, the forest research lab and the cooperative extension service, all from Oregon State University. The preliminary recommendations for those facilities totals nearly \$70.9 million, a \$2.6 million decrease from Gov. Vic Atiyeh's proposal.

Fawbush ran down a list of topics the committee will discuss at today's meeting, which included:

- A report on the Bureau of Governmental Affairs at the University.

- Whether to hire faculty for Council for Advanced Science and Engineering Education/Research for Industry on a tenure track.

- Funding of institution libraries. "Allegations have been made that (previously allocated) money never got there," Fawbush said.

- A "wish list" from Chancellor Bud Davis that includes a "small amount of money" set aside as a "kitty" to facilitate the hiring and keeping of "star faculty."

- The appropriate location for the Chancellor's office. "I'm not convinced in my own mind that (Eugene's) the place you ought to be," Fawbush told Davis.

- A report from the state system on the University's Environmental Law Center.

Faculty group still undecided about University governance

A Faculty Forum held Wednesday afternoon to discuss proposed changes in the University governance reached few conclusions.

Following a general introduction of the proposed changes, the Forum split into small groups to discuss some of the controversial

proposals, including changes in the voting constituency of the Senate and Assembly and the delegation of authority to the Senate.

The most controversial issue was the proposal changing the senate's composition from 18 student members to two.

Studies of other university governance systems with strong senates show little or no student representation, said Katherine Eaton, a member of the faculty task force. The general feeling among faculty was that if more power was delegated to the senate, there should not be a one-third student representation.

The small group debate on the delegation of authority to the senate met with general acceptance from most members.

Some problems within the current system are that the assembly is not representative of the whole faculty and that decisions are sometimes made despite little study and debate, a group member said.

Advantages seen in the new system are that it would "screen a lot of the nit-picky things" from the assembly and allow for better representation, a group member said.

The final wrap-up showed general faculty support for a faculty quorum in the assembly, but the suggestions ranged from 10-33 percent of faculty in attendance.

The task force will study the suggestions and present a notice of motion at the June assembly meeting.

University alum to give artsy talk

Douglas Hofstadter, a University alumnus and Pulitzer prize-winning author, will speak on the relationship between art, music, mathematics and science Thursday evening at the Eugene Conference Center.

Hofstadter's talk, titled "The Concept of Recursion in Nature and Art," is part of the Forum Lecture Series. The lecture, which is free and open to the public, begins at 8 p.m.

The computer scientist from Indiana University won the 1979 Pulitzer prize for his book "Goedel, Escher, Bach: An Eternal Golden Braid." Hofstadter also writes a regular column for Scientific American magazine.

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