

# SUAB halves its senate vote

In an attempt to maintain its numbers in the University Senate, the Student University Affairs Board passed a proposal Tuesday to keep 16 to 18 SUAB members on the board. However, each member would have only half a vote in the senate.

SUAB's proposal goes before the University Assembly today.

Under the proposal, SUAB members would lose half their voting power in the senate while retaining a full vote in the larger assembly.

If approved, the proposal would prevent a proposed reduction of SUAB members from 18 to eight but would still decrease SUAB influence in the senate to 20 percent. Currently, SUAB represents one-third of the senate.

SUAB member Tom Birkland said a smaller SUAB could become a "clique" of students representing special interests rather than the entire student body.

Although a smaller SUAB might be more influential, the current membership attracts more students and keeps the board effective every year, Lori Lieberman said.

Having half a vote in the senate vote would be personally demeaning, member Karin Keutzer said. Having eight members on SUAB who really want to be on the board would make for a stronger, more effective board, she said.

Board member Mark Lakeman concluded that a SUAB board with a larger membership would be in SUAB's best interests, and that

over time SUAB could work to restore full voting rights for all members.

In other action, SUAB members listened for a second time to testimony by Dave Bauer for his appointment to the EMU board.

ASUO president Mary Hotchkiss, who spoke for Bauer, said he had started with an unfair advantage in his previous hearing because that meeting was not tape recorded.

Bauer, a former SUAB member, said he was on top of EMU issues and could be effective in that position.

After he was questioned by the board on issues ranging from EMU rent to establishing a tavern on campus, Bauer was rejected by the board.



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# Snafu snarls workshop agenda

As the opening date approaches, ASUO coordinators of the "Crisis in Central America," conference are dealing with a small crisis of their own.

The three-day conference, scheduled to begin Thursday at the University, is slated to feature 18 workshops, six films and eight panelists.

U.S. Army Col. Lawrence Tracy, a Latin American specialist in the Reagan administration, was to be one of the panelists in Friday's discussion, "Nicaragua in Focus" — but U.S. officials are reportedly having second thoughts.

Tracy's presence on the panel as it is now comprised would violate Defense and State Department policy. Policy bars U.S. government officials from panels that include representatives of countries which the U.S. government considers to be unfriendly, Conference Coordinator Mary Lewis said Tuesday.

Nicaragua is considered to be an unfriendly country and Miriam Hooker, special advisor to the Nicaraguan ambassador in Washington, D.C. is scheduled to sit on Friday's panel with Tracy.

Tracy works in the office of the Assistant

Secretary of Defense for Interamerican Security Affairs.

Lewis said she is waiting for further clarification from the Defense and State Departments. Possible alternatives include Tracy participating in Friday's discussion, but not as a member of the panel, Tracy participating only as a workshop leader, or someone who is not on salary from the government filling Tracy's role.

Thursday's and Saturday's panel discussions are "Roots of the Crisis," and "Prospects for the Future."

Other panelists scheduled to speak are Guatemalan specialist Milton Jamail, a professor of government at the University of Texas; William Ratliff of the Hoover Institute on War, Revolution and Peace at Stanford University; and Felix Kury, a representative of the Democratic Revolutionary Front, the political arm of the opposition coalition in El Salvador.

For more information call the ASUO at 686-3724 or refer to their publication, *Off the Record*, which includes a four page supplement on the conference.

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