



# Lieberman wins IFC chair election

By Julie Shippen  
Of the Emerald

After two hours of discussion Wednesday afternoon, the Incidental Fee Committee elected Lori Lieberman as IFC chair and Darris Rowell as vice chair of the organization.

Although Rowell's selection was unanimous, with the exception of one member's abstention, the 4-3 vote in favor of Lieberman was later viewed with disdain by at least one member of the IFC.

Summer IFC Chair Mary Kay Menard believes a private meeting held Monday evening between four of the seven committee members played a major role in Wednesday's vote count.

"None of the other members were committed to her (Lieberman) before the meeting," Menard said following the elections. "I got the definite sense there was sort of pressure. If that meeting hadn't been called, I don't think the vote would have been as dramatic as it was."

Lieberman, however, said the meeting was purely social in nature.

"Maybe 10 minutes of the time we talked about the chair elections," Lieberman said. The rest of the time, she said, was spent discussing personal matters and generally getting to know one another. "Just the four of us wanted to get together and talk," she added.

But Menard claims the time was used by Lieberman to accumulate votes in an attempt to defeat Adam Apalategui, another IFC member, who had intended to run for chair and also was nominated Wednesday.

While Lieberman said "the meeting was not a vote counting session," she added that the practice of gathering sup-

port before an election is not unique.

"Before any election of this type, you know where the votes are going to fall," she said. "No one said that they would vote for me. But I came away knowing that I had a basis of support and that there were people who thought I'd make a good chair."

Menard also said the meeting was intentionally held without proper notice to IFC members Bob Mead, Apalategui and herself. In addition, she claims the remaining four representatives — Ryne Jackson, Lloyd Athearn, Rowell and Lieberman — knew the reason for the meeting before they attended it.

"We found out about it purely by coincidence. We were not supposed to know about it," she said. "I know some of the people at the meeting felt bad we weren't invited and that's why we found out."

She also questions the meeting's ethics and legality.

"Personally I do not feel that there was honorable or ethical intent with Lori's meeting with other members of the committee, mainly just because of the secretive nature of it," Menard said.

Lieberman claims there was nothing underhanded about the meeting. "It was not unethical," she said, and cites a similar type of meeting that took place later between Menard, Jackson, Mead and Apalategui. "The same questionable practices that I've been accused of have been practiced by others."

During the elections, various committee members raised the conflict of interest that might occur with three representatives of the IFC living together. According to Menard, such fears are ungrounded.

"Adam, Bob and I don't talk about fee committee matters inasmuch as we have



Lori Lieberman and Darris Rowell were elected chair and vice chair, respectively, of the Incidental Fee Committee Wednesday afternoon.

Photo by Bill Harpole

that in common," Menard said. "After we've been at the fee committee all day long, who wants to go home and discuss it at length?"

She added that former ASUO Executive Assistant Sherri Schultz, one of the other two persons living with them, never discussed with them at home her business in student government or her intentions to eventually resign.

But Menard said the real problem is not one of living arrangements between certain IFC members, but a lack of communication in the office.

"Had we all made an effort to get to know one another, I don't think the issue of who's living with who would have been brought up," Menard said. "I think that meeting produced a sort of secret atmosphere. The point is that we didn't find out about it from Lori."

"In a sense, she caused a split to occur already," Menard said. "When we heard about the meeting, we felt like a door had been slammed in our face. I think that this decision is going to make dealings in the fee committee more difficult for us."

## Senate purpose at issue

By Michael Doke  
Of the Emerald

The University Senate — a legislative body that almost voted itself out of existence last spring — met Wednesday to discuss new issues for the coming academic year, only to awake the same sleeping dog: namely, the issue of its own effectiveness.

Mathematics Prof. Lewis Ward, a long time member of the Senate, was outspoken in his pessimism of Senate effectiveness. Ward said he is "worried about the relevance of the group" as a decision-making forum.

The 54-member body composed of faculty and students traditionally meets one week before the larger monthly congregation of the University Assembly. The Senate reviews, discusses, debates and takes action on motions as an advisory board to the Assembly.

The Senate also recommends motions to the Assembly.

Last academic year, after a series of governance motions — from reducing student involvement in the organization, to changes in the size of the Senate itself — directed at increasing Senate effectiveness, the body barely survived an in-house motion to abolish itself.

The Senate's lack of relevance, according to Ward, stems from Senate recommendations being virtually ignored at the Assembly.

English Prof. Bill Strange said that the University, unlike other institutions in the state, is the only one that doesn't have a faculty senate.

"We are not a faculty senate here because we have students who are senators," said Strange. "We are a university senate."

Strange pointed out that having students in the Senate is not wrong but the 18 students, as members of the Student University Affairs Board, meet away from the faculty at SUAB meetings. This creates a feeling of a "student senate," he said. In turn, a feeling of student bloc voting is also present.

Strange also said that the University Senate is the only one in the state that is unable to take action on motions.

"And that can help explain the lack of faculty interest in the Senate," said Strange.

Senate chair Katherine Eaton said she is optimistic about the body's ability to change and is willing to oversee the course of the organization for the coming year.

New issues the Senate and Assembly will be concerned with this year, said Eaton, concern faculty post-tenure review and early retirement.

Before the governance debate, University Provost Dick Hill came before the Senate to report on University activities.

The State Board of Higher Education has approved a state-wide budget that calls for a \$147 million increase in education spending, said Hill. The budget still must be accepted by the state legislature and Gov. Vic Atiyeh before it can go into effect.

A tuition freeze would also be possible under the approved budget, he said.



## Students get down with the Crazy 8's

University students swayed, boogied and jived to the incredibly danceable ska sounds of the Crazy 8's last night on the east lawn of the EMU.

The show, sponsored by the Cultural Forum, was temporarily interrupted by problems with the electrical connections to the outdoor stage, but the crowd didn't seem to mind. They waited patiently in the brisk autumn evening's air for the power to be restored and the dancing to begin.

And it did, with a vengeance.

Photo by Steven Wall