

Law dean still uncertain about employment, future

By Kirsten Bolin
Of the Emerald

Two months after resigning from his position as dean of the University's law school, Derrick Bell remains uncertain about his future.

"I have just not made up my mind about future job positions," says Bell, who will officially end his deanship on June 30 and begin a one-year unpaid leave of absence from the law school.

Bell's resignation, which occurred after a conflict over the law school's hiring practices, triggered a campus-wide inquiry into the University's hiring practices.

Bell admits to receiving at least 25 job inquiries from law schools around the country since his resignation, but he says all of the attention is rather embarrassing. His national reputation, as much as his ability to perform, is the reason for all of these unsolicited job offers, Bell says.

"My reputation is based on being able to teach at Harvard for 11 years," says Bell, who became Harvard University's first full-time black lecturer in 1969.

Bell says that while many schools are eager to hire him because of his prominence nationally, they will quickly overlook lesser-known minority applicants who are equally qualified.

"It's frustrating getting other minorities hired," Bell says. "I will look for a place that will be seriously interested in and take my recommendations about other minority faculty members and students," he says.

While Bell has not yet accepted a full-time position, he will be lecturing at Harvard next January and will spend spring term teaching at Stanford University. If Bell is to accept a full-time position somewhere, he says it will have to allow him time to write and do legal research, as well as actively participate in civil rights activities.

Bell expressed feelings of frustration about his performance during his four-and-a-half years as dean. There was too much emphasis on keeping the budget under control and not enough initiative in other areas, he says.

"I couldn't convey my vision," Bell says. "I think much was accomplished but much more could have been done."

Law professor Fred Merrill will take over as interim dean on July 1 and Bell says he expects him to do well.

"Merrill is the general choice of the faculty and is certainly my choice. I don't think there's a better person on our faculty to take the job," Bell says.

Bell expressed regret over the lack of commitment to civil rights currently in the United States.

"Leadership from the national government is really anti-civil rights at this time," Bell says. "It is hard to watch work that I thought was permanent in the '60s fall apart."

Measure evens allotments

Annual increases in incidental fee money going to the athletic department would be restricted to 7 percent under a measure that goes before students in this week's ASUO general election.

Ballot Measure 5 will amend the ASUO Constitution to bring the athletic department in line with the same restrictions imposed on increases for ASUO and EMU programs. Under current provisions, ASUO and the EMU cannot receive increases exceeding 7 percent without approval by a student vote.

"It's as much a house clean-

and to support women's and minor sports programs.

If the measure passes, it will go into effect upon verification Thursday night.

The measure will probably not affect next year's athletic department budget, since the IFC plans to complete hearings on that budget by Wednesday. The athletic department is seeking a \$198,000 increase over last year's budget of \$722,000,

Mead says, adding that the IFC is not likely to give them that increase.

"The athletic department asks every year for huge increases," says IFC member Adam Apalategui. "They go in for 20 to 25 percent a year."

If the measure passes, it can be overruled by the state Board of Higher Education. "I hope this sends a message to the state board saying this is how the students feel," Apalategui says.

measure



ing measure as anything," says IFC chair Bob Mead.

Bill Byrne, athletic department director, says he does not think the measure will have a detrimental effect on the athletic department's programs.

"I think it's only fair," Byrne says. "If it's going to be equal across the board, if we won't be singled out to be reduced, than I'm in favor of it."

The athletic department now receives \$16.50 from each student's annual incidental fee of \$59. The money is used to subsidize student athletic tickets

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