

editorial

Don't forget to vote on ballot measures

With the ASUO general elections ready to start on Wednesday, the editorial board of the Oregon Daily Emerald endorses the following ballot measures:

- Measure 3 — Constitutional Amendment (SUAB).
- Measure 4 — Oregon Daily Emerald Funding.
- Measure 5 — Replace Section 6.10 of the ASUO Constitution.
- Measure 7 — University Counseling Center.
- Measure 8 — Constitutional Amendment (Health Insurance).
- Measure 10 — Computer Use Center.

After lengthy discussion, the Emerald decided not to endorse Measure 2 (anti-pornography resolution). We are in sympathy with the idea behind the resolution. Specifically, the Emerald recognizes the need to "curb the production and distribution of child pornography." We are also opposed to pornography which we feel promotes sexual violence. But it is the wording of Measure 2 that we disagree with. "Pornography" is left undefined, "violent acts" is left undefined, and it is anyone's guess what "stiffer penalties" means. Measure 2, as it now stands, is open to different interpretations, depending on how a person understands it.

We support Measure 3 for a very simple reason: The Student University Affairs Board (SUAB) has always functioned as a student senate and it should be called by that name. Changing the title from SUAB to Student Senate will make it easier for students to identify and understand the role of this organization.

We endorse Measure 4 because additional funding from student subscriptions (\$1.99 per term) will enable the Emerald to continue to bring the University community up-to-date news and information on local, national, and international events. Furthermore, it will help the Emerald to continue to give on-the-job training to students.

We stand firmly behind Measure 5 because the athletic department also should have to conform to the same 7 percent limit for yearly program funding that other ASUO and EMU programs adhere to. Specifically, this means that the athletic department, like ASUO and EMU programs, will not receive more than a 7 percent increase over their previous year's funding. We think that this is fair and deserves student support.

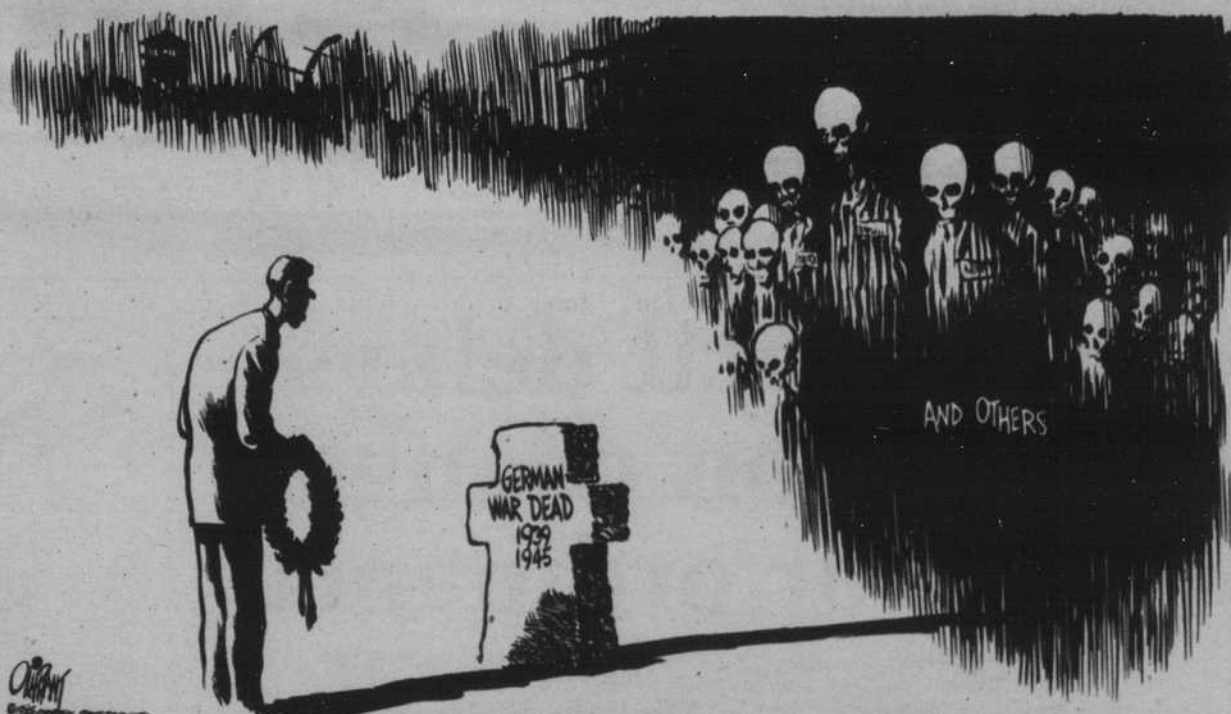
The Emerald does not endorse Measure 6, which would increase student funding for the United States Student Association (USSA), of which the University is a member. We support the idea behind the USSA and would also support funding them, but not until they get their financial house in order. Currently, the USSA owes the University several thousand dollars and has a large national debt as well. The USSA should straighten out its debt problem before it is given additional funding from students.

There is a lot to gain by supporting Measure 7. Specifically, the requested increase of \$2.00 per student per term will provide approximately 60 hours a week of increased counseling services for students at the University. This is important, because as things now stand, most students who feel a need for counseling must sign up on a waiting list. For some individuals, the wait can be as long as several weeks or even months. Adding 60 more hours a week of counseling services for students will help alleviate this problem.

Measure 8 is a bit odd, in that a student governing board for the student health center has already been approved by the University administration. We recommend that students vote yes on this measure anyway to show their support for more student input on how student health fees are used.

The Emerald urges a yes vote on Measure 9. This measure is designed to give students more responsibility and authority regarding the running of the ASUO health insurance program. In the past, the ASUO has relied on an outside agent to run the health insurance program for students. This has led to high costs for questionable services on the part of the agent. A yes vote on Measure 9 will give students a direct role in overseeing spending of insurance fees and establishing a better health insurance program.

On Measure 10, we encourage another yes vote. A computer use center located in the EMU would give students who seek to learn about and use computers outside of the classroom a chance to do so. Currently, access to computers on campus is limited. A computer use center would be open to all students and would give them wider access to computers for both academic and recreational purposes.



letters

His rules

During Wednesday of Gay Pride week, I attended the panel discussion on homosexuality and religion. The panel members were intelligent and articulate individuals who were very intent on selling their point of view; namely that the Bible does not condemn homosexuality. Listening to their arguments, I became convinced that either they have not read what scripture does teach concerning this subject, or they are fooling themselves. The language is neither obscure nor ambiguous, and the message is unequivocal. (Examples: the 18th chapter of the book of Leviticus, the 1st chapter of Romans, the 4th chapter of Ephesians, and the 6th chapter of First Corinthians). Homosexuality is a practice that is plainly condemned as being a form of rebellion against God's design and purpose for us. Like all sin, it is ultimately destructive of individuals and of society.

While the Bible states that God hates and has promised to judge all forms of sin, it also declares that He loves and values each of us immensely, regardless of what we have done or who we are. He offers forgiveness and freedom from slavery, based on what His son, Jesus of Nazareth, accomplished for us by His substitutionary death and resurrection.

Homosexuals are free to make their own choices about their lifestyles, as are we all. We all, however, must eventually die, and Jesus taught that if we fail

to accept Him as savior, we will one day face Him as judge, and this judgment will be by His rules, not ours.

William Moore
Eugene

Stop increase

I would like to strongly encourage all students to write their state legislator opposing the proposed increase in our tuition. Oregon's tuition is well above our neighboring 13 western states, by as much as 137 percent. In the years between 1979-83, tuition climbed by nearly 100 percent.

In light of the imminent financial aid cuts, a hike in our tuition could have a drastic effect on many students attending the University. The Oregon Student Lobby estimates the cuts may effect 11,000 students state-wide.

Oregon's state system of higher education is the most expensive system in the region. The economic recovery of Oregon is a long way off, and

higher education is one of the best ways to improve opportunities for both citizens and students, while attracting new businesses.

The ASUO is sponsoring a letter-writing campaign to fight the increase in our tuition.

Writing a letter only takes a few minutes. Your letters have a very positive effect on the legislature and are well worth the effort. In addition to telling them your views on this issue, remind them that students are active, voting constituents. We have fact sheets, sample letters, addresses, petitions, and more.

Visit our table in the EMU lobby on Wednesday, or call the ASUO office at 686-3724 for information.

We will mail your letters for you if you bring them to our table or to the ASUO office in Suite 4, EMU. Write today. The education you save may be your own.

Rebecca Roby
Coordinator
ASUO State Affairs

Letters Policy

The Emerald will attempt to print all letters containing fair comment on topics of interest to the University community.

Letters to the editor must be limited to 250 words, typed, signed and the identification of the writer must be verified when the letter is turned in. The Emerald reserves the right to edit any letter for length or style. Letters to the editor should be turned into the Emerald office, Suite 300, EMU.

oregon daily emerald

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