

# Voter turnout top goal of board for upcoming ASUO elections

By Linda Hahn  
Of the Emerald

A new Elections Committee, with new priorities for this year's elections, was approved by the Student Senate Monday night.

Election Committee Chairman Alan Contreras has been on the job for three weeks, but four other members were named Monday night, including John Curtis, in charge of the Voter's Guide; Jeff McKinney, in charge of publicity; and Mike Annis and Melissa McCartan, both acting as technicians.

The five positions will be paid \$125-month stipends, beginning in March.

tends to draw more voters, and the group will try to increase publicity about elections.

Making the public more aware of the pros and cons of ballot measures on the April 23-24 general election ballot will be the second priority for the new committee, he says.

"Voters tend to get the short end of the stick when it comes to voter awareness," Contreras says. He would like to include pro and con statements for ballot measures in the voter pamphlet. Last year, only explanations of the measures were included, he says.

On the April ballot, Contreras expects three to four ballot

sides of the ballot questions in the Voter's Guide, but he says what the Election's Committee will be able to accomplish also depends on their amount of funding.

"There's nothing we can do about these good ideas unless we persuade the Incidental Fee Committee for more money," Contreras says. For the past three years, the budget has been about \$4,000, which puts limits on what the committee can accomplish, he says.

Presently, the committee is responsible for the Voter's Guide, election advertisements and the candidate filing process. They are also responsible for writing election rules, arranging candidate forums, and staffing and scheduling voting booths.

The committee will also be in charge of recruiting and supervising vote counters to tabulate the hand-marked ballots. While Contreras says he is not concerned with voter fraud, he adds that presidential candidates can designate observers to monitor the ballot counting while newspaper reporters may directly observe the process.

"Any campus news medium that publishes once a month and regularly covers campus issues is entitled to an observer's pass," he says.

Contreras urges those interested in counting ballots to see him after April 10.

**'I'd like to see voter turnout on the north side of 20 percent, but that's happened only twice in 15 years.'**

— Alan Contreras

The top priority for the committee will be to increase voter turnout, Contreras says. Last year, only 13 percent of the students on campus voted for student government positions and ballot questions, he adds.

"I'd like to see voter turnout on the north side of 20 percent," Contreras says. "But that's happened only twice in 15 years."

Contreras says voter awareness of ballot measures

measures to appear for voter approval. While no group has formally asked to be put on the ballot yet, Contreras says he knows of two examples.

Contreras says the Oregon Daily Emerald will ask for approval of their 1986-87 funding while the Oregon Student Public Interest Research Group will ask to increase its level of funding.

Contreras would like to include statements from both

## Charity anthem leads songs, artists at 1986 Grammy awards ceremony

LOS ANGELES (AP) — "We Are the World," the charity anthem by an all-star rock choir which raised more than \$30 million for African famine relief, won four Grammys Tuesday night, including song and record of the year, but lost out to British pop star Phil Collins for album of the year.

Nominated in six categories including song, record and album of the year, "We Are the World" won for best pop performance by a duo or group and for best music video, short form.

In other early awards, Dire Straits' leader Mark Knopfler, nominated in eight solo categories, won with country guitarist Chet Atkins for his guitar work for best country instrumental performance for "Cosmic Squaredance." Aretha Franklin won best female rhythm and blues performance for "Freeway of Love," which also won best rhythm and blues song for writers Narada Michael Walden and Jeffrey Cohen.

Jan Hammer's "Miami Vice" theme from the TV show won best pop instrumental performance; Don Henley's angst-filled "Boys of Summer" won for best male rock vocal perfor-

mance, and Tina Turner — who won three Grammys a year ago including record of the year — won for best female rock vocal performance for "One of the Living."

The Commodores won best rhythm and blues performance by a vocal duo or group for "Night Shift," their first hit since Lionel Richie left the group.

In country music, Rosanne Cash won best female vocal performance for "I Don't Know Why You Don't Want Me," while the mother-daughter duo, The Judds, won best country vocal performance by a duo or group.

Songwriter Jimmy Webb won best country song for "Highwayman."

All but 14 of the 71 Grammy Awards were announced before 8 p.m. EST start of the nationally telecast ceremonies, with Kenny Rogers as host. The nominees were songs released from the first of October of 1984 through October 1985.

Leading the nominations for a single artist was Knopfler with eight, while his group had three nominations as well. Turner, Sting and Phil Collins each had five nominations.

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