

# Editorial

## Election processes mustn't use faculty

Infighting over athletics funding ballot measures has resurrected a dormant issue in ASUO elections. When should University faculty, staff or administrators take sides for or against ASUO candidates or ballot measures?

The answer is simple. Never.

The issue arose when the Athletic Department ballot measures were discussed by the ASUO Constitution Court. Misty Haley, a Student Senate candidate, testified that a University instructor circulated an initiative petition in a class.

In the same hearing, Associate Athletic Director Chris Voelz was questioned about her role in helping prepare Measure 11.

This issue has come up in the past. Most recently, former law school Dean Derrick Bell frequently wore a campaign button for 1984 ASUO presidential candidate Julie Davis.

Neither the ASUO election rules nor faculty policy seem to prohibit this sort of involvement. First Amendment freedom of speech seems to cover at least the wearing of buttons, if not the use of class time to promote ballot measures.

We wonder how the faculty would feel if ASUO activists chose to spend time, energy and money trying to elect or defeat certain faculty members of the University Senate. Mass mailings and office visits to voting faculty, ads in the papers, announcements in classes.

The principle is the same. Faculty have no more business in ASUO elections than students have in faculty elections. Each should keep an appropriate distance from the other.

Because of uncertainty as to the ability of University departments to have access to the ballot, this issue has now arisen in an adversarial setting.

We hope that with eventual clarification of ballot access, student and faculty roles will become clear — and separate.

## IFC conflicts of interest involve reality and image

Incidental Fee Committee members should do everything possible to avoid conflicts of interest. The ASUO Constitution prohibits them from being paid by any program that comes before them. This should be viewed as a *minimum* standard of behavior, not the *only* standard.

There is nothing wrong with an IFC member being involved in funded activities. Members should not become isolated from the students they are supposed to represent. Mere involvement with a program is not necessarily a reason to abstain from voting on the program's budget.

Conflicts of interest arise when an IFC member is involved in policy-making for a program or stands to substantially benefit personally from an IFC decision.

IFC members may be active in a group such as Amazon Community Tenants or the Black Student Union, but should not be an officer of such a group.

Part of the IFC's effectiveness is based on public perception of its procedural and substantive fairness. Avoiding both actual and apparent conflicts of interest enhances public confidence in the committee.

1984 Dayton Beach Morning Journal  
CONEY NEWS SERVICE  
BEATIE



"I'll take two M-16 assault rifles, hold the cop killer bullets..."

## Letters

### Real problem

In recent weeks many letters to the editor have criticized the Greek system. Most of these letters emphasize the many offensive aspects of the system. These letters, however, serve only to point out the results of the system and address no real problem.

In my three years of college I have often applauded such letters; and often simply laid the blame on the members of the system. I recently had the opportunity to spend some time with these people; I found them to be genuinely nice people. They are no different from anyone else. So if the people are not to blame, then what is the real problem?

The real problem is our society that promotes elitism, sexism and inequality. The Greek system simply serves as a microcosm of our societal and cultural values. If we take offense at the Greek system, should we not also do the same for our society as a whole?

I in no way wish to legitimize the Greek system. However, getting rid of the Greek system will not solve any problem, it would only serve to hide the problems that would continue to exist.

The only real solution to breaking the circle that creates these problems is to strike at the roots and rebuild. This can only be accomplished by working

together to solve problems rather than lumping criticism on the visible aspects of societal problems.

Let's lay off the Greeks for a while and take a closer look at ourselves instead.

Eric Latham  
Sociology

### Strong support

Michael Cross:

By basing the validity of the heterosexual familial unit on the "success" of western civilization, you are, quite arguably, making a stronger statement supporting homosexual families than you realize.

Mark Witteman  
History

### Real meaning

This is an apology to all those whom I apparently offended, all those who responded to my letter "No protection" (ODE, April 7). Apparently you did not read and understand my letter in its entire context.

What I meant to say was:

1. The shuttle provides no real protection from violent acts.

2. Women are just as capable as men of violence. In fact just the other day a woman tried to stab another woman and did stab a man, right here in our own city of Eugene.

3. Deviant people are more prone to violence than non-deviant people.

4. Many deviant people will ride the shuttle van, therefore women who ride the van will still be susceptible to violent acts.

5. In my opinion, lesbians are deviant individuals.

6. Lesbians COULD use the shuttle service as their own "pick-up service" since their potential "lovers" will be the only people riding the van.

7. The policy of the shuttle service is sexist and discriminatory since men will not be allowed to ride it, even though they also face danger from walking alone at night. (Let's be realistic — how many men would ever report being raped by a woman? So how does anyone know the statistics

and the danger to men?)

8. Because of the discriminatory policy and because men pay 50 percent of the cost of the service, the shuttle van should either be open to both men and women or scrapped.

Darrel Rothauge  
Senior, History,  
Political Science

### Booby-trapped

I read with great interest in The Oregonian (April 7) that the AIDS virus, HTLV-III, can live and flourish outside the body up to 24 hours.

In the New England Journal of Medicine (April 2) it was reported that the virus, when put in a culture dish, survives unlimited in water and oxygen. When water and oxygen are reapplied it flourishes once again. No other virus in the world does this.

Is Mike Cross "insensitive" for coming up with the only logical way to stop AIDS?

I would go one step further, and impose a quarantine on all diagnosed cases of AIDS. When a hepatitis outbreak occurs people are quarantined. When Legionnaires' disease broke out people were quarantined. What's so different about AIDS that makes society think it can flourish unchecked?

As long as liberals/homosexuals continue to ignore scientific facts we will all, eventually, be booby-trapped into death. The cry of "civil rights" and "fairness" will echo through this world until the last person drops.

Dan Goulet  
Journalism

### Clarification

We recommend a "no" vote on Measure 11. Monday's Emerald carried an advertisement referring to a pro-Measure 11 headline in the Emerald on April 16. That headline was part of a guest column written for the "Sidelines" supplement, and does not reflect the position of the Emerald.

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