

Editorial

Funding of papers random and unfair

The Incidental Fee Committee apparently discovered an unexpected pool of cash after the Oregon Commentator's budget hearing.

The money was given to The Record, the ASUO Executive's high-quality but infrequently published paper.

The IFC's decision to give The Record two and a half times as much money per issue as that given to the Commentator is based in ideology, nothing else.

Most IFC members despise the Commentator because it is rude and editorially conservative. They quiver in anticipation at the slightest opportunity to do something rotten to the Big C and get away with it.

To be fair, they don't think much of The Record's record either. They would like to see more program activity related writing. They'd also like to see it now and then.

Why did the IFC give The Record three paid staff positions? The Big R gets a \$175 a month editor, a \$65.50 a month production assistant and a \$50 a month advertising assistant.

The Big C got one position, the Editor, at \$30 monthly. Ridiculous.

The Record is supposed to produce six issues with this staff, and will have about \$5,000 more for production costs. Its total allocation will be about \$7,600.

What did the IFC give the Commentator with which to produce at least nine issues each year? A total of about \$4,800.

This is bullshit.

The Commentator has published regularly for three years on a shoestring budget without once paying an employee. Can it continue to squeak by? Yes, if it must, but it shouldn't have to. It has proven itself.

The Record has stumbled and staggered through three years of indifferent support from sponsoring student governments, never achieving regularity of publication or any thematic clarity.

The Record's current staff has produced some good issues. The IFC likes the Big R's viewpoint, and has set aside lots of money for it.

The Commentator always produces. Lots of people don't like it. Some, we believe a substantial minority, want it to continue.

The single most important theme the IFC should remember is *diversity*. The IFC funds all sorts of groups that don't represent a majority. Some of these, such as the Gay and Lesbian Alliance and the Greeks, are disliked by a lot of students.

Over the years, IFC members have said that the Commentator has the option of seeking money from conservative foundations. When the Commentator did so, the SPA-types screamed that outside money was poisoning student's minds.

This is budgeting by rhetoric. President Reagan does the same thing when he refuses to provide support for the Nicaraguan government because of supposed ties to Moscow, then hollers "I told you so" when Daniel Ortega really *does* go to Moscow for help.

We support the existence of The Record. We supported its unsuccessful ballot measure. We support it now. We want to see it publish regularly next year to serve the University in its way just as we serve in our way.

The Commentator deserves the same status, it is a legitimate part of the University community. The IFC is starving it to death while shoveling cash to The Record.

The Commentator will appeal to the IFC Thursday night for more money. Give it to them.



Letters

Don't fund gays

This letter is in regard to the student funding of GALA (Gay and Lesbian Alliance). Why are the students of the University of Oregon forced to support a group that is based on personal beliefs?

I don't see any benefits from this group. In fact, the idea of GALA receiving any of my tuition money offends me. I don't condemn homosexuals for their beliefs, but when they obtain funding that could be used in the better interest of the student body, it's bullshit.

Why is sexual preference a basis for student funding? Is this the work of a biased ASUO? If not, does that mean I can start a group for the heterosexual students and receive student funds and EMU space?

Why doesn't GALA support itself? If homosexuals had any pride, they wouldn't steal student funds. They could receive donations or earn money by fund raising.

I'm sure many students would prefer not to support GALA. I, for one, would prefer to support athletics of any type rather than homosexuality.

Kurt Ronacher
Student

Israeli terror

I always thought if a person experienced horror, cruelty and brutality at the hand of others, they would learn a lesson, preventing such things from ever happening, never inflicting them on another human being. I thought wrong.

If Hitler's cruelty taught the Jews anything, it was double the brutality and invent new ways of punishment. You're mistaken if you thought concentration camps and torture chambers died with Hitler, because Jews revived them and they're even crueler.

Against who you might ask? Against the Arabs. Jewish prisons are full of Palestinians and their death camps are full of anguished cries of agony. Arabs in Israel are not considered humans as far as Jews and Reagan are concerned. The massacre of thousands of human beings at the hands of Jews with American weapons is not considered an act of terrorism because the Arabs are not considered humans in the first place.

Who the hell do Americans and Jews think they're bullying? What if Russia invaded the U.S., killed people and ordered families out of their homes, then what would you do? How would you feel watching your kids get killed, everything you worked for destroyed, houses bulldozed, farms burned, elderly people killed, no right to speak, to protest, curfews placed?

You're start losing the will to live and you would turn into a terrorist. Who would blame you? Don't the Palestinians have a right to live freely like anyone else? After all, what's life without freedom?

Eman AL-shemmari
Eugene

ting the quarantining of AIDS patients (and backed by the other ill-informed individuals) was based on numerous false assumptions and nonexistent scientific citations.

Dan's statements and assumptions: a) The HTLV-III virus can flourish (grow) in water; b) This virus is unique to any other known virus; c) AIDS is a communicable disease transmitted by the same methods as hepatitis or Legionnaires disease; d) This is all documented by the New England Journal of Medicine and the Oregonian (April 8).

Facts:

1. No virus can flourish outside of a living cell. A great many viruses can remain intact for various periods of time outside a cell.

2. The HTLV-III virus is one of a large group of retroviruses all sharing common basic properties.

3. Legionnaires disease is caused by a bacteria (not a virus) and nobody can casually contract AIDS; exchange of bodily fluids is required and the skin is an effective barrier against such exchange. Any other assertion is an irresponsible misuse of the facts.

4. Neither the New England Journal of Medicine nor the Journal of the American Medical Association has yet published any article supporting the statements made by either Mr. Goulet or the Oregonian.

The conclusions drawn by both are, at best, based on hearsay and incompetent journalism. Clearly, Mr. Goulet did not check his facts. One can only muse at what personal fears and self-hatred motivates some individuals to hold such ignorant and spurious attitudes.

Teri Champion
Ellie Brandenburg
Brian Boucher
Biology

Irresponsible

Dan Goulet's letter to the editor (ODE, April 23) support-

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