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Legal liability of alcohol examined at fraternity-sponsored seminar

By Karen Creighton
Of the Emerald

Problems stemming from a recent fraternity party led to a seminar Tuesday night about risk and liability issues, attended by about 100 members of the Greek system.

Speakers at the seminar, sponsored by Kappa Kappa Gamma and Sigma Alpha Epsilon, discussed legal and moral responsibilities involved in serving alcohol at fraternity and sorority parties.

At a fraternity party attended by the two houses, the police responded to complaints about noise at the Kappa Kappa Gamma house and found alcohol being served to minors.

House leaders worked with the University to develop a program to inform rather than punish the Greeks involved in the incident, said Bill Ballester, assistant dean of students.

The distribution of alcohol among students, minors or otherwise, is a major concern of the campus police, said Campus Security Sgt. Chuck Tilby.

"Most of the criminal liability attaches itself to the person serving alcohol to a minor," he said. But liability also can be attached to the person who is intoxicated, particularly in cases of



drunk driving.

A host also may be liable if an intoxicated minor leaves the party and is assaulted on the way home, he said.

"The question comes up: would they have even been a victim if they hadn't been served alcohol?" he asked.

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Student food store project postponed

By Carolyn Lamberson
Of the Emerald

The ASUO has decided to postpone work on a proposed student food store until the next ASUO executive administration comes into office, current ASUO President Steve Nelson said.

"There isn't a lot going on with the food store right now; we've put it on hold for the time being," Nelson said. "This administration can't do it. So what we decided to do is take what we've got now and pass it on to

the next administration."

The food store, called the Common Market, was a project that originated in last year's ASUO administration as a way to provide low-cost food for University students, he said.

"Overall, the ASUO believes it is a good program," Nelson said. "We don't want to see the project not get completed. There are many universities across the nation who have food stores, and we would like to see one here."

The project was originally to

be run as a subsidiary of Student Projects, Inc., the group that runs the Footnotes program and handles the ASUO Student Health Insurance program, said Nelson.

"Last year's administration went before the Incidental Fee Committee and requested a \$24,000 loan as part of the Student Projects, Inc. budget," Nelson said. "Things were going along well until the Chancellor's office stopped the

Turn to Store, Page 4

IFC member resigns; cites SPA domination

By B.J. Thomsen
Of the Emerald

Incidental Fee Committee member James Randall resigned his position on the committee Tuesday, charging the group with being too involved in campus politics and shirking its duties as a responsible student group.

"If your group is not under (the Students for a Progressive Agenda) wing, you've got serious problems on this campus," Randall said.

During the past few months, Randall, who was IFC chairman last year, has become increasingly disenchanted with the way the committee has been manipulated by certain members of the committee who are associated with SPA, he said.

Randall also cites his disappointment with SPA, a campus political group to which nearly all members of student government belong. Randall once belonged to the group but has since disassociated himself from it.

Randall's resignation was sparked by a budget hearing for the United States Students Association, which was denied \$9,000 during a Feb. 3 hearing.

Randall charged that committee member Bob Baldwin, an SPA member, manipulated the hearing to benefit SPA by finding an obscure loophole in Robert's Rules of Orders so he could ask that the request be reconsidered at a time when it was more likely to be passed.

But according to IFC chairwoman Jodie Mooney, Baldwin has made no such request.

Members of the committee voted 3-3 to zero fund the group, and because of the tie, the committee had to take some kind of action so USSA would be able to appeal, something all groups must have the right to do, Mooney said.

Monday, the USSA budget was considered again, the

Turn to Resignation, Page 5

Legislature proposes bill; cites possible impropriety

By Shawn Wirtz
Of the Emerald

Legislators will introduce a bill prohibiting state regulatory agency heads from accepting employment with companies they regulate for two years after stepping down.

Former state Insurance Commissioner Josephine Driscoll recently accepted a job with Standard Insurance, an action that prompted the bill, said Rep. Peggy Jolin, D-Cottage Grove.

violation.

"You can't go through the process and find where this person got this job because of this decision," said Rep. Ron Eachus, D-Eugene.

Even so, "the perception of favored treatment immediately surfaces," said Tom Novick, executive director of the Oregon Student Public Interest Research Group.

"You've got to wonder how many cockroaches are really out there," Eachus said.

The legislation is designed to "keep them from using or misusing the information they have gleaned from their office," said Nancy Peterson, D-Ashland.

Currently, 28 states and the federal government have similar laws. Without the legislation, "public distrust of government and the regulatory process will continue," Novick said.

Peterson denied the limitation would inhibit the quality of candidates for regulatory offices. "The experience they have gained as regulators will still be with them two years later," she said.

The bill is directed at appointed officials who are not necessarily accountable to the public, "other than how they hold the governor accountable for that appointment," Eachus said.



"Although Josephine Driscoll brought this to light originally," other regulators have taken jobs with industries they formerly regulated, including former state public utility commissioner John Lobdell, Jolin said.

The legislation would apply to the insurance commissioner, the three public utility commissioners, the superintendent of banks and the superintendent of credit unions and savings and loans.

The legislators accused Driscoll of an ethical impropriety rather than a specific



Joining hands for peace

About 15 people gathered Tuesday in a "peace circle," an idea resurrected by a group of University students from a similar event about four years ago.

The peace circle is held every Tuesday afternoon from 12:15 to 12:30 p.m. on the corner of 13th Avenue and University Street.

According to Michael Carlson, a group organizer, the purpose of the group is to provide some time to think about peace.

"It's a gathering of people to get away from busy things during the day to share together a peaceful thought, poetry and song," Carlson said.

Photo by Maria Corvallis