

IFC grants special request; disputes journal's funding

By Frale de Guzman
Of the Emerald

The Incidental Fee Committee allocated a total of \$40,248 to four organizations during its budget hearing Tuesday night.

IFC members unanimously approved the budget requests of ESCAPE, the Native American Student Union and the Crisis Center. The committee also granted a special request of \$3,605 to the Amazon Child Care Center. The money, which will be taken out of ASUO surplus funds, will be used for toys, preschool and office equipment.

Questions arose over the Oregon Commentator's request for a 175 percent increase, however.

ESCAPE received a .3 percent budget increase after committee members voted to allocate \$12,407 to the program.

After a quick presentation by Stuart Whitehead, director of NASU, committee members also agreed to allocate \$9,585 to NASU. This is a 6 percent increase from

NASU's 1986-1987 budget of \$9,036.

In addition, committee members granted the Crisis Center's budget request of \$12,416.

The Commentator's funding request included the production cost of increasing its circulation from 4,000 to 10,000 and included other printing and production costs, said Duane Dungannon, executive editor of the Commentator.

Questions about funding for production and printing costs dominated the budget hearing.

Finally, IFC committee members decided to place \$4,000 as a one-line item in the budget. The line item is meant to be used to meet the Commentator's production and printing costs, said IFC Chairwoman Jodie Mooney.

In addition, IFC members agreed to fund \$5,840 of the Commentator's proposed \$14,707 budget, an increase of 9 percent over last year's budget.

However, committee members stipulated that the Commentator produce at least six issues during the 1987-1988 academic year.

Airport

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\$4,800 information campaign for Ballot Measure 51, which asks for voter approval to allow the city of Eugene to partly finance improvements at Mahlon Sweet Airport. The ad explains the city's role in financing \$5.83 million of the estimated improvement package of \$18.3 million. Federal, state and county governments and airlines are expected to pick up the remaining tab.

"It's unbalanced," Gold said of the ad. "If they are going to use city dollars to explain ramifications of the ballot measure, then they should present all the reasonable arguments."

The complaint asks for clarification of increased operating costs, the impact on future city budgets and the airlines' legal liability in paying an estimated \$5 to \$5.65 million.

Gold currently has a lawsuit slated for summary judgment in Lane County Circuit Court for a similar complaint. He has alleged the city unlawfully used public monies to advertise the income tax proposal that would fund airport expansion as part of the 1985 Eugene Agenda, which never made it to the ballot.

Norm Lewis, the city's public service officer, said the advertising was approved by the city attorney.

"We are putting out our information in response to legal counsel. There are possible advocacy issues limiting very closely what we do present, so we can avoid those legal tangles," he said.

The city's revenues will be extracted from "general obli-

tion funds," according to the ad. That figure includes the cost of issuing the bonds and calls for a repayment schedule of 20 years.

In addition, the ballot's approval also will give the city authorization to levy additional property taxes to finance the bond, but proponents of the measure have argued that this is "highly unlikely."

Roger Rutan, a city councilor and the head of the airport subcommittee, maintains in response to the letter that the airlines have a legal obligation to fund their portion of the costs, and that all other debts will be covered.

"No one has a crystal ball of what's going to happen in five years, but we (the Eugene City Council) have specifically laid out a plan as to how this thing is going to be financed," he said. "We have learned from the Hult Center."

The city's capital construction budget, an estimated \$2 million per year, lists the airport improvement as its top priority and has guaranteed \$250,000 of that fund solely for the airport, Rutan added.

In other news involving the push for the Mahlon Sweet expansion, the formation of a committee advocating the improvements was announced at a Monday press conference at the airport. "Citizens for a Better Airport" will be working toward the passage of Ballot Measure 51, according to Joe Richards and Phyllis Loobey, who co-chair the committee.

"It has been projected that with the new airport, making that kind of public investment draws investments," Loobey said.

Semester

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public education in the state.

Specifically, Hooley said she is concerned about how the change to semesters in four-year colleges will affect Oregon's community colleges and students' ability to transfer between the two.

"They need to look at the fiscal impact, which they never did," Hooley said.

"I don't think there would be any fiscal impact," said William Davis, chancellor of the State Board. "If anything, there would be one less registration process (to pay for).

"We made this decision for educational reasons. If there would be any fiscal impact, it would be favorable," he said.

Hooley said no one asked her to introduce the bill. Conversations with community college administrators left her with the impression that they accepted the State Board's decision, she said.

The presidents at Portland and Mount Hood community colleges are "very enthusiastic

about changing to the semester system," Davis said.

The change will not make transferring from community to four-year colleges more difficult, he said.

"A large number of our transfer students are from schools in the semester system now," Davis said.

Hooley also introduced a bill this week that instructs the State Board, in conjunction with the community colleges, to develop a uniform system of course numbers for lower-division classes. The bill is intended to help students who transfer from one state college to another keep track of the lower-division classes they have completed.

A similar bill was introduced this week by Rep. Bill Markham, R-Riddle.

Markham is a member of the board of Umpqua Community College. He said he has seen the problems students have in transferring from that college to a state four-year college, and he thinks a system to make sure

transfer students get full credit for the courses they have completed "is long, long overdue."

Markham proposes a system similar to that proposed by Hooley, but his measure requires the State Board to complete the standard course numbering before the semester system can begin.

"That's my lever," Markham said. "You can't believe how some of these higher ed institutions resent anyone telling them what to do.

"Many students end up going five years because the colleges won't accept their classes," he said.

"I don't see the community colleges and the higher ed people getting together and trying to fix it, so if it takes a law to do it, so be it," Markham said.

The transfer agreements "should have been started on a statewide system years ago," he added. "If we can't do something to help the students, what the hell is the school there for?"

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Dix

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University President Paul Olum said Tuesday the administration welcomes the support of Dix and others in the Hayward Field project, but stressed that this is a loan, "and before we make any decisions we need to see how that money is to be paid back."

Concerning the increase in ticket prices, Olum pointed out two problems: First, the Athletic Department is already operating at a deficit.

"If we could raise more money by raising ticket prices, we would have already done it," he said.

Second, the University has to split ticket income with the visiting team, so increasing ticket prices would not result in a substantial increase in funds.

Herbert Yamanaka, special assistant to the director of intercollegiate athletics, also is opposed to raising ticket prices.

"We are trying to keep people coming into Autzen as it is," he said. "Hopefully, we can put our heads together and come up with some better alternatives."

Dix and State Sen. Grattan



David Dix

Kerans, D-Eugene, will meet in a closed meeting Wednesday evening at 8 p.m. in Johnson Hall with representatives from the cities of Eugene and Springfield, Lane County, the Eugene Chamber of Commerce, the University administration, the University Athletic Department, the Eugene/Springfield Convention & Visitors Bureau and the Oregon Track Club.



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