

Proposed bill could help attract top-notch faculty to state schools

By B.J. Thomsen
Of the Emerald

State legislators are considering a bill that would assist Oregon colleges and universities in attracting top-notch faculty to the region.

The bill is not entirely supported by some important people in the State System of Higher Education, however.

Larry Pierce, the vice chancellor for the State System of Higher Education, and Richard Hill, the University provost and vice president for academic affairs, both have said there are other more pressing financial needs that must be addressed before a bill like this is made law.

HB 3279 would appropriate \$2.5 million for the recruitment of "new, outstanding faculty to the State System of Higher Education."

During a public hearing on the bill Gary Conkling, the director of public affairs for Oregon-based Tektronix, Inc., came out in favor of the bill.

"Attracting top quality faculty and researchers is critical if this state's four-year public institutions are to continue to improve," he said.

The money would be used to defray the costs of relocating new faculty, retraining teaching assistants for the new faculty and paying for equipment and facilities to be used by the newly hired faculty.

While Hill very much favors the bill, he said more important concerns face the University at present. He lists improvement of faculty salaries

as his first priority.

Continued program improvement and additional funding for the libraries also must come before a faculty recruitment fund, he said.

The burden of providing funds for the program would not be borne entirely by the state, however. The bill makes provision requiring the state to seek matching funds from private sources, thus helping to ease the crunch on funds to be used for the purposes Hill is concerned with.

Tektronix already has offered matching funds if the bill is made law.

In the past, private industry has helped raise funds to bring quality faculty to the region's institutes of higher education.

Dr. Martin Wybourne, a nano-physicist at the University, was brought here largely because of private funds, according to Conkling. He noted Tektronix contributed \$300,000 to help establish a nano-physics laboratory at the University for Wybourne and said without that funding he would not have come to the University.

Despite some successes, proponents of the bill say that a consortium of private companies scraping together funds on an ad hoc basis to attract faculty is far too ineffective in today's competitive market.

Conkling noted several specific instances where faculty interested in schools in the region were lured away by wealthier institutions: one, a computer architect, lost by OSU, and another, a physical chemist, lost by the University.

Student organizations offer endorsements for election

By Carolyn Lamberson
Of the Emerald

Since the beginning of the election campaigns, various student groups have announced support for one candidate or another.

The Student Bar Association has announced its endorsement for Students for a Progressive Agenda presidential and vice-presidential candidates Sarah Lachkar and Jodie Mooney.



The entire slate of SPA candidates also has been endorsed by the Graduate Teaching Fellows Federation, Amazon Community Tenants, the Foreign Students Organization, Sister University Project, Student Campaign for Disarmament, the War Resistance Center, Catalyst Films, Native American Student Union, MEChA, Asian Pacific American Student Union, the Survival Center and the Korean Student Organization.

The Student Athletes Team Council, a newly formed group, has announced it is endorsing the entire Concerned Students

for Responsive Leadership slate, including executive candidates Kasey Brooks and Karen Gaffney, said Dan White and Dan Martin, two representatives of the group.

"Of all the candidates, they showed the most interest in student athletes," Martin said. "Beyond that, we like the fact they want to do more on campus issues. We feel like a few things on our own campus have been ignored."

The Oregon Daily Emerald endorsed the CSRL Executive ticket as well as two of its Incidental Fee Committee candidates: Ron Munion and Collin Farrell.

The Emerald also endorsed Joshua King, an independent candidate, and Teddy Wallace, an SPA candidate.

Also endorsing this year was the Oregon Commentator. In what was described by candidate Steve Frichette to be the most intensive endorsement interview, the Commentator endorsed Frichette and running mate Donna Cooper for president and vice president.

The Commentator also endorsed the CSRL slate for IFC.

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