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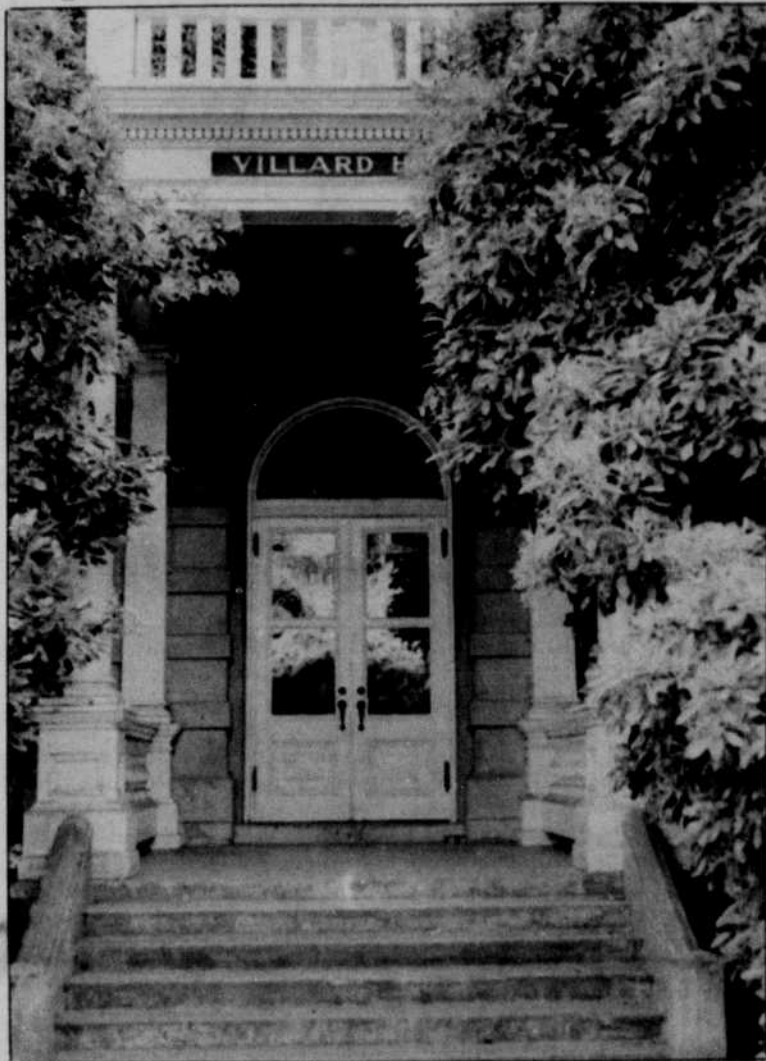
Eugene, Oregon

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Handicap accessibility to increase for University buildings



File Photo

Elevators will be installed in Villard Hall, along with other buildings on campus. The new elevators are expected to enhance the accessibility to University buildings for individuals with disabilities.

By Ingrid Petersen
Emerald Reporter

The University will modify several buildings and build 10 elevators to increase handicap accessibility on campus.

Modifications will include readjusting handrails and lowering water fountains, signs and counters, said David Rowe, University planner.

Elevators will be installed in Deady, Villard, Chapman, Hendricks, Gerlinger, Gerlinger Annex and Johnson Halls, according to Rowe, who is in charge of planning the removal of architectural barriers that currently limit the accessibility to many of the buildings.

"We need to provide fundamental access to get people from one floor to another," Rowe said. In addition, many restrooms will be modified for easier access, according to Rowe.

A few buildings already have been adjusted for easier accessibility, such as Friendly Hall, which now houses the language laboratory on its bottom floor, and Allen Hall,

which has an elevator.

However, by the end of 1988 virtually all other buildings on campus will have handicap accessibility, Rowe said.

The State Board of Higher Education recently gave the University the green light to go ahead with the removal of architectural barriers.

Nevertheless, the state board now has to go to the Legislative Emergency Board to get authorization to spend the \$1.62 million that was appropriated to the University during the 1987 legislative session, said Jim Sellers, communications director for the Oregon State System of Higher Education. This process, however, is routine, Sellers said.

During the 1985 legislative session, the University was appropriated \$300,000, which allowed for the elevator in Allen Hall and one in the computing center.

Rowe said he sees no grave problems as a result of the architectural modifications. All the buildings present difficulties of a certain sort but differ from building to building,

he said.

With Deady and Villard Halls, for example, there is the difficulty of achieving accessibility without damaging the historical character of each building. And in Hendricks and Chapman Halls, which are already crunched for space, there is the challenge of having a minimum impact on loss of space while putting in elevators, Rowe said.

Recommendations on how to implement the reconstruction in individual buildings will be sought from the buildings' occupants, he said.

In addition, a committee representing campus concerns will help set the priorities of which modifications should take place first as well as whether alternate methods for increased accessibility are acceptable.

The committee will consist of disabled students and representatives from the Eugene Commission on Rights of Persons with Disabilities, the provost's office, affirmative action, physical plant, academic advising and the college of arts and sciences.

Task force draws large crowd, support for its revised proposal

By Charles Korn
Emerald Contributor

Less than 10 minutes into a public forum at the Eugene City Council Chamber Monday night, conflict erupted between two members of the Eugene Nuclear Free Zone Task Force.

Task force member David Zupan protested a three-minute time limit on each speaker, a rule announced by the task force chairman, Gerry Gaydos, at the meeting's start.

After Gaydos refused to change the speaking rules, Zupan blasted the chairman 15 minutes later, insisting that the task force vote on the matter.

"If you continue bringing that up, there will be less time for the public to speak," Gaydos said, noting that there were some 60 citizens who wanted to speak.

Gaydos announced the next speaker, but Zupan interrupted. "The hierarchical approach epitomizes all that is going on in this process," he said. "I will not put up with it."

"There have been meetings on the Riverfront Project that have gone past midnight," Zupan said. "This is equally important."

The crowd of more than 100 loudly applauded Zupan, and Gaydos conceded. "Because of Mr. Zupan's persistence, we will let people speak for as long as they wish," the chairman said. "We'll just continue until task force members start falling

asleep, or until we have to schedule for another meeting."

The disagreement was hardly the first within the task force, a group appointed six months ago by the City Council to review and make recommendations on the nuclear free zone ordinance passed by Eugene voters last November.

The original ordinance passed with 58 percent of the vote and established Eugene as one of 132 nuclear free zones in the United States.

Seeking to clarify wording (defining terms such as nuclear weapon, delivery system and component) and to ensure the legality of implementing the ordinance, the task force split over two scope proposals last month. Two weeks later, five members of the task force came up with a new version of the nuclear free zone ordinance.

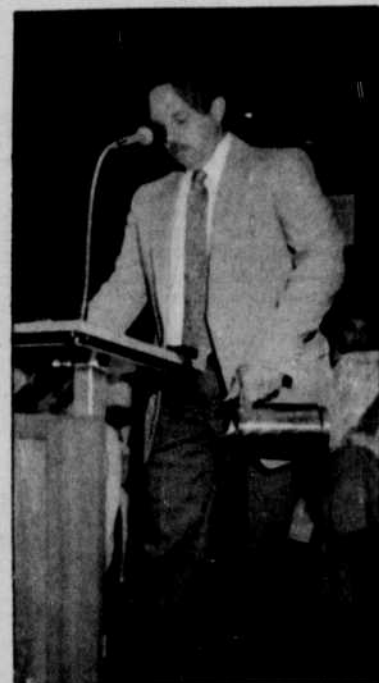
The audience was nearly unanimous in its support of the new version, which one speaker emphatically dubbed "MRV" (Minimally Revised Version).

Charging that the two earlier proposals have diluted the original ordinance, Cheyney Ryan, a University philosophy professor, asked, "Is there a precedent for a committee to revise a voter-approved ordinance?" He also asked whether all of the task force members had a proven record of anti-nuclear involvement, noting that it should be a priority.

The Eugene Peace Choir, 12 strong, sang an anti-nuclear

song including the lyrics, "Take all the atomic poison power away." Many in the crowd clapped to the beat.

To illustrate the enormity of today's world arsenal, Eugene Emge dropped a single BB pellet into a bucket, equating it to all the firepower used by the Allied Forces in World War II. Then he demonstrated what he said was in comparison the total world firepower accumulated in the last 40 years: He poured a steady stream of BB's from a half-gallon pitcher into the bucket.



Eugene Emge

USSA discusses priority issues at national meeting

By Carolyn Lamberson
Emerald Associate Editor

The United States Students Association's National Board of Directors met in Washington, D.C., this past weekend to formulate its ten priority issues for the year.

ASUO Vice President Karen Gaffney and University law student Katy Howard are both representatives on the national board. Gaffney is the representative of the Northwest Pacific Region, while Howard represents the Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual Student Caucus.

Howard also serves on the 11-member Executive Committee, which helps to get some of the more technical work done before the full 42-member national board meets, Howard said.

The board first voted on the ten issues for the year, Howard said. Then the board went about listing them on a priority basis.

Because the board members have equal vote and the members represent students from all across the nation, Howard believes the issues reflect what students across the

nation see as important, she said.

The student lobbying group's top priority this year will be financial aid, Gaffney said. "If we don't work on it, no one will," she added. Financial aid is something that affects every campus and determines the accessibility of higher education to students. It has to be USSA's priority, she continued.

The second issue USSA will work toward is minority recruitment and retention. The University is a perfect example of a school where this is a problem, she said. Even though the University works on minority recruitment and retention, the majority of the student population is white, she said.

The third priority emphasizes control of student fees, Gaffney said.

"Countless schools across the nation have a board of administrators that determines the student activity fee," she said. "That is contrary to every notion of student empowerment."

This is one area that is not a big problem at the University, where student fees are allocated by the student-run Incidental

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