

# Oregon Daily Emerald

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## Senate unanimously behind Olum

By Ingrid Petersen  
Emerald Reporter

The University Senate unanimously passed a motion Wednesday to ask the State Board of Higher Education not to accept its executive committee's recommendation to retire

University President Paul Olum earlier than his anticipated retirement date.

Last month the committee recommended that Olum retire on June 30, 1989, which is three years earlier than Olum's requested retirement date.

The motion, which also criticizes the committee for not consulting with faculty and other University constituents preceding its decision, now will be sent to the state board. The board will discuss Olum's retirement date during its Nov. 13 meeting at the University.

"We haven't had a unanimous consent on matters of importance in a long time," said Peter B. Gilkey, a math professor who submitted the motion, referring to the 30-0 vote.

With Olum as president we have some very exciting things to look forward to, such as the Riverfront Research Park, the search for a new provost and the capital campaign to find money for various University projects, such as refurbishing the main library, Gilkey said.

These projects re-

quire continuity of the University president, he said. "No provost is going to come to the University if the president is going to retire nine months after he gets here," Gilkey said. Gilkey also complained about the state board's decision not to consult with members of the University before calling for Olum's retirement.

"I know of no one from the University with whom the state board or chancellor's office communicated before making the decision," he said. "Our concern is that they (the board) be provided with the best information that is possible."

"I have talked to no faculty member who is in favor of Olum's retirement," he said.

The University Senate also considered motions for amending University parking rules and submitting written faculty approval of the University's current reduced tenure program. It postponed voting for a new senate vice president, which for the last ten years has been a student.

Peter Nesbit, a member of the Student Senate, was nominated for the position by the University Senate's nominating committee.

"He wants to do it and seems dedicated," said Karen Frymoyer, chairwoman of the Student Senate.

However, due to Nesbit's

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Photo by Rachel Kirby

Math Professor Richard Gilkey submitted a motion before the University Senate protesting the state board's decision to retire University President Paul Olum.

## Classes should go on; strike called extreme

By Mike Drummond  
Emerald Associate Editor

Provost Dick Hill is dissatisfied with the Student Senate's call to strike Friday morning classes as a show of student support for President Paul Olum. Olum doesn't like the idea either.

In a statement released on Tuesday, Hill said he shared students' position regarding Olum and was pleased they have given the president their strong support.

However, he believes such an action is an inappropriate way to convey concerns to state board members.

"I cannot approve of, or in any way endorse, the general strike that the Student Senate has called for Friday morning... We should refrain from actions that might be seen as distractions from the orderly process and debate," Hill said.

Olum reiterated Hill's contention that a student strike was not the best means to demonstrate discontent with the state board.

"I'm not about to tell the students what to do. I said in the beginning students have a right to make up their own minds... but striking classes

is not as good a way as what they've (students) already done," Olum said.

"I take our academic work as sort of sacred, and I don't call off our classes for anything. I keep getting calls to call off classes for national holidays, for University convocations or bad weather, and I refuse to do that," Olum said.

Olum said calling off classes is not one of his favorite symbols of student dissent regarding the state board's decision. "Class work is the nature of our business — it's the heart of what we do," Olum added.

However, Olum said he was pleased with the overwhelming student support he has received.

"Students have behaved wonderfully. I have been moved by what they've done, and I thought the banner (unfurled at the University Assembly meeting) was terrific," Olum said.

Peter von Hippel, head of the chemistry department and a faculty representative who will be addressing the state board on Friday, also had reservations regarding the student strike.

"We're all pleased with

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## EWEB, steam plant study discovers cost similarities

By Andrew LaMar  
Emerald Reporter

Preliminary results of a study on the University steam plant and the Eugene Water and Electric Board show the two plant's production costs to differ only slightly, according to an EWEB official.

Gary Kunkel, EWEB's director of power management, said the study of EWEB and the steam plant shows the two plant's production costs of 1,000 pounds of steam only differs by "a few cents."

Kunkel said the cost difference claimed by Ralph Hill, University steam plant supervisor, in an Oct. 29 Oregon Daily Emerald article were inaccurate. Hill said the University steam plant produces 1,000 pounds of steam at a cost at least \$1.35 cheaper than EWEB.

Kunkel also said Ray Hovling's comment in the same article that "EWEB would like to get their hands on the state coffers" is untrue.

"We're not in a produc-

tions cost competition for the University, and we don't want to get our hands on the state coffers," Kunkel said.

The report is being conducted by the Eugene accounting firm Gregor Professional Corporation and is jointly sponsored by EWEB and the University. University officials will use the report's findings as a first step to deciding the fate of the University steam plant.

The Riverfront Research Park's master site plan suggests eventual elimination or relocation of the plant and using the plant's current site for a public building.

John Moseley, University vice president for research, spoke about the plant at a Riverfront Research Park public forum Nov. 4. He said eventually the plant will be eliminated, and the University will buy power from EWEB.

But the University probably won't get out of the steam business until it is economically feasible, he said.

## Ambassador credits University

By Paula Green  
Emerald Reporter

"The University of Oregon holds a special place in Nepal," said Bishwa Pradhan, Royal Nepalese Ambassador to the United States, during a visit to the University on Wednesday.

Pradhan, an author, lecturer, and former foreign secretary of Nepal, credits the University with helping to establish Tribhuvan University in Nepal's capital city of Kathmandu.

According to Pradhan, the University was the first to welcome students from Nepal to study. These students then went back to Nepal and "created some major educational impacts," he said.

"The literacy rate in our country is very high now — about 40 percent," Pradhan said, adding, "I am very much impressed with this university's impact."

Pradhan also credits Professor Emeritus Hugh B. Wood with generating an interest in the students from Nepal through the creation of the American Nepal Education Foundation, of which Wood is the executive director.

"Due to his efforts, the

students are able to be here," Pradhan said.

The American Nepal Education Foundation, which was established on campus in 1955, is jointly sponsored by the University and Nepal, and has grown in the last 10 years to support 175 students throughout the United States. There are currently five Nepalese students at the University.

Pradhan and Wood met several years ago. In the late 1950s, through what is termed the "Oregon Connection," Wood and the University became deeply involved in setting up an educational system in Nepal. Soon after, the king of Nepal visited the campus to thank the University for bringing Nepal's educational system into the 20th century.

"I would particularly like this connection to continue to grow and prosper," Pradhan said.

Although the University is given credit with helping to establish Tribhuvan University, and the universities are designated "sister universities," Tribhuvan and the educational system in Nepal are patterned after the British education system — a result of the long-ago British conquest of southeast Asia. This means that

after the age of 16, students may continue their education in technical or commercial study, or go on to higher education.

"They have an Oregon Alumni Association in Kathmandu," Wood joked, "though it's really only an informal meeting of people."

Pradhan also commented on the city of Eugene, which is identified as Kathmandu's "sister city."

"The surroundings of this place remind me of Kathmandu, with the hills and the valley," Pradhan said.



Bishwa Pradhan