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conducted its decision, Garrison said.

"The general feeling among students is that it (the board's decision) stinks, and that if it can happen there, it can happen here," said Michael Newton, the student senator who drafted the resolution recently passed at OSU.

"The students I have talked to on our campus are in favor of Paul Olum," said Juan Cotto, WOSC student body president.

Although Cotto said he spoke with a "couple" members from the board about its decision, he still wants to know the rational behind the decision.

The members with whom he spoke with said they feared Olum would keep asking for additional time if he were given the original extension to 1992, Cotto said.

"And if that is the case, what they should do is let him have an extension to 1992 and then cut him off," Cotto said. But obviously Olum is doing something good, which is evident by the campus-wide support at the University, he said.

In addition, student leaders criticized the closed-door manner in which the board made its decision.

The discreetness in which the board showed that it really wasn't serving its constituencies, said Todd Northman, Portland State University student body president. "No input was heard from others," he said.

Garrison also claims the board has been deaf to outsiders. "We just feel that the state board and the chancellor's office aren't really listening to students and their opinions," she said.

Garrison cited the state's colleges and universities' convergence to a semester calendar as another decision that was made behind closed doors. "We felt the decision was already made before the idea became public," she said.

"We are seeing too many conference calls and too many closed-door decisions, and I am not sure they are listening to us," Garrison said.

Most administrators interviewed were much less verbose

about the issue, claiming they didn't have enough information about the decision to form an opinion.

WOSC Provost Bill Cowart, who attended the mid-November board meeting on the University campus, said he was impressed by the student and faculty presentations made to the board in support of retaining Olum until 1992.

Cowart, who has worked with Olum for three years, said he regrets seeing these sort of disputes at the end of a person's career.

Although Cowart said he is no position to second guess the

board's decision, he thinks Olum has done a good job. "I think he has done his job and done a good job and in that you have to take positions on all types of issues," Cowart said.

"It is a judgmental issue and the board has made its decision," Cowart said.

"They have to make the decisions that they think are best for the system," said Jo Anne Trow, OSU vice president for student affairs.

"It is their responsibility, and this is the way they have chosen to use this responsibility," she said.

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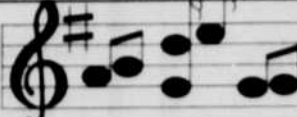
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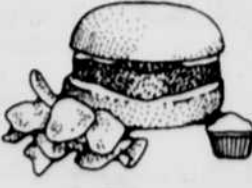
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