

Editorial

Chancellor must stay at University campus

The State Board of Higher Education has delegated a subcommittee to study whether the chancellor's office, which is currently located in Susan Campbell Hall on the University campus, should be moved to either Salem or Portland.

The state board will discuss the issue at its March 15 meeting in Portland, when the subcommittee will submit a recommendation to the board.

However, such a move is unnecessary and should not be undertaken.

The argument in favor of moving the chancellor's office to Salem maintains that such a location would increase the board's visibility with the Legislature. If the board was in Salem, proponents of such a move say, it would facilitate greater access and perhaps more influence with the Legislature there.

Opponents of the Salem office, however, point out that having the state board office in Salem could politicize higher education. If the chancellor's office was in Salem, the chancellor's function could become too political.

The state board already has an office in Salem, where the vice chancellor works. This office provides the state board with enough access to the Legislature and other governmental offices in Salem.

Also, according to Wilma Foster, secretary of the board, some of the workers at the Eugene office travel to Salem during the legislative session. And that brings out another point: most of the employees at the Eugene office would have to commute daily or move to Salem if the office was there. This represents an inconvenience to a large percentage of higher education's career employees, who number more than 56 at the Eugene office.

If the chancellor's office is moved, it would not only displace employees, but also take more than \$2 million in annual payroll out of Eugene, where such money helps the economy.

Even Goldschmidt appears to be against moving the office to Salem. As quoted in the Register-Guard, for example, Goldschmidt said, "I never thought that moving it to Salem was necessary." And that's just it: a move to Salem is unnecessary, not to mention inconvenient.

But Goldschmidt would probably favor moving the chancellor's office to Portland, as this appears to coincide with his "economic comeback" plan for Oregon. Portland is the center of the state's economic and cultural activity. Moving the office to Portland, proponents say, would strengthen the private-public relationship between higher education and the business world. If this relationship is enhanced, some say, it could increase private-sector funding for public education.

But business does not play as prominent a role in higher education as academics — and it should be kept that way by keeping the chancellor's office away from Portland.

Moreover, Portland is not the concentrated academic center that Eugene is. Therefore, moving the chancellor's office to Portland would decrease access for academic affairs at the expense of increasing access for corporate business. "It's better to be on (the Eugene) campus because it maintains contact with academic" affairs, Foster said.

Keeping the chancellor's office at Oregon's largest university campus makes practical sense, insuring an intimate relationship between academic affairs and the politics of higher education.



"THEY'RE FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S OFFICE."

Letters

Greater Wisdom

An essay, "The Hebrew" in "The Intellectual Adventure of Ancient Man" (University of Chicago Press) by William A. Irwin, explains efforts of ancient biblical writers to disparage the influence of early atheists. He calls them "fools," an obvious stratagem which application escapes Valevich's understanding. Irwin also explains why Christians shun Ecclesiastes (O.T.) whose skepticism refutes fundamentalist claims.

Two Scientific American articles provide grist for thought — for a hilarious estimate of "God's" creative powers and sexual interests — although the authors, being scientists, make no reference to "God" and imply no significance other than the natural phenomena described.

Photographs embellishing "Mimicry in plants" (9/87) by Spencer C.H. Barrett show wasps pseudocopulating with orchids, attracted by fragrance and furry underpetals resembling female wasps.

Daniel Crew in "Courtship in Unisexual Lizards: A Model For Brain Evolution" (12/87) describes monosexual (female)

lizard species that reproduce by parthenogenesis — a problem that didn't stump Noah. Interestingly, females alternate in pseudocopulating roles, simulating males or females in estrus.

Theists must recognize these wonders of Nature as the handiwork of an all-powerful, all-knowing "God," who according to scriptures stood back and declared his creation, "Good!"

The infantile stubbornness with which theists reject fair consideration of opposing views — and the frequency and overestimation accorded writers like Josh MacDowell — tempts one to excuse them from adult discourse. Educators must confront this fundamental problem in improving educational efficacy on all grade levels. See: "The Mind of the Bible-Believer" by psychologist Edmund D. Cohen (Prometheus, 1986).

Bert P. Tryba
Eugene

criticize casual sex because of AIDS are the same ones who vehemently opposed it (sex) before the occurrence of AIDS.

It seems to me that they are seizing upon the AIDS scare in order to continue their long-term practice of imposing their values and personal choices on others.

It is hard to swallow advice from those who blindly cling to second-hand, amoral attitudes they call morals. Their approach can be counterproductive. The best thing is to have only the liberal health-conscious people protect our students. At least they have our best interests at heart.

Alice Berry
Eugene

Stall rats

Examples of an entirely profound menu of sexual "tricks" can be found and/or performed in the stalls of the men's restrooms in the EMU.

It seems that the restrooms, particularly those on the lower level, have become a haven for homosexuals and their disgusting, unsafe and perverse habits. I consider this not only to be extremely offensive, and to say the least gross, but a most regressive step for the gay community as well — they've come out of closets and into bathroom stalls.

Greater consideration needs to be exercised by these stall rats toward not only those of us who use the restrooms for their intended purpose, but for their fellow gays as well, who are in fact concerned about their perceived normality and acceptability within our society. Loitering in bathroom stalls with hopes of a homosexual encounter is neither acceptable nor normal.

Andy Smith
Eugene

Clarification

The Emerald on Thursday published a letter to the Emerald attributed to Jewish Student Union Director Stephanie Kustner entitled "Perspectives." Although Kustner personally submitted this letter, she said the letter was written by the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith.

Best interests

Craig Harris states in his commentary (ODE, Jan. 14) that, at a time when AIDS is killing people, dances should not promote sex by using such titles as "Safe Sex Dance." If he is in fact worried that sexual innuendo will cause AIDS, then it is nice of him to be concerned.

However, I have noticed that many of the people who

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