

Editorial

Bottom dollar: more money for educators

The recent difficulties in selecting a new president for Oregon Health Sciences University point out the need for salary increases for the state's education leaders. When a state offers a salary that is far below the national average, as Oregon does, it becomes hard to attract the best candidates.

The salary for OHSU's president is \$108,360. That's not small change, but it's still \$15,000 less than the norm. Chancellor William Davis earns \$98,160, which is \$14,000 less than what he could expect to earn elsewhere. University President Paul Olum's yearly income is \$7,000 below the mark.

Those involved with the selection of education officials, such as Charles Duncan, coordinator of the chancellor search, have claimed that Oregon is attractive to administrators seeking jobs; a progressive education system free of political involvement and a pleasant, liveable environment are cited as factors.

This might have been the case at one time. But Gov. Neil Goldschmidt's requested resignation of Davis and Davis' bitter response in *The Chronicle of Higher Education* show that politics are very much a part of Oregon's academic circles. And as for the attractiveness of Northwest living, the state lags behind others who can make the same claims and offer more cash. Washington's educational salaries are far above Oregon's; California leads the nation.

With budgets already strapped, it is unlikely that the state board will look seriously at increasing salaries. But if it doesn't act soon, Oregon's once-proud educational system will suffer greatly for it.

Solutions to stop Noriega outrageous, ridiculous

The country of Panama is in a mess right now, and good U.S. options for dealing with Noriega's drug kingdom are neither numerous nor clear. One thing that should be clear, however, is that it would be foolish to follow the ludicrous and offensive suggestions offered by Secretary of State George Schultz.

Schultz and other State Department officials, such as Elliott Abrams, assistant secretary of state for inter-America affairs, have proposed such crimes as kidnapping Noriega and bringing him to trial in the United States, using the CIA to induce a coup in Panama, or even invading the little country with 3,000 soldiers.

So far, the CIA, the Pentagon and Secretary of Defense Frank Carlucci have all resisted these outlandish proposals. But a force of 1,300 troops was sent to Panama to reinforce a brigade already defending the Canal Zone, and a U.S. warship loaded with helicopters toured the canal last week.

Panama will eventually be entrusted with home defense of their strategic waterway in 1999, and part of the canal treaty signed in 1978 prohibited the United States from interfering in the internal affairs of the country. The Panamanians are already aware that Noriega is in power partly because of CIA funding — if the United States is to restore good relations with Panama, it should do so without breaking the rules again.



Letters

Please vote yes

I encourage all students to vote in favor of the Oregon Daily Emerald's ballot measure asking for a new production system. I don't work for the Emerald anymore, but I can tell you that equipment that was state of the art when most of you were in grade school is now a real turkey. It dies. It lies. It is unspeakably ugly to use. Most of all, it gobbles.

The Emerald staff does an amazing job with this monster, but it's time for Grendel's mother to pass on. That means a big capital expenditure for a small paper dedicated to serving students' needs.

Vote "yes" so that your campus newspaper can proceed with essential modernization.

Alan Contreras
Legal Research Analyst
Bureau of Government Research

Incidental fees

Your editorial regarding incidental fees (March 14) contains several statements we

believe to be erroneous.

You state that "the board would like to limit the ways in which student bodies can spend their/our own money." These funds do not belong to students any more than the instruction fee, the building fee, a transcript fee, or charges made for living in a residence hall. The mandatory fees charged for registering are collected by the police power of the state as authorized by statute. Students, through their recognized student governments, have certain fees, but that has nothing to do with ownership of the funds, or democracy for that matter.

The limitations placed on use of these funds for purposes that are determined by the board to contribute to the cultural or physical advancement of students is statutory, not something dreamed up in our office. The kinds of activities that can be supported are determined in part by constitutional issues and recent cases in the federal courts. If the board or its staff knowingly permits the expenditure of these state funds for unlawful purposes, they may be guilty of malfeasance or nonfeasance in office. It is for the purpose of clarification of these legal issues that we are considering amendments to the present rules.

W. T. Lemman
Executive Vice Chancellor
[For more on incidental fees, please turn to pages 6 and 7.]

Tuition tax

On March 31, all graduate teaching fellows at the University will receive a paycheck with a cut in net pay of 25 to 30 percent. This is a result of the expiration of the exemption of taxes on tuition waivers. All GTFs receive a tuition waiver in addition to their small salaries.

Current federal legislation to renew this exemption has been stalled in Congress. It is imperative that action be taken on state and local levels to confront this crisis faced by GTFs and the State System of Higher Educa-

tion as a whole.

The University should take a leadership role in demanding that the Emergency Board of the state Legislature convene to appropriate funds to offset this effective pay cut. The University and the State Board of Higher Education must reopen contract negotiations to bargain new wages as the taxation has caused a unilateral change in net pay.

People in this community must understand the level of hardship caused by this situation. GTF families who depend on social service programs may no longer be eligible as a result of the tuition waiver now being considered as income.

Michael Dawson, President
GTFF Local No. 3544

Jesse Jackson

In Friday's Emerald, there was a story on Campus Students to Elect Jesse Jackson. In the story, chairman Ken Sprague made some comments on how Jesse Jackson, if elected, would tax the rich so the poor can afford medical care, child care, can have greater school benefits, etc.

Sprague, this is socialism, and socialists, when running for elected office in this country, rarely get more than 2 percent of the popular vote. Socialism is not bad or evil necessarily; it is simply a form of government that the people of this country have consistently voted against, and 1988 will be no different.

If Jesse Jackson is to become the next president of the United States, he'll 1) have to drastically change his policies to bring himself toward the mainstream of American politics and 2) somehow convince the voters of this country that he isn't racist against Jews — that he didn't really call New York City "Hymietown." Good Luck.

Rick Bergesen
Political science

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