

This decision was due to the "mismanagement, technical incompetence and on-the-air profanity" of the students running the station, according to a past Oregon Daily Emerald article.

about in December 1987 when KWAX Development Director Mike Lee and a friend worked out a serious and determined plan to start a 10-watt station that would broadcast across

Lee's plans were disrupted by the changes in the FCC's licensing policy.

Because the increased wattage requirement meant an increase in start-up costs, Bjornstad's estimates were now \$3-5,000 short. Additional funds would be needed for a more expensive antenna, a 100-watt amplifier that would be capable of transmitting as far as the Corvallis/Albany area, and improvements on the donated KWAX equipment.

The TCFA is one group supporting the student-run radio station. It was started two years ago to give students a voice in the telecommunication and film department.

Currently, TCFA is helping to find funding for the station. Gordon Firemark, chairman for TCFA speakers and events said

he believes start-up funding for the station will come from student incidental fees. After the station is on the air, he said, operating funding will come from listeners and from the underwriting of programs by local businesses.

In addition to fund-finding, TCFA is currently researching student radio stations at Oregon State University, Reed College in Portland and Linfield College in McMinnville.

Although it is too early to decide the format and structure, there is an agreement among supporters that the future station, "should be expressive of the campus and include minorities groups and others," Lee said.

If the FCC rules promptly, building of the station could begin as soon as November 1988. If not, November 1989 is the next most likely starting date.

'(The future station) should be expressive of the campus, and include minority groups and others.'

—Mike Lee, KWAX Development Director

Since then, the University has given KWAX a classical music format and hired five professional staff members to manage it. Students are still able to work at the station, but only through work-study or internships.

The initial idea for the new student-run radio station came

campus from an antenna on Villard Hall. The estimated cost for the station was \$5,000, with little cost for equipment because KWAX planned to donate most of it from its surplus supply.

Everything was running smoothly until January, when

Taxation

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He cited as an example a provision in the Tax Reform Act of 1987 that gave the Wall Street partnership of Bear Stearns an \$8 million tax break.

DeFazio, who introduced a legislative bill (HR 4332) in March that would permanently reinstate tax exemptions for tuition waivers, promised he would "do all I can in Congress to give you the tax status you deserve."

Kevin Boyer, coalition co-chair, said the purpose of the press conference and other demonstrations was to "emphasize the national nature of this problem."

Boyer said HR 4332 has "served to galvanize support" for other bills in the House and Senate that also seek to make the tax exemptions permanent.

He described other coalition-sponsored demonstrations going on around the country, such as a march and rally on the steps of Longworth House in Washington, D.C., where a number of congressional offices are located.

Ramsing said many graduate students rely on tuition waivers to enable them to stay in school. By not exempting tuition waivers from taxation, he said, Congress is "sending a message to young people that education is not important."

By not acting on the legislation before it, Congress is "delaying the problem — and thus it continues," Ramsing said.



Photo by Maile Field

Graduate school dean Ken Ramsing (left) and GTF coalition co-chair Kevin Boyer look on at Monday's press conference protesting tuition waiver taxation.



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