

Chancellor search leader quits

By Kelvin Wee
Emerald Managing Editor

Oregon's search for a new chancellor of higher education continues to roll on, even though the chancellor search committee coordinator has resigned.

Charles Duncan, University professor emeritus of journalism, resigned as the committee's coordinator last Wednesday. Duncan said each of the four finalists in the unsuccessful search were qualified candidates for the chancellor position.

"The board made a grave mistake in rejecting the candidates," he said. The chancellor's job is not a purely academic, political or public relations position, and a perfect candidate would be almost impossible to find, Duncan said.

Duncan said he believes either of the last two candidates would have been excellent in the position, because both were unanimously recommended by the search committee.

The committee consisted of five Oregon State Board of Higher Education members, three state system school presidents, one institution vice-president, two faculty members and one student.

Duncan said he does not consider the unanimous recommendation of 10 people lightly when it is rejected.

Duncan said he never directly accused Gov. Neil Goldschmidt of meddling in the selection process, as reported in some newspapers, because he said he did not have any proof if Goldschmidt intervened or not.

However, he said he still believes the search should be put off for at least another year because a new chancellor, if selected and appointed, cannot jump in and take over the job.

There will be at least a six-month period between the appointment time and the take-over time for the new chancellor, who would also come in cold during the next legislative session, he said.

Duncan added that a new

chancellor could be found in the short time the board has given for the new search. The "chances are very slim, but it could happen," Duncan said.

However, it would be almost impossible to find someone of the high calibre the state board wants for the kind of salary offered for the chancellor position, he said.

Duncan said that all this would not be happening now if Goldschmidt had not requested the resignation of Chancellor William E. "Bud" Davis, whose term ran out June 30. Davis was a fully capable and competent chancellor, he added.

"I'm deeply concerned about the state system," Duncan said. "I've been a part of it for 35 years or more and I hope a really good chancellor can be found."

Duncan said he believes the interim chancellor, W.T. (Bill) Lemman, is fully capable of handling higher education issues until a new chancellor can be found because "he (Lemman) knows more about the state system ... than anyone now in office."

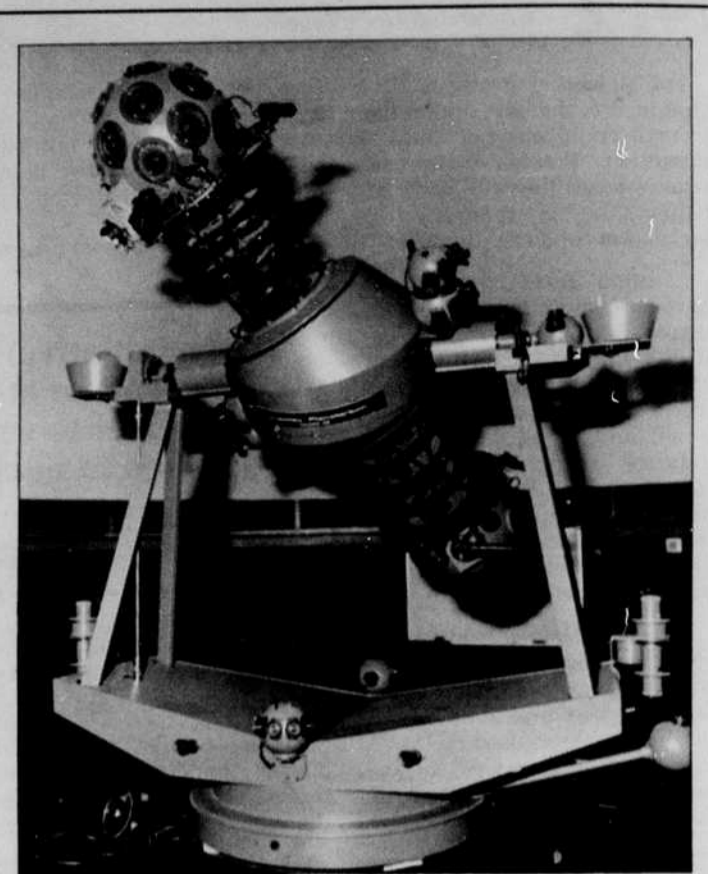


Photo by Shu-Shing Chen

This telescope at the Lane County Planetarium enables students and county residents to see the far reaches of space.

Star Parties come out at county planetarium

The Lane County Planetarium offers educational opportunities for both county residents and University students as well.

The planetarium's staff consists mainly of University students who have interests in education or science, planetarium interim Director Darian Gould said. They work part time and are trained by others at the planetarium.

"The planetarium is a unique, exciting resource to learn about space science in general," Gould said. Like most of the staff.

The summer months at the planetarium are just as busy as during the school year. Programs are planned for some of the summer camps that take place on the University campus, and the

museum and planetarium also are open to the public. Summer hours are from noon to 5 p.m. except Mondays, with planetarium shows at 3 p.m. On Saturdays and Sundays, planetarium shows begin at 1 and 3 p.m.

Other activities taking place at the planetarium this summer are Star Parties. The Eugene Astronomical Society and the Lane Education Service District staff share their powerful telescopes with the public. This gives interested people a chance to view the moon and stars through powerful telescopes with the members from each of those organizations.

The next Star Parties are planned Aug. 22, Sept. 19, and Oct. 17. The Star Parties are free and begin at nightfall in front of the planetarium.

Grant awarded for geological research

The University Foundation has received a \$275,000 grant to help study the chemical history of rocks and the chemical composition of new superconducting materials.

The grant, awarded by the W.M. Keck Foundation of Los Angeles, will enable the geological sciences department to acquire an electron probe microanalyzer. The instrument produces an image of particles as small as 100 angstroms across — object that are so miniscule they must be magnified 50,000 times to be seen. Researchers also will be able to analyze the composition of these particles.

Geology department officials expect to place the order in late October, and will receive it when the new laboratory specially designed to house the instrument is completed in 1989. The instru-

ment will be placed in Science VI Hall, the geological studies building which is currently under construction as part of the \$45.6 million science complex.

The instrument will provide improved capabilities to researchers that the current scanning electron microprobe, which has been in service for 20 years, is unable to do.

The Keck Foundation's primary focus is on grants to universities and colleges with a particular emphasis in the earth sciences, engineering and medical fields. This is the first grant the University has received from the organization, which was established in 1954 by the late William M. Keck. Keck was the founder of the Superior Oil Co.

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