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Grievances aired on semester issue

By Denise Clifton
Emerald Reporter

Sixteen administrators, faculty members and students from two state universities and one community college aired their grievances about semester conversion and semester calendar options at an Oregon State Board of Higher Education semester schedule hearing on Wednesday.

This hearing was the third in a series of five semester schedule hearings being conducted across the state.

The board is considering four options for the semester calendar. In the first option, the Early Semester Calendar, fall classes begin at the end of August and finals would end around Dec. 21.

The second option given by the board is called the Post Labor Day Calendar, and fall classes would begin either the day or the week following Labor Day, depending on the year. Finals would end around Dec. 21.

In the third option, the Labor Day Calendar, classes begin the Tuesday after Labor Day, and final exams would be over before the winter break.

The final option is the Traditional Semester Calendar in which fall classes begin the end of September, and finals would be complete at the end of January or the beginning of February. This would mean the winter break would occur in the middle of the semester before finals.



Photo by Scott Maben

ASUO President Karen Gaffney lobbies the State Board of Higher Education for a semester calendar ending in mid-May to give graduates an early start in entering career markets.

Board Vice President Mark Dodson said he has been impressed with how important the semester calendar issue is to various people in the state system. He said at the Portland State University hearing on Monday night the views were divided among the early and late options.

However, Dodson said the testimony presented at the Tuesday night hearing in Salem presented a slant toward the Traditional Semester Calendar. "There was a very decided view in Salem for ... the Traditional Semester System," he said.

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Plan passes at meeting

By Dan Eisler
Emerald Contributor

A resolution calling for hearings on the proposed Riverfront Research Park was unanimously passed by the University Senate on Wednesday.

The resolution, supported by President Paul Olum, was approved over an earlier resolution recommending the proposed park site be reserved for recreational use and natural resources.

The adopted resolution requests that the Riverfront Research Park Design Advisory Committee present to the Senate in November a rationale for any planned uses of the land between the Willamette River and the railroad tracks besides recreation, open space and natural areas.

The passed resolution was an alternative to an earlier version sponsored by University geography professor Alvin W. Urquhart, recommending the area be reserved for "recreational facilities, open spaces and natural areas as provided for in the current North

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Setbacks plague avenue project

Crews near end of first stage

By Cami Swanson
Emerald Reporter

The East 13th Avenue construction project is slowly progressing, despite delays caused by underground utility lines and a late bidding process.

The project, which will reconstruct 13th Avenue between Alder and Willamette, did not get underway until early August, more than a month later than planned by the Eugene Public Works department. Last spring, the department expected to begin work on the project in late June, after they solicited bids for the \$600,000 project.

The department was unable to find a contractor to work on the project until Aug. 8, according to construction supervisor Bob Terrel. Because of this delay, construction crews had less time to finish the project by the Oct. 1 deadline.

Despite this deadline, crews are still working to finish up on the work that has already been started. But the public works department will break no more new ground for the project until spring, Terrel said.

"It's been hectic, a nightmare ... It's been a headache as far as the utilities are concerned," Terrel said.

Terrel said that his crews have had trouble locating utility lines, despite help from the Eugene Water and Electric



Photo by Maile Field

The reconstruction on East 13th Avenue has received different reactions from owners of businesses located along that road.

Board's construction crews, because many of the lines have been in place since 1930 or 1940 and were not documented clearly. In addition, no major reconstruction has been done on 13th Avenue since 1912, when the road was first built.

"It's basically dig and find," Terrel said. "We have damaged a few water services. But generally, we haven't damaged much."

EWEB public information officer Tom Santee said that there have been a few times when water mains have been broken by the construction project.

"It's caused an interruption of service of maybe a block," Santee said.

Because of the construction, 13th Avenue has been narrowed to one-lane in some sections, and parts of some cross roads have been closed. Although this may be an inconvenience for car drivers, Terrel said that they have not had any problems with rerouting traffic. The major inconvenience has been to local businesses that are located along the street.

"It's inconvenient, but it's

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Solo Act

Lynn Teeters, a member of the Carpenters Union Number 1273, pickets in front of the Science 6 construction site in protest of the University's hiring of non union labor.

Photo by James Marks