

THE NOSE IS PASSED

Go for Hughes/Kirk in ASUO executive

With higher education under siege from all sides, it is important that University students elect a strong and somewhat adversarial leadership to head the office of the ASUO Executive. The ticket for the spring elections that always has been a front-runner in involvement — no matter what the cause — appears to be Tim Hughes and Maureen Kirk.

We give our qualified endorsement for ASUO president and vice president to Hughes/Kirk for the strength of their combined experience, and for their apparent ability to represent student concerns to the new University president — perhaps the most important issue in this year's campaign.

We believe Hughes and Kirk's broad background and knowledge of University procedures will serve them well while working with a new administration. While it is important for the ASUO Executive to rattle the cage and stand up for student rights in the state system — here is the qualification — we hold some reservations about Hughes' confrontational and antagonistic style.

It is admirable to strongly advocate the causes in which one believes, but it is important to maintain an understanding of the opposition. It is time that Hughes learns to be less confrontational and more cooperative.

We also hope both Hughes and Kirk will remember to represent *all* students, and not just the "special interest" groups they've had contact with in the past. This also applies to the Students for a Progressive Agenda party. We're still a little miffed that SPA chose to announce its endorsements before nominations had closed. Our endorsement of Hughes/Kirk is by no means a slate endorsement for SPA.

On a more positive note, Hughes and Kirk recognize that many students feel disenfranchised. Hughes/Kirk intend to establish an advisory cabinet to the ASUO Executive — with representatives from the various student unions and groups — to foster increased communication with students. This is a clear-cut example of what Hughes and Kirk intend to do. The other executive tickets — Andy Clark/Scott Wyckoff and Joe Kaniewski/Earl McRae — may recognize the problem of student disenfranchisement, but they offer no concrete plan to fix it.

Kirk holds the quality of student life as a high priority. She has been an outstanding spokesperson at the University, state and national levels for the Public Interest Research Groups. Aside from memberships and positions held with OSPIRG, USPIRG, the EMU Board of Directors and others, she also has volunteered many hours to the UO/UES Sister University Project, the Oxfam Fast for a World Harvest, and to other global and environmental issues that affect all students.

Hughes too, has done his share, as a former co-director of the Gay and Lesbian Alliance, a current Incidental Fee Committee member, an EMU Board of Directors member and a Board of Directors member for the United States Students Association.

As they have in the past, Hughes and Kirk plan to continue lobbying the state legislature for increased financial aid. Previously, Hughes has gone nationwide with this fight at USSA conferences. Kirk also has provided a strong student voice on environmental and consumer issues. Hughes/Kirk have the best possibility of being heard by state legislators and higher education executives because they already have been.

Hughes and Kirk also have promised to lobby the state and University administration to assume their share of the burden of providing affordable child care to student parents. The University's current student system is underfunded and overburdened — it must be expanded in order to serve the increasing number of non-traditional students on campus.

The Emerald has come to the conclusion that Tim Hughes and Maureen Kirk will best represent student interests at local, state and national levels. We believe the Clark/Wyckoff and the Kaniewski/McRae tickets may have come to the same conclusions about student needs as Hughes/Kirk did, but they failed to provide substantive examples of how they could make changes. Clark/Wyckoff and Kaniewski/McRae have the right concerns, so we hope they'll involve themselves in other aspects of student government. Hughes and Kirk have definitive plans of action, and we believe their diverse backgrounds will serve them well in carrying out their platform.



Letters

Antics

Tim Hughes and Scott Shoup, what a piece of work those two are. As the most visible representatives of Students for a Progressive Agenda, they come off as the Laurel and Hardy of the "loony left."

The manipulative tantrums they throw in student government meetings are more slapstick politics than genuine deliberation.

Their political maneuverings should be obvious, especially after Shoup's remarks about *The Oregon Commentator* during recent Incidental Fee Committee meetings. Frankly, my 12-year-old daughter could handle herself better in a deliberative situation.

I won't be here next year to suffer through more SPA activist antics if the student body should choose to elect them. But I hope good sense will gain the upper hand and that students would elect either of the other tickets.

Really, isn't it obvious what these people are up to? Moderation isn't in the SPA dictionary, and their activism is more schtick than vision. A vote against Hughes or Shoup is a vote for moderation in student government. Let's get rid of dillettante elitists in student government.

Jude Vollendorf
Senior

Sad comment

In responding to Pam Daener's letter (ODE, April 10), I would like to make a few important clarifications.

Perhaps I "substantially misrepresented" Mrs. Daener's suggestions in my last letter because I was responding to her husband's letter. Until now, we have not had the privilege of reading Mrs. Daener in print.

PETA (People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals) is not the parent organization of SETA (Students for the Ethical Treatment of Animals). The names are similar, but no formal relationship exists. Animal rights advocates have

never had a "hidden agenda" and to suggest that there ever has been is ludicrous. We believe that animals are not ours to eat, wear or experiment on. If that categorizes us as "militant vegetarians" then so be it.

Mrs. Daener has never "suggested" that SETA members adopt a dying child; she has only screeched her illogical advice and stomped away before anyone could respond. This self-appointed spokeswoman for dying children continues to exploit the children's plight by suggesting that someone adopt a child so "they could become intimate with that child's disease and watch helplessly as someone they love loses a battle for life."

As evidenced by this comment, previous letters and public outbursts, the Daeners are ready and willing to exploit anyone and anything as long as human benefit is the end result. If this is the prevalent attitude, it is a sad commentary on the state of our society.

Brigette Leach
SETA coordinator

Clarification

In the profile that you ran of me in Thursday's Emerald (April 13), you stated, "In this way, 'it would be the students, not special interest groups, who elect the IFC,'" said Perlow, who was endorsed by Amazon Community Tenants."

Though this is true, in our conversation the endorsement issue was one of the last questions you asked. The paragraph in question, however, not only makes me come across as hypocritical, but also sounds as if I am representing ACT. I can assure you this is not the case as ACT endorsed me on the basis of my qualifications and budgetary concerns. I am not a resident of that community.

I feel that this letter, printed as a clarification in the next publication of the Emerald, is not only appropriate but will reassure supporters that my reasons for running for the IFC are sincere, that the disenfranchised students of this campus

see their needs and interests funded.

Dan Perlow
IFC candidate

Suggestions

An open letter to fraternities: I understand your sincere desire to be viewed as intelligent gentlemen and upstanding citizens; we all want a reputation that ignores our weaknesses. Might I offer a few suggestions, based on recent observations?

Stop smashing your beer bottles in the streets. That's really stupid, among other things.

Stop making indecent and demeaning comments behind the backs of women walking past.

Stop harassing the homeless and street people who walk past your houses.

Stop blasting your music out your windows for the whole neighborhood (and people in offices, classrooms and the library) to hear, whether they like it or not.

Stop putting ads in the paper saying "Boxer's (sic) get ready."

Stop acting like intelligent gentlemen and upstanding citizens. It might make a difference in your reputation.

Jeff Harrison
English

Yo-yos

I just wanted to comment on the irony of symbolism at the University. The newest campaign gimmick for the Clark/Wyckoff campaign is a beautiful example of this. Yo-yos! This toy symbolizes the on-again, off-again type of administration they would run.

A friend of mine tried to play "Around the World" with a campaign toy, but it didn't work. Then we remembered, "Oops, student policy, not foreign policy."

J. Lauren Norris
History

Tuesday, April 18, 1989