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privately funded schools, University of Southern California and Stanford.

Lindsey's litmus test for measuring academic quality — counting the number of published work — is not without its flaws, but Lindsey said it's "still one of the best tools we have."

University chemistry Professor Richard Finke concurred with Lindsey and said he was disturbed by what the data show.

"I think the data are pretty good — the best I've seen (regarding state funding and edu-

Lindsey echoed this depressing note.

"There is a brain drain," he said. "Oregon doesn't have the resources to compete ... Some people look at this as a withholding for our young people."

Another unsettling aspect of Lindsey's study was the state funding standing of the University compared with other Oregon schools. The University is less funded than several of the state's two-year schools.

"It seems incredulous that a state could provide less support for its premier university than it does for its two-year col-

leges," the report stated.

To Lindsey and others, this has a "homogenizing" effect, and brings the University to the lowest common denominator. "(The system) is homogenized ... and the University copes with it by hiring graduate teaching fellows, non-tenured faculty and working with outdated equipment," Lindsey said.

University President Paul Olum addressed this issue in an April interview, and said if he had his wish, he'd pull the University, OSU and "maybe PSU" under a separate, two-

tier system, such as is done in Washington and California. "I don't mind saying an absolute first-rate research institution is disadvantaged by being in a state system. There's a tendency in a state system to homogenize things, and that makes it hard to get the special kind of support you need," Olum said.

"The way it's being done now, it's too mixed together," Olum said.

However, not all of those within the upper echelons of higher education agree with what the study says about Oregon. Thomas Bartlett, state system chancellor, said while the gist of the study can be taken at face value, some of the data are subject to interpretation.

"I'm dismayed (at the results), but I'm not surprised," Bartlett said. "But (the study) could be quite misleading."

The study failed to cite the growth rate of research at the University and OSU, which is "an important indication of strength," Bartlett said, adding that the data were "too gross, the umbrella is too big."

Moreover, Bartlett challenged the study for not including federal research grants awarded to the University and OSU.

"(The report) doesn't show external grants and size of disciplines and how they compare to the same disciplines at other institutions. It's hard for me to infer that the condition is unhealthy (at the University) because we're efficient," Bartlett

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**-Duncan Lindsey**

ational quality)," Finke said. "The bottom line is, it's kind of shocking."

Finke said he's believed the University has been underfunded "for a long time," and that Lindsey's study bears this out.

Moreover, the report also confirms another of Finke's perceptions — that the University's educational quality is in decline.

"This is my perception: There's a notion that we're underfunded, but the quality is high. I don't think the quality is high; the quality is declining," Finke said.

## Funding for Public Universities in the Pac-10

	1970	1980	1987
<b>Arizona State</b>			
State Funds	24,812,000	79,932,000	151,522,000
Enrollment	25,026	33,185	34,206
\$ per student	991	2,409	4,430
<b>Univ of Arizona</b>			
State Funds	31,251,000	96,358,000	171,354,000
Enrollment	24,612	27,983	29,443
\$ per student	1,270	3,443	5,820
<b>UC Berkeley</b>			
State Funds	72,428,000	186,104,000	312,630,000
Enrollment	26,201	26,348	27,494
\$ per student	2,764	7,063	11,916
<b>UCLA</b>			
State Funds	60,250,000	167,323,000	312,804,000
Enrollment	24,331	24,837	27,727
\$ per student	2,476	6,737	11,282
<b>Oregon State</b>			
State Funds	16,897,000	38,983,400	61,685,000
Enrollment	14,772	14,985	13,559
\$ per student	1,144	2,602	4,549
<b>Univ of Oregon</b>			
State Funds	15,365,000	31,173,000	53,237,000
Enrollment	13,729	14,394	15,366
\$ per student	1,119	2,166	3,465
<b>Washington State</b>			
State Funds	27,858,000	74,122,000	118,028,000
Enrollment	14,216	17,295	15,650
\$ per student	1,960	4,286	7,542
<b>U. of Washington</b>			
State Funds	57,497,000	114,123,000	149,967,244
Enrollment	28,320	27,853	26,900
\$ per student	2,030	4,095	5,574

Source: Competing in the Academic Pac-10

said, referring to the University's high rate of research return for each state dollar invested.

Bartlett also rejected the idea of Oregon switching from a one-level state system to a two-tier system.

"I'm not sure if you'd gain anything. While we've got eight campuses (in the state system), the system is rather small — we're too small to run a clean two-tier system," Bartlett said. "It'd be more moving the chairs around; you'd still need a coordinating enterprise."

The study, titled "Competing in the Academic Pac-10: An Examination of Funding in Higher Education and its Impact on Quality," was researched by Lindsey's sociology of science class during winter and spring terms. Lindsey said he pre-

pared the report for the Journal of Higher Education.

The bad news is the study showed that the University and OSU received the least state funding in the Pac-10, and, by inference, were the weakest academically. But the good news is the two Oregon schools are at rock bottom, and have nowhere else to go but up, Bartlett said.

"We are going to work our way upward from where we are," Bartlett said.

However, they'll be no renaissance in terms of state financing.

"I don't see a real change in the legislative support for Oregon higher education ... I expect to see us improving our situation, but I don't think we're going to hit a home run," he said.

# DRINKS ARE ON THE HOUSE

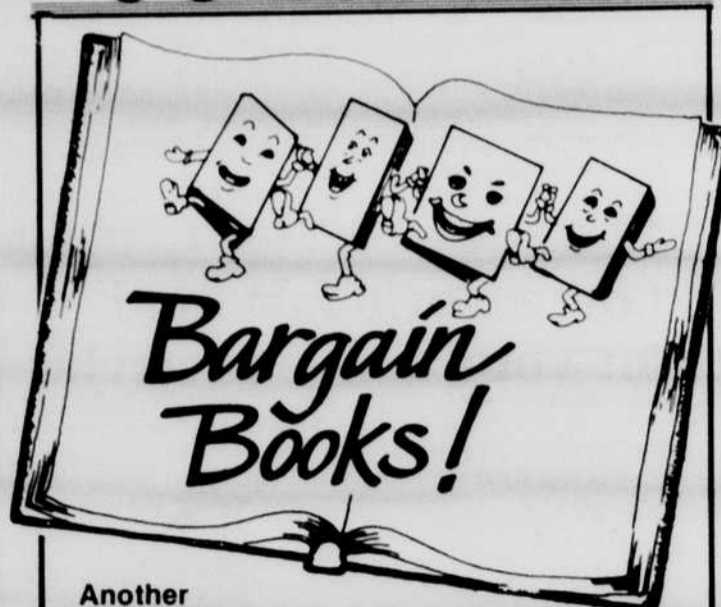
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