

Interview continued

intuition, student apathy in voting are issues that we can take to Brand and develop ideas and generate some dialogue. There is no question that we will be working with the new president.

Wycoff: I hope we can work with Dr. Brand to point out the necessity of having a president that is accessible to the students. Not that they see him as not a figure that stands up Johnson Hall and is barred from the students he hopes to represent; but that they can work together. And ASUO can be very instrumental. It won't just be Andy and I talking to Dr. Brand, president of the University of Oregon, but bringing him down to the students and letting him understand what the students go through. We want him to understand the problems that all students have not just Andy and I speaking for them. It is important that we don't put ourselves in a position of talking for people instead we bring the president down here to talk to the students themselves.

*What do you propose to do about the hate crimes that occur on campus and how effective do you think the racism task force has been?*

Clark: There is absolutely no way to solve hate crimes, people are cruel. How do you counter hate crimes? You counter hate crimes with education and statements and stances against any kind of hate crime or malicious attack on the basis of race or sexual orientation.

The task force is an interesting thing because it identifies those problems. But it is very much up to the students who are

most affected by these hate crimes to get their message out. They should get the message out in ways that are conducive to their identity and their culture. The Black student union "Celebration of Humanity" and the Mecha national conference here are some ways that the people can be identified as a group. I also think the ASUO should take an active stance in hiring and in its relations to make student government as open as it can be. And to keep it racist free and sexist free the office will also have to do as much as it can for itself. There will be unlearning racism and homophobia seminars [for the ASUO staff] that also value diversity. As soon as we are comfortable as an office we can go out to the university community. When we do make a bi-monthly state of the ASUO address we will state our position and what we are going to do.

There are hate crimes on campus but I do not think that they will be solved through retribution. That was an idea and some students were very much for it, but I do not think it is effective at all. The statement the Dr. Olum wrote before he left is another example of what we could do. I think if the statement is from the student leaders it will impact the student body.

*You mentioned a bi-monthly address. Are you planning to do implement that?*

Clark: Yes. *The Commentator* is going to allow us space to talk about the student government. We have not talked to Thomas Prowell as of yet, but I am sure the *Emerald* will be just as receptive to allow us space. We will use the address to tell students what

is actually going on in student government and what issues we are dealing with on this campus directly. I don't envision it as anything more than "this is where Scott and I are coming from today". I think it will develop it as issues arise. I think that *Off The Record* is a good publication but it is not getting the readership it deserves. So we will continue to key into the other publications while still supporting *Off The Record*.

*How do you propose to make the student voice heard on national issues like the national service and financial aid?*

Clark: Student government certainly has a role in these kinds of issues. I do not think that role is mine, however. It is not something that I campaigned on. I think the role is going to go to our new staff position of national affairs coordinator. Scott will also be working with the state affairs coordinator on state issues. National issues will have my active support from this office and our voice will be heard on the national, state and local levels. My position will be more campus oriented while giving the national responsibility to the national affairs coordinator.

Wycoff: More specifically we can continue with things like letter writing campaigns to our legislators on capital hill. The national service bill is probably going to be very big if it doesn't get passed this year we will have to deal with it next year. What we need to do through our national affairs coordinator and groups like OSPIRG is to get the message out to the students. If they want to get involved then it has to be their