

Student Senate offers assistance

Grievance booth open to hear student problems

By Jolie Andrade
Emerald Reporter

As problems inevitably plague the lives of all students, the Student Senate is an organization devoted to assisting troubled students find avenues to solutions for their frustrations with University life.

The Student Senate was established in 1971 to help University students with problem issues that affect the individual and the entire University population. The Student Senate is funded by the Incidental Fee Committee.

Each of the 18 members represent a specific major or group of majors. Senators are elected for a one year term. Each member must maintain office hours and is required to spend one hour a week in the grievance booth.

Dalene Lovie, senator and grievance and information booth director, commented on the purpose of this booth. "If they (students) have a grievance they could easily stop by and Student Senate will try to find out how to resolve their grievances." Lovie also added that the EMU booth is more visible and easily accessible.

Lovie said that she wants students to be more aware of what the Student Senate can offer.

"A lot of students feel helpless and have no where to turn," Lovie said. "There are a lot of resources students don't know about that can get things accomplished."

Kim Cooper, senator and public relations person, said "When issues come out, we (Student Senate) really push for it. We have one-third the power of the University Senate." The University Senate made up of students and faculty meets once a month to discuss important issues.

This year the Student Senate is working on longer library hours, improvements on registration procedures, voter registration, and housing

problems.

"The Student Senate in the past has done longer library hours during finals week," Tiffany Weed, chairperson of the senate, said. Students are asking for the extension of library hours year round, she said.

Weed also said that the senate is trying to standardize evaluations. The Student Senate conducts student evaluations of faculty every term. She said these evaluations enable students to voice their opinion.

However, because the comments on the evaluations are often handwritten, other students may not be able to decipher the comments. Weed said that standardized evaluations would make it more accessible. "Students could get it (the evaluation) with class schedules," said Weed.

Another important issue is the Graduate Teaching Fellowship Federation (GTFF) payroll health issue. Mike Lee, Student Senate Vice President, said that the senate is not only interested in undergraduates, but graduates as well, and said that the senate would be discussing this problem at the next meeting.

Lee is also in charge of the "Committee on Committees," a various number of groups on campus run by students for students. These groups give students a chance to get involved without having to go through elections, Lee said. "This is a great way to start," Lee and Weed said.

"Recently Student Senate passed resolution with the University Senate urging the President to create a student position for the Institutional Animal Care Use Committee," Weed said.

The Student Senate will also be working on other issues throughout the year with one goal in mind...to help the students. Mike Lee sums up the Student Senate's goal.

"We want all students or special interest groups to come into the office and voice their opinions or concerns and know we're for them."

Brand proposes improvements

By Deanna Beppu
Emerald Contributor

University President Myles Brand said at the opening session of the University Assembly Wednesday that he is concerned about long-term planning and finding new income sources to boost faculty salaries.

In his remarks, Brand said the University needs funding to recruit as well as retain "superior faculty."

However, money wasn't the only problem on Brand's list. He said the University must ensure that it can compete with the best institutions in the nation.

In order to do this, Brand said he is intent on taking a "systematic look" at the entire school. "It would enable us to identify programs that we can build upon and recognize where we need review," he said.

Brand has set a very ambitious time-table for such improvements. By January 1, 1990, Brand said the plan should already be in motion, but cautioned that "long-range planning must be realistic."

Brand said one of his main goals for the University is to keep the school in the forefront of research by continuing disciplinary and starting multi-disciplinary research.

Along with research, Brand stressed the use of resources. In recognition of the shortage of



Photo by Mark Ylen

University President Myles Brand told the University Assembly Wednesday, that the University needs long-range planning and increases in funds for faculty salaries.

state funds, he said that "the state can't do it all for us."

Brand said he believes the 1990's and beyond are a "time of opportunity and chaos in American higher education ... and at a time when the graduate school has not been highly productive."

Despite such grim prospects, Brand said he is confident that the University is among the leading institutions in the country.

And if to back up that opinion, Brand said the University just hired new faculty for several of the school's colleges, especially in the College of Arts and Sciences.

In closing, Brand proposed a committee consisting mainly of faculty members and a student to help implement the planning process.

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By GARY LARSON



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