

Oregon Daily Emerald

Wednesday, October 11, 1989

Eugene, Oregon

Volume 91, Number 30

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Seasonal Sketch

Shelley Holbert, a senior in fine arts, sketches a scene from the rapidly approaching autumn outside of Gilbert Hall.

Photo by Andre Ranieri

Charges against law school threaten disaccreditation

By Chris Bouneff
Emerald Associate Editor

The American Bar Association is threatening to revoke the accreditation of the University School of Law if administrators are unable to adequately respond to charges that the law program is deficient.

In a letter to law school Dean Maurice Holland last week, the ABA said they were concerned about the insufficient number of faculty, a limited library budget and the absence of an externship program, Holland said.

Although the ABA threatened to revoke the accreditation of the law school, Holland said the chance such action would be taken is slim.

"(The charges) are very serious," Holland said. "I've also said that the likelihood of the ABA removing the accreditation of the school is minimal."

No law school associated with a large state school has ever lost its accreditation, Holland said.

Administrators have until Dec. 1 to respond to the ABA's satisfaction or face further action, which could include

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— Richard Hill

ed the disaccreditation process, Holland said.

"The faculty is too small in terms of the number of students ... by four to six professors," Holland said.

To make up for the lack of permanent faculty, the law school is relying on adjunct and visiting professors, he said.

An externship program involves stu-



Maurice Holland

dents leaving the University and working for a law firm to gain "practical working experience," Holland said.

Holland said the ABA requires an externship program to be maintained. The University discontinued its program in 1988.

As for the library, Holland said the budget is sufficient enough to maintain the serial publications, but that funds to purchase new books were limited.

"I don't think our law students in their three years here are adversely affected by this deficiency (in the library)," Holland said.

Holland said the ones affected are the faculty who rely on the library for research materials.

Richard Hill, interim vice chancellor for academic affairs, said the State System of Higher Education is concerned about the situation.

"We have the responsibility to take the charges from the accreditation committee very seriously," Hill said. "One would hope that the problems are solvable in the long run."

University President Myles Brand has met with state higher education officials to discuss the problem and possible solutions, Hill said.

Research park moves one step closer to fruition

Appeals board OKs park's development

By Hon Walker
Emerald Associate Editor

Advocates of the Riverfront Research Park have cleared another hurdle toward an early 1990 groundbreaking date, after a long-awaited decision from the Land Use Board of Appeals (LUBA) was handed down Tuesday.

The LUBA decision affirmed an earlier decision made in April by the City of Eugene and rejected a number of provisions in the appeal, which was filed by Dan Stotter, a University law student; Al Urquhart, geography professor and department head; and Randy Prince of Eugene.

At issue was whether devel-

opment of the park along the Willamette River is consistent with city and state land use laws. The 44-page report on the decision has not yet been sent from LUBA headquarters in Salem.

Reactions to the LUBA decision differed between those supporting the research park project as planned and those who were in favor of the park but wanted construction to take place elsewhere.

"We're delighted with their decision," said R.A. Gus Keller, chairman of the Riverfront Research Park Commission. "We're looking forward to development of the park; it's been our intent all along," he said.

"Perhaps now we will get

the opportunity to do something we set out to do five years ago," Keller said. "If all goes well we will start to construct the park in early 1990."

Keller said the commission has paid specific attention to Willamette Greenway regulations.

"We've taken a good hard look at that and have been aware of it from day one," he said.

The commission's intent is to enhance the greenway, Keller said, making it a better and safer area.

Stotter, though disappointed with the LUBA decision, said, "We somewhat expected that



Photo by Eric Evans

The playing fields adjacent to the Willamette River moved one step closer Tuesday to becoming the proposed Riverfront Research Park.

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