

Senator, officials to dedicate science complex

Sunday ceremony open to public

Oregon Sen. Mark Hatfield and Gov. Neil Goldschmidt will join higher education officials and other dignitaries this Sunday in formal dedication ceremonies for the University's \$45.6 million science complex.

The free public event is set for 2 p.m. in the Atrium of Willamette Hall.

Other speakers at the dedication ceremonies will be Thomas Bartlett, chancellor of the Oregon State System of Higher Education; Myles Brand, University president; Paul Olum, University presi-

dent emeritus; and John Moseley, University vice president for research.

A sampling of classrooms, laboratories and offices in Willamette and nearby Streisinger halls will be open for viewing afterward. The dedication is the prelude to an open house featuring tours and displays that is planned for the general public in April 1990 during the National Science Foundation's National Science and Technology Week.

"As completion of the University's new science facilities nears, we are en-

tering a new era in science teaching and research," Moseley said. "We have Sen. Hatfield and former Oregon Gov. Victor Atiyeh to thank for their efforts in obtaining more than \$33 million federal and \$12 million in state lottery funding for the project that we believe will make it possible for the University of Oregon to move into the top 10 public universities of the nation in the quality of its scientific research."

Moseley said the money will provide excellent facilities for the University's key institutes and programs in molecular and cellular biology, neuroscience, bio-

technology, materials science, optical science, computer science, high-energy physics, chemical physics and other fields.

"At the same time, this investment will enable us to help make the state more competitive in these key areas of developing high technologies, which will contribute to bolstering Oregon's economic development," he said. "We also will contribute to the growing national need for research and graduate education in these fields."

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Insurance concerns aired at forum

ASUO defends Prudential

By Alice Thornton
Emerald Reporter

Student Health Insurance Committee members and a representative of the American College Health Association addressed concerns and answered questions Thursday regarding changes in the ASUO Student Health Insurance Program provided by The Prudential.

Scott Wyckoff, ASUO vice president and committee chairperson, said the claim costs for this year have increased at an unprecedented level. Students who purchased the policy for the 1989-90 school year face a 48 percent increase in claim costs over last year's policy. The student claim cost for the 1988-89 plan year was about \$340.

"We faced a difficult situation in attempting to continue to provide an affordable and adequate plan for the current academic year," Wyckoff said.

Wyckoff said that all students, regardless of their health status, should be allowed the benefits of insurance. Prudential offered pregnancy benefits and no health or age discrimination.

"The program would cost less if we didn't have to make these considerations," said Wyckoff. "Prudential is the only company to offer such outstanding services to all students."

Less expensive policies from companies other than Prudential may have required splitting the insured students into two groups consisting of international and domestic students.

This would not comply with federal statutes regarding student health insurance plans that receive federal funding. Although splitting into two groups may have greatly reduced costs, University administrators would not endorse such a split, Wyckoff said.

Stephen Beckley, a representative of the American College Health Association is concerned over the changes that are occurring in all student health insurance programs.

"What's happening to student health insurance is not good," Beckley said. "The field is heavily dominated by agents who receive large benefits. Policies often don't match the needs of students."

Beckley said many policies do not adequately address the needs of international students or older students who are married with families.

"In years to come, coverage will cost a lot of money if we meet the needs of all students," Beckley said. "The Student Health Insurance Committee will have to consider that spouse and family coverage



Stephen Beckley

must remain affordable."

Because of the 40 percent decrease in students enrolled in the program, SHIC faces a big challenge in preparing the program for next year.

"We (SHIC) want to be more receptive to students' needs when we create next year's program," Wyckoff said.

"Hopefully we'll have some idea of next year's program by the end of fall term," said Andy Clark, ASUO president. "We'll be making a concentrated effort to keep the students informed of the changes for next year."

"I wholeheartedly endorse the Prudential plan," Clark said. "I think it's the best plan we could have offered students for this year."

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THE FAR SIDE By GARY LARSON

Andrew is hesitant, remembering his fiasco with the car of straw.