

New standards for J-school no surprise

In the last six months, we've seen a huge increase in the amount of higher education stories. Myles Brand as the new University president, legislative cuts in the budget, harder admission standards, and the possible closure of Portland State, just to name a few.

This week, another story was added to the list: a change in the admission requirements for the University School of Journalism.

While this doesn't affect the entire University as a whole, it does come as a shock to a large amount of students. And as you could probably guess, most of us here are either in the journalism school, or are trying to get into it.

Administration officials aren't changing the requirements to get in, per se. They're just changing the way applicants are accepted.

Under the current system, almost everybody who completes 90 credits, has a University GPA of 2.5 or better, passes four lower-division core classes and passes the Language Skills Diagnostic Test gets into the journalism school.

But under the new rules — which will take effect in fall term 1990 — school officials would set a limit on how many students could be admitted. For example: If 200 spots were open, but 250 students apply, basically the school would accept the students with the top 200 GPAs.

The reason given for the change is overcrowding. Like the rest of the University, the journalism school suffers from too many students and not enough teachers and classes.

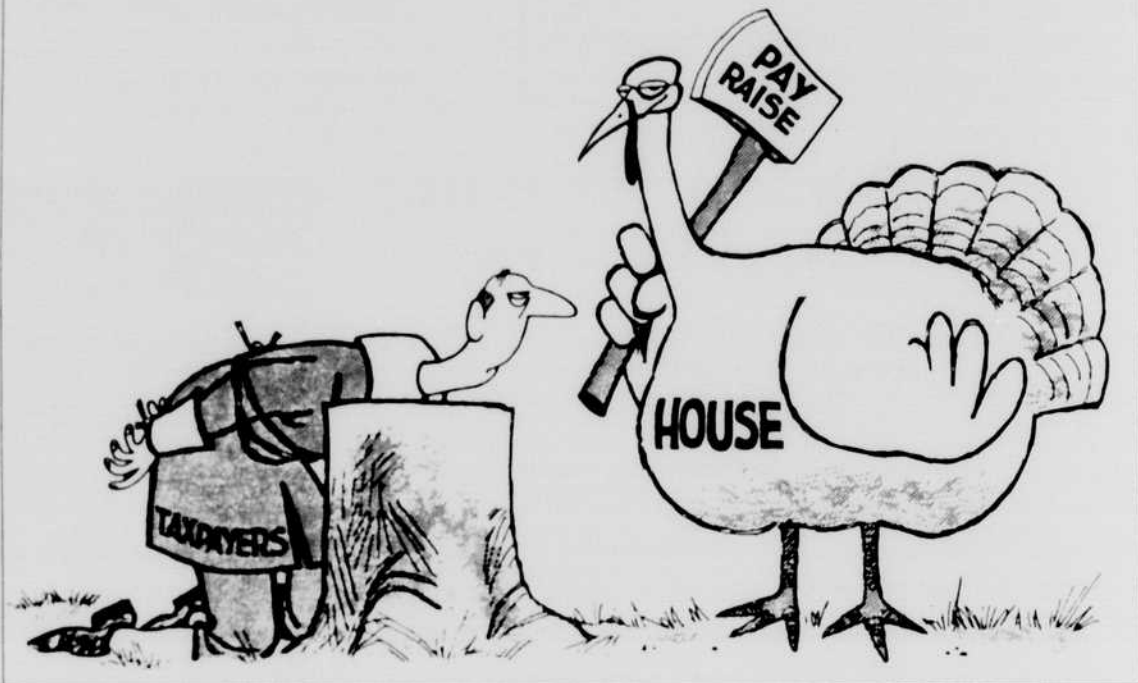
To us, the journalism school is between the proverbial rock and a hard place. The school is overcrowded; no one can dispute that fact. For proof, go stand in line for a journalism class during registration. Watch how many seniors are there, waiting to get into basic classes such as Reporting I.

No one likes to see people who want to be journalism majors not get into the program. But cold, hard facts and inadequate budgets are forcing the University to make cuts across the board. Forcing a quota for incoming students on the journalism school is just one more of those cuts.

It will be interesting to see what reaction the announcement will have on prospective journalism majors. One possible scenario has hundreds of pre-journalism majors stampeding the school with applications. If that happens, the inflated attendance figures would defeat the general purpose of the quota. It would be years before the program cut would have a viable effect.

We've harped on this before, but this seems a good as time as any to restate our position. Until more money is pumped into higher education, cuts in programs will continue.

SKELLEY



IFC: say yes to child care's needs

Tonight the Incidental Fee Committee will review a special request submitted by the Child Care Task Force to the sum of more than \$10,000. The money is being requested to cover a 1988-89 deficit in the ASUO Child Care Subsidy Program.

Last week, the IFC approved the request, which the ASUO later vetoed. The ASUO cited lack of funds in the special request budget. Five of the seven IFC members will need vote in favor of the request to override the veto.

The task force claims the deficit resulted from increases in the number of eligible families, increases in payout rates, increases in maximum subsidy eligibility ceilings, an under-prediction of winter and spring subsidy costs, and EMU staff accounting errors which were not discovered until after the regular budget year.

The subsidy program has run over budget in the past, and the ASUO is not pleased with having to make continued adjustments.

In their campaign, Andy Clark and Scott Wyckoff claimed they would be strong supporters of child care programs. Student lobbying groups such as the United States Stu-

dent Association and the Oregon Student Lobby are working to increase the accessibility of child care programs for students. If access to child care is such a concern of our student government and student lobbyists, the ASUO should show its support by giving the subsidy program the money it needs.

To some it may seem like a lot of money to dish out year after year, especially when the program goes over budget, but many people do not understand how valuable the subsidy program is to student parents at the University.

Child care costs are climbing. A full time slot in the EMU Child Care program costs about \$275 a month. That comes to more than \$2,000 a year just for child care. Last year students voted to increase their student fees for the subsidy program. The students have said they support the program and they have put their money behind their words.

ASUO should try to find the funds in their accounts to cover the deficit. It may be a lot of money but it is for a worthwhile program that helps to increase access to education for a group of students who already have a difficult road ahead of them.

Letters

End hate games

A few months ago, I noticed a button worn by a friend of mine that read, "Pornography is the theory; rape is the practice." Now, even if one were to disregard the conclusion of Reagan's Justice Department (that there seems to be a link between pornography and violence against women), I would think that most of you intelligent people out there couldn't begin to deny that pornography humiliates, objectifies and dehumanizes.

This stripping away of dignity makes violence against women all the more plausible.

Our administration at the University has repeatedly expressed its commitment to ending hate crimes on campus. With this, as well as the connection between pornography and woman-hate in mind, it strikes me as rather contradictory that pornographic materials are sold at two locations on campus; the University Book-

store and EMU Main Desk.

I'm sure that many of you are, at this very moment, frantically searching for your favorite pens with the aim of writing your own letters in which you'll kindly remind me of the fragility of our rights to free speech and press.

Relax! I have no intention of threatening any of our "inalienable" rights. On the contrary, my purpose is to encourage you to exercise your freedom of speech so as to answer the following question: Will you tolerate woman-hate in word, print or deed on your campus?

Joel Diegleman
Philosophy

Accountability

We recently learned of the ASUO closed meeting policy at their regular staff meetings. As student government leaders from within the Eugene Com-

munity, we were very concerned about what access students at the University have to the decision making process in their student government.

Having closed meetings allows students no opportunity within a decision-making process to hold the decision makers accountable. If students and the press do not have some structured access to monitor or affect policy or program decisions, then they are being actively excluded from the government they fund.

The current system of closed meetings does not allow full representation of students by the student government. Students have to be able to do more than observe the final decisions of ASUO in the pages of the ODE.

Student accessibility and accountability of their appointed decision makers are more important than protecting those decision makers. If the ASUO is afraid of what student opinion might be about what goes

on in the meetings, they should reexamine their ability to represent students.

Andy Harris
President, ASLCC
And three other
ASLCC executives

Wrong

Shannon Oliver, co-director of the Student Campaign for Disarmament, objected to the presence of the head cartographer of the CIA on campus. First, a correction. At least three posters gave his name, Frank Edmundson, and his affiliation. His visit was not se-

cret.

Oliver believes that it is wrong for departments and the Office of Career Planning and Placement to offer students the opportunity to speak to CIA representatives about jobs. I believe that it is wrong for anyone to tell students who they may or may not talk to.

I, also, deplore illegal covert activities. Perhaps the best way to eliminate them is to have CIA policy-makers come from the University, instead of from some military school in the Southeast.

Bill Loy
Geography professor

Letters Policy

Letters to the editor must be limited to no more than 250 words, legible, signed and the identification of the writer must be verified when the letter is submitted.

The Emerald reserves the right to edit any letter for length or style.