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Student groups seek bill override

By Alice Thornton
Emerald Reporter

The ASUO and the United States Student Association sponsored a slide presentation and discussion Wednesday in support of the effort to override President George Bush's veto of the Pelosi Bill.

The Pelosi Bill was sponsored by House Representative Nancy Pelosi (D-Cal) and was approved unanimously by both bodies of Congress. The bill would waive the two-year return requirement many Chinese students face at the end of their course of studies.

Zizhou Tang, a University graduate student from China, presented slides of the June Massacre in Tiananmen Square.

Tang said China helped inspired the fight for democracy in Eastern Europe while the changes in Eastern Europe also have inspired the Chinese to continue fighting for democracy.

The strength of the Chinese people during the massacre, particularly the students, could prove inspirational for other countries that are fighting for democracy, Tang said.

"We've seen a lot of changes in the last seven months in China and around the world," Tang said.

The massacre fueled demonstrations in support of

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Photo by Andre Ramirez

Chen Li, a University graduate student from China, pleads for Americans to support Chinese students.



Photo by Andre Ramirez

ASUO President Andy Clark, panel moderator Tim Gleason, Emerald editor Thomas Prowell and administrator Gaye Vandermyn discuss the free press.

Panel debates free speech issues

By Dan Eisler
Emerald Reporter

A panel discussion on the University's right to limit "fighting words" and the right to protest was held Wednesday night.

The discussion, "Free Speech on Campus," was sponsored by the Society of Professional Journalists and held at Allen Hall.

The panelists included moderator Tim Gleason, who is also a University assistant journalism professor; University political science professor James Klonoski; ASUO President Andy Clark; *The Oregon Commentator* editor Patrick Perkins; Emerald editor Thomas Prowell; Gaye Vandermyn, University assistant vice president for communication; Shannon Oliver, Student Campaign for Disarmament co-director; and Cheyney Ryan, peace studies department chairman and philosophy professor.

A recently added clause to the harassment statutes of the Oregon Administrative Rules now allows the University to restrict speech considered as harmful, following a trend of campuses nationwide, Gleason said.

The First Amendment "allows the University to serve significant state interest as long as it's not intended to stop viewpoint from being expressed," while under the Oregon State Supreme Court's rulings, the state only has the right to prohibit "harmful speech," Gleason said.

However, the issue is not easily resolved, Klonoski said. Referring to the University of California, Berkeley's recent placing of epithets or fighting words outside the bounds of protected speech, "my immediate reaction is good.

"But my second reaction is I've never been happy with the (U.S.) Supreme Court's decision on fighting words," Klonoski said.

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Senate wants code changes

By Jolie Andrade
Emerald Reporter

The University Senate unanimously voted to approve an amendment to the Student Conduct Code concerning cases where code violations might involve psychological abnormality or mental illness.

The current Oregon Administrative Rule dealing with mental illness-related code violations states that disciplinary sanctions are not appropriate for instances where mental incompetence is involved and professional assistance is needed.

The amending motion, pro-

posed last spring, specifies two cases where disciplinary actions will depend upon the student's mental state.

The amendment indicates that when a student has been declared mentally incompetent by the coordinator of the Student Conduct Code and cannot defend himself or herself against pending charges, the disciplinary proceedings will be suspended until the student regains competence. A medical leave also may be given to the student.

In addition, the amendment declares that no grade sanction can be imposed on the student.

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HIV workshop trains peers

By Brian Bloch
Emerald Associate Editor

Teaching students how to assert themselves on sensitive topics in real life scenarios will be the focus of a two day peer HIV educator workshop sponsored by the University Health Education Center Feb. 6-7.

The free workshop will combine in-depth discussions by local health officials with situational skill-building for educating peers, said workshop coordinator Annie Dochnahl.

The focus, she said, is to build confidence in student's knowledge of AIDS issues so they can feel safe in educating their peers and dealing with sensitive situations that arise because of misconceptions surrounding the disease.

"Peers learn best from their peers," Dochnahl said. "We want to attract people who are natural helpers, who are intrinsically sought out because of their personalities."

Dochnahl said the first three-hour evening workshop will deal primarily with discussion of AIDS issues including legal, social, treatment and epidemiological aspects. Speakers will include Janet Winters from the Lane County Department of Health, William Moore from Shanti in Oregon and others from the University health center.

The second evening workshop will place students in real life AIDS-related scenarios to practice communication, prob-

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