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ver's commentary. In his rebuttal Wessells asserted that, "This right to go to any of a variety of potential sources is a fundamental aspect of academic freedom."

Wessells pointed out that much of the military's funding supports basic research that has no immediate application.

He wrote that, "To attempt to limit the acquisition of knowledge by predicting its possible uses, including value judgments such as 'good' and 'bad,' is virtually impossible and is fraught with dangers for the fundamental freedom upon which universities depend."

Opposing military funding of research by refusing to receive military grants is a "political position the University need not take," Wessells said in a phone interview.

Instead of the University prohibiting certain sources of funding, he believes the choice should be left to the researcher. "Individual faculty members can take that position when they apply (for grants)," he said.

Oliver conceded that the issue is "a matter of conscience," but the University should strongly encourage faculty members not to accept military funding.

Oliver admitted that some faculty members would be giving up advancement in their careers if they didn't apply for military grants. "But the University should make an appeal to the people to make that sacrifice," she said.

DOD dependent

Paul Engelking is one of the researchers faced with that decision. Engelking, an assistant chemistry professor, is researching a project funded by the Air Force. "If I want to do research in my area I have to have DOD funds," he said.

Engelking also applied to the National Science Foundation (NSF) for support. "I can't operate on one NSF grant alone," he said. "The only other place is DOD funds."

Bruce Hudson, a chemistry professor, is researching a project that has been funded by the Office of Naval Research (ONR) for the last three years. He applied to several different federal agencies, before receiving the Navy grant. Hudson believes not applying to military sources would "certainly be limiting."

Hudson does not believe, however, that the defense department dictates the types of research that is conducted. "The main thing to recognize is that the military ... never

puts out specific initiatives, except in very specific instances," he said. "They want you to be genuinely interested in the project. They want you to really work on it."

"These agencies are buying influence in the sense that they want to put money into successful research," he said.

As for taking a political stance on the issue, Engleking said if researchers refused DOD grants without being able to insure increases in funding from non-military sources they "would be cutting their own throats."

In fact, Hudson believes the University's involvement in defense issues may have a positive influence. "It may be a good thing, to keep people in the military thinking in a broader sense of what defense is," he said.

No classified research

But within faculty members' support for an open field of

funding lie strong convictions over the types of research allowed.

The present University prohibition of any classified research on campus receives strong support from faculty members. This restriction began in 1967 as an alternative to a faculty member's call for a ban on DOD funded research. "No classified research shall be conducted at the University or with University facilities or equipment," reads a University position statement.

But some faculty members see a storm brewing in the plans for a Riverfront Research Park to begin this summer.

Despite opposition over the last four years, the University has decided the research park will be allowed to accommodate classified research. However, to calm concerns over destructive types of research, weapons-related research will be banned.

As the owner of the property, the University will maintain authority of the park through the land lease contract, said Diane Wiley of the University Planning Office. The Land Transfer Conditions drawn up in 1985 specify that, "No research or development is permitted whose specific purpose or primary consequence is to destroy or injure human life."

Although the future developer will manage the park, tenants who may want to bring in a classified project will have to clear the work with the University president. A Research Advisory Group will be formed to review prospective tenants' classified projects. Tenants will then have to prove with non-classified materials that the project is not weapons-related, Wiley said.

A dangerous situation

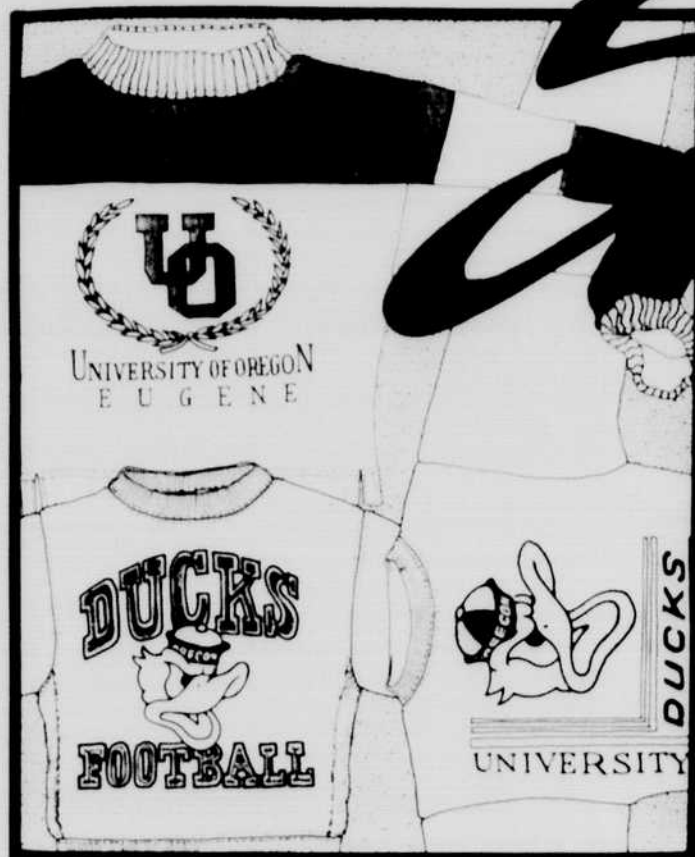
Some faculty members believe conflicts will arise in the University's future relations

with the research park. Citing the importance of open and free discussion of research in the university setting, some are concerned that the conflicting restrictions will dampen the open discussion of research at the University.

"Research at the University has to be totally open and free," said Aaron Novick, professor emeritus of biology.

But John Moseley, vice-president of research and a physics professor, described the private research that will proceed at the park as "a different environment that the University certainly needs to learn to live with."

Wessells cited the desire to attract tenants to the park as the reason to allow classified projects. "I don't think we'll be able to get anybody into the research park without the insurance of being able to keep things secret," he said.



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