

Education funding must top ASUO list

There's a changing of the ASUO guard down in Suite 4 EMU. The administration of Andy Clark and Scott Wyckoff is giving way to entering executives Kirk Bailey and Sheila Stickel. This change seems a good time to offer some observations on how the ASUO has performed this year, and what we expect for the next.

Clark and Wyckoff have left the office in good shape for Bailey and Stickel. Because the incoming administration has already accumulated experience in how the ASUO office works, it should be able to get a headstart on next year's big issue: higher education funding.

The biannual convention of legislators in Salem means that much of the work before Bailey and Stickel is already cut out for them. State higher education funding is currently at a level that is unacceptably low, and students and the ASUO must lobby for more.

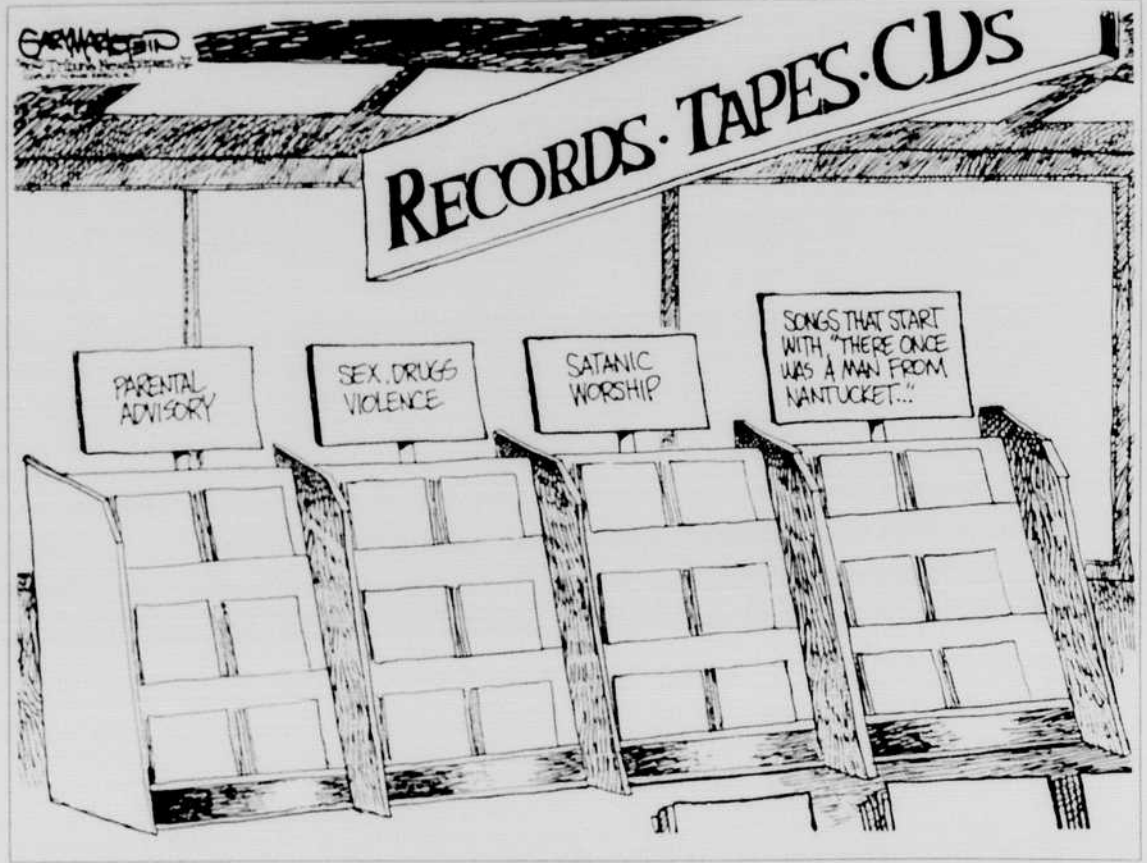
Happily, Bailey and Stickel have already started their end of the process, putting together an executive staff that will work with the Legislature, Oregon Student Lobby and United States Student Association. Lobbying efforts will be the primary tool the ASUO can use to push for increased funding.

But if these efforts are not enough, students must be ready to do their end. Bailey and Stickel have said they will find buses for students to ride to Salem en masse to protest. This is a good idea; demonstrations by large numbers of students will catch lawmakers' attentions. More radical is the idea of a general student strike, an idea that should not be discounted by students or the ASUO.

Higher education funding will be the primary concern of the incoming administration, but it will not be the only one. There are still issues of student health insurance, campus and community relations, campus safety, and so on. The challenge for Bailey and Stickel will be in not letting the small issues overwhelm the larger one.

This was perhaps the greatest failure of the outgoing Clark/Wyckoff administration, which should be remembered for its active involvement in easing tensions over police-student confrontations but will more likely be remembered for controversial efforts to save the floundering student health insurance program by making its purchase mandatory.

Clark and Wyckoff were visible student leaders that got caught up in something that became perceived as Andy Clark's pet project. Bailey and Stickel won't have much time for personal agenda items with an issue as looming as education funding hanging over them.



Shameful

I am responding to Earl Gosnell's letter "Bestseller" in the May 11 *Oregon Daily Emerald*.

The world's most popular book, which refers to homosexuals' love as "vile affections," was written by men who also thought women's menstrual periods and men's "nocturnal emissions" were "unclean." They believed children who disobeyed their parents should be put to death, and women (not men) caught in adultery should be stoned to death.

Perhaps most shameful, Paul, the writer of much of the New Testament (including the statement about "vile afflictions"), did not at all object to slavery, even though he often spoke to the issue. By not specifically condemning the institution of slavery, by telling slaves to obey and "honor" their masters, he endorsed, in effect, the practice.

In so doing, Paul, who said of himself that "the world would be judged by my gospel," committed a "sin of omission," and greatly contributed to the moral foundation which allowed for the flourishing of slavery and its misery over the centuries.

Timothy Smith
Public affairs

Go unbleached

The University Panhellenic recently sent a letter to James River Corporation, complimenting them on their experimental production of unbleached paper. James River is one of the first Northwest paper manufacturers to produce this product.

Using chlorine to bleach paper white emits cancer-causing dioxins into rivers like the Columbia and the Willamette. Manufacturers claim paper is bleached to meet consumer demand. I urge you, as consumers, to show you are more concerned with the environment

than the color of your paper.

Please buy unbleached paper products, available at local copy stores, and write to James River expressing your support. Contact Ernest S. Leopold, Sr. V.P., James River Corp. 300 Lakeside Dr., Oakland, CA. 94612-3592.

Lisa Karnopp
Delta Gamma
Volunteer
Oregon Rivers Council

Dumping sites

I was disappointed the *Oregon Daily Emerald's* May 11 story contained so much misleading information about the University's disposal of hazardous wastes.

First, it failed to note the one new suspected dumping site, Day Island, identified by the Riverfront Research Park opponents, is not located in the park or on University land, and is a well-known former public dumping site of long-standing concern by city and county officials.

Secondly, consulting engineers and University specialists consider it highly unlikely that wastes are buried as deep as 60 feet because of technical difficulties. Back hoes' digging capability extends to only 12 feet; enough land fill to extend the depth by as much as 30 feet — roughly equivalent to a three-story building — is improbable and the testing firm reports they hit bedrock at 20 to 30 feet.

Thirdly, Robert Wolfe's reference to "informal talks" was an April 30 telephone request for information on an "informal basis" following a warning that, since his first formal records request had cost the University more than \$750 in materials and staff time, he would be charged the cost of future file searches as state statutes permits.

At no time did Wolfe volunteer to share information informally that he had gathered which might help the University

do the best possible job identifying and testing for hazardous materials that peoples' memories recall may have been dumped 15-20 years ago.

Gaye Vandermyn
Director
University News Bureau

Injustice

In response to Eric Eckman's letter (*ODE*, May 11), Ben Linder did know the risks, and that's why he went to Nicaragua. The risk of people not having the basic necessities of life brought him there, along with his compassion which so many of us lazy, over-comfortable Americans haven't developed in our superficial society.

As for the "communist dictatorship" he was supporting, it was installed by an uprising of the masses, who, after years, were fed up with the inequality of the U.S.-backed regime. Much of the resources were owned by a wealthy few, leaving gross injustice for the people of Nicaragua.

Linder devoted his life to the betterment of others and for that he was targeted. Targeted for making others more comfortable with a hydroelectric project which could have brought a meager satisfaction to a few. This satisfaction might have made the villagers more in favor of the "communists" which the rebels couldn't afford, as they needed the support of the people in order to overthrow the government.

These rebels, better known as the Contras, wreaked havoc on the people of Nicaragua for more than 10 years, and, by creating this war atmosphere, they influenced the people.

In the last election, the influence paid off as Violetta Chamorro (U.S.-backed) was elected while what the people were really voting for was an end to the war with the United States of America.

Christopher Feeney
Pre-PPM

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