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political science at the University, said Oregon has a socially and culturally liberal climate, and he is "surprised that (women) didn't come on (the political scene) before they did."

With the exception of the governor's position. Klonoski said Paulus and Mary Wendy Roberts hold "secondary jobs in terms of power" but that they are noticeable jobs that can be used as stepping stones to get more powerful positions.

Labor commissioner Roberts said that what exists in government is a "glass ceiling" effect that creates problems for women seeking power positions. The "glass ceiling" theory suggests that there is the false assumption in society that women can succeed at any level but that in reality, few women are able to rise to the higher positions of authority.

"The glass ceiling is real," she said.

Klonoski said he believes women have the difficult task of getting elected to public office because they have a hard time getting campaign contributions. There is still the societal belief that women should stay at home.

But despite the obstacles, "if a woman can get elected in Texas, a woman can get elected anywhere," he said.

Mary Wendy Roberts also said she believes that one of the barriers for a woman seeking public office is getting financial support for her campaign.

"I think that the handicap for women is not in getting the vote." she said. "It's in fundraising."

Roberts said getting money is such a problem for women that several organizations have been set up specifically to help women get money to run for office. One nationwide, campaign-fundraising group called Early Money is Like Yeast (EMILY) supports women candidates and Furstner said that another group. Funds for the

Feminist Majority also raises money.

Additionally. Roberts said women have a problem getting contributions because to get money, candidates have to have money. They need to be able to show prospective contributors that they have what it takes to win a race by telling them, "Look at how much I've already raised."

"There's nothing that attracts financial contributions like a developing war chest," she said.





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