

EDITORIAL

Higher ed lobbying should shift gears

The future of tuition surcharges and faculty salary increases currently rests in the hands of the state Legislature's Ways and Means Committee. The committee is considering putting higher ed funding at the top of its list of programs slated to receive more money if the state gets extra revenue.

Last week, the committee made a wish list of the higher ed programs it would fund with up to \$52 million, if that money became available. Other programs, such as the corrections system, were given similar lists.

Now, the committee must be persuaded to put higher ed funding at the top of its overall priority list for the add-back funds. Therefore, the ASUO has shifted its lobbying campaign of letter writing, personal visits and phone calls to the members of this particular committee.

To show legislators that higher ed affects people (voters) from all areas of the state, the ASUO is urging students to contact legislators from districts in their hometowns in Oregon rather than their representatives from Eugene.

The toll-free phone to Salem is 1-800-327-7389.

The address is:

The Honorable (legislator's name)
Oregon State Capitol
Salem, OR 97310.

Legislative leaders:

Larry Campbell, Dist. 43, Eugene/Salem.
John Kizhaber, Dist. 23, Roseburg.
Delna Jones, Dist. 6, Aloha.
Shirley Gold, Dist. 7, Portland.
Carolyn Oakley, Dist. 36, Albany.

Ways and Means Committee:

Sen. Bill Bradbury, Dist. 24, Bandon.
Rep. Tony Van Vliet, Dist. 35, Corvallis.
Rep. Stann Bunn, Dist. 29, Newberg.
Rep. Ted Calouri, Dist. 7, Beaverton.
Rep. Jeff Gilmour, Dist. 30, Jefferson.
Sen. Wayne Fawbush, Dist. 28, Hood River.
Sen. Len Hannon, Dist. 26, Ashland.
Sen. Larry Hill, Dist. 21, Springfield.
Rep. Eldon Johnson, Dist. 51, Medford.
Rep. Denny Jones, Dist. 60, Ontario.
Sen. Grattan Kerans, Dist. 20, Eugene.
Rep. John Minnis, Dist. 20, Portland.
Sen. Frank Roberts, Dist. 9, Portland.
Sen. Cliff Trow, Dist. 18, Corvallis.
Sen. Bob Shiprack, Dist. 23, Beaverton.
Rep. Mae Yih, Dist. 19, Albany.



LETTERS

All he can be

Since I came to the University three years ago I have been verbally assaulted at least 10 times, including a death-implying threat and an attempt to run me over at a campus crosswalk.

My organization's office has been vandalized three times. I've been stared at, discriminated against in the work place, and made to feel unwelcome at parties, bars, etc. Most of this has been at the hands of my fellow students.

Many of these acts have been because of snap judgments based on the length of my hair or the clothes that I wear. So much for tolerance and diversity.

Though persecuted and discriminated against, I graduate. While my university experience sounds pretty nasty, I can't leave without saying thank you to a number of people on campus who are sincere

in their beliefs, tolerant of others, have intellectually stimulated me, exhibit a love for their work and an enthusiasm for teaching, and students: Ms. J. Thomas, GTF, Writing; Profs. Orr and Humphrey, Geology; Profs. Bishop and Naff, English; Prof. Yurevich, Russian; Prof. Castle, History; and Prof. Chaney, Anthropology.

These people have more than made up for the intolerance and mindlessness here. And

lest I forget, I must also thank the program that has challenged me the most intellectually, physically and mentally.

It has made my education possible, and has given me friends I will carry with me through my new life that begins June 9 when I am commissioned a U.S. Army 2nd Lieutenant.

Lewis Doyle
ROTC

LETTERS POLICY

The *Oregon Daily Emerald* will attempt to print all letters containing comments on topics of interest to the University community.

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.

FORUM

Greek reputation suffers from individual actions

By Craig Namba

Just as America has Lyndon LaRouche, the greek system has a small minority whose viewpoints are so extreme that they are almost impossible to take seriously. Their quest for complete adherence to one set of ideals seems like it would succeed in a traditionally conservative environment such as the greek system.

Commentary

However, as the song goes, "The times they are a-changin'."

It is no surprise that most people, both part of the system and not, believe all greeks are "conservative, hard-liners" with "selfish disregard" for social responsibility. After all, much of this country's business elite and government leaders are members of fraternities or sororities. But the environment today's greeks were raised in differs greatly from previous ones. For the most part,

we were taught tolerance of other beliefs and that being a "vanguard of tradition" can be dangerous (as well as stupid) if done blindly.

There are many individuals who, for one reason or another, hold grudges against greeks for largely unsupported reasons. They are enemies of the system in the harmless sense, who limit their attacks to editorial letters and dirty looks. There are also those who take out their aggression by vandalizing greek houses. They are merely criminals who don't possess enough intelligence to do anything else.

Perhaps the greatest enemies the greek system has are within. Greeks who, knowingly or unknowingly, do things that reflect on the entire system are thousands of times more destructive to the greek system than any other "enemies" we may have — nose-ringed or not. So, many times the good the greeks have done for the community and the

University has been forgotten because of some incident involving one greek doing something stupid.

That, however, is the risk the system takes. When you allow anyone to join and become involved, allowances may be made for the occasional aberrations. The ideas of tolerance and diversity must be upheld. That is why in today's greek system you can find viewpoints from every point on the spectrum — liberal to conservative.

As for the integrity of the Interfraternity Council and our duty to the greek system, we acknowledge that there are some who believe we do not fairly represent their views. They would like you to believe that the council sets the agenda and runs the meeting.

Wrong. We are committed to doing what the chapter presidents and representatives determine is best for the system. Sometimes, admittedly, it is necessary to nudge the system along the path that is the socially responsible one, but for the

most part we are only the tools with which the chapter members and presidents take the system into the future.

The greek system has provided a "bulwark against ... unrest and subversion." We have done so several times: the Campaign of Lectures on Racial Sensitivity, a gay/lesbian/bisexual/ Greek roundtable, IMPACT programming ... the list goes on. It all depends on what you believe to be unrest and subversion.

We, the Interfraternity Council, officially speaking on behalf of the entire greek system, believe that our efforts to promote diversity and tolerance of all viewpoints, values and beliefs, are the mainstream. Working for these aims is actively preventing the demise of our system. Everyone is entitled to their opinions.

No matter how extreme.

Craig Namba is public relations chairman for the Interfraternity Council.

Thursday, May 23, 1991