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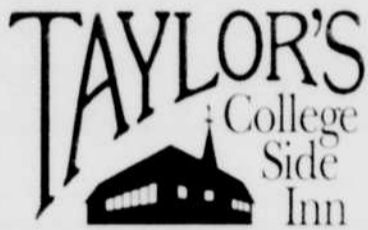
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## EXECS

Continued from Page 11

pop up, and I think (we'll be) planning for small fires and making sure that the ASUO is involved in a lot of what goes on ... We want to get things set up so that in future years the ASUO will still have a strong role regardless of who's in the presidency.

ODE: You've made some changes in the staff positions by adding an international affairs coordinator (Lilian Macharia) and also divided the responsibilities of University affairs coordinator into two positions. Why did you decide to make those changes?

JW: The University affairs coordinators will more or less do the same things, just in a different way. They have the same type of workload, it just differentiates between exactly what they're dealing with. We created the international affairs position because international students on this campus are very underrepresented and having someone in our office, on our staff, will help us better understand their perspective. We're hoping that (Macharia) can be a liaison between the International Student Association and the ASUO.

ODE: So international students can come to her as a resource?

JB: Yeah, one of the biggest problems that's happened in the past is that there are cultural barriers and cultural differences and there are also language barriers.

That's why it's different than setting up a position that would be for domestic students. Everyone in my office is a domestic student except for the international affairs coordinator.

The reason that was set up is that we need someone who is aware of the same ... I mean they may come from somewhere else, I believe Lila is from Kenya, and she may not understand what it's like to be from Japan, but she still faces the same barriers as any other

foreign students because of the international perspective and that's why that position was set up.

ODE: Over the past few years, there's been talk of setting up an athletic department board of directors. Do you think that will happen this year?

JW: I've been talking a lot to (Assistant Athletic Director) Sandy Walton. We just got finished with the (AD) contract and in it she promised that, if need be, a student from our office would be a liaison between

JB: A lot of the time, when student athletes lose their eligibility or are no longer able to play, they go into a severe depression, because that's their outlet, that's a lot of their reason for being here.

JW: This program would help them find people on campus to help them with classes, figure out how to finish school, just get on with life in general.

ODE: After all the controversy last year with (former Incidental Fee Committee member) Mike Colson over the possible altering of minutes, he was voted out by the IFC in June. Now he's filed a complaint with the ASUO regarding (current IFC member) Lydia Lerma,



**'We're going to follow through on our promises and make sure that accessibility is a little bit easier.'**

— JoSonja Watson

our office and the athletic department and that if they had any meetings that we would be given ample notice in order to attend.

JB: One of the things that we've realized recently is that there's the Student Athletes Board and the ASUO needs to work with it. With the Casanova Center being built and now functioning, student athletes are going to be even more isolated from the campus than they already are. They're not part of the campus population. They are but they're not, in that all their needs are met away from the student population so it's really hard to reach that group of people.

The reason for setting up the Student Athletes Board is to work with students on that issue, so what we need to do is put energy and time into getting out and talking to student athletes. The ASUO ... is currently looking into the issue of graduation rates for athletes of color.

JW: We're also looking into setting up a transition program for student athletes who have either lost their eligibility or just are no longer able to play. The transition program would basically entail something like an orientation that would show them how to survive after being "pampered" by the athletic department.

accusing her of making unauthorized changes in the minutes. What's the status of that complaint and where do you see this ending?

JB: The ASUO is dealing with the complaint. I have pulled myself off of the investigation due to a very obvious conflict of interest.

JW: Same for me. (Bills and Watson were both IFC members last year.)

JB: Bobby Lee, the affirmative action director, is taking care of it and I have delegated my role to Wendy Curran, who is our events coordinator. (Student Senate member) John Thomas has delegated his role to Alexandra Foote. The investigation hasn't started yet, but I know they've been looking into it. They're looking into a variety of options as to how they'll go about the investigation.

I know that when the Constitution Court ruled during spring term that the ASUO has the right and the responsibility to do an investigation, the ASUO took that very seriously and we're intending on following through.

ODE (to Bills): What is that tattoo on the inside of your ankle?

JB: That's a labrys, it's a purple triangle with the battleax of the Amazon on the inside ... I always wanted a tattoo. I'm going to get another tattoo soon.



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