

Say goodbye to fair non-resident tuition

It's a good thing the University is state-run and not privately owned. If it were, the creditors would have removed the furniture by now, the employees would have flocked to night manager jobs at local 7-Elevens, and foreclosure signs would cover the Johnson Hall lawn.

All is not well in this house of education.

In the midst of Measure 5 cuts, shrinking financial aid and abysmal teaching salaries, the University has announced that non-resident tuition might possibly ... maybe ... OK, probably will increase in the next few years. In fact, as the plan goes, non-residents will be footing the entire cost of their education.

Enough is enough.

The University and the entire Oregon State System of Higher Education cannot continue to price students out of an education. The time is coming when only the upper-middle to rich classes of this state will be able to afford college.

Couple that with the increased need for college degrees and the trend takes on frightening overtones.

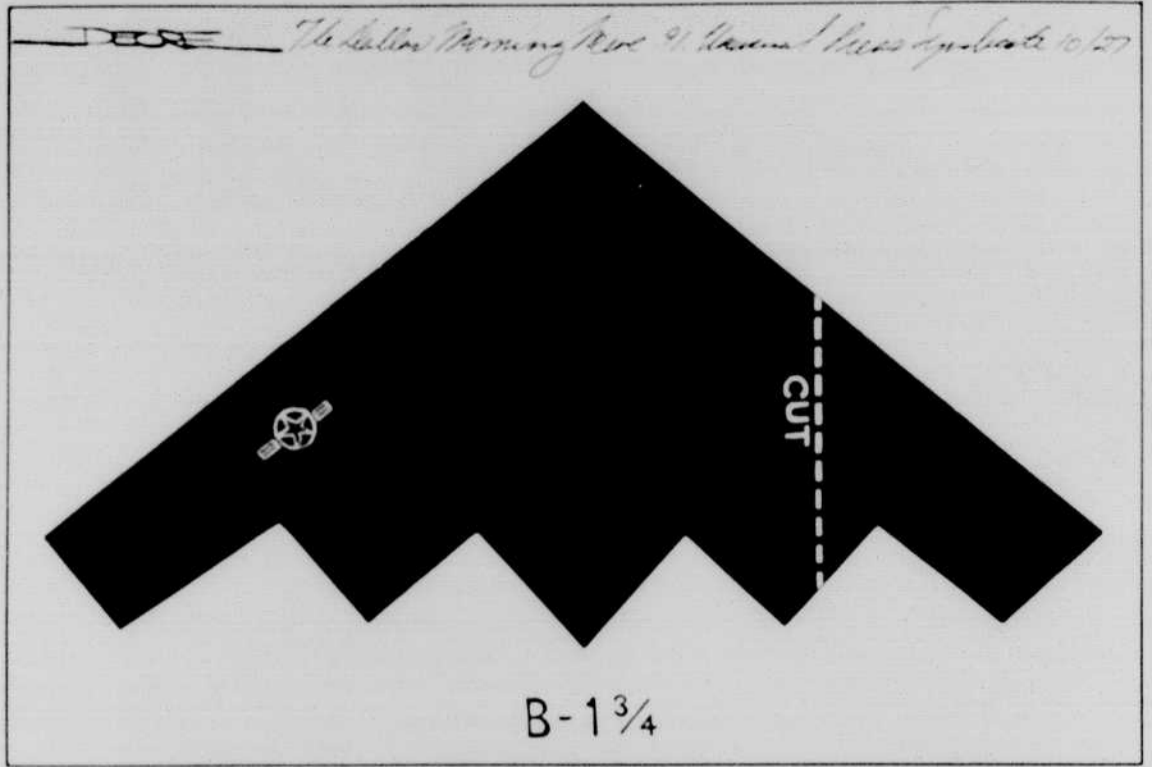
This is a state school, and its top priority should be to Oregon residents.

However, non-residents already pay nearly three times the amount of resident tuition. That is quite enough.

The need to make up Measure 5-induced budget shortfalls is clear, but gouging students is not the answer. Nobody is going to want to pay exorbitant fees to go to a school suffering through department restructuring and budget woes. Future non-resident students will either stay home or go to another out-of-state school with more amenable tuition prices.

There must be another way. The condition of higher education in this state is just a symptom of Oregon's overall economic problems. A new tax system is needed. If something is not done, the Oregon higher education system will fall into shambles, and a generation of future leaders will be priced right out of an education.

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LETTERS

Racist issue?

Jo Sonja Watson is not the only one who has done wrong by stealing bookstore merchandise. I too, Brian Hoop, ASUO Student Senator, have stolen before and spent time in jail for not paying a bicycle ticket. I believe everyone has violated some law, stolen candy, smoked marijuana, broken the speed limit. No one is innocent.

If the people instigating this vicious racist attack on Watson intend on upholding integrity at the University, I challenge them to check the police records of every ASUO and University administrator and begin recall efforts on everyone who has broken the law, starting with me.

I was not caught stealing because I have the privilege of being white. I am not followed around in stores because of my skin color. My checks to buy groceries are not second-guessed by clerks because of my skin color. I am not constantly stopped and questioned by police because of my skin color.

Yes, Michael Colson, this is different from your alleged note-tampering with the IFG last year. The note-tampering charges were directly related to the integrity of your responsibility as an ASUO leader. Stealing candy bars, speeding and smoking pot do not directly affect one's leadership ability.

If the people who sign the petition against Watson believe they have never sinned, they are free to cast the first stone at me and the hundreds of other University leaders who have

sinned. Michael Colson, you and your friends' attack is nothing less than racist and politically motivated.

Brian Hoop
ASUO Student Senator

That face

Do you remember Sept. 12 registration for orientation in Carson Hall? The International Student Association orientation started; you had just met a nice person while waiting in line, but unfortunately you had been assigned to another group. No time for exchanging phone numbers, now you just remember that face ...

The other day at Rennie's, we were there with a bunch of international students, and he was there — nice, beautiful and interesting... forgot to exchange addresses.

During the hiking tour you met other people, not from your own group, but as active as you are. Because of the sweat and energy lost though, you forgot to exchange addresses and numbers again.

Don't you wish you could get in contact with those people again? Friendships made should never be forgotten, and the ISA is going to help you with this. We are planning to make an address and phone number list of all international students. We would like to include a picture of every student with his or her address.

Please send your picture to the ISA office, EMU suite 206. If you do not want to have your name and address printed, please send us a note so we can take care of it.

We look forward to receiving your pictures so we can make a great address and telephone list.

Lisette Sens
ISA Public Relations

Integrity

In the Nov. 1 edition of the *Emerald*, ASUO Vice President Jo Sonja Watson said the theft-related incident she was involved in "did not at any time affect her role in student government."

She also said, "Well, you didn't know about it before then and you didn't question me, so why are you questioning me now?"

The theft was bad enough. Worse was her grossly irresponsible way of rectifying her crime. Watson's repeated poor judgment combined with her statements in the article lead me to believe she does not comprehend the level of irresponsibility and immaturity her actions and statements convey.

I must question her ability to make responsible decisions that will affect the student body. I must also question her ethics and those of ASUO President Jennifer Bills who said in the article, "I knew about it, but it was fine. Most of my friends have been arrested for something or other in their lifetime. I knew it wouldn't affect her job performance."

Integrity, maturity, honesty and overall character do affect the job performance, ladies.

Rick Ball
History and Art

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