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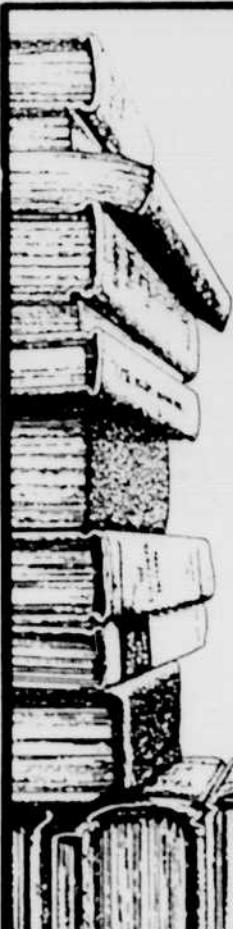
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Tuition blamed for enrollment drop

Survey reports student's woes

By Carrie Dennett
Emerald Associate Editor

Increased tuition is driving students away in higher than anticipated numbers, according to a phone survey of non-returning University undergraduate students.

Callers successfully contacted 262 of 1114 students who were resident undergraduates of the University in spring 1991, but did not return for fall 1991.

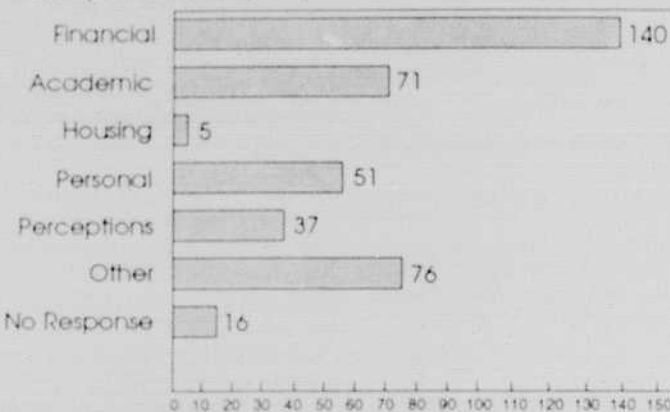
The survey excluded students who graduated, who were disqualified, or who had less than a 2.0 GPA.

Students were asked what they are currently doing, why they did not return, if they plan to return, how they would rate their University experience, and if they would recommend the University to a friend.

About 35 percent of respondents said financial issues kept

Why didn't students return fall term?

Attempts to contact 1,114 students resulted in 262 completed surveys



Source: UO Office of Admissions and Division of Student Affairs
Graphic by Jeff Poskey

them from returning. One in five specifically blamed this year's tuition increase.

Academics were cited by about 18 percent of respondents as the top reason for not returning, with 26 respondents

specifying program cuts, and 11 citing poor access to classes as top concerns.

Two-thirds of the students reached plan to return to the

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CAT

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ed Menge by telephone. He told Menge that both he and McComb agreed that her actions had been in the cat's best interest, but that she was obligated to hand the cat over or to at least let McComb identify it.

Ellis offered to act as mediator if needed and gave Menge five days to reveal the location or be charged with "theft one."

Menge contacted Frank Gaddini, Amazon Housing director, who in turn contacted EPD's University representative, Sgt. Mike Cline.

"During a conversation between Sgt. Cline and employee (Menge), employee was told that it was a civil not a criminal case and just to contact officer Ellis' supervisor (Sgt. Constanza) ... Constanza said he felt Ellis had overstepped his position," Tendick said.

At this point, Menge, who was concerned about legal counsel, contacted her Oregon Public Employee's Union representative.

According to Tendick's report, the cat recipient put Menge in touch with Dan Williams, the vice president for administration.

Both Tendick and the recipient of the cat contacted Peter Swan, assistant to the President for legal affairs, to inform him of the situation.

In the interim, McComb received a letter from Tendick. "I am very concerned concerning the intimidation of our classified employee regarding this incident," the letter read in part.

Wanting to explain her side, McComb visited Tendick's office, where the two realized they had conflicting stories. "He was very reasonable and wanted a solution," McComb said of Tendick. She hadn't yet learned the name of the recipient of the cat, but felt a solution was coming.

Then the cat was let out of the bag, so to speak. The cat recipient, University biology professor Jane Gray, contacted Tendick, identifying herself. She had contacted Swan and told him she was not willing to bring the cat in. Gray could not be reached for comment, but she has retained the services of attorney Charles Porter.

Porter would not confirm the cat's whereabouts, but Swan and Tendick both said they have been told the cat is missing. Ellis' police report reveals the same information.

Tendick said he felt "the primary issue at this point was the release of the name of the cat recipient." He called McComb.

Late the same day, Student Affairs contacted Tendick, telling him McComb had contacted her University counselor who had in turn contacted Student Affairs, asking what the University was going to do to return McComb's cat.

McComb leaves Wednesday for Mexico where she will spend winter term on a student internship. The case is now in the hands of the D.A., who is investigating Professors Gray and Menge, McComb said.

And if anyone knows where Cujo is now, no one is telling. Too bad we don't have Cujo's testimony.

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