

UNIVERSITY

Commission says Brand broke law

By Carrie Dennett
Emerald Associate Editor

While students were caught up in finals week, the state Government Ethics Commission ruled that University President Myles Brand broke state law when he offered free trips to the 1989 Independence Bowl to the wives of Eugene's and Springfield's mayors.

The Dec. 10 decision came with a 4-2 vote that could carry as much as a \$2,000 fine, but commission members said that it is unlikely Brand will be fined that amount.

Brand expressed his disappointment with the decision in a written statement, accusing the commission of focusing on "overly literal and technical interpretations of a vague law."

State ethics laws prohibit a person with legislative or economic interest in the interests of a public official's decisions from offering gifts worth more than \$100 a year to any member of the official's family.

The commission had already concluded that Brand acted

properly when he offered the same trips to Eugene Mayor Jeff Miller and Springfield Mayor Bill Morrisette.

"As with their wives," Brand said, "non-taxpayer funds were used to pay for the mayor's travel — money given to the University by the Independence Bowl organization to cover bowl-related expenses.

"And in our view," he said, "the official presence on this occasion of both the mayors and their wives was integral in helping the University of Oregon advance the economic development of the state and our local region."

Brand said he will consider requesting a contested-case hearing before the commission to develop a record that places his action in "the appropriate context."

Following investigations of the two mayor's roles in accepting the gifts on behalf of their wives, the commission in October found probable cause that



Myles Brand

Brand might have also broken the law by offering the trips.

The cases against Miller and Morrisette ended in November because the commission unknowingly missed a 120-day deadline for prosecuting ethics cases, which was passed by the 1991 state Legislature. Brand's case was refiled before the deadline.

Senate to discuss undergraduate reforms

By Carrie Dennett
Emerald Associate Editor

The University Senate passed two motions involving educational reform at its Dec. 13 meeting.

The senate passed a motion to form a committee to identify and refer questions to the Task Force on Undergraduate Education.

Frank Anderson, Chairman of the Ad Hoc Educational Policy Committee, said the motion was aimed at getting definite discussion started toward resolving difficulties with general education requirements.

The motion came in reaction to a recent proposal from the task force, which called for the University to emphasize in-depth study, personal interaction between students and faculty, adequate course access and regular progress toward a degree in undergraduate education.

University Senator John Nichols said the senate committee should consider the curricular aspects

of the task force proposal, including the advantages and disadvantages of separating contact hours and credits, and of replacing the three course cluster requirement with an eight-credit requirement.

The Senate also approved the annual report from the Committee on the Curriculum, which included several amendments addressing the merging of the Telecommunication and Film program with the School of Journalism.

It was amended that the 1992-93 *University Bulletin* not include TCF courses not adopted by the journalism school or English department. The *Bulletin* will also state that no new students will be admitted to the TCF program, and that current TCF majors may be able on a case-by-case basis to substitute journalism or English courses to complete degree requirements.

The senate tabled two motions concerning Department of Defense policies and University scheduling during dead week.

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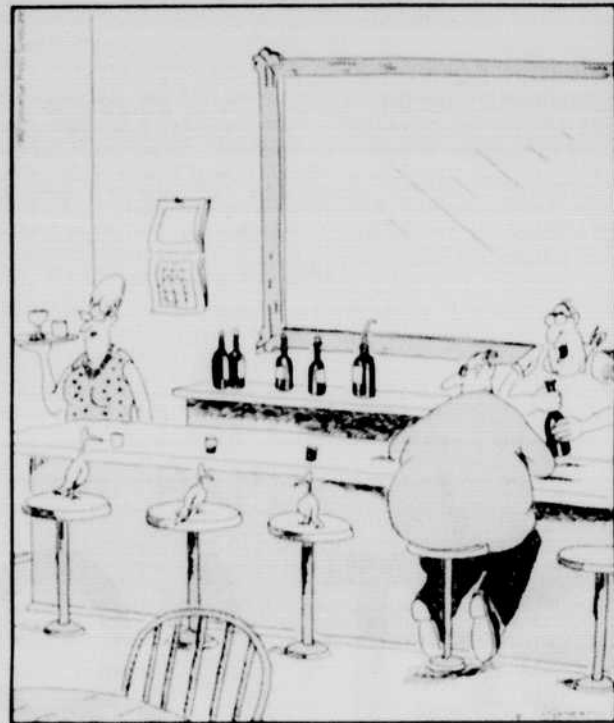
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By GARY LARSON



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