Conference to focus on environment

The 10th Public Interest Law Conference will bring together panelists from across North America to speak on behalf of the earth

By Carrie Dennett Emerald Associate Editor

University School of Law Dean Dave Frohnmayer, the Idaho attorney general and the founder of the Earth Island Institute will open the annual Public Interest Law Conference Thursday.

The 10th annual conference, titled "Environmental Alternatives: Grass Roots to Global," will feature panel discussions on more than 80 topics, including the Exxon Valdez oil spill, environmental legislation, the exportation of pesticides banned in the United States, mining laws and the environmental laws of several nations.

The conference brings more than 1,000 students, attorneys, activists and scientists from across North America and the world to share their experiences and expertise.

The conference is scheduled from March 12-15 at the University Law Center, 1101 Kincaid St. All sessions are open to the public.

The conference is sponsored by Land, Air, Water, the nation's oldest environmental law student organization, the Western Environmental Law Clinic and by the Student Bar Association.

The welcoming address will be delivered Thursday at 1 p.m. by Frohnmayer, Idaho Attorney General Larry Echohawk, and David Brower, founder and chairman of the Earth Island Institute and former executive director of the Sierra Club.

Registration at the Law Center will be from noon to 4 p.m. on March 12, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. March 13, and from 8 a.m. to noon March 14. The locations of conference activities will be posted at the center. The closing session is scheduled for 12:30 p.m. on Sunday, March 15.

The key to the conference's continuing success has been its ability to retain its grassroots character. The conference is devoted to public interest environmental law, or "zealous legal representation on behalf of the Earth," according to a Land, Air, Water press release.

The conference pays no speaker fees and most panelists pay their own transportation costs. In this spirit, the conference requests students and community members contribute on a sliding scale from free to \$15.

More information is available by calling Land. Air, Water at 346-3828

PUBLIC INTEREST LAW CONFERENCE Agenda for Thursday, March 12, 1992 REGISTRATION WELCOMING ADDRESS 1 - 2:15 p.m. . Dave Frohnmayer, Dean, Law school . David Brower, Earth Island Institute . Larry Echohawk, Attorney General, State of Idaho 2:45 - 4:15 PANELS Economic and Environmental Strategies · Green Marketing . Economic Transitions: Challenges for Labor in the Local Environmental Planning for Urban Open · Fisheries Management: The Global Oxymoron . Clean Water Act: Workshop PANELS 4:30 - 6 p.m Japanese Environmental Law · Deep Ecology Poaching America's Wildlife . Hatcheries/Genetic Manipulation The Greening of Corporate America Alaska National Wildlife Refuge: A Viable Trade Off for 'Energy Independence?' LECTURE/FILM: 7:30 - 9-30 p.m. BREAKING THE CIRCLE: THE POLITICS OF EXTINCTION'

raphic by Jeff Paslay

Spike Lee: Hollywood favors whites

ST. PETER, Minn. (AP) — Spike Lee accused Warner Bros. of skimping on the financing for Malcolm X saying the studio had thrown away much more money on bad movies by white directors.

The black film maker, whose movies include Do The Right Thing and Jungle Fever, spoke about racism and Hollywood to a standing-room crowd at Gustavus Adolphus College on Monday.

Lee detailed the obstacles he's had to overcome, saying his first hurdle was with Warner Bros.

"They're not making black films now because they want to help out black people," he said. "Hollywood is interested in money."

Lee ran \$5 million over budget on Malcolm X and came under the control of a completion bond company. The movie, starring Denzel Washington as the slain black Muslim leader, was originally budgeted at \$28 million.

Rob Friedman, president of advertising and publicity at Warner Bros. in California, wouldn't comment.

In response to a student's question, Lee said colleges cannot claim cultural diversity unless they start actively recruiting more minority students.

In the meantime, he suggested that black students who are uncomfortable at predominantly white institutions "study hard, get good grades and get out of there."

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KWVA

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The foundation currently holds the FCC broadcasting license for KWAX, the classical music station. This arrangement posed a problem with station control and broadcast interests.

However, this obstacle appears to be all but conquered. In the Jan. 27 issue of Broadcasting Magazine, the FCC officially recognized the ownership change.

The next obstacle is gaining FCC permission to broadcast off the tower on top of Prince Lucien Campbell Hall.

Although the pending FCC action is supposed to take no longer than 90 days, KWVA management knows better than to make any predictions. In their dealings with the FCC, campus radio initiators have gained experience in Bureaucracy 101 (201 and 301).

Because this is an election year, station manager James January explained, there will be a large turnover within the FCC, which could slow the process down considerably.

One suggestion to speed matters up is for KWVA to hire a lobbyist to go to Washington, D.C. and push the FCC action through. However, that kind of expenditure is a luxury the campus radio station does not enjoy.

"There's nobody who wants to be on the air more than us, "said KWVA board member Mike O'Leary.

However, at this year's KWVA budget hearing, the IFC also expressed a strong interest

Classifieds

in seeing student financial backing of campus radio pay off.

So far the illusive station has run up an IFC tab of almost \$61,000 — and with the most recent IFC allocation that sum has grown to nearly \$105,000.

In 1990-91 campus radio received almost \$26,000. This year, it received \$35,000, almost half of which is earmarked for music and equipment.

KWVA will receive \$49,182 next year, a budget that falls \$7,000 short of KWVA's IFC budget request.

"I have a feeling this is the last time we're going to get any money from the IFC until we're on the air," said Joe Grube, chairman of KWVA's board of directors

Although KWVA was allocated nearly \$10,000 for stipend expenses — a relatively huge sum considering it's not even on the air — Grube said the board of directors expects a surplus in the station's stipend account this year.

According to January, only five of the eight station positions are salaried, and approximately 20 percent of the stipend money went to an engineer who was contracted to install station antennas.

When asked whether he had any idea it would take so long to start up the station, January responded: "No, or I probably wouldn't have started it.

"Believe us," he said, "We want it on the air as soon as possible."



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