

IFC CANDIDATE PROFILES



Editor's note: Interviews with all four two-year candidates for the IFC are in today's *Emerald*. Voting in the primary election takes place Wednesday and Thursday. Results will be announced in Friday's paper.

Steve Masat

Steve Masat, candidate for one of the two-year Incidental Fee Committee seats, is a junior political science major and has worked this year as the IFC budget analyst. Masat is also a member of President's Ad Hoc Committee for a Better Community and the Campus Environmental Action Team.

ODE: Do you favor across-the-board cuts as a means of keeping fees low?

Masat: Across-the-board cuts aren't equitable to student groups. It's a question of realizing that a lot of student groups support accessibility—Saferide, Child Care. Reducing funding for those is going to cut more people out of school than it would help by lowering the funding.

Plus, across-the-board cuts aren't rational fiscally. There will be some groups that use their money efficiently and some groups that don't, and in some cases, you'll be able to cut groups more.

ODE: How would you ensure that every group gets a fair hearing and a fair budget?

Masat: It's work prior to the hearing. You can't show up at the hearing without having studied the budget and talked to the group. It isn't the IFC's job to interfere with the way these groups work. It's the IFC's job to help the groups work.

If they have a question about how to use their funds or about what other groups do or if they need assistance, that's your job. Each IFC tog (the IFC member

assigned to work with a group prior to the hearing) should meet with the groups several times before the hearing to work out what's best for the group.

ODE: Do you believe it's appropriate to hold current group directors accountable for mismanagement by former directors?

Masat: Not in all cases. There are some cases where a group has traditionally not utilized its funding, and if a group succeeded in carrying out its goals and didn't use its funding for the last year or two, it deserves to be cut proportionally.

ODE: Would you be in favor of cutting large budgets to compensate for increasing or maintaining the budgets of smaller groups?

Masat: I think it's innate that if you cut 5 percent out of \$1 million, you're going to do less damage to that program than if you cut 5 percent out a \$100 budget. A group like the Black Student Union would be injured more by a 10 percent cut than the EMU would be.



So I think there is more potential in the larger budgets for reductions, and more energy should be focused on them.

ODE: Why should students vote for you?

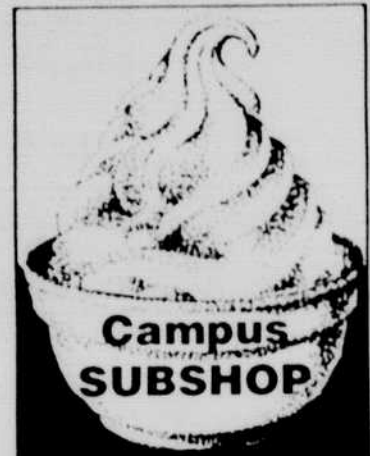
Masat: I have the knowledge and the experience, and I've demonstrated where I'm coming from. I've been at the hearings and worked in the office. That gives me the knowledge and the understanding to come in next year. And I believe I've been very open and objective to student group concerns.

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Zoe Pargot

Zoe Pargot, candidate for a two-year IFC seat, is a junior majoring in sociology and minoring in women's studies. This is her first year at the University. She is involved in organizing the National Organization for Women's Conference to take place this summer in Eugene.

ODE: Do you favor across-the-board cuts as a means of keeping fees low, and if so, how much?

Pargot: I don't believe you can give a blanket cut across-the-board because I think you have to look at each group individually and see which funds are necessary and which aren't. It's just like with our taxes. The poor are getting clobbered with how much money they have to give and the rich aren't, and I don't agree with that.

ODE: How would you ensure that every group gets a fair hearing and a fair budget?

Pargot: By listening to what each group is saying, exactly what they need, what is necessary. Also, what has to be compared is which groups are getting more and if funds can be taken from groups that don't need as much. The main thing is looking at each individual group and their issues.

ODE: Do you believe it's appropriate to hold current group directors accountable for mismanagement by former directors?

Pargot: I think that has to be paid attention to, what has been done in the past and what is the

responsibility of the person who was doing it then. If possible, I think there should be a warning period, instead of just saying, "you did it wrong the first time, your funds are cut."

ODE: Would you be in favor of cutting large budgets to compensate for increasing or maintaining the budgets of smaller groups?

Pargot: To some extent, I don't think that a radical cut should be done to anything. But if it's necessary to take some funds from the EMU to keep the Black Student Union, then we should. The main point that has to be kept in mind is diversity on campus.

ODE: Why should students vote for you?

Pargot: Because I am open minded and I think that each group should have a say. Even if it's some group that I don't participate in, it's not something that I'm going to cut just because I don't agree with the group.

I'll look at each group individually.



Steve Suarez

Steve Suarez, candidate for a two-year IFC seat, is a law student and a graduate of Oregon State University.

ODE: Do you favor across-the-board cuts as a means of keeping fees low, and if so, how much?

Suarez: No, I don't. I think there should be uniform criteria for every group, but I don't think every group is equally deserving of funding, so I don't think they should all be cut equally. The kind of things I would look for are the amount of community service the group does and the efforts at self-reliance that they make.

ODE: How would you ensure that every group gets a fair hearing and a fair budget?

Suarez: I would review every budget honestly, skeptically, carefully and fairly. That's what you need. I think I can give everyone a fair hearing. Certainly, I think you should be polite to everyone. Everyone

should be treated with respect, even when you don't exactly agree with what they're saying.

ODE: Do you believe it's appropriate to hold current group directors accountable for mismanagement by former directors?

Suarez: I think you have to have a certain amount of accountability. I sympathize with people who say, "The last guy in here was a bozo." But I think it's really hard, if you're trying to look at what kind of service a group does and how responsible they are, to a certain extent they have to be accountable for what somebody else does.

It's hard to see how else they can convince you that they'll be responsible. You can take their word on it, but if you can look at a history, that seems more persuasive.

ODE: Would you be in favor of cutting large budgets to compensate for increasing or maintaining the budgets of smaller



groups?

Suarez: I'd be in favor of cutting any budget. I don't care how big or how small, if it didn't seem like there was a really compelling reason for them to be funded. I think the presumption should be that a group does not need funding from the students in order to carry out tasks.

ODE: Why should students

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GENES AND RACISM?

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