Measure 5 still threatening higher ed

By Colleen Pohlig Emerald Associate Editor

Students left for three months and what happened? The infamous Ballot Measure 5 has begun yet another plunging dive with Phase Two of its proposed cuts.

The first cuts were for the 1991-93 biennium, which have already taken place, and education budgets will continue to be chopped unless new revenue is found to replace funds lost by the passage of Measure 5.

Here is a recap of the summer's developments of the phase-in property tax initiative adopted by Oregon voters in November 1990:

University President Myles Brand and other presidents of the eight Oregon State System of Higher Education institutions submitted their budget proposals for the 1993-95 biennium on June 8. In the proposal, Brand called for the 20-percent cuts mandated by Gov. Barbara Roberts.

The OSSHE on July 24 accepted the University's proposal for the 1993-95 biennium.

 Also this summer, Gov. Roberts submitted a tax-reform package to the Oregon Legislature that eventually failed.

Meanwhile, a special legislative subcommittee of the Joint Committee on Oregon's Future is working to develop a "core budget." If approved by a special session of the Legislature after the Nov. 3 elections, such a budget could lead to "bridge" or temporary funding for higher education.

In December, the governor will likely present two budget proposals to the Legislature.
 One budget will be balanced with current revenues, as required by law, resulting in approximately a 20 percent cut in agency budgets. The second will be her own core budget of what programs and services she believes Oregonians should have.

 The proposals finally are shifted to the Legislature, which convenes on Jan. 11. The agenda is likely to include consideration of a permanent tax-restructuring plan for referral to voters. Members of the Legislature will meet from January through June, at which time they will have to pass some sort of budget.

Gerald Kissler, the senior vice provost for Planning and Resources, summed the process up by saying the Legislature will basically be deciding on three budget proposals — two from Roberts and one from the special subcommittee.

Kissler said the Legislature doesn't necessarily have to accept one specific proposal; members can decide to mesh the three and take the best ideas from each.

Kissler said what students, staff and faculty members should do now is register to vote and become informed on the issues.

"The cuts in the 1993-95 biennium are expected to be bigger than the 1991-93 biennium," Kissler said. "I'd expect the campus community to be very concerned about this."

As a result of the proposed 20-percent cuts, the budget outlines a 45-percent tuition increase at the eight schools, to be inaugurated at 15 percent a year, beginning in 1993.

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The significant rise in tuition, the chancellor's office reports, will mean that students will have seen their tuition increase 77 percent in five years from 1990 to 1995.

This will likely drive many Oregonians to seek their education out of the state or even prevent some from receiving an education. This in a time, Brand said in a summer press

This in a time, Brand said in a summer press release, when one-third more students — who are already enrolled on the state's primary and secondary schools — will be seeking admission to Oregon's higher education institutions by the end of this decade.

If the Legislature approves the 20-percent cut budget proposal, the \$15.25 million in budget cuts would mean eliminating 166 positions in the schools and colleges, 139 positions in other academic units, 22 positions in student services and 78 positions in administrative support areas.

The proposed cuts would be 50 percent larger than the major program changes totaling \$10 million a year already sustained by the university in the 1991-93 biennium.

AIESEC provides unique opportunities

By Mandy Baucum Emerald Reporter

Even though the International Association of Students in Economics and Commerce isn't a large or well-known group at the University, it is a recognized organization in other parts of the globe.

AIESEC teaches students practical business knowledge and offers business internship opportunities. The University AIESEC makes contacts with businesses in the area and internationally.

Barbara Earp, AIESEC's vice president of exchange for Oregon, said AIESEC is generally thought of as a group for business majors, but there are also opportunities for students with other interests.

Earp's job is to keep in contact with local businesses. She will ask them if there is any way AIESEC can assist Eugene businesses.

"We try to let (businesses) know who we are and find a need we can fill,"said Earp.

If there are opportunities available, she will recommend students who can work on the business projects.

For example, an AIESEC member did a marketing study on the needs of Asian students for University Bookstore Manager Jim Williams.

When Earp went to Japan through an AISEC program, she encountered a Korean man who recognized the word AIESEC on her T-shirt and ecstatically repeated the acronym. Earp said when she recognized the only word they both knew was AIESEC, she was overcome by the effect it had on him and the universal acknowledgement the organization received.

AIESEC is the largest nonprofit student organization in the world and was ranked third behind the United Nations and the Red Cross in non-profit organizations.

The group has been at the University for three years, and in Oregon for about 32. It currently has about 35 members and is expecting about 25 more since its informational meeting last Sunday.

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Some of AIESEC's in-state business associates are Marsh and McClennen, Port of Portland, Vital Choice and the University Bookstore.

Gary Dobbins, finance major and AIESEC's communications coordinator said that his experience with AIESEC has been a positive one.

"Business is a dynamic institution that is able to cross borders without political bias. It allows you to enter a world that otherwise might be closed off," Dobbins said.

Geoffrey Bowman, AIESEC'S campus coordinator, has also taught him to network with businesses in the community, while complimenting his academic career as well.

"AIESEC tends to bring out the best in students," he said.

