

SASS, law journal get increases

By Chester Allen and Tammy Batey
Emerald Reporters

An Incidental Fee Committee member walked out of Thursday's budget hearing after learning a legally required public notice of the meeting was not published in the *Emerald*.

IFC member Ed Carson said the hearing was in violation of Oregon's open meeting laws, which require state officials to publish a notice of the meeting's time and place.

"I don't think we should be meeting," Carson said as he left the hearing.

Neil Sunnell, who was the ASUO representative at the hearing, said he also believed the meeting was a violation of state law.

However, IFC Chairman Steve Masat said he had placed a notice of the hearing with the *Emerald* and moved that the hearing continue.

Emerald News Editor Jake Berg said he could find no record of having received such a notice.

IFC member Lydia Lerma said the meeting should proceed.

"We can hold another meeting and call back all of tonight's groups if we have to," Lerma said.

After deciding to meet, the IFC increased the 1993-94 budgets of four ASUO-sponsored student groups.

The IFC allocated a 66 percent increase to Sexual Assault Support Services.

Part of the money will be used to conduct rape awareness training in the greek system, said SASS Executive Director Phyllis Barkhorst.

The Vietnamese Student Association received a 19.2 percent increase from this year's budget.

However, Tri Bui, academic adviser for VSA, said the group needed more money to expand and improve its cultural events.

"If we could use the EMU Ballroom for our New Year's festival rather than the Condon School, we could make it easier for more students to attend and experience cultural diversity," Bui said.

IFC members said VSA could submit a special request for money from the surplus account.

The IFC allocated a 1.3 increase to the Recreation and Intramural program.


RIM asked for an additional \$1,000 to improve its weight room, but the IFC rejected the request.

Kathryn Russell, RIM weight room manager, said RIM would submit a special request to the IFC for the additional money.

The Pocket Playhouse received a 20 percent increase from this year's budget.

John Harrison, Pocket Playhouse publicity director, said the theater group would use the money to stage at least nine plays a term next year.

At its Monday meeting, the IFC approved increases for four of five budgets reviewed.



| GROUP | 1992-93 | 1993-94 | % CHANGE |
|-----------------------------|---------|---------|----------|
| JELL | \$2,078 | \$7,222 | +247 |
| Childcare subsidy | 214,320 | 214,320 | 0 |
| SUN | 250 | 523 | +87.5 |
| Oregon Commentator | 5,845 | 8,068 | +38.1 |
| Mediation | 22,096 | 22,981 | +4 |
| Vietnamese Stud. Assoc. | 2,480 | 2,957 | +19.2 |
| Recreation and Intramural | 80,000 | 81,000 | +1.3 |
| Pocket Playhouse | 1,792 | 2,151 | +20 |
| Sexual Assault Support Ser. | 12,000 | 20,000 | +66 |

Graphic by Jeff Paslay

The *Journal of Environmental Law and Litigation*, the *Oregon Commentator*, Students for United Nations and the ASUO Mediation Program all received increases, while the ASUO Childcare Subsidy Program budget remained at \$214,320.

JELL Editor Bob Shavelson said the journal's staff wanted a substantial increase this year to improve the quality of the journal and to enable the staff to publish it biannually, instead of annually as it is published now.

"With the decreases in past years by the IFC, we've been scraping by just to survive," Shavelson said.

But IFC member Efreem Mehretab said the IFC's allocation, a 247 percent increase from last year's allocation, would enable the journal to publish biannually, though its members would have to continue to scrape by.

"We're taking a step forward," he said. "You can't take all the steps in one day."

Commentator staff members requested a 94.97 percent increase to pay for such things as a new computer and to mail an orientation issue to freshmen shortly before fall term begins.

Lerma said she was concerned about the journal because it does not offer stipends to employees. Without stipends, some students could be deterred from writing for the monthly journal, she said.

Lerma suggested a friendly amendment for the IFC to allocate \$1,620 in stipends. The stipends would pay the salaries of four reporters, the editor and the publisher.

But *Commentator* staff were reluctant to accept the stipends. Owen Brennan Rounds, *Commentator* editor, said he would rather have the increases added to other parts of the journal's budget.

Mehretab said the IFC should not force the stipends on *Commentator* staff members if they don't want them.

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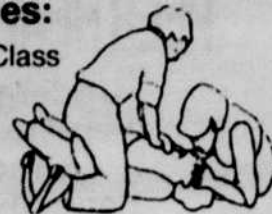
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