

Pass race requirement

On Wednesday, the University will vote on a new race/gender requirement. This decision has many implications for both students and faculty. Three types of issues stand out: fiscal, curricular and societal. Consequently, it is important to focus on facts and not rhetoric.

We need additional courses to meet student demand, but University President Myles Brand believes this can be accomplished without any additional resources. First, we will continue to use many of the current courses. Second, using Target of Opportunity and regular departmental efforts, newly hired faculty members will teach additional courses.

Despite the rhetoric, this vote is not about political correctness. It's about educational evolution. While it is important to maintain academic traditions, we must also adapt to the societal changes. Promoting a diverse curriculum is not an attack on Western civilization, but simply an acknowledgment of other voices, perspectives and educational models.

The world is changing. Women make up half of our student body. International and domestic students of color account for more than 20 percent. The growth rate of minorities of Oregon ranges from 25 percent to 100 percent, compared to only 6 percent for whites. We increasingly operate in a global economy that requires a worldwide perspective rather than a primarily American one.

The facts are clear. Now is the time for decisive leadership. Fundamentally, this requirement will benefit all students and faculty by providing a greater awareness and understanding of the challenges awaiting in the 21st century. On behalf of FSOC, I urge you to approve this proposal.

Marshall Saucedo
President
University Faculty and Staff of Color

Quality scorned

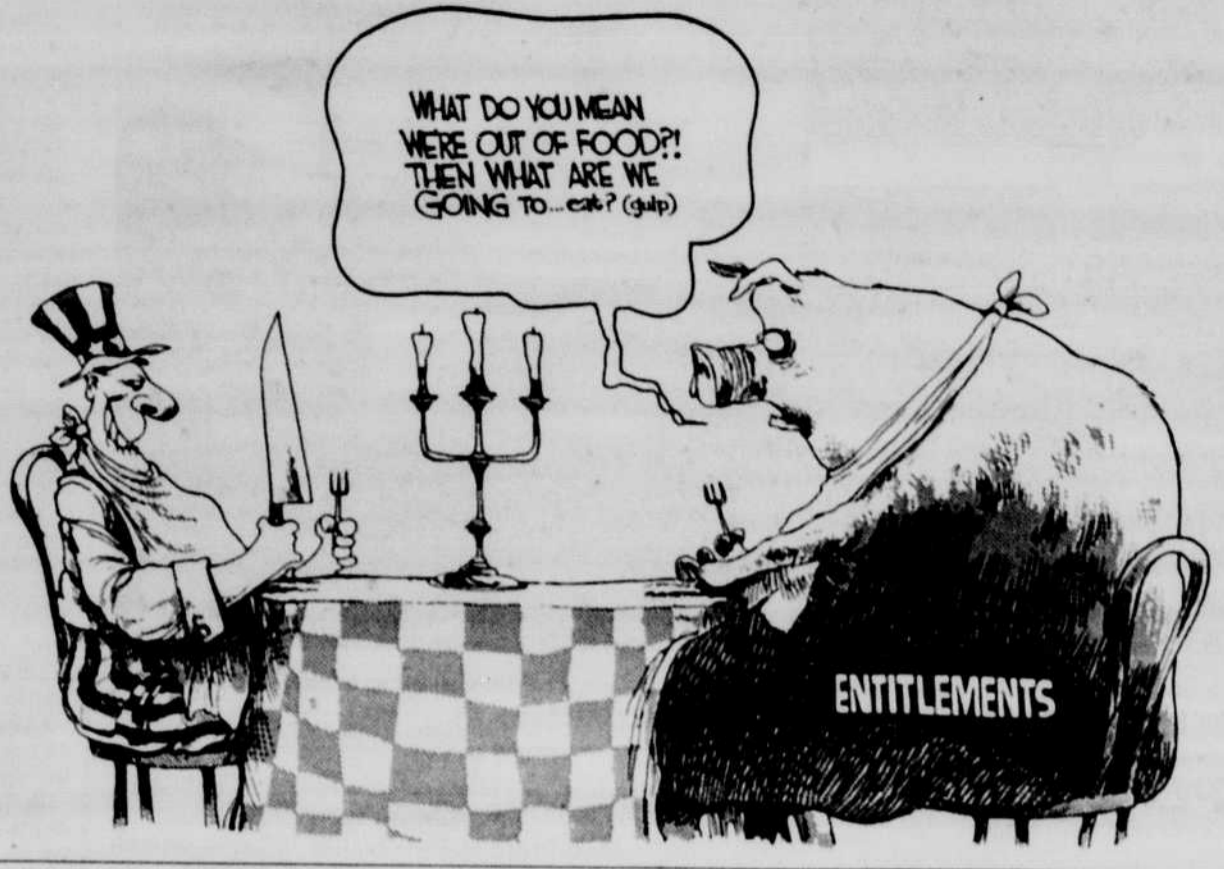
I was completely taken by surprise to find that a quality college newspaper such as the *Emerald* found it important to support *Playboy's* Pac-10 issue.

When are we all going to realize that pornography is a medium that moves to degrade women and help men view them as mere objects? Pornography is one of the leading reasons why men rape and treat women in a sexist fashion. It is kind of a stupid move on the *Emerald's* part to run an ad supporting these ideals, considering the rising number of rapes on campuses.

I know my friends will disagree, but it sure would have been nice if our University could have stood up and said, "We won't contribute to this Pac-10 issue." I hope women who went to a *Playboy* interview will think about what they did. They should ask themselves, "Do I really want to sell my body?"

I am proud to say that I'll be one male who won't con-

RAMIREZ



tribute to the "sell-out" of a trashy magazine issue.

Daniel J. Arguedas
Physics

Respect vs. degradation

Since when does posing in the nude elevate a person to "celebrity status"? *Playboy* is using deceptive advertising to manipulate women into degrading themselves for its own economic gain.

However, I don't think *Playboy* and its consumers are the only guilty parties participating in the exploitation of women. Some of the blame must also be attributed to the women who are intelligent and aware, yet still voluntarily allow themselves to be reduced to a sexual object. I understand that it may be an ego boost to be praised and admired for beauty, but being selected to pose in the nude is not a very dignified form of validation as a human being.

Women deal with a number of problems every day because of a lack of respect, a few of which are sexual harassment, discrimination, unequal pay, rape and violence. All of these problems stem from a lack of respect.

I ask the women of the University, is it worth a lousy \$500 to boost your ego and in turn contribute to the forces

that will ultimately lead to oppressing you and other women around you? I guarantee at some point you will be the victim of some form of discrimination or degradation simply because you are female — regardless of your character or achievements.

If you support or contribute to the *Playboy* pictorials, don't complain about not being respected by someone who views you not as an intelligent dignified human being, but merely as a "playmate."

Katherine M. Waters
Journalism

Appointed official

Gordon Melby is "outraged" that the leadership of the Oregon Public Employees Union would "undertake such a sponsorship (of HB 2806, which would give domestic partners insurance benefits) without consulting the membership."

This is an interesting position to take for a person who was appointed, rather than elected, to the office that he now currently fills.

William Sme
University Housing

THIS WEEK

APR. 5-11

1993 ASUD

April 13 - Deadline for ballot measure filing
 April 20, 21 - Primary Election
 April 27, 28 - General Election

We encourage all UO students to vote

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