

# Students should control fees, group says

By Chester Allen  
Oregon Daily Emerald

Student government leaders met as one committee Wednesday, when they agreed the University's student fee system is not working and outlined a set of goals to revamp the current structure.

The committee, composed of members of ASUO, the EMU board and the Incidental Fee Committee, met in response to University President Myles Brand's plan to remove the IFC's authority to allocate \$1.8 million of student fees to the EMU.

Assisted by professional mediator Vern Ho, the committee decided that, as part of any revised plan, control of student fees should remain with students and that fees should be set before money is allocated.

The committee decided the IFC should remain in control of student fees.

"Students should take the responsibility to delegate student fees," said ASUO Vice President Karmen Fore.

Marlene Drescher, director of the office of Student Advocacy, told the committee Brand's plan to change the fee system violates parts of the ASUO Constitution and could lead to a reduction of student control in



Vern Ho

other areas of the University.

"No allocations may be made without the recommendation of students," Drescher said. "Students have more leverage than is readily apparent; if the students don't make a recommendation, the state board can't do anything with the money."

The committee also proposed a

"target fee" in which the student fee amount would be determined before the IFC begins to allocate money to ASUO programs.

The target fee would allow the IFC to start the budget process with an idea of how much each student would have to pay in fees, instead of the current system, where fees are determined after the IFC funds student programs, said ASUO President Bobby Lee.

Members of all three branches of student government will review the group's goals this week and produce a finished proposal at a meeting Monday.

Student leaders will also decide at the meeting whether to present the proposal to Brand or place it on the ballot as an amendment to the ASUO Constitution, Lee said.

Lee said he had until Wednesday to decide whether to put the proposal on this month's ASUO general election ballot.

Lee said students had to act quickly to influence how student money is used in the future.

"We'll take any concerns about these changes under consideration, but the plane is leaving," Lee said.

# New chemistry cluster aimed at regular students

By Jen Ellison  
Oregon Daily Emerald

Students who break into a cold sweat at the thought of taking a chemistry class can fear no more; the chemistry department started a new cluster this past fall geared toward students of all backgrounds.

Chemistry 101, 102, 103, "Science in Society," is a cluster focusing on the role of chemistry in everyday life and is presented in a manner most people can understand.

"Some people shutter at the word 'chemistry,'" said Ralph Barnhard, assistant department head, who taught the second course last term. "With this class, we hope to achieve an appreciation of chemistry and show people that it is something that can be understood."

The scientific principles are mostly taught by in-class demonstrations. Examples include analyzing samples of shampoo for damaging chemicals, watching the new biodegradable polyfoam dissolve in water and testing various substances' levels of radiation.

By using demonstrations, students are able to see chemistry as an active part of life, Barnhard said.

Each of the three classes covers socially relevant scientific issues. The first course introduces the basics of chemicals, consumer products, environmental issues and nuclear power and waste cleanup.

The second course focuses on energy efficiency, energy alternatives and atmospheric pollution.

The final class is biochemically oriented, focusing on the chemical reactions that take place in bodies every day, such as how food, vitamins and minerals keep people going and what happens when they exercise.

The cluster is not intended to be a rigorous science course, Barnhard said. One high school chemistry class is needed for the second course, and the cluster must be taken in sequence. The cluster can be used to satisfy the science cluster requirement for graduation.

Geraldine Richmond, who taught the cluster's first course in the fall, said she was pleased to see positive evaluations at the end of the course.

"The students really seemed to like the class," she said. "We had a lot of fun."

"I found myself calling my girlfriend and telling her the facts I learned," wrote pre-journalism major Van O'Bryan II in his class evaluation.

Richmond said the class is "the best class I've ever taught. It forced me to think and teach in qualitative terms without using equations."

Currently, the maximum enrollment of the classes is 90 students, but the department hopes to make them available for more students next year.

# Program reaches out to local minority students

Natasha Shepard  
For the Oregon Daily Emerald

We live in a society that places a great deal of emphasis on college degrees, but not all students start out on the same level of opportunity.

One University program is trying to equalize the odds.

The Office of Multicultural Affairs is hosting the Reach for Success program for minority middle school students who otherwise might not consider higher education.

"The intent is to target middle school students of color to increase their awareness of the option of higher education," said Randy Choy, program coordinator for multicultural affairs.

Reach for Success is designed to inform African-American, Latino, Asian/Pacific Islander and Native American students about higher education and to encourage students to continue learning after graduating from high school.

Students will go to University workshops on chemistry, computers and journalism and pay visits to the dance department and Museum of Art. Meanwhile, parents will discuss topics including college funding, admissions, resources and financial aid.

Dr. Robert Bolden, Jefferson Middle School principal, said many minority students have to overcome negative media stereotypes to realize they can be successful in a higher education setting.

"The program tries to dispel myths about their capabilities and how far they can go in life," Bolden said.

"It shows that if they work hard they can be successful. It helps them to know that there are other options than what the media puts in front of them — sports and drugs."

According to the *Digest of Education Statistics*, in 1991 45.6 percent of African-American and Chicano/Latino high school graduates went on to enroll in a higher education institution. Only 20.7 percent of students enrolled in higher education institutions were minorities.

The Reach for Success program encourages minority students to consider higher education by making both college and success look possible.

Bolden said the program includes positive role models from ethnic backgrounds.

"Kids see people that look like them and know that it's possible to be successful," Bolden said.

"It's a workshop of possibilities," said Carol Campbell, counselor at Cal Young Middle School.

Although most students don't start thinking about college until high school, reaching middle school children helps to create a goal, Bolden said.

"Research indicates that these are formative years — when students develop a sense of character and self," he said. "These years are often called turning points, when students make the decision to be successful in school or not. Once they get to high school, they're already set."

Both students and parents are encouraged to attend the program from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Saturday, April 24.

**GRAND OPENING**  
Starting Thurs., April 8

**20% OFF ALL ACCESSORIES**  
Free 1 year labor with bike purchase

Don't Miss the Drawing!  
Door Prizes!

**WIN A NEW BIKE!**

Refreshments • Cake

**BLUE HERON BICYCLES**  
877 E. 13th  
NEXT TO U OF O  
BOOKSTORE

**Can't Get A Date?**  
**Parents and Friends**  
**Nagging You?**  
Break the Habit with a  
**Smoking Cessation Workshop**  
&  
**Support Group**  
3:30 - 4:30 Tuesday  
April 20 - May 11  
(downstairs in the Medical Library)  
Limited Space Registration  
Student Health Center • 346-4456  
or stop by the Health Education Room  
Sponsored by the Student Health Center Lifestyle Planning Program

recycle! recycle! recycle! recycle! recycle! recycle! recycle! recycle! recycle! recycle!