

Discarded books find way from dumpster to library

By Ed Carson
Oregon Daily Emerald

Two Eugene residents learned that the difference between required class textbooks and trash is location, location, location.

Connie Berglund, a Student Health Center employee, and a friend discovered a dumpster behind the Bookstore filled with coursebooks, some of them still in their plastic wrappings.

"I was furious to see this many books go to waste," Berglund said.

Not content to see the books end up in the dump, the two loaded all of the books in a pickup and took them to the Eugene Public Library.

The Eugene Library will add some of the books to its collection, and the rest will be donated to the Friends of the Library for its annual book sale fundraiser.

Berglund wondered why the Bookstore couldn't do the same.

"Why couldn't they donate them to the library?" she

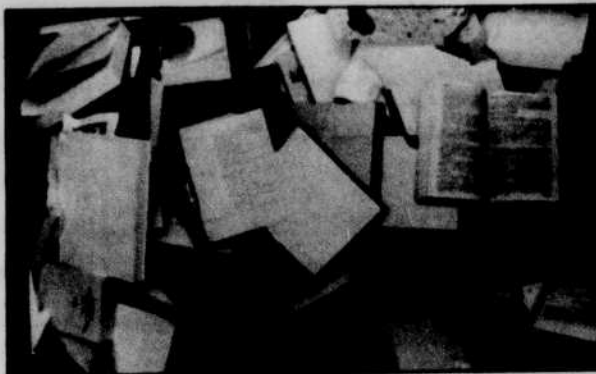


Photo by Anthony Forney
Unwanted books fill a dumpster behind the University Bookstore. Bookstore officials said they throw away outdated books they cannot find a home for.

said. However, according to University Bookstore Course-

Department Manager Chris Standish, the Bookstore did donate books to the Eugene Library, but it doesn't want all of the books the Bookstore has to offer.

"We donate books to the library, but they've asked us not to send large quantities of particular books. They end up taking them to the dump. If we have 40 or 50 copies of a single book, they don't want them," he said.

Standish said the Bookstore does try to find "homes" for books it has no use for.

"We send some books overseas where they have some use for them," Standish said.

The Bookstore maintains the books that end up in the dumpster are books that no one wanted.

"They have no value, they are not resalable," Standish said.

Berglund criticized the Bookstore for not recycling the textbooks. However, Standish said the Bookstore has been unable to find anyone who will recycle bound books.

"Bounded materials are real tough to recycle. We have to find someone who can take it apart," he said.

RENT

Continued from Page 1

either tuition or taxes, it does rely on the University to provide certain administrative services such as human resources administration, budgeting and bookkeeping.

And as the University faces the budget shortfall caused by Measure 5, it must look to other sources for revenue, Eyster said.

"The decision makers are faced with a terrible dilemma," he said. "I have to assume that this was the least unpalatable option of several unpalatable options."

Forrest doesn't buy that argument. "If that's the limited scope of their thinking, then they need to think harder," she said.

"This would be well and good if we were some of the richest students on campus," she said. "As a matter of fact, it's like a reverse sliding scale. Most of us are among the poorest students on campus."

Todd Newman-Barnhart of the Westmoreland Tenant's Council and co-chairman of the Family Housing Board, said the decision to charge the \$300,000 fee "isn't made on any sort of sound study."

"I don't know what basis it's made on," he said. "Nonetheless, they're assessing it, and the more I think about it, the more unfair it seems to me."

He said the University Budget Office could not provide him with specific costs for the support the University provides, and he believes the \$300,000 figure is merely an "educated guess."

Forrest, a graduate student in International Studies, echoed that sentiment.

"When we have actually pressed them for specifics (and asked) 'how much do we cost?', they don't know," she said. "Most of their rationale so far has not been something they can show us on paper. They're asking us

to totally trust them on this, and I'm sorry, I don't."

However, Dan Williams, University vice-president for administration, said the \$300,000 "is a very legitimate expense."

Williams said that, in the past, the University has not charged the full cost of the services it provides.

"Now that the University continues to have this financial crisis, it's been decided that we ought to recover some of the indirect costs the University incurs" in providing administrative support.

Williams acknowledged that the \$300,000 figure is not based upon any clearly documented costs, but said, "I'm sure the housing department enjoys more than \$300,000 worth of benefits from the indirect services the institution provides."

Williams said the University plans to study the actual costs during the 1993-94 school year.

"When we get a clearer definition," he said, "my guess is the amounts will be larger. It doesn't necessarily mean that we'll collect those."

Forrest said some housing administrators have told her that several departments are being asked to do their share in the wake of Measure 5 cutbacks and that accepting the assessment is the housing department's "duty."

"It's like this patriotic thing," she said. "They're saying because we live in housing it's our patriotic duty. But it's not our duty. We're already paying more — we're already paying athletes, or only taxing people who take Spanish."

Williams said he understands why some people are unhappy with the increase.

"It lends itself to a lot of misunderstanding," Williams said. "When you have never done it before, and you start doing it and it's reflected in people's (rental) rates, the response is, 'What the hell is going on?'"

'They're asking us to totally trust them on this, and I'm sorry, I don't.'

— Nancy Forrest
Amazon Tenant's Council

Eyster said he fears the increase will force some students to leave the University.

"Many of these people are, in fact, living in poverty and have come to the University as a means of pulling themselves and their families out of poverty through education," he said.

"At one point, they thought an education was within their grasp, and they had a possible means of pulling themselves out of poverty. Now, for at least some of our residents, they don't see a way they are going to be able to continue," Eyster said.

Forrest said many students in family housing do not have similar financial means as other students.

"It's really distressful," she said. "Most of us do not get help from home. We live on student loans and are supporting dependents."

Forrest also criticized the University for "backing away from its mandate to provide low income housing for student families."

Forrest said she's aware of one Amazon tenant who sublets her apartment and, with her five children, lives in a tent during the summer. Forrest said the woman receives no financial aid during the summer and cannot afford to pay her rent.

Eyster said he is sympathetic to the plight of students.

"It's very emotionally draining to be so close to that kind of suffering," he said.

Forrest was more direct in her summation.

"This is all very bad," she said.

IFC approves funds transfers

By S.A. Clemens
Oregon Daily Emerald

The three-member Summer Incidental Fee Committee approved Monday. However, it did not approve the student-run radio station's request for a line-item budget for the summer session.

IFC allowed ESCAPE to increase student stipends during the regular school year by eliminating stipends that were supposed to be used for the summer session.

"Due to the fact that the University chose not to fund the faculty adviser and the GTF position for the summer, we decided to close the office for this period," said ESCAPE Director Jennifer Swinehart in a special request memo. The eight student positions will receive the same amount of money, but the stipends will be received over a 10 month period rather than the 12 month period that was originally specified in the group's budget.

Saferide will also be re-allocating funds. Money that was supposed to go to a student co-director of the program, who left the program and was never replaced, will now be used for a summer position. The program hopes that adding this position will make the transition into fall term smoother because it will enable Saferide to catch up on unfinished business from last year.

The Committee denied KWVA (FM 88.1) its request to have a line-item budget for the summer. The IFC said that having such a budget, which would allow KWVA to transfer certain funds without IFC approval, would subvert the safeguards that prevent student groups from misusing funds.

The ASUO Finance Department is also adding another summer position by re-allocating funds. ASUO Head Comptroller Tin Bui said that an extra comptroller for the summer would allow him time to "revamp and overhaul the current accounting system." The funds for the new stipend will come from money left over from last year's Finance Department budget.

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