

Keep EMU money in students' control

The management of student fees has been under question for quite some time. A proposal by University President Myles Brand has encouraged the change of control of more than \$2 million in student fees.

Currently the Incidental Fee Committee allocates funds to the EMU. These funds make up the total budget available to the IFC, which is in the neighborhood of \$4.5 million dollars. Brand has asked that the EMU Board of Directors oversee its own budget. In the best interest of the students this proposal is a good one — as long as the voting voice remains that of the students, whether through the IFC or through the EMU board itself.

The problem stems from an ongoing conflict of interest between student organizations. Much of this is caused by the overlapping of student affairs.

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The main concern is the loss of control of student fees by the students. The EMU board is made up of a mixture of interest groups, the IFC and the Student Senate included, so therefore the student voice is obviously still there, but the voice should not be overrun by the voice of the administration.

Traditionally, the IFC has allocated funds to the EMU board. From there the funds were allocated to the 12 services and programs that make up the EMU. Once the lump sum of the money was designated as EMU funds, it was left up to the EMU board to disperse funds on a line-item control basis. This method of disbursement makes good sense. There is a student voice overseeing the money initially disbursed and also a strong student voice overseeing the line-item control. The EMU board is just that — the EMU, so it only makes sense that it oversee the money allocated to it.

The most important point that must be addressed is the control of the money. The students of the University must maintain their right to oversee their funds. If the IFC and the EMU board can distinguish a working relationship with a distinct line separating the two, the funds will be spent accordingly.

The traditional way of disbursement is in the students' best interest. That, coupled with the reorganization of the IFC, puts control of the EMU line-item budget in the hands of the EMU board as long as the voting power remains in the hands of the students.



LETTERS

No to Measure 1

Before you broke college students jump on the bandwagon with Stephanie Sisson and Julie Swensen to vote yes on Ballot Measure 1, consider the possible and probable consequences a new tax imposes. Also ask yourselves, "Is this absolutely the best solution, and will higher education really benefit? How?" According to Swensen, "Higher education was excluded from the measure because that option was most appealing ..." (*ODE*, Oct. 28)

Also remember the frustrated homeowners desperate for tax relief who quickly passed 1990's Measure 5, which appeared promising. Now they ask, "Where is all the money going?" (*Register-Guard*, Oct. 24).

Now ask yourselves, "Where will all the tax dollars go if Measure 1 passes?" The outlook for higher education is dismal. In addition, committees will be created to oversee the taxation process ... how do you think they will be paid?

Finally, as Sisson pointed out, the district cut 78 certified teaching positions, 32 classified, and only six administrative this year (*ODE*, Oct. 27). Who are administrators teaching? Perhaps a better solution would be to cut more administration and less education. Rethink the alternatives, students ... vote no on Measure 1.

Shannon Greer
Biology

us with stable, high-paying jobs. How can we prepare our country to seize high technology potential? Research and education.

Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory in Illinois, predecessor to the supercollider, has made numerous contributions to science, high-technology manufacturing, and medicine. The supercollider would do the same. Contrary to the opinion of the author, the supercollider was "scrupulously researched prior to the disposal (sic) of funds." Upon what was that opinion based?

The author was correct in another statement, though; science is a long-term investment. So is education; so is career preparation.

As for the politicians who voted down the supercollider: A politician looks to the next election; a statesperson looks to the next generation. The budget deficit certainly needs to be reduced. Let's find ways to cut the budget that do not short-change the future of this nation and people. This ridiculous and expensive debacle points out that research projects need to be financed like most public works projects: in advance and guaranteed.

Daniel J. Baker, Ph.D.
Faculty
College of Education

Warped speech

The language spoken by students has been reduced to talk full of insecurity and fear.

In the 1980s, we, as teenagers, were expected to Obey and Shop, not Think, Learn, or Speak our minds. A fruit of this is the "rising intonation," that is, every statement becomes a question. As if we seek affirmation? As if the listener is to say, "Your statement is genuine"?

Simply to make a statement is offensive. The insistence on "openness and tolerance" has planted intellectual fear, so another aspect of our speech is warped. Rather than make a direct statement or anything, a qualified or hesitant statement comes out. A static of likes, y'knows, sort ofs, kind ofs, etc.

grates the ear; impose that on a rising intonation and the speaker comes off as not knowing what he's talking about, not caring, not believing. Rather than offend, and perhaps appear sexist, racist, lookist, or classist, you cower verbally. P.C. speech is sinister: Everyone else must be "affirmed," so your own opinions are irrelevant.

Our language has been denatured and weakened. That so many students are talking like nervous bureaucrats afraid of reprimand shows a sophisticated herd mechanism oiled and cranked by academics and activists.

Turn your tongue from the current diseases in American English. Naturally, they do not want you to, because society is becoming nicely open to agreement and tolerant (of approved opinions). Your speech is already marked. Act now to preserve the way you think.

Andrew Shaffer
Eugene

Food adulterers

My letters have, if published, established that the biggest lie in America is the U.S. Constitution's First Amendment. The syndicate's reply is that the dairy industry will illegally spend \$28 million on a campaign next year to get people to drink more of their cooked white water that's deprived of enzymes.

I'll trouble the pool further and proffer that the manufactured food industry may be responsible for the AIDS epidemic by reducing the effectiveness of people's immune systems to combat diseases that attack the body. I don't accept that synthetic vitamins and minerals are as good as natural ones.

To restore the physical and, consequently, the mental health of people, we need to be set free from the food adulterers who are only interested in profit: shelf-life, appearance, etc. It means we'll grow our own food or help with community farming in returning to the dust of Genesis/Revelation 3:19.

John-Wayne Johnson
San Diego, Calif.

Unanswerable

The editorial regarding the demise of the supercollider (*ODE*, Oct. 27) missed a few points. The author claimed that "science is an endless quest of money requests ... to answer, in this case, the unanswerable."

Previously unimaginable things now sit on our desks. Education is also an endless quest of money requests. Budget decisions need to be made on long-term costs-benefits analyses. As manufacturing jobs go elsewhere in this global economy, this nation needs to focus on strengths, and high technology has the potential to provide

LETTERS POLICY

The *Oregon Daily Emerald* will attempt to print all letters containing comments on topics of interest to the University community.

Letters to the editor must be limited to no more than 250 words, legible, signed and the identification of the writer must be verified when the letter is submitted.

The *Emerald* reserves the right to edit any letter for length or style.

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