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IFC rule elicits shouting match

By Edward Klopfenstein

Oregon Daily Emerald

A request by a newly recognized group to be considered in the upcoming budget process Monday night brought members of the Incidental Fee Committee into a shouting match on an IFC rule.

"I'm a first year MBA student," said Jeff Stuart of the Entrepreneurs Club. "Under rule number 14, we will not get any funding until one year after 1 graduate. My purpose for coming here today is to ask the committee to revisit rule number 14."

The rule, designed to protect student fees being allocated to new organizations lacking student support, makes most new clubs ineligible for IFC funds for almost two years after they are recognized by the ASUO and IFC.

"Resolution 14 makes it difficult for new clubs to get started," said Stuart, who requested Monday night that the Entrepreneur Club be allowed to participate in the coming budget session and be considered for next year's funds.

Jen Liu, IFC chairman, said the rule's original intent was to protect student funds. Under IFC rules, a new club may request funding one year after they submitted their statement of purpose to the IFC and had been recognized by the ASUO. With funds issued one year after budget hearings are held, new student groups need at least two years lead time before they get their own IFC funded student account.

Liu interpreted the rule as prohibiting funding for both special and general budget requests.

According to other IFC members, the rule doesn't bar considerations for special requests.

Additional members said the IFC should be able to override rules in special circumstances.

"We can override rules if we want to," said Committee Member Preston Cannon. "With special requests, we can do it."

"My purpose was to point out the rule," said Liu. "I'm not necessarily saying 'yea' or 'nea'. I'm just trying to point out this rule."

Committee Member Joey Lions disagreed.

"It seems useless to have a resolution when we can ignore it when we want to," he said.

Frances Neo, finance coordinator for the ASUO and the ASUO representative at the meeting, reminded the committee that they serve students. "You don't need to apply 14 all the way around."

But Committee Member Shannon Wall paraphrased the committee's final decision when she told the Entrepreneur Club that she won't consider the club's budget when she already told two other groups no because of rule number 14.

The club's request to be added for budget considerations died for a lack of a motion.



Prosecutor wants inquest into Washington homicide

SEATTLE (AP) — King County Prosecutor Norm Maleng called Monday for an inquest into the death of Antonio Jackson, who died while being restrained by Safeway employees who suspected him of stealing a pack of cigarettes.

Maleng told a news conference that his office was asking new King County Executive Gary Locke, who was sworn in Monday, to order the inquest.

"The tragic death of Antonio Jackson has raised a number of questions that concern all of us in this community," Maleng said.

Jackson, 25, of Pacific, died Dec. 14 after being chased by employees of a Federal Way Safeway who accused him of stealing a pack of cigarettes.

The King County medical examiner has ruled the death a

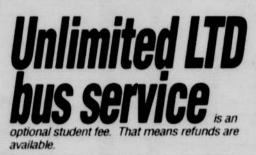
homicide and said Jackson died as the result of a neck hold and restriction of his chest.

Maleng said there were questions about how Jackson was subdued and whether King County police delayed attempts to revive him.

"These are important questions being asked about this tragic incident, and they deserve to be answered after a full and complete and independent investigation," Maleng said.

The inquest is not a criminal proceeding, but gathers evidence to help prosecutors decide whether to file criminal charges in the case, he said.

The grocery store employee who applied the neck hold to Jackson has not been identified by Safeway, which has said it will cooperate fully with prosecutors. The checker is said to be in his 20s.



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