

I'm running for office again — every office there is, and I'll quit

Some of you may recall my hugely successful write-in campaign last year. Although I didn't actually win anything, your votes for me prevented some candidates from obtaining the majority votes needed to avoid a runoff election.

After much prodding by various, disinterested parties, I've decided to give it another shot. So, once again, here goes my attempt at earning the esteemed moniker, "Wrench in the Cog-wheels of Democracy."

My first mission is to convince you to get out and vote. Just like you can't burn down a house without first lighting a match, neither can you really annoy the saps who have to count ballots without first voting for me.

I also realize that you are, in fact, more likely to light a match and burn down a house than you are to vote in an ASUO election without some additional incentive. Thus, I must appeal to you, the masses yearning to be free, the proletariat seeking equality, the apathetic wanting to be left alone. I embrace you all — my children.

Why vote for me? Good questions. Allow me to share my platform with you. (Actually, stay off my platform. This only works if I can look down at you).

If I'm elected to the ASUO Executive (that's president for you laypeople), I pledge to do my best to find the office, return some phone calls and pose for pictures with whatever sucker is



MARTIN FISHER

sentenced to the president of the University. Also, I will never shave my moustache — unless somebody pays me.

I also promise to devote my full efforts to the installation and operation of an amusement park on the EMU East Lawn. We'll call it "EMU World" (pronounced "EMU World") and subsidize it with student fees. Also, we'll hire Rich Brooks to wander the park and ensure patrons remain seated at all times.

Further, I will have open office hours every Friday at the EMU Beer Gardens (when they have them). I realize this may be unfair to those of you under 21, but so what?

As president, I will wear cool ties every day, with special preference to two of my favorites — a Looney Tunes tie (very appropriate) and a Seven Dwarfs tie. What more need I say?

Of course, you may not feel any particular motivation to vote for me. You may not feel any particular motivation to vote for anyone. Well, do it anyway. Vote for me. Remember, "A vote for Martin is a vote against them." Isn't

that good enough? Last year, some candidates came up with a nifty slogan — "Your agenda is our agenda." I miss that slogan. It was easy to make fun of. Nonetheless, I've decided to remain with my copycat slogan from last year, which I really believe says it all: "My agenda is my agenda."

Short, simple and to the point. There's no confusion about where I stand on the issues. I come down squarely on the side of whatever suits me at the moment. At least I have the courage to admit it up front.

ASUO president isn't the only position up for grabs. There are multiple seats available in the Student Senate, which now includes the functions of the IFC, and I want your vote for all of them. Never mind that I'm only eligible for the law school seat, write me in for every position and dare the Elections Board to defy the will of the people.

I actually know as much about the Student Senate as most people, which is nothing, so I am ideal for the position. I base this on the fact that the Student Senate knows nothing about the students, yet that doesn't seem to stop it from claiming to speak on your behalf.

Can you name your student senator? Any student senator? Of course not. Why? Because it's an irrelevant position that debates largely irrelevant issues and passes irrelevant motions to make irrelevant recommenda-

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tions to the grown-ups in Johnson Hall. I would be happy as a plum to go before the Senate and argue your favorite irrelevant issue on your behalf, but only if you can prove that you actually voted for me.

Actually, it would be lots o' fun to sit (perhaps literally) on one of the three finance committees that were created in the March 9 special election. If I were on the athletic department committee, I would work to make athletic funding contingent on win-loss records. It would work like this: The AD is allocated a specific amount to be held in trust. That amount is divided into as many portions as there are sports. In turn, each sport's portion is divided into as many regular season games as it has on the schedule and that portion is tied to a specific game. When a team wins that game, it gets that portion of the budget. When it loses, it gets nothing. Coaches who run

deficits will be assigned to the golf team.

Although I realize few sports would survive this method of funding, by November it would free up the dirt pile called Autzen Stadium for its proper use as a swimming pool.

If I am elected to the EMU board committee, I will send myself on regular convention outings to Hawaii. While there, I will attend such relevant seminars as "Students And Coconuts: The Key To Crowd Control," "How To Book Really Rotten Marimba Bands" and "More Uses For Wool: How To Get Students To Pay For Your Trip To Hawaii."

If elected to the ASUO Programs Committee, I'll join a student group like, say, USSA, and then vote to fund my trip to Washington, D.C. While there, I will attend such relevant seminars as "Stalin And The Good Ole Days: Say It Ain't So, Joe," "Handcuffs And Cattleprods: Cuban Innovations In Higher Education" and "USSWho?: Getting Congress To Admit We Exist."

Finally, if elected, I promise to quit the same day because I just can't seem to change the world around me. The fact that I have better things to do has nothing to do with my decision. Hey! That's it. Here's my new campaign slogan:

"Vote for me. I quit."

Martin Fisher is a columnist for the Emerald.

LETTERS

Anti-Greek

Recently I have heard ASUO vice presidential candidate Joey Lyons claim to be pro-Greek. Nothing could be further from the truth! Joey sat on the Incidental Fee Committee that cut the Interfraternity Council's and Panhellenic Council's budgets by 7.3 percent and 4.5 percent respectively. Did he oppose this motion to cut the budget? NO! In fact, he made the motion.

Because fraternity and sorori-

ty members represent 15 percent of the campus population, they are especially vulnerable to campaign rhetoric. On a campus where only 10 percent of the students vote, a population of 15 percent can be very powerful.

I am urging Greeks to look behind all of the campaigning, and vote for candidates who truly represent our interests. Leslie Warren and Mark Rhinard are candidates who not only claim to do this but will.

Mark and Leslie have shown a sincere interest in the well-being

of our Greek system and are willing to work with Greeks and all other campus organizations for positive change on this campus.

Leslie and Mark are knowledgeable about campus issues and willing to search for reasonable solutions to the problems in our student government. Not only do Mark and Leslie have the knowledge of what needs to be done, they have the charisma to build the necessary working relationships with student organizations to accomplish their

campaign goals.

Greeks have been traditionally mute when it comes to campus issues and it is time for this to change. All students, including Greeks, need to get out and

vote for candidates who are truly aware of student needs.

Dennis Feneide
Finance / Marketing
Former member
Interfraternity Council

LETTERS

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

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

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University of Oregon
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