

# COMMUNITY

## House candidate urges more funding for education

By Meg Dedolph  
Oregon Daily Emerald

Floyd Prozanski's long-term goal is to undo Ballot Measure 5, but for now he's interested in relieving education's money crunch through a gross receipts tax.

Prozanski, a Democratic candidate for the House District 40 seat, said that public education means access to education for all individuals and that the state must look for additional education funding.

"It's very very important that we not out-price students or young people from being able to get an education," he said.

He said he supports a gross receipts tax, which is a tax on business profits, because it would equalize the tax burden between individuals and businesses and because it would be a decision the state Legislature could make without having to refer it to the public for a vote.

"Until we go back to the voters and undo Measure 5, property taxes are tied to a vote by the public, and I don't want to waste any more time trying to develop a package for initial relief. We need something in place and we need to go back and undo Measure 5," he said.

He said Measure 5 is "tearing the state apart" because of how it was implemented and that all the state services are suffering as a result of it — not just education.

"Measure 5, in and of itself, has just gutted the funding base for state services," he said.

Prozanski said he finds it difficult to understand why the state has as much control over the University as it does, considering the state is providing less money for higher education.

"It seems to me that we need to have more autonomy within the schools and the universities to allow them a little more choice in decision making based on what they have available to them," he said.

"It just seems to me that when you cut back on how much you're funding into a program, your oversight or authority over it should become less."

Prozanski said businesses need to have a strong base of educated individuals both in academic and vocational fields before they will relocate to Oregon.

"The state has a duty to be involved," Prozanski said, adding that although the state needs to

recruit large businesses, it should be remembered that the majority of Oregon businesses are small businesses.

"The vital fabric of our job and employment seems to be with smaller business, small industry and cottage industry," he said. "Because of that, I feel the state as well as other economic groups should be looking to foster assistance to those types of groups as well as bringing in larger corporations."

Even though the state currently supports small business, Prozanski said more support is needed because many small businesses need more money for expansion.

He also suggested a state-subsidized apprenticeship program to "bring opportunity to our young people so they don't have to leave the state to find employment."

"If you assist young people who are just starting out in a profession, I believe that you are really going to be investing in their future," Prozanski said.

He said the state should continue to cut ancient forests but should establish strong secondary products industries, such as furniture or paper.

"We want to look at what other

means there are to have the forest provide additional jobs and economic benefits, while at the same time maintaining a quality of life that's going to be sustainable for things other than economic gain," he said.



Prozanski

Furthermore, Prozanski said he supports the use of alternative fibers to relieve some of the pressure on the wood supply needed for paper.

"Hemp is a proven fiber that's been used for centuries," he said. "It's a product that has a much, much higher return than traditional wood fiber. Industrial hemp is not marijuana, it does not have THC and it should not be a concern as to whether or not industrial grade hemp is allowed."

Prozanski is an assistant district attorney for Lane County and has served as a University student conduct hearings officer and on the board of directors for BRING Recycling.

## Split-roll tax workable, candidate says

By Meg Dedolph  
Oregon Daily Emerald

If more money for higher education can't be found, Democrat Marty Henner, who is running for state representative, supports closing Western Oregon State College and redistributing its programs among the remaining state universities.

"I don't want to see all the universities take another 10 to 15 percent cut," Henner said. "I'd rather have three good universities than four ones that have been cut so much they're terrible."

Henner said he favors a split-roll property tax, where businesses and homeowners are taxed at different rates.

"I think it's doable. I think we can sell that to people by saying, 'Look if you vote for this measure, your taxes will stay the same but First Interstate Bank, they may have to pay a little more,' so I think it's fair."

He also said the state should amend Ballot Measure 5 to allow local school districts to decide whether or not to override the property tax limit.

"Shouldn't the voters be able to vote to decide to tax themselves a little extra because they want the quality of the schools to be a little better?" he asked.

Henner said this change would provide some models, even in school districts that wouldn't do it initially.

"People would see what the extra money would do, so if extra money were spent in Eugene, parents in Springfield would be able to look and say, 'Well, gee, Eugene is spending the extra money and look at what they're getting for it.'"

He said last year's Legislature had a "business as usual" approach, which he thinks is out of place.

"This is no longer business as usual," he said. "This is crisis time, and while I will push for the kind of taxes I think are progressive, I will proba-

bly use my mediator skills to put together some package with the necessary votes so we can get some tax measure — I'm not going to hold myself to some standard of purity."

He said providing more money for schools is key to resolving the state's budgetary problems. So much money had been used to fund schools that other services are suffering, he said.

"If we can get money for public education, we can relieve pressure on other parts of the state," Henner said.

Some of the more important environmental issues facing the state concern forest management, especially log exports, and transportation.

He said he supports U.S. Rep. Peter DeFazio's plan to ban log exports because it will help preserve the ancient forests and preserve jobs in Oregon when raw logs are no longer exported to other countries for processing.

"We have to get people out of cars," Henner said. "We should amend the state constitution to permit the use of gas tax money for mass transit and the high speed rail system."

"If we don't start getting people to use rail transport, in another two years we'll have to add two more lanes to I-5, which means more cars and more air pollution," he said.

Henner is an attorney and professional arbitrator and mediator as well as a former instructor at the University and Oregon State. He served on the boards of the ACLU and Friends of the Eugene Library and is a member of Clergy and Laity Concerned and Temple Beth Israel.



Henner

## Overwhelming support brings Frohnmayer to forefront

(AP) — In the fractious world of higher education, the overwhelming and broad support that led to the selection of Dave Frohnmayer as interim president of the University was startling.

"There was literally a groundswell of support that brought him to the forefront," said Janice Wilson, president of the state Board of Higher Education.

Frohnmayer, the former state attorney general who has served as dean of the University law school since 1992, said he wasn't interested in the job when it opened a month ago and he never campaigned for it.

"It just was not on any screen that I had up," he said. "But that

doesn't mean that the thought didn't grow on me after I began to see the spontaneous urgings that I got."

Shortly after Myles Brand announced April 14 that he would become president of Indiana University, Wilson, Chancellor Thomas Bartlett and board vice president Rob Miller met with key faculty and student representatives on the University campus. They unexpectedly heard a loud, clear call for Frohnmayer to get the job.

"They said they were unanimous and that was unusual for them," Wilson said.

In addition, the board began receiving calls from around the state supporting Frohnmayer.

"I've been really gratified and, in some cases, surprised by the strength and unanimity" of the support, Frohnmayer said.

The board decision Wednesday to hire Frohnmayer as interim president was also unanimous.

Although a national search for a permanent replacement for Brand is expected to start next year, there are strong indications the board simply will remove the word "interim" from Frohnmayer's title.

"Dave would certainly be a strong candidate, and if he performs in the manner in which he has performed all of his other tasks, I would say if he wants the job, it would be his," Wilson said.

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"Opportunities for Teachers"  
May 18, 12:30-1:30pm, EMU Cedar Rm A

**Interviews**

Interviews for Fall/Winter '94 openings will be held on campus May 25-26. To schedule an appointment, call Peace Corps OSU rep. Anna Aguilar 346-6026. Note: You must bring a completed application to the interview.