

# Groups competing for EMU offices face new rules

Tasha Eichenseher  
Oregon Daily Emerald

Stricter guidelines for holding office space in the EMU are now in effect because organizations that have either no office space or inadequate space are seeking offices.

"Last year in the house committee we went through and revised space criteria," EMU Board House Committee Chairwoman Shannon Varney said at Wednesday night's meeting.

Groups that have office space need to respond to a notice issued by the committee by Oct. 21 or they will be declared inactive.

The notice, dated Sept. 26, states that for an organization to keep its space it must maintain at least 10 regular office hours per week during normal business hours, produce a roster of at least seven active members, demonstrate activity by the fourth week of fall term, which ends Oct. 21, and respond to all EMU Board of Direc-

tors' requests.

Of the 64 groups with office space in the EMU for the 1994-95 school year, 20 had responded to the committee notice as of Oct. 11.

Stricter guidelines were written because the EMU Board "should be able to start earlier than January or February giving people office space," said Frank Geltner, EMU associate director.

Once office space opens up, the committee will have to decide which of the 14

groups that have filed requests will receive an office.

"Sometime after the 26th we'll have to look at 14 entities and decide what we want to weigh more importantly than something else," Geltner said.

According to Geltner, the committee will fill the first available spaces by looking at what services the group offers, if its activities overlap with the activities of other groups and if it already has space in the EMU.

## Corporations dole out dollars to candidates

SALEM (AP) — With his trademark blue jeans and cowboy boots, John Kitzhaber often has been called the Marlboro Man of Oregon politics.

Maybe that explains why Phillip Morris USA gave him \$3,000.

The Democratic candidate for governor listed the tobacco giant's contribution on the campaign finance report he submitted to the state this week.

Actually, Republican Denny Smith got a \$3,000 contribution from Phillip Morris as well.

Big corporate interests such as Phillip Morris like to spread campaign money around as a way of sowing good will with whomever might be the next governor.

Still, given Kitzhaber's position as possibly the state's best-known physician and author of the Oregon health plan, the \$3,000 contribution stands out.

It would be like Denny Smith, that well-known spotted owl basher, to list a large contribution from the Sierra Club.

Kitzhaber notes that he built a strong record of opposing smoking and supporting cigarette tax hikes while in the Legislature. He says he makes no apology for accepting the Phillip Morris donation.

"If they want to use their resources to promote an anti-smoking candidate, that's great," Kitzhaber says.

An Oregon Heart Association spokeswoman isn't so sure about that.

"Well, I'm disappointed," Margaret Mitchell says. "He's always been so positive with respect to anti-tobacco issues."

The cigarette maker's contribution is just one of the details in the voluminous campaign finance reports submitted by the candidates for governor this week.

Smith's support is anchored in the timber industry. The reports showed he has received more than \$200,000 — a quarter of his campaign war chest — from timber interests.

Smith spokeswoman Elaine Franklin says that's not surprising, given Smith's criticism of federal environmental laws.

Smith's top individual contributors generally gave larger amounts than Kitzhaber's individual contributors. Conversely, the political action committees backing Kitzhaber gave more than the PACs backing Smith.

Does this mean that the fat cats are backing Smith while the political groups are behind Kitzhaber?

Franklin offers this assessment: "Denny is a watchdog for the taxpayers, not a lapdog for the unions."

Kitzhaber says Kitzhaber has received a lot more contributions from Oregonians than Smith and from more diverse groups.

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