

# Ethnic students lead Multicultural Center

Pat Daly  
Oregon Daily Emerald

The ASUO Executive has given a large measure of control over the recently opened Multicultural Center to representatives of ethnic and international student unions.

When the University administration agreed to foot half the bill for the center two years ago, Vice Provost Gerry Moseley stressed that the center would "raise elements of different cultures up for review and discussion" by the entire campus community.

The administration's statement met with stiff opposition from student unions, most notably MEChA, which represents Chicano and Latino students.

"The concept of the center came from the four student unions," said MEChA faculty advisor Jim Garcia. "But its gone through the Eurocentric bureaucracy and become something different."

"What business do white people ... have being on [the center's] board anyway," read a letter distributed by five MEChA members to MEChA, the Black Student Union, the Native American Student Union and the Asian/Pacific American Student Union during winter term of 1994.

"[EMU administrators] will always have more power over the center than we ever will," the letter stated.

Now that the hiring process is underway, members of MEChA and the other ethnic student unions who received the letter will have considerable influence in determining how the center operates.

ASUO Multicultural Advocate Yohanna Kinberg, who was appointed by ASUO President Leslie Warren, during fall term made available key positions to members of ethnic student unions.

Kinberg appointed Jan Harada and Brandon Sugiyama, co-directors of APASU, Carmen Rubio, co-director of MEChA and Susanne Steffens of the International Students Association to a hiring committee that chose the center's three directors. Kinberg herself sat also on that committee.

The committee hired Mario Garza, a former member of MEChA, to be the center's office coordinator. Daniella Diaz, also a MEChA member, was hired as Programming Director. Micah Jung, member of APASU, Korean Student Association and other student groups, was hired to be the other Programming Director.

"What we did in making this plan was to address the concerns of the student unions," Kinberg said earlier this year.

An ASUO promotional publication fall term quoted her as saying that she took into consideration "the concerns and interests of both the students and administration."

Recently, an ASUO spokesman said that Warren sees the center as an independent organization not affiliated with the ASUO.

However both Jung and Garza, who has resigned from his position for personal reasons, said Warren herself sat on the committee that hired him. Warren replaced Kinberg, who resigned as multicultural advocate when she moved to New York state during the Christmas break.

MCC's remaining program directors have appointed a steering committee to help hire two part-time GTFs to work at the center. Jung refused yesterday to disclose the members of that steering committee.

The center's directors and steering committee will decide what programs and events to fund this year with a \$17,535 budget approved by students in the ASUO election last spring.

# Lobbyists are against proposed tuition hike

Friederich von Carp  
Oregon Daily Emerald

The Oregon Student Lobby has announced its goals for the new legislative session, including plans to win more funding for state higher education and need-based grants.

The lobbying organization, controlled by the student governments of Oregon's eight state colleges, has spoken out against a proposal to reduce the state's subsidy of public colleges and increase need-based grants.

The proposal, which Gary Andeen of the Oregon Independent Colleges Association expects to present to the legislature in the next two weeks, calls for a \$2,000 increase in in-state tuition, to be offset by increases in need-based aid grants.

"[Andeen] has been saying for years that need-grants should be eliminated for [Oregon State System of Higher Education] schools and go to students at private schools," Nosse said. "We're trying to get out in front of him."

The state should not be in the business of favoring students who

go to one school or another," Nosse said.

"It requires affluent families to pay a large proportion of the burden," Andeen explained. "If Rob Nosse was not so interested in doing battle all the time he would see that this is a way to fund a lot more access to low- and middle-income students."

Nosse characterized the proposal as a "high-tuition, high-aid" model, saying that "the idea that this would work at a state school is pretty ridiculous. Who's going to pay the full ride?"

Under Andeen's plan, a student coming from a family of four who earns less than \$25,000 would receive a full-tuition grant. The amount of the grant would decrease as family income rises, and a student from a family of four earning approximately \$55,000 would receive no need-based grant.

According to a poll released by OSL, 22 percent of students at Oregon state colleges had all their educational costs paid for by their families, while 39 percent received half to minimal financial assistance and 39 percent

received no assistance from their families.

OSSHE is expected to release similar polls for students at state institutions and for students at private institutions in late February, according to Andeen.

"All taxpayers whether their children go to private or public schools pay to subsidize the public colleges," said Jim Woodland, director of Willamette University's Financial Aid Office. "Andeen is trying to look at tuition from more of a need-based basis, rather than as a flat subsidy."

### Kitzhaber's Budget

Nosse also outlined OSL's plans to lobby the legislature when the state legislature's Ways and Means committee addresses the higher education budget in March.

OSL will lobby to decrease Governor Kitzhaber's requests for a 4 percent increase in tuition and a 15 percent decrease in funding for higher education. Nosse said that OSL hopes to limit the tuition increase to 3 percent, which is nearly equal to the estimated rate of inflation.

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