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- Any questions? Come to the teamwork informational meeting April 21 at 4 p.m. at the Casanova Center.



Union members plan for strike

Marcelene Edwards
Oregon Daily Emerald

Oregon Public Employees Union members and the state are preparing for a strike that could begin as early as May 6.

The last cooling off period for union members will last until May 5, while union representatives continue to try to negotiate with state leaders. Both sides are scrambling to reach a settlement to prevent the strike, but provisions are being made anyway.

"We're planning for a strike," said Peter DeLuca, a negotiator for the state. "In this business, we hope for the best and plan for the worst."

The state plans to maintain any services they provide that relate to safety and will explore the curtailment of other services, DeLuca said.

With two weeks to gather as much support as possible, OPEU members will participate in a phone bank to call other members who are somewhat undecided. Then the union will decide who is willing to strike, walk the pickets lines and cross the picket lines, said Bart Lewis, an OPEU member at the

University. This will give the union a better idea about how to prepare for the strike.

OPEU members voted to strike because they were dissatisfied with the current contract negotiations. They have not been able to negotiate a 6.5 percent pay raise after months of bargaining with the state. The union has been trying to get a cost of living adjustment to make its wages competitive with the rest of the public and private sector.

Union representatives are continuing with rallies and demonstrations around the state to let people and the government know about the situation.

"We want the management bargaining team to know we are intent on reaching a settlement," said Bentley Gilbert, spokesman for OPEU.

They will also continue to lobby the Legislature. Although the members voted 93 percent in favor of a strike Wednesday night, union employees say they hope to avoid it.

"Our desire is to have a settlement without a strike," he said. "But the size and lopsidedness of the vote is an indication of how our employees feel," Gilbert said.

Career Center proposes ballot for fees

Amy Columbo
Oregon Daily Emerald

A Career Center ballot measure seeks to eliminate the out-of-pocket charges students pay to use the resources in the center and replace them instead with a higher incidental fee.

"It eliminates students' user fees at the Career Center," said Larry Smith, director of the center.

Currently, students pay a \$10 fee to register with the center, a cost that covers orientation, participation in the interview program and putting resumes on file for potential employers.

Smith said he sees students leave the center all the time because they don't want to pay the registration cost. He said it drives a stake in his heart when fees keep students from partici-

ON THE BALLOT

■ WHAT:

Measure to eliminate the costs students incur using the resources at the Career Center.

■ COST: A \$3.00 cost per student per term



EMERALD

pating.

Other charges include \$35 for a career assessment test and \$30 to set up a file to be forwarded to five graduate schools.

The proposed ballot measure would tag a \$3 cost to the incidental fee students pay every term and eliminate all out-of-pocket charges for students who utilize the services offered at the

Career Center.

"The problem that we have right now is that students want to use the Career Center, but it's too expensive," said Bobby Lee, University graduate student and Oregon State Board of Higher Education member.

Lee said by including the costs of the center as part of the incidental fee, it makes the center accessible for both rich and poor students because the incidental fee is included as part of a student's financial aid package.

Lee worked with the ASUO Executive to put the measure on the ballot. He said he would like to see more University students make use of the center.

"Seniors and juniors are graduating with a degree without understanding what the degree will do with them," Lee said.

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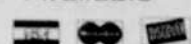
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