

LEADERS

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"Administrators love to blow students off. They have this perception that we'll only be here a year and that we're short timers," he said. "You really have to fight to make some changes."

Platform

The job began for Warren and Rhinard last spring when the two campaigned on a platform which included:

- Bringing Project Safe Run, an organization that trains dogs to run or walk with women, to campus
- Duck Walk for safety, painting duck feet on campus sidewalks to signify safe, well lighted routes
- Implementing a telephone "Duck Vote" system for student body elections
- Creating a Learn and Earn program to provide work study jobs to students who otherwise are not eligible
- Unifying the ASUO
- Creating the ASUO position of Recruitment and Retention Coordinator

How did they fare on their platform? Rhinard said they only struck out twice.

"Everything that was on our platform, I wanted to accomplish and I feel that to the best of our ability we did that," Warren said.

Hits and Misses

The Duck Vote system turned out to be less feasible than the two were originally told, and finding an acceptable home for the three Project Safe Run dogs

trained for the University has been tough.

"With Project Safe Run, we never campaigned on the fact that we could get [the dogs] on campus," Warren said. But the ASUO has been working to house the animals at a campus location. Currently they are located off campus, making the program inaccessible to many students.

"And then with Duck Vote, we were told it was not a problem, and it could be [at the University], and then we got into office and [the administration] told us that it was too much money."

The pair said they implemented the rest of their platform issues, claiming victories and created the Designated Driver Shuttle, a program to provide intoxicated students and faculty a safe ride home. Other accomplishments include setting a national record for student voter registration in the November elections, working to lobby for students at the state and national level and securing technology fee money to provide computers for student groups next year.

Misconceptions

One of the biggest frustrations for the pair this year has been dealing with students who don't understand how the ASUO operates.

Warren and Rhinard said they have been stopped on the street by students who blame them for the \$119 a term incidental fee, which is set mostly by the Student Senate's Programs Finance Committee.

Warren said she has also received e-mail messages and

phone calls from students who believe the ASUO Executive played a part in the \$50 technology fee students pay each term. The fee was levied by the University administration and the Oregon State Board of Higher Education, which worked to pass the fee through the state legislature last summer.

Visibility

In the wake of the recent student body elections, Warren faced criticism for not being visible enough to students.

"I don't know what they want me to do. I don't know if they want to see me on TV, if they want to see me in the newspaper all the time or if they want to see me sitting on the bench 24 hours a day. I don't know exactly what they're asking of me," Warren said.

"You could take up a lot of quality time just going to social events rather than trying to come up with innovative ideas and working towards the goals that we set in the very beginning of the year," she said.

Transition

Today the office is turned over to Jennifer Williamson and Zachary Kelton, the pair elected to ASUO Executive. Warren and Rhinard said they had their staff put together transition books and have met with next year's staff to give them recommendations and advice.

"I think we've done a lot better than [ASUO administrations] in the past," Rhinard said. "But there's always room to get better."

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