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Funds: No-show groups may lose money

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The PFC also received the full amount of money that had been requested for the 1996-1997 fiscal year. This amount, \$9,831, was the same amount the program received in this year's budget.

The budget hearings for these student groups are not likely to be representative of the budget season, said Susan Anderson, PFC chairwoman.

"About 90 percent of the budgets, at least, are increases," she said.

Aside from hearing budgets, the PFC also enacted a resolution for the budget season. The new policy states that the PFC reserves the right to zero-fund groups or programs that fail to appear within half an hour of their scheduled budget hearing time.

If student groups are zero-funded as a result of this resolu-

WHERE YOUR MONEY GOES

The 5-member ASUO Programs Finance Committee, which includes two student senators, will recommend how incidental fees are allocated to student groups next year.

ORGANIZATION	AMOUNT	PERCENT CHANGE FROM LAST YEAR
AVENU	\$3,476	-8 percent
ASUO Program Finance Comm.	\$9,831	0 percent
Money given this week:	\$13,307	
Money given to date:	\$13,307	

MATT GARTONE/emerald

tion, they can appeal the decision before the ASUO Constitution Court.

The ASUO Constitution Court was also scheduled to have its budget heard Monday night. But their budget request of \$1,995 was not looked at because the group failed to appear before the PFC.

The group was not zero-funded, however, because the com-

mittee's new policy was not enacted prior to their hearing date.

"We grandfathered them to give them one more opportunity to comply with PFC rules," said Chris Kantowitz, a PFC member.

The PFC, normally a seven-member body, is currently working with only five members due to two resignations at the beginning of winter term.

Discovery: Fragments date back 9,800 years

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Excavators took special care when unearthing the fragments.

"We used shovels and trowels for the excavating," said Connolly. "But in the cultural levels that contained basketry and fragile bits, some of the dirt was loose enough so that we could just use drinking straws to uncover the pieces."

The cave, which may have acted as a shelter from the wind for early inhabitants, also protected the fragments from being blown away years ago. The high salt content of the bird excrement and the salt water spray inside the cave acted as a preservative and is believed to have helped the fragments remain intact.

"It's so salty that none of the microbes could attack it like they normally would," Erlandson said. "The salt in the cave preserved the fragments similar to the way that cucumbers are soaked in brine to preserve pickles."

The Channel Islands, where the fragments were found, were excavated in the early 1900s and then again in the 1960s, but the early excavators didn't fully understand the importance of their finds, said Erlandson. The recent excavation project was to salvage what was left at the site before erosion and illegal relic hunters destroyed the remaining artifacts.

Historically, native Californians were known for the artistic quality of their basketry but until recently, archeologists had no evidence from the coastal regions that dated back further than 4,500 years.

In contrast, evidence found in caves located in the great Dry Basin, a high desert area that includes parts of Oregon and Nevada, are nearly 11,000 years old.

Although the islands, which belong to the National Park Service, are now uninhabited, there is evidence that the islands were once home to a group of people who were ancestors of the Chumasch Indians.

The Chumasch are one of the larger and more well-known Native American tribes in California. There are currently between 3,000 and 5,000 members of the tribe.

The ancient ancestors of the Chumasch lived on a diet of seals, sea lions and fish. A handful of seashells and stone artifacts found at the cave lead researchers to believe that the islands' early inhabitants had relatively seaworthy boats as early as 11,000 years ago.

The fragments are currently being kept on campus at Condon Hall while they are being researched. They will ultimately be moved to a repository in Santa Barbara, Calif.

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