

## Lobby: Students address financial aid

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really know what you're talking about if you don't have an emphasis," she said.

Adams said she plans to focus her lobbying on immigration and affirmative action legislation. Of special concern, she said, is Senate Bill 1394, the Immigration Reform Act. If passed, the number of professional immigrants and scholars allowed into the country would be drastically reduced.

"We're going to walk in there and say 'We don't want you to vote for 1394,'" she said. "We'll talk to them and explain it. I hope they'll take us seriously."

Informing the politicians about the issues is one of the main goals of the delegation, Adams said.

"We're really not trying to sway their vote," she said. "We're trying to educate them from a student's perspective because a lot of times they don't even know what's going on with us. If we do

sway their vote, great."

ASUO Federal Affairs Coordinator and delegate Matthew Scotten will focus on financial aid.

"Obviously our goal is funding federally financed aid to students," he said. "Things are literally changing by the hour, and it's a matter of knowing what legislation is ready to happen. Several programs have been targeted for cuts in this last round of appropriations debate."

Of primary concern is the possibility of the government cutting student direct loans, Scotten said. Direct loans are given from the government rather than from a lending agency such as a bank. This type of loan saves students a lot of money, he said.

"Direct lending is the greatest thing to happen to federally-financed loans," he said. "As students, we must address our congressional leadership and let them know how important these programs are."

USSA delegates participated in a selection process, and approximately 20 people applied for the 10 available positions.

"We emphasized things like 'What will you bring back to campus?' because that's been a weak point," Williamson said. "We wanted people personally involved in issues as opposed to people who'd lobbied before. I think [the delegates'] interest and commitment to educating their fellow students is what sets them apart."

Apart from dedication, the selection panel also looked for diversity among the delegates.

"Another criterion was building up a group with diverse perspectives," said Scotten, who was also on the hiring panel. "It was also really important that we chose people who were developing as leaders."

The President's Fund, personal funds and fund raising will pay for the trip.

## China: TSO will have peaceful demonstration

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go on for eight months."

Likewise, Shing-Jye Chen, public information officer for TSO, said he believes the United States needs to show its world leadership in this situation.

He wrote in a letter to President Clinton that "the United States must clearly warn China that any future threats to the peace in the Taiwan Strait will no longer be tolerated..."

Phone calls to the University's Chinese Student Association were not returned by press time.

At the Pentagon, Navy Capt. Michael Doubleday described what he called a "carefully orchestrated" shifting of Navy ships in order to strengthen

the U.S. military presence near Taiwan.

Doubleday said the two carriers positioned near Taiwan convey a message of precaution and reassurance.

Alan Tsai, president of TSO, said he is worried because he doesn't know what to expect from the Chinese government.

"If a war started, a lot of students would go back to Taiwan to fight; I would go," Tsai said.

The organization will collect signatures from students in front of the University Bookstore on Thursday to send a letter to President Clinton in repeal of China's actions. The group will also have a peaceful demonstration in front of the EMU Fishbowl on Friday.

## Group raises money after vote ends funding

ASUO: United States Student Assoc. raised \$10,000 for Washington, D.C. trip

By Jennifer Carter  
Student Activities Editor

The United States Student Association delegates' trip to Washington, D.C. won't be breaking students' banks.

Although University students are members of the student organization through the ASUO, students voted in 1994 and again in 1995 to no longer fund the local chapter of the organization. Because of this, student travel to attend USSA lobby days cannot be funded by student fees.

Therefore, in order to attend next week's lobby day, the University's delegates had to gather about \$10,000 from a variety of sources, including the President's office, personal sources and fund raising.

ASUO President Jennifer Williamson said the student vote to defund USSA has hurt students because it has made delegates focus their time on fund raising and not on presenting information to students both before and after their trip.

"Basically, we've had to start over in the last two years, and it's hard to put on programs when your having to fund raise," she said.

But USSA activity on campus, whether student-fee funded or not, has some students worried because previous delegations inappropriately used student funds. In 1994 when the group was still funded, delegate members used their group's long distance code for personal calls and also made some questionable transfers of charges from their travel account to other line items.

Cheryl Hunter, ASUO executive coordinator, said she thinks past misuse of student fees was the result of organizational problems and not an organized attempt to inappropriately use student money. "It was more sloppy management," she said.

In order to improve management of USSA as well as fee-funded groups, Williamson said she has cracked-down on phone usage and has worked closely with comptrollers (students who handle the financial transactions of student groups) to make sure money is not spent improperly.

ASUO Executive members must now keep a log of their phone calls, which is reviewed at the end of each month and is then sent to University Telecom for verification. The log not only keeps a record of who was called and when but also what each phone call was about.

Williamson said she is also working on making sure students are aware of the differences between sending students to lobby day and the University's status as a USSA member. Students voted not to provide delegates with student fees for the D.C. trip, but did vote in 1994 to maintain the ASUO's USSA member status. She said she thinks students get confused about this distinction and think they are funding the D.C. trips when in fact they aren't.

She said transfers from ASUO fund-raising line items to a USSA fund-raising line item do not infringe upon past student decisions.

"We have to follow state guidelines to use state money but not to use fund-raising money," she said. "Fund-raised money is not a mandatory incidental fee."

Williamson said she is also working on making a clearer distinction between the ASUO and USSA. Although the ASUO federal affairs coordinator works with the national USSA affiliate to get information about events occurring on other campuses, this relationship does not need to require that the ASUO work for USSA or vice versa, she said.

"I'd like to see USSA as more of an independent group that works with the federal affairs coordinator but is not run by it," she said. "This year my focus has been to take USSA out of the ASUO office."

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J 199	Documentary Photography: A Critical Examination and History
J 199	Mass Media and Modern Sports
SPER 199	Building Inclusive Communities: Images of Disability and Difference (Sec. 1)
AAD 199	Building Inclusive Communities: Images of Disability and Difference (Sec. 2)
PHYS 199	The Origin and Evolution of and The Search for Life in the Universe
ENG 199	Primary Intensity: Lesbians in Literature Since 1970
MUS 199	Classic Sci Fi: Fantasy or the Future?
RUSS 199	Russia Yesterday and Today (from Perestroika to the Present)
BI 199	Cascadia Bioregion: Biological and Cultural Foundations

For more information, see page 86 of the spring *Schedule of Classes*.  
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