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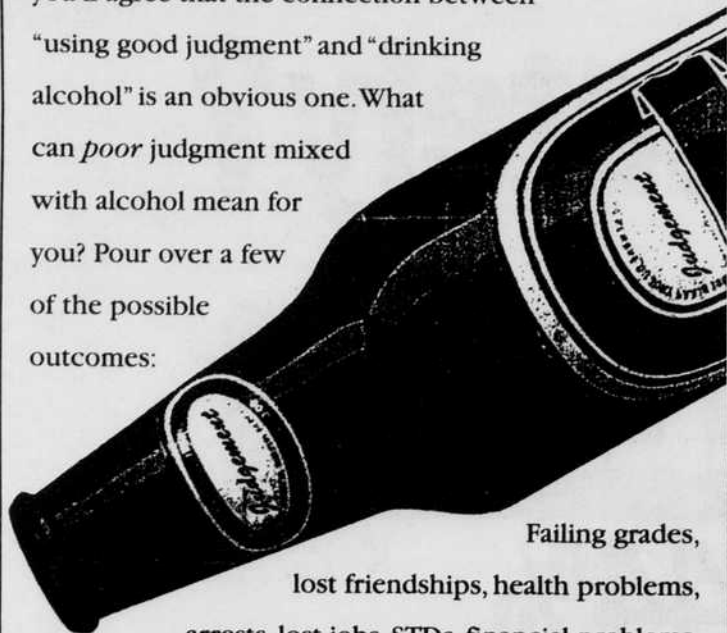


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# Pour Judgment.

Knowing when to call it quits isn't always easy, but if you consider the consequences of over-doing it, you'll agree that the connection between "using good judgment" and "drinking alcohol" is an obvious one. What can *poor* judgment mixed with alcohol mean for you? Pour over a few of the possible outcomes:



Failing grades,  
lost friendships, health problems,  
arrests, lost jobs, STDs, financial problems,  
even addiction. Is that extra drink really worth the risk? Avoid poor judgment when pouring.

Drink responsibly.

## Make the Connection. Join the Crowd.

UO Alcohol and Drug Prevention Team and  
the Office of the Dean of Student Life (346-3216)

# Senate weighs new ways to vote

**■ ELECTIONS:** New ID cards will require a change in technique to make sure that no students vote twice

By Tom Potter  
Student Activities Reporter

Students will be voting a new way when ASUO elections come up this spring. Options that are currently being considered range from high-tech touch-screen monitors to a system called Duck Vote.

The consideration of new voting technologies stems from the new identification cards being issued to students this year.

Part of the reason for the new ID cards was to eliminate the need for stickers, elections coordinator Brandon Smith said. This presents a problem because in the past, stickers have been used during elections as a way to make sure students didn't vote twice.

Elections officials marked the Lane Transit District stickers with a marker after students voted.

"Whoever runs elections, we have to make sure students don't vote twice," Smith said.

There are four options that are currently being considered by the ASUO Elections Board to eliminate this concern.

Duck Vote is one suggested idea. It basically uses the same technology and equipment as the class registration system, Duck Call.

With Duck Vote, students would enter their social security

### VOTING TECHNOLOGIES

**■ DUCK VOTE:** This would cost about \$2,000, but the equipment for it is already in place.

**■ INTERNET VOTING:** The cost would be about \$2,000 and would require that students be computer literate.

**■ HAND SCANNERS:** These would cost between \$600 and \$1,000. About 12 scanners would have to be purchased.

**■ TOUCH SCREEN MONITORS:** These would cost the most at about \$3,000 each.

number and then vote over the phone.

Internet voting is also on the table. Western Oregon State College tried it out last year and was fairly successful, Smith said.

However, Smith said the Internet voting process would be a lot more complicated to implement at the University because of the considerably larger student body.

Security problems and students' computer literacy have also been considered potential problems to the Internet voting process, Smith said. Availability and access are also possible hindrances, he said.

"If you don't do something that's in people's face, then they're not going to vote," Smith said.

Smith recently presented various voting options to the ASUO Student Senate. The Senate most

favored the use of hand scanners, Smith said.

Under the scanning process, ID cards would be swept through scanners and students' social security numbers would be stored. Students would receive a traditional ballot. Scanners would cost between \$600 and \$1,000. Smith said about 12 would have to be purchased.

If implemented, a new technological voting system would save time because the ballots would not have to be recounted in the event of a close election, Smith said.

Touch-screen monitors are also being considered. Candidates who run for office could have their pictures up on a screen. Students would be able to touch the screen, bringing up the candidates' voter's guide statements.

These monitors would run about \$3,000 each.

Implementing this technology would also have some additional costs including advertising, setting up equipment and hiring computer-support services.

The Elections Board has about \$6,000 allocated for elections, Smith said.

Before the implementation of any new voting processes, the Elections Board will have to go before the Senate and request the funding needed to implement the changes.

Smith said the special request hearing may take place some time in November.

### SENATE

## briefly

### Senate issues formal reply to resignation

The ASUO Student Senate met Wednesday night in the EMU Boardroom to hear special requests from the Journal of Environmental Law and Litigation, International Students Association and KWVA campus radio.

■ The Senate issued a formal reply to former Senate President James Boyd's resignation. The reply included: "Despite his success, James should not have made the position of president the pillar of his new term. Every Senate body has different and varied opinions, and to pin this year's hopes and achievements on last year's expectations in such an uncompromising manner poorly treats the Senate body and the constituency to which James was elected to represent."

■ \$500 was approved for JELL to help fund a symposium dealing with land issues and environmental law. The symposium will be open to all University students.

■ A recommendation was made for \$1,200 to be taken from the over-realized fund so ISA could buy a new computer and printer to replace one that was stolen. Currently the group has no computer with which to run basic operations. It will be one week before a final decision will be made.

■ Several line-item transfers totaling \$19,599 were approved for KWVA. The money will be transferred from the general managers position, which was approved last spring by the Programs Finance Committee. The money will now be used to buy new production equipment to update KWVA studios.

■ The Computer Support Committee filled its two remaining seats with Senators Michael Davis and David McGee.

—compiled by Tom Potter

## Study cites illness and wages as hunger causes

**■ FOOD:** Families with two parents comprise 30 percent of those who get assistance

By Jennifer Carter  
Managing Editor

The symptom is always the same: gnawing tension in the stomach. The cure is also always the same: eating.

But the problems causing hunger in Lane County are as diverse as the thousands who have coped with it throughout the past year.

The relation of problems — such as rising housing costs and low wages — to hunger is documented in *Profiles of Hunger in Oregon*, a statewide study of hunger factors that was released Tuesday by Food for Lane County.

Food for Lane County's Communications Director, Cheryl Crumbley, said the number of people needing food assistance is rising around the country.

Currently, one in seven Oregonians is affected by hunger. One area that her organization is most concerned about, she said, is an increase in the number of two-parent families who are part of the working poor.

The greatest percentage of people receiving emergency food boxes, food stamps or other assistance during the 1996 year came from the two-parent household category. More than 30 percent of these families received some kind of assistance. Following behind at 21.7 percent were single-parent households headed by women.

Many of these people earn minimum wage in their job. The state's minimum wage

produces a full-time income of only \$9,800 a year. This income is below the official poverty line of \$15,141 for a family of four.

"Oregon is very high in minimum-wage jobs, even among educated people," Crumbley said. "I think that more and more of what we're dealing with is the working poor. It's a term that is kind of thrown around, but it's also a sad truism."

"You're still at the poverty line if you work and you've got two kids."

Another area of key concern is hunger among children. Crumbley said 29 percent of children in Oregon are going hungry or are at risk. One way children get classified as at risk for hunger is when their families are affected by emergencies, such as illnesses. Illness can affect family incomes, especially among families without insurance, she said. Illness and surgery also affect people's ability to work. These factors hurt a family's ability to pay for necessities like food, she said.

In order to solve these problems, Crumbley said Food for Lane County relies on volunteers from the community and the University.

"We do look to the University to do some kind of advocacy," she said.

In order to formulate a viable solution to fight hunger, the Oregon Foodbank Network is calling for measures to create a realistic minimum wage, provide low-income working families with a state earned-income tax credit and change the lower end of the income tax. Currently, Oregon taxes incomes as low as \$10,900.