

Executive Branch is heart of student government

By Laura Baker
Student Activities Reporter

In the long process of deciding how student incidental fees should be allocated among ASUO student groups, the ASUO Executive plays more of an advising role, rather than as an active decision-maker.

According to the ASUO constitution, the ASUO Executive is responsible for submitting budget recommendations for ASUO programs to the Student Senate and the Programs Finance Committee (PFC) prior to the budget hearings held for each program.

"We are not an active member in the [incidental fee] process," said ASUO President Matthew Scotten. "We make proposals for each student group based on criteria such as how much money was used last year [by the group], did it use all the money that was allocated and how many students are involved in the program."

Scotten said the ASUO Executive tries to be as impartial as possible in making recommendations, and its main purpose is in trying

"to maintain growth in the programs and help the groups get a good deal on their budget."

After hearings have been held for all programs, the Student Senate submits recommendations to the ASUO Executive for approval. The ASUO president does have the power to veto the Senate's recommendations, according to the Constitution. "The president shall hold veto powers over all of the allocations of the Student Senate and over all budget recommendations of the ASUO PFC."

"We have the right to veto, but we believe in cooperating with the senate and working through our differences at the hearing level," said Scotten.

Upon approving the recommendations from the Student Senate, the ASUO Executive is responsible for submitting the recommendations to University President Dave Frohnmayer for approval. After approval, it is sent on to the Chancellor for compilation and then to the Oregon State Board of Higher Education for final approval.



SCOTTEN



BANFIELD

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Student Senate juggles different committees

By Autumn De Poe
Student Activities Reporter

The ASUO Student Senate acts on matters relating to the allocation and appropriation of incidental fees and "represents the collective and constituent interests of students in all matters," according to the ASUO constitution. The senate deliberates and decides the budget growth benchmark by Nov. 30. The senate votes to approve or deny the budgets recommended by the Programs Finance

Committee, the EMU Budget Committee and the Athletic Department Finance Committee (ADFC).

The senate has line-item approval of the different budgets, or it can reject one or all of the budgets as a whole.

The senate passes the approved budget by April on to the ASUO Executive, who then either approves or rejects the budget.

The ASUO vice president serves as the chair of the Stu-

dent Senate and presides over the senate meetings. He or she votes only in the case of a tie.

The senate is composed of 18 members. Fifteen members of the Student Senate serve a two-year term and three serve for a one-year term. Three senators serve on the EMU Budget Committee, three others on the PFC and three more on the ADFC. The other nine senators are all elected from their various academic departments.

Board decides funding for EMU-housed groups

By Thom Schoenborn
Managing Editor

The Erb Memorial Union Board is responsible for the development and maintenance of the EMU. There are two two-year finance senators, one one-year finance senator and four members elected at large for two year terms.

The EMUB decides on what amount of the EMU budget will be subsidized by incidental fees. This year, EMU subsidies represented 39 percent of incidental fees. Incidental fees made up 41 percent of the EMU's total revenue, with the

other 59 percent coming from sales and services, grants and other revenue.

The EMUB must take certain unavoidable increases into account when budgeting for the next year. For example, salaries for union employees typically go up every year. Some programs the EMUB subsidizes are Craft Center, Child Care and Development, the Cultural Forum, Club Sports and the Outdoor Program. Administration (with wages and salaries) and House Facilities (with utilities and equipment) consume the largest amount of Incidental Fees, at \$612,969 and \$548,895, respectively.

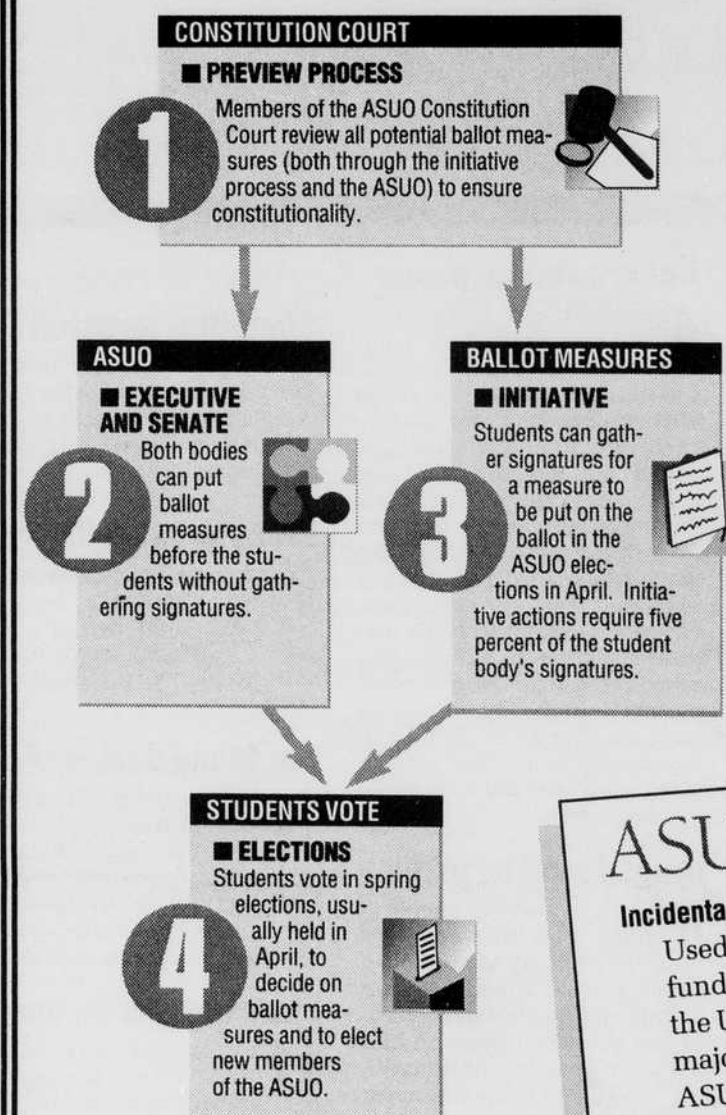
FOCUSING ON

STUDENT GOVERNMENT

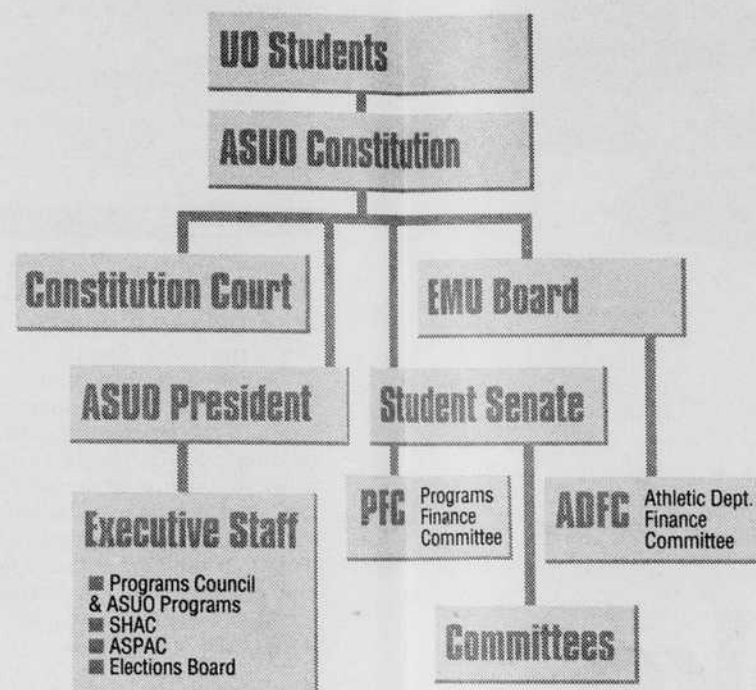
ASSOCIATED STUDENTS

OF THE UNIVERSITY OF OREGON

The Ballot Measure Process



The ASUO Structure



The Incidental Fee Budget Process

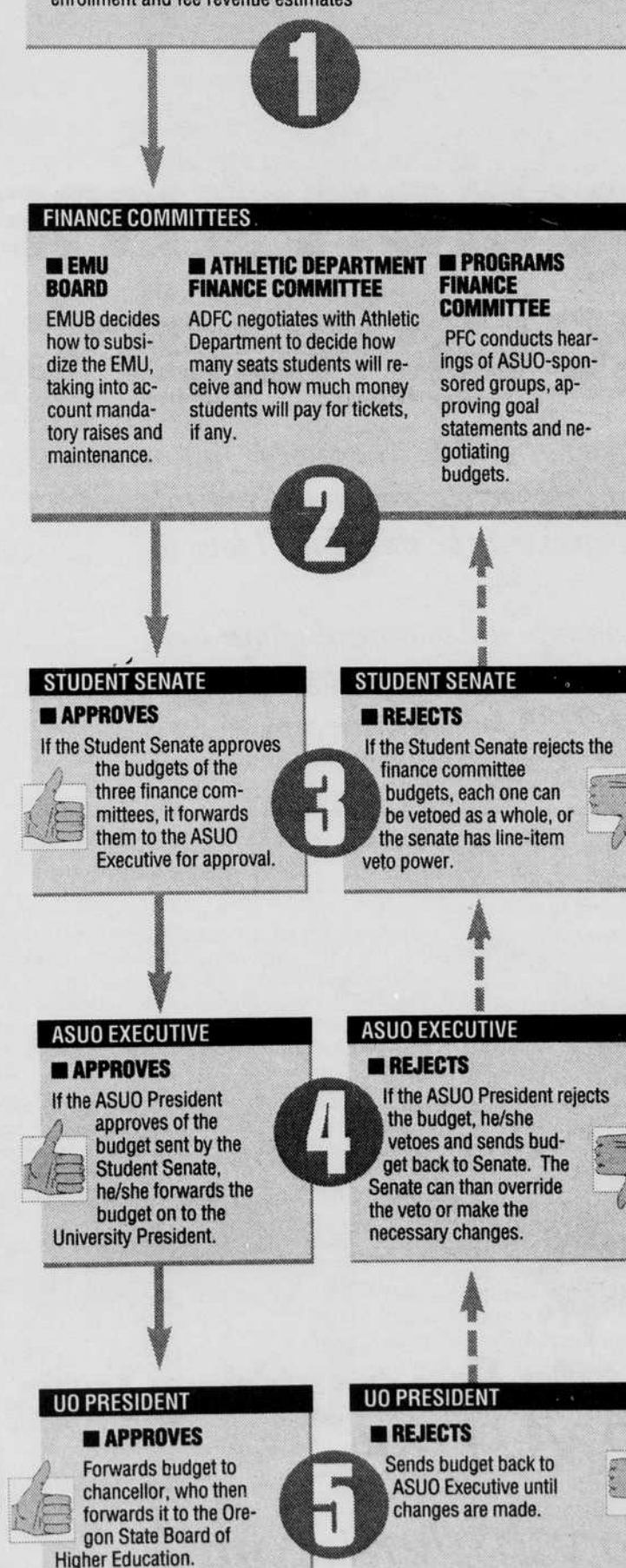
University students pay more than \$130 per student per term to an item on their bill called "Incidental Fees." Incidental Fees run student government. Determining the amount students pay is based on three factors: programs, ballot

measures, and administration. Programs are ASUO programs, the Athletic Department Finance Committee, and the EMU. Students can put measures on the ballot. We've concentrated on the programs and the ballot measures.

BENCHMARK

■ BY NOV. 30

Student Senate sets a budget benchmark using input from the finance committees and the ASUO Executive. University provides enrollment and fee revenue estimates



ASUO-Speak Explained

Incidental Fee

Used by the ASUO to fund major programs at the University. The three major programs are the ASUO-sponsored groups, the Athletic Department subsidization for student tickets and the EMU.

Benchmark

Percentage increase the major programs should not exceed.

Major Programs

The ASUO's major programs are ASUO-sponsored groups, the Athletic Department ticket subsidy and the EMU subsidy. Each of these programs has a finance committee which reports to the Student Senate.

Post-Close

Amount of money left in an ASUO-sponsored group's budget. Money left is rolled over into an account used the next year for special requests.

Special Requests

Requests for left-over Incidental Fees brought before the Student Senate, usually by ASUO-sponsored groups to cover any unforeseen expenses or growth.

Ballot Measures

Can be brought before the voters by initiative (requiring five percent of the student body signatures), the ASUO President, a 2/3 majority of the Student Senate or the EMU Board. Ballot measures are typically for multi-year funding.

ASUO Constitution

Defines the membership of the ASUO (enrolled students), and outlines the duties of the officers of the ASUO, the Student Senate and its finance committees.

Clark Document

Provides the authority from the Administration for the ASUO to allocate student fees.

Gotta Gripe?

HOW TO CONTACT THE ASUO

■ GRIEVANCES:

The Student Senate hosts a grievance table on the main level of the EMU atrium every Tuesday and Wednesday.

■ IN PERSON:

The ASUO Executive is in SUITE 4 of the EMU which is on the ground floor in the breezeway. The Student Senate is in Room 28 of the EMU.

■ BY PHONE:

ASUO Executive 346-3724
ASUO Senate 346-3749

■ BY E-MAIL:

ASUO President asuopres@gladstone
ASUO V. President asuovp@gladstone
ASUO Senate senate@gladstone

■ ON THE WEB:

ASUO Executive
<http://gladstone.uoregon.edu/~asuoprogram>

ASUO Senate

<http://gladstone.uoregon.edu/~senate>

ASUO Constitution

<http://gladstone.uoregon.edu/constitution.html>

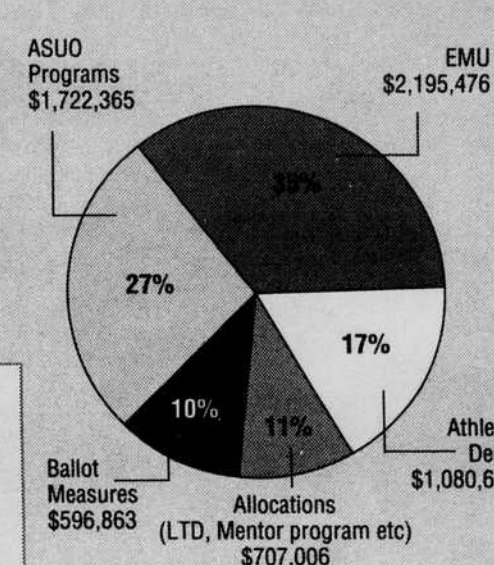
ASUO Clark Document

<http://gladstone.uoregon.edu/clarkdoc.html>

SOURCE: ASUO, ASUO Budget Book '96-'97, ASUO Constitution
Compiled by Thom Schoenborn, Graphics & Layout by Dennis Bolt

INCIDENTAL FEES BY THE NUMBERS

This represents the Incidental Fee break-down. Ballot measures include programs like OSPIRG and the Designated Driver Shuttle. Allocations include the LTD subsidy, Mentor Program, Counseling Fee and Career Center Services.



■ GRAND TOTAL: \$6,302,391
■ EACH STUDENT: \$135.05 per term which is up \$11.55 from last year

PFC allocates money to ASUO-sponsored groups

By Thom Schoenborn
Managing Editor

The Programs Finance Committee is responsible for allocating fees to ASUO-sponsored groups.

The Student Senate passes the budget benchmark on to the committee. The PFC is not supposed to allocate an amount higher than that benchmark.

The PFC then assigns each group a "tag." A tag helps groups put together their budget proposals. The tags notify the groups of the benchmark and, if requested by the group, help tailor the requested numbers and check the goal statement for constitutionality.

Groups with budgets under \$5,000 must turn in their budget proposal by early December. Groups over \$5,000 must turn in their budget proposals by early January.

During the budget season, the

PFC usually meets three times a week to hear groups' budget proposals. During the hearing, the PFC deliberates on each group's goal statement. Each goal statement must prove that the group provides for the physical and/or cultural development of the students of the University.

If the goal statement is not approved, the budget is tabled by the PFC. The group can then appeal the PFC's decision to the Student Senate.

Once the goal statement is approved, the PFC hears the budget proposal.

Common causes of reduction in funds are: money left over at the end of fiscal year (called the "post-close"), no planned activities, low visibility on campus, erroneous production with publications or simply not showing up for the budget hearing.

ADFC helps determine student seating at games

By Gordon Bell
Freelance Reporter

A contract negotiated between the Athletic Department and the Athletic Department Finance Committee (ADFC) allows a percentage of student incidental fees to be used for the purchase of student tickets for football and basketball games.

Roughly 20 percent of student incidental fees go toward purchasing student seats from the Athletic Department.

The ADFC is a division of the ASUO represented by three student senators, an ASUO appointee and one student athlete.

According to Corey Johnson, the ADFC chairman, students pay an estimated \$22 each quarter to help pay for the cost of subsidizing student seats.

"Our goal is to try and get the best discount for the best

for any reduction in the contract won't be easy. He said there seems to be a lack of respect from the Athletic Department concerning the debate over student ticket prices.

"I don't think they take into consideration that Mac Court and the Athletic Department were built and founded by student government money," Banfield said. "Every single year they're taking away seats."

However, Sandy Walton, senior associate athletic director, reported that student attendance has been dismal, and the Athletic Department loses money when seats are left empty.

Currently, the Athletic Department sells seats to students for about 50 percent of what they're worth.

"They're (students) getting one heck of a deal," Walton said.