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Board splits Footnotes space

■ **EMU:** The board rejected a proposal to remodel the space by tearing out a wall

By Angie Suchy
Student Activities Editor

The EMU Board decided Wednesday to allow the MCC and the LGBTA to split the current Footnotes space nearly 50:50.

A proposal by two board members to tear down a wall and eliminate the hallway between the current Footnotes site and the MCC was voted down. EMU Associate Director Frank Geltner stated his opposition to this plan, "I know the amount of expense it will take if this proposal passes ... without a noise barrier between office space and presentation space, problems will arise and the MCC would probably want to remodel — again," he said.

Although the board did vote down the idea for the logistical

change, board members voted unanimously to maintain the EMU House Committee's recommendation to split the new space equally, pending the architect's approval. Several board members said they believed it was structurally feasible for the space to be split almost equally.

The LGBTA will be located in the front of the space, and the MCC in the rear.

The recommendation was largely based on the MCC's commitment to the University's 12 percent minority population and the LGBTA's commitment to the roughly 10 percent gay, lesbian and transgender population, said board member Jenna Wasson.

LGBTA member Karen Vittek said, "the 50 percent is what we support, and we won't squabble

over small amounts of square feet." She noted that "[the LGBT-A] are part of every single group on campus, if you think about it. We're more than the 10 percent."

In addition, Vittek said the LGBTA is in the process of filling out the paperwork in order to become a center, rather than a student group, and will be going through this process regardless of the space the group is allocated. However, the LGBTA is likely to expand in membership and programming, she said, so a fair amount of space is necessary.

The board's agenda also included the approval for art in the EMU, which will now go to the Student Senate. The EMU Cultural Forum commissioned art of Ben Linder. Linder, an architect originally from Portland, was killed in Nicaragua 10 years ago while building a hydroelectric plant. The decision about covering framing costs and placing the art now goes to the senate.



Student Senate holds last meeting

■ **MEETING:** The senate granted requests by OSPIRG and the EMU Cultural Forum for money and docked Senator Bieker's pay

By Autumn De Poe
Student Activities Reporter

The current ASUO Student Senate met for the last time this year on Wednesday night. Senate members discussed special requests from OSPIRG and the EMU Cultural Forum, and moved to an executive session to discuss a non-fulfillment of duties motion against senator Michael Bieker.

OSPIRG approached the senate for a special request of \$350 to pay for sound equipment for a political corruption rally which will take place on May 29 in front of the Bean Complex. The rally would deal with a number of issues including corporate domination, and would feature six speakers, music by bands and a disc jockey. Members from OSPIRG stated that they had approached the political science and sociology departments and various other student groups for money but did not receive any because it is near the end of the year and everyone was out of money. According to the OSPIRG representatives, OSPIRG did not have a line item from which they could transfer money.

After discussion about the methods OSPIRG could

have used to get fundraising money, the motion for \$350 was approved.



The EMU Cultural Forum asked the senate for \$1,500 to aid in putting up a mural and a portrait of Ben Linder in the Ben Linder room. The money would pay for installation and framing, including glare-proof glass.

Senator Kalpana Krishnamurthy brought up a question regarding the flooding of the Ben Linder room, which keeps it from being used by students and programs at times. Senators also asked if the paintings would be secured from moisture, theft and vandalism. EMU Manager Frank Geltner assured the senators the paintings would be safe and securely mounted in the wall. The motion for \$1,500 from the senate surplus fund was unanimously approved.

The senate then went into executive session to discuss a motion of non-fulfillment of duties brought up by senate Ombudsman Ben Unger against business senator Michael Bieker. The senate voted to suspend senator Bieker's pay for one month.

Before the senators went into executive session, the student senators for next year made the transition into office.

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