

Continued from Page 1

used to keep DDS operating seven nights a week.

The executive requested that DDS meet with the programs administrator to create a budget for the \$50,000 lump sum and receive Student Senate approval. But neither a budget nor senate approval is normally required before ballot measure money can be used.

Smith said DDS plans to ask students for funding every year.

"We're going to go to the ballot for student approval this year," said DDS Executive Director Brandon Smith. "Ultimately, they're the people that matter to us."

The 25-page ASUO response calls for dismissal of the case.

"I'm hoping they understand

the decisions we made and why we thought it was the proper process to follow," Cowling said. "Whatever happens, happens. If they don't think we made the right decision, we will learn from that and in the future make the process better."

DDS also wants a review of student wage rates and Oregon's minimum wage statutes in relation to ASUO student employees.

The executive staff of DDS switched from stipends to an hourly wage this year.

The ASUO Executive wants DDS to get approval before making payroll changes.

"If you look at other programs, everything we do gets scrutinized to a T," Smith said. "The world is not a fair place, but this is absurd."

The DDS petition also asked the court for an interpretation of executive rule 81.1, which outlines the executive's powers, and parts of the Clark Document that explain the use of ballot measure money.

"The court's existence is for these matters," Cowling said.

"They're a body not amidst the hoopla."

Constitution Court settles disputes related to ASUO Constitution

Students can file petitions to the court, which decides whether each case should be heard

By Kristina Rudinskas

Oregon Daily Emerald

The ASUO Constitution Court is a channel students and campus programs can use to end disputes. The court lays down the law.

"We can address any case or controversy that falls under the ASUO Constitution," chief justice Joel Corcoran said. "Our boundaries are not set in stone at all."

Students and ASUO programs wishing to use the court can file a petition and wait for the respondents to answer the charges. The court decides if a hearing is necessary and then issues a decision.

Hard copies of previous Constitution Court decisions are bound in the ASUO office, Suite 4 in the EMU. Petition guidelines can also be picked up at the office.

According to state law, Corcoran said, the University president actually has all the power to run the institution. The University delegates power to the ASUO over student groups and programs, but any of the court's decisions can be overturned by University President Dave Frohnmayer.

"We do our best to decide the right cases at the right time," Corcoran said. The court decides on a case-by-case basis.

Four other associate justices preside on the bench, and two must be law students. The ASUO Executive appoints the justices, who remain on the court as long as they are students.

Justice Jeremy Gibbons, a sociology major,

said being a non-law student brings a fresh outlook to court decisions.

"Not knowing much law gives me a better perspective on what the average student's going to understand," he said.

The ASUO Executive plans to appoint one justice to replace a vacancy currently on the bench.

The court has the power to censure and interpret any rules in the ASUO Constitution, ASUO program by-laws, Constitution Court rules and executive rules.

"It's messy because there are all sorts of rules floating around," Gibbons said.

The court cannot hear legal suits, student conduct issues or any violation of state law.

"I think perhaps the biggest misunderstanding is that there are no other groups to resolve disputes than us," Corcoran said.

The ASUO student senate, the executive

office, state courts, student conduct boards and conflict resolution services are also available for students to use.

Some petitions can be political in nature — neither side has done anything wrong, they just don't like what the other side is doing, Corcoran said.

Petitions flooded the court last spring after the outcome of the ASUO elections.

Last year, 28 petitions were filed with the court, 21 of them filed after the elections.

The court plans to work in cooperation with this year's ASUO elections board to revise the election rules for this year's upcoming campus elections.

"It's important to have the court act professional, as much like a real court as possible," Corcoran said. "A court that mimics a real court."

Albright attempts to spur Israeli, Palestinian leaders to make peace

By Barry Schweid

The Associated Press

JERUSALEM — Israel and the Palestinians have failed to make the "tough choices" needed to conclude a West Bank accord, and unless they do, Mideast peacemaking could fall apart, Secretary of State Madeleine Albright said Tuesday.

Her remarks, as she met with Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu here and with Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat in Jericho on the West Bank, seemed designed to spur the leaders to tackle their differences.

The key challenge appeared to be settling on security arrange-

ments that would enable Netanyahu to sign off on a 13 percent pullback on the West Bank with high hopes of getting the deal through his rightist Likud coalition government.

Still, Albright set up a three-way meeting on Wednesday with Arafat and Netanyahu at Erez, on the border between Israel and Palestinian-held Gaza.

"Time is not on our side," Albright said, standing alongside Arafat in his Jericho headquarters. "If we don't move quickly, we may find ourselves without a process of peacemaking, without an agreement, and without the hope of achieving an Israeli-

Palestinian peace."

Arafat declined to be drawn out on the security issue. "Peace means security, peace means freedom," he said.

The territorial issue — the terms of Israel's pullback — was "largely resolved," said State Department spokesman James P. Rubin. But dozens of other issues remain unresolved, he said.

Whatever Albright may accomplish here, there will be no agreement before President Clinton hosts a Washington summit with Arafat and Netanyahu, he added.

"I think we envisage the summit as a multi-day exercise where some heavy lifting is going to be

required," he said. "We do not envisage it as a photo-op in which everything is pre-cooked."

The summit's exact date and site are in flux. The likely startup is Oct. 15 or Oct. 20, and the location could be outside Washington, such as at the Wye Plantation on Maryland's Eastern Shore.

After Albright leaves the region, probably on Wednesday, U.S. mediator Dennis Ross and Assistant Secretary of State Martin Indyk will remain for further talks with Israeli and Palestinian officials.

"We recognize there are tough choices that have to be made by

both sides as we approach the Washington summit," said Albright, wearing matching peace-dove earrings, bracelet and pin, as she gave no indication that differences had been cleared up.

The aim is an Israeli pullback on the West Bank, the acquisition of more territory for the Palestinians and the start of negotiations over such issues as the future of Jerusalem and Palestinian aspirations for a state.

Whatever the outcome, Albright said the United States intends to pursue a better relationship with the Palestinian Authority "for its own sake."

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