

# Senate sends Riverfront recommendation to Frohnmayer

The University Senate pushes for restrictions on the highly debated research park

By Sarah Skidmore  
Oregon Daily Emerald

Following a year of intense debate and research, the University Senate approved a recommendation for the development of the Riverfront Research Park on Wednesday.

The senate's recommendation urges University President Dave Frohnmayer to impose various restrictions on the development of the research park. These restrictions would permit the building of the research park, but not in the River View area near the Autzen Footbridge.

Additionally, any future development of the River View area would be required to undergo thorough scrutiny before the area could be developed, according to the resolution.

The senate recommendation was the result of serious deliberation over an earlier recommendation from the Riverfront Research Park Review Committee. After modification and approval by the senate, the recommendation was sent to Frohnmayer, who will make the final decision.

"I think all sides of the issues were aired articulately and effectively," University Senate President Jeff Hurwit said. "However, I am concerned the senate passed a resolution that the president cannot fully accept."

Frohnmayer said he wholeheartedly supported the committee's recommendation. But the senate's recommendation contains two major deviations from the review committee's original recommendation.

Frohnmayer is still deliberating over the senate's recommendation.

The recommendation mandates a setback of 100 feet vs. the original 35-foot setback. This could cause logistical problems

in possible sites because of the proposed increased density of buildings, said Diane Wiley, a planning associate for University Planning and member of the design committee.

Another deviation includes prohibiting development of the River View area in the future without serious deliberation.

Preservation should be considered the "highest priority," according to the resolution.

"I understand people's concern and value the discussion, but we closely examined the issue and I believe we came to a solid conclusion," said Theodore Palmer, chairman of the research committee.

"I believe that some of the people who are opposing it are not as well-informed," Palmer said.

Although the recommendation has been submitted, deliberation within the senate will still continue. Frohnmayer said he will wait to make any final decisions until

the senate finishes its discussion.

"This is an ongoing process," Frohnmayer said. "There is no immediate plan to develop."

While some of the original committee members are unhappy with the revisions made by the senate, other parties are opposed to the research park as a whole.

"The research park promises to do nothing for us for as scholars," said Frank Stahl, a biology professor and long-time opponent to the research park. "Even if they could, it would be dubious if it would enhance our scholastic environment."

In addition to the academic perspective, the visual and physical worth of the land is invaluable, Stahl said.

"It should be snuffed right where it is," he said of the research park.

Discussion of the Riverfront Research Park will continue at the next University Senate meeting on Jan. 13.

## SETA

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student appointees to sit on. She said approving Brown to the seat was an error because she had already sent out a letter approving another appointment to the committee.

"Because the person who traditionally sent out the material for appointments retired, there has been a mix-up about which committees have ASUO-recommended appointments," Hubin said. "Unfortunately this is one of the committees that we accidentally solicited names for when we shouldn't have."

ASUC officials are skeptical of the motives of the administration

in repealing the appointment. While officials from the committee and the president's office say that it was a simple clerical error, ASUO President Geneva Wortman, Vice President Morgan Cowling and some senators believe the action is an attempt to subvert the ability of student government to appoint people to committees.

"We feel like the administration is trying to override the ASUO by ignoring the precedent that has always been followed," Constitutional Court Justice Jeremy Gibbons said. "Traditionally the ASUO executive reviews applicants for certain student seats and recom-

mends them to the administration."

This format has been followed for other committee appointments for at least 20 years.

According to Brown, after applying for a seat on IACUC, she was called by Wagner and told where and when to go to the first meeting. When the meeting started, she introduced herself and told of her affiliation with SETA. She left the meeting believing that her position was secure.

When she arrived home that evening, there was a message from Wagner on her machine informing her that there had been an error and that the person who had for-

merly held the student seat on the committee had actually been reappointed in May.

Feeling that she had been unjustly removed from the committee, Brown filed a grievance just before Thanksgiving. Student Senator Autumn DePoe and Gibbons are handling the grievance.

Hubin, who handles appointments for committees, said that the ASUO appointment process does not apply to certain committees, including IACUC.

Will Davies, an associate professor of philosophy and five-year chair of the committee, is also calling the confusion a clerical error.

"To the best of my knowledge,

we had already confirmed the former occupant of the chair," he said.

Joan Haab, a graduate biology student, was chosen by the administration to continue on the committee this year. Haab is out of the country doing research and administrators are not sure whether she is aware of her reappointment. Until Haab returns to the University, the student seat on the IACUC will remain empty.

"If the student who has been chosen cannot even be here, that means that there will not be a student on the committee until she gets back," Cowling said. "Our basic goal is to get Sarah Brown back on the committee."



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