

# ASUO President and VP recap year's achievements

This year's ASUO Executive believes in the power and idealism of students. Historically, it has been students who have fought the good fight in this country. Students have been at the forefront of the civil rights, feminist and environmental movements.

The student movement is not dead.

Your student government believes that education is a right, not a privilege. A quality higher education can and must be accessible and affordable for everyone. If it is only traditionally represented students who can attend institutions of higher education, we are allowing the dominant paradigm of racism, sexism and homophobia to prevail in society forever.

Everyone must feel welcome and safe on campus. So how does this broad vision for our community translate into a year in the ASUO?

By advocating for increased campus diversity, campus safety, a tuition freeze, student parent child care and empowering students with the skills and experience to know they can make

change in their community. The ASUO, your student government, has diligently, consistently and effectively advocated for students this year.

Unfortunately, if you read the Emerald, you would be led to believe that students, especially your student government, are powerless to create any change. One Emerald editorial suggested that the ASUO can merely take stands on issues but not effect real change. Don't buy into the pathetic rhetoric.

#### Tuition Freeze

It was the ASUO Executive leading the charge to ward off a 5.3 percent increase in your tuition. It was not the corporate lobbyists, University administrators or faculty who created a climate for the Oregon University System budget to pass through the House of Representatives and the Senate. It was students. It was students collecting letters, testifying before legislative committees in Salem and meeting with lawmakers who won this victory. Even University President Dave Frohnmayer believes that students are the best advocates for higher education. Unfortunately,

the Emerald editorial board does not understand this.

#### Campus Safety

Through the ASUO's initial work on campus safety, it was clear students needed more than lighting and painted duck feet to feel safe on campus. Ultimately, we need to create a climate that refuses to accept racism, sexism or homophobia. The ASUO is ad-

#### Commentary

Geneva Wortman and Morgan Cowling

vocating for a University-wide Statement of Respect. Students also demanded a mechanism to hold our Office of Public Safety officers accountable. The ASUO Executive initiated the process to create an OPS Advisory Board and grievance process to fully include the student voice in public safety.

#### Child Care

Students fund the ASUO Child Care Subsidy to offset the cost of child care for student parents, but it is not enough. State funding for the Student Parent Child Care Block Grant has been an ASUO Executive legislative pri-

ority, and students have been successful. The goal is to provide more students with affordable child care. No one should have to choose between being a parent and being a student.

#### Campus Diversity

The ASUO Executive cut through the talk of diversity on campus by creating a concrete plan to increase the recruitment and retention of students and faculty of color on campus. The ASUO Diversity team, in coalition with many student programs, developed a mentorship program and an ambassador team of students to assist University admissions in recruiting more students of color. The Diversity 2000 plan includes diversity sensitivity training for faculty and a more aggressive approach for faculty hiring procedures.

#### Student Empowerment

The ASUO had more interns than any other student government in the country. The ASUO trained, developed and empowered more than 100 students this year through our internship program. Through weekly training and hands-on experience, interns gained the tools to win con-

crete victories for students.

#### Student-Centered University

The ASUO saved students money through our Book Swap program, where students sold their used textbooks. This process allows students to make more money off their used books and save more money when purchasing new texts. The ASUO continued the tradition of publishing professor evaluations. This year we made them more accessible by publishing them on the Web.

The ASUO has worked hard this year, fighting the good fight for the students of this university and the state of Oregon. It has been an honor to serve our community with this group of committed students. The end of the year is the time to look back and see how the hard work and dedication of this group of people resulted in concrete victories for students. Your student government has represented you well and worked hard for all students on this campus.

*Geneva Wortman is the outgoing ASUO president. Morgan Cowling is the outgoing ASUO vice president.*

## Espionage furor drowns out those saying crisis is overblown

By John Diamond  
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Lost amid the alarm over the alleged Chinese theft of U.S. nuclear secrets is a conclusion being articulated by arms control advocates, intelligence officials and even some Republicans: The threat to the United States may be marginal at worst.

China has yet to field a weapon a

decade after it purportedly stole design information from U.S. nuclear weapons labs, they say. Some of the information Beijing's spies allegedly collected is now declassified. And in the strange world of nuclear strategy, a somewhat improved Chinese nuclear arsenal may actually add to superpower stability, these critics argue, by reducing the chances that anyone would be

tempted to launch a preemptive first strike on China's arsenal.

These cautionary voices have been drowned out amid the uproar on Capitol Hill over a special report by a House select committee on Chinese espionage that studied China's efforts to improve its nuclear warheads and the missiles that deliver them.

Also lost is the fact that Tues-

day's report is filled with conditional phrases: the People's Republic of China "could" or "may" take detrimental actions "if the PRC decides to develop" weapons it currently does not possess.

"The depiction of China as an impending nuclear nemesis just does not accord with the facts," said Robert Norris, a nuclear weapons expert with the Natural Resources

Defense Council, an arms control and environmental organization.

Much of the report hinges on a prediction that China will soon test and field improved weapons based in part on secrets allegedly stolen from U.S. nuclear weapons labs. For example, China is developing a mobile DF-31 missile that the report says could be tested later this year and fielded in 2002.

UNIVERSITY  
OF OREGON

BOOK  
STORE

## Special Election for our Freshman Board Position

# Cast Your Vote Today

in our Bookstore lobby or at the EMU 8:30-5:00

All current UO faculty, students & staff may vote



#### Laura Close

Hi Folks,

For those of you who don't know me, my name is Laura Close, and I'm running for the Freshman position on the U of O Bookstore Board. My focus is on student needs and assuring that student satisfaction with the Bookstore remains high. The Bookstore is an important part of campus life, be it for text books, gifts, duck gear, tabling, etc. I'm looking forward to serving on the

Board and serving student interests.

One of the biggest issues facing the Bookstore right now is corporate dominance. Many other universities have had chain stores (I'm not mentioning names, but think malls) purchase their bookstores. The University of Oregon administration has also been approached on this matter as well. When corporations control your Bookstore, they also control the prices. Keeping prices reasonable on our text books and working to keep the bookstore an autonomous organization in this time of corporate interference is my top priority.

Vote for an independent, student-serving Bookstore,

Vote Laura Close for the Freshman position, U of O Bookstore.



#### Nicole Chinn

My name is Nicole Chinn and I am a Freshman at the U of O. I plan on majoring in Psychology. My minor will focus on two subjects: Spanish and Business. My intent is to go into social work after I have completed a masters degree in Psychology. I have been nominated for the freshman Board position at the Bookstore. I want to receive a wide variety of experience through

involving myself within the University. I am a very goal-oriented, self-motivated person, and have excellent communication skills. I work very efficiently with people, and I think this shows through my previous experience as a youth mediator with Clackamas County Family Services. With this position I worked with troubled teens and their parents to help them communicate with each other. Currently at the U of O I am a peer advisor for the Psychology Department, and am actively involved with extracurricular activities. I truly enjoy working with people and helping them solve problems. From my previous experience I feel I would be an excellent asset to the Bookstore Board. I would do my very best to communicate the issues of the board with my peers and bring those issues to the board to help make the Bookstore a better place. My goal is to represent the students at the U of O in the best way possible. Thank you very much, and I hope everyone enjoys the rest of spring term!