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Oregon Daily Emerald

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PFC

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could pass a budget while a grievance is pending in court," she said.

She added they used this newfound knowledge to vote on the Saferide budget.

On Tuesday night the PFC approved six other budgets, many of them receiving increases for next year. In previous weeks the PFC had cut many budgets on the way to a zero-percent increase goal from last year to this year.

PFC chairperson Shantell Rice, however, said they look at each

budget separately and how well the groups spend their money from year to year rather than the overall benchmark of zero percent.

Thursday, the PFC will continue to allocate almost \$2,038,000 of incidental fee money to approximately 100 ASUO-recognized programs.

Programs Financing

The ASUO Programs Finance Committee has committed \$716,563 so far this term. That represents a 2.28 percent increase over last year's funding — slightly more than the PFC's zero-percent benchmark.

ORGANIZATION	1999-00	1998-99	% CHANGE FROM LAST YR	\$CHANGE FROM LAST YR
Project Saferide	40,713	43,000	5.6	2,287
ASUO Women's Center	111,738	115,535	3.4	3,797
LGBTA	10,143	10,580	4.3	437
Pocket Playhouse	1,670	1,858	11.3	188
Survival Center	15,103	14,813	-1.9	-290
MEChA	16,399	15,766	-3.9	-633
ODE	132,870	132,870	0	0
Total	328,636	334,422		5,786

Census

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versity law-school dean, presented the only eight attendees with statistics and stories related to the under counting of Native Americans in the census.

Strickland, who is Osage and Cherokee Indian, emphasized how important it is for the members of Native American communities to be counted in the census.

"If they don't identify, they don't count," he said.

The meetings are part of a local effort to increase the number of Oregon residents who are accounted for by the U.S. Census Bureau.

Strickland said that part of the reason that Native Americans are under-counted is a cultural distrust of government. He said that many Native Americans intellectually understand the importance of census data but that "getting

from the intellectual to the emotional is not easy."

He said that the loss in money results in a loss of opportunity and a smaller voice in fighting for things such as hunting and fishing rights and sovereignty.

In general, minority groups in Oregon are more likely than whites to be under-counted by the census. The 1990 census reports that African Americans are 7.7 percent under-counted while Hispanics, Native American and Asians are 6.2, 3.7 and 2.9 percent under-counted, respectively.

Eugene Mayor Jim Torrey said that the reasons for each group's underrepresentation vary, but he said that the city will be clear in its campaign that no one will be impacted negatively by participating in the census.

"People are afraid to trust the census takers," Torrey said. "Our job is going to be to convince them to give their information."

One audience member pointed out that this type of meeting is not

the way to get people involved with the process. Those present introduced ideas ranging from using potlucks or screenings of Native American-made movies such as "Smoke Signals" or other cultural events, such as forums, to distribute information.

"This is something that can be done," Strickland said. "It's not complicated. It will make a difference."

Sergio Romero, who works for the Census Bureau, said that five out of six Oregon residents will receive the "short form," which takes about eight minutes to complete. The other sixth will receive the "long form," which takes a little longer.

The 2000 census begins in April, and new to the form this year is the option to mark as many racial classifications with which a person identifies.

Lee summed up the reasoning of the committee's efforts and said, "If we care about the community we have to have the right data."

MLK

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Wylie Chen said. He also said the celebration should not be limited to the University community, but should also include the Eugene community.

Jason Mak, ASUO recruitment and retention coordinator, was inspired by what King has done in the past. He said the day reminded him that the work of King on eliminating the biases in the society has not been finished.

"It's not just a day to celebrate, it is also a day to do something, to make progress towards his dream of quality and freedom for all," Mak said. He also said the day should not be "commercialized ... but is something to inspire us all to do something that makes the America a better place."

Some faculty members appreciated the campus activities that

were being organized on the Martin Luther King Jr. holiday.

"It is really important that we have [the celebrations] each year," Laura Blake Jones, assistant dean of student life, said. "The range of activities reflect the contribution that was made in a very lasting way in the society." She also said it is important for the campus community to come together and share the ideal of King.

After the reception, the attendants participated in the Unity Walk. The crowd walked to the University Bookstore from Gerlinger Hall and returned to the EMU Amphitheater for a candlelight vigil. About 30 students, faculty and community members attended the vigil.

It started with a presentation of the black national anthem, which was sung by Renesa Tucker-Fair, a senior communication disorder science major.

Some students and faculty

members expressed their feelings and perceptions toward King in the vigil.

Michael Dixon, co-director of the BSU, thanked King in his speech.

"Martin Luther King, to me, means a lot of things," Dixon said. "I take from him qualities and attributes to go over my life." He also said King's effort opened an educational opportunity for him, which may not have been available to him without King's hard work.

Troy Franklin, assistant dean of students, said students should take advantage of King's hard work, such as eliminating racial segregation. He also said he would not be able to receive proper education without the work of King.

Anne Leavitt, associate vice president and dean of students, said she was proud to be born in King's generation.

The attendants ended the candle night vigil by singing "Amazing Grace" together.