

Letters to the editor

Candidate removal unjust

ASUO leadership should be determined by the many, not limited by the few as would be done by the ASUO Elections Board. It is a perversion of the process and simply undemocratic to kick candidates for public office out of an election unless those candidates commit a violation that will substantially affect the outcome of the vote. I do not believe the allegations against C.J. Gabbe and Peter Larson, even if proven true, fit this criteria. Further, sponsoring an International Students Association coffee hour to encourage general voter participation doesn't mean these candidates were soliciting votes and doesn't mean they did anything wrong. Voter education strengthens the democratic process and talking about the issues is just good politics.

At the sacrifice of choice and built on shaky allegations, this decision was made. Be assured that kicking them out is serving someone's political agenda. It would seem the ASUO Constitution Court agrees the student body should be permitted to weigh in on this issue, and we applaud them for their careful consideration and adherence to the public process.

We want to make it clear that Gabbe and Larson aren't the only "lambs" in the ASUO political slaughterhouse; it's the right to choose your leaders on the chopping block today. I believe it is the very integrity of your campus democracy in question here. I just hope your student body will get to answer the question before students like ASUO elections coordinator Ken Best so clumsily answer for you.

Tim Young
Portland State University student body president
Chocka Guiden
PSU student body vice president

Election rule ambiguous

For providing some snacks to the International Students Association coffee hour, C.J. Gabbe and Peter Larson were accused of offering "a thing of value" to students, and therefore they should be punished. Well, what do you consider a "thing of value"? If your answer is "potato chips and chocolate chip cookies," then I will definitely question your values.

I agree that candidates should follow the ASUO election rules. This "thing of value" rule, however, seems unclear and ambiguous to me. Again let me remind you that during Gabbe and Larson's speech during coffee hour they never asked people to vote for them, instead they encouraged students to vote. So why punish and offend them by calling them "corrupt" and "dishonest"? Don't you think this is too rash?

Obviously the people pointing their fingers at Gabbe and Larson never had a chance to go to the coffee hour. Yes, Gabbe and Larson sponsored the coffee hour, but for us being a coffee hour sponsor is an act of courtesy, not a bribe. International coffee hour is

a place for all students to interact informally and to be informed about what is going on campus. Several candidates who "care" about students' votes have been there. Actually we would like to encourage all other candidates to come introduce themselves to the international community (we are 10 percent of the student body). We never had any problems listening to all information and deciding what we want. We never had any problems listening to all information and deciding what we want.

Alberto M Albuquerque
co-director for ISA

Make your vote count

With the ASUO primary and general elections upon us again, you have to ask yourself one question: Are you going to sit idly by and complain about your student government, or is your voice going to be heard this year?

Each year we have two elections; yes, that is correct, two. One to narrow down our candidate pool and second to choose our campus leaders for next year. Students do not realize that both of these elections are important. Now is your chance to be informed and choose the leaders for our next year. These are the students who are going to represent us in almost all aspects of the bigger picture inside and outside the University.

Students are constantly complaining that they don't have a voice or a say in what the ASUO or the Student Senate are doing; well here is your chance. And this year it could not be easier; you can do it from the comfort of your own home. Log onto Duck Web and vote.

In the end, my voice will be heard. Will yours?

Greg Danielson
ASUO programs outreach director

Voice your opinion: vote

As you may or may not know, the ASUO elections are happening now. This may only interest some of us, but it should interest everyone. On February 23 and 24, and again on March 1 and 2, every student will have the opportunity to vote. February 23 and 24 are the primary elections for candidates, and March 1 and 2 are for ballot measures and the final election for candidates. We will be able to voice our opinions on issues ranging from continuing our LTD funding to maintaining membership in the United States Student Association, as well as who shall represent us as our elected officials next year.

In Jean Anouilh's "Antigone," he writes, "A person must do what a person can do." YOU CAN VOTE ... and it is your duty to the entire campus community to do so. The outcome of the ASUO election does matter, even though some cynics may have you believe otherwise. Take it from someone who's been in office for almost an entire year: Our votes do count and the issue we're voting upon have an impact. On election day we can vote, and it is our duty to exercise our voices, opinions and right to be heard.

Mitra Anoushiravani
ASUO vice president

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Call for Nominations for Faculty Awards for Distinguished Teaching

Deadline for Nominations: MARCH 1, 2000

Faculty, staff, students, and alumni are invited to submit nominations for any faculty members, tenure or non-tenure related, who have taught at the University of Oregon for a minimum of two (2) years. The *Ersted Award* and *Thomas F. Herman Award* are presented annually at Spring Commencement to University of Oregon faculty members for distinguished teaching. Each award will be accompanied by a recurring monetary award. [Please note that Graduate Teaching Fellows have their own competition and are ineligible for these awards.]

Eligibility for Awards

Ersted Award for Distinguished Teaching

The late Mr. A. J. Ersted established the *Ersted Award for Distinguished Teaching* so the University of Oregon could annually honor faculty members "who have taught comparatively short periods and have demonstrated exceptional abilities to induce students to reason and not merely memorize." The Ersted Award is presented only to faculty who are early in their teaching careers. This teaching may occur at the undergraduate or graduate level.

Thomas F. Herman Faculty Achievement Award for Distinguished Teaching

This award honors senior faculty members who have achieved outstanding records as teachers. The *Thomas F. Herman Award* is presented only to faculty members who have academic rank at the University of Oregon for at least seven years, and who have demonstrated long-standing excellence in teaching and have contributed significantly to student learning at the undergraduate or graduate level.

Nominations will be accepted either through submissions of the following form or by e-mail. If your nomination is by e-mail, please make sure that you include all the information contained on this form.

Send your nomination form to:

Lorraine G. Davis
Vice Provost for Academic Affairs
207 Johnson Hall, University of Oregon

E-mail your nomination to:

Gwen Steigelman
Asst. Vice Provost for Academic Affairs
gwens@oregon.uoregon.edu

I nominate (print clearly) _____ for the

(Please check one)

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Thomas F. Herman Award

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