



A model of the courthouse that has been proposed was among others presented by fall term architecture students.

Courthouse siting raises disquietude in community

■ Some citizens are questioning placement of a new federal courthouse in downtown Eugene, but others say it would help the town

By Brian Goodell
Oregon Daily Emerald

When Eugene citizens learned earlier this year that the General Services Administration would possibly be placing a ten-story, \$70 million dollar federal courthouse in downtown Eugene, citizens and academics alike found cause for concern. Since the announcement of the new courthouse project, University architecture students and faculty have shown a vested interest in the placement and design specifications of the new facility.

Fall term architecture students in Professor Donald Genasci's design studio studied the potential impact of placing such a large building in downtown Eugene.

Eric Black, a student in the class, said although there has been controversy over the project, a building of this scale can do a lot of good for the downtown area.

"I am not as concerned with the outcome of the design as I am with the decisions being made on the siting of the building itself," Black said. "This decision is as important as the selection of the firm itself. The community is not realizing the positive potential this building provides for downtown Eugene."

Last September, GSA Regional Administrator Jay Pearson said his decision to place the courthouse next to the Fifth Street Public Market was final. After pressure from Congressman Peter DeFazio, D-Ore., and Eugene citizens, the GSA chose to reconsider purchasing the current City Hall block for the new courthouse.

Now, seven months later, the search for a site continues after the GSA placed an ad in the Register Guard requesting to purchase land for the new courthouse from anyone in the Eugene/Springfield area willing to sell. As a result, the GSA received 22 possible sites.

Lew Bowers, Community Development Manager for the city of Eugene, said the GSA will now narrow their list to three sites and then conduct environmental reviews of each site, which he said will take several months to complete.

"After the environmental reviews are done sometime in the fall, a GSA committee will make a recommendation to Pearson and he will make the decision on the final site," Bowers said. "I expect that the final decision will be made by September or October."

Although the decision for the building's site has not been made, a committee chaired by Michael Fifield, head of the University Architecture Department, held a competition that selected the firm that would design the courthouse. Los Angeles-based architecture firm Morphosis won the competition.

"They're a very dynamic firm with some very innovative schemes," GSA Public Affairs Director Bill Dubray said. "They should come up with a very exciting design - maybe a little out of the ordinary."

Dubray said Morphosis will not begin design of the courthouse facility until the final site has been selected.

Architecture students and professors are pushing for the placement of the new courthouse to be in downtown Eugene. Fifield said in a March 23 Eugene Weekly article that the courthouse should be placed downtown because civic functions are an integral part of the city.

"The fact is, Eugene is slated to have a 270,000 square foot courthouse in the next few years," Black said. "It might as well be done right."

"It would be a disaster to make this into a suburban building that has no response to the needs of downtown," he added. "It would be wrong to site this building outside of downtown."

ASUO chief justice Jeremy Gibbons to leave UO, resigns from office

■ Gibbons says he is secure that his leaving will not affect government issues such as student elections

By Jeremy Lang
Oregon Daily Emerald

After two years of service on the ASUO Constitution Court, Chief Justice Jeremy Gibbons announced Tuesday that he is resigning from his duties on the court.

Gibbons, who presided over last year's special election and this year's public hearing against the summer senate, is leaving the University and is thus no longer eligible to serve on the court.

He said he plans to attend law school, although not right away.

In his resignation letter, Gibbons praised the members of student government he's worked with over the years.

"I will sorely miss my position and the opportunity to work with all of you [in the ASUO], but am encouraged to leave at a time when such intelligent and motivated student leaders as yourselves populate the ASUO," he said.

Gibbons added that his leaving the court will not adversely affect its business. Gibbons removed himself from the court's decisions on this year's student election and the grievances filed against candidates C.J. Gabbe and Peter Larson.

The final grievance appeal in that case is still being deliberated

by the court and is keeping the results from the March 1 general election from being released.

The court appointed Justice Robert Raschio to the chief justice position Wednesday night.

Justice Daniel Vergamini said Gibbons' knowledge of legal rules and previous ASUO cases will be missed most.

"It's like losing our institutional knowledge," he said.

Justice Ashan Awan agreed and said, "He knows so many [University] cases over the past few years just off the top of his head."

Gibbons' departure is the first of three in the coming months for the court. Vergamini and Justice Elliott Dale will graduate at the end of the year.

SUMMER JOBS!

Young Judaea Overnight Camp:

- One week overnight camp in Olympia, WA (gr. 3-8)
- Aug. 17-24
- Base pay \$300.00

Young Judaea Day Camp:

- Day camp in Portland, OR (gr. 1-5)
- July 5-August 4, 2000
- Base pay is \$1000

If you have verifiable Jewish summer camp, youth group, Israel, or other Jewish educational experience, call:

503-244-9322 or e-mail yjpnw@aol.com

Sponsored by Hadassah

Spring into Someone's Heart!

Send them flowers from

Eugene's Flower Home

"The University Florist"

Bouquets starting at \$5.95

Only a few blocks from campus!
610 East 13th at Patterson

24hr order service
Check us out on the web
www.ftd.com/eugenesflowerhome

Call locally 485-3655
or toll free **1-800-478-3655**

Petals & Ribbons Bouquet

Delivering a Million Smiles a Day.

1856 East 13th
343-3030

Open Sun to Thur till 1am, Fri & Sat till 2am

CAMPUS SPECIAL

Large Two Topping Pizza

Carry Out or Delivery

\$6.99

On Campus Only
\$8.99 Off Campus
With College I.D.

PRODUCT SATISFACTION GUARANTEE

Ultimate Deep Dish™ extra

No Coupon Necessary. Price Subject to Change. Our Drivers Carry less than \$20. Expires 5/31/00.

CRUNCHY THIN CRUST

CLASSIC HAND TOSSED

ULTIMATE DEEP DISH

Medium One Topping Pizza on Any Crust Type

\$3.99

Only

With the Purchase of the On Campus or Off Campus Specials

No Coupon Necessary. Price Subject to Change. Our Drivers Carry less than \$20. Expires 5/31/00.

ADD ON

8 Piece Order of our New Double Cheesy Bread and a 2 Liter Bottle of Coke®

\$3.99

No Coupon Necessary. Price Subject to Change. Our Drivers Carry less than \$20. Expires 5/31/00.

www.dailyemerald.com

YOUR place for news, classifieds, message boards, readers polls, ODE archives and more...