

School expense a capital pain

Legal scholars tap various resources to ease the financial burden of a hefty law school tuition

By Rebecca Newell
Oregon Daily Emerald

Every student dreads the thought of paying back student loans, trying to offset the cost of school through scholarships, jobs and family support. For law students, the options are often limited.

With a tuition of \$10,700 for Oregon residents and \$13,170 for nonresidents, plus books and living expenses, there is no simple way for aspiring lawyers to easily absorb the costs. With the intense demand of law course work creating a conflict with most work schedules, law students must often bite the bullet and borrow from Uncle Sam.

"I'm taking out the full amount I can in loans," said Sarah Angove, a University of Portland graduate. "My parents have basically paid my rent but I'm trying to do it by myself."

Originally from Sublimity, Oregon, Angove expressed concern over the amount of debt she'll incur before graduating from law school — \$60,000 from law school added to the \$29,000 in loans from her undergraduate work. Angove described the complicated payment plan options she has, but added that it will "still be forever" before the loans are paid off.

Angove plans on working during the summer and hopes to get an internship that will last throughout the school year. She said that her specific career choice in the field of law will be affected by the amount of money it offers.

Justin Massey, a San Clemente native who recently finished off his undergraduate work at Brown University, will cover tuition with a combination of federal loans and loans from his parents. Massey plans to do a law-related internship during summer but has a Plan B for extra money.

"I have my own Web site design firm," Massey said. He is also striving to place high enough in his class to receive scholarships

for his second and third year of school to avoid incurring a large debt.

For Eugene native Carla Harclerod, freshly graduated from Portland State University, federal financial aid is her provider of funds for the first year. With her

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parents assisting her with living expenses, Harclerod said she plans on making borrowing a one time thing.

"I'm not nervous [about taking out a loan] because I have good family support," said Harclerod. "I probably won't take out any more loans after this year."

Jeffrey Erwin is also relying on government loans and family support to cover the costs of law school. The Colorado resident chose Oregon for school because of his interest in natural resources, but plans on working

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