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Senate OKs its own stipend transfer request

■ A decision to switch from stipend system to work study plan generates differing opinions among senators

By Emily Gust
 Oregon Daily Emerald

While the ASUO Student Senate has faced requests from various student groups to transfer stipends into work study accounts during each meeting this year, Wednesday night brought a slight twist.

This time, the requests were made by two of their own.

Groups have come to Senate all year, asking to move the stipend pay certain student employees would normally receive into a work study account so they can benefit from the federal program.

Because precedence was set when other requests this year

passed, the student senators' requests also passed, but met with some resistance. With six senators in favor and five senators opposed, sentiments were mixed.

"I think we're walking a thin line when we do this for Senate," Sen. Jennifer Greenough said, pointing out that the stipend is meant as a cover for incidental costs — not as pay for work done.

Other senators saw no difference between the transfers they had been doing and the senators' requests.

"Senate is just like any other program," Sen. Serene Khader said.

The requests transferred \$560 each from leadership to work study, and both were set for 24 weeks at \$7.50 per hour.

The two requests did differ, however, in the amount of the 3 percent kickback — an assessment groups that employ work study students must pay at the end of the year — and in the number of hours per week. The first required a \$37 kickback and will work 10 hours a week. The other's kickback will be \$43 and the senator can work 11

hours a week.

Both kickbacks are to come from the Senate's leadership account.

Approving the Multicultural Center's request of a work study transfer, Senate transferred \$1,125 from the group's leadership to its work study account. The \$45 to cover the 3 percent kickback will come from the group's reference line-item.

Senate also approved MCC's request of \$999 from surplus for a conference.

The Chinese Students and Scholars Association was granted its first request, which transferred \$278 from its programming account into a newly-created food holding account. The money is for the group's Spring Festival party, which will take place in January.

The group was not so lucky with its second request.

An error that failed to remove \$400 from CSSA's account last year left members believing the group had more money than it did. As a result, CSSA came to Senate asking

for that \$400 from surplus.

The issue was complicated, however, by the fact that last year's CSSA officers spent the \$400 on gift certificates for some group members.

Technically, groups are not supposed to purchase things such as alcohol or food with student fee money, ASUO Student Senate President Peter Watts said. When gift certificates are bought, those restrictions cannot be enforced.

"By voting no, we'll really be telling groups that this is inappropriate," Watts said.

But other senators felt it was unfair to hold this year's CSSA members responsible for the mistakes of last year's officers.

"I think that the group members have been here long enough to understand this is an unacceptable practice," Khader said.

Several senators told the CSSA to attempt fundraising before the event and then come back to Senate after all other options have been exhausted.

Strings will pluck students' ears

■ The renowned Emerson String Quartet will play at Beall Hall tonight at 8 p.m.

By Brooke Ross
 Oregon Daily Emerald

An internationally-renowned string quartet will perform at the University Thursday evening, allowing students the opportunity to learn about the structure and sound of chamber music.

The Grammy award-winning Emerson String Quartet will kick off the 33rd season of the School of Music's Chamber Music Series with their performance at Beall Concert Hall at 8 p.m. The quartet specializes in both classical and contemporary music and performs throughout North America and Europe.

Robert Hurwitz, professor of music theory and associate dean and director of undergraduate students, will be hosting "Musical Insights," a pre-performance discussion to educate people about the music they are about to experience.

"Hearing requires special sensitivity, so I plan to teach the audience how to direct their ears," Hurwitz said.

In his discussion, Hurwitz will

play a few examples of the music in order to show how the pieces are structured and "to give people an ear into the music."

"Anyone who goes to a live show gets a sense of fulfillment as the music sweeps you away," he said.

Fritz Gearhart, an associate violin professor and violinist in the University's Oregon String Quartet, said there are many benefits to watching a string quartet perform.

"Small chamber groups have to collaborate ideas, and in a sense have to be able to read each other's minds," he said. "The audience witnesses a fascinating combination of playing."

He said he thinks there is a subtle level of communication between quartet members because they don't follow a conductor's lead.

Gearhart, who performed with the Emerson String Quartet as a student, said he is looking forward to the performance of what he called "one of the greatest ... string quartets today."

Janet Stewart, director of the Chamber Music Series, spoke highly of the musicians, calling them "world-class," and saying the school is honored to have them perform.

Stewart said she hopes this first performance of the series will help broaden people's concept of chamber music.

"There is some feeling, among

“Small chamber groups have to collaborate ideas, and in a sense have to be able to read each other's minds.”

Fritz Gearhart
 violinist
 Oregon String Quartet

young people especially, that chamber music is boring and only for older people, but that couldn't be further from the truth," she said.

Chamber music has a broad spectrum, Stewart said, and the music ranges from 17th century to contemporary times, so there is something for everyone.

"I really want students to recognize the qualities of this kind of music, because they're missing something if they don't," she said.

Tickets can be purchased from the Hult Center or the EMU Ticket Office for \$15, \$25, or \$30.

Calendar

Thursday, Oct. 26
 — Human Resources Workshop: "Preventing and Dealing With Sexual Harassment on Campus." Preregister. 9 a.m.-noon. Alesa and Coquille Rooms, EMU. Free.
 — Clark Lecture: William Cronon, University of Wisconsin, Madison, presents a slide-illustrated talk on "Telling Tales on Canvas: Landscapes of Frontier Change" as the 2000-2001 Robert D. Clark Lecturer in the Humanities. 7:30 p.m. 177 Lawrence Hall. Free.
 — Creative Writing Reading: Poet Michael Collier, director of the Bread Loaf Writers' Conference and a University of Maryland professor, reads from and signs copies of his work including "The Ledge" and "The Clasp and Other Poems." 8 p.m. Alumni Lounge, Gerlinger Hall. Free.
 — Recreation: The UO Outdoor Program holds a fall equipment swap. 7:30 p.m. EMU Ballroom. Free. nsidered the province of conservative Christians or back-to-nature hippies, is gaining in popularity, and concern over school safety is a prime reason.

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DEAD AND GONE
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 Crime fighter/mystery writer Andrew Vachss will be the honored guest of the UO Bookstore in a one-on-one discussion of his novels and their place in his work on behalf of abused youth.
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