

# WRC

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bound by Oregon law as to what and who it can and can not make payments to. An organization that Grier said is neither incorporated nor has non-profit status is an institution the University can not pay. She said that the WRC may have filed for a certificate of incorporation and non-profit status, but she still thought that the group was in the process and had not officially received either designation.

"My understanding is that filling a certificate of incorporation is one step of incorporation," she said. "You're not a non-profit entity until you've been told you are."

"You can't just pay public money because you feel like it," she added.

Not only does Grier find fault with the WRC's legal status, she said the University is also concerned about the issue of liability of the WRC.

In her statement Grier argues that the WRC and its by-laws "provide no protection at all for 'members' or for those who pay 'membership dues' or 'affiliation fees.'" She then states that because the "nature of the University's relationship with the WRC is so uncertain, this exposes the University to potential liability for the actions of the WRC."

All of these reasons has Grier saying the University's hands are legally tied when it comes to paying the WRC its membership dues.

"Right now the way things are is there's an invoice and we can't pay it," she said.

She added that if the situation does resolve itself the University will continue to work toward a relationship with the consortium, and cautioned that she wrote her opinion a few weeks ago and the situation may have changed. She added that the University had received no correspondence from the WRC about its status.

Roeper would not make any oth-

er comment on why the University would not pay the dues aside from citing that the University has expressed the most concerns about the WRC of any school that has joined the organization.

"They've certainly been the most vocal school in writing letters and raising more issues than anyone else," she said.

She added that the University's doubts about the WRC stand in contrast to the dozens of other universities that have already sent in their dues. She said Brown University, all nine University of California campuses and nearly a dozen other schools have sent in their dues.

To join the WRC, each school is required to send in an amount equal to 1 percent of its merchandising contract. Roeper did not know what the exact amount the University would owe the WRC for membership dues, but it has been previously reported to be approximately \$3,000.

# Steinem

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pro-choice. She spoke about one of her main concerns that the next president will be appointing two to four Supreme Court justices, and that while Bush has signed 15 anti-abortion bills in Texas and has expressed support in overturning Roe v. Wade, Gore has said he would appoint pro-choice justices.

Steinem also emphasized her belief that Nader "isn't running for president," but "running for funds for the Green Party." But Maureen Britell, executive director of Voters for Choice, the event's co-sponsor of the event along with the Hillel Jewish Women's Collective, said Steinem has a close history with Nader and respects him.

Britell said that Steinem has campaigned with Nader, traveled with him, and done rallies with him. She said Steinem calls Nader her "parallel person," especially after they were both voted non-parents of the year by Zero Population Growth, a national organization that works to slow population growth. But Steinem's vote still goes to Gore.

"She appreciates the work he has done, but she recognizes the dangers of his campaign right now," Britell said.

Heidi Grant, senior environmental science major and Nader sup-

porter, said that many of Steinem's points were difficult to swallow.

"I'm afraid of Bush getting into office, it keeps me awake at night," she said. "But even though I know Nader isn't going to be president, I want to see the Green Party endorsed."

Steinem also raised the issue that many people don't vote due to the skewed notion that there aren't many differences between the two candidates. She said these kinds of representations are especially promoted by dominant groups who want to deter others from voting. She said that one of the big problems has been that conservative groups usually vote 70-80 percent of their memberships and progressive groups fall behind because not as many of them vote.

Steinem also said young people especially need to change politicians' expectations and also get out and vote, a reason for her touring so many college campuses this fall.

Chris Bowling, senior computer science and math major who falls in the large Oregon swing voter population, said that Steinem's speech was informational and helped him see different sides of the election. He said that although he'd considered voting for Nader to contribute to the 5 percent of the vote Nader needs to increase his party's funding, the speech shed more light on reasons to vote for Gore instead.

But Steinem said that even if Gore

wins the campaign, communities still need to work hard to pressure him to work towards progressive objectives.

ASUO Vice President Holly Magner said that though Steinem's speech was thought-provoking and fair, it didn't cover all of the issues people were expecting to hear about.

"A lot of people came expecting it to be a speech about feminism, but it ended up being more of a political rally and I think that was a surprise to them," she said. "But she still did a good job of connecting and tying it in with women's issues."

Prior to Steinem's address, State Representative Vicki Walker and State Senator Susan Castillo also spoke about election issues. And a few students took the podium to discuss ballot measures that would affect the University and community including measures 91, 81, 88, 98 and 9.

Steinem ended her speech by encouraging everyone in the room to vote, and especially to support the "rights women have worked so hard to obtain." But she also said she didn't want to tell anyone what to do.

"Feminism is about the power to make our own decisions," she said. "But even if we don't feel personally connected to the election, we have an obligation to support those who are affected by it."

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