

Absent senators to face action

■ Sens. Kristin Dean and Jessica Burmaster have neither attended meetings for weeks, nor resigned

By Emily Gust
Oregon Daily Emerald

At the end of its Wednesday night meeting, the ASUO Student Senate began a process that could ultimately remove Sens. Kristin Dean and Jessica Burmaster from their positions.

Neither senator has attended a meeting for the past few weeks, nor has either submitted a letter of resignation.

In accordance with the Green Tape Notebook, the regulations that guide the ASUO, Senate Ombudsman Skye Tenney suggested removing them from the Senate and suspending their monthly stipends.

If in two weeks Dean and Bur-

master still have not submitted letters of resignation, the Senate will hold hearings for both.

Earlier in the meeting, the ASUO Executive had approached the Senate with a personnel issue of its own.

According to either state law or other guidelines — no one was sure — the ASUO must have an officer of administration in its office who can supervise the student government staff members. It currently does not have one.

ASUO President Jay Breslow said he wants the ASUO to be able to appoint one of its own staff members as the officer of administration. ASUO members feel more comfortable with one of their own as an administrator because they have already reached a level of trust with each other, he said.

The ASUO constructed its proposal so that future executives would also be able to decide who

should fill the position.

"We decided to make it bouncing, like a little ball," ASUO Vice President Holly Magner said.

But several questions from the senators about the specifics of the move caused the Senate to abandon the issue until it has more information.

"I kind of have a problem with the arbitrariness of how this position is being set up," said Sen. Katie Howard.

In other business, the Senate allotted money to two groups in response to the Oregon University System's decision to issue a mandatory raise for employees that is 1 percent higher and comes two months earlier than expected.

The EMU and the ASUO Conflict Resolution Services asked for money to cover the unexpected cost. The Senate gave the EMU \$10,745 from the over-realized fund and allotted CRS \$1,051 from surplus.

Recall

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it was really our campaign, which he left up to our decisions."

White and Fosnight also accuse Breslow of failure to complete an annual list of rules, policies and goals.

Breslow said his staff has decided on a goal statement for the year. The list of regulations Breslow must compile is the Green Tape Notebook, which the previous administration should have published last spring but did not.

Though he and the staff are working on a version of the Green Tape Notebook, publishing it now as well as in the spring would cost students twice as much, Breslow said.

White and Fosnight said Breslow also failed to fill empty positions on the ASUO Constitution Court within the required 30 days from when the positions became vacant.

But Breslow said he wanted to wait until there were more qualified candidates before making decisions, and the court positions are now filled.

Graduate English student Scott Austin is one of those helping to gather signatures and was also one of the students considered for an open seat on the court.

Breslow spoke with Austin before the recall was filed, and Austin said the recall was not his idea.

But Breslow said he thinks the attack could be personal.

"He declared war on the ASUO a while ago," he said.

Austin has filed numerous grievances against members of student government in his five years at the University, most of them unsuccessful.

Fosnight said he could probably find several more broken rules after further examination of the ASUO Constitution, but the overarching issue is that Breslow is not performing his duties responsibly or earning the incidental fee money the students pay him.

"If the duties for ASUO president were to be a nice guy, then [Breslow would] be an excellent president," Fosnight said. "But that's just not the case."

Breslow attributed the oversights to the fact that he and ASUO Vice

Complaints against ASUO President Jay Breslow:

- Six Democrats and no Republicans spoke during a Rock the Vote Rally on Oct. 27.
- Breslow failed to appoint people to vacant ASUO positions within the required 30-day period.
- Breslow has not finished a required annual compilation of rules, resolutions and other policies.

Source: Jarrett White and Chris Fosnight

President Holly Magner are new to student government, and they are still in a period of transition.

"We've had an amazing fall term as an office," Breslow said. "We're not perfect. We're learning how to do this."

If White and Fosnight get the 1,700 signatures necessary, the signatures must be verified by the court before a special election can be held to determine whether to remove Breslow from office.

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Tuesday, Nov. 21, 10am to 3pm

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