

Ad hoc committee faces uncertain future, goals

■ With WRC membership in limbo, an advisory committee questions its role

By Jeremy Lang
Oregon Daily Emerald

An expanded committee of students and administrators will begin work next term on a recommendation to the University Senate regarding the school's future with the Worker Rights Consortium.

But during the ad hoc committee's preliminary meetings, which began earlier this month, members had to decide how much influence their group has and whether the group should continue meeting.

The group has until March 21 to prepare a report to the University Senate Executive Committee, which will make a final recommendation to the senate. The senate will vote, and that recommendation will be sent to University President Dave Frohnmayer, who actually has the power to decide which labor-monitoring groups the University joins and the

length of membership contracts.

"It's a rather cumbersome set of processes," said Jim Earl, University Senate president. Earl also sits on the Senate Ad Hoc Committee on Trademark Licensing as a non-voting adviser.

The process is similar to last year when Frohnmayer made his original decision to join the WRC after the Licensing Code of Conduct Committee and the University Senate recommend membership.

This year's ad hoc committee has a similar goal: To determine whether labor-monitoring organizations such as the WRC and the Fair Labor Association meet the criteria in the University's Licensing Code of Conduct. But Earl also asked the committee to specifically examine the public response from the decision to join the WRC.

After the University joined the WRC, Nike CEO Phil Knight withdrew his monetary contributions to the University, including a \$30 million donation intended to help renovate Autzen Stadium. In Septem-

Members of the Ad Hoc Committee on Trademark Licensing and Monitoring:

University Senate member David Frank
Music professor Ann Tedards
Labor Education and Research Center Director Margaret Hallock

WRC Representative Lynn Kahle
Associate Dean of the Law School James O'Fallon
Merchandising Director Matthew Dyste
Survival Center Co-coordinator Oona Holcomb
Student Senator Serene Khader
ASUO University Affairs Coordinator Chad Sullivan
Senate President James Earl

ber, Frohnmayer announced the University's membership in the FLA, a group Knight supports and that has apparel industry representation on its board.

"The University's decision to join the WRC and Phil Knight's public response caused a very heated debate," Earl wrote in the committee's mission statement. "Many people are obviously very angry. But different people are angry about different things."

The committee began meeting last spring, but was comprised of only three administrators. The group has now expanded to seven administrators and four students.

ASUO University Affairs Coordi-

nator Chad Sullivan is one of the four students on the committee, and was highly involved in April's student protest to join the WRC. He said the protesters who spent 10 days and nights outside Johnson Hall last April also wanted to see more people and groups have a voice in campus government.

Currently, only Frohnmayer has the power to make decisions, and groups such as the ad hoc committee can only make recommendations.

"It's as best as we're going to get right now," Sullivan said.

Sullivan added that, at the committee's first meeting, members discussed whether the group should

even exist after Frohnmayer refused to pay the University dues to the WRC in October.

But he said he wanted the group to continue so students have a forum in which they can voice their opinions about the issue.

The group's next meeting is scheduled for Nov. 29. All meetings are open to the public. Honors College Director David Frank, who also sits on the committee, said the group will begin working on three goals: Becoming the main forum for licensing issues at the University, preparing the report for the executive committee and preparing a forum for debate on the issue.

Vaccines

continued from page 1

the otherwise healthy population, so those people will have to wait to receive shots.

"It's sad we have to turn healthy people away who are concerned about their health, because we're concerned too," he said, "but people have been very patient."

Sharon Harbert, the nursing supervisor of health center Area C, said 350 flu shots have been given so far — 185 to faculty and staff and 165 to students.

"It makes sense that faculty and staff have received more of the doses because they're older and more likely

to have a chronic illness," she said.

Patty Andrews, director of nursing at the health center, said she thinks everyone is frustrated about the flu vaccine delay.

"I think we're all in the same boat," she said. "But we're optimistic that supply will catch up with demand."

No flu cases have been diagnosed yet, Andrews said, and added she hopes the flu season will start later this year to give the center more time to allow everyone to get flu shots.

Students and staff can call the health center's flu information line at 346-4444 for updated information on the status of the University's vaccine supply.

Bend

continued from page 1

through a partnership with COCC. The curriculum of the branch campus will be a mix of COCC undergraduate courses and the upper-division offerings of whichever university is selected.

Both universities have hammered out the final details in their branch campus proposals, which have not yet been released in their entirety, but must be submitted to the Oregon University System by Dec. 1.

Central Oregonians involved in the process said although OSU had an eight-month jump over the

University on presenting their plan, the race for the branch campus has tightened. Bend residents are now finding their community divided between people with loyalties to OSU or the University.

"There's a lot of politicking going on," said Jim Carnahan, a COCC board member and OSU Central Oregon advisory board member.

Whatever the outcome of the OUS decision, the branch campus will quench a Central Oregon thirst for higher education that has built up over the last 20 years, Carnahan said.

What's really at stake is the best higher education opportunities for Central Oregon, he said.

Several criteria — determined by COCC and later OUS for final approval — will determine which proposal is accepted, said Barbara Schenck, chairwoman of the Central Oregon Regional Advisory Board. Criteria could include how well the upper-division curriculum meshes with the undergraduate curriculum offered by COCC, and if the curriculum serves the needs of the community.

"It's going to be a very difficult decision," Schenck said.

"We're going to have two wonderful proposals. I can't wait to see them," she said. "It's going to be like opening a Christmas present to see in concrete form what they are offering here."

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