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Programs Financing

The ASUO Programs Finance Committee has committed \$373,635 so far for next year's program budget. That represents a 13 percent increase over last year's funding — more than the PFC's 3 percent benchmark. *These groups were not included in the calculations of total percent change from last year's budget.

ORGANIZATION	2001-02	2000-01	% CHANGE FROM THIS YEAR	\$ CHANGE FROM THIS YEAR
Women's Law Forum*	—	\$4,774	—	—
Hong Kong Student Association	\$2,070	\$1,725	20%	\$345
Returning Student Association	\$7,044	\$7,955	-11%	-\$911
Model United Nations	\$3,444	\$680	25%	\$2764
Pre-Law Society*	—	\$250	—	—
ASHP	\$1,481	\$1,296	14%	\$185
Hawaii Club*	—	\$4,431	—	—
AAF Ad Club*	—	\$4,755	—	—
Japanese Students Organization	\$0	\$3,660	—	\$3,660
Oregon Marching Band	\$104,841	\$95,341	9%	\$9,500
Total	\$118,880	\$124,867	14%	\$15543

PFC tables four hearings

■ Conflicts concerning legal issues and spending practices dominated the committee's third meeting

By Beata Mostafavi
Oregon Daily Emerald

The ASUO Programs Finance Committee wrapped up the first week of its annual budget process Thursday, approving budgets for only half the groups it heard, tabling the budget hearings for four organizations and de-funding another for not showing up.

For the past week, the seven-member committee has been allocating student incidental fee funds for ASUO programs. It will continue this process throughout January.

The greatest controversy of the night involved the American Advertising Federation Ad Club and the legal question of whether or not the group was qualified to be funded through incidental fees. The

group was tabled after the PFC learned that members of the Ad Club are also enrolled in a class that creates projects, which are entered into annual Ad Club competitions. If this is the case, normally funding should come from tuition fees, according to PFC member Aaron Weck.

The group also failed to disclose funding received through the journalism department, and the PFC will continue the Ad Club's hearing after the two issues are studied further.

The PFC also tabled hearings for the Pre-Law Society, Hawaii Club and Women's Law Forum because of concerns about the groups' mission statements or account transactions.

Liz Bobek, treasurer of the WLF, said communication between her group and the PFC had been inefficient, which was the main source of confusion.

"I think the law school hasn't

had a fluid enough information line about what the committee expects," she said.

The biggest budget increase of \$9,500 was allocated to the Oregon Marching Band, which plans to buy cases for new instruments. The PFC also voted not to fund the Japanese Students Organization because it failed to appear for the hearing.

Groups have five business days to appeal the budgets PFC has approved for them. They may do this after the initial PFC meetings have been completed.

PFC chair Mary Elizabeth Madden said this night caused the most conflict of all three budget hearings because many of the groups had questionable spending practices, but the long process is necessary.

"There's so much debate about student fees," she said. "We want to make sure that if the question rises again, we can defend it."

Mississippi flag may get makeover

The Associated Press

JACKSON, Miss. — In a 42-10 vote that split along racial lines, the Senate sent Gov. Ronnie Musgrove a bill Thursday to hold a statewide referendum April 17 on whether to remove the Confederate symbol from Mississippi's flag.

The House approved the bill on Tuesday. Musgrove, a Democrat, has said he will sign it.

Voters would choose between the current 1894 flag and a design that replaces the Confederate battle emblem with a circle of 20 stars to signify Mississippi's admission as the 20th state.

Some see the old flag as a reminder of slavery and racial op-

pression. Supporters of the flag say it represents their Southern heritage.

A referendum was seen by some as a way of taking the political heat off the Legislature by putting the decision in the voters' hands. Some supporters of the flag also argued that in the privacy of the voting booth, many people would feel free to vote for the 1894 banner.

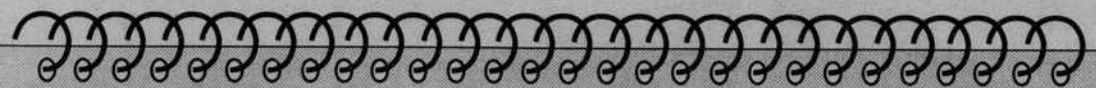
All 10 black senators voted against the referendum bill because it says that if a new flag is chosen, the 1894 one would be designated as a "historic" banner. Sen. Robert Johnson said that means the 1894 flag could still be flown at city halls or county buildings.

Sen. Johnnie Walls said the flag affects how the rest of the world sees Mississippi.

"They don't think about the Civil War when they see that," Walls said. "They think about what happened during the civil rights era. Mississippi is branded by that."

The question of the flag's design came to the fore after the state Supreme Court ruled last May that Mississippi doesn't actually have an official flag because when laws were updated in 1906, sections dealing with the flag weren't included.

Georgia is the only other state with the Confederate emblem in its flag.



Calendar

Friday, January 12

Information Technology Workshops: The IT Curriculum offers computer and Internet training for everyone on campus, novice to advanced. No pre-

registration needed. Through March 6. Rooms 144, 235, 267B and Studio A, Knight Library. Free.

Discussion: "Waging Peace à la Gandhi" is the topic of this week's Pacifica

Forum. 11:45 a.m., Wesley Center, 1236 Kincaid. Free.

Health: Leigh Anne Jasheway presents "Don't Get Mad, Get Funny." 7 p.m., Mother Kali's Books. Free.