

### Programs Financing

The ASUO Programs Finance Committee has committed \$2,497,112 so far for next year's program budget. That represents a 4.35 percent increase over last year's funding — slightly more than the PFC's 3 percent benchmark.

ORGANIZATION	2001-02	2000-01	% CHANGE FROM THIS YEAR	\$ CHANGE FROM THIS YEAR
Muslim Student Association	\$5,838	\$0	—	\$5,838
Multicultural Center	\$75,535	\$70,349	7.37	\$5,186
Oregon Future Lawyers Association	\$4,057	\$300	1,352.33	\$3,757
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$85,430</b>	<b>\$70,649</b>	<b>20.92</b>	<b>\$14,781</b>

# MCC budget stirs debate

■ Discussion of payroll expenses and fiscal responsibility dominated the group's PFC hearing

By Lisa Toth  
Oregon Daily Emerald

The Programs Finance Committee approved the Multicultural Center's budget after more than an hour of debate over the group's request for a sizable increase, including more money for payroll expenses.

Erica Fuller, the MCC director, said the salaries for MCC staff positions should be granted as requested. Otherwise, Fuller said, she would not be able to pay her staff for their summer work.

"It hinders my ability to get the students started," Fuller said.

But according to a new stipend model the ASUO Student Senate implemented this year, monthly stipends for ASUO groups such as the MCC are being standardized.

"The Senate created the stipend model to have everyone consistent across the board," PFC member Lawrence Gillespie said. "I don't feel as if we are in the position to make special circumstances for one group."

The PFC reached a compromise by providing two MCC positions with 10-month stipends, instead of nine-month stipends, so that some students can be paid for their summer work.

"We haven't done that before,"

PFC Chairwoman Mary Elizabeth Madden said. "But we also were not as prepared as we usually are because there were completely new job positions."

Members of the PFC said the MCC wasn't fiscally responsible last year because it reimbursed a student directly for \$224.30.

"It is a standard controller policy that there are no reimbursements," Madden said.

The PFC also approved budgets for the Muslim Student Association and the Oregon Future Lawyers Association.

The PFC has received six appeals to its budget hearing decisions so far, and Madden said the PFC expects an estimate of 15-20 appeals overall.

### CAER

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Banfield said CAER requested LaDuke's presence partly because of her influential speech at the conference in 1997. He added that her personal struggles with environmental racism in Native American communities give her a strong background to speak from.

"She touched a lot of people," he said. "I remember what a powerful message she had to share."

Law professor and CAER co-founder Robin Morris-Collin will also speak tonight. One of her main concerns is President George W. Bush's new administration, which Morris-Collin said is promoting to top positions people who are committed to "representing corporations that make profit out of extraction and pollution."

"This conference can help build networks that will strengthen labor, environmental justice and civil rights coalitions," she said. "We

can learn from one another and be supportive for the coming years."

Morris-Collin, who has written many articles related to "sustainability and equity," added that the toxins corporations produce cause health problems that everyone should be concerned about.

"Pollution doesn't just affect nature, it affects human beings," she said. "Toxins pollute the water we drink and air we breathe, and we're getting this from cumulative exposure."

Along with speakers, the conference will include panels, workshops and films to demonstrate environmental racism issues and explain ways people can make a difference. Panel sessions will have discussions on related topics such as the Bush administration, children's health and environmental justice, and sovereignty and Native American treaties.

"When we're talking about environmental justice, we're talking about equality and justice for everyone in this country," Banfield said.

### Conference Itinerary

#### Friday:

6 p.m. Opening Address, EMU Ballroom

6:30 p.m. Robin Morris-Collin, EMU Ballroom

7:30 p.m. Winona LaDuke, EMU Ballroom

#### Saturday:

9 a.m. Opening Remarks, Room 175, Knight Law School

1:15 p.m. Panel Discussion on "Risk Assessment and the Bush Administration," Room 184, Knight Law School

7 p.m. Dr. Robert Bullard - Room 150, Columbia Hall

#### Sunday:

8:30 a.m. Breakfast with Dr. Bullard, Gerlinger Lounge

6 p.m. Closing Remarks, Bob Collin, Room 150, Columbia Hall

For a full schedule of panel discussions and events, call 346-4168.

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