

Budget

continued from page 1A

could be more breathing space in the state budget, stemming from the fact that lawsuits against the state have been settled for much lower amounts than expected.

"That's good news. It means there's that much wiggle left in the budget," he said.

Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences Joe Stone was not concerned about the possible budget situation. He said he knew the administration was taking care of the situation, and expected things to work out in the University's favor.

"I'm not spending a lot of time looking at the details," he said.

Stone added there was likely enough time for the budget situation to resolve itself.

"I'm not going to worry too much until June," he said.

Campus reports on projected reductions for implementing the governor's recommended budget

Institution	Agency Request	Student FTE	Faculty FTE	Staff	FTE-Research \$	Public Services	Opportunity Costs
EOU	\$2,349,719	653	17	31	\$382,529	\$436,044	\$25,000,000
SOU	\$4,210,853	546	27	20	\$248,000	\$818,400	
UO	\$16,869,361	600	82	171	\$3,000,000	\$1,684,000	\$35,880,000
OSU campus	\$22,923,401	1043	112	88	\$4,600,000	\$4,800,000	\$32,400,000
OSU statewide services	\$16,990,031						
PSU	\$14,661,190	396	44	22	\$1,000,000	\$2,100,000	\$3,000,000
OIT	\$1,859,684	248	12	18.6	\$200,000	\$1,400,000	\$1,550,000
WOU	\$3,312,523	684	44	38	\$1,300,000	minimal	\$3,000,000
Chancellor's office	\$6,084,941	—	—	12.5	—	—	—
OCECS	\$170,548	—	—	—	—	—	—
Systemwide	\$6,781,136	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	\$96,213,387	4,170	338	401.1	\$10,730,529	\$11,238,444	\$100,830,000

NOTE: FTE stands for "full time enrolled." All \$ figures represent money in millions. All other figures are hundreds of people.

Electricity

continued from page 1A

Those whose energy use is above this level will begin paying the rate set for the second block. They will be charged the lower rate for the first 1,250 kWh, and will be charged the higher rate for the kilowatt-hours that exceed the 1,250 cutoff.

But some residents think the inverted rate would be harmful to those on fixed incomes.

"The inverted model hits powerless people the hardest," Jean Melton said. Melton works for

Alvord Taylor, a company that provides housing for low-income and disabled people. She said these residents can't help being home all day, and therefore will suffer because of their unavoidable higher energy use.

There are also those who think the inverted rate is too socially conscious.

"It's not the job of EWEB to do social work with the tiered, manipulated rate structure," said David Blain, who spoke against the inverted rate model.

Others argue that the inverted plan will punish those who do

everything they can to conserve but still can't lower their usage level.

"The inverted plan is sending the wrong message," Craig Mayne said. "Asking only part of the community to shoulder the bulk of the amount of energy use. Just because someone is a heavy user does not mean that they are wasteful."

After hearing a long line of speakers criticize the plan at Tuesday's meeting, EWEB decided to postpone its decision on how to increase rates. But the utility is not throwing out the inverted rate structure. In fact, the board asked Varner to research successful inverted rate

models used by other utilities.

"We need the inverted rate structure," Stephanie Midkiff, a University law librarian, said Tuesday. "People won't change their conservation habits until they're forced to, and they aren't forced to until it hits their pocket books."

Most people who spoke in favor of the inverted rate model believe it will properly reward those who have been conserving and remove the burden of paying for those who use more energy.

"Inverted is more equitable," Melvin Erickson said. "Those who use less should not have to subsi-

dize for those who use more. People need to be motivated to use less electricity."

Others think this sort of rate model should have been in action all along.

"An inverted rate is long overdue," said Shawn Boles, who spoke in favor of the model.

The board has not made any decisions yet, and will consider different cutoff points for energy use to better serve Eugene residents. Varner said the majority of resident energy bills currently fall below the proposed cutoff point of 1,250 kWh.

Fee

continued from page 1A

nights is already a lot less than it needs, and ticket sales cover the costs that incidental fees don't. For example, if a group has \$3,000 in incidental fee funds to pay for its event, and ends up spending \$5,000, admission fees cover the extra costs.

"It's ticket sales that breaks us even," she said.

ASUO President Jay Breslow said that no matter what decision is made, the Executive will ensure that group events won't suffer.

"We have to balance the legality of student incidental fees with the need to not cripple student groups," he said.

PFC Chairwoman Mary Elizabeth

Madden added that if groups do become required to give students free admission to events, the PFC and the ASUO will take this into account for next year and make sure groups have the money they need.

But some groups find it difficult to believe that there would be any way to function without ticket sales. Shruti Shah, president of the Students of the Indian Subcontinent,

said that since this will be SIS's first year receiving funds, it will need ticket revenue. She mentioned that SIS's cultural night is expensive to put on because it serves a large quantity of food and requires a lot of promotion costs.

Chun added that although VSA collects its own fundraising money through bake sales and donations from businesses, it's extremely diffi-

cult to make a large amount of money, especially enough to cover culture night costs.

But Breslow emphasized that the ASUO is only looking into the issue because it wants to protect student incidental fees, and it won't hurt groups in the process.

"We have to find the best way to serve programs and the student body as well," he said.

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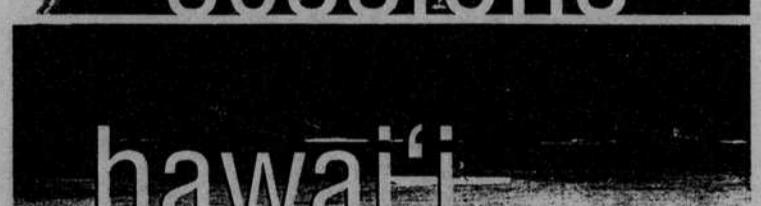
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