

Budget

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funding the OUS in general.

"It works when it's funded fully, but this takes a step back," Tanner said.

He added that the smaller tuition hike could damage the University because the committee refused to put a cap on the record enrollment coming this fall.

With so many students coming in, the University may be forced to go to the Emergency Board to increase tuition above the 4 and 3 percent marks.

"You have an influx of students and less money to play with," Tanner said. "The only way to [solve the problem] is with tuition."

University Provost John Moseley said he is optimistic that despite projected fall enrollment above 18,000 students, the University will increase tuition no more than 5 percent and no less than 4 percent. He said with that increase the school will not be in danger of losing programs or services.

"We probably won't make a final decision until the July OUS meeting," Moseley said.

But he added that if the Legislature does not improve funding for the next two-year period, the school could be looking at 10 percent hikes and lost programs.

Tanner said the current burden will be eased if rumors circulating through Salem come true and the Legislature adds money to programs such as need-based grants and grants for student parents.

Tanner said despite the small remaining problems, he agrees that the Legislature did the best it could in a year where programs

Budget proposal highlights:

Tuition will increase 4 percent this fall and 3 percent the year after that.

Any increase above those levels will require approval from the Legislature.

The budget is \$65 million more than originally proposed:

\$31.1 million coming from the general fund

\$25.2 million coming from tuition increase revenue

\$8.5 million coming from enrollment increases

Money from the tuition increase must be spent on higher education.

The budget will go to a vote in the Joint Ways and Means Committee this week.

Source: Oregon Student Association

simply couldn't escape cuts, and the lobbying efforts affirmed his belief that students truly can affect their tuition.

"We don't have to sit there and just take it," he said.

Suchanek-Ritchie said the subcommittee is the last place for major debate on the budget. She expects the budget to face few changes in the joint committee, as well as the House and Senate, before it reaches Kitzhaber's desk for final approval.

ASUO Vice President Joy Nair said student government is currently taking a "wait and see" approach, but students are organized to lobby legislators if the budget proposal changes during the final parts of the process.

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