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Marking the new academic year

■ The University's Convocation included speeches by President Dave Frohnmayer and Senate President Nathan Tublitz, but few students turned out

By Marty Toohey
for the Emerald

Pomp and circumstance were everywhere in the EMU Ballroom on Friday afternoon; music reminiscent of the popular depiction of college graduation echoed through the halls. Faculty and staff in academic robes and caps filed in procession and took a seat, and then a series of speakers, including University President Dave Frohnmayer, talked about how far the University has come in the 125 years since its founding.

It was Convocation, the University's annual ceremony to mark the beginning of the academic school year, and it was a chance for faculty and staff to reflect on the University during its 125th anniversary.

Frohnmayer talked of the historical context in which the University was founded: Ulysses S. Grant was finishing his presidency, George Armstrong Custer had recently had his "last stand" and only one-fourth of 1 percent of Oregonians had college degrees. Since 1876, the world's population has seen space travel, pogroms and the introduction of television.

"It was a different world," Frohnmayer said, "but it was in many ways the same world."

Frohnmayer said "this new age we are living in" will be named by future generations, and the University and other academic institutions will play an important role in this.

"I would hope that it is not labeled the age of despair, the age of hopelessness or the age of destruction," Frohnmayer said. "Instead, we will continue to think anew. ... This is how we will name our age."

University Senate President Nathan Tublitz said when the school was founded, it offered three majors: classical studies, science studies and normal studies.

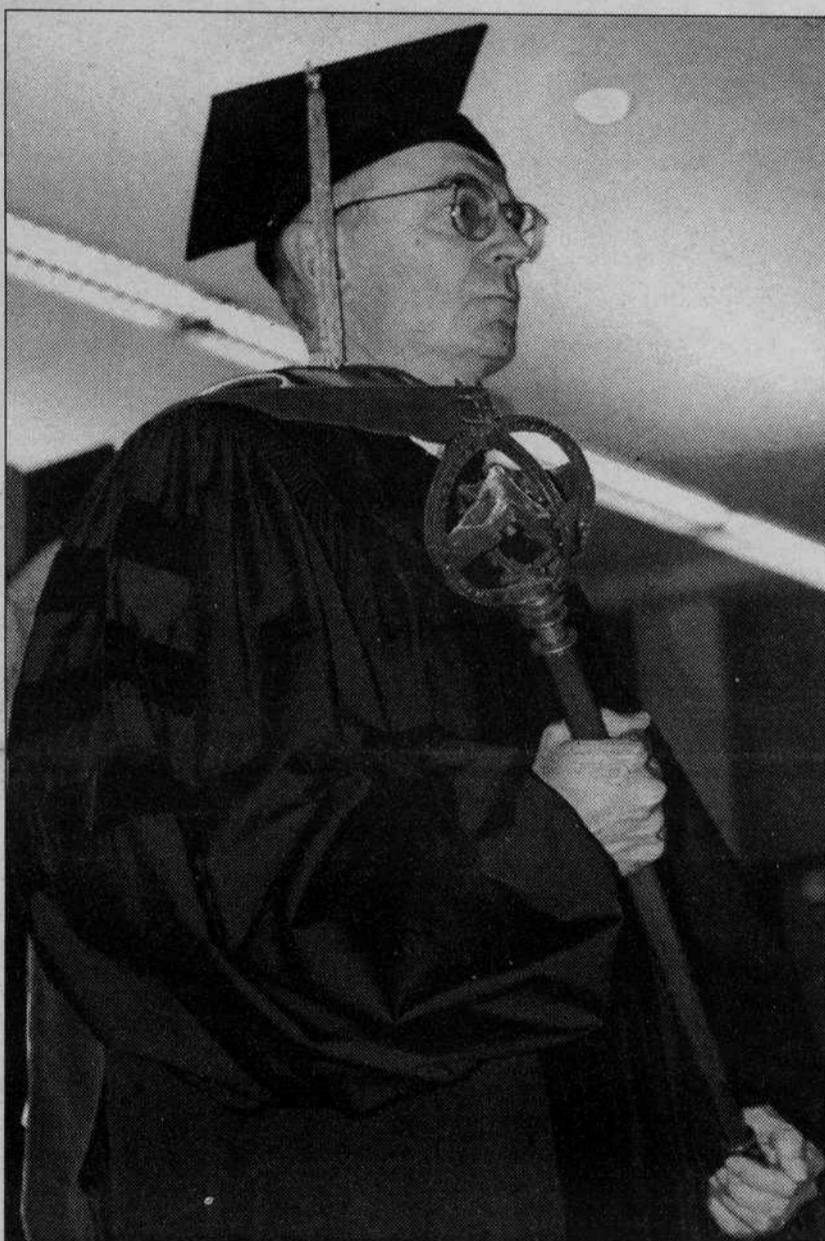
"The normal studies program was abolished in 1885," Tublitz said. "Maybe that's why our academic brethren slightly to the north consider us somewhat eccentric."

As the Convocation ceremony ended and its participants filed out of the ballroom, people talked of the importance of University traditions.

Anthropology professor Madonna Moss said it was unfortunate more of the University's community did not attend.

"I think it's important for us as a culture to think about the past," Moss said.

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Jonathan House Emerald

This year's University Marshal, Stephen Durrant, prepares to lead the academic procession with the University Mace at the Convocation, held Friday in the EMU Ballroom.

Student claims he was fired unjustly

■ A former ASUO controller wants two executive officers impeached for 'unprofessional' conduct

By Beata Mostafavi
Oregon Daily Emerald

With accusations of management incompetence and gender discrimination, a student is preparing to file a grievance asking that ASUO executives Nilda Brooklyn and Joy Nair be forced out of office.

Senior Justin Sibley — a former ASUO controller — says Brooklyn and Nair fired him a few weeks ago because of personal reasons having nothing to do with his job performance. Their "unprofessional" manner, he said, shows that they may not have enough experience to do their jobs.

"I think it's warranted," he said about his request to impeach the leaders.

Brooklyn, who is ASUO president, and Nair, ASUO vice president, declined to comment.

As a controller, Sibley was responsible for reporting on certain groups' budgets and making sure expenses were accounted for every month.

According to Sibley, another controller suspected a student group — whose budget he personally did not oversee — of misusing the student incidental fee. The group had dealt with similar issues last year, he said.

He helped an Oregon Commentator staff member locate the group's public records and believes this is why he was

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Fair Labor Association adds two new university members

■ The nonprofit labor monitoring group's university representation will increase to three people

By Allyson Taylor
for the Emerald

The Fair Labor Association voted unanimously Tuesday, Oct. 23, to expand its board of directors to include two more academic members. The board, which previously had only one academic representative, will now have three.

Following the vote, the nonprofit labor monitoring group revised its Charter Document to say the board of directors shall consist of six industry representatives, six non-governmental organization representatives and three university representatives.

But University senior Randy Newnham, a co-chair of the Survival Center, doesn't

think the FLA's addition of more academic members will significantly change the group's monitoring policies.

"Those who are affected by the policies are not represented on the (FLA) board. I do not think the problem will be solved until workers are represented," Newnham said.

In an Oct. 24 press release, the board's chairman, Daniel R. Glickman of Akin, Gump, Strauss, said the actions of the FLA to include more "university representation, increased company participation, two newly accredited monitors, and the expansion of the FLA monitoring program to include products other than apparel and footwear ... reflect the deep commitment of all of our stakeholders to improve working conditions globally. The FLA can make a great contribution to ensuring that our trading system is both open and fair."

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Sales of union-made T-shirts remain low at UO Bookstore

■ The Campus Coalition for Fair Labor continues to promote union-made apparel, such as shirts, to discourage sweatshop labor conditions

By Diane Huber
Oregon Daily Emerald

The tag on each of the three styles of union-made shirts offered by the University Bookstore reads: "100 percent guaranteed to be made by workers who have living wages, health benefits, the right to organize, and a safe and healthy work environment."

Since the shirts were first available in June, 114 shirts have been sold, bookstore merchandise manager Arlyn Schaufler said.

The shirts were made available after a group of 29 students from Professor Michael Dreiling's spring term class titled

"Workers, Consumers, and the Global Economy" formed the Campus Coalition for Fair Labor. The CCFL's goal was to make union-made T-shirts available to buyers. The union label reassures students that the shirts were produced under humane conditions, according to the CCFL.

"We want students to have the choice to buy University apparel that isn't made by workers who are paid low wages and work in hazardous conditions," Becky Clausen told the Emerald in May. Clausen was a CCFL member and graduate student in the environmental studies program.

Although sales have slowed since the initial boom when the shirts were first offered, bookstore manager Jim Williams is optimistic about the shirts and has ordered three more styles of sweatshirts. He said shirts have sold surprisingly well considering that they

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