

ASUO prepares for upcoming policy changes

The group is focusing on issues such as setting housing code standards and increasing freshmen involvement

By Jan Montry
Oregon Daily Emerald

The ASUO has been hard at work this summer, focusing on specific summer issues and getting ready for next year's policy making.

One of the most prominent issues for student government this summer is the Leadership Development Program, which is also a major issue for next year. In preparation, ASUO Vice President Ben Buzbee is reviewing plans to relay leadership information to students

in the best possible way. The Student Activities Resource Office, a campus leadership program originally designed for this purpose, was cut in January.

"There needs to be a central hub so students can find out opportunities," Buzbee said.

The ASUO also took advantage of IntroDUCKtion, a freshman orientation event that gave the ASUO a chance to make their presence known among students. As a result, 70 freshmen voiced their interest in interning this year.

The ASUO also took advantage of IntroDUCKtion to begin the "get-out-the-vote" campaign and started approaching freshmen old enough to vote. The campaign will be a ma-

for undertaking for the school year as the ASUO has set a goal of 6,000 new voters. Student government members will set up booths, canvass and go to student neighborhoods in a massive campaign to reach their goal.

Another major issue next year for the ASUO is a city housing standard. Work is already starting where last year's administration left off.

Student government officials have been talking with City Councilor David Kelly, Ward 3, to get the

ball rolling on the anticipated code.

"We're finishing up a great start by Nilda and Joy," Buzbee said. "We're hoping to tweak it a little bit so it will be more reasonable."

Kelly said he wants to establish a list of fundamental standards, such as adequate heating and power, and hopes the city council will hear the issue in fall.

"(The ASUO and I have) been working to get information back and forth and to suggest strategies," Kelly said.

To accompany housing code changes, the ASUO hopes to develop a "renter's guide" pamphlet and a Web-based database of real estate to replace the rental info office.

The renter's guide will include tips for students on subjects like renter's rights and signing leases. The web-based database will inform students on housing possibilities around the community.

Contact the reporter at janmontry@dailymerald.com



Adam Jones Emerald

Representatives from two local unions say they will picket The Register-Guard booth on Sunday, during the paper's Family Day event.

Unions plan to picket Register-Guard during Lane County Fair event

The Eugene Newspaper Guild and the Local 206 Teamsters Union plan to protest the local paper during its Family Day event

By Jillian Daley
Oregon Daily Emerald

On Aug. 18, the Eugene Newspaper Guild and the Local 206 Teamsters Union will picket the Lane County Fair from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., the same time The Register-Guard hosts its Family Day event.

The two union groups said they decided to protest at that particular time to assert that the Baker family paper has a shady side, and that they think the public should know about it.

The Guild and the Teamsters said that they expected a turnout of 30 to 50 workers at the fair picketing event.

Guild members, who represent the news, circulation, advertising and business offices, said that the picketing is in response to The Register-Guard's labor law violations, which the group and the Teamsters Union filed with the National Labor Relations Board this summer.

The event is also inspired by the fact that the 150 workers in the Guild have not had a contract since the old one expired in 1999, they said.

Eugene Newspaper Guild president Adele Berlinski said that the Guild would be passing out flyers and balloons, some of which will say, "R-G Be Fair," which is one of the Guild's ways of reminding people of the workers' labor situation.

Berlinski added that the situation has persisted because she said The

Register-Guard delays and cancels meetings to negotiate a new contract.

The Register-Guard denied the allegations.

"We wouldn't purposely or knowingly commit unfair labor violations," Human resource director Cynthia Walden told the Emerald July 2.

The majority of the employees in the Guard's distribution center signed papers stating that they would like to be represented by the Teamsters Union, but union members said that the attorney representing The Guard, L. Michael Zinser, canceled a labor negotiation meeting on false pretenses.

Teamster members said that Zinser was hired specifically to break union resistance.

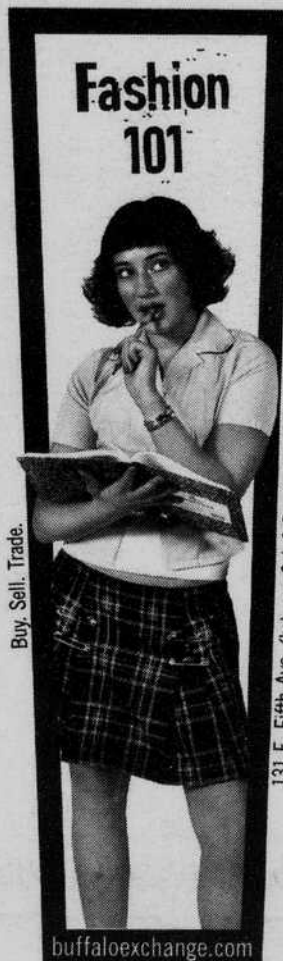
"We want the community to let The Register-Guard know it's not acceptable in our community to be corporate law breakers," Teamsters Union representative Stefan Ostrach said.

Ostrach said he was disappointed by the way The Guard has been handling the issue, and that the policy decisions reflect poorly on the company's current owner, Tony Baker.

The Guard said that it is trying to work with the Teamsters, and that there are a few outstanding issues that the paper and the Guild disagree on, which is why the contract negotiations have taken so long, Waden said.

"I'm always hopeful that we can come to an agreement soon," Berlinski said.

Contact the reporter at jillandaley@dailymerald.com.



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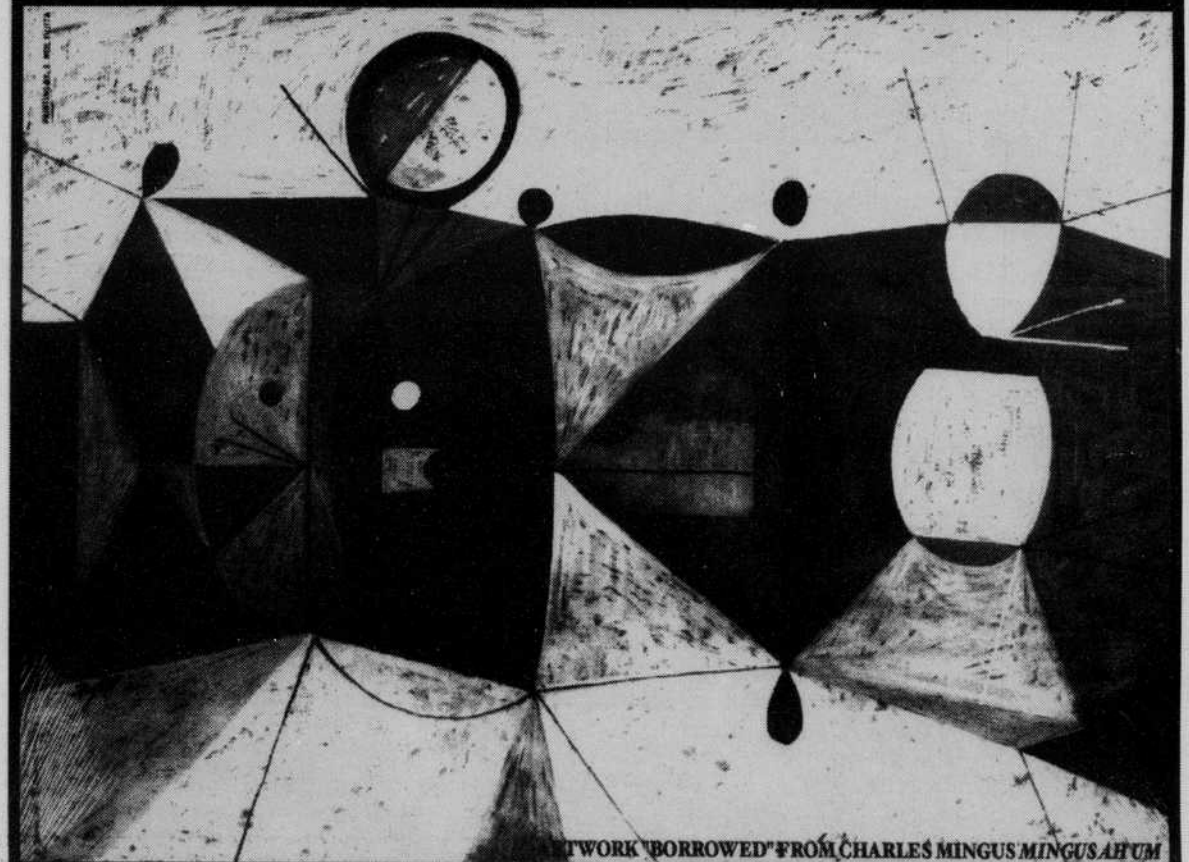
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