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STUDENT RUSH COUPON

Senate fills position for Constitution Court

The Student Senate also approved requests from MEChA, the Multicultural Center and a tenants council

Dave Goldberg
Freelance Reporter

The ASUO Student Senate met Wednesday to approve appointments and hear special requests from MEChA, the Multicultural Center and the Westmoreland Tenants Council.

Meghan Madden's appointment to the Constitution Court was approved by a senate vote of 12-2.

Also, campus radio station KWVA asked that a representative of the senate be appointed to its board of directors. The senate approved Eric Bailey's appointment to this position 13-1.

MEChA requested \$150 from the surplus to cover technology fees for their Dia de los Muertos celebration on Nov. 2. The senate approved the request 8-6.

The MCC requested \$1,000 for six members to attend a youth leadership in Baltimore, to take place Nov. 8 through 10. The senate approved the request 9-4.

The Westmoreland Tenants Council requested \$2,303 for its

general budget. The council lost its funding previously because of a failure to deliver a budget report in the spring. Currently, the council consists of only a volunteer chairman, as there is no money to pay for staffing. Council elections are planned for Nov. 15.

After hearing the council's request, the senate debated whether it was fair to punish this year's council for mistakes made last year. An agreement was reached that the council deserved a reinstatement of funding. However, adjustments were made in the stipend amounts for positions that will not begin until Nov. 15, as well as the amount for office supplies and incidental costs.

Eventually, the senate unanimously passed stipends of \$600 for council chairperson, \$375 for vice chairperson, \$188 for secretary treasurer, \$35 for payroll assessment, \$15 for office supplies and \$100 for equipment rentals and decoration.

The Senate also approved \$640 for child care and \$54 for printing and duplication costs by a 13-1 vote. The total amount approved for the Westmoreland Tenants Council was \$2,007.

The Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer Alliance deliv-

ered a presentation aimed at removing any questions or concerns regarding its use of funds, specifically in regard to the Queer Prom that was held earlier this month, co-hosted with Lane Community College's Queer Resource Center.

There was some controversy over whether LGBTQA had used the surplus funds approved by the senate for a prom intended to raise money. LGBTQA assured the senate that the prom was never intended to be a fundraiser.

However, LCC's Queer Resource Center, an organization with a \$50 budget, did view the event as a fundraiser. This means the LGBTQA could have indirectly violated a Green Tape Notebook rule forbidding surplus funds being used for fundraisers.

To make amends, LCC's Queer Resource Center has written a formal apology to the students of the University and agreed to return half of the proceeds it made from the event.

Senate members complimented the LGBTQA members for the completeness of their presentation, and all parties were relieved to put a confusing and contentious chapter to rest.

Dave Goldberg is a freelance writer for the Emerald.

Halloween

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ent energy. Then they call down the feminine deity. Members of the circle may call up a question, or perhaps request to speak to the deceased. When the ritual ends, they say farewell to the goddess.

Sophia Sanctuary's ritual is scheduled to take place Nov. 4, on lunar Samhain, which is the closest day to a full moon or "dark moon."

Samhain takes place at different times, depending whether people choose to celebrate Oct. 31 or on old Halloween, which usually falls two weeks into November. Pagans determine the date for old Halloween using the ancient Julian Calendar.

A three-day celebration from Oct. 31 through Nov. 2 is also common. In addition, many pagans celebrate Samhain at any time during those three days, which are often referred

to as All Hallows' Eve, All Saints' Day and All Souls' Day.

The holiday is traditionally a meat-eating festival, where people slaughter cattle and harvest the last of the vegetables to prepare for the winter, so it's a good opportunity to cook a feast.

"It's a very important part of our rituals," said Norma Joyce, the priestess for the Eugene chapter of Women in Conscious Creative Action. "After it's over, we eat."

Another ritual is eating Dumb Supper, a dinner prepared and eaten in silence for a time of introspection.

Many pagans and Wiccans focus on other elements of Samhain.

"Most strongly, it's a fire festival," said K.C. Anton, proprietor of the pagan supply shop Woodhart: Ways of Olde.

He said fire guides the good spirits to the doors of living relatives and keeps the bad ones away.

"That's where a jack-o'-lantern

comes from," Anton said.

However, people didn't always carve pumpkins — they used to carve turnips.

The Celts used large orange turnips more like modern-day rutabagas, said Deborah Snively, who works part-time at Woodhart and is Anton's domestic partner.

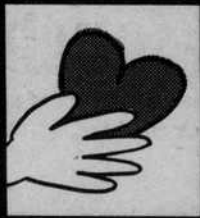
However, at the heart of all the traditions, from pumpkin carving to circle rituals, Samhain is a time for family, friends and quietude.

Dennis Duval, who publishes a directory of local pagans, plans to eat a vegetarian meal at home Oct. 31, perhaps do a short ritual, and then pass out candy to the trick-or-treaters.

"I'm definitely planning on having a quiet evening at home with my partner honoring our ancestors," Duval said.

Contact the reporter at jillandaley@dailyemerald.com.

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Measures

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necessary medical services to all residents. It would also change the current workers' compensation system and create additional income and payroll taxes.

Proponents of this measure say all Oregon residents should have access to health care, even if they cannot afford to pay for insurance. According to the voters' pamphlet,

"It's a widespread reality that the current system [of health care] is crumbling."

Marc Shipiro
Area director for the
Yes on 23 Committee

thousands of Oregonians do not have access to health care, and

many employees who aren't provided with health care by their employers cannot afford to pay for it on their own.

"It's a widespread reality that the current system is crumbling," said Marc Shipiro, area director for the Yes on 23 Committee.

Shipiro said this is a realistic next step because there are no proposals for an alternate solution. He said the 11.5 percent tax to employers will be on a sliding scale and will not be much higher than the taxes currently being paid.

John Thomas, president of Pacific Benefit Consultants, wrote in the voters' pamphlet that Measure 23 could cost his employees \$25,000 more each year. He added that even backers of the measure say it will cost as much as \$20 billion per year to implement.

Contact the reporter at jodyburruss@dailyemerald.com.



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