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EMU budget decision may cut jobs

The EMU Board of Directors postpones a decision that may eliminate four student jobs

Aimee Rudin

Family/Health/Education Reporter

The EMU Board of Directors' first budget meeting of the year deadlocked Thursday night when the board couldn't decide whether to eliminate four student jobs in favor of

one, full-time position in the EMU Scheduling Office.

The Scheduling Office was one of three groups slated for the Board's Thursday night budget allocation meeting. Every EMU program must go through a budget appraisal, similar to the ASUO Programs Finance Committee hearings taking place throughout the month.

The Scheduling Office's budget proposal for 2003-04 proved difficult for

the board because the office is seeking to hire a full- or part-time staff member at the front desk. That employee would replace four student positions.

University Scheduling Officer Virginia Anderson, who is also the scheduling and events services unit director, said she needed to have non-students to provide consistency.

"It's not students versus outside staff," Anderson said. "I could have up to four (different) people on my desk

during the day. That just doesn't provide the consistency that we need."

Anderson added hiring an individual from outside the University would help the Scheduling Office better serve the University community.

The Scheduling Office is responsible for reserving University facilities for purposes outside of normal class operation. The office works directly with student groups, University departments and off-campus organiza-

tions to help plan successful events.

Anderson supervises nine students, including several on work study. If the budget is approved without amendment, only five students will have work in the office.

Much of the dissent over hiring a full-time "outsider" in the Scheduling Office came from ASUO Vice President Ben Buzbee.

"The (ASUO Executive) will not Turn to **Budget**, page 5

Culture night preparation



Danielle Hickey Emerald

Students (left to right) Jessica Chen, Julie Bowers, Gabriel Caprav, Daniel Asenlund, and Bjarné Hanssen all rehearse for their play in the Student Recreation Center on Thursday night for Japan Night on Saturday January 11.

Japan: Modernized

A stage show, ethnic food and a haunted house are just some of the activities planned for Japan Night this Saturday

Ayisha Yahya

Freelance Editor

The office is buzzing with activity as sophomore Sakara Nakamura puts final touches to this year's Japan Night. After almost three months of preparation, Nakamura and other members of

the Japanese Student Organization are ready to bring the Land of the Rising Sun to the University on Saturday in the EMU Ballroom.

Japan Night starts at 5:30 p.m. and costs \$6 for students and \$7 for the general public. Although the event is steadily nearing, Nakamura is seemingly calm.

"We like to reach out to people on campus and outside the campus, let them know we are here, let them know Japanese culture and people," said Nakamura, JSO's co-president.

But this year, the traditional kimonos will stay in the closet as JSO paints a picture of modern Japan. Nakamura, who is from Yokohama, a large city close to Tokyo, says Japan is constantly evolving with new technologies, fashions and social trends.

"We wanted to show modern Japan, because it's a lot different and people don't know much about it," said Nakamura, who feels her nation still

Turn to **Japan**, page 5

Fines for pot possession may increase

The Eugene City Council will discuss raising the fine from \$100 to \$250 for owning less than an ounce

Drugs and alcohol

Brad Schmidt

News Editor

For spliff smokers and doobie dabblers, the word "potluck" may take on a new meaning.

The Eugene City Council on Monday will consider raising the maximum fine for the possession of less than an ounce of marijuana from \$100 to \$250 in an effort to entice University students to participate in diversion programs.

After the success of BUSTED, a program that allows University students cited for being a minor in possession of alcohol to take diversion classes instead of paying a \$250 fine, several groups began considering other possibilities.

"What Judge (Wayne) Allen and the University want to do is put into place a similar program for possession of less than one ounce of marijuana," said Ward 3 City Councilor David Kelly, who represents the University area.

The new fine would be substantially more than the current \$100 fine, for good reason, Kelly said. The costs of a diversion program would be about \$90. With only a \$10 difference, Kelly speculated some students might not consider the program because of the 10-hour course load.

But Kelly said the program could keep students out of trouble. On some occasions, drug possession can cause students to lose financial aid. But, as with BUSTED, the new program would ensure that, upon successful completion of the course, the citation and fine are dropped.

And as far as Kelly is concerned, the fine increase and the diversion program are a joint deal.

"I won't support this until there is written assurance," Kelly said.

Those who wish to share their opinions on the issue should attend the public forum, which will begin Monday at 7:30 p.m.

Contact the news editor at bradschmidt@dailyemerald.com.

Womenspace in need of volunteers

A training session will be held this weekend; academic credit is available

Caron Alarab

Crime/Safety/Transportation Reporter

In the constant fight to end domestic violence, a local force of volunteerism has welcomed the new year with open arms and open positions for potential trainees.

Womenspace is actively looking for women and men to volunteer for a variety of programs available to the community, including its crisis hotline. Starting this weekend, a winter volunteer training session will be held to provide interested participants with a foundation of new skills for working with clients. The required three-day session will run from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Jan. 11, 18 and 25, and will allow participants to have the option of earning

academic credit for volunteering.

"Domestic violence is a significant problem in Eugene, Oregon, on campus and pretty much everywhere," Womenspace Volunteer Program Coordinator Nancy Hafner said. The volunteer pool flows with the dedication and energy of men and women from age 18 to 75, with most falling into the 21 to 40 range, she said.

"We couldn't provide even a fraction of the services we do without the volunteer efforts," Hafner said.

The organization needs volunteers to serve as advocates for women and children, to work at the Domestic Violence Legal Clinic and to put hours into Youth and Community Outreach Programs. But Hafner said the crisis line, which needs to be staffed 24 hours a day, is one of the most important programs when it comes to volunteers.

"(The crisis line) is the first contact and sometimes the only contact a person may have with Womenspace," she said. Hafner said one of the things she loves best is seeing how the compassion and understanding of volunteers can translate into growth for clients.

But not everyone who benefits from Womenspace programs calls for help.

According to Community Outreach Director Margo Schaefer, the importance of that "first contact" through the Womenspace programs goes beyond waiting for the community to make the first move.

"We really need people to participate in going into classrooms to teach dating violence prevention," she said, referring to the Youth Outreach Program. "It's important that boys hear this

Turn to **Womenspace**, page 8

WEATHER

Today: High 40, Low 35, Morning fog and low clouds

Saturday: High 48, Low 35, Rain becoming likely

LOOKING AHEAD

Monday The Oregon Student Association takes a vote toward deciding the fate of Rachel Pilliod

Tuesday If Measure 28 fails, repercussions for state police and transportation will be severe