

## Online exclusives

#### News

**EMU Board finishes** its budget process, attempting to avoid cuts to student programs... **KWVA members filled** the PFC budget hearing to request more funds for staff training...

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## **OSPIRG**

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OSPIRG is expected to contribute 35 percent to the overall statewide budget for the organization based on student enrollment numbers at participating colleges.

But PFC Programs Appointee Joy Nair said her calculations indicated the University should only be responsible for contributing 25 percent to the organization's state budget pool.

Nair said she based her numbers off a belief that OSU should be contributing funding to OSPIRG because they benefit from the resources of the organization.

Ben Unger, the campus program director for OSPIRG, countered that there is no established chapter at OSU, and it is the organization's goal to improve the quality of life for all Oregonians without having to demand financial backing from every citizen.

"You could add up all the people



Danielle Hickey Emerald

Members of OSPIRG met with the PFC in the EMU Rogue Room Tuesday night. OSPIRG members (left to right) Kelly Huckestein, Rebecca Shively, and Ben Unger listen as (left to right) Sarah Kirk, Anna Barnett, Bryn Anderson, and David Kurushima look on in the background.

in Oregon and say they're receiving resources, and it would be true," Unger said.

PFC remained firm in their convictions however, and voted unanimously to downsize OSPIRG's budget to \$82,320, a 31.87 percent decrease

Johnson said he couldn't predict

whether OSPIRG members would appeal the budget.

"It's definitely going to affect the range of our activities, but we're devoted to helping out people and improving the public sector," Johnson said.

Contact the senior news reporter at jenniferbear@dailyemerald.com.

## Reaction

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administration's agenda will do little to address the immediate needs of most Americans," he said in a statement. "Americans aren't threatened by the weapons that Saddam Hussein may or may not possess; they're menaced by the lack of available jobs and expired unemployment benefits."

But Rep. Greg Walden, the lone Republican U.S. representative from Oregon, said he was pleased with Bush's message, adding that the president's issues "reflect the highest priorities of the American people."

College Democrats Co-Chairmen Mike Linman and Eric Bailey said they did not believe Bush would follow through on his promises.

"His words were encouraging, but his record is contrary (to what he said)," Bailey said. "He talks of combating HIV, but he cut birth control."

College Republicans Chairman Jarrett White said he thinks Bush laid out a strong course for the U.S. in 2003. He also defended the president's plans for the Middle East.

"If it's just about oil, we would have taken the oil fields in Desert Storm ... and there wouldn't have been an issue now," White said

Professor Bloom said he was surprised by the bipartisan nature of Bush's speech.

"He's definitely reaching out to Democrats to some extent by putting in money for drug treatment and rehabilitation," Bloom said. "It's good to see him doing some of that — not just punishment, but trying to help some people."

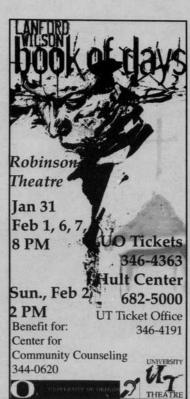
The professor added that it's too early to tell whether the president will act on his promises.

"How much of that will actually happen — who knows," he said, adding that he predicts Bush's approval rating will increase by 10 percent to 15 percent as a result.

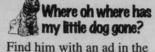
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