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# ASUO ELECTIONS

Tuesday, April 8, 2003

## Seat 13 bids review office hours, budget

Candidates for Senate Seat 13 seek cooperation among student groups, cost-efficient budgeting strategies and more outlets for student voice

Aaron Shakra  
Pulse Reporter

Three students are running for ASUO Student Senate Seat 13, Arts & Letters, Journalism. Although all three candidates agreed to interviews with the Emerald, candidate Alicia Lindquist decided she was uncomfortable with the Emerald's political coverage and did not want her responses printed.

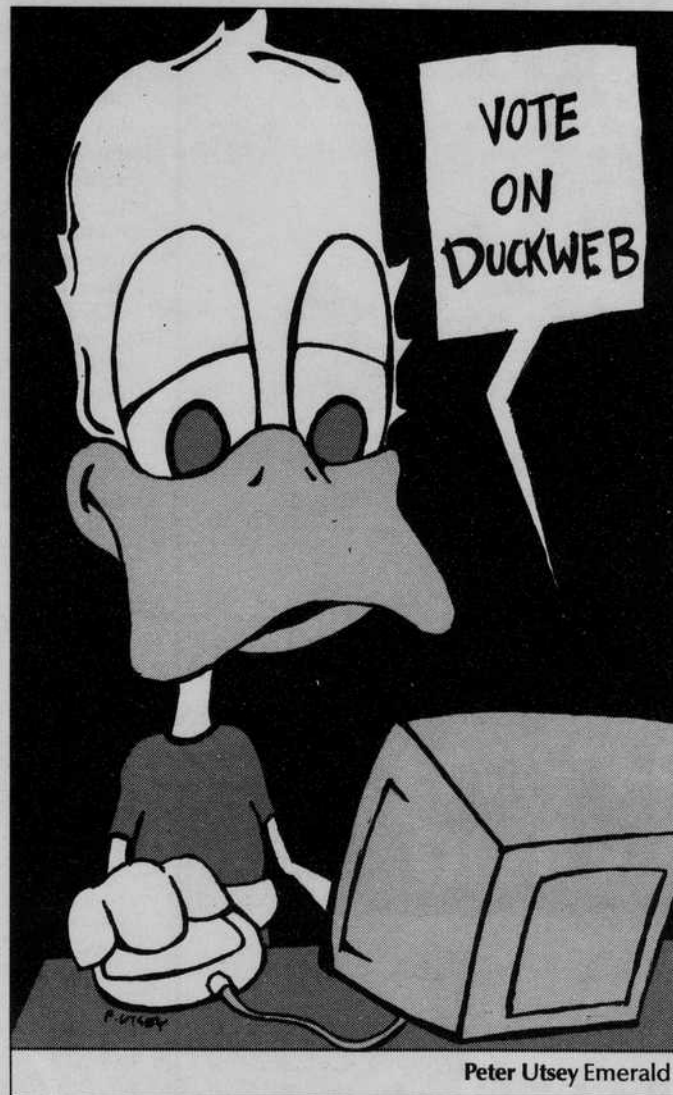
The Emerald asked each candidate three general questions, and one specific question regarding student government: What's the most important part of Senate Rules Section 5, which covers senate duties, and why?

Ashlee Stefani is a 20-year-old sophomore majoring in journalism, with minors in business and Spanish. She is also a member of Delta Gamma sorority and is running to "become proactive" in the way that the school is run. She was initially unfamiliar with Section 5, but said holding office hours is important so students have someone to turn to.

Q: How will you figure out how to spend the surplus?

Stefani: I think that the best way is to find out about the programs and participate in budget making processes, get a better understanding of what the programs are about and help develop cost-efficient budgets in order to allocate the funds in a cost-efficient way.

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Peter Utsey Emerald

## Seat 15 hopefuls ponder budget, student contact

Five students make their bids for Senate Seat 15, stressing budget concerns, cooperation with student groups and office hours as top priorities

Jan Montry  
News Editor

The ASUO Student Senate has nine academic seats that are intended to represent academic categories — such as social science and business — at the University. Five students are vying for Seat 15, Social Science.

The Emerald asked each candidate three general questions and one specific question about student government: What is the most important part of Senate Rules Section 5, which lists senators' duties?

Kevin Curtin, a sophomore political science major, is involved with the College Democrats and was an ASUO legislative intern his freshman year. While he didn't know that Section 5 contained senate duties, he said being impartial was the most important duty.

Q: How will you figure out how to spend the surplus?

Curtin: Well, I'll sit down and listen to the groups that want the surplus money. I'll patiently listen to what they have to say. And once I've listened to what they have to say, I'll make a vote based on what I believe is right.

Q: How will you interact with student groups?

Curtin: Keep the avenues of communication open and show respect to the different student groups, whether I personally disagree with what they're doing or not. I would

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## Ballot measures to update ASUO constitution

Nineteen ballot measure changes have approval from the Constitution Court, but still need student approval

Brook Reinhard  
News Editor

The ASUO constitution is one of many documents that make their home in the Green Tape Notebook, which tells student government officials everything they need to know about their jobs. But the constitution, just like state and federal constitutions, sometimes becomes obsolete or contains language that needs to be changed.

In this ASUO primary election, students must consider 19 ballot measures that would amend the

constitution. Each measure has been approved by the ASUO Constitution Court, and students must decide whether to vote "yes" and amend the constitution or "no" and keep the status quo.

Being an informed voter in this election will take a lot of reading and a willingness to skip over the grammar errors and unclear wording in some of the actual ballot measures. With this in mind, the Emerald has explained the measures without reprinting them verbatim. The measures are divided into three categories: Major changes, minor changes and date changes.

### Major changes

•5.4: Clarifies who appoints students to vacant student government

spots. Voting yes would allow the ASUO president to make appointments to vacant positions on the Athletic Department Finance Committee, the Programs Finance Committee and the EMU Board, except for positions that are actually appointed by the EMU Board itself. Voting no would still allow the president to fill vacant seats on the ASUO Constitution Court and the ASUO Student Senate, but the rules would not be clear on who could appoint students to fill ADFC, PFC and EMU Board seats.

•5.6: Requires the ASUO president or designee to submit a budget recommendation at the same time each major program submits its recommendation to senate. Voting yes would synchronize the budget rec-

ommendation of the president, EMU, PFC and ADFC. Voting no would let groups and the ASUO president continue to decide independently when they make budget recommendations.

•6.14: Instructs the PFC to budget for an unallocated reserve, or surplus. Voting yes would make the PFC responsible for including in their budget an unallocated reserve of up to 1.5 percent of the student incidental fee budget, to be allocated to student groups by the senate. Voting no would leave the senate in charge of budgeting the unallocated reserve.

•6.15: Excludes maintenance and repair costs from the seven percent maximum allowable increase for EMU program's building reserves. Voting yes would allow maintenance costs,

like fixing a furnace or replacing light bulbs, to be excluded from the seven percent-per-year building reserve fund. Voting no would include maintenance and repair costs when factoring in the seven percent increase.

•8.1: Removes a position from the five-member ADFC and replaces it with a non-voting committee member. Voting yes would strike the Athletic Department Team Council appointed position and require the ASUO Finance Coordinator to serve instead as a non-voting member. Voting no would keep the Athletic Department Team Council appointment, even though the explanation of the ballot measure approved by the ASUO Elections Board says that the council no longer appoints anyone.

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## Science students to select who sits in Senate Seat 16

Science majors can vote for one of three candidates for Senate Seat 16

Kira Park  
Freelance Reporter

Three candidates are in the race for ASUO Student Senate Seat 16, Science. This position represents the interests of students from the science department, and only students in science-affiliated fields can vote in this race.

The Emerald asked each candidate three general questions and one specific question about student government: What is the most important part of Senate Rules Section 5, which lists senators' duties?

Senior Paul Griffes is majoring in geography. He is a member of Students for Peace, the College Democrats and the University Surf Club. Saying he hadn't memorized senate rules, Griffes looked up Section 5 and then said the most important parts were attending scheduled meetings and making himself available to the students.

Q: How will you figure out how to spend the surplus?

Griffes: Some of the principle guidelines that I would use for allocating money would be how wide a portion of the student body is going to benefit. If your group only benefits a very small sliver of the campus population, in my eyes you shouldn't be as entitled to money that everybody pays into as some other function that everybody benefits from.

Q: How will you interact with student groups?

Griffes: I'll be keeping office hours, I'll have an e-mail address and people who are interested in getting my attention who have issues will know where to contact me. I believe there are too many different groups to go out and meet everybody personally.

Q: What are the most important issues facing the students you would represent?

Griffes: The most important issues facing all of us on the student body are: ability to

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## Seat 17 candidates plan out allocation of surplus funds

Three candidates vie for Senate Seat 17, a position that represents students in the business school

Jennifer Bear  
Campus/Federal Politics Reporter

Three students are running for ASUO Student Seat 17, Business, an academic position that represents students in the Charles H. Lundquist College of Business. The candidate who is elected to this position will be responsible for helping the senate decide where and when to invest surplus money next year.

The Emerald asked each candidate three general questions and one specific question about student government: What is the most important part of Senate Rules Section 5, which lists senators' duties?

Erik Fordyce is a junior and business administration major with a finance concentration. He is a member of the University Investment Group, and he worked last term as a

financial planning intern at Merrill Lynch. He did not know that Section 5 lists senators' duties, but he said a senator's most important responsibility is to actively represent the interests of students.

Q: What are the most important issues facing the students you would represent?

Fordyce: The most important issue is not getting enough opportunities outside of campus. We just don't have enough quality companies coming to the University any more. That's my main goal, is getting more opportunities for students to plan their future instead of going out into the working world not really knowing what they're going to do.

Q: How will you figure out how to spend the surplus?

Fordyce: Basically take every activity, see what the allocation of funds is for that activity, the importance. I believe that within the coming years, groups and organizations should be sponsored more by the school. I think the

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