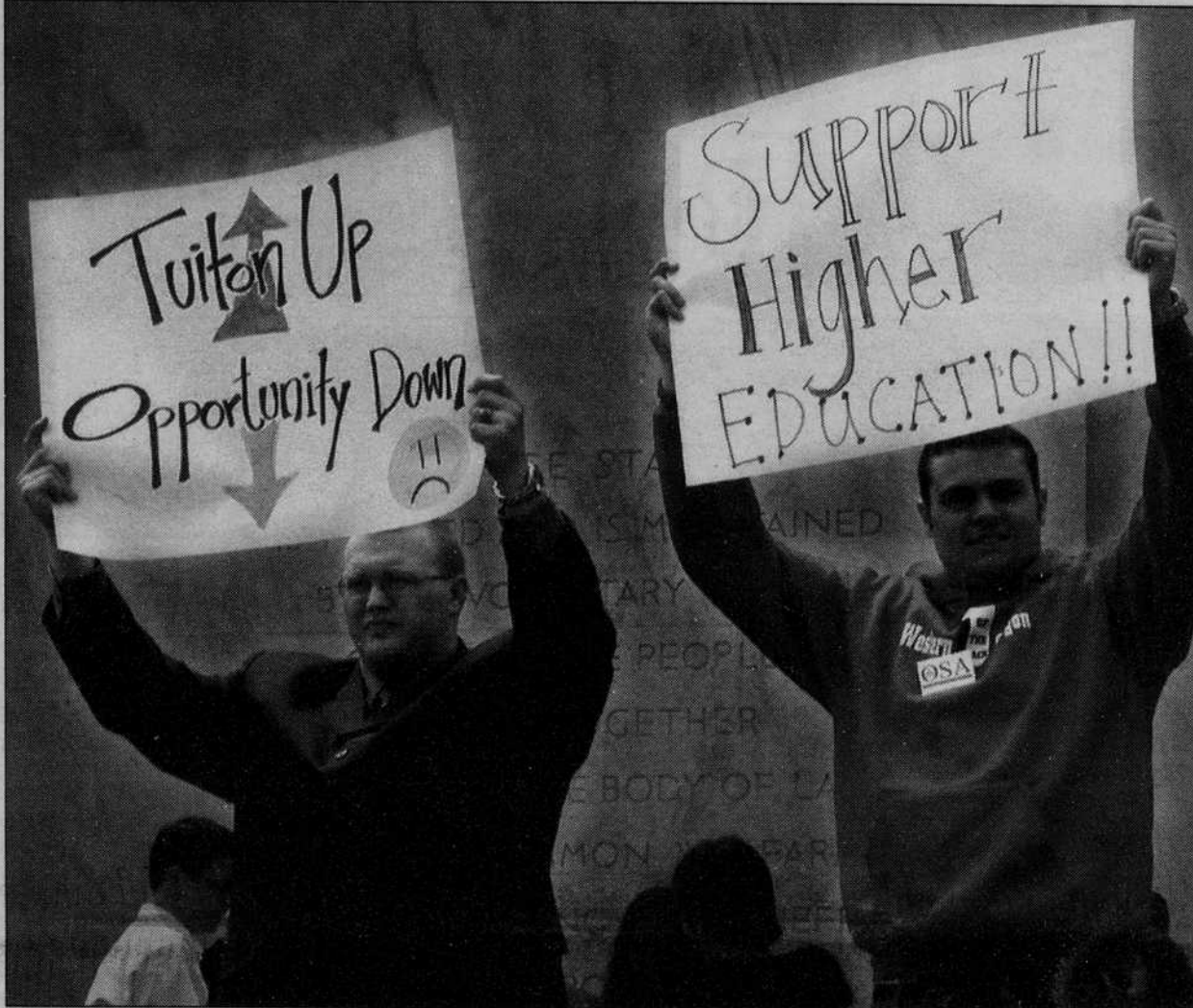


Education meets legislation



Aimee Rudin Emerald

Students gathered on the steps of the state Capitol to lobby for access to higher education and to protest OUS funding cuts on Monday.

ASUO begins hiring staff for 2003-04

President-elect Maddy Melton is looking for staff to manage the day-to-day workings of ASUO

Jennifer Bear
Campus/Federal Politics Reporter

Students curious about the inner-workings of ASUO now have the opportunity to learn the ropes first-hand.

ASUO is reaching out to the campus community, asking that all students with a passion for student government apply for a 2003-04 ASUO staff position. With the 5 p.m. Wednesday deadline creeping closer, there is no time left to be timid.

According to ASUO Accounting Coordinator Jennifer Creighton-Neiwert, prospective staff members can expect to be paid as little as \$150 a month on a stipend staff position, or as much as \$9.65 an hour to perform the duties of a hard-working ASUO Controller. Time commitments vary from 10 to 20 hours a week, Creighton-Neiwert said.

ASUO President-elect Maddy Melton has set her sights on reshaping campus politics, and she is starting by making changes in staff member positions. Melton is eliminating the state affairs coordinator and community outreach coordinator, creating a shared governance/University affairs position and shifting half of the responsibilities of the non-traditional student advocate to the new childcare subsidy advocate.

Melton said she and ASUO Vice President-elect Eddy Morales are eager to work with a dedicated staff next year, and have been combing the campus community for possible applicants. Drop-in visits to various greek houses, advertisements in the Emerald and mass e-mails have all been used to try to bring in a large pool of applicants, Melton said, but the most successful method is simply talking to people.

"Hit the streets and hit the campus like you do when you're campaigning," she said.

Melton added she doesn't think acquiring a diverse staff with different backgrounds and perspectives will prove difficult because she and Morales already have ties to minority students and organizations on campus.

"People are going to trust that our staff is going to be a place where they're going to feel comfortable and where they're going to want to work," Melton said.

For junior journalism major Taraneh Foster, interest in student government first began when she met current ASUO President Rachel Pilliod, who encouraged Foster to pursue work as a student leader in the ASUO. Foster is applying for public relations director and said she has been increasingly interested in politics because of her Middle

Turn to **ASUO**, page 14

Working hard for the money

Students and administrators converged on the state Capitol on Monday to protest higher education funding cuts

Aimee Rudin
City/State Politics Reporter

If the world were perfect, Karen Ryan would have spent Monday studying for her classes at Southern Oregon University. Instead, she traveled to Salem to take part in a student lobby day on the steps of the state Capitol.

Ryan's father had been telling her that she should be a lobbyist for as long as she can remember, but until the declining state economy spurred a series of budget cuts in education, she never felt the desire. Enraged by increasing tuition and decreasing access to higher education, Ryan, a junior at SOU, joined about 100 students and administrators in Salem to rally in support of higher education.

"An ignorant nation is not a good one," Ryan said as the rally began.

The Oregon Student Association or-

ganized the student lobby day to give Oregon University System students the opportunity to meet with their state legislators and tell them how budget cuts to higher education affect them personally. As the 2003-05 budget is formalized, OSA organizers said it was important for legislators to hear from the constituents who will bear the brunt of changes to higher education.

"Students are facing a lot of critical issues this year," OSA Board Chair and ASUO President Rachel Pilliod said at

Turn to **Lobby day**, page 13

Scientists to explore world of the 'nano-sized'

With nanotechnology gaining momentum, researchers plan to combine the University's and OSU's efforts at a new facility

Ali Shaughnessy
Environment/Science/Technology Reporter

University professors and researchers are becoming involved with the local construction of a new building — the first of its kind — that will focus on bridging the gap between nanotechnology and microtechnology research.

Nanotechnology, the development and use of technology at a tiny scale, would allow researchers to work at the molecular level to create large structures — such as computers, disease-fighting antibiotics or high-tech weaponry — with new functions.

Experts say nanotechnology will become a trillion-dollar global industry within the next 10 years. Already, more than \$1.7 billion has

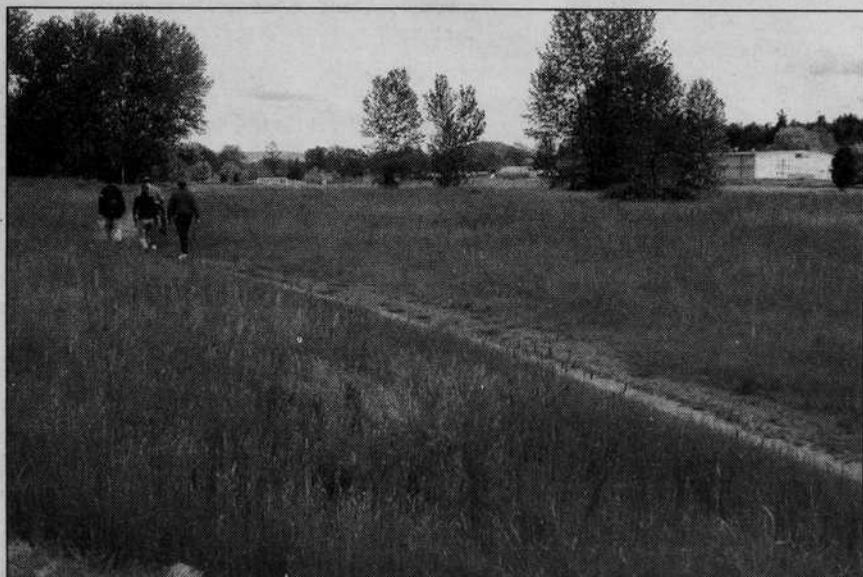
been spent on developing nanotechnology in government agencies. The Department of Defense has spent \$303 million in the past two years alone, and has requested an additional \$201 million for 2003.

Chemistry Associate Professor Jim Hutchison is actively involved with nanotechnology research, along with many other professors at the University. Hutchison is currently working on creating the new building, called the Multi-scale Material and Devices Center, that would combine nanotechnology research at the University and the microtechnology research at Oregon State University.

"The challenge is, how do you interface (nanotechnology) to the outside world?" he said. "For example, how do you hook a keyboard up to a transistor that's nano-sized?"

That dilemma is the reason the MMDC is being built. Hutchison said that within the center, researchers will work to find a way to link

Turn to **Nanotech**, page 20



Scientists who specialize in the infinitesimally small might be developing nanotechnology in the near future at this proposed site for a research building near Southbank Field.
Jeremy Forrest
Emerald