



Adam Amato Photo Editor

Political science Professor Kenneth DeBevoise has students lead lectures in his Tuesday class. DeBevoise has pledged \$500 of his own money toward social services if 30 students each donate \$100. "I at least make a salary," DeBevoise said.

FUND-RAISER

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pay extra taxes to support social services.

Forty-six of the students said yes, and Borgen decided to challenge their claims.

"Yeah, right," Borgen remembered thinking.

This led Borgen to propose a radical plan: If 30 students in the class pledged \$100 of their own money to go toward social services, Borgen would contribute \$500. When she pitched her idea to DeBevoise, the professor offered to throw in \$500 himself.

"I at least make a salary," DeBevoise said. "Plus, I think it's a great idea."

Now the class is in the midst of a drive to raise the \$4,000 for a social service charity.

"All of this was kind of inspired by inner-city poverty," Borgen said. "I was kind of excited about the prospect of organizing and getting involved."

The students in the class have formed a committee to decide where the money, if it materializes, should go.

The committee has narrowed the list of organizations down to three: Womenspace, a domestic violence organization; Looking Glass, a child welfare organization; and Parent Partnership, a South Lane County organization that strives to improve parenting skills and promote healthy development of families in rural areas.

The committee will meet with representatives of the three organizations on Friday and come to a decision soon thereafter.

While DeBevoise's class focuses on inner-city problems, one student said that many of the issues — poverty, welfare and a lack of good jobs — plague rural Oregon as well.

"These are the same problems that we're dealing with in Cottage Grove," Jake Clark, a 27-year-old student, said. "It doesn't take an inner city to have these problems."

While the fund-raising effort is led by students, DeBevoise remains an enthusiastic observer. Often dressed in jeans and a beat-up Boston Red Sox hat, DeBevoise poses questions to his class such as: "Is idleness a ghetto value?"

DeBevoise's students said his classes are unique.

"I think Ken's nature is open and welcome," Borgen said. "He kind of embraces the bizarre."

Borgen said that there is a good chance the class will be able to raise the \$4,000 and perhaps significantly more.

"There's an off chance that we might get an outside sponsor," Borgen said. "We could get upwards of \$10,000."

As for Borgen, she doesn't regret her extraordinary pledge.

"Sure, I'll miss my folks and friends back home," the Alaska native said. "(But) if we can help a charity that keeps one family together, I'm completely willing to make that sacrifice."

Contact the campus/federal politics reporter at chuckslothower@dailyemerald.com.

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Law lecture, 7 p.m.-9 p.m., 175 Knight Law Center. Zygmunt Plater of Boston College will discuss "The Continuing Dilemma of the Press's Role in Governance: The Environmental Law and Policy Quagmire."

Art exhibit, 10 a.m.-5 p.m., LaVerne Krause Gallery in Lawrence Hall. New Bachelor of Fine Arts painting by Matthew Craig and Oliver E. Redig, and photos by Grace Powers.

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