

PFC

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world ... at almost no cost to the students," he said.

The Child Care Subsidy was next on the docket. The program is "an opportunity for student parents to get reimbursed for some of their childcare expense," ASUO Senate President Ben Strawn said.

Its budget of \$233,472, a 1.19 percent decrease, was passed unanimously. The majority of the money directly subsidizes day care for the children of student parents who qualify.

Student parent Tanya Graves expressed her gratefulness for the program. "I wouldn't be able to go to school if it weren't for the subsidy," she said.

PFC passed the Hong Kong Student

Association's budget of \$2,985 for a 24.1 percent increase. Its budget included funding for an annual sports day that the club puts on with other cultural organizations.

The Chinese Student Scholar Association's budget of \$3,196 was passed unanimously by PFC for a 5.6 percent increase. A substantial portion of the money will go to the group's largest cultural event, a celebration for Chinese New Year.

The Arts Administration Student Forum's representatives appeared visibly frustrated with the tedious PFC process, but its budget of \$590 — a 0.5 percent increase — was passed without contest. The group said it had been haunted by past financial mis-handling.

"Last year's group wasn't effective,

financially or otherwise," group representative Jessica Capitano said.

The Association of Anthropology Graduates had its budget of \$300 approved unanimously for a 100 percent increase to fund speakers including anthropologist Dr. Bea Medicine.

The International Law Student Association rounded off the evening. The group's budget had been previously tabled because of questions about the legitimacy of its fund-raising. The issue was settled and PFC unanimously voted to allocate the group \$2,440 for a 105 percent increase. This new increase will fund a stipend for a summer editor for its law journal.

Moriah Balingit is a freelance reporter for the Emerald.

SESSION

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priately based on fiscal responsibility and stuff like that, but also to make sure that all the programs feel that this is a fair process and (a) comfortable process, or at least as comfortable as we can make it," PFC member Toby Piering said.

PFC Chairman Adrian Gilmore said some issues should be dealt with outside of the committee's time.

"It seems like there are issues with particular individuals," Gilmore said. "I feel that instead of bringing those to the meeting or bringing them to me and me having to bear the weight of that, just talk to that individual in the office before the committee or something like that because my life's stressful enough, and I don't want to feel the wrath that is meant for someone else."

However, ASUO Student Senate President Ben Strawn said that is part of Gilmore's duty as chairman.

"I'm sorry to add stress to your life, but I do think that as chair you have some responsibility ... if there's a problem with an individual or a couple of individuals, to address that," Strawn said. "And as chair who's taken a fair amount of flack for various individuals at various times, I think that's just part of the job."

Also during the executive session, ASUO Controller Sara Henderson discouraged PFC members from commenting on the relative value of student groups. Henderson said remarks such as "I like this group" are "completely inappropriate" during a

PFC meeting.

While Henderson continued talking, PFC's tape of the meeting ran out and was not promptly replaced. As a result, several minutes of the executive session were not recorded.

place, and that's where we need to be going, and it just seems like there's so much else going on," Melton said.

Gilmore responded to Melton's comment before the meeting was called into executive session.

LAWS

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Sherman said the Emerald and other groups now have full access to the meeting's minutes and will be able to report on the content.

The Emerald filed a grievance Jan. 20 against PFC for calling the meeting into executive session without giving prior notice, for calling the meeting into executive session without citing the appropriate state statute and for calling the meeting into executive session for inappropriate reasons.

The grievance also attested that the calling of executive session prevented the Emerald from reporting

on the meeting; state law discourages media from covering executive-session proceedings. In the grievance, Schmidt asked that the minutes from executive session be made public.

Although Sherman did not specifically address which meetings laws were violated, he said further emphasis will be placed on the statutes during the training of student leaders.

Sherman also said he would recommend that PFC adopt language about executive sessions into its by-laws to ensure that such violations do not occur in the future.

PFC Chairman Adrian Gilmore could not be reached for comment.

— Ayisha Yahya

Although the purpose of an executive session is to give governmental boards a private forum to frankly discuss sensitive matters, the committee and ASUO President Maddy Melton spoke bluntly before entering the session. The conversation revealed some tension between the executive and PFC.

"I'm not trying to be up in your business and no one else is trying to do those things, but ... this is a full-scale process that makes the student incidental fee what it is, and I feel like that's the process that needs to be taking

"I feel that — maybe perception on my part — that there's a lack of respect," he said. "And I feel like, as a chair, that I have done nothing but try to extend respect to everyone, as I should extend it."

"We all have exceptions where it's a bad night or something like that, and you apologize, but I feel that the respect is not flowing down a two-way street."

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

CAMPUS BUZZ

Monday

Food for Thought Video, "Race: The Power of an Illusion," Episode I - The Difference Between Us," EMU Board Room, noon-1:30 p.m.

German-Jewish Studies candidate lecture featuring Jeffrey Librett from Loyola University, EMU Gumwood Room, 4 p.m.

EMU BOARD MEETINGS

FEBRUARY/MARCH 2004

2/4

Full Board Meeting

2/11

House Committee & Budget Committee

2/18

Full Board Meeting

2/25

House Committee & Budget Committee

3/3

Full Board Meeting

All meetings are at 4:00 pm.

See Schedule of Events for room location.

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Preliminary Round:
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in the EMU Fishbowl

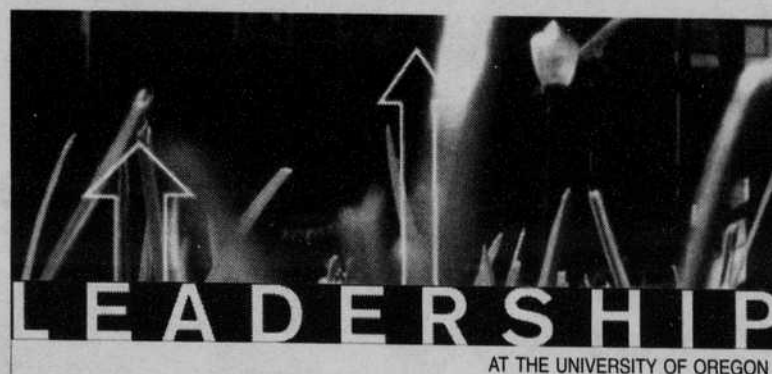
Finals:
Thursday, February 26th @ 7pm
in Agate Hall

Entry Fee: \$4
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<http://culturalforum.uoregon.edu>



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