

Oregon Daily Emerald

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SINCE 1900 UNIVERSITY OF OREGON EUGENE, OREGON

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Con Court summons Melton for inquiry

A Constitution Court vacancy is the subject of the ASUO President's public hearing

By Jan Tobias Montry
Managing Editor

The ASUO Constitution Court on Thursday ordered ASUO President Maddy Melton to appear at a Feb. 16 public hearing to explain why she has not yet appointed a new justice to fill a court vacancy.

The court has been working with four of five members for the past eight months, according to a writ of mandamus — the second one this week — delivered to the Emerald Thursday afternoon. The ASUO Constitution requires the ASUO president to maintain a five-member court, and that at least two of those members be second or third-year law students.

In the writ, Justice Stephen Yoshida and Chief Justice Michael Harris instructed Melton to appear before the Court at 6:30 p.m. in Room 241 of the Knight Law Center to "show cause as to why the present Con Court vacancy has not been filled within a reasonable time." Melton took office in May 2003.

"Not mindful of the ASUO Executive's considerable obligations, undertakings and workload, the Court nevertheless feels that the present vacancy threatens both the effective administration and the integrity of the Court," the writ said.

ASUO spokeswoman Taraneh Foster defended ASUO's efforts to find a replacement, saying advertisements have been periodically placed in the Emerald throughout fall and winter terms to try and find interested candidates. Although four

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Getting down to business

Students and staff alike are dazzled by the Lillis Business Complex, despite some of its technological challenges



Erik Bishoff Photographer

Students rush between classes in the Lillis Business Complex Tuesday morning.

By Caron Alarab
Senior News Reporter

After only five weeks of winter classes, the Lillis Business Complex has lived up to community expectations. Despite some students' qualms about staircase design and a lack of quiet areas, the overall impression is positive as the building's ambiance, technology and uncommon qualities continue to be praised.

Lacey Edwards, office assistant for the Charles H. Lundquist College of Business Career Services, gives frequent facility tours of Lillis and said that she loves the building's "openness."

"I really don't think there is anything I don't like about it," she said.

Students and faculty say they still find themselves stopping to look at the unique design aspects of Lillis, from the colorful tile patterns of the ground floor to the outdoor patio on the fourth.

At night, the combination of spotlighting, track lighting and light reflection makes for a dazzling Christmas tree effect, from the inside out.

In addition, centered among the building's casual meeting areas and windowed offices is the spiral staircase. Although the staircase succeeds in accommodating the hundreds of people who use it, people say the design makes for an exhausting trip to the third and fourth floors.

"It takes too long to get to class," said one tardy student, who was too hurried to give her name.

Senior Kara Bigelow agreed.

"It's pretty, but a little inconvenient," she said, adding that it's still great for people-watching.

Director of Technology and User Services Mick Westrick said that although the spiral staircase is the longest way up, its width allows for more people to cross paths compared to the east and west staircases.

"It is very inefficient," he said. "But it looks really cool when a lot of people are using it."

Although Bigelow likes the atmosphere, open space and creative architecture of Lillis, she said that the classroom technology is a little too complex for some professors.

"It's humorous," she said of the classes that have been held up by technological problems.

Despite some technology issues during the first week of classes, Westrick said the only glitch that has yet to be fixed is a wave of failed motion sensor light fixtures.

Assistant Professor of decision sciences John Goodaie teaches in 132 Lillis, one of 14 tiered classrooms that offer automatic window shades and lights which can be dimmed at the flick of a switch.

"One of the features of the Lillis Complex I like most is the

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University student files to run for Eugene mayor position

History major Adam Ward is one of seven candidates vying for Eugene's top spot

By Nika Carlson
News Reporter

Politics can be intimidating, especially the thought of participating in a campaign. Fund-raising, mud slinging and baby kissing seem to dominate the field, but running for a local office may be easier than it seems.

With 25 signatures and a little paperwork, anyone can get his or her name on the ballot for the seven open seats in Eugene city government. The

candidate must have lived in the city or ward for which they are applying for at least one year, he or she must be a registered voter and the signatures must belong to citizens of the area.

Campaigns are beginning to gear up for the primary elections, but there is still time to file for the positions.

"I don't think it's very complicated," Deputy City Recorder Kris Aanderud said.

Candidates must file completed paperwork by 5 p.m. March 4 with the city recorder to qualify to run for mayor, city councilor in wards 1, 2, 7 or 8, or one of three seats on the Eugene Water and Electric Board of

Commissioners.

City councilors govern the city, making policy decisions and approving budgets, as paid representatives of the areas they serve. The mayor holds the tie-breaking vote on the City Council and serves as the figurehead of the city. This position is paid. EWEB commissioners, who are unpaid, govern EWEB itself.

Candidates filing for positions must have an appointment with the City Recorder's Office before they can begin gathering signatures, but the city does not charge a filing fee to run for office.

Aanderud said the length people

take to complete their paperwork varies, but she said she has seen the whole process take as few as two days. "It depends on how busy we are," she said.

Seventeen people have filed to run for the different positions, with the most candidates flooding the mayoral race. Seven people, including Ward 8 City Councilor Nancy Nathanson and former state representative Kitty Piercy, are vying for the position. No one has filed for the EWEB Ward 2 and 3 position as of Feb. 2.

But this is an anomaly. When a seat in the city government opens up, there is usually someone eager

to fill it.

"There seems to be a lot of interest," Aanderud said. "We've had several people call today and ask about packets of information. We've had several people stop by and get information. You just never know who's going to actually file."

University student Adam Walsh, a 20-year-old history major, is running for the Ward 1 City Council spot against incumbent Bonny Bettman. He filed in the beginning of December.

Walsh said after watching City

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