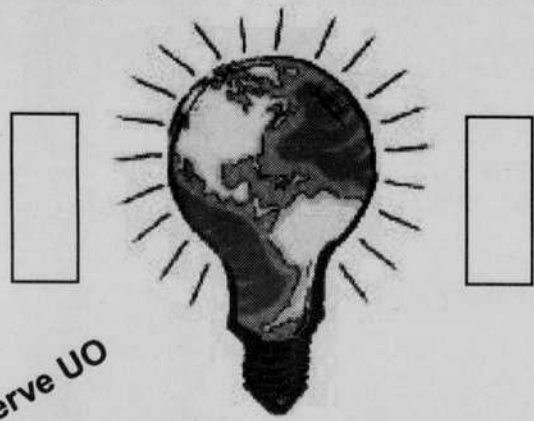


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Voters: Men underrepresented in phone polls

Continued from page 1

The more politically active students are the more likely state legislatures are to listen to their concerns, and being registered to vote is key to being politically involved, Petkun said.

Future lobbying efforts with state legislatures will bring "anecdotal evidence" of the registration drive's success, Petkun said.

"The reason we do this is so we can have victories elsewhere," Petkun said.

ASUO Federal Affairs Coordinator Ashley Rees said the voter registration drive's success is just the beginning of a major effort by student leaders to make sure student voices are heard.

"Student issues in general will be a priority," Rees said.

Christina Swartz, who helped coordinate campus get-out-the-vote efforts, said the success of the registration drive will have long-lasting effects on students.

"What happens when we turn 40 and still aren't voting?" Swartz said. "What do we do then?"

If citizens become politically active

at a young age it can ensure strong political participation from them for the rest of their lives, Swartz said.

Get-out-the-vote efforts focused on contacting all newly registered students and reminding them to get their completed ballot in before the Nov. 2 deadline. Petkun said more than 4,000 phone calls were made in just two days.

Though there is no way of knowing how many of the newly registered voters at the University actually voted, Petkun said it was clear to those making calls and knocking on doors that most students had either already voted or were planning to do so.

"There was definitely a buzz on campus about the elections," Petkun said.

Nationwide exit polls show the same percentage of 18-29 year olds voted in 2004 as did in 2000. Though more young people voted in this election, University Political Science Professor Joel Bloom said the ratio of young voters to voters over the age of 30 is still the same because more people voted overall.

Bloom, a research associate for the

Oregon Survey Research Laboratory, directed the exit polls in Oregon, but said the numbers the polls give may be unreliable, particularly for the 18-29 year old age group.

Because Oregon uses a vote-by-mail system, exit polls in the state take the form of telephone polls. This can be problematic because some people, particularly men, are hard to reach via telephone and even harder to involve in participation.

Bloom said his poll calculated 18-29 year olds made up 13 percent of Oregon voters but the number would probably be closer to the nationwide number of 17 percent had young men not been underrepresented.

Petkun said the numbers given by the exit polls are not the end-all, tell-all of how successful get-out-the-vote efforts were because they don't capture the level of excitement and increase in political activism that emerged on campus this year.

"Even those numbers can't completely quantify the success that we had in our youth vote drive," he said.

meghannacuniff@dailyemerald.com

Blood: Donors in high demand for holidays

Continued from page 1

County Memorial Blood Bank spokesperson Kristi Henderson said.

"In the United States, someone needs a blood and transfusion every two seconds and the holidays are a time when blood is needed in blood banks the most," Sandi Lesch, American Red Cross event coordinator, said.

The Lane County Memorial Blood Bank has coordinated with SARB to give students the opportunity to donate on campus monthly this year.

Kate Webster is a freelance reporter for the Daily Emerald



LAUREN WIMER | SENIOR PHOTOGRAPHER

Blood bank officials said the blood from just one donor, such as this student in the bloodmobile at the EMU, can help save three lives.

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