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Students doubt justice of fees

Students at satellite campuses criticize the lack of access to adequate health centers, gyms and classroom desks

BY PARKER HOWELL
SENIOR NEWS REPORTER

As University administrators study the equality of mandatory fees for University students, out-of-town and part-time students concerned they are not receiving the full benefit of their fees continue to wrestle with fees they say are unfair.

Students, including those studying at satellite locations in Portland and Charleston, pay about \$471 a term in mandatory fees, about \$180 of which student government uses to fund student groups. But students in Bend don't pay the fee, and some students at the other satellite campuses say they have battled red tape in attempts to stop paying for services they don't receive.

Portland Student Action Council, one of the groups advocating for equal fee distribution, has tried unsuccessfully to resolve problems obtaining

transportation and recreation center access provided to students in Eugene.

Now, group representatives say health-care fees and departmental fees are also cause for concern, compounding the group's problems.

"It's almost overwhelming," PSAC Vice President Britt Nelson said.

Nelson said a concern among PSAC students is the University of Oregon's health service fee assessed to the University's 90 Portland students to allow them to use Portland State University's health center. For about 10 years, students have paid the University's health service fee to receive services that cost less for PSU students, Nelson said.

Between fiscal years 2001-02 and 2003-04, Oregon University System fee information shows that the University's health-care fee has been as much as \$26 more per term than PSU's. During that time, University students in

Portland were charged the higher University fee, Nelson said.

Based on those fees, a student who studied from 2000-01 through 2001-02 would have paid about \$120 more than the PSU fee assessed during that period.

University Health Center Director Tom Ryan said he was "under the impression that (University students in Portland) paid the PSU health fee rather than our fee."

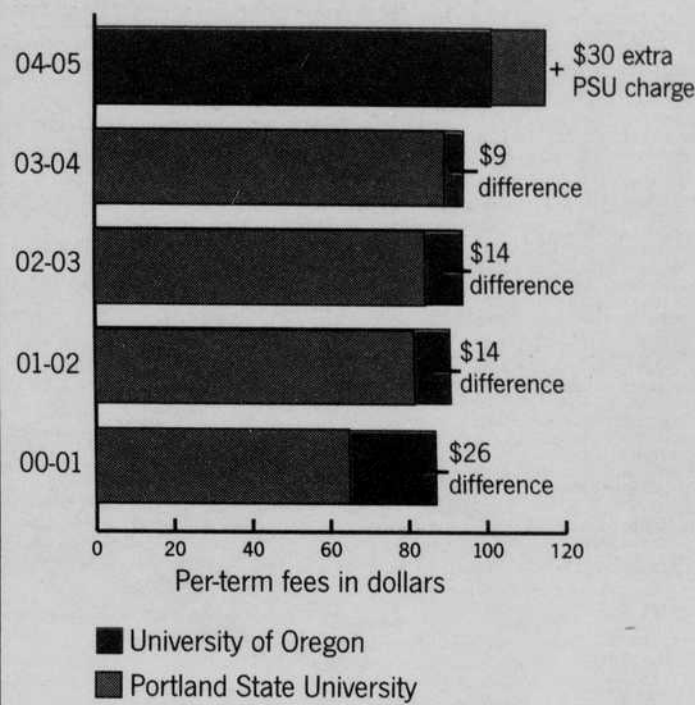
"I would have to say that it has always been explained to me that we just paid each other's fee," he said. "That would be an excellent question if they're actually paying our fee and something we need to look into further."

He said when he arrived at the University, he was told the University had an arrangement with PSU in which University students in Portland paid the PSU health fee for health care received from PSU facilities.

He said the University has similar arrangements with Oregon State

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Differences in health service fees



PARKER HOWELL | SENIOR NEWS REPORTER

Students at the University's satellite campus in Portland, who receive health care through PSU, say they have been paying more for the services they receive than PSU students. The students are concerned because they have paid the University's health service fee, which has often been higher than PSU's fee for the service.

Committee examines proposed plan update

Members question the methods to be used for the first revision to the Campus Plan since 1991

BY MEGHANN M. CUNIFF
SENIOR NEWS REPORTER

The complexity of campus development was revealed Tuesday afternoon as the Campus Planning Committee met to discuss proposed revisions to the Campus Plan.

The plan is being updated for the first time since 1991, and the Campus Planning Committee's 12 members spent an hour and a half discussing the proposals, making suggestions for improvements and questioning the review process's effectiveness.

Some members are concerned the review process ignores the conceptual planning process that project organizers have set in stone before going to the committee.

Architecture professor and committee member G.Z. Brown questioned why the plan concentrates on many small individual projects rather than focusing on the overall development of the University and trying to connect the different "synergies" on campus.

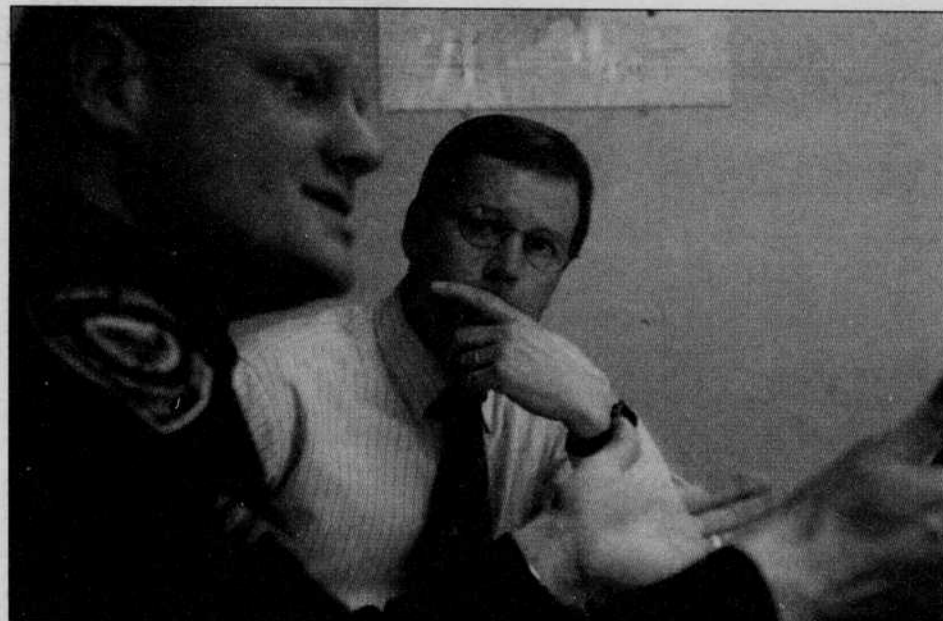
University Planning Associate Christine Thompson said the individual-project focus the plan may seem to incorporate could be a result of the "piece by piece" way in which the campus was constructed.

The 102-page draft campus plan includes a process to examine proposed sites for stand-alone building projects that would include a Campus Planning Committee review.

Committee members questioned the review process, expressing concerns that problems can arise when a project is up for review after it has

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Two University alcohol policies conflict



TIM BOBOSKY | PHOTOGRAPHER

At the Public Safety Advisory Group meeting on Tuesday afternoon, Department of Public Safety Cpl. Michael Eppli, left, asks whether an amnesty policy for extremely drunk students would encourage less drunk students to drink more to avoid being penalized while DPS Interim Director Thomas Hicks looks on.

Citing potential alcohol-poisoned students contradicts the Office of Student Life's education plan

BY KARA HANSEN
NEWS REPORTER

The Department of Public Safety is enforcing a policy that conflicts with information dispensed to students by the Office of Student Life.

DPS automatically issues a municipal citation when responding to calls where a student potentially has alcohol poisoning if that student is under 21 years old and is sick enough to need transportation to a hospital, DPS Interim Director Tom Hicks said at a Public Safety Advisory Group meeting Tuesday.

But the Office of Student Life hands out information cards on alcohol poisoning that say there will be no consequences for students who call to get help, said Laura Blake Jones, associate dean of students and director of the Office of Student Life. She said the DPS policy is "a little bit different than what practice has

PSAG, page 8A

Programs Finance Committee

Emerald's budget request approved at appeal

BY AIBING GUO
DAILY EMERALD FREELANCE REPORTER

The Oregon Daily Emerald will receive a 3.8 percent, or about \$4,500, increase in funding from student incidental fees for 2005-06 after the ASUO Programs Finance Committee formally approved its budget proposal by a 4-0 vote Tuesday.

At the hearing, the ASUO Executive proposed a budget of \$111,992, a 6.9 percent decrease from last year. The appeals hearing was the second PFC meeting for the Emerald this year. In the first hearing on Jan. 20, PFC approved an \$111, 992 budget, which was the ASUO

Executive recommendation.

PFC member Mason Quiroz, who was prohibited from voting because of an ASUO Constitution Court injunction, said the Emerald should work out a model or formula that could effectively evaluate the performance of the newspaper and determine how much funding it should receive each year. Quiroz said the issue should have been discussed long before the hearing and "it is too late" to discuss the issue in a one-hour hearing.

Emerald General Manager Judy Riedl agreed that a model or formula would make the hear-

ing much easier, but the ASUO hasn't worked with the paper to create one.

"We've been trying to do that for the last two years, and it just doesn't seem to happen. Once the hearing is over, the PFC is busy, the ASUO is busy," Riedl said. "There was supposed to be a budget note attached to our allocation last year; it never happened."

But Riedl said she was optimistic that a formula is possible in the near future.

PFC member Khanh Le proposed that the budget should be set at \$120,000 instead of \$125,000 to save students' money.

He said the proposal was a compromise to the Emerald's proposed \$125,000.

"I just want to make sure we do not waste any money from the student incidental fee," he said.

Riedl said the newspaper has been working hard to save students' money, but the \$125,000 proposal is a reasonable figure considering increasing operational costs — press, rent and stipends — and decreasing advertising revenue.

"Advertising has been in a slump nationwide," Riedl said. "Newspapers everywhere are

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