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Administrators hire one of own for new position

Frances Dyke will begin her vice president for finance and administration post this summer

BY ADAM CHERRY
NEWS REPORTER

Administrators chose to look within the University's ranks for their choice to fill the newly created vice president for finance and administration position after a search that drew more than 50 applicants from across the nation.

Frances Dyke, currently associate vice president for budget and finance and interim director of the Office of Business Affairs, will be elevated to one of the University's top jobs this summer. The VPFA position will take over parts of the jobs currently covered by Senior

Vice President and Provost John Moseley and Vice President for Administration Dan Williams as those two administrators prepare for retirement.

According to a University press release, Dyke will act as the University's chief financial officer and will report to the provost's office.

"We have to be good stewards of our money," Dyke, 56, said in an interview. "We have to make sure that we've strengthened the framework for accountability, for policy support, as much as we can so that no matter what our

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ZANE RITT | PHOTOGRAPHER

Frances Dyke, currently associate vice president for budget and finance, has been selected as the University's new vice president for finance and administration. She has been working at the University since 1991.

Senators postpone repayment decision

Four options were presented for reimbursing student groups for cut stipends and positions

BY PARKER HOWELL
SENIOR NEWS REPORTER

Attempts to agree on how to reimburse student groups for paid positions cut during this year's funding process failed in the ASUO Student Senate during a tense meeting Wednesday night, causing senators to postpone the matter to consult group representatives.

The Programs Finance Committee, which allocates student money to groups, implemented a new pay model during this year's process, drawing ire from multicultural groups that lost paid positions or received pay cuts for some leaders. Eleventh-hour lobbying by groups led members of the PFC to include notes in the budget asking the Senate to create a committee to disburse funds to groups that lost stipends.

PFC member and Senator Mike Sherman presented four options to the Senate on how to fund cut positions, including giving back all of the roughly \$94,600 that was cut.

Sherman said the money would come from overrealized funds, which is incidental fee money earmarked for one-time expenses and is generated by overestimates of the University's fee-paying population at the beginning of the year. He said the fund fluctuates from about \$250,000 to \$300,000.

But to use the money, the Senate would have to gain approval for its plans from the ASUO Executive and University President Dave Frohnmayr.

The first option would replace all the cut positions at \$125 each, costing \$60,500. The second proposal would reimburse the cut money to be distributed by groups among existing positions, costing \$94,580.

The other possibilities include creating a "mini-PFC budget committee" to dole out relief funds on an individual basis or having groups submit special requests to the full Senate for funding.

Sherman said the second option would raise the PFC's increase over last year to 8.9 percent, 1.9 percent higher than the cap allowed by the Green Tape Notebook.

Although several senators said they favored refunding all the cut money, others disagreed, saying the ASUO Executive and Frohnmayr might not approve such a large amount.

Several senators referenced a letter from Frohnmayr to student government leaders this summer in which he pointed out that some groups received more money for member pay than for programming, asking them to re-evaluate the old stipend model.

Sherman called the solutions a "Band-Aid solution" no matter what the Senate decides, saying the pay model will have to be revised next year.

"We don't get a choice," he said. "That's the elephant in the room right now."

Senator Austin Shaw-Phillips said he favored the second option because it would give groups the "most autonomy without being ridiculously complicated."

Senator Sarah Wells said student Kit Myers is circulating a petition among student

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Roadwork may slow campus commute

BY EMILY SMITH
NEWS REPORTER

Students may run into major traffic delays on their way to school in coming months, so University Parking and Transportation Manager Rand Stamm suggests they start looking for alternate routes if they want to avoid being late to class.

Starting Sunday night, construction on the Interstate 105 interchange with Coburg Road near the Oakway Center will be underway, Stamm said. Students coming from the north and those who live on Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard may run into congestion. This phase of the project will be in effect through Thursday night.

According to the I-105 Improvement Project's weekly update, embankment construction on both sides of I-105 between the Coburg Road and Delta Highway interchanges and at a section east of Interstate 5 into Springfield will continue through Thursday. Some lanes also will be closed from 7 p.m. to

6 a.m. between the Pioneer Parkway and Delta Highway interchanges during this time.

The closures with the most potential impact on University students and Eugene residents are scheduled to begin May 16 and to continue on and off through early July, Stamm said.

For weekly updates and links to Web sites for alternate modes of transportation, visit www.keepus-moving.info.

Bicycling is one way to avoid traffic delays, and people who live near or ride through the Ferry Street Bridge area are invited to attend an introduction to back roads in that section of town May 19. Participants have been instructed to meet at the parking lot at Alton Baker Park before the tour begins at 6 p.m., said Lee Shoemaker, the bicycle and alternate modes coordinator for the City of Eugene. He added that anyone interested in more bike tours in the surrounding area should contact Greater Eugene Area Riders.



TIM BOBOSKY | PHOTOGRAPHER

Construction on the Interstate 105 overpass of Coburg Road may interrupt the commutes of University students, faculty and staff.

For a calendar of guided tours and area bike maps, visit GEARS's Web site at www.eugenegears.org.

The restoration project aims to fix several problems along I-105, such as lifted pavement panels, numerous joints needing repair and bridge

sections that are substandard in width and rail. In addition, lane changes during peak hours are causing accidents at interchanges.

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Mayor discusses development plans

Kitty Piercy spoke at a neighborhood meeting, addressing plans for the University's arena project and the riverfront hospital

BY MEGHANN M. CUNIFF
SENIOR NEWS REPORTER

Eugene Mayor Kitty Piercy defended Thursday night her decision to miss the upcoming Mayors' Prayer Breakfast and pledged to work with the University administration to start a community dialogue about the plans for a new basketball arena during her first appearance at a West University Neighbors meeting since last year's mayoral election.

Piercy announced Tuesday that she would not be attending the annual breakfast and said at the meeting the main reason behind the decision is the need for the separation of church and state.

"My concern about the Mayors' Prayer Breakfast is the very title of it," Piercy said.

She emphasized that she is very appreciative of prayer in the community but said she wants to make sure she represents people of all religious beliefs equally.

"I'm willing to take the shots for that," Piercy said, commenting on what she said were about 300 e-mails she has received commending or criticizing the decision.

Later in the meeting, Piercy expressed her interest in learning more about the University's plans for a new basketball arena and in opening up a community dialogue about the issue with the University but said she will wait until the controversy surrounding the prayer breakfast dies down before tackling another potentially controversial issue.

"I would be glad to work with (City Councilor)

David (Kelly) on trying to light the fires where they need to be lit," Piercy said. "(But) maybe I'll let the burs go out before tackling that one."

Councilor Kelly said he contacted the city manager and members of the University administration after the neighborhood association passed a resolution March 3 asking for a say in the arena plans but did not receive a definitive response about the issue.

The resolution called for University, city and county officials to start a public forum on the University's plans for the arena.

University Vice President for Administration Dan Williams said in an April 25 Emerald article that the recently purchased Williams' Bakery property is the definite site for the new arena, though he said it is still unknown when the arena will be built.

University Planning Director and Architect Chris Ramey spoke after Piercy about the

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