

VPFA: Dyke believes core issue is communication

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circumstances are, we're good stewards and we're responsible to the people of Oregon."

Dyke started working at the University in 1991. She's held various positions over the years, including associate director of the budget office, director of institutional research and co-director of the Office of Resource Management. Prior to joining the University staff, she worked as a certified public accountant. Dyke holds a master's of business administration from the University's Lundquist College of Business. She also has degrees from Boston University and Simmons College.

Vice President for Academic Affairs Lorraine Davis, who had input in deciding who to hire for the VPFA, said Dyke's experience in both financial management and administrative management made her a top prospect for the position.

"Any time you're dealing with financial issues at an institution like the University of Oregon and the tight resources that we operate under, that's a challenge for anybody that would be in this type of position," Davis said. "She understands the financial planning, she understands the academic institutions and the pulls and tugs that you have in every situation. There's never enough to deal with all the problems, but she's had experience to that."

Dyke said she hopes to keep the business aspect of the University running smoothly and efficiently.

"The campuses have been given more and more authority to conduct business in the way that is best for that particular campus," Dyke said. "We need to make sure that we're really able to meet that challenge in an excellent way so

that someone will look at us and say, 'Gosh, this is the best-run university.'"

Enhanced collaboration and teamwork are among the improvements Dyke said she would like to bring to the table in Johnson Hall.

"The core issue is always going to be communication," she said. "Do we have the right communication structures in place? And we're not talking just about how the president and his senior staff exchange information; we're talking about how we exchange information with other decision-makers on campus, including the deans and the directors of offices."

"We have excellent staff on this campus, but the world is changing, the way we do business in higher education is changing and that means we have to fine-tune our skill," Dyke said.

Dyke said she's looking forward to working with Moseley.

"I have worked with John in various roles ever since I've been at the University of Oregon," Dyke said. "He's just a wonderful person to work for. He's been a great mentor to me. He has an outstanding sense of how to manage finances and how to lead academic and research programs at the University. I'm looking forward to continuing that relationship for the next amount of time until he retires."

"Frances really stood out in a group of well-qualified candidates from around the country," Moseley said in a press release. "I have enjoyed working with her for the last eight years, and I have a high level of confidence in her ability to excel with this much broader level of responsibilities."

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Spokane mayor accused of previous molestation

James West also allegedly offered an internship through a gay chat room to a man he thought was 18 years old

BY NICHOLAS K. GERANIOS
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

SPOKANE, Wash. — Mayor James E. West, a former Republican legislative leader and opponent of gay rights, has been accused of molesting two boys decades ago and of more recently offering a City Hall internship in a gay online chat room to someone he thought was a young man but was in reality a computer investigator hired by a newspaper.

West on Thursday denied the molestation allegations, although he acknowledged visiting a gay Web site and "had relations with adult men. I don't deny that."

West, 54, said he intended to serve out the three years left in his term.

"I am a law-abiding citizen," West said during a brief news conference in which he did not take questions.

The Spokesman-Review, in a copyright story in Thursday's editions, had articles and photographs of two men who allege West molested them when they were in the Boy Scouts. Both men — Robert J. Galliher, 36, of Seattle, and Michael G. Grant Jr., 31, of Spokane — have criminal records because of drug problems.

"I categorically deny allegations about incidents that supposedly occurred 24 years ago as alleged by two convicted felons and about which I have no knowledge," West said.

In an e-mail issued to city employees Thursday, West apologized for bringing embarrassment to the mayor's office.

"I stumbled and let you down," West wrote.

He also said he considered his private life off-limits.

No criminal investigations are underway, according to the sheriff and police departments.

West acknowledged to the newspaper that he offered gifts and an internship over the Web site Gay.com to a respondent he believed was an 18-year-old man but was actually a private computer expert hired by the newspaper.

"The Gay.com thing has only been, I can't recall, but it hasn't been very long," he told the newspaper. "I can't tell you why I go there, to tell you the truth. ... Curiosity, confused, whatever, I don't know."

Concerning his sexual orientation, "I wouldn't characterize me as 'gay,'" West said.

Spokane in the past year has been rocked by dozens of claims of past sexual abuse of children by Catholic priests, and the Roman Catholic Diocese of Spokane has filed for bankruptcy protection because of legal claims from the abuse.

The newspaper said its investigation of West arose out of tips received in 2002 during its investigations of the Catholic sex abuse.

The newspaper hired the forensics computer expert in October 2004 to create a fictitious identity as an 18-year-old boy and to verify whether the aliases "Cobra82nd" and "Right-Bi-Guy" were actually West.

Steve Smith, editor of The Spokesman-Review, told The Associated Press on Thursday that the newspaper was reluctant to hire the computer expert but believed it was necessary because of West's apparent abuse of office and ongoing potential for harm to young people.

The expert brought knowledge of tracking Internet addresses and identities of chat room participants that the newsroom lacked, Smith said.

West denied that his offers to the computer expert constituted abuse of his public office.

West opposed gay rights, abortion rights and teenage sex during a two-decade legislative career, eventually rising to majority leader of the state Senate. West won the mayor's office in 2003 and has been praised for bringing stability to city government.

He made headlines in 1990 when he proposed marriage from the floor of the Senate to Ginger Marshall while she was visiting the Capitol. Their marriage ended five years later.

The Spokesman-Review said she could not be reached for comment Wednesday night.

During a 1990 hearing on AIDS education, West proposed that teen sex be criminalized. As a Senate leader, West consistently opposed efforts to expand civil rights protections for gays in jobs and housing. In February 1998, West voted for the state Defense of Marriage Act, a ban on gay marriage.

A long history of rumors

Members of Spokane's gay community said there had long been rumors that West was not exclusively heterosexual and that it was no surprise he opposed issues favored by gays.

"Historically, it's true of a lot of elected officials who will camouflage that by going to the other extreme," said Kevan Gardner of the Pride Foundation, a gay organization. "It's just unfortunate that he's been such an enemy to our community and we find out he's possibly a member of our community."

Molestation accusations against West, dating from his years as a sheriff's deputy and Boy Scout troop leader, were made in a deposition for a lawsuit against Spokane County by Galliher. The lawsuit seeks damages for Galliher, his older brother Brett and two other men, who claim they were molested by another deputy at the time, David Hahn.

West was not named as a defendant and said he was unaware of the deposition.

In interviews with the newspaper, Galliher and Grant said they were introduced to West by Hahn in the late 1970s or early '80s, when the two sheriff's deputies were close friends and leaders of Boy Scout Troop 345 at Hamblen Elementary School.

Galliher said he was molested at least four times by West, twice while West was on duty in uniform driving a sheriff's car, and at least once in Hahn's apartment.

Grant, currently in the Okanogan County Jail on a drug charge, said he was sexually abused twice by Hahn and twice by West when he was seven or eight.



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