IN BRIEF

Senate appropriates funds for student groups

In its third meeting of the year, the Student Senate allocated \$480 to student programs and nominated or self-nominated members for several committees.

Black Student Union co-Directors Tremaine Thompson and LaTina Lewis requested \$450 for fettuccine Alfredo at their fall reception tonight at 7 p.m. in the Fir Room.

Senate also heard from Vice President Sara Hamilton, who requested \$30 to buy snacks for a Senate gathering at 3:30 p.m. Friday in the Ben Linder Forum. Senators plan to meet 30 minutes before the Programs Council meeting to mingle amongst themselves and with programs leaders. Both requests passed unanimously.

In another effort to bond, Senator Rachel Lee continued her quest for RSVPs to her potluck scheduled for Oct. 23. Lee made an official announcement that because Senators will be working together all year, she wants all Senators to meet at her house for food, fun and the chance to get to know each other.

ASUO Vice President Kyla Coy announced that the Executive is holding a concert in the EMU Ballroom Oct. 21 to raise money for Hurricane Katrina damage relief.

As part of his duties as ombudsman, Senator Jared Axelrod sent a list around the boardroom table and asked Senators to list all ASUO organizations they participate in that may cause a conflict of interest. This list should be open to the public as early as today.

— Nicholas Wilbur

RRC: Committee to decide worthiness of student groups

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administrators spent a lot of time last year "fleshing out the guidelines" on how to hold groups accountable without going through the PFC process and simply defunding them, Petkun said.

One program leader said she is skeptical about the committee because it was created quickly and is far from complete.

"I feel that if they're going to bring up this idea to streamline or consolidate groups, they should have had the process a little bit more concrete and nailed down," Student Bar Association Vice President Marisa Balderas said. "I wasn't given a clear answer on anything."

ven a clear answer on anything." According to the Green Tape Notebook's Clark Document, which governs how to distributes incidental fees: "A proposed decrease in the level of fee support for any Major Program shall not exceed 10 percent of the preceding year's allocation unless the program voluntarily requests such a reduction."

But because the RRC only decides which groups will be recognized and not funding levels, it won't be breaking this rule, Goward said.

"If their mission and goals statements don't align with the Green Tape Notebook, they will not be able to go in front of the PFC for their budget hearing," Goward said.

Previously, one ASUO Executive branch employee reviewed mission and goals statements about every three years.

Goward said the five-member committee will have "a heck of a lot more balance of opinion as there was in the old way of approving groups."

Student groups expressed concern over the lack of an appeals process, prompting ASUO to include the ASUO Constitution Court as a formal appeals option for students filing grievances against the RRC.

"Number one, our top priority is getting that oversight and that grievance policy in place," Goward said.

Students filing a grievance against any member of agency in the ASUO can also appeal directly to the ASUO president, who will then create a committee to investigate, according to the Green Tape Notebook. Following that decision, students may appeal to the Constitution Court.

Goward said that because each Executive administration may decide whether to continue the RRC, there will be no permanent change to the Green Tape Notebook.

The RRC is still in the process of determining specific functions and procedures, but an updated memo will be provided at Friday's Programs Council meeting from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. in the Ben Linder Forum, Goward said.

Contact the campus and federal politics reporter at nwilbur@dailyemerald.com

Council: New link for business school and state research

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collaboration that coordinates scientific research efforts at Oregon universities, private companies and government labs.

"My vision for Oregon is to be the Innovation State, and the bills I'm signing today mark a new commitment and strengthened partnership between the state and private partners to move us forward in achieving that goal," Oregon Gov. Ted Kulongoski said in a Sept. 26 statement.

Some of the private companies represented on the council are Pixel-works, YoCream International, LSI Logic and OVP Venture Partners.

Linton said students benefit from arrangements like the council and ON-AMI because they get to use enhanced research facilities and equipment and are eligible for internships.

"It's hard to think of legitimate concerns," Linton said. "I don't see it as competing with or replacing any of our traditional missions."

Linton explained that money coming into signature research centers is not taken out of pre-existing University funds but is granted separately, creating new funding opportunities.

"Any time there's a connection beyond just a pure academic role, some faculty would think that's less attractive, but I think in this society, we need to find ways to support the basic research of the University," Linton said. "If we're going to sustain any support for the University from the state, I think that's part of the equation we need to satisfy."

Linton said the partnerships and collaborations strengthen the state by reducing the duplication of services.

The Oregon Innovation Council continues the mission of the Oregon Council for Knowledge and Economic Development, which the Oregon State Legislature established in 2001. OCKED's charge expired, Bean said,

but because it had been successful, it was refocused and restructured to exist in a new form.

OCKED established ONAMI as its first — and, so far, only — signature research center, building on Oregon's industrial and university research strengths in nanotechnology and microtechnology, Linton said.

The council might establish more signature research centers in the future, possibly in subjects such as sustainability, digital medicine, neuroscience and behavioral science. Linton said it is not clear at the moment what the next priority or strategy will be.

ONAMI and the council share many personnel; Dave Chen of OVP Venture Partners is chairman of both groups.

The Lundquist College of Business is already involved with ONAMI through the Lundquist Center for Entrepreneurship and the Technology Entrepreneurship Program, which gives Masters of Business Administration students and law students experience marketing technology from the University and from ONAMI partner Pacific Northwest National Laboratory.

Bean added that the business schools at Oregon State and Portland State universities are also involved with ONAMI, and he expressed hope that the new council will increase the business schools' level of involvement.

Bean said OCKED discussions, which will be continued in the new council, also helped coordinate the Oregon Business Institute, a collaboration between business schools at the University, OSU and PSU. The institute, which offers M.B.A. degrees to working executives, is scheduled to get new headquarters in downtown Portland in January.

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