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Tracking Department of Defense funds

Campus military research under fire

University Senate will hear a motion that could make research funded by the U.S. military public

BY EVA SYLWESTER
SENIOR NEWS REPORTER

Is brain research funded by the U.S. Army being used to control the thoughts of soldiers, or only to teach dyslexic children to read?

Is making the Internet faster intended to help communications between doctors and rural patients, or to help pilot robots that will kill people?

These questions are part of a larger debate that sprung up this year on campus concerning the University's use of U.S. Department of Defense funding for research, although administrators say the University has been accepting this funding since 1965.

This afternoon, the University Senate will hear a motion related to DoD research. If passed, the motion will require public forums to be held, where University researchers and administrators will discuss the nature of military research projects taking place on campus.

University Senate President Peter Keyes is also planning to create an ad hoc committee on issues related to research policies, which would report to the Senate and to Vice President for Research and Graduate Studies Rich Linton.

Keyes said the motivating force

behind the motion has been emeritus professor of biology Frank Stahl. Stahl said he became interested in investigating military research following the actions of peace studies graduate student Brian Bogart, who is spending the academic year sitting in a tent across the street from Johnson Hall in protest of military research.

Keyes, an associate professor of architecture, said the proposed hearings and the ad hoc committee could lead to faculty members, including himself, becoming more informed about the issue of military research.

"I know nothing about it," he said. "The military doesn't fund a lot of architecture research."

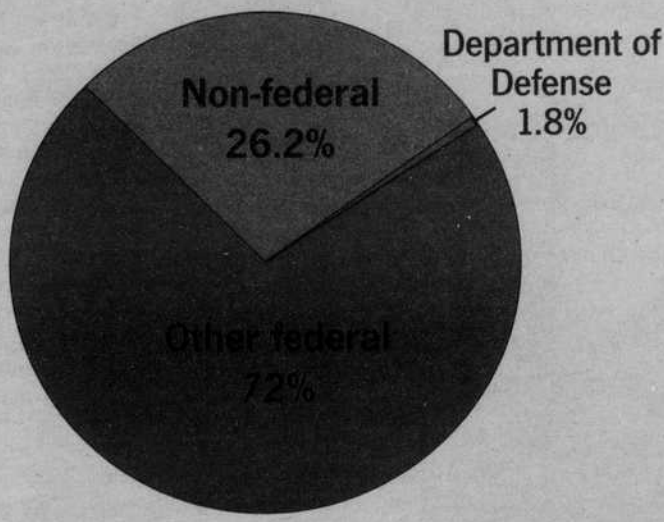
Funding

Currently, 19 DoD grants are being used in many departments, including psychology, economics and physics. These grants compose about 2 percent of the University's total research budget of nearly \$84 million for the 2004-2005 fiscal year, according to data obtained from Linton.

Despite slight year-to-year fluctuations, University Federal Affairs Director Betsy Boyd wrote in an e-mail that DoD grants have consistently accounted for about

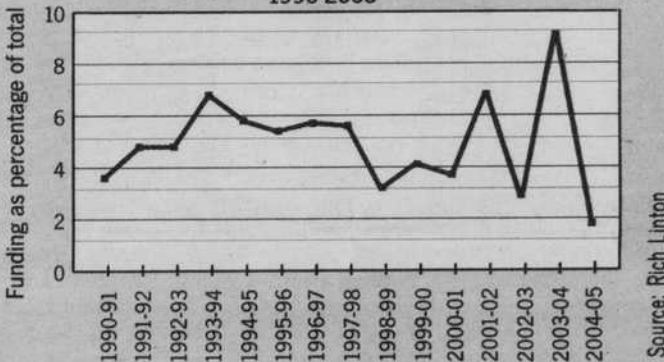
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UNIVERSITY RESEARCH FUNDING 2004-05



Source: Rich Linton

Department of Defense funding 1990-2005



Source: Rich Linton

CHRIS TODD | GRAPHIC ARTIST

FRANK STAHL

BIOLOGY PROFESSOR EMERITUS

Frank Stahl, biology professor emeritus and American Cancer Society Professor, is part of the campus movement against military research.

Stahl grew up in Boston and attended Harvard University. He earned a Ph.D. at the University of Rochester and did post-doctoral work at the California Institute of Technology. After a year at the University of Missouri, Stahl came to work at the University's new Institute of Molecular Biology in 1959.

When Aaron Novick, the institute's first director, recruited Stahl, he emphasized that the University was not doing military research, Stahl said. Novick helped develop the atomic bomb during World War II and afterward became very opposed to military research, Stahl said.

Stahl said he was primarily focused on his own scientific research for most of his career, so he did not know a lot about campus military research until recently. His research focused

on genetic recombination, the process in which two parent organisms create an offspring containing DNA from each parent.

Stahl retired in June but still has an office on campus.

In late 2002, Stahl tried to get the University Senate to pass a resolution against what was then a possible war in Iraq, on the grounds that the war would divert national resources from education. The senate refused to vote on the issue, so Stahl circulated a petition to have a faculty assembly.

He and his partner Jette Foss enlisted the help of Concerned Faculty for Peace and Justice to collect the necessary 500-plus faculty signatures, and have been involved with the group ever since.

Stahl said he has been interested in removing the Reserve Officers' Training Corps from campus for years as a statement against militarism and the military's homophobic policies. He said he became specifically interested in military research when graduate student Brian Bogart came to campus and shared his ideas with him.

— Eva Sylwester



RICH LINTON

VP FOR RESEARCH AND GRADUATE STUDIES

As the University's vice president for research and graduate studies, Rich Linton works to find grant funding for University research.

Linton grew up in Pennsylvania and earned a bachelor's degree in chemistry at the University of Delaware, Newark in 1973. His college years were during the height of the Vietnam War, and Linton said he attended a few anti-war protests in Washington, D.C., at that time.

After earning a doctorate in chemistry at the University of Illinois, Linton was hired as a chemistry professor at the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill. He said his research interests were similar to those of the Oregon Nanoscience and Microtechnologies Institute in the realm of surface analysis.

He said he did not have military funding for his research projects, but he knew researchers who did, and he collaborated on projects that were funded by the Office of Naval Research. During the mid-1980s, Linton also served as the University of North Carolina system's assistant vice president for research and chief research officer.

Linton came to the University in 2000 to be the vice president for research and graduate studies. He is also technically a chemistry professor but said he is too busy with administrative duties to teach.

Linton said his mission is to make the University successful, and he enlists external support as needed. He said his personal political views, which he declined to describe, are not involved in his decisions about funding sources.

"In my capacity as the research vice president, politics certainly is part of the job, but political persuasion and orientation on issues like that are peripheral to the mission of my office," Linton said. "I try to maintain professionalism in the work of the office."

— Eva Sylwester



Oregon holds out hopes for BCS bowl

The football team will go to the Holiday Bowl if it is not selected for the prestigious matchup

BY MEGHANN M. CUNIFF
NEWS EDITOR

When a football team goes 10-1 during the regular season, it's a reason to celebrate.

But University officials are hoping for more than just a celebration for this year's team.

They're hoping for an all-out fiesta.

The Ducks are one of at least three teams in the running for the two at-large berths in the Bowl Championship Series' Fiesta Bowl. If they don't go to that bowl game then they're assured a spot in the Holiday Bowl, which takes the third runner-up in the Big 12 and the Pacific-10 runner-up.

Invitations to the BCS games will be announced Sunday afternoon.

The difference between the two bowl games is tremendous.

On paper, it comes down to the money conferences get, if their teams make it to a BCS bowl. Travel expenses — estimated at \$1.2 million by the Athletics Department — for the team and support personnel are paid with money from the earnings, and the rest is split between the 10 teams in the conference. The first team from a conference chosen for a BCS bowl earns between \$14 million and \$17

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Hillel hosts lecture on Israel's need for peace

Omer Caspi gave his opinions on actions that could resolve the Israeli-Palestinian conflict

BY NICHOLAS WILBUR
NEWS REPORTER

The Israeli's sacrificed their homes as their part of the peace process and now the ball is in the Palestinian Authority's court to do its part, San Francisco's deputy consul general to Israel told about 20 people Tuesday night at Oregon Hillel, the foundation for Jewish campus life.

Omer Caspi discussed the history of peace movements between Israel and Palestine and encouraged Palestinian authorities to take the next step to end terrorism.

"The only way for Israel to survive in the Middle East is to sign peace treaties with our neighbors," Caspi said during the presentation, entitled "Beyond Disengagement: Israel's Quest for Peace in the Middle East."

Oregon Hillel hosted Caspi's speech, which

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