

# opinion

## Gag attempt

Student government should be a little wary of situations like the ones it has gotten itself into in the past two weeks.

Beginning with the ban on foreign political posters and continuing to a premature discussion of a senator recall petition, they are courting disaster by succumbing to mob rule and not thinking before acting.

The proposed ban on foreign political posters is a clear violation of First Amendment rights and an invitation to lawsuits from many areas.

To begin with, censorship of any sort should be discouraged. Once it rears its ugly head it is very difficult to kill it. By preventing one group of students from presenting its views, ASG is but a short step from denying this right to anyone else.

There is no excuse for censorship on a college campus. This is the place where we should all expect to be exposed to different points of view and different ideas and ideologies.

Another problem with this whole question is whether or not student government even has a right to vote on the matter. We think not. The right of freedom of speech is granted to all citizens and foreigners with valid visas in this country.

In fact, contrary to the beliefs of some senators, all of our constitution, except the Fifth Amendment, applies to everyone, citizen or visitor.

According to Ed Baker, professor of law at the University of Oregon, the whole idea is improper and clearly unconstitutional. "They can't bar political posters on campus just because they are foreign political posters. They could probably bar all posters, but not some just on the basis of content."

We are extremely grateful that there are a few level heads in student government who are willing to stand up and force others to wait before voting on things that could cause a lot of trouble.

Judging from the atmosphere at the last student government meeting, a vote on the poster censoring might possibly have passed, causing embarrassment for many, and perhaps expensive lawsuits for the school.

Those who are concerned about foreign students inciting riots by involving us in their political turmoil should consider that many riots are caused by those who have been denied their rights and this matter would clearly have denied foreign students their right to freedom of expression.

The proposed recall petition of a senator is another instance of senators getting carried away by their own importance. Several senators, during discussion of the faults of Senator Phil Boitnott, immediately fell upon the idea of recall and were prepared to carry out the filing of a petition. Rumors flew and several people, including Boitnott, were justifiably upset. It was only after a few days had elapsed that things cooled down and Boitnott is being given another chance.

Student government should slow down and take it easy for a while. It is commendable that they are trying to accomplish something but they need to think about what it is they are trying to accomplish before doing anything.

## the print

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## feedback

### Undesirable rewards

To the Editor:

I have wrestled with my conscience ever since the first meeting of the staff victory party, and have reached the conclusion that I cannot in good conscience participate tonight (Nov. 18).

I love champagne -- and I am glad that our efforts to date were successful and are appreciated. However, as a taxpayer, I cringe to think what this party will do to our community if we pass the next levy -- as we must to survive.

The reason I went door-to-door day after day, often in the middle of the night in that 100-plus-degree heat; telephoned, sent cards, and talked to people about the levy at the grocery store, the beauty shop and everywhere else I went is first and foremost because I believe in the College and its service to our community and because I've never been so happy working anywhere and I can continue to work here and serve the community.

The people I talked to voted for the levy because they believe in the College and appreciate its service to our community. I rejoiced when the levy passed and passed so resoundingly. The word gets around, however, as it is sure to, that we "threw a party" and celebrate with the money collected in good faith to keep the College open, it will make it very difficult to again go to these people for the money we must.

Let me again emphasize my complete support of the College and my joy at working here. I do not mean to be a "killjoy." I love champagne. I simply cannot condone or participate in the party if the money collected to keep the College open.

As I mentioned in my earlier note to Dr. Fryett, no "thank you" is necessary, but if you want to say thank you, I would be impressed and reward me and the other taxpayers far more than champagne would be to use the money to improve our service to our community.

Rosy Foster  
Library, ext. 246

### Apology

To the Editor:

Since the ASG meeting of Nov. 17 there has been a growing feeling within the ASG for the express purpose of my removal from the ASG. Their reasoning is somewhat confusing.

For example, Don Bixler (the ASG vice president), who told me that my use of profanity and my conduct offended the ASG, that has, and still is, trying to remove me from the senate. I have been a senator not more than a month and have attended I believe all ASG meetings. In those meetings I've witnessed, as did others, senators and officers using profanity, and conducting themselves in a non-professional manner.

I'm not saying that two or more wrongs make me right, but I want to start pointing and name calling. What I do want is to "size up."

I would like to apologize to those that were offended at the ASG meeting that have not confronted me personally. I think it is only fair that people that did confront me personally.

This matter, and other matters of this nature, I believe should be settled in this manner.

I have not apologized to save myself from being removed. On the contrary, I have apologized because I have offended someone.

My wanting to stay in the student government is obvious. The student government has proven to be concerned, and are working with the best interest of the student, and the community, in mind.

I am proud to be associated with such a fine group of people.

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