

To Rankin: Get over ASG

I've reported on and listened to Jennifer Rankin since the beginning of the school year, and not expressed my opinion. It's time to do so.

I'm too young to be this cynical



Karl Katzke
Business Manager

An impartial committee of students and staff from the college may or may not uphold the removal of Rankin from her elected position of Associate Student Government [ASG] president. One thing's for sure — Jennifer may no longer say that she has been singled out and unfairly targeted — that hearing was fair in every way.

I'm really just happy the ASG will soon be able to get on with its job.

In May, voters in Clackamas County will vote on what's commonly being called the "Bond 2000." Voters will be asked to approve, by double-majority, a 47 million dollar bond over twenty years, or \$0.20 per \$1000 assessed property value.

This bond will build a new build-

ing behind Randall, expand several other buildings on campus and perform necessary structural repairs to every campus building.

The double-majority requirement may be the failing of this bond measure though, because to pass it, half the 151,000 voters in the college's district have to be mobilized. That's 75,000 people. As a comparison, in the recent November election only 38% of the population voted... or 57,000 voters.

Whose responsibility is it to get those voters' ballots to approve an additional tax when Oregon voters have, again and again, said they dislike taxes?

That's the ASG's responsibility, as the student public relations department here at Clackamas.

Which brings us back to today.

We've already seen the ASG virtually crippled this fall because of the crisis involving its leadership. I hope Jennifer has been removed, because she would have crippled the college's efforts to get this bond

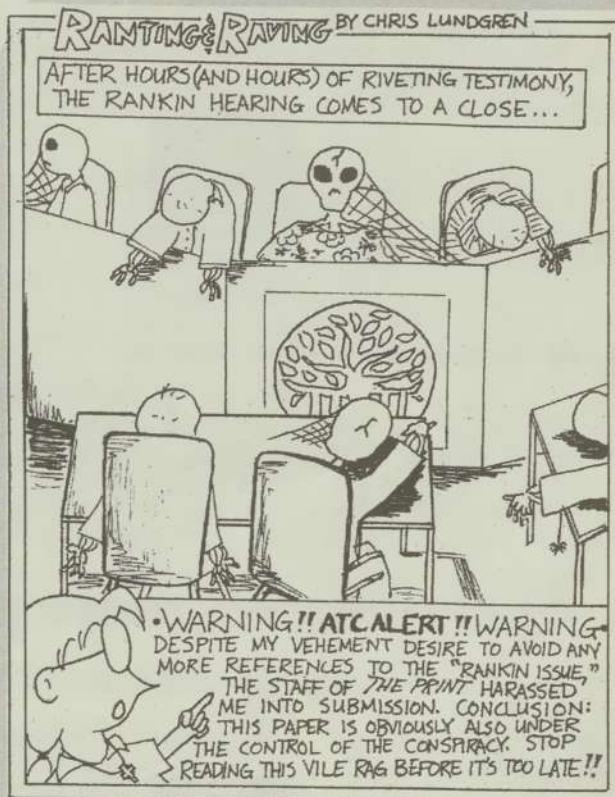
passed.

Now, let's get one thing straight. I'm not biased against Jennifer. She's a genuinely nice person. I'd even call her a sweetheart. That's why she was elected, and she's very good at listening to students.

Unfortunately, everything she hears is through a sieve of her ideas and morals, which have been twisted and bent through the ideas she has learned from some of her mentors and advisors. That's what created some of the controversy in this case, and is the sole reason it is so complex. Why ask for students to "come hear the truth," if you're not going to tell it?

So, yes, I hope you aren't reinstated, Jennifer. That would allow the ASG to serve the students, instead of being concerned about locking up their files and guarding what they say so it can't be used against them later. Nothing against you, but this is a situation that follows the ideals you share with other students and faculty on this campus. It's sad when something as noble as a student council is reduced to pettiness.

Let's get on with our lives. Let's get that bond passed. And let's leave a positive legacy for future student councils to follow.



Rankin has made herself the 'laughingstock of the college'

Let me make this clear from the start: I have nothing against Jennifer Rankin. I just think she is guilty as charged. I was at all seven

You're just mad because I'm right.



Sarah Welch
Photo Editor

hours of the hearing Tuesday and took more than 40 photos. I have concluded that Rankin was an incompe-

tent president who really didn't know her stuff and should not be reinstated.

I believe she is sincerely sorry for drinking and, yes, she wanted a second chance. So that chance was granted. Where did she mess up then?

First of all, from what I gathered, at the hearing James Gould was supposed to be in charge of the committee to select the new administrative assis-

tant. Not Jennifer Rankin. In my opinion, she put herself in charge of the committee so she could try to make sure Saida Johnston was chosen. Aren't we in college? You would think we could deal with not being on our friend's team. She obviously couldn't.

Things didn't exactly go as planned for Rankin. She asked that the position be filled when she got back from her two-week trip in September. I believe Rankin stole the files out of Gould's desk and took them home knowing she was leaving the next day. That way the process would be postponed until she got back. But while

she was gone, the committee chose Bryan Fuentez because James Gould felt he needed to get on with ASG business, he is vice-president after all.

Rankin pathetically complains that she has been singled out. If the administration really wanted to single her out, they would have gotten rid of her in May when she stupidly drank at a school-sponsored event. If a person wants so badly to be president, why would she break the rules less than a month after she was elected?

Her supporters are saying that the reason Rankin sounded like she didn't

know what she was talking about on the stand was because she was nervous. She wasn't nervous; the girl needs to sit down and write out her fake story and memorize it so she sounds like she knows what she is talking about.

How could you not remember so many important things? Come on! It seems to me that she only remembers things that are beneficial to her. Rankin should have gotten her story straight to begin with. If she is reinstated, how could she come back? She has made herself the laughingstock of the college.

Letters to the Editor ... ASG controversy

Rankin a desperate girl

After reading your article on Jennifer Rankin in your Nov. 10 1999 issue, the only thought I was left with was that of being completely baffled. Why would the school even support a trial for a girl whose defense is one of blatantly placing the blame on other parties? If Ms. Rankin can't even tell the truth and take credit for her wrongdoing I don't think the student body wants her in any position of authority in the ASG. It seems this entire trial is the act of a desperate girl who can't be true to herself let alone anyone else.

Terra Schiffrman, student

She should be reinstated

I think that Jennifer Rankin should be reinstated as ASG President. I don't feel that drinking during a student government meeting warrants her removal. As for Jennifer trying to push Saida Johnston into office, that doesn't bother me either because that is how politics works. Saida helped Jennifer to get elected so she did

what she could to get Saida a job.

Scott Kennedy, student

Rankin not trustworthy

The ASG President is supposed to be a leader and a role model. Jennifer Rankin failed to be a positive role model when she consumed alcohol. She was lucky enough to be given a second chance.

Given a second chance, she once again failed. This time she betrayed her fellow ASG members and the entire school by removing student records. How can we trust her?

Don't get me wrong; I don't think Jennifer Rankin is a bad person, I just don't approve of her actions. If Jennifer had enough responsibility to accept her position as ASG President, she should be able to accept responsibility for her actions. She needs to face her punishment like an adult.

Jessica Anderson, student

People wasted seven hours

Pertaining to the Rankin hearings,

the committee needs to make the obvious choice. Jennifer Rankin needs to be removed. She made some bad choices, but removing files from the ASG office proves that she is an idiot. She should pay for it by losing her office.

I feel sorry for the people that wasted seven hours of their lives to listen to a matter that should never have been appealed. I don't know what she thought she would get out of an appeal. Anybody with the stupidity to remove files from the office is not even qualified to be in a first grade ASG.

The only good thing that the hearing has done is make the politics of the student body noticed. The hearing has influenced me to vote during the next election, and hopefully it has influenced others to do the same.

Annon Bemis, student

These letters were submitted by English instructor Diane Averill, who assigned her WR-121 class to submit letters on any topic. We appreciate their submissions and encourage students to speak their minds in The Print.



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