

50 OSU Domestic Workers Ask Custodial Worker Classification

Nearly 50 employees at Oregon State University—all female and all classified as domestic workers—have signed a petition asking the Personnel Division to reclassify them to custodial workers.

The petition was circulated after a meeting between OSEA staff member John M. Schoonover and some 60 domestic workers on the OSU campus recently.

An earlier meeting drew nearly 40 OSU domestic workers who heard Schoonover outline a recent report issued by the U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare.

That report said domestic workers at the Corvallis school have been and are being discriminated against because of their sex.

Schoonover told the women that the HEW study "found no substantial degree of difference exists among the duties performed by domestic workers and custodial workers, particularly in the physical plant. They are just paid less."

"Furthermore," he said, "a recent survey by a Personnel Division staff member shows there is essentially no difference between the tasks performed by domestic workers doing housekeeping work and custodial workers."

Schoonover said similar petitions are being circulated among domestic workers at the University of Oregon, Oregon College of Education, Eastern Oregon College, Southern Oregon College and Oregon Tech ical Institute.

PERS Members Due Interest Earnings

State employee members of the Public Employees' Retirement System in about two weeks will learn how much interest their retirement accounts earned last year.

The PERS staff in Portland has nearly finished preparing the annual statements.

Each statement will list the total amount of interest credited to the account of the employee plus the total contributions made from the time he began to participate in the system.

The statements also will list the account balance and interest earnings of those members who elected to participate in the PERS variable annuity program.

OSEA Membership Losses Continue

For the second straight month OSEA has lost more members than it gained.

The March 1 membership report shows that 229 new members were enrolled during February while 420 were stricken from the rolls because of termination, retirement, death and other reasons.

OSEA, which suffered a net loss of 154 members during January, has recorded a net loss of 354 members in the first two months of 1972.

The report puts total membership at 16,828. That's the lowest total count since December, 1970.

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