

THE TORCH

LANE COMMUNITY COLLEGE'S INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

LCCTORCH.COM

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SKI SCHOOL

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ups and downs of
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COVER PHOTO

Lane instructor Dennis Mills, foreground skier in red and black, cruises down the Olympian run at Mount Bachelor. Mills has been organizing the class at Lane for ten years.

EUGENE JOHNSON / THE TORCH



Election behavior, process need consideration

The ASLCC elections committee has invalidated the results of its special election based on three statements in a six-point complaint submitted by *The Torch* editor-in-chief Byron Hughey.

In the election, Lane students were asked to consider two ballot measures. The first measure included two 65-cent increases in the student activity fee, to benefit the Gender and Sexuality Alliance and MEChA de Lane. The second measure would revise the ASLCC's constitution to include sweeping changes.

In our Feb. 27 editorial, we criticized the chilling effect those constitutional revisions could have on unpopular student groups. For our March 6 editorial, published during the election, we criticized the elections process itself.

By invalidating the election results, the ASLCC elections committee has upheld democratic principles and indicated its independence from the student officials who engaged in questionable behavior before, during and after the special election.

While we're glad to see the elections committee cares about the democratic process, the net result illustrates an important lesson: the inappropriate behavior of a few student officials can do substantial damage to the very students they are elected or appointed to represent.

Had the results gone uncontested, the GSA and MEChA would have received their increases. According to election results leaked to *The Torch*, 56 percent of the students who voted supported the 65-cent increases.

In hindsight, we should have given more than one sentence in support of that increase, which would have benefited two of the most active clubs on campus — clubs that provide a great service to many students even as they struggle for funding.

Only 53 percent of students voted in favor of ASLCC's amended constitution, fewer than the two-thirds the ASLCC required.

Sadly, those victories were fruits of a poisoned tree.

This special election was rushed, miscalculated, poorly advertised to an ill-informed voter base, conducted with hostility towards anyone who dared to question the merits of the proposed constitutional changes, designed by student officials who are ignorant of the Oregon Public Meetings Law and toxic to every student organization involved.

In a March 8 statement, ASLCC Vice President Tajo Ouermi, who also chairs the election committee, promised the ballot measures would return for the general election.

When they do, *The Torch* encourages you to vote for increased funding to GSA and MEChA and against any constitution that lacks clear protections for student organizations that practice free expression.

The Torch also encourages student officials to provide clear information to student voters, scale back the animosity when dealing with opposition in an educational environment, and conduct the general election according to the letter of its own bylaws, as well as the Lane student code of conduct.

If the ASLCC wants constitutional changes, they need to consult student groups, including *The Torch*, and make changes that everyone can agree will change our collective situation for the better.

This is politics and representative democracy, the spirit of which demands that our elected representatives represent our interests — everyone's interests — over theirs.

We understand legwork like this can be difficult, but nothing worth having is easy.

GUEST COMMENTARIES: ASLCC Special Election

As someone who likes to exercise her right to vote, I just want to say that this "special election" was run rather poorly. I voted no on both measures because I had no good information on exactly what the vote meant. Sure I heard the newspaper urge me to vote no, then I heard the ASLCC telling me to vehemently vote yes. But it was all run like they really hoped people wouldn't exercise their right to vote. And that makes me mad!

When I tried to vote, I first went to Moodle, which is probably the site most visited by LCC students and where I would expect an online vote to be, since that is the main portal for students. There was nothing there to say that a vote was going on; it was business as usual on Moodle. So then I went to MyLane, trying to look for this voting thing. I found no mention, until I happened to scroll down to the bottom of the page and found it after some careful reading. If I wasn't a person who liked to exercise their right to vote, I would have been frustrated by this process and given up by now. And I was about to give up. If this vote was so important, why was it barely mentioned, poorly advertised, and hidden away from sight? Then even after reading how to find this mythical vote (which was now being referred to as a 'survey'), I still couldn't find it until I realized it was in a box that was barely noticeable. And then halfway through the voting time, I get an email saying to vote. Sheesh, can we have one part of society where we can be smart about voting and not be obstructed at every turn?

I voted no for both changes. I'm sorry to whatever clubs this might have benefited or if we'd gotten better transparency with our money, as was touted. But I had no idea what I was voting for. I heard two biased sides that clearly were saying to vote for whatever side benefited them, but no independent analysis, no breakdown of exactly what was being changed or how the system currently ran and why it needed changing. I read the analysis in the previous week's paper, but frankly *The Torch* is a lot of nice full-color pictures and graphics, but lacks all substance. I only sided with them due to ineptitude on both sides of the issue.

Nicole Rund
Lane student

Student governments wrangle voters during election season by reminding credit students that they're pillars of democracy and that they are, collectively, the Associated Students of (insert college or university here).

Well, *The Torch*, along with every other student group that collects student activity fee dollars, is accountable to the student body as a whole and not a small faction of students who feel entitled to the checkbook of every organization on campus.

The paper isn't afraid of transparency, as some flyers on campus have advertised recently. If it were, why would *The Torch* dissect its own budget before asking other clubs to do the same in a series of articles published during winter and spring of 2011? In fact, it was in researching that series that the paper's reporters and editors discovered just how difficult it is to trace student activity fee dollars from disbursement to invoice.

The only organization that intentionally sat on its share of those funds was ASLCC. We asked why an organization with a guaranteed funding structure needed a rainy day fund.

We never received a satisfactory response. And from what I've read, ASLCC wants its executive board to appoint a treasurer rather than have the student body elect one.

I owe *The Torch* more than will fit in this letter. During my time as its editor my primary concern was serving the students of Lane Community College. Likewise, I have no doubt that the folks in that cramped office in Building 1 have good intentions and that they're trying to solve problems of accountability in organizational spending.

But this is not the way to do it.

The measures proposed by ASLCC work against the best interests of every student organization on campus. As a former student and an aspiring journalist, I wouldn't feel comfortable knowing the rights of folks in both categories are in jeopardy at an institution that helped me make it as far as I have.

Eder Campuzano
Managing Editor for Digital Publishing, FLUX Magazine
Former editor-in-chief of *The Torch*

Textbook legislation targets affordability



According to Lane's adopted budget
\$13,150,500
of revenue is earned through
the Titan Store, the primary book
retailer for Lane students

Work group implements strategies for lowering costs

BY MISSY CORR
Copy Editor

A work group looking at textbook affordability has published their findings on how to lower textbook costs for students in Oregon. Among the strategies recommended are incentive programs for instructors, open educational resources and encouraging instructors to submit their learning materials earlier.

House Bill 4058 requires the Higher Education Coordinating Commission Textbook Affordability Work Group to determine, and recommend implementation of strategies to lower textbook costs.

James Woods, work group member and economics professor at Portland State University, said the work group recommended an incentive program after deciding the fundamental factor is the instructor's choice.

"We recommended a series of small grants that could be funded either at the U.S. level, the institution level or the legislative level to encourage faculty members to choose instruction materials that are at least a 25 percent lower cost to students," Woods said. After a year and a half, if the costs had stayed 25 percent lower, the instructor would receive a small grant.

With no current funding for those grants, Woods said one of the most immediately actionable and simple ways instructors can lower textbook costs for students is by submitting the required texts earlier, giving students more time to search for the least expensive option.

The report published by the work group in December gives more attention to OERs as a means of lowering textbook costs for students than the other proposed methods. OERs don't have yearly licensing expenses like digital textbooks, and will not require purchase of a new edition due to minor changes in content, like hardcover textbooks.

Woods said the increased utilization of technology is inevitable, and that OERs are not just conventional paper textbooks converted to digital form.

"It's not so structured over a chapter-page kind of a concept," Titan Store director Tony Sanjume said, "but

more of a digital, free-flowing learning environment."

OERs are more interactive than paper textbooks, often including instructor-created videos, and providing a community for sharing of materials. Sanjume said there is resistance to this drastic change, from both instructors and students. Some students and instructors are resistant simply because they are accustomed to flipping pages and scribbling notes freely. Other concerns are quality of available resources and faculty time spent on creating new OERs.

"It's a big time commitment for them to redesign the course and they're not compensated for that," Lane OER Faculty Fellowship head Jen Klaudinyi said.

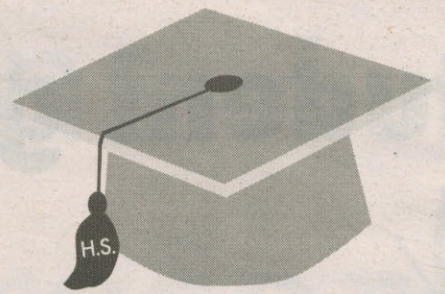
Klaudinyi teaches a self-paced course at Lane in which she shows instructors how to convert courses to use OERs in place of textbooks. The OER Faculty Fellowship tries to combat the lack of motivation by incentivizing successful completion of the program with an iPad. Klaudinyi said there are intrinsic rewards as well, as instructors who complete the program find their teaching experience to be more personally engaging.

Because OERs are unlicensed, open content, instructors also have the less time-consuming option to modify existing OERs to fit their curriculum and resubmit them to online repositories with personal attribution.

OERs on most topics are currently available free of charge online for instructors and students, in searchable databases such as Connexions and Merlot. To assure quality, these databases indicate whether the content has been peer-reviewed, and have cohorts from multiple universities review and rate submitted content.

ASLCC Campaign Director Paul Zito said he is a proponent of innovation in education. The ASLCC Textbook Committee is trying to enact new policies, one of which would encourage instructors to seek out "open-content license materials" in hopes of giving students and faculty an introduction to the newer, cheaper side of learning.

Zito said, "When professors are publishing their own materials, putting them online and creating databases like that, students enter into the realm where things can be a hell of a lot cheaper."



ACTS pays for students' first year

BY AISLINN RENNISON
Reporter

This year 96 students from Eugene School District 4J are attending Lane tuition-free through the Advance Career Technical Sponsorship program, or ACTS.

LCC Pathways coordinates the ACTS program, which is currently in its third year.

Joe Coleman, administrative assistant for the 4J School District, said the program started with 24 students in its first year and excelled to 48 the second year. ACTS is currently striving to maintain enrollment at 96 students for future sponsorships.

Coleman said the program is very popular and strong within the 4J high schools.

"It is never difficult to find students," Coleman said.

Bear Goodman, Lane academic adviser advises prospective high school students within the high school connections office. Goodman feels that the program has reached a level of maturity.

"We are seeing good success with these students," Goodman said.

For students to be a part of the ACTS program, they must apply during their senior year of high school with a recommendation from a career technical instructor. If accepted, they are asked to attend a spring orientation and Gateway to College and Careers, an introductory class. After starting their first college year at Lane, their schedules must be approved and they must "check in" with ACTS throughout each term.

Although students are not required to maintain a specific GPA while attending college, Goodman said their academic performance must remain satisfactory and ACTS participants must take six to 12 credits per term towards their technical degree.

If the students are able to meet these requirements, the ACTS program pays up to 36 credits of tuition within their first college year, \$500 for books and \$50 for school supplies.

ACTS now chooses 24 students from each 4J high school. Of the students chosen, 80 percent complete their first year of college through ACTS and a high percentage of students continue their college career through other funding.

Connor Coleman (no relation) is a first-year culinary and hospitality major who graduated from Sheldon High School last June. He first heard about the ACTS program from his high school guidance counselor.

"She said it's a really good program to get into, so I filled out an application and I got in," Connor Coleman said.

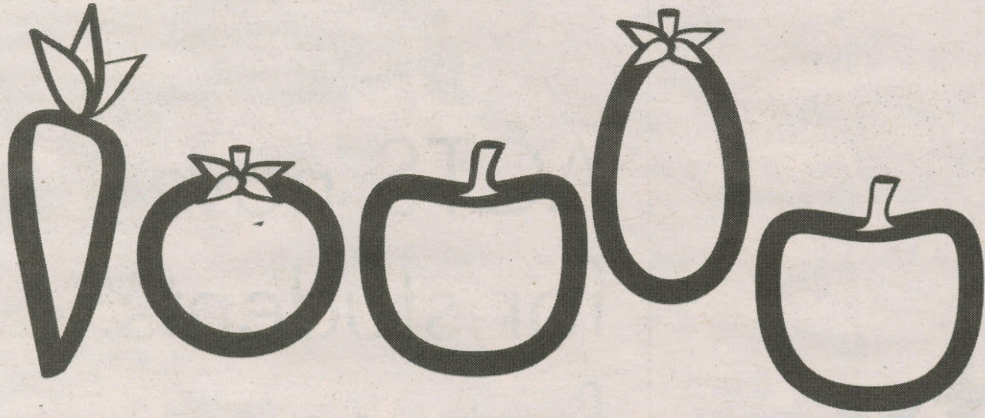
Although he is technically a college student, Connor Coleman and other ACTS participants are considered seniors or fifth-year high school students while enrolled in the program. The students meet all the requirements for graduation and walk with their class. However, the students will not be able receive their diploma until after their completion, or dropout, of ACTS.

Eugene's 4J schools still receive government funding for these students because they are still considered seniors. The funding is then used to pay for their tuition.

"More people should look into it because it's a great program," Connor Coleman said.

Joe Coleman said the program is now in the process of identifying students for sponsorship for the 2013-2014 school year.

Student group harvests new ideas



In a poll run by OSPIRG, students said 103-5 that they would support an affordable farmer's market on campus

By TAYA ALAMI
News Editor

Lane students may soon have wider access to fresh and local foods on campus, thanks in part to the students involved with the newly formed Sustainable Foods Committee.

The students working on the project say they have a range of short-term and long-term goals, starting with the implementation of an on-campus food pantry, to eventually creating an on-campus grocery store where students could purchase their food through state assistance programs.

The Sustainable Foods Committee was created by the ASLCC during a meeting in December. Despite its newness, the committee is already taking steps in increasing student's on-campus food choices.

The committee has been working in coordination with student groups like OSPIRG and the Learning Garden, and has recently branched out beyond Lane to groups in the community.

ASLCC Communications Director Paul Zito said time constraints prevented him from chairing the committee, but he considers himself to be in the thick of it.

"In my opinion, the role of the Sustainable Foods Committee is to provide locally fresh market foods to students," Zito said.

Zito said committee members were recently treated to a presentation by Kara Smith from FOOD for Lane County on how to properly run a food pantry. Smith also gave the paperwork necessary to launch a food pantry at Lane.

Although currently there's no formal timeline for the project's completion, Zito said Lane students can expect to see a food pantry on campus by the end of the school year.

ASLCC Senator Adam Brown said he sits on the

sustainable foods committee because "there's a huge food problem here in Lane County. Over 30 percent of families are on some type of food assistance because the economy is bad and there's no support there."

Brown said that only two percent of food consumed in Lane County is produced locally — a statistic Brown said he finds to be absolutely disgusting.

"Farm food is a lot better for you. It's not processed. It's organically grown. It's not picked before it's ripe. It tastes better and it's better for you," Brown said. "We can get more food from our local farms if we support them."

Despite the numerous numerical disadvantages peopling the status quo, Brown said he and his peers are encouraged by the strides the committee has already made thus far.

"We're making a ton of progress," Brown said.

Committee members said they eventually hope to institute a program on campus that would allow students to be able to access local foods through the state's Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP).

Having a place on campus that could potentially allow students to buy food using their Oregon trail cards, Zito said, has been the most intriguing out of all the committee's initiatives thus far.

"It's bridging the gap between two financial aid systems, even though one's not related to school," Zito said.

At first, students on the committee were hoping to be able to facilitate a situation by which foods could be sold to students using Oregon Trail cards in the main cafeteria, but Michael O'Neal, Lane's food and beverage director, said he would rule out Lane's cafeteria as a store that could sell food through the SNAP program.

"The cafeteria sells too much ready-made hot food to be eligible as a SNAP store," O'Neal said.

According to the state's guidelines, SNAP benefits

cannot be used to purchase foods that are hot at the point-of-sale, or foods that are sold for on-premises consumption. Any proposed store would need to adhere to one of these two guidelines in order to qualify for SNAP eligibility.

However, since the cafeteria's retail sales are interconnected with all retail sales at Lane, including book sales, O'Neal said the prospect of the cafeteria becoming eligible for SNAP is highly unlikely.

"Even if we could sell more wholesale foods, which we're gonna try to do, that still wouldn't get us there," O'Neal said.

However, there's still hope for students wanting to use their Oregon Trail cards on campus. If a private vendor were to sell whole foods at the school similar to the vendors that sell their goods outside the cafeteria, the vendors may be able to offer their products to students receiving benefits.

Brown said the committee has plans to begin inviting local farmers to the main campus for a mini-farmer's market — an implementation he hopes will eventually materialize into a student grocery store with full SNAP eligibility.

"This will allow easier access to these healthier foods for students," Brown said.

Lane student Brandon Sansovich said thinks the sustainable foods program is a great idea because of its economic implications.

"If you get a circle going of local business, farmers to accompany back and forth you can make a stronger community," Sansovich said. "You can keep jobs growing in your area."

The Sustainable Foods Committee meets weekly, Friday at 10 a.m. in Building 1, Room 210.

"I encourage everyone to join," Brown said. "The more students we have on board with this cause, the better." (Reporter Kayley Salgado contributed to this report.)

Special election invalidated

Election committee bases decision on complaint

By TAYA ALAMI
News Editor

The ASLCC elections committee has voted to invalidate the results of the special election that ended March 7, ASLCC Vice President Tajo Ouermi wrote in an email to student government members and *The Torch*.

Ouermi, who is also the chair of the ASLCC elections committee, wrote that the decision was made after reviewing a formal complaint that was received March 7.

Students will be asked to vote on the same measures in the spring term election.

"All the different ballot measure(s) will automati-

cally (be) transferred to (the) general election," Ouermi wrote.

The complaintant listed six concerns, Ouermi wrote. Three of them were deemed valid and were the basis of the elections committee voting to invalidate the results. The concerns were as follows:

1) The proximity of non-partisan information dissemination to biased advocacy was within 20 ft. This has the potential to bias election information.

2) ASLCC representation, namely ASLCC senator Collette Buchanan, was moving between the non-partisan booth and the advocacy group. This has the potential to bias election information.

3) According to The Associated Students of Lane Community College 2012-2013 Elections Information, under Voter Information, 9.4.2, "voter information will also include ... both the rationale for and the rationale against all ballot measures." I was unable to find any oppositional material being presented, despite the fact that advocacy materials were available within 20 feet of the non-partisan booth.

4) The availability and timeliness of election materials was lacking, to the extent that the voting public did not have adequate time or resources to constitute an "informed public."

5) Emails regarding the election were sent inconsistently. It represented additional bias to the election in the form of misinformation.

6) A large amount of campaign materials were unendorsed and did not list who wrote or provided the information. These campaign materials were actively provided by ASLCC members."

The results of the election were invalidated by the election committee on the merit of complaints num-

bered one, three and six.

Although Ouermi initially refused to publicize the election results, the special election vote-count was leaked to *The Torch* March 11.

The first measure, a joint activity fee of \$1.30 that was meant to be split between the Gender & Sexuality Alliance and MEChA de Lane, received a majority vote with 56 percent for the increase and 44 percent against, 256 votes to 204.

The second measure was for the potential approval of changes to the student government's constitution. The changes included removing ASLCC staff positions, removing the student government's requirement to support the Oregon Community College Student Association (OCCSA), lowering the grade-point-average required to run for and hold office, shifting the positions of Treasurer and Multicultural Programs Coordinator from elected positions to appointments, and a revamped process student clubs would go through to receive activity-fee funding.

The measure failed to pass, 53 percent in the affirmative and 47 percent against, 235 votes to 210.

According to section 11.5 of the ASLCC constitution the measure would have needed a two-thirds vote (66.6 percent) in order to have passed.

Editors note: The Torch editor-in-chief Byron Hughey filed the aforementioned complaint. News editor Taya Alami was intentionally kept separated from the process and complaint by the editorial staff on ethical grounds to avoid conflicts of interest and will continue to report on ASLCC and student government elections and results as well as the ongoing attempts to change the ASLCC constitution and student fee process.



JUSTIN GRAHAM / THE TORCH

Board of Education members Rosie Pryor, Bob Ackerman and Pat Albright attend a Jan. 9 meeting. The board is scheduled for another meeting March 13 in the Building 3 Boardroom.

Board battles tuition increases

BY MOHAMMED ALKHADHER
Reporter

Board of Education members will discuss creating a tuition mitigation fund, weigh options for redeveloping the vacant Willamette Street building and debate bypassing the school's competitive bidding process for upgrades to the Center Building, at its final winter term meeting.

After the board passed the \$2 per credit increase in February's meeting, Board Member Robert Ackerman proposed the tuition mitigation fund as a step that could combat future increases in tuition.

Ackerman has suggested setting aside between \$250,000 and \$1.25 million, from the general budget each fiscal year. According to his proposal, "The board shall have the discretion to mitigate tuition increases by allocating funds between these two figures."

At the recommendation of Lane's President Mary Spilde and Chief Financial Officer Greg Morgan, Ackerman limited the size of the fund because, "making the account much, much bigger might prevent the board from passing it," he said.

"I think it's a really good idea," said ASLCC's Vice President Tajo Ouermi, "It takes a lot of weight off of students."

Funds that are not used would be retained and carried over to the next fiscal year.

While Ackerman explained his proposal, other board

members declined to comment on it in hopes of keeping their views unified.

"I'm all about keeping everything in the open, but we have this one-voice rule," Board member Tony McCown said.

A part of the plan says money taken from the fund cannot be charged to administrative costs. "The risk is, they could chew it up for processing the mitigation," Ackerman said.

Lane's Budget Director Rose Ellis, who was not familiar with the mitigation fund proposal, said the president's office told her, "they won't have any information until after the board meeting," she said. "I think they just want to hear the discussion before reaching any conclusions."

The board will discuss the fund March 13.

"My first goal is to get the mitigation account established, and the second part to get it on the budget," Ackerman said.

Also being presented before the board will be a continuation of a February discussion about options for Lane's former downtown campus on Willamette Street.

They will decide whether to publish a Request for Proposal (RFP) document, following their scheduled meeting. The RFP's purpose is to explore redevelopment options for the Willamette Street building, in hopes of garnering proposed uses for the unused space.

Finally, the board will discuss bypassing the competitive bidding process as they upgrade and renovate

the Central Plant and Center Building.

The board is contemplating the move because of the size and critical timeline of the project.

The Central Plant includes the campus' main heating and chilled water distribution systems, of which, all major pieces of equipment, pumps and valves have exceeded their service lives.

According to the board's agenda packet, the Central Plant project will improve plant efficiency, reliability and performance.

The upgrade is expected to prepare the campus for geothermal and/or solar thermal system upgrades in the future.

In addition to the Central Plant upgrades, the board is preparing to remodel the multi-level plaza on the outside of the Center building, and construct a building to house the new Titan Store.

If the board approves the bypass of the competitive bidding process, they have recommended a local firm, Systems West, who's guaranteed maximum fee is set at \$5.9 million to manage the upgrades.

Board member Gary LeClair, Zone 3, is expected to recommend an appointee to Lane's Budget Committee. According to the agenda distributed by the president's office, the board will be discussing LeClair's recommendation of Jennifer Harris to Zone 3 of the committee.

The meeting will begin at 6:30 p.m. in the Building 3 Boardroom.

College deals with deficit

BY TAYA ALAMI
News Editor

Lane's budget projections currently show a budget deficit of \$9 million, Lane President Mary Spilde wrote in a March 7 email to college employees.

The deficit is due to a 10 percent drop in enrollment in conjunction with a \$3.3 million increase in the college's contributions to the Oregon Public Employees Retirement System.

The college's projection is based on Governor Kitzhaber's proposed state budget for community colleges of \$428 million.

"It's a step in the right direction but not nearly enough to support our current service level," Spilde wrote.

The college has also developed alternate projections based on \$460 and \$510 million in state contributions in the event that the amount of state funding for community colleges is increased.

"It remains to be seen if any of these will make it through the legislature," Spilde wrote.

Lane's first-year Budget Director Rose Ellis thinks the college will bridge the gap, and she said she's looking forward to finding ways to solve Lane's budget dilemma.

"Mary (Spilde) and the executive team are talking about what's best for the student, and I'm finding out in this last year that they really do," Ellis said. "When they're sitting down and trying to think of where all these cuts are coming from, or how we're going to try to make up this \$9 million, that's the first thing on the top of their minds."

Ellis said a number of factors could help the college balance its budget, including reductions in staffing, reductions in services, an increase in transfers into the general fund from other funds that are doing well, or decreases in the transfers out of the general fund to other parts of the community.

"I anticipate it's going to be a mixture of all of the above," Ellis said. "Every budget nuance will be looked at by the executive team."

Spilde wrote, "Lane is a vibrant place and it will continue to be so, even as we navigate through the legislative process and its impact on our budget."

\$9 mil.
deficit

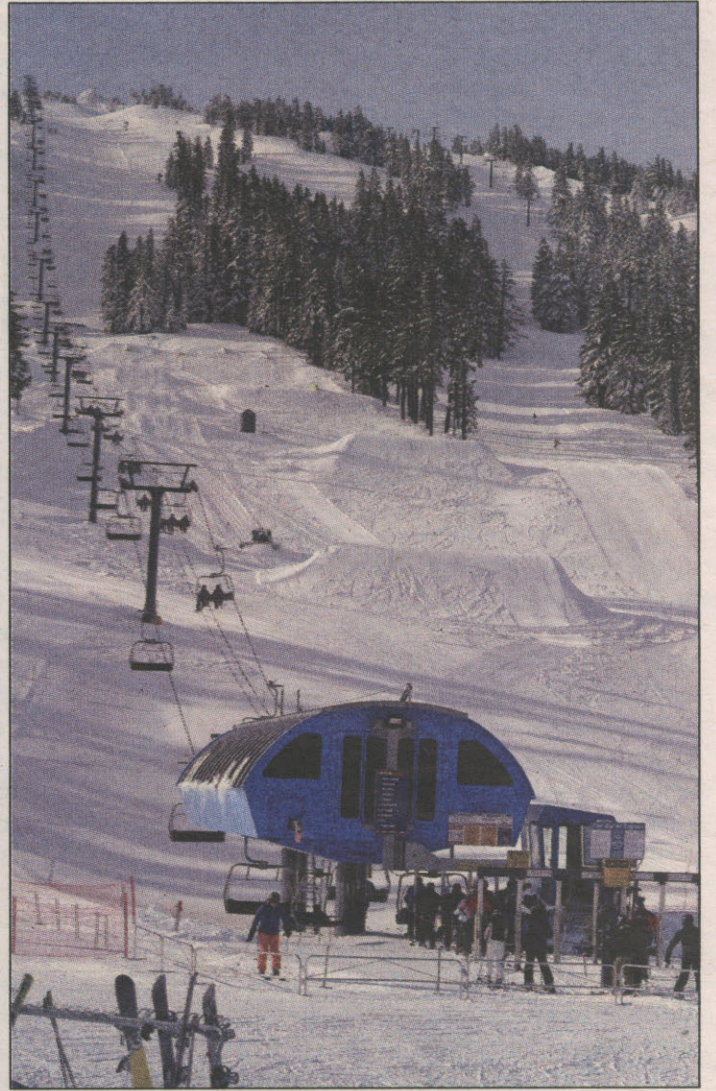
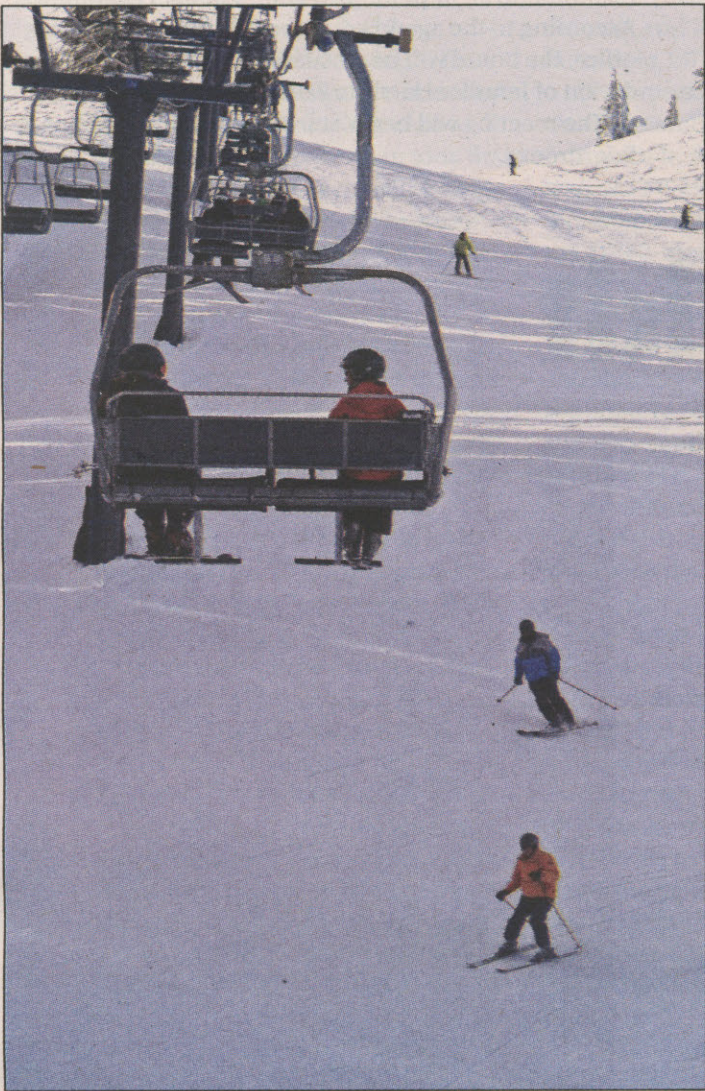
↑ **3.3 mil.** PERS rate
↓ **10%** enrollment

Tuition and fees approximately
50% of general fund revenue

6 FEATURES
TORCH/3.13.13



EASTBOUND





AND DOWN

Unique class on Mount Bachelor shows photographer scenic views

STORY AND PHOTOS BY EUGENE JOHNSON
Photo Editor

In search of classes for winter term, I was browsing the course catalog when I stumbled upon a one-credit course: Downhill Skiing and Snowboarding.

I've only skied three times in my life, but the course piqued my curiosity. I checked the box, clicked submit and thought, "There is no way I'll get this. It'll be full."

To my surprise, it wasn't.

Fast-forward three months. The morning before the second class, I dreamed of a crimson bird whose singsong warbling gave way to the insistent scream of my alarm.

When I reached over to dismiss the alarm, it was 4 a.m. This would be our first day on the mountain, and the weather prediction was for 40 degrees and blue skies.

The house was silent as I gathered my gear. I woke my wife and son an hour later and we were off to Lane for the 6 a.m. bus call.

"If you're not on it by 6, we are leaving without you," instructor Dennis Mills told us on the first day of class.

We loaded our skis, snowboards and bags at 5:30 a.m. I kissed my wife and son goodbye and, sure enough, we were wheels down at 6 a.m.

As I put my headphones on and settled in for the three-hour drive to Mount Bachelor, I tried to imagine what it was going to be like.

We were divided into groups based on our skill level, and we met our respective instructors at 10 a.m.

Because I was one of only two skiers in the class (the remaining 52 were snowboarders) and the other skier was far more experienced, I had my own instructor for the two-hour lesson. His name was Mark, a guy with 30 years of experience to counter my three days.

Mark gave me tips to improve my turning, which I practiced on a short, easy slope called Homerun. Then, we took the lift to the top of Pine Martin Express and skied down the summit crossover to Carnival, a more challenging run.

Staring down Carnival, I realized I was hungry for the challenge and Mark's instruction bolstered my courage.

What a difference a one-credit class or a two-hour lesson makes.

By the eighth week, I had logged 87 runs and more than 112,321 vertical feet of skiing.

I can now tackle black diamond courses — some of the hardest — in the northwest part of the park with confidence.

Sometimes classes like these prove that community colleges have a leg-up in providing students a variety of skills, self-confidence and new ways to beat the winter doldrums.

I plan on taking this class again next winter. I hope to see you on the bus, but beware: It really does leave at 6 a.m. sharp.

Top: Panoramic views of (left to right) South Sister, Middle Sister, North Sister and Broken Top can be enjoyed on clear days while on Mount Bachelor. These volcanic peaks are part of the Cascade Range that runs from southern British Columbia south, all the way into northern California, with 11 of them reaching above 10,000 feet in elevation.

Bottom left: Skiers ride up the Pine Martin Express quad-chair lift while others make their way down the Thunderbird run on Mount Bachelor.

Middle: Sign, covered in rime ice, at the top of the Pine Martin Express lift shows the way to a variety of routes. Mount Bachelor has over 3,600 acres of skiing available with 1,600 of those groomed daily.

Right: The Pine Martin Express lift is less than a hundred yards from the West Village Lodge. This lift is one of seven quad-chair lifts on the mountain.



Lane hits stride in first meet

TURNER MAXWELL / THE TORCH

Then-freshman Joe Hennricks runs the third leg of the 4x400-meter relay at the South Region Championships last year. Hennricks, now a sophomore, helped lead Lane to a first-place finish in the 4x400-meter relay at the Lane Preview March 10.

Wilson runs into season with three top-five finishes

BY RYAN KOSTECKA
Sports Editor

The Lane Titans track and field athletes met for the Lane Preview with colleges from Oregon and Washington March 2 and 3.

Lane had a good showing in field events on the first day of competition.

Sophomore Hannah Person and freshman Madison Seaman took first place in one event each, while freshman Leah Wilson finished among the top five in her three events, the only Lane athlete to do so.

Person won the women's hammer throw with a toss of 145 feet, 8 inches, nearly 13 feet better than the second-place finisher. Seaman captured the discus title with a distance of 130'1", besting her runner-up by 13 feet.

Wilson placed third in the hammer throw (131'5"), third in the shot put (40'6.75") and fourth in the discus (110'7").

Person also placed sixth in the discus with a toss of 108'2". Seaman took fourth in the shot put with a throw of 39'7.75" and 11th in the hammer throw with a toss of 105'4".

Sophomore Will Kunkle led the men's team with a first-place finish in the discus and eighth-place finish in the hammer throw. Kunkle tossed the discus 154'7" and threw the hammer 133'7".

The second day of the event brought student athletes to the track.

Freshman Kara Hallock captured individual titles in the 100-meter and 400-meter hurdles. She ran the 100-meter hurdles in a time of 15.03 seconds and took the 400-meter hurdles in 1:07.55.

Freshmen Kristin Clark, a graduate of Sheldon High School, took first place in the long jump with a leap of 17'6.25".

Also placing in first for Lane was the 4x400-meter relay team with a time of 4:05.64. On the team are freshmen Jahzelle Ambus, Macaulay Wilson and Jacey Grimstad, and running anchor for the team is sophomore Allie Church. Both Wilson and Church competed in the fall for Lane as cross-country runners.

The men's side only had two first-place finishers. Sophomore Brandon Nash took the first victory for Lane with a high jump of 6'8.75".

The 4x400-meter relay runners grabbed the final victory for Lane as they completed the race in a time of 3:25.94. Running for the Titans were Codey Fields, Diego Gonzalez and Joe Hennricks with Austin Baker anchoring the relay team.

Both the men's and women's teams return to action March 16 for Oregon Preview at UO's Hayward Field. Race time and start time for the field events is to be determined.



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Baseball begins season with 2-4 record

Sophomore Boehm leads the way at the plate



EUGENE JOHNSON / THE TORCH

Lane baseball head coach Joshua Blunt talks to his catchers at a practice Feb. 25 in Eugene.

BY RYAN KOSTECKA
Sports Editor

The Lane Titans baseball team began the 2013 season with a bang, defeating the Bellevue College Bulldogs 11-1 and 8-1 in a March 2 doubleheader.

Bellevue (2-2) was previously ranked the top team in the Northwest Athletic Association of Community Colleges, but after the loss, the Bulldogs dropped to the No. 4 spot while Lane moved up to a No. 3 ranking.

The Titans (2-4) returned to action a week later to face the Edmonds Community College Tritons (3-5) and the Lower Columbia College Red Devils (6-2) in back-to-back games March 9 and 10 in Longview, Wash.

Lane went 0-4 on the weekend and were outscored 27-11, being held scoreless in two of the four games.

LANE vs. EDMONDS: GAME 1

The Titans took a four-run lead into the top of the ninth inning against the Tritons before succumbing to an 8-7 loss.

Lane allowed Edmonds to score five runs in the frame, all of them unearned. The Titans were able to get two quick outs in the inning with only one runner on first base before two hits, two walks and a hit-by-pitch led to their demise.

The Titans sent three batters to the plate in the bottom of the ninth and all three were retired in order, ending the game.

Sophomore Cody McDonald went 1-for-1 at the plate with a two-run double in the eighth inning while fellow sophomore Alex Cornwell went 2-for-4 with a run scored.

Freshman Jake Lessel threw six innings for Lane, giving up two runs on five hits with three strikeouts.

LANE vs. LOWER COLUMBIA: GAME 2

The second game of the day remained scoreless through six innings of play, as neither team was able to get anything going against the opposing team's clutch pitching. An explosive big seventh inning by the Red Devils led the way for a 5-0 shut-out loss for the Titans.

The Red Devils scored five runs off Lane's starting pitcher, sophomore Nic Coffman.

Coffman ended the day with seven innings thrown, giving up five runs on eight hits.

Sophomores Cody Chagnon and Shaun Boehm led the way at the plate for Lane, each collecting one of the Titans' four hits.

LANE vs. LOWER COLUMBIA: GAME 3

The Titans returned to action a day later against the Red Devils. Although Lane was able to get some runs on the board, the team lost 11-4.

Lane sophomores Matt Taylor, Boehm and Coffman started the game with three straight singles but Taylor was the only one able to navigate around the bases and scored on a passed ball while Boehm and Coffman were left stranded.

The lead was short-lived as Lower Columbia struck in the bottom of the third inning with five runs, four of those coming on a grand slam by sophomore second baseman Bret Bitow.

The Red Devils finished adding to their lead before Lane sophomore Andrew Tracey drove a 1-0 pitch over the outfield fence for a three-run homerun in the top of the eighth inning. Those runs would be the final runs scored for the game and the Titans were unable to muster up anything in the ninth inning.

Boehm went 2-for-4 in the game while Tracey went 1-for-1 with three RBIs.

LANE vs. EDMONDS: GAME 4

Hoping to salvage a victory, the Titans met the Edmonds Tritons again for the last game of the weekend. Lane was held scoreless for the second time in three games, this time falling 3-0.

The Tritons got on the scoreboard with a run in the second inning off Lane's starting pitcher, sophomore ace Colben McGuire. That would be the only run Edmonds was able to score against McGuire, as he pitched four scoreless innings after that.

Lane was held to three hits in the game, two of those coming from freshman centerfielder Tylor DuMileu. Sophomore third baseman Daniel Copeland added the final hit for the Titans.

McGuire's stat line was six innings pitched, one run on four hits with eight strikeouts.

PREVIEW

The Titans finish up the preseason with eight more games. They will meet the Clark College Penguins (6-4) for two doubleheaders the weekend of March 16 and 17. The first two games will be held in Vancouver, Wash., while the next day's games will be the first home games of the season for Lane.

Lane travels on March 23 to Tacoma, Wash., to take on the Bulldogs and the Tacoma Community College Titans (4-2). The first game is set for 1 p.m. against Bellevue with the Tacoma game to follow a half hour after the final pitch.

The Titans travel to Lakewood, Wash., March 24 for games against the Pierce Community College Raiders (5-3) and the Bellevue Bulldogs once again. The Raiders are the defending NWAACC Champions and currently ranked eighth in the NWAACC polls. First pitch against Pierce is set for 1 p.m. with the game against Bellevue to follow.



BRETT STANLEY / THE TORCH

The Soromundi Lesbian Chorus of Eugene performing March 9 in the Ragazzino Performance Hall. The chorus performed several songs by pop culture icons interspersed with members speaking about their experiences as lesbians.

Soromundi opens up to Lane

By MICHELLE EVENS
Reporter

Lane played host to Soromundi, Eugene's lesbian chorus, March 9 in the Ragazzino performance Hall. Soromundi is an all-female choir, with women between 20 and 85 years of age.

The performance included music for practically every age group, with a set list ranging from "Let It Be" by The Beatles, to more modern songs like "Born This Way" by Lady Gaga, and even adding world music with a Ndebele folk song that originated in Zimbabwe called "Shosholoza."

A sign language specialist was at the side of the stage, making sure even deaf audience members were

able to understand and enjoy the performance.

Between songs, Soromundi members detailed stories of hardship.

"I just wish people would relax and stop hating," one said in a speech. "My best friend came out to her dad and he kicked her out. My mom was pretty tolerant when I came out to her. But I want a little more than that for my children. Maybe we can make this a better place for our children."

Karm Hicks, the founder and co-director of Soromundi, spoke about the reasons she formed the choir. Years ago, Hicks gained inspiration for Soromundi while watching the Portland Lesbian Chorus Choir in a gay pride parade in Portland.

"The time was right for lesbians to gather, and even though it sounds corny, to lift our voice in song in order for our message to be heard," Hicks said.

For many, Soromundi is not just a choir that meets up each week. It's more of a congregation of sisters, meeting up to share something they love.

"(Soromundi) is like an extended family," Angie Riley said. "I live 200 miles away from a family that are more conservative."

Riley has been with the choir for 12 years.

The proceeds for the concert benefited the Lane Gender and Sexuality Alliance and Soromundi's "Be The Change" upcoming tour, with performances scheduled April 17 to 20 throughout Oregon and Washington.

Lane chamber choir brings rock, melisma

By MICHELLE EVENS
Reporter

Three Lane choirs performed everything from sea shanties to Beatles mashups during a concert that brought many audience members to their feet at the end-of-term performance March 7.

Members of the Lane chamber choir, concert choir and gospel choir have been working hard throughout the term to prepare for this end of the term performance.

"Be prepared to be on your feet... once you stand up, you might as well not sit back down," DJ Luna, a performer in both the concert and gospel choir, said before the performance.

The chamber choirs performed a set list of a few "songs of the sea," a variety of pieces dating back as far as 1838. Three of the four songs had to do with the ways of the sea. One was a revised round of "Drunken Sailor,"

with an added end verse. The only song that was the fish out of water was "Papa Loko," a traditional upbeat Haitian song. When translated, the song is asking Papa Loko, the wind, to carry the singers as butterflies to Agwe, the spirit of the sea.

Matthew Svobada, director of the Lane chamber choir, announced that the chamber choir will be taking a small tour next March 19 at 9 a.m. to sing for four local high schools in the area.

Luna gave a speech to help transition the performance from the concert choir to the gospel choir.

"These choirs have worked hard to prepare for this concert. And this night, their hard work clearly paid off," said Debi Noel, who performed with the concert choir.

The Lane concert choir performed of a mashup of the Beatles' greatest works. A slide show of the Beatles was shown throughout the performance, with DJ

Luna describing the history of the Beatles between songs. For their ending piece, the Lane concert choir switched things up a bit with Queen's "Bohemian Rhapsody."

The Lane gospel choir performed last.

"You don't have to be a Christian to be in gospel choir. It's more of a life experience than a religious experience," Jessica Smith-James said. Smith-James is an open atheist and a part of Lane's gospel choir.

The gospel choir's performance raised the roof as well as spirits, with each member's contagious enthusiasm and energy bringing many to their feet. Apart from singing, Enrique Gomez started off his solo in Spanish, with a speech that was delivered in Spanish as well. Every song they performed was upbeat and spiritual.

Approximately 280 people attended the performance, proceeds of which went directly towards funding student scholarships.



BRETT STANLEY / THE TORCH

Dr. Stanley Coleman as Paul Robeson details a moment in his life to the audience in the Ragozzino Performance Hall during a performance of the one-man play March 8. The play chronicles the life of Robeson before he is deemed a communist by the House Un-American Activities Committee during the Red Scare of the 1950s.

Robeson rocks the Ragozzino

Lane instructor revives Broadway play

REVIEW BY KYLE WEBB
Features Editor

Language, Literature and Communication instructor Dr. Stanley Coleman had the audience clapping and singing along March 8 as he portrayed Paul Robeson in the Ragozzino Performance Hall.

This one-man play, *Paul Robeson*, chronicles the life of New Jersey's Paul Robeson, an All-American athlete at Rutgers University and a lawyer with Columbia Law School credentials.

Robeson made a name for himself singing and performing in theater before being deemed a communist by the House Un-American Activities Committee.

Paul Robeson was revived on Broadway in 1988 and 1995 by producer Eric Krebs. Dr. Coleman has performed this play at Nicholls State Universities in Louisiana, Bowling Green University in Ohio and the Cobre Performing Arts Center in New Mexico before performing this rendition at Lane, which was directed by Carol Dennis.

From the opening song, "This Little Light of Mine," to the closing lines, Dr. Coleman displays his full repertoire as an accomplished actor. Singing, playing the piano and keeping the audience's attention seems hard enough. Dr. Coleman did it battling what seemed to be a cold and had no noticeable missteps.

The play itself, written by Phillip Hayes Dean and originally produced on Broadway in 1979 by Don Gregory, is a disjunct story that jumps days and years without warning, at times leaving the audience to fill in the blanks. Luckily, Dr. Coleman's bass vocals soothe your weary mind and assure you everything will be OK.

This play, while well-intentioned, paints a picture of Robeson as an infallible human with good in his heart at every waking moment, which is hard to believe when presented as fact.

The first act is playful and engaging as it follows Robeson from high school to Rutgers University, where he is met with racism, but deals with it in a humorous way.

"Hi there. Where is a place to get some food around here?" Robeson asks passing students as he gets off the trolley on the campus of Rutgers. He gets no response from the students.

"Well, hi there. My name is Rufus, the new busboy. Where are the dirty dishes?" he says to others. He is immediately pointed to the cafeteria as he laughs.

The climax comes in the end of act one when Robeson, fed-up with not being given any cases at his law firm because he is black, is offered a part in a friend's play, which he accepts with a push from his wife Essie. It's a push that "helps take off a layer," and Robeson becomes a new person.

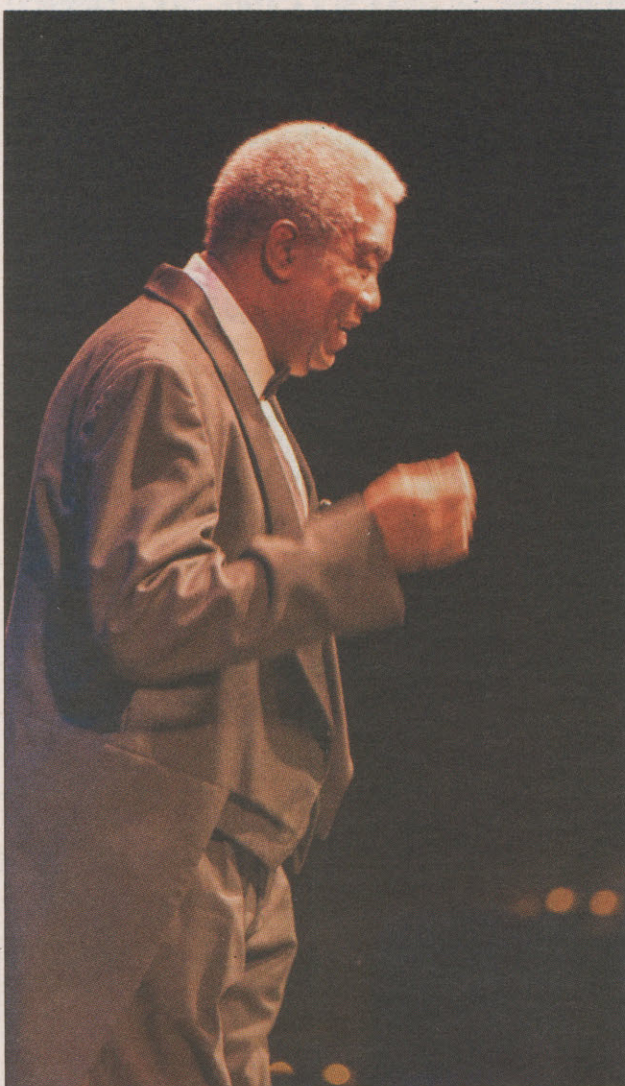
And so begins the life of activist and actor Robeson that closes out act one with a proclamation that he will no longer be the pretty face of black activism, but rather the voice and front runner of his time. Act two follows the execution of that proclamation abroad and back with Robeson performing and speaking out around the world, all while dealing with the fallout that it brings upon returning to the United States.

By the play's end Robeson is no longer the symbol he used to be, his honors from Rutgers stripped, his passport revoked and he is branded with the label of communist. He relinquishes the fate of black activism to the next one to rise in his place.

In his own words, "I am just Paul now."

“As an artist I come to sing, but as a citizen, I will always speak for peace, and no one can silence me in this.”

— Paul Robeson



BRETT STANLEY / THE TORCH

Dr. Stanley Coleman as Paul Robeson performing the play of the same name as the character during a performance March 8 in the Ragozzino Performance Hall. The play chronicles the life of Robeson before he is deemed a communist by the House Un-American Activities Committee during the Red Scare of the 1950s.

#BRIEFLY

#scholarshipdeadline

The Lane Foundation's scholarship deadline is March 14 at 8:59 p.m. Applications can be submitted online at <http://www.lanecc.edu/foundation/scholarshipopps.htm>.

#piday

The cafeteria will host a bake-off March 14 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Students can get a piece of pie by donating \$1 or two cans of food to FOOD for Lane County.

#boardofed

Lane's Board of Education will be holding its monthly meeting March 13 at 6:30 p.m. in the Building 3 board room.

#lootforlearning

The College Finance and Budget Subcommittee has invited all Lane students and faculty to attend an open forum on the budget for fiscal year 2014 on March 14 at 3 p.m. in Building 17, Room 309. Based on current projections, the college is facing a \$9 million gap.

#symphonicband

The Lane Symphonic Band

will perform March 14 at 7:30 p.m. in Ragazzino Performance Hall. Tickets are \$5 for general admission and \$3 for students and seniors.

#grandopening

Lane's downtown campus will have a formal grand opening March 15 at 1 p.m. There will be presentations, a ribbon-cutting ceremony and appetizers.

#jazzhands

The Lane Jazz Band and Spectrum Jazz choir will be in concert March 15 at 7:30 p.m. in Ragazzino Performance Hall. Tickets cost \$5 for general admission and \$3 for students and seniors.

#shakespeare

The Student Productions Association will be performing its end-of-term Shakespeare Showcase March 16 with shows at 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. Admission is free, but donations are welcome.

#studentsforlife

The council of clubs approved a \$330 funds request

to Lane Students for Life for travel to Salem.

#yellfire!

Fire alarms will go through routine testing on Lane campus during spring break. Between March 25 and March 29 Buildings 1, 2, 3, 6, 16, 17, 18 and 19 are scheduled for testing between the hours of 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

#fec

The Fitness Education Center will remain open Monday through Thursday during finals week during the hours of 6:30 to 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

#doubleheader

The Lane Titans baseball team will be playing their first home game of the season against Clark College March 16. The first game is set for 1 p.m. while the second game gets underway a half hour after the conclusion of the first game.

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OSA presents rationale for fee increase

By TAYA ALAMI
News Editor

Lane's student government voted unanimously to recommend a 10-cent activity fee increase to benefit the Oregon Student Association during its regular meeting March 6.

If the Lane Board of Education and student body approve the increase, OSA will receive \$2.54 per student, with students paying a \$48.50 student activity fee.

ASLCC President Merriam Weatherhead is the chair of directors for the OSA.

"We think this is going to be really crucial," Weatherhead said. "OSA provides a lot of services to Lane Community College and a lot of benefits for students."

Lane is the only community college that's a member of the Oregon Student Association.

OSA Executive Director Emily McClain gave a budget presentation to the student government during the March 6 ASLCC meeting, moments before the senate voted for the increase.

"We believe very fundamen-

tally that students should be involved with the decisions that impact them," McClain said.

ASLCC Multicultural Programs Coordinator Anayeli Jimenez encouraged her peers to support the recommendation.

"I owe a lot to the Oregon Student Association," Jimenez said.


Jimenez said she completed a part-time OSA internship with the OSA in Summer 2012.

"The Oregon Student Association has been a huge impact in my college experience because it has given me the skills and the training that I hold onto now to be the best leader that I can for you all," she said.

Also during the meeting, the student government ratified a member of the student finance board, Andrew Ngyuen.

"I look forward to working with all of you," Ngyuen said. "I believe in all the things we work for, accountability and transparency."

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