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Presidential picks



The Oakland Post / Steve Szocik

Ronnie Barksdale, James Bryant and Tony Howard vote for Student Congress president Friday aided by Derek Wilczynski and Cheryl Talbot.

Michigan student group sets agenda

By CLAUDINE DeLAZZER
Staff Writer

Troubled by such issues as tuition increases, lack of adequate financial aid and civil rights infringements, the Michigan Collegiate Coalition (MCC), Michigan's state student association, met recently to discuss possible solutions.

"Right now I would say our number one priority is for funds to become available for the students, especially the middle-class, who really need the money," said Tamara

Boatright of Eastern Michigan University, MCC's chair.

"Right now a lot of students can't afford the cost of tuition. What we're seeing is that 75 percent of all financial aid is going to private school students," she said.

"What we'd like to see is those funds being opened up so that it would work on an entitlement program, like social security, making every needy student entitled to receive funds," continued Boatright.

Also discussed were non-academic codes of conduct, a source of

concern for all the universities, especially those integrated within cities, such as U of M and Michigan State.

According to Boatright, issues involving universities asserting themselves into the private lives of students are becoming more common.

"I think the problem is partially a backlash of the sixties' concept. Most of our administrators now are from sixties and remember all the rucus that students made when they came together. I think they're worried now, especially since students are becoming more concious politically,

environmentally and socially. They saw what students were able to do when they battled the administrators in the sixties and are attempting to avoid that today," said Todd Palmer of U of M Dearborn, MCC's governor.

"Infringment of student's rights isn't happening as blatantly here as on other campuses," said Holly Lashbrook of OU, secretary of MCC. "Right now we don't have any off-campus codes of conduct which I think is largely due to the fact we're

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Campus gets new computer system

By DIANE DEMPSEY
Staff Writer

A new system linking computers with fiber optic cables will enable users to communicate easier with other computers on campus, according to Robert Robinson, director of computer information systems.

The cables, linked between Dodge Hall and Kresge Library since March, are connected to three Digital Equipment Corporation (DEC) mid-sized VAX system mainframe computers.

The DEC system can produce 1.2 million characters per second in comparison to Honeywell Multics, the system installed at the university in 1979, which could only produce 960 characters per second, Robinson said.

Characters per second represents the number of letters and spaces that can be sent to another part of the campus or world in one second.

"It's not possible to maintain a modern university without modern computer equipment," Robinson said.

The Honeywell Multics system has become obsolete, Robinson said. "The machine is totally out of date. It's practically a different world," he said.

William Connellan, associate provost, said, "There has been a strong interest for five or six years to improve the academic computing, but it wasn't until a year ago that we were able to put everything together."

A committee which looked at a

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Recent OU graduates earn national honors

By MARIE ALLEN
and ELIZABETH REGHI
Staff Writers

In late September, Kathy Booker and Mary Ann Reed, two recent OU graduates, received the Sallie Mae Award in recognition of their outstanding performance for their first year of teaching.

According to Nancy Murphy of the Student Loan Marketing Association, the award is presented to

100 first-year teachers across the country. Murphy said that Booker and Reed were the only two teachers in Michigan to receive the award.

"We are very proud that the only two people who received the award in Michigan both come from here (OU)," said Gerald Pine, dean of the School of Human and Educational Services. "It reflects very well on our program."

"It is extraordinary when you con-

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Proper attire



The Oakland Post / Steve Szocik

Dr. Mary Ann Bednarski and Laura Morris bundle up for fall's chills

Difficulty expected in Hispanic hiring

By KERI KOWALSKI
Staff Writer

Oakland University is increasing its efforts in the hiring of Hispanic faculty and staff in accordance with Operation Graduation, according to the director of the office of equal opportunity, but difficulty locating qualified applicants may slow the process.

"The university has always encouraged job applicants from Hispanics, but looking at our past data we recognize the need to intensify attempts," said Catherine Rush.

"It will take some time to be successful on this issue. Hiring is hard work. I don't expect to see a flood of Hispanic applicants, but if we continue

to work hard at it, we will see the fruits of our efforts in the next few years."

Operation Graduation is a plan laid down by the University and minority student leaders in improving multicultural relations on campus. One goal under this plan is the hiring of more minority faculty.

There are five full-time tenured faculty members, three part-time instructors and nine other employees of Hispanic heritage, according to October 1989 data from the Office of Equal Opportunity.

According to the August 26 issue of the Detroit Free Press the number of new Ph.D.s has declined by about five percent from 1979 to 1989. Rush expects that this will make hiring

even more difficult.

To help find Hispanic Ph.D. holders, Rush consults volumes of books listing minority doctorates. Close tracking and monitoring by her office locates possible candidates. Rush also keeps in close contact with colleges and universities with a high enrollment of Hispanics.

An obstacle Rush said she is facing is high competition among universities vying for minority professors.

Rush stated that while the number of Ph.D.s is declining, enrollment of Hispanics in elementary and secondary education are booming.

"By the year 2020, Hispanics will be the largest minority in the country," said Dr. Eugene Henderson,

Ombudsman for the Michigan Department of Education, Office of Minority Equality. "Universities throughout the country are being faced with this issue."

Henderson said that schools must be more creative and persistent in attracting faculty of color. He also suggested universities begin grooming current students to fill these positions in time.

"Traditional hiring methods will not work. Hiring will be difficult, but if it is looked upon as a challenge and not a problem one will be more successful," said Henderson.

Esther Martinez, president of RAICES, a Hispanic student organization said that ethnic diversity is

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Tight space may cause library move

Congress, students voice concern over fate of PAL

By STEVE TSCHIRHART
News Editor

As students expressed concern over the possibility of the Performing Arts Library (PAL) relocating to Kresge, Student Congress Monday resolved to gather more information on the subject.

"We don't have any facts and we're doing some fact gathering," Laurie Rutkowski, Student Congress steering chair, said.

She said many rumors have been circulating and Congress will work to "find out where the administration stands."

Congress was handed a petition at the meeting signed by 70 students "to demonstrate our opposition to its (PAL's) closing."

In correspondence made available to the Post between John Urice, dean of the college of arts and sciences, and William Harris, chairperson of the music, theatre and dance (MTD) student committee of departmental affairs, Harris asked Urice to clarify the college's stand on the issue.

"...We feel that it is important for us to know exactly what negotiations are taking place in this matter so that we can voice our opinion in an informed fashion," the Oct. 1 letter read.

Urice replied three days later. He wrote, "Oakland's administration reserves the right to assign and remove space as current circumstances require."

"This is one of many space issues that is being made by the campus, not the college of arts and sciences," Urice said Wednesday.

"There's no plan to do anything at this point."

Urice said that current consideration about space availability on campus led to the speculation of relocation for the library, but no "serious consultation" has occurred.

However, in a memorandum from Urice to Robert Facko, chair of the department of music, theatre and dance dated August 21, 1990, Urice wrote, "...There is indeed active consideration of moving the PAL to

Kresge."

He said he gave his encouragement to "further assessment" but would consider other alternatives.

"The PAL offers a highly viable—indeed, the best—option to reduce some of the space crisis in other units and buildings of the college. While I recognize that the department probably would like to maintain the PAL in its current form and place, such continuances would be a luxury in these times of tight budgets and even tighter space," the memo read in part.

Vice-Provost George Dahlgren said, "There is a lot of discussion about that (the possible move)," but felt many students were "overly concerned."

"Part of our responsibility to the state is to use our space wisely," he said.

Urice said, "We have a terrible shortage of classroom space and offices for our faculty," noting an "acute problem" in Wilson Hall.

"The entire campus has tremendous space problems," Jane Briggs-Bunting, chairperson of the department of rhetoric, communications and journalism, said.

"At the beginning of the year, I had 23 faculty and one office to put them in," she said, adding that all part-time and full-time faculty in communications and journalism share offices.

"There is no bloodier a battle around here (than) for office space," she said.

According to Carol Lamb, accountant and financial analyst for Meadow Brook Theatre and Festival, the managing director of the music festival and the cultural affairs director for OU are doubled-up in space in Wilson Hall, a situation that will be remedied when other office space is cleared within the week.

Another employee returning from a leave will complicate matter further, she said.

"At this point, we'll do what we have to do," she said.

Several departments contacted noted no serious space problems.

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