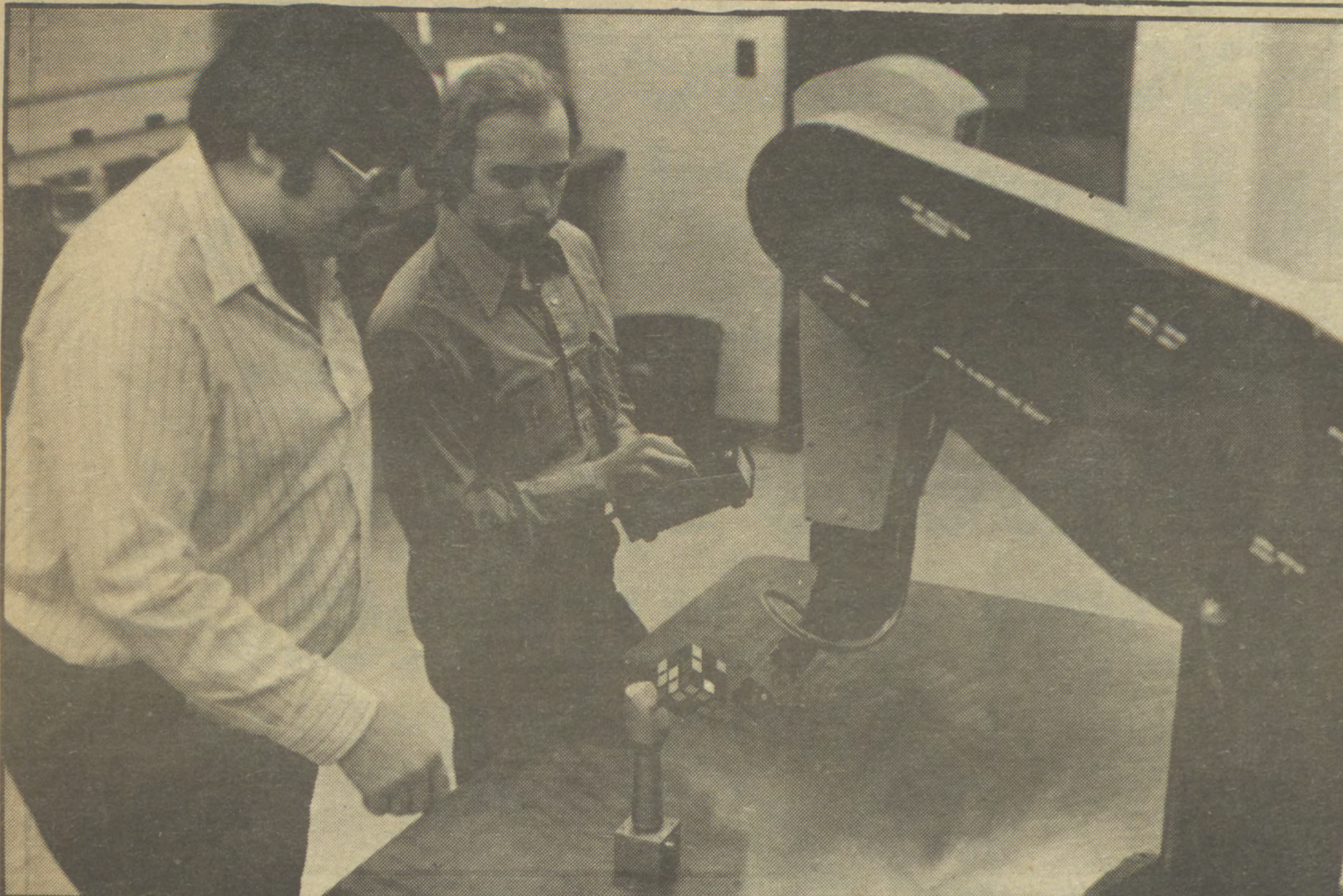


THE OAKLAND SAIL

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Assistant Professor of Engineering Robert Judd watches Wayne Jones of Auburn Hills send commands to a robot control arm in the Dodge Hall robotics laboratory. The Oakland Sail/Bob Knoska

Fall tuition rates remain in limbo

By DEAN STANLEY
Staff Writer

A tuition increase for the fall semester is still undecided because of delays in the state legislature, but it is not totally out of the question.

Governor Blanchard's efforts to freeze tuition at state schools by partially withholding additional funding has not affected many state institutions or OU.

The increased appropriation to OU would total, at best, 10 percent more than last year's funding. Even with the 10 percent increase OU would have a \$2 million deficit, half of which would be offset by an extra \$1 million carried over from this past year, according to Budget Director Patrick Nicosia.

"We have not ruled out a tuition increase. If all we get (from the state) is 10 percent, there may be an increase," Nicosia said.

Several factors affect a possible tuition increase. The 10 percent appropriations increase is not enough to avoid a deficit at OU, and other schools are considering tuition increases in spite of the governor's attempt to freeze costs to students.

Michigan State University, the University of Michigan, Saginaw Valley State College, and Grand Valley State College are also considering increases to avoid running into the red in September.

Nicosia said that the final decision rests with the president and the Board of Trustees.

"We don't know if we'll have a tuition increase; we haven't ruled it out. (Our situation) is more complicated (than at other institutions) because we get less state appropriations per full-time student," he said.

(See Tuition, page 3)

Robotics conference gets attention Researchers nation-wide to present ideas

By DEAN STANLEY
Staff Writer

The Center for Robotics and Advanced Automation has added extra momentum to the technological wave engulfing the university.

A conference that last year brought many industry, government, and academic researchers involved in artificial intelligence and robotics to OU, is expected to attract about 300 people this April 24 and 25.

The co-chairmen, Professors Nan K. Loh and Donald R. Falkenburg, have spent almost seven months preparing for the two-day conference, titled "Intelligent Systems and Machines."

The conference will cover practically every facet of robotics and artificial intelligence. From Robotic

Task Planning to Pattern Recognition and Simulation Tools and Applications, the program will be filled with informational sessions, each containing four to five individual reports.

The researchers come from all around the U.S. and the world, with over 100 papers to be presented at the conference. Professor Loh said it has made OU's name well known in robotics research.

This conference and last year's "really put OU's name on the map. It has improved our reputation as a research institute," said Loh.

Loh's goal for OU to "provide leadership" in the field of robotics is far from being realized just yet, but he said that "many think we are the leaders."

He believes that, with the new high-tech industrial

park and the conferences, OU could "make good use of this opportunity" and make a name for itself.

To Loh, establishing a working relationship with industry and "riding the high-tech wave" are important to the school and the nation.

"You have to be timely," he said. Being slow or behind the competition is not good, according to Loh.

He pointed out that the American auto industry slowed down for five to ten years and "the Japanese almost wiped us out."

(See Robotics, page 3)

Senate vote reduces student representation

The University Senate passed two motions last Thursday, effectively reducing the amount of student representation on two campus committees.

Senate members voted 19-18 for a change in the make-up of voting members in the restructured Academic Policy and Planning Committee (APPC).

A second motion, calling for a change in the number of voting members on the University Committee on Undergraduate Instruction (UCUI), was overwhelmingly approved with a small amount of (student) senate members voting against the change.

Voting membership in the APPC remained the same, but the ratio of voting students to other voting members was reduced from four out of 12 to two students out of 12.

The total number of voting committee members in the UCUI, formerly a subcommittee of the APPC, dropped from seven to 10, while the number of voting student members went from four to two.

Bob McClory, University Congress President who also sits on the University Senate, said that there were three reasons given why student representation was being reduced:

- 1) To bring the APPC and UCUI in line with student representation in other campus committees.
- 2) Lack of student participation.
- 3) A desire for faculty

(See Senate, page 3)

Two students to receive award for race relations

Two recipients for the Sidney Fink Memorial Award were selected last week, from 12 nominees, recognizing their contributions to race relations.

The award, which will be presented to Lonnel Coats and Elliot Rosenbaum this fall, is in honor of the late Sidney Fink and his commitment to improving race relations.

Robert S. Fink, director of

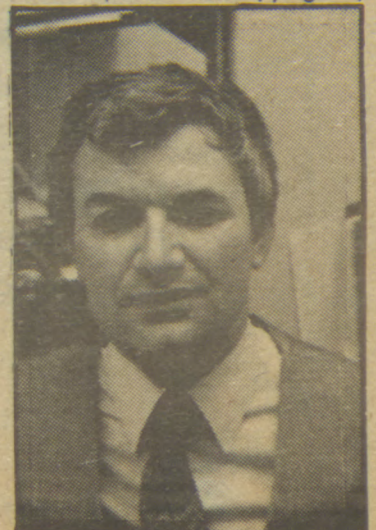
the Counseling Center, is the sponsor of the award, which will be awarded each fall semester to two students

(See Award, page 3)

INSIDE

•Japanese exchange student compares OU; see page 5.

•A year in OU sports; see pages 8 and 9.



Budget Director
Patrick Nicosia

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Award

(continued from page 1)
 who have shown their own commitment to improving race relations.

Coats and Rosenbaum were selected by a committee of faculty and staff from 12 nominations from faculty, staff and students.

Coats, a sophomore and Pre-Management major, is president of the Association of Black Students and a member of University Congress. He has "consistently and willingly worked

to create direct communication lines with black and white students," according to the Office of Student Life, which administers the award.

Rosenbaum, a junior majoring in Public Administration and Political Science, has been a major planner of the "religious caravans" which brought Jewish and Christian students together at services in both a Jewish synagogue and a black Protestant church.

The awards will be presented at a ceremony in

the fall, and each consists of a certificate and a \$50 check.

This is the first year that

the award has been given but Fink has said that he would like it to

"become an institution at Oakland."

Rise in faculty salaries slowing

(CPS)—Faculty salaries went up again this year, but not as rapidly as in the past, a new survey of the college teaching profession has found.

The average faculty salary has gone up 5.7 percent since the 1982-83 school year, the American Association of University Professors (AAUP) found in preliminary

results from its annual study of how much college teachers make.

But faculty salaries went up 7.9 percent in 1982-83, and 9.9 percent in 1981-82.

AAUP spokeswoman Iris Molotsky attributed the slowing rate of increases to the declining amounts of money state legislatures give to colleges.

When academic funds are tight, "there's a tendency to give flat sums across the board" to faculty members, she pointed out. In practice, that would mean there's less of a salary difference between full and associate professors.

Over the last two years, however, administrators have said the major reason they had to raise tuition much faster than the inflation rate is because they must pay faculty members more.

A recent College Board study contended faculty buying power is now less than it was in 1972.

Asked to explain why student tuition is being raised in order to pay faculty

members more even as faculty salary increases slow down, Molotsky said, "I can't."

Faculty members at private colleges did slightly better than those at public campuses, the survey found.

Independent college teachers got average raises of 7.6 percent. Their colleagues on public campuses got increases averaging five percent.

In general, assistant professors got raises about one percent higher than what full professors got, and about half a percent higher than associate professors' raises.

The AAUP won't release actual average salaries until June.

Last year, it found salaries at universities averaged \$31,010, while salaries at colleges without grad schools averaged \$22,890.

The average overall salary at public colleges was \$27,860, compared to the average wage of \$28,680 at independent colleges in 1982-83.

Tuition

(continued from page 1)

Under the governor's plan, any tuition rate increase will cut "bonus" funds to the institution. Nicosia said that the legislature may override the governor and allow schools "modest increases" without forfeiture of the bonus money.

He added that any tuition increase at OU would be less than 10 percent, "nothing like the double-digit increases (students) have been seeing (in past years)."

One other possibility Nicosia mentioned would be partial or total repayment of \$1.4 million which has accrued from various Executive Orders in the past. An Executive Order essentially

allows the governor to take back what the legislature appropriates.

Nicosia said that the legislature was talking about repaying at least some of that money, which could help OU avoid a tuition increase like those planned at other schools.

Without that and with only a 10 percent increase over appropriations from last year, the university would end up with a \$1 million deficit; a tuition increase would be the only other solution besides running in the red.

Nicosia could not remember the last time the university was in a deficit at the beginning of an academic year.

Senate

(continued from page 1)

members to be in the majority.

McClory said that the first reason was not valid.

He said the percentage of students on other university committees is around 30 percent including, until Thursday's vote, the APPC and the UCUI.

McClory added that the students are "not trying to overthrow the university we're trying to keep what we have."

He said that he would not have minded the second motion vote if there had been some reasons from the

other senate members who were in favor of the reduction in student representation.

The UCUI was responsible for eliminating the Academic Progress Indicator (API) from use. Faculty senate members seemed to think that students would be reluctant to vote on policies that could adversely affect other students, such as graduation requirements and the API.

One faculty senate member, though, suggested that students are sometimes tougher on policies affecting other students.

Robotics

(continued from page 1)

OU's reputation in the area of robotics, which Loh feels is the coming thing, will get even better than it is now.

"If we're going to make a name for ourselves this is the time. If we miss out this time there may be no second chance," Loh said.

The conference will be held in O'Dowd Hall.

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