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A tour of PSU
sustainability

Spotlight on
the V-Team

Free speech
defended by FIRE

PORTLAND

Spectator

Volume 8, Issue 3, December 2009

MAGAZINE

One Pill Makes You Smarter

So-called brain enhancing drugs are being abused. Here's why self-medicating with Adderall for cramming is a bad, and even dangerous, idea.

The Portland Spectator believes that the academic environment should be an open forum, where there is a chance for rational and prudent conservative arguments to be heard. We encourage the expression of diverse ideology to promote thought-provoking discussions.

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The Portland Spectator accepts letters to the editor and commentaries from students, faculty and staff at Portland State University. Please limit your letters to 300 words when possible.

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Dear Readers,

To my mind the most important feature of any press organization is independence—without it, we've failed the basic test of trust and credibility. These past months have tested the staff of this magazine as our investigating efforts have sometimes been met with road-blocks and even censure, making for some difficult work.

However, I am reminded of the spirit of our mission and the mission of the student incidental fee, which funds our magazine: to engage in the marketplace of ideas. This concept, that ideas exist freely in open discourse, is as old as Socrates, but became an important founding principle of this nation's higher education.

Thomas Jefferson wrote of his beloved University of Virginia in 1820, saying, "This institution will be based upon the illimitable freedom of the human mind. For here we are not afraid to follow truth wherever it may lead, nor to tolerate any error so long as reason is left free to combat it." Later, the U.S. Supreme Court upheld the principle citing the metaphor that a classroom is the "marketplace of ideas."

Keeping this part of the market open and viable is our magazine's job, but stocking the shelves is your job. This month I was excited to find letters from student readers written as critical responses to arguments made in these pages—a first this year. I'd also like to say, feel free to contact us with your story ideas, tips, or anything you feel an independent examination would benefit from. As another service to students, this is what we offer: independent, frank examinations into issues that matter to you, while playing host to the debate that naturally follows. Let us know how we're doing.

Sincerely,

Joe Wirtheim
Editor-in-Chief
2009-2010



Above: Lady Viking Dominika Kristinikova serves against Northern Colorado November 13.

Photo by Clara Rodriguez
Left: Rearguard versus Spectator distro bins in the parkblocks. *Photo by Joe Wirtheim*



Below: PSU President Wim Wiewel speaks to the ASPSU senate, November 17. *Photo by Clara Rodriguez*



Letters



Letters

I'd like to note this momentous occasion: this is the first time in about a year *The Spectator* has received letters.

Keep them coming, please!

— Joe Wirtheim, Editor-in-Chief

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What Have You Done For Me Lately, ASPSU?

Editor—

... shared governance is less intense than it sounds. Most decisions at PSU are made by a slew of committees consisting of ten or so administrators and one or two students. In the past, students appointed to these committees were often unprepared and tokenized. This year we're working to increase the ratio of students to administrators and to ensure that student appointees are trained and prepared before throwing them into a meeting room. In this and everything else we do, we're developing new leaders.

And finally, we are working to gain access to information that could impact students at PSU and events where they lack representation. ASPSU is a legally mandated state organization so our right to such access is indeed based in Oregon law. Our goals here are to improve transparency and to engender more collaboration between ASPSU and PSU's administration, not to antagonize or to ride coattails.

—Ed Hallman

Administrative Director, ASPSU

What Happened To Food For Thought?

Editor—

If this article ["What Happened to Food For Thought?" November 2009] attempts to reveal the unsustainability of this establishment, it should provide far more evidence than Food For Thought [FFT] straying from its mission to source nonlocal foods. What about the project's successes of being entirely student established and run, providing some of the only non-corporatized and non-privatized options on campus, offering the only truly healthy and organic foods on campus, dramatically reducing waste, reusing of materials, providing an in-house student gallery, providing fair wages to employees, and setting a model for innovation of student projects and experimentation. This is indeed sustainable, and I do not consider these achievements without merit or the participants' losers.

The truth: FFT is a student run initiative that has overrun its budget, is stressed with an unconventional management organization, and struggling to survive without firm leadership. A far more interesting read would entail a fair analysis of why the non-hierarchical management system is struggling, the trials of the students involved and their mistakes along the way.

—Stephanie Stettler

Editor—

That's it? That's all you've got? An out-of-context quote, a disgruntled employee, and a few cherry-picked examples is supposed to deny the legitimacy of the entire project, the very core of an anti-hierarchical philosophy? And the under-supported claims don't even begin to address the ones you completely pulled out of your ass - like that a horizontal decision-making model "stifles individuality," or that the menu is "unremarkable." I quite like it. Apparently, given that you claim to eat there three times a week, so do you.

...what's this about "another dollar or two per plate won't kill us?" If they did charge more per plate, you'd look down your noses at them because they're overcharging and proving that the organic food movement is the domain of the wealthy. We just can't win in your eyes: if "green" food is expensive, we're damned yuppies, and if it's cheap because we try to subsidize it somehow and make it available to everyone, we're filthy hippies. I'd rather be a self-righteous egalitarian than a self-righteous classist asshole, but then, that probably doesn't concern you overly much.

—Aaron Baker

Editor's Response

I've heard the joke in Portland that the person who poured your off-campus coffee this morning probably has at least a bachelor's degree, maybe even a master's. Now they're pulling espresso shots to manage the loan payments. Somewhere, there are probably facts on that, but personally, I'm concerned that FFT last year had been a training ground for that sad post-college barista. It doesn't have to be sad, though, and instead could be and should be elevated to another education supplement helping students prepare themselves to make a difference in the food-coffee industry (I do mean that seriously). And this year, there are some surefire signs that the passionate group of students who serve about 300 to 350 people before noon each day are redoubling their efforts to make it work after all.

First, we should be clear about why we chose to cover this story and run last month's editorial commentary, "What Happened to Food For Thought?" [November 2009]. Basically, we saw a number of troubling trends during the course of our investigation; an investigation that entailed review of documents submitted to the Student Fee Committee (SFC) over the last few years, a budget analysis on Banner, the PSU budgeting system, and interviews with FFT staffers, SFC members, and Student Activities and Leadership Programs (SALP) advisors. As a publicly funded organization, all of this information is openly available.

Number one was the discovery of the October 2009 letter from FFT attached to their budget-overage forgiveness request to the SFC. Besides asking for \$18,000 to be forgiven out of the \$33,995 the café went over budget last year, it described a troubling set of policies and a culture of mismanagement for years that is only just now being addressed.

Second, SFC documents showed that the café received \$16,270 in 2008-2009, and then requested \$137,000 for the 2009-2010 year without any specific use for the large increase; except the stated goal of paying all staff \$12.50 an hour (currently staff earn \$9.50 an hour). They were initially granted \$98,714, but eventually received only \$55,023 after across the board cuts - which were applied to all student groups - but here's the thing: asking for that kind of money during the period of "lax management" raises the question of the staff's priority. Is it serving local food, or collecting more hourly wages?

Next, we saw in a typical month, November 2008, 62 percent of supply expenditures went to Food Services of America. The sixth-largest food distributor in the U.S. is hardly the poster child of sustainability. Their headquarters are in Scottsdale, Arizona and they maintain a local distribution warehouse in Woodburn—not exactly what one has in mind when we think "local food."

Fourth red flag: during last year and in years past, the 31 person staff had enjoyed free food at any time. This is above and beyond most restaurants' policies of one meal per shift. This policy has recently been corrected, but the question lingers, did FFT staff literally eat themselves into an overage last year? Let's hope not.

Lastly, shifts were unenforced in years past, so just imagine: "need extra cash? Just stay late and do whatever." Anyone who has worked a job with an absent manager knows the game. Couple this with 20 person staff meetings, paid, going for hours twice a month, and the cost of labor begins to take off exponentially. Few student groups get paid hourly—let alone for their staff meetings.

The flags began to paint a picture of a group who brings in cash everyday (and by admission had poor cash handling procedures), while also having a growing appetite for student fees, and who had over time eschewed PSU faculty supervision. Only this year have we seen some kind of expert step in to offer advice and structure, like Blake Robins, an experienced restaurant manager.

It's true that a couple of stinkers can ruin it for everyone, and FFT staff member Ara Nelson spoke of how the ten people who left at the end of last year represented the worst elements. Still, our concern was that a culture had brewed at FFT that was cliquish and comfortable, keeping away new people and their new ideas.

Making a Clean Break

Again and again, the FFT staff I spoke with indicated their clean break from last year's performance. The shock of having the doors locked for nearly two weeks at the beginning of fall term, along with frank demands from SALP advisors seems to have caused FFT staff people to realize the gravity of the situation.

When I visited an FFT staff meeting in mid-October, I saw a fairly organized operation with a clear administrating person, and an attentive, friendly group of about ten staffers—not bad, for a student group. I'm actually pretty confident in the spirit of FFT staffers to begin expanding their vision. It's focusing in on details and then meeting the challenge that is the hard part—but that's where leaders come in.

I felt the non-hierarchy management could get in the way of the mission, but I do not want to imply a return to the feudal system. In fact, there are lots of models here at PSU that work with the nature of a university where there are always incoming young people and outgoing senior people. The Recs Clubs Council is an easy example of offering a tiered system of involvement, where student leaders are cultivated, and whom only the best, most successful leaders join a small council group of seniors that oversees the whole operation before graduating. It isn't hard to imagine overlaying something like this upon Food For Thought.

Furthermore, consensus management is a fundamental technique used throughout this university: in administrative committees, in research groups, and elsewhere. There's a lot to know about consensus management. Much of it can be learned right here at PSU.

Share the Vision

For inspiration, look at the Office of Sustainability: in 2004 it was really just an ad hoc group of students who decided to take out the recycling—a campus first at the time. Now, it's an integrated part of the university right under the Office of Finance and Administration. In the future, say a couple years, FFT could be the mechanism to take over the food service operations at this university. Imagine that. What ground work needs to be done now to make that happen in the future?

As much as FFT would like to, they can't make it alone. It's going to take a mix of their own initiative in re-articulating the mission, recruiting hands-on advisors, and getting support from SALP advisors, the SFC, and PSU administrators. Even an acknowledgement from PSU President Wim Wiewel about the importance of food systems as part of his sustainability vision could help the café get the boost they need to turn their dream of an exemplary catering operation into a reality. Perhaps taking on the job of catering the Midnight Breakfast events put on by the Programming Board would prove their abilities.

This is a school devoted to cultivating leaders, refining skills, and making innovators in their field. Opportunities created with student fees, like FFT, are part of that formula. My question is, when will the students involved expand their vision of what the café can be, and see beyond the hurdles? Together with some attention from the right faculty people, and informed by the Portland food and farm community, there is a great potential for an amazing success story here at PSU. I just hope that everyone involved feels the significance of what they're doing and that even their little café in this big city is still important—and we're expecting big, tasty things from them.

—Joe Wirtheim
Editor in Chief

NEWS IN BRIEF

By Vincent Berretta

The Cost of an Education or No Way! We Won't Pay!

CNN.com reports that students at several California universities are holding sit-in protests in response to proposed tuition increases. In mid-November students at the UC Davis, UC Berkeley and UC Santa Cruz campuses showed their disapproval of these increases as they took over administrative buildings and blocked parking garages. Nearly fifty students were arrested at UC Davis and Berkeley and were cited for trespassing. At the time of print, students at UC Santa Cruz were in their third day of protesting an increase that will raise their tuition by \$2,000, an effort the administration calls "futile."

Hello? Is There Anybody Out There...?

Dave Deamer, a blogger for scientificblogging.com, has published a letter outlining the efforts of Joe Davis to contact extraterrestrial life. Joe Davis, is a research affiliate in the Department of Biology at MIT who on November 7, 2009 sent a message using the giant Arecibo Radio Telescope in Puerto Rico to send coded messages explaining earth's genetic make-up to three "nearby" stars. This transmission comes almost 35 years to the day when Carl Sagan and Frank Drake used the same telescope to send similar, albeit technically inferior messages. The letter has not been published by major news sources because, according to Davis, the formal scientific community would not approve of using the telescope for such "irrational" experiments.

Care For A Pot Smoke?

On November 13 at 4:20 p.m. Cannabis Café became the second marijuana lounge in the nation to open its doors. The first was in the back of Highway 420, which opened on October 1, weeks before Attorney General Eric Holder announced that federal authorities would no longer pursue marijuana users in states that have medical-marijuana programs. In order to be allowed access to one of these two cafés, one needs to be a member of the National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws (NORML) Oregon chapter and present a card from the Oregon Medical Marijuana Program either as a patient, caregiver or grower. Other Cannabis Café stipulations include: once in the café, money shall not change hands (users can smoke their own stash or that donated to the café) and patrons are not permitted to leave for at least two hours after using.



Rally at the University of California Regents meeting, November 19. Photo courtesy of Flickr user *midniteowl*

Mormons Support Equal Rights

In a seemingly rare display of support, the Mormon Church has decided to back legislation that calls for equal housing and employment for gays in Salt Lake City. Michael Otterson, director of public affairs for the Mormon Church, said that the church's support does not conflict with any prior stance concerning the issue. He also said that supporting "basic social issues" doesn't contradict the church's teachings about traditional marriage. Opponents argue that the new ordinances create unfair legal precedents for gays, while supporters say the laws were a long time coming.

Lou Dobbs For President?

In a parting that TVGuide.com calls "amicable," Lou Dobbs will no longer be hosting his cable news show on CNN. Dobbs states that the decision came when CNN President Jon Klein asked that his show be presented sans opinion. Dobbs admitted that his sometimes controversial stance on issues including immigration played a role in his departure. And now that it's over, rumors have surfaced that he might run for the U.S. Senate in New Jersey or even as a third-party presidential candidate in 2012. Dobbs doesn't deny the rumors, but in an interview with Reuters, stated that, "I have come to no conclusions and no decisions."

What have You done for Me Lately, ASPSU?

SFC's Blog Causes a Stir

This year, members of the Student Fee Committee (SFC), have started maintaining a blog at www.psusfc.com, to which a link appears on the official site at www.aspsu.pdx.edu. The elected student committee, who will oversee the allocation of nearly \$14 million in student incidental fees, make posts to the blog, often news articles relating to funding issues at other universities, reposts of SFC email announcements, and links to a calendar, the budget system, and a contact page.

Recently, readers of the blog left comments wondering why some news articles are even relevant to SFC business. One comment left by someone identified as "Sherrey" states, "Are you advocating that PSU should privatize? Again, posting information without elaborating why the information has been posted will lead to readers drawing their own conclusions, no matter how incorrect."

The comment was attached to "Would Privatization [sic] Help Public Universities Excel?" which is a linked repost of a *U.S. News and World Report* article, and placed on the blog by SFC Vice-Chair Jil Heimenson. The report, written in August 2009, details the trials of state universities seeking more autonomy from their state legislatures who every year offer less and less funding.

The privatization story and others like it on the psusfc.com blog do parallel PSU President Wim Wiewel's November 17 announcement to the ASPSU Senate that the Oregon University System (OUS) is seeking more autonomy by making the major Oregon universities non-profit public corporations.

Heimenson did not respond before press time to give a comment, however posts on the blog with her name show that it was first established on March 1, 2009 when she was planning her run for SFC chair. Subsequent posts follow her campaign and continue the pattern of posting links to college funding-related news articles. By summer, when Heimenson secured her seat on the committee, posts relating to SFC business began appearing.

—Joe Wirtheim



Eric Koppang, ASPSU student senator registering voters.

Voter Registration Drive and Keeping Low Expectations

ASPSU President Jonathan Sanford rolled into the November 10 student senate meeting to deliver an executive branch update which included information on the student voter registration drive. According to Sanford, 1,746 student voter registration cards were collected so far. Sanford acknowledged that the original goal of 2,510 cards might have to be "re-hashed" down to 2,300. On November 16 *The Spectator* received a press release from ASPSU's executive branch office noting that the president's office was close to "hitting our goal of 2,000 voter registration cards." Well, lowering the bar does make goals easier to reach. Fortunately, the Interim Legislative Affairs Director, Katie Markley, assured "we hope to exceed that number, of course, by January when the ballots are due."

—Jonathan Miles

So where is he from?

Last month, *The Spectator* in this column, may have carelessly implied that ASPSU President Jonathan Sanford is from Scotland, UK. Actually, he is from Boring, Oregon.

—Joe Wirtheim

Word “Corporation” Caused Alarm in Student Senate

When PSU President Wim Wiewel told student senators at a November 17 meeting that he and his administration are in talks with the Oregon University System (OUS) on how to make PSU a non-profit public corporation, some alarm bells went off. Apparently the word “corporation” when attached to anything causes distress to a few student representatives present for Wiewel’s announcement.

“I don’t like the corporate model for education at all,” said student senator Patricia Binder to Wiewel during the Q&A session. “I see a lot of pluses for the CEO of this corporation, but none for the students.” Later, Binder elaborated saying this proposal amounts to a power grab by school administrators.

Wiewel responded saying that he doesn’t want to be alarming using the word “corporation,” which is essentially a form of organization that will give university administrators more flexibility to deal with the “dire” state funding situation. Oregon Health and Science University (OHSU), Wiewel pointed out, is a public corporation, governed by Oregon state rules for a public body. He pointed out that PSU as a public corporation would still have a state mandate to educate Oregonians, and would still receive state funding.

“This is just one of the models out there that will hopefully get us out from under a bureaucratic state apparatus that is constricting our abilities to act,” said Wiewel who went on to say that currently PSU has to go through several layers of state bureaucracy to do many things, like purchase property or make partnerships.

Wiewel was careful to note that this new model in itself will not bring more money to the school, only allow the school to pursue new avenues of funding saying, “One possibility is a regional corporate payroll tax. That’s how Trimet is funded, that’s how the Zoo and the Convention Center is funded.”

ASPSU’s official reaction is unknown as of press time. An email from the Oregon Student Association (OSA) to ASPSU

staffers November 18, and obtained by *The Spectator*, insisted that ASPSU staffers not talk to the media about their stance on the public corporation proposal. OSA Executive Director Tamara Henderson said in the email that it’s “more important than ever that we are strategic and ON MESSAGE.” ASPSU President Jonathan Sanford echoed the request in an email later that day.

When asked November 19 about the proposal, ASPSU student senator Brendan Castricano said he only wondered how much students would actually be involved in the process.
—Joe Wirthheim

ASPSU Can Only Have \$200K for Stipends

In the November 10 meeting, senators voted to end discussion on the ASPSU proposed stipend budget so that they could vote to approve that budget. The budget became a contentious issue when Student Fee Committee (SFC) Chair, Johnnie Ozimkowski, imposed a cap on total ASPSU stipends at \$200,000 annually.

The cap means that, after paying the executive staff, the SFC, and the Judicial Board, there would actually not be enough funds to pay \$200 monthly stipends to all 25 ASPSU senate positions for the whole year, and fewer positions will have to be anticipated at certain times of the year. However, Ozimkowski doesn’t think it will be hard to stay under the cap, and anticipates a high turnover rate for stipend positions in the student government. So far this year, ASPSU has hired their third Multicultural Affairs Director, has two empty executive staff seats, and the senate has yet to fill all 25 available seats.

—Jonathan Miles

PSU President Wim Wiewel explains to the ASPSU Senate the idea of PSU becoming a non-profit public corporation November 17.
Photo by Clara Rodriguez.



Proudfoot

Takes a Side Step

Chris Proudfoot's recent resignation as the ASPSU Legislative Affairs Director will not be the end of his campaign for student rights.

By Samantha Berrier

One of the most productive members of the Associated Students of Portland State University (ASPSU) has stepped down from his position as legislative affairs director after a rough beginning under the reigns of President Jonathan Sanford. Christopher Proudfoot told *The Spectator*, "If you are looking to get in touch with the voice of students, I have learned that it is not always in room 117 Smith," a reference to the ASPSU office in Smith Memorial Student Union (SMSU).

Proudfoot has been on the scene as a student advocate since the 2008 presidential election. It was the transfer student orientation of 2008 where he was first introduced to Hannah Fisher, the 2008-2009 ASPSU president. In a recent interview with *The Spectator*, Proudfoot expressed his admiration for Fisher that sparked enthusiasm to join the ASPSU team, saying, "She had a fantastic ability to inspire people." That fall, he proudly stood behind Fisher's efforts to engage students in the election. With more than one hundred hours canvassing, fifty class presentations, and twenty-five voter education ballot measure presentations, Proudfoot showed his devotion to students in just his first term at Portland State.

His lobbying experience is not limited to Oregon; in March of last year Proudfoot flew to Washington D.C. to lobby federal legislatures during the United States Students Association (USSA) Legislative

Conference. And his dedication to higher education drove him to organize tuition hearings last year that ultimately kept tuition from increasing no more than 8.5%.

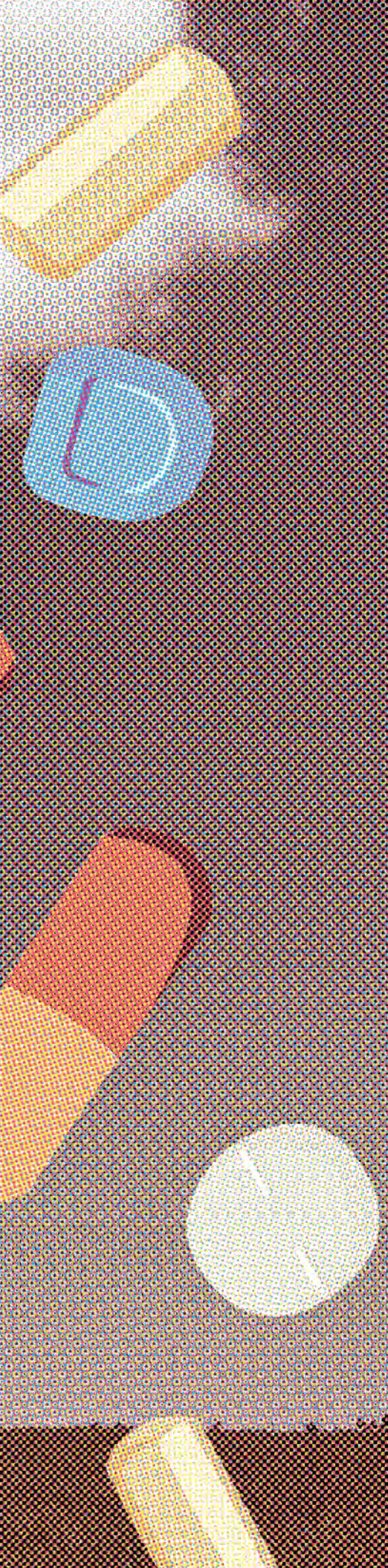
Working along side inspirational leaders like Hannah Fisher, Proudfoot learned the importance of not only an idea, but a realistic plan of attack. Over the last few months as the legislative affairs director, his hope for a tightly-knit unit striving for student rights met with reality: a scattered group of students with little direction. As an ambitious leader, Jonathan Sanford, ASPSU president, presents new ideas on a weekly basis. His constant idea changes have forced his administration to work on projects individually. Sanford's lack of detailed proposals had left many students sitting without guidance, while Proudfoot scurried to pick up the slack, lamenting the chaos. "Rather than ten people working on ten tasks, I'd rather have ten people working together on one incredible campaign."

When asked about his future plans, Proudfoot replied, "I plan to do a little freelance student advocacy. Immediately, I think the best thing to do is some individual advocacy for students and expand outside of my norm. I am chair of the SMSU Advisory Board and am looking at other ways to expand my leadership skills on campus. In the future, I hope to bring the sum of all my experiences back to ASPSU." ■



Former ASPSU Legislative Affairs Director Chris Proudfoot.
Photo by Clara Rodriguez.

One Pill Makes You Smarter



So-called brain enhancing drugs are gaining popularity for the studios—and being abused. Here's why self-medicating with Adderall for cramming is a bad, and even dangerous, idea.

By Megan Kimmelshue

We're the generation of the quick fix. Universities now compete against degree mills, while plagiarism databases are a necessary tool for professors. Essays can be downloaded from the Internet while students play on Facebook during class. In the race towards graduation and employment, has Adderall joined Starbucks and Redbull as just another branded shortcut for procrastinators and over-committed students?

Intended to be available only by prescription to treat Attention Deficit Disorder (ADD) and Attention Deficit-Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), this little pill, often referred to as a "cognitive-enhancing drug," "smart drug" or "study drug" can work wonders for some who do not have these conditions. While it helps ADD sufferers feel normal, for others, Adderall can offer enhanced focus and concentration levels for a few hours. This has created a popular underground market for the pill on many college campuses as students, who are legitimately prescribed the drug by a medical provider, are passing them out or selling them to others. At PSU, those who know people who can supply the drug estimate that an Adderall pill goes for \$3 to \$5, depending on the dosage, and jumps up to \$5 to \$10 during finals week.

Tom, a student at Willamette University who asked that his last name not be used, fits the profile of the typical college student who doesn't have a medical need for Adderall but opts for a "brain boost" in order to meet deadlines. "I have 5 or 6 friends who have prescriptions for Adderall, and they'll sell or give it to whoever wants it," he said. "I've taken it quite a few times when I've been studying for a test or during finals week, it definitely kept me awake and focused."

Where can someone find some study drugs, if they don't know anybody? After a short search on the Web, I was able to find forums, like www.collegeconfidential.com, that offered advice and stories about using Adderall. Some anonymous commenters even offered to sell their pills online. Facebook also plays host to those asking for Adderall or those offering it. And according to a report on *MSNBC* in August 2008, a whole bottle can go for around \$300. These online forums appeared to act as a safe place where people could talk about their issues with drugs, often without being identified, which became an issue as I investigated study drug usage.

The potential for addiction is no surprise. Adderall is a psychostimulant, which means it is amphetamine-based and has a "high potential for abuse" that "may lead to severe psychological or physical dependence," much like crystal meth. As a Schedule II Substance, it carries with it a felony charge if distributed illegally. It is now the most commonly prescribed stimulant in the U.S., according to The Atlanta Recovery Center Drug Rehab in Georgia, who in October issued a sobering press release warning about the

Adderall and Adderall XR are amphetamine-based, like crystal meth, and have a “high potential for abuse” that “may lead to severe psychological or physical dependence.” The federal government has labeled Adderall a Schedule II drug and sets limits on the amount that may be manufactured each year.

HOW IT'S TAKEN:

As a tablet; crushed and snorted; crushed, wrapped in tissue, and swallowed, called “parachuting” to bypass the time release property of Adderall XR; or liquefied so it can be injected intravenously. Some people take the drug anally, called “plugging”.

OCCASIONAL USE:

You may feel alert, focused, and awake. Can make blood

pressure and heart rate go up. Can cause loss of appetite and insomnia.

LONG-TERM USE:

High potential for addiction, paranoia, and sleep deprivation, which can cause psychotic episodes. Also can cause insomnia, digestive problems, and erratic weight change. Serious side effects include seizures and stroke. In 2005, Canada pulled a form of Adderall from

its markets as a result of sudden unexplained deaths in children with cardiac abnormalities.

MOST DANGEROUS WHEN USED WITH:

Over-the-counter medications, including cold medications containing decongestants; antidepressants, some asthma medications.



Some over-the-counter and herbal supplements to enhance memory and focus

XTEND LIFE'S NEURO NATURAL MEMORY:

Utilizes Vinpocetine, Huperzine A, SAM-e, ginkgo biloba, Siberian ginseng and Gotu kola to enhance and support memory and focus

INTELLIBOOST:

A vegetarian supplement that “enhances memory, boosts energy, increases focus, and helps you to relax”

PHOSPHATIDYLSERINE (PS):

A natural substance found in brain cell membranes, used to improve brain function

GINKGO BILOBA:

Used to support normal memory and maintain healthy cognitive functions

VITAMIN B COMPLEX:

Provides nutritional support for energy, stress, and mental function

growing number of college students who are seeking help for Adderall addiction. “And addiction, whether it is to a prescription medication or to a street drug, is the same thing—addiction,” says Mary Rieser, executive director of the Center.

Dependency on a stimulant like Adderall is easy enough to anticipate. Most prescription drugs aren't intended to heal a problem, but mask the symptoms. The more someone utilizes a drug like a stimulant without medical supervision, the more likely they are to fall into the trap of having to take it just to feel normal. “The sad part,” Tom says of his friends, “is that they can't do anything without it.” Once the effects of the drug wear off and your body goes into withdrawals, you may be in worse condition than before.

One forum commenter from College Confidential wrote, “You can't concentrate anymore. You can't focus. Your mind can't grasp the words or numbers on the page as well. It's as though you can't touch the words as you usually can; they are farther distanced from your mind and you don't have as much control or grasp over them like you used to.” Taking another pill then becomes a necessity.

Psychostimulants have a track record of unnerving side effects and overdose dangers, especially when, like many college students, it is being self-administered. The

FDA reports that when used unprescribed, Adderall can result in “rapid heartbeat palpitations, increased blood pressure, restlessness, insomnia, seizures, depression, and stroke.” On its label, Adderall XR warns that amphetamine misuse may “cause sudden death and serious cardiovascular adverse events.”

Tom quit taking Adderall because, “It's not something that I particularly enjoyed. It kept me awake and focused, but when you're coming off of it you definitely feel depressed and exhausted.” A number of postings on the College Confidential forum told of harrowing experiences and serious side effects, ending in pleas not to take the pills if they don't need them. The Web site Drug Information Online lists the overdose dangers to include:

“restlessness, rapid breathing, confusion, hallucinations, aggressiveness, unexplained muscle pain or tenderness, muscle weakness and flu symptoms, which may be followed by depression and tiredness. Other overdose symptoms include nausea, vomiting, stomach pain, uneven heartbeats, feeling light-headed, fainting or seizures. Overdose can lead to coma or death.”

And we're willing to risk all this for an 'A'? It appears that the answer is increasingly 'yes'. However, PSU does not specifically track the number of students using these drugs, so the extent of use is not exactly

known. Although, the Atlanta Recovery Center says, chances are that you know someone who is abusing Adderall, and Rieser says, “We are seeing more and more college students seeking help for Adderall addiction.”

The Student Health and Counseling Center (SHAC) at PSU provides resources for those who think they have an addiction problem, and writes on their Web site, “Individuals with questions about the degree to which alcohol or other drugs are causing or contributing to problems in their lives (or the life of a loved one) can discuss their concerns in a confidential setting with a drug and alcohol specialist.” There is also a group counseling session through SHAC called the “Overwhelmed and Procrastinating Group” that meets on Fridays from 1:00 to 2:30 p.m.

And what about those who have ADD or ADHD and rely on pharmaceuticals to help them complete daily activities? Doctors say that for those who have a prescription, the drug is almost completely safe.

Wendy Behrend is a student at PSU and has diagnosed ADHD. Her experience with stimulant drugs since her diagnosis is extensive as she has tried to find a combination that works, and now relies on a very low dose of Dexadrine, supplements, and healthy lifestyle habits that help her succeed.

"It's intellectual laziness," she says of students who use stimulant drugs without genuine need. "Using the drugs won't help them retain what they're learning. It inhibits the learning process but succeeds in getting them a good grade – they need to think about why they are in school in the first place." She is also a student of her condition and a wealth of information for those looking to increase their focus and concentration.

"There is so much research out there – there are really fast and effective methods that are actually more powerful than the drug itself, and they're free." Her advice includes eating low-sugar meals, taking B-vitamins, drinking a cup of coffee, and most surprisingly, a short run. "Scientific tests have shown that if people go for a sprint right before a test, they actually test better," she says. When asked about

students trying to buy pills from her; her tone changes. "In the past, I've had my meds stolen by roommates and have been forced to hide them," she says quietly, "They are privileged with a well-working brain and yet they're drowning it, and I'm trying at every waking moment to work at a level where I can succeed."

For students like Wendy who think they might have ADD or ADHD, SHAC also offers extensive testing services to establish a diagnosis and enable struggling students to begin implementing treatment strategies. While the price tag might seem high - \$500 billed to your student account – the long-term benefits outweigh the initial cost. And is far safer than trying to self-medicate. ■

The Dealer: Big Pharmacy

Initially developed by Shire Pharmaceuticals in the early 1990's under the name Obetrol, the formula was designed as a weight-management treatment with appetite-suppressing qualities. In 1996, it was repackaged and rebranded as Adderall, to be used for treating Attention-Deficit Disorder (ADD) and Attention Deficit-Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD).

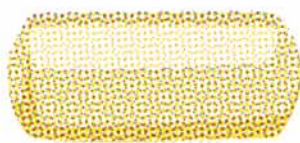
Shire's parent company, Teva Pharmaceutical Industries Ltd. and headquartered in Israel, is the world's leading generic pharmaceutical company. Last year the company had total sales of over \$11 billion.

In 2006, the right to manufacture both the name brand Adderall XR and the generic form was acquired by Teva when it bought Barr Pharmaceuticals, and hence, profits soared. According to a Teva press release, sales of Adderall XR were "approximately \$1.5 billion in the United States for the twelve months that ended February 28, 2009." In 2002, sales were a mere \$4.2 million.

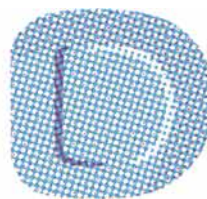
-Joe Wirtheim



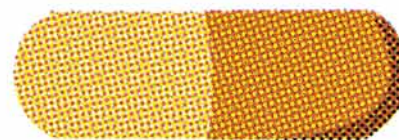
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Fueling Free Speech

with FIRE

The Foundation for Individual Rights in Education is wrapping up its 10th year. Here's why the legal defense organization is still important to college campuses.

By Jeff Wickizer

FIRE is celebrating its tenth anniversary and a long track record of success, defending the nation's collegiate students' constitutional right to freedom of speech. Over the last ten years the non-profit has seen 155 public victories at 118 different colleges, resulting in 77 changes in universities' policies. As reported by Ohio State University's *Sentinel*, when FIRE has been forced into litigation to defend students or faculty, they stand undefeated.

The mission posted on their Web site reads, "FIRE effectively and decisively defends American liberties on behalf of thousands of students and faculty on our nation's campuses." It goes on to explain that the secondary function of the foundation is to keep the public informed about all the issues and cases that arise on college campuses.

America's institutions of higher learning are thought to be at the forefront of critical thinking, where students and faculty gather to engage in healthy and spirited debate—what the Supreme Court refers to as a "marketplace of ideas" when deliberating cases regarding free speech. Our nation's universities have long been credited with shaping our youth and teaching them core values, ethics, and the ability to think critically as well as teaching them about their fundamental rights as citizens.

As evidenced by the multitude of recent cases on FIRE's Web site, it is becoming clear that the First Amendment often comes under assault. Students who attempt to exercise their free speech, but happen to hold a minority opinion, can face an onslaught of hatred and vitriol from those opposing their point of view. Protests and threats of violence have led universities to overstep their boundaries, limiting

students and denying them their constitutional rights.

One recent example highlights the conflict between freedom of speech and popular public opinion. Dan McFeely, journalist for *Indystar.com*, reported that on October 27, a Purdue University professor, Bert Chapman, posted an article on his blog titled, "Economic case against homosexuality." Chapman's argument was that the cost

or immediate dismissal of Bert Chapman. Purdue senior, Kevin Casimer told McFeely, "The most concrete way to protect the university's reputation against academic dishonesty and mediocrity is for him to resign."

What Casimer does not understand is that this is not a case of academic dishonesty; it is an opinion that was communicated and is protected by the First Amendment, no matter how laughable and misguided it is. Purdue has recognized this and has stated it is not going to get involved with a free speech issue.

"There are many things on the Internet that would be offensive to a lot of people but protected by the First Amendment," said Purdue spokeswoman Jeanne Norberg to McFeely at *Indystar.com*. She went on to add, "The best response is to speak up, which is exactly what our students and some faculty are doing."

Chapman rebuked the comments by Norberg and Casimer by posting to *Indystar.com*, "It is sad we live in a time when truly free and open debate on controversial issues is characterized by such virulence. As a country, we are in serious trouble if we reach a point when only one side on a public policy issue is allowed to be discussed."

As a student, professor, or administrator at Portland State University, we must all remember that policies and issues that are under debate will have multiple advocates with varying points of view. It is vital to democracy and healthy debate that we allow all sides of an issue to express their

views without fear of retribution. If we suppress the First Amendment, we suppress freedom. If an opinion is founded on ignorance, let it be spoken, for it allows us all to realize its limits and lack of credibility. ■

Speech Codes

According to firstamendmentcenter.org, an attempt in the 1980's to rein in discrimination and harassment in several public universities birthed what is now commonly referred to as "speech codes." There are two prevailing opinions concerning these codes. The first is that they are needed to protect political, social, and ethnic minority groups from unnecessary discriminatory speech. In order to justify their implementation, they generally cite a 1942 Supreme Court case (*Chaplinsky v. New Hampshire*) in which the court ruled that "fighting words" were not protected under the First Amendment. The other camp believes speech codes are flagrant violations of the First Amendment and that the "fighting words" stipulation is intended for "those who can't reasonably control themselves," and to imply this would be to demean supposedly thoughtful college students.

of AIDS research and treatment should factor into the national debate over the acceptance of gays and lesbians. Naturally, there was a large contingent of faculty, students, and local citizens that called for the resignation

Witnessing the Purge

Why hypocrisy and a call for big government on social issues just won't cut it for the Republican Party.

By Alexander Almeida

This November, I was sitting in the Reagan Ranch Center at the Young America's Foundation's (YAF) annual West Coast Leadership Conference listening to Lynn Vincent, ghostwriter of Sarah Palin's new book, speak when I came to the conclusion that social conservatives just don't get it. Especially when they're speaking to young people. And as *Portland Spectator* writer Samantha Berrier took Vincent to task over the blatant disconnect between the Republican's hands-off government approach to economics and their dogmatic social agenda, I felt a bit of a revolution in the works.

I don't think that was the intended result. Vincent's point was essentially that gay marriage, if protected by the 14th Amendment, would violate her First Amendment right to freedom of religion. However, no attempt at legalizing gay marriage in the states has been aimed at forcing churches to perform them, and the one attempt that came close was threatened with a veto by the governor until a religious exception was made. Perhaps Vincent forgot she was speaking to a group of college kids and not to her usual evangelical choir. Perhaps Vincent thought the tired argument of "I have a lesbian sister that I love" would give her rhetorical immunity.

I'm not sure. But at least 10 students were as equally perplexed as Berrier when, during the Q&A, she asked Vincent how governmental control could be unacceptable in one aspect our lives but essential when it comes to maintaining social values; which brings to mind the age old adage "If you don't want one, don't get one."

This is, of course, not the only example I experienced during the past week of several conservative conferences I attended (one of which being the Collegiate Network's journalism conference, which gives *The Spectator*



a small annual grant). Later the same day, YAF Vice-President and frequent guest on Fox News, Kate Obenshain, continuously asserted that President Obama was "stupid" and reeked of socialism. When I questioned her later if she'd actually ever attended a Socialist meeting, she dodged the question by saying Socialists who actually "gather on school campuses" were "insane." I told her actual card carrying Socialists (Yes, they have cards and call each other comrades) hated President Obama for not being nearly left enough.

Still, her critique shows a marked disconnect with popular opinion. Socialism isn't the boogiemani of the youth today. The Cold War is over and a Republican killed it. There's a giant slab of the Berlin Wall in the Reagan Ranch Center to prove it. The comparison does little to dissuade potential GOP members and in fact, it encourages dissent. A PSU Socialist told me that he would love to see Republicans continue to label President Obama as a Socialist, saying it had been "great for driving people our way." He cited Obama's high approval rating and if there is a direct correlation between leftism and popularity, then the further left the better.

A major concern—and a point *The Spectator* addressed in our October 2009 health care issue—is the lack of intelligent discourse, and the lack of promoting conservative voices that attempt to engage in such discourse. The same people who lambasted the left for the past eight years for referring to President George W. Bush as "Shrub" and "Dubya" now apply their own dismissive names to Obama calling him "Apologizer" or "Embarrassment-in-Chief."

Mitt Romney spoke at the Young America's Foundation conference with a message of polite discourse. The annual conference was headquartered at the famous "Western White House" Reagan Ranch near Santa Barbara, California. Photos courtesy of Amanda Hanson

I never thought I'd write this, but thank goodness for Mitt Romney. He had almost a backhanded remark for those who do nothing but pointlessly bash the president, telling a group of students that the GOP needed to be the loyal opposition but also that we shouldn't ridicule the president for every little thing he does, especially if it's simply because the president did them (Like trying to bring a multi-billion dollar Olympic game to a U.S. city, for instance). Instead, Romney advocated polite discourse and waiting for the right time to attack the president, but with counter-ideas and arguments and not venom and bile.

President Reagan always said a person who is with you 80 percent of the time is still your ally, not your enemy. The recent purge of moderates and the ridiculing of allies by the Bush administration over foreign policy disputes are prime examples of Republicans not abiding by their own rules. If the GOP wishes to regain any amount of legitimacy within the youth movement, they should avoid purging their moderate supporters and instead focus on purging hypocrisy.

This is the purge that needs to happen. The old faithful ideologues of the religious right are now coming to meet the new conservative youth movement. You can't raise a Gadsden Flag at a Tea Party with the immortal slogan "Don't Tread On Me" and then tread on someone's personal life. The only capital the GOP is short on is not money. It's credibility. ■



Paper Sculpture by Laura Jones

Sustainability Keeps on Going

By Jonathan Miles

According to *Merriam Webster*, sustainability can be defined simply as a characteristic of something that is “capable of being sustained.” Mostly it’s a relatively straightforward concept with hugely complex ramifications, but nonetheless sustainability at Portland State University is emerging into something more than just talk. As I sit under the glare of florescent tube lighting in the cramped, sub-basement office of *The Portland Spectator*, I wonder whether sustainability has a definitive end; if we’ll know it when we get there. Or maybe sustainability exists on an ever-evolving continuum, like the stretch from Styrofoam coffee cups to stainless steel water bottles. Where would PSU exist today on that spectrum if given a score between zero and 100 percent?

“Currently we’re at about 40.8 percent in fiscal year 2008,” says Christel Eichener, resource management coordinator for PSU Recycles. Okay, so it’s not actually that simple. Eichener, who appears in the YouTube video on PSU’s sustainability page at pdx.edu/sustainability, speaks to the Metro-wide goal of “diverting 75 percent of our waste from the landfill.” PSU Recycles refers to this as “closing the loop” and as a group within the Facilities & Planning Department they boast the overall goal of “creating a sustainable campus by reducing waste,” through methods like recycling and composting. Sounds pretty great, but according to PSU’s new ecoWiki.pdx.edu, “sustainability isn’t only about recycling or saving the environment.”

The ecoWiki outlines a three-pronged approach to sustainability that includes equitable access to resources, economic systems that encourage conservation of those resources, and maintaining clean biological cycles in the natural ecosystem. While the last two sound an awful lot like saving the planet, the concept of a democratic approach towards people’s right of access to resources indicates that sustainability

has more political ramifications than an individual’s carbon footprint or tote bag shopping.

So, 40 percent may not reflect our overall sustainability score, but is there a way to determine PSU’s standing? Well, much like the concept of sustainability itself, PSU’s variegated and multi-faceted approach to sustainability leadership is complex. After perusing PSU’s plethora of sustainability Web pages, I began to knock on office doors all over campus. The first of which, was the Office of the Dean of Students.

Sustainability Leadership Center

After receiving a \$25 million grant in 2008 from the James F. and Marion L.



Miller Foundation (the Miller Grant), PSU opened the Sustainability Leadership Center (SLC), housed inside the Office of the Dean of Students, for the purposes of coordinating “engagement, inclusion and leadership development within the student body in relation to sustainability.” Also on the SLC Web page is the name Heather Spalding, who is the outreach coordinator for the center which operates under the auspices of Student Affairs on campus. Unlike PSU’s other sustainability offices (namely the Campus Sustainability Office, the Center for Sustainable Processes and Practices, and PSU Recycles) the center is totally funded by the grant and not student

Is Portland State University living up to the tough talk about sustainability?

Here’s a tour through the emerging and sometimes complex world of PSU sustainability.

fees or tuition. And according to Spalding, that funding is likely to continue through the term of the grant, after which she hopes the CSO will be built into the budget of the Student Affairs office.

Early accomplishments for the SLC include starting the ecoWiki, PSU’s sustainability-focused Web site, and beginning research on several sustainability projects on campus. The next step, according to Spalding, is rectifying the awkward office situation for the center. While the SLC is meant to foster student inclusion, the five student leaders who work for her hold their office in the University Services Building on the third floor, which Spalding points out is “locked and not accessible to students.” Spalding says she is grateful for any office space at all, it’s clear the situation is not ideal as her students are locked away in the tower of the Architecture and Planning office, while she is cramped into a small cubicle in the Dean of Students Office. In an email to *The Spectator*, Spalding mentions, “The office set-up I currently have is not adequate for creating a cohesive way for students to get involved.”

Campus Sustainability Office

The next door that I knocked on was on the 8th floor of the Market Center Building where both the Campus Sustainability Office (CSO) and the Center for Sustainable Processes and Practices hang their hats. The CSO office started out seven years ago as a bunch of concerned students who noticed that PSU’s waste management did not include recycling of any kind. Now, the Campus Sustainability Office has

probably the longest history of sustainability at PSU. Noelle Studer, the sustainability coordinator for CSO, spoke about the history of the group during an SFC informational meeting last month. The CSO began operating with student fee support in 2004 and two years later spun off the recycling function into PSU Recycles and moved toward tackling larger issues. Studer said the reason part of their funding comes from student fees is to ensure the CSO has an obligation to represent the students in its efforts to make PSU walk the talk when it comes to sustainability.

Part of that walk includes submitting a Climate Action Plan this January outlining the steps that PSU needs to take to make green more than our school color. "Nobody has really done this before, and there are some complex data challenges," said Studer in an interview. "The goal is to be 100 percent carbon neutral by 2050." Studer also sits on the Sustainability Advisory Council with members of the Center for Sustainable Processes and Practices (CSP2). "She's kind of the sustainability czar," said Senior Managing Fellow and Interim Director of CSP2, John Gordon.



Center for Sustainable Processes and Practices

Much (in fact, exactly) like the SLC's Web page, CSP2 declares the goal of being a "living laboratory of sustainability." When I sat down with the CSP2 team to find out more, Gordon gave me the skinny on what that means exactly: "We can learn a lot about sustainability by studying ourselves," Gordon said, "it's a learn by doing approach." Sounds great! So what is CSP2 actually doing?

First of all, CSP2 is in charge of distributing the money from the Miller Grant, which disburses \$2.5 million each year for 10 years, provided that PSU can match that amount by bringing in outside funds for sustainability projects. "So far we've

more than matched our funds," Gordon said during our meeting. So we now know that CSP2 gave the SLC their \$94,000 operating budget, but where does the rest go? According to CSP2 Director of Communications J. David Santen, Jr., about \$1.7 million went to academic research projects like the green building research lab which in itself generated further funding for sustainability projects. "With some of these projects," said Santen, "you give them a little seed money and they take off."

In addition to funding faculty projects, CSP2 has allocated \$70,000 of the Miller Grant to student projects that were proposed last year. Elizabeth Lloyd, program administrator for CSP2, was also eager to note that the main thrust of the CSP2 office is to work sustainability into the academic sphere at PSU. As well as managing the Graduate Certificate in Sustainability, CSP2 works to infuse the study of sustainability into curriculum across various disciplines at PSU. That effort has become evident in the fact that one of the stated outcomes of an education at PSU is an understanding of sustainability. "This year," said Santen, "the process is to define how they know it when they got it."

Defining what sustainability really means is probably going to be the force that drives research in the field of sustainability for a long time to come. Gordon spoke to the importance of remembering that sustainability isn't just an environmental concept, "At base, it's mostly about human nature," he told me, "I think we'll be working on sustainability forever. I don't think it's a fad." ■



PSU students Sean Rains (center left) and Fallon Roderick (center right) discuss their hypothetical plan for an ecodistrict over a map overlay of Portland State campus November 19. This Civic Engagement Breakfast event, which drew well over 100 participants, was an exercise in mapping resource flows, according to Tim Smith, the event facilitator and director of Urban Design and Planning for SERA Architects.

Photo by Joe Wirthheim



Bicycle commuters at PSU have a friend in the BAC.

By Badger Moore

Some cyclists in our fair city exude a self-righteous air. An air seemingly justified by fixed-gear bikes, click-in shoes and the sense that they transcend the mundane, the unworthy, i.e., you.

It's an attitude, however, that is not reflected by the folks from PSU's Bicycle Advocacy Collective. Most Saturdays during the term, members of the BAC meet in front of the Millar Library for a friendly ride around town, ending at a different local coffee shop each week. "It's a more leisurely-paced activity," said Peter Bucu, a BAC coordinator. So students new to cycling in town need not be afraid of being left behind by a pack of speed demons. Most rides are five to seven miles long, move at a steady pace and use bike-friendly routes. All students are welcome to attend the rides, whether or not they are members of the collective.

This is the first term the BAC has organized group rides. Bucu said the BAC intends to continue the group rides even during the winter term.

In order to host these rides and other events, the BAC obtains funding through the Oregon Budget Council, which deals specifically with smaller, newer groups. According to Peter Welte, another BAC coordinator, they have applied to be an SFC group as of July 2010. "A lot of activities do cost money," said Welte. These activities include a biker breakfast the BAC provides every two weeks, liaison work between the city and BAC and legal counsel for PSU bicyclists.

The biker breakfast takes place between SMSU and Neuberger, where cyclists can get a bite to eat on the way to class. Grand Central Bakery, on occasion, has been known to step in and donate

baked goodies and coffee. Welte said that while there are about 10 core members of the BAC, most of the people who partake in the bi-monthly breakfasts are simply passers-by. To the PSU cycling community he urged, "Keep on biking through the nasty weather and enjoy breakfast every couple of weeks."

The BAC also functions as a liaison between the cyclists of Portland, the Bicycle Transportation Alliance (BTA) and the city itself. When city commissioners were recently discussing a bicycle master plan for Portland, students were able to talk with the BAC about what cycling amenities were needed. After looking at the city's draft plan, the BAC wrote a letter to the city, petitioning to prioritize future bicycle routes to PSU.

Bucu said that the BAC promotes BTA legal clinics, where Ray Thomas, an attorney who specializes in bicycle law, delivers an hour-long lecture on bicyclists' rights and responsibilities. Afterwards, Thomas allows time for Q&A, which the BTA website describes as "lively". Members of the BAC also volunteer at the BTA offices on the second Saturday of every month.

Portland State does have a road cycling team that focuses on racing, but Bucu noted that the Bicycle Advocacy Collective is "a different group and a separate entity. We focus on commuting and recreation." The official mission of the BAC, Welte said, is to "build community and improve conditions for students at PSU, which will lead to safer cycling. We want to empower student riders." ■

WANT TO LEARN MORE?

visit the BAC web site at <http://psubac.weebly.com>, join their Facebook group, or stop by the Green Space offices in the basement of SMSU.

The BAC is not to be confused with the separate PSU Bicycle Cooperative, which is an alternative transportation program administered through the Parking and Transportation Services Department. Available at the cooperative, located between S.W. Fifth and Harrison, are services to members that include secure parking, mechanical/repair training and inexpensive supplies.



Viking ladies attempt a block against Northern Colorado, November 13 in their bid to become Big Sky champions. Photo by Clara Rodriguez

Want To Join The V-Team?

Contact the V-Team
v-team@pdx.edu

More Than a Student Club

PSU's V-Team takes their role as a professional training ground seriously.

By Vincent Berretta

The noise in the Stott Center had already reached a considerable pitch by the time I shed my heavy coat and took a seat on the bleachers. The November 13th Viking ladies' volleyball game against Northern Colorado drew quite a crowd. And why not when the Big Sky Championship hung in the balance? Ostensibly I was at the game to see the V-Team in action, but I was soon swept up by the enthusiasm of the crowd. I was just about to curse a poorly defended spike when Hailey Reel came and found me in the stands to talk. Reel, president of the V-Team—PSU's sports marketing club—cordially introduced herself and took a seat next to me.

She boasted that the V-Team is a para-professional sports marketing club on campus with roughly fifty members—pretty impressive. Their work is to promote sporting events for the school and other third parties primarily through grassroots marketing. They have special arrangements to promote Portland Winterhawks' games and a diverse array of events at the Rose Quarter. For their services, they are rewarded exclusive marketing internships with both organizations.

What really piqued my curiosity was why they appeared to be so financially responsible. According to budget statements released by the Student Fee Committee (SFC), the V-Team was one of a few student clubs to stay under budget, and in fact, to report a surplus. Jeffrey Boone, one of three vice-presidents of the outfit, spoke to me a few days prior to the game. "We're gangster—quote that," he said, looking over my shoulder to make sure I would, and then continued "but really, we keep a close eye on our budget, we know how much we have and how much we're



The 2009-2010 V-Team lineup. Photo by Andy Nichols

allowed to spend.” This principle seemed simple enough, but then, why was it so much harder for other groups who reported overages into the thousands of dollars?

“The SFC has an insane way of doing things,” said Reel. “They just expect that student leaders will be responsible with all of this money.” When I informed her there were indeed several student leaders that weren’t being responsible with their money, she became noticeably flustered saying, “Who’s running these people’s budgets anyway?” Then, with a glance at the scoreboard, she excused herself and scurried off to the gym floor for a half-time promotion the V-Team designed where audience members would try to serve volleyballs into hula-hoop targets for prizes. The whole team seems to have this compulsive adherence to a schedule—they conduct their meetings with the precise execution of a Roman legion; a fact that became obvious to me earlier in the week when I attended one of their educational meetings.

I had arrived at the meeting with Boone taking a seat in the back. The rest of the group filed in glad-handing each other and smiling that PR smile which seems to be handed out in Business 101 classes then quickly took their seats. “Sign in!” barked a member as he passed out a contact sheet

that made the rounds with lightning efficiency. “Who is that?” a girl in front asked, referring to me. “He’s no one,” Boone assured her. No sense in wasting time with pleasantries. The class turned into an educational seminar in social media that seemed a bit redundant for a group of 20 year olds, but the facts were well presented and the stress on the importance of Facebook as a marketing tool was enthusiastically received.

The V-Team’s promotional efforts are largely viral. They have successfully attracted large numbers of fans to Portland State games and provide services for Horde members (that’s the sports fan club) such as PSU viewing parties and sports brunches paid for with funds received from their club member dues, Horde member dues, as well as promotions for both the Rose Quarter and Nike; not to mention student fees. Any extra money goes back into the budget for more promotions and education. “We’re an educational group for pre-professionals that are thinking about going into sports marketing as a career,” explained Boone, “at the end of the day, our pay is the experience that we get through the internships and experience we get doing actual sports marketing for the Rose Quarter or Nike or PSU.”

Unlike many student groups, the V-Team’s staff does not pay themselves stipends out of student fees. Reel came back midway through the second set at the volleyball game to elaborate. “That makes me mad; that’s our tuition. How does them getting paid make our school a better place?” Stipends are a regular feature of student groups; usually group leaders draw a few hundred-dollar monthly allotments. The purpose, according the PSU Dean of Students Web site, is to recognize the valuable contributions of student leaders.

If the goal of a student club is to provide a supplementary opportunity for experience in a student’s professional endeavors, then in this capacity the V-Team is an exemplar of success. Their members are dedicated, organized and responsible. They conduct orderly meetings and maintain strict budgetary oversight. They strive to create a thriving group committed to the betterment of school athletics and the education of the group’s members, and not to personal financial gains. As Boone stated towards the conclusion of our interview, “At the end of the day, the success of the group takes precedence over personal stipends.” A noble sentiment to be sure. Oh, and the game? Our Vikings easily beat Colorado, becoming the Big Sky Champions. ■

FEDS:

Where Were You Born?

By Jeff Wickizer

The cohesive and mutually beneficial working relationship between Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) and local law enforcement has only been around for the last couple of years. In the past, state and local law enforcement worked independently from the federal agencies. As a former law enforcement officer I did not, and was instructed not to, get involved in the citizenship status of detainees. This was based on the Immigration and Nationality Act of 1952, which was interpreted as leaving the responsibility of enforcement to the federal government.

That was then, this is now.

One reason for the change is the spiraling economy. County agencies have seen budgets decrease and programs disappear. On January 9, 2009, Congress and the House of Representatives introduced a bill (H.CON.RES.19) sponsored by Rep. Ted Poe of Texas that increased funding and incentives for local agencies, encouraging them to work with ICE. Another issue, caused by decreasing and frozen budgets, is the lack of space that has led to overcrowding in county jails.

In an interview with the *Oregonian*, Clackamas County Sheriff Craig Roberts said, "Jail beds are at a premium for us. The sooner we can get someone who doesn't belong here into immigration custody, the sooner we can put that jail bed to use and get the most out of our taxpayer dollars."

The reality is that ICE and other agencies, such as the U.S. Marshals service, are bringing much needed money with them, handing it over to fiscally struggling agencies in need of handouts. Thus the solution is two-fold: Local jails are simultaneously receiving funding and clearing out space for local offenders.

Bringing out the Feds

"One of the first things we ask is, 'where were you born?'" said Clackamas County Undersheriff David Kirby in a statement to the *Oregonian*, and went on to add, "The answer they give can change everything."

In Oregon, Immigration and Custom Enforcement agents have been working with local and state law enforcement agencies over the past two years, often having ICE agents work full time in the county jails, processing new inmates and checking their status as legal citizens. Currently, Clackamas County has two full-time agents working in their jail, while Washington County has three and Multnomah County has six.

The increased focus and hard line stance towards illegal immigrants by the federal government gained steam after September 11, 2001. As quoted by the *Oregonian*, Bryan Wilcox, the ICE deputy

Local law enforcement welcomes federal agents along with their federal dollars. Now you can forget the long held perception that our liberal state is soft on immigration enforcement.

field office director for the Pacific Northwest, said, "After 9/11, ICE stepped up its efforts...we're scouring the jails nationwide, looking for foreign nationals arrested or convicted of a crime." Wilcox went on to add, "At this point, we're trying to determine if they're removable, it will depend on their status and the seriousness of the new accusations."

According to the Immigration and Custom Enforcement Web site, they also have what they call a "top partnership initiative" that allows local and state agencies to enter into a partnership with them. Under a joint agreement, local and state agencies receive delegated authority for immigration enforcement within their particular jurisdiction.

The vigor with which the federal government pursues illegal immigrants has been well documented. On July 16, 2005, the *New York Times* reported 48 immigrants were detained after they thought they were attending a mandatory safety meeting being put on by OSHA at a North Carolina Air Force base.

On the Customs and Immigration Enforcement Web site, under the (DRO) Detention and Removal Office subsection, the agenda is stated as follows: "The removal of criminal aliens from the United States is a national priority."

Deporting Meth

The rapid change in the drug trade has also caused local agencies to work more closely with the federal government and immigration enforcement. Prior to the last four years, much of the state's meth production could be traced to local, in-home, and mobile labs. After a massive push to eradicate meth production in the state, the Oregon HIDTA (High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area) 2010 Threat Assessment Report stated that Mexican drug cartels have stepped in to pick up the slack. Now, a majority of methamphetamine is transported into the state from Mexico. This has created a situation where more illegal immigrants are transporting their product from Mexico to Oregon. The goal of local and federal law enforcement is that the partnership will be able to snap up these traffickers through their increased immigration enforcement.

Although there have been increased efforts and participation between local agencies and the federal government, it is important to know that according to Clackamas County inmate statistics, although Clackamas County books nearly 14,000 suspects per year, fewer than 800 are referred to ICE due to immigration status suspicion and out of this number only 400 are detained by ICE.

It's safe to conclude that there is not a larger target on the backs of illegal immigrants because arrest statistics have remained pretty much the same. However, it appears that those here illegally are being dealt with much more harshly than in the past. ■

The Spectator's Rearbuttal

Editor's Note: Through June, The Rearguard and The Spectator will each feature a column of "banter," in a civilized manner, on issues of concern to the reading public at Portland State University. This is the Portland Spectator's response to the following challenge, agreed to by the Editors: Partisan press.

FREEDOM OF THE PRESS (TO BE BAD)
SHALL NOT BE INFRINGED

By Molly Shove

THE FIRST AMENDMENT of the Constitution guarantees freedom of the press. It never says the press has to avoid commentary, or bias, or even have a shred of journalistic integrity; it doesn't have to be quality to be protected. However, the Constitution has greater expectations for the U.S. government. They're expected to establish justice, promote the general welfare and a ton of other things from militias to postal service. However, the government right now seems less intent on establishing justice and more so on fighting the bias in Fox News (or whatever bias that makes Obama look bad.)

The bulk of the "story" that has recently emerged is a number of "he said, she said" incidences between the White House and Fox News. Accounts read more like a gossip column than hard news. Fox News had never been especially friendly toward the Obama administration and would sometimes bend facts to do so. The Obama administration had quietly and passively been dealing with this in a number of ways, one of which was a "reality check" on the White House blog: relatively short posts which add or contextualize some of Fox's stories and statistics to invalidate Fox's spin. Then things started to get odious when a Fox reporter was excluded from an interview with White House "Pay Czar" Ken Frinburg. Officials say Fox failed to submit a request for the interview, but Fox, backed by ABC, CBS, NBC and CNN complained, forcing the White House to admit to a "low level" mistake. Since then, the administration has either refused to talk about it, or grumbles half-hearted apologies. Fox has responded by distinguishing between "news" and "commentary." Things that are considered to be "commentary" are not subject to the "fair and balanced" slogan of the Fox News channel.

Fox has three obligations: to make money, to keep viewership up, and to remain within the confines of the law. By choosing to take a critical view of the government,

it's doing all three of these things, and quite successfully. Moreover, it's doing its civic duty as a member of the press, which is, optimistically speaking, to keep the government in check. To do this, it has to dig everywhere it can to find a good scandal. Fox News can't be blamed for not doing its job; however, it has a long way to go to live up to its "fair and balanced" slogan. Defining a difference between commentary



and news is a good start to cleaning up its act, but its critics are as diverse as its news is biased. It's not just the White House critiquing its content, even Sesame Street made a thinly disguised reference to it as a "trashy show." Fox can take one of two paths, it can become known as a distorted right ideologue with as much to offer society as the *National Enquirer*, or it can turn a new leaf and strive to be what they claim to be: "fair and balanced."

The White House has larger, more ambiguous obligations. Its job is to pass legislation to "insure domestic tranquility," or "promote the general welfare." One thing that doesn't show up in the job description is "protect the American people from scary misinformation spread by the evil biased cable company." Less biased news would be wonderful, but the White House should be addressing more relevant issues with its press time (healthcare anyone?) rather than whining about Fox News. Who knows?

Maybe if the Obama administration had achieved more, it wouldn't have to deal with so many criticisms from Fox.

The Rearguard clearly misses the point. It's not the job of the president and his administration to regulate the press. Fox can broadcast whatever it wants, so long as it isn't libel, and the Obama administration has to deal with it. Letting the government pick and choose its favorite news stations and blocking out others sets a precedent for an even greater bias in news, but because that bias would support the Obama administration and a liberal agenda, it doesn't bother *The Rearguard*. Fox doesn't have to be unbiased to be news, only if it wants to be quality news.

What this issue boils down to is who should be doing what. It's the job of the press to tell the people running things that they're doing it wrong. It's the job of the government to learn to run things better. To be taken as a serious news source, Fox needs to find intelligent criticisms of the government that don't involve video tailoring and manipulated statistics. If you're going to annoy the government enough to the point that they begin denying you privileges, it should be over something juicy and more importantly, real. If this incident teaches the White House anything, it's that they need to run their PR as successfully as they did in the campaign. This debacle with Fox makes the administration look petty and weak and shows an unflattering image of their priorities. If Fox says something so profoundly untrue and unflattering that it causes social unrest, the mature way to handle the situation would be to sue for libel. If not, it would have been wiser to do what countless administrations have done with biased and extremist media in the past: buck up and move on. ■

Molly Shove is a freshman majoring in Economics.

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