

Inter-Institutional Faculty Senate

MEMO TO: Emily McLain (Emily@orstudents.org) Oregon Student Association
MEMO FROM: Peter Gilkey (President InterInstitutional Faculty Senate)
DATE: 4 October 2009
RE: An Open Letter to OUS from the OSA concerning Voter Registration.

Dear Emily:

This is in response to your email of Mon, 28 Sep 2009 asking me to bring to the IFS the OSA "Open letter to the OUS Board" dealing with voter registration. Pursuant to that request, the InterInstitutional Faculty Senate considered the matter carefully and on Saturday 3 October 2009 passed the following resolution:

IFS-09-1: The InterInstitutional Faculty Senate shares the concern of the Oregon Student Association that the full implications and responsibilities of Senate Bill 951 dealing with voter registration be implemented on the campuses of the Oregon University System.

During the discussion on Saturday it was clear that the IFS shares your belief that voter registration drives striving to enroll as many potential Oregon voters as possible are not only extremely desirable but in fact are essential to the proper functioning of our democratic system.

However, the IFS declined to endorse your letter as you had requested, and it is my belief that the members were concerned about two provisions in your letter requesting

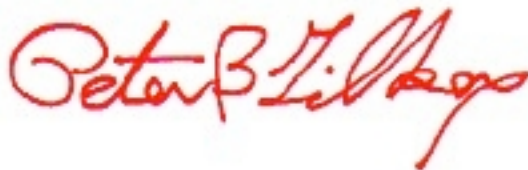
-Short class presentations for voter registration

-Class presentations on the result of a "yes" vote and a "no" vote.

It was felt that these provisions in your letter might be problematical for many faculty members and might raise significant legal issues related to lobbying that we did not feel competent to get into. But I emphasize that the IFS took no formal action in this regard and that my comments in this regard are not normative and are based solely on my recollection of our debate.

I have been directed to copy this letter to the Chancellor of the OUS System, to the Presidents of the OUS Universities, and to the Provosts of the OUS Universities indicating our support of SB 951.

Respectfully submitted



Peter B Gilkey
President (2009) InterInstitutional Faculty Senate
Professor of Mathematics at the University of Oregon