

# ASUN trims funds, suggests hiring NOVA for day care center

By Susanne Schafer

A problem with defining terms has caused a difference of opinion between an ASUN senator and President Ann Henry, but any way it's defined, it has meant less money for the University Infant and Child Day Care Center.

ASUN no longer considers the center a student service, in the opinion of senator Doug Johnson, and he has executed a legislative flip-flop to do something about it.

Johnson, who earlier this year introduced a bill questioning funding procedures of the center, has introduced a resolution that suggests the senate "engage in a fund-raising activity" to help the center raise money to hire a NOVA volunteer.

Johnson introduced the bills after hearing testimony from Mary Jo Ryan, the center's project director. Ryan appeared in October before the senate to ask for more funds than the senate's Budget Committee had allotted to the center.

Her request was turned down, and the senate granted the center the \$650 the budget committee had recommended as funding for the entire year.

In 1971-72, ASUN gave the center \$1,000. In 1972-73, the senate initially granted the center \$1,000 and later gave it an additional \$702.

The center in previous years has been granted funds at the beginning of the fiscal year in a "pre-planned" budget prepared by the ASUN executives, according to President Ann Henry.

This year, the center requested its funding through the Budget Committee, which placed it in competition with other student groups also asking for funds.

At this point, the question of terms

presented itself.

"In the past, the center was considered to be a student service, and the executives gave the center larger amounts (of money)", Johnson said.

"This year, Ann Henry chose not to consider the center as a service, but as an activity. That meant the center had to fight with the rest of the student activities for a share of the money the budget committee gives out."

Not so, Henry says.

"Doug is using the two terms (student activity and student service) to make a distinction between two types of organizations. To me, a student organization or activity could include a service."

The center does provide a service to students, Henry conceded. But the difference in terms does not decide the funding, she explained.

The difference in amounts of funding results from when the funding is decided, she said.

ASUN executives determine at the beginning of the fiscal year which student services will receive what amounts of money. Student services are those which require "pre-planned" project funding, Henry said.

These services require that their budgets be set before the beginning of the academic year so they can begin operating immediately in the fall, she added.

This basic outline of the costs of student services is then included in the budget. The book exchange and the bicycle registration program are examples of such pre-planned budgets, Henry explained.

For most student organizations, money is allocated later in the year by the Budget Committee after organizations file their requested budgets, she said.



This year was the first time the Infant and Child Day Care Center was not included in the "pre-planning stage" of the budget.

"When Mary Jo Ryan presented her request for the additional \$702 last spring, I understood they would not be asking for further funding, so I automatically did not include them in the pre-planned student services budget, as they had been included in previous years," Henry said.

"I told her (Ryan) that early in the summer, and I thought it was clear to them," Henry said.

Not so, says Ryan.

She said she did not realize that there was any difference between the "pre-planned" funding of the ASUN executives and the funding system through the budget committee.

Ryan said the center was not notified that they would not receive

funds through the on-going system of executive funding. She said she thought that this year every organization and service had to apply through the Budget Committee for its funds.

Ryan said that during a senate meeting dealing with the budget last spring, a parent whose children attend the day care center testified that if the senate would give them additional funds, they would not be forced to ask for as much money in the future.

"In no way did we express to the senate the need for a change in their commitment to us," Ryan said.

Ryan said the misunderstanding is unfortunate but expressed enthusiasm for the ASUN project to raise funds for the NOVA volunteer.

Ryan and Johnson are planning a "kegger" to help raise the \$600 needed to hire the volunteer.

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