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PROPOSAL

Continued from Page 1

the past. We've used other words that are elegant, but it gets kind of hard to understand the origin of the protections," Bowen said. "If you do not discriminate and start listing age, sex and gender and veteran status, people do know the origin of those protections, but I have a preamble that says 'consistent with state and federal law,' then every one of them will link back to what's in law. There are no changes. If it brings comfort to people and I understand it better, that's fine."

Forrest Lane, student body president and senior political science major, said approval of the proposal would have far-reaching effects.

"We need to be very cautious because the not a recognized legal precedence (for protection of sexual orientation). But that does not mean I do not feel it is important. Culturally it will make the University more aware," Lane said.

Gonzalez said he expects the proposal to be approved before the beginning of the next academic year if it is to be included in the 2000-01 student rules book.

However, Bowen said he is still seeking advice on the issue.

"I haven't decided if this is appropriate. It is portrayed in the media incorrectly, as an acceptance of legal responsibility, I just want to prove it," Bowen said. "It has to be understood by the campus community as exactly what it is."

Gonzalez said that depending on Bowen's decision, the Student Senate's Student Services Committee will pass a resolution expressing approval or disapproval.

"I anticipate that if we were to include sexual orientation in this year's student handbook, it will pass a resolution expressing approval, not our disappointment," Gonzalez said. "Our intention (if the proposal is not approved) will be to raise enough awareness on the issue that it hopefully be re-explored. There is a group of students who have said they would express disapproval to the extent that would get them arrested."

Jordan Davis, president of the Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgendered Aggies (GLBTA), declined to comment on the proposal for fear it would not be approved.

"GLBTA has been eagerly awaiting the approval of this proposal for several years. I don't want to say anything that would put it in jeopardy," he said.

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