



Photo by Mark Billingsley

Baby, it's cold outside

Marcia Kamas looks out at the cold, windy weather she inevitably will have to deal with on her way home from classes.

Task force will reorganize services offices' offer

By Mary Jo Pitzl

A task force began work Thursday to reorganize the services currently offered by the Union Program Office and the Office of Student Activities.

The Campus Program, Activities and Services Study task force received their charge from Union Director Al Bennett. Bennett also is serving as interim director of student activities, a position he has had since the Union Program Office and the student activities office merged Nov. 1.

Bennett charged the task force to:

- conduct an in-depth review of current Union Program Office and Office of Student Activities operations, services and funding,

- study similar operation at other schools,

- determine what needs student organizations have at UNL regarding programs, services, activities and funding, and

- recommend an effective system to better serve student organizations.

Bennett appointed Sara Boatman, acting assistant director for the Union Program Office, as chairman of the 10-member task force. They are working under a Feb. 28 deadline.

Commenting that the program office and the student activities office have "like-

type functions and like-type staff objectives," Bennett explained that he thought it appropriate to study the possibility of reorganizing these two groups' purposes.

He also asked the task force to examine "appropriate ways and means to deal with the needs of campus minority students" outside of the services they currently have.

Other members of the task force include Gary Gilger, program advisor for the Nebraska Union; Annette Hudson, counselor for the Dept. of Multi-Cultural Affairs, Mary Kramer, coordinator for residence hall programs; Daryl Swanson, East Campus Union manager; Tony Warner, program manager for the East Campus Union; Vernon Williams, director of the UNL Counseling Center; Scott Ballentine, ASUN representative and Clay Statmore, Union Advisory Board representative.

Donna di Natale, staff assistant for the Center for Students and Organizations, will serve as Boatman's assistant.

The task force will be assisted by several resource persons, including Jayne Wade Anderson, acting dean for student development; Suzanne Brown, assistant to the vice chancellor for Student Affairs; Robert Brown, UNL psychology professor; and the still-to-be-appointed dean of students, according to Boatman.

Twelve days of law exams allow breathing room

By Brian Zdan

If UNL students dread the Dec. 16 through 21 examination period of high tension and lost sleep, would an exam period beginning this Saturday be even worse?

Not necessarily, according to Julia Lamber, assistant dean of the UNL College of Law. Most law students will be sitting for five final exams, each three to four hours in length, during their examination period. But scheduling tests over a 12-day span will give the law students more "breathing space" in which to cram before taking a final, Lamber said.

Extra time to study is necessary in law school because the final exam is normally the only test given for each course. The quality of the individual's final exam answer

determines the grade he or she will receive for the course.

"Typically," Lamber said, "the beginning, and middle and end of a law school course weave together, especially for first-year students. It's difficult to split up the course and give exams during the semester."

Consequently, one test at the completion of the class is usually the best method of measuring law students' knowledge of the subject, she said.

Initiated in 1930

According to a Lincoln attorney, the College of Law initiated its one-exam-per-course policy while he attended the school in the mid-1930's. Some law professors give mid-term exams also, Lamber noted. However, since "members of the faculty care what students are doing in

other courses," professors avoid assigning many quizzes during the school term, she said, because that may create harsh conflicts in some students' schedules.

Another reason for the extended exam period is accreditation requirements set by the American Bar Association and the American Association of Law Schools. Exam periods count as part of the 1,200 hours of instruction an accredited law school must provide each student before graduation.

The bar examiners in many states—including Nebraska—will not allow graduates of non-accredited law schools to take the state bar exam, said Lamber. She said there are many non-accredited law schools in California, and there is a very low passing rate (about 40 percent) among students taking the state bar exam.

At the UNL College of Dentistry, Associate Dean Eugene S. Merchant reported the school's exam period matches the undergraduate colleges'. He said freshman dental students will take eight one-hour finals this month.

Fewer tests

Upperclassmen, however, normally have fewer tests at the end of the semester because they are enrolled in more clinical courses, Merchant said. Clinical exams are given throughout the semester and require performing clinical procedures rather than writing down an answer.

Freshmen dentistry courses teach the basic sciences, he said. A two-hour exam is given every week so freshmen can identify what they should be learning. Therefore, a single exam "almost never" counts as 100 percent of the course grade.

Testing underclassmen at the College of Dentistry is accomplished through written quizzes and instructor observation in the clinic, he said. The instructor often assigns clinic patients with particular "disease entities" to students who are studying those diseases. Then, under the inspection of the instructor, the student must identify the patient's disease, he said.

CSL decides intramural football team was denied due process in ruling appeal

In a special session Thursday night, the Council on Student Life (CSL) decided the C.C. Rider intramural football team did not receive due process in an appeal to the UNL Recreation Department.

Council chairperson Joan Wadlow said five irregularities exist in the department's appeal process. These include: keeping no record of appeal hearings before the department advisory board, an absence of written rules and no provision to assure all parties understand the appeal process, absence from the hearing of the officials of the contested game and no reason given to the contesting parties for the decision reached.

No decision was reached at press time as to how to provide redress to the C.C. Riders.

The controversy arose from an intramural flag football game played Nov. 14. Clyde Stearns, C.C. Rider team member, said the team received 20 penalties and confusing rulings on correct blocking.

Dan Steller, recreation director, testified that no protest of an official's decision is allowed, only cases of rule interpretation.

It was agreed the C.C. Riders followed correct procedure in protesting the officiation of the game to Gale Wiedow, coordinator of intramurals.

The protest was disallowed at that time, Wiedow said, because of department rules, but the team was allowed to go before the department's advisory board to appeal. He said the appeal, while not provided for in the rules, was a courtesy matter.

Recommendations may be made on how to prevent similar incidents in the future. This would include new rules to prevent the irregularities found in the present case.

UNL apparently is unique in the NCAA in having any appeal procedures at all, according to Steller. His investigation showed that at other schools the officials' decision is absolute, he said.

Farm strike Saturday

The first nationwide political strike since the anti-war protests of the 1960s will begin with a rally 10:30 a.m. Saturday at the State Capitol. It will be the culmination of an estimated 3,000 tractor caravan converging from all parts of Nebraska on Lincoln.

There will be a rally, open to the public, at the

Sports Complex. The rally will be televised live by KUON, Channel 12.



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