

# Summer Nebraskan

Number 8  
University of Neb.-Lincoln  
July 30, 1981

## Regents give approval to general operating budget

BY LORI MERRYMAN

A 10 percent tuition increase for UNL was approved with ease Saturday as the NU Board of Regents gave approval to the 1982-83 general operating budget request of \$152.9 million to be presented to the Legislature.

Along with a request for 15 percent more state general fund money, the Regents will ask for an 8.6 percent increase in NU cash funds. This includes a 10 percent tuition increase for undergraduate students; five percent increase for agriculture students at Curtis; 15 percent more for medical, law and dentistry school students; and ten percent more tuition for graduate students plus an additional \$2 per credit hour.

These rates are similar to the tuition increases for 1981-82.

### Guidelines set

The Regents approved a set of guidelines for the 1982-83 general operating fund request of \$152.9 million, which ranks a 10 percent staff salary increase as the top priority. A 10 percent increase will achieve the Board's three year salary increase plan which was set in the 1980-81 budget request.

At the June Board of Regent's meeting, Ronald Roskens, UNL president, told Regents that 10 percent staff salary increase is a rate that should recover some of salaries lost to inflation in the past few years. Although NU students pay the second highest tuition in the Big Eight Conference, their staff is one of the lowest paid in the same conference.

The UNL salary increases are "our first and foremost interest," Roskens said to the Regents Saturday.

Along with the salary increase, the

budget request includes a two percent increase in employee benefits to be used first for health and dental insurance.

Roskens said a 2 percent increase in employee benefits is an "unusual increase." Previously there has not been a significant increase in funds for benefits, but because health costs have skyrocketed, a two percent increase is needed to keep up with inflation, he said.

Along with a 2 percent increase in benefits, a 13 percent increase was set aside for corresponding benefits to keep pace with benefit improvements made in 1980-81 and 1981-82.

### Special salary adjustments

New this year, Regents set aside \$662,307 in special salary adjustments at UNL to make up for inequities in faculty salary.

The salary adjustment will be used in areas of the most disparity, rather than playing catch up on all salaries, Roskens said.

Also new to the budget request is \$782,655 for the first of a six-year plan for preventive maintenance. The Board has never adopted a multi-year preventative maintenance plan before. With this, Roskens requested \$300,000 to replace equipment on all three campuses, UNL, UNO and NU Med Center.

The total budget proposal requests a 15.4 percent increase in money for UNL (\$83,500,000.)

Also Saturday, Regents rejected a proposal of Regent Robert Simmons of Scottsbluff that University of Nebraska Regents Scholarships should be allocated University-wide rather than to specific campuses.

Despite Simmons efforts to persuade the Board, they voted 4-4 against adopt-

ing his proposal.

UNL offers about 100 Regents Scholarships every year while UNO offers about 50. Eliminating campus allocations would allow students to choose which campus they wished to attend, Simmons told the Board.

### Scholarships debated

Regents James Moylan of Omaha and Kermit Wagner of Schuyler said they wanted to see more investigation into the scholarships.

It's not a regents scholarship offered by the regents, Wagner said, but a University-wide scholarship offered by the University of Nebraska.

Wagner said the board needed more time to review the whole situation.

Moylan told other board members that he would like to see a study of all scholarships, emphasizing academic skill rather than athletics.

The scholarships attract good students, Simmons said, but the present policy doesn't allow a student granted a Regent scholarship for UNL to use it at UNO. He told the Board of a Scottsbluff girl who got a Regent Scholarship to UNO but wanted to go to UNL instead. Simmons said the girl finally went out of state.

The problem extends beyond that one student, Simmons said.

NU administrators are only concerned with "their own turf," Simmons said. He questioned why UNO administrators are afraid scholarship winners will go to Lincoln.

Regent Robert Koefoot of Grand Island said Simmons' argument is just an attempt in "trying to criticize UNO."

Another issue from Saturday's meeting, recruiting out-of-state students, will

be picked up again in the Board's September meeting.

### Recruiting out of state

Earlier Saturday, the Board discussed putting more emphasis on recruiting out of state students. Although they were split on this issue, Hansen is expected to submit a proposal that NU put more emphasis on recruiting out of state. NU has not emphasized recruiting out of state for several years.

Simmons immediately objected, saying NU would serve students and the Nebraska taxpayer better by keeping enrollment smaller.

Simmons said NU hurts itself by recruiting students who never should have been at NU in the first place.

Hansen said Simmons comments are a detriment to the University, adding that NU is not selling itself adequately and the state should quit underestimating the University's potential.

In other action Saturday, the Regents:

—approved a study of Sheldon Art Gallery for architectural improvements.

—approved a three-year lease to the National Bank of Commerce for the previous Gateway Bank location in the Nebraska Union to provide check cashing services for students starting in August.

—Announced Chancellor Martin Masengale's installation Sept. 20.

—approved \$81,702 for remodeling the the Nebraska Union Crib cafeteria. The Crib will be renamed Union Square and will change from cafeteria type dining to a fast food service.

—Decided to postpone any decisions on dropping the general engineering programs at UNO.



## Czechs warm up for Wilber festival

Clockwise from the top: Cheryl Zetocka, 17, of Valparaiso (left), and Joyce Stastny, 18, of Bee, go for a ride at the Dwight Czech festival last weekend. Hermie Franzluebbbers plays his accordion with The Moustache Joe Polka Band. The

Lincoln Czech Club performs traditional Czechoslovakian folk songs. Chuck Oborny, president of the Butler County Czech Club, dances with Jolene Strouf, queen of the Lincoln Czech Club.

photos by Bill Graf

