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TO TEACH THE UNORTHODOX . . . students plan the format of a free university.

Quarter System Switch 'Seems Likely' For NU

By Ruddy Irey
Senior Staff Writer

The possibility of the University adopting a quarter system appears favorable, according to John Hall, chairman of the ASUN Academic Research Committee.

The committee is presently conducting an investigation concerning the quarter system, Hall said.

"There seems to be a definite possibility of the University adopting a quarter system in the near future, opposed to the present semester form," Hall stated.

"I gained this impression after talking to Chancellor Clifford Hardin. He did not take a stand one way or the other, but he gave me the impression that he was not opposed to the system," Hall said.

"No action seems to be developing in the near future concerning the system, but people are definitely talking about the possibilities of a change," he continued.

Concerning the chances for summer school changing to two five-and-a-half-week sessions, Hall said that such a proposal is presently under consideration of the Calendar Committee of the Faculty Senate and has not been brought out for discussion in the entire Senate.

It is Hall's opinion that the adoption of such a summer school schedule would be a step in the direction of the quarter system.

"The same disadvantages and advantages apply to both and the consideration of such a summer school schedule is an indication of a trend towards a quarter system," Hall declared.

The purpose of the committee's investigation is to find out some definite facts concerning the quarter system and devise a model of such a system.

In addition, Hall said that the committee's actions should act as a guarantee that the students have a chance to consider the quarter system and have a chance to voice their opinions on the system before it is acted upon by either the administration or the faculty.

Hall explained that is setting up a model system, his committee has been trying to determine the advantages and disadvantages of a quarter system.

One advantage is that the quarter system could eliminate the problem of summer employment, he said. The student would be required to attend only three of the four quarters with the choice of which quarter to stay out of school left to the student. He would therefore not be limited to working only in the summer.

In addition, the University buildings would be used the year around, eliminating wasting vacant buildings in the summer, according to Hall.

The student could accelerate his planned time of graduating. The average load would be 10 hours, allowing the student to take more hours in a school year.

The program would be designed so that three quarters would equal two semesters.

The scheduling of when the quarters would start would be left up to the University

with a "myriad of ways for the system to be instigated" Hall stated.

One way would be to have 4 nine week sessions in a school year with two to three weeks between sessions and still maintain the present Christmas and spring vacations.

A disadvantage, determined by the committee, is that the system would probably complicate registration. However, with the heightened dependence on computers, this problem could be minimized.

Also the University would have problems in scheduling events such as rush week and new student week since theoretically a student could begin school anyone of the four quarters in the year.

Another problem would be that the concentrated study in a quarter would result in longer labs, "something that is complained of at the present time," Hall added.

In addition to developing a model quarter system, the committee is writing letters to schools presently using the quarter system asking them for information on such a system.

"We hope to poll the faculty before Christmas to get their opinions on a quarter system. A student poll will probably be conducted at the beginning of next semester to get the student's feeling on such a change," Hall said.

"The problem is that presently people are just not well enough informed on the quarter system. One of the goals of the committee is to eliminate this lack of knowledge," he stressed.

Stillman Students See Progress In Negroes' Acceptance At NU

Student Senate heard the impressions of the University from two Negro exchange students from Stillman College in Alabama.

Alice Watts and Michael Figures both agreed that the pace and the competition set at the University in the classroom is much greater than is found at Stillman, a small Negro college.

Figures said that he found the "lack of direct communication and the instructor to be a hindrance" that he did not encounter at Stillman.

In the area of the Negro

being accepted as an equal, Miss Watts stated that she felt that rapid progress is being made as far as the Negro being accepted as a student. "Some people at the University are definitely striving towards equality," she declared.

Senate action included the unanimous approval of a resolution which would have the ASUN Constitutional Committee investigate the possibility of working with the Faculty Senate Subcommittee on Student Organizations in approving student organi-

zation's constitutions.

The committee would investigate the feasibility of the two committees combining their actions.

A second resolution involving the investigation of the pass-fail system was also approved unanimously by the senate. The investigation, to be carried out by the Public Issues committee, would be involved in finding out why seventeen University departments refused to offer classes on the pass-fail basis while the remainder of the departments accepted the system.

Eight CCFU Members To Create Free University Second Semester

By Cheryl Tritt
Junior Staff Writer

A group of eight University students will establish a Nebraska Free University next semester to "give students relevant academic course material and to provide creative learning experience that is student-centered," according to Gene Pokorny, one of the group members.

The group, which is called the Coordinating Committee for Free University, (CCFU) feels that the establishment of NFU "will construct a step toward the real goal of total education," Pokorny said.

CCFU members will hold an open meeting Dec. 8 to explain the concepts of a free university and how the NFU will be organized, Pokorny said.

The NFU will be an autonomous organization offering students courses which they designate themselves and will not duplicate University academic subjects, Pokorny said.

From now until January CCFU will compile a schedule of courses from suggestions which University students submit to the committee.

Student Administered
"We (the committee) do

not want to be looked upon as people who are going to run the NFU," Pokorny said. "The students are going to run it," he added.

Students should consider NFU a challenge where they have a "structure to use as a means to get a quality education," Pokorny said.

At the end of January CCFU will publish a list of all the courses which will be offered. Then an open registration will be conducted the second week of next semester and students may sign up for specific courses.

The CCFU will find locations and times for the classes to meet, Pokorny explained.

However, no academic credits will be received for NFU courses.

Faculty members, graduate and undergraduate students and people from the Lincoln community will assume responsibility for individual seminars.

Requirements

The persons in charge of the different seminars will decide if there will be any limitations on the numbers of students in each class or if textbooks will be required, Pokorny said.

Free Education Experiments Develop In Nation's Colleges

Students ought to take responsibility for their own education, states the preamble to the course catalogue of San Francisco State's Experimental College, according to the November 1966 issue of Moderator magazine.

Experimental colleges or free universities, are developing throughout the country as supplements to regular university curriculum, and have achieved national notice within recent months, the article continued.

San Francisco State College, University of California at Berkeley, University of Texas, are just a few of the colleges across the nation that have set up free universities.

The Experimental College at San Francisco State was initiated by students and is completely administered by students. At the moment over eleven hundred, or some ten per cent of the student body is engaged in the free university curriculum, according to an article in Moderator magazine.

The course catalogue of the Experimental College states that the school was built to develop a new style of learning and teaching, Moderator reports.

This particular free university has the backing of San Francisco State's Academic Senate and the Council of Academic Deans, the article states. Special study and other arrangements made it possible for some students to receive academic credit from Experimental College courses.

Subjects studied include social change, personal devel-

opment, avant-garde art, education and the ordering of knowledge. Specific courses listed in the catalogue are: Film and Visual Dynamics, The College and War, Another Country—Early and Contemporary African Tribes, Seminar in Prehistory, Gestalt Therapy, and The Search for Identity, Moderator continues.

According to the Experimental College's courses catalogue, anyone may organize a course on anything. The only requirement is that he accurately describe what he is trying to do. Students make the final decision as to whether a proposal becomes a course, by signing up to attend, or not.

Everyone participating in the Experimental College is invited to regularly scheduled town meetings which consider problems and set directions of work, the article states.

George Olivari, University graduate student, took part in the experimental college at the University of Texas, started in 1965.

The Free University, as it was called, was aimed mainly at undergraduates, according to Olivari. He stated that it was experimental in the arrangement of classes and the subject matter of courses.

The Free University at Texas employed a seminar arrangement of classes as opposed to the usual undergraduate lectures, Olivari stated. Such courses as Theatre and the Arts, and Modern American Literature were offered.

Experimental colleges are being conducted in conjunction with many other universities. Newsweek magazine noted the Valley Center in Central Massachusetts. Some 90 undergraduates from Amherst, Mount Holyoke, Smith and the University of Massachusetts started the Valley Center free university.

At present over ten University faculty members have expressed the desire to assume the responsibility for an NFU course, Pokorny noted.

He added that any course concerning any subject will be allowed in the curriculum if the students want it.

As an example Pokorny cited six students who may wish to take a course in existentialism. They would submit this subject idea to the CCFU and the committee would find a place for the course to meet and someone to head the discussions.

University organizations will also be encouraged to participate in NFU.

NFU would give campus organizations "who claim their goal is the education of the University students" a chance to fulfill this goal, Pokorny said.

Means To Quality

As examples Pokorny said the Young Democrats and Young Republicans could use NFU to inform students about the structure of politics and Builders could structure a course which relates the University to the state, he added.

Pokorny stressed that the Nebraska Free University is not an end in itself but rather "a means to achieve a quality education."

This "quest for quality" is necessary, Pokorny noted, because it is "becoming more and more obvious that political and business pressures do not give the student enough chances to achieve total education."

"Too much of students' curriculum today is totally irrelevant to our lives," Pokorny said.

At the University "a course passes judgment on the student; the student doesn't pass judgment on the course," Pokorny declared.

Pokorny added that several universities such as the University of Texas, University of Colorado and University of California at Berkeley have incorporated free universities and numerous other colleges are starting them.

Twenty largest cities also have free universities which are not connected with any universities or college, Pokorny said.

The other members of CCFU are Phil Boardman; Kathy Augustin; Susie Dufferer; UNSEA president; Susie Phelps, ASUN senator; Dick Schultze, chairman of the ASUN student conduct committee; Mel Schlachter, ASUN student advisory board and Gary Watzke.

Housing Is Topic Of Panel

The requirement of living in on-campus housing will be the central topic considered Thursday afternoon in a panel discussion.

Dave Snyder, the organizer of the discussion, said that the panel will be composed of Dean Helen Snyder, Dean of Women, Bob Muschewski, resident director of Abel Hall; Dick Schulze, chairman of the ASUN Student Conduct Committee; Elaine Kallos, president of Pound Hall; Bob Samuelson, a student living in an apartment; Tish Volchahaska, also residing in an apartment; and Jan Kaufman, Secretary of Mortar Boards and past president of Burr Hall. Snyder will serve as moderator of the discussion.

The purpose of the discussion is to bring into the open both sides of the problem. Snyder said that this is necessary for "if a change is ever desired in the regulations, both sides should be openly known."

"In addition, it is important that the rights of the student be clarified and also brought out into the open," Snyder stressed.

The discussion is scheduled for 3:30 p.m. in the Small Auditorium of the Nebraska Union.

Winter Chills And Burglars Come In Out Of Cold

It appears that winter has begun in earnest in Lincoln. The Lincoln Weather Bureau predicted that temperatures would be 10 to 18 degrees below normal for the next five days.

University students are not alone in their reaction to the cold. But the weather can play an important role in the activities of many Lincoln city offices and businesses.

Crime, for instance, is affected considerably by the seasons. In winter, the number of burglaries is likely to increase, according to Lieutenant Schwartz of the Lincoln Police Department.

"The expenses for the average family are greater in winter," according to Schwartz, "and sometimes businesses don't check their safety measures as well in the winter." The Traffic Division of the Police Department is busier in the winter because of an increased number of automobile accidents.

On the other hand, according to Schwartz, injury accidents are reduced, because most drivers travel at slower

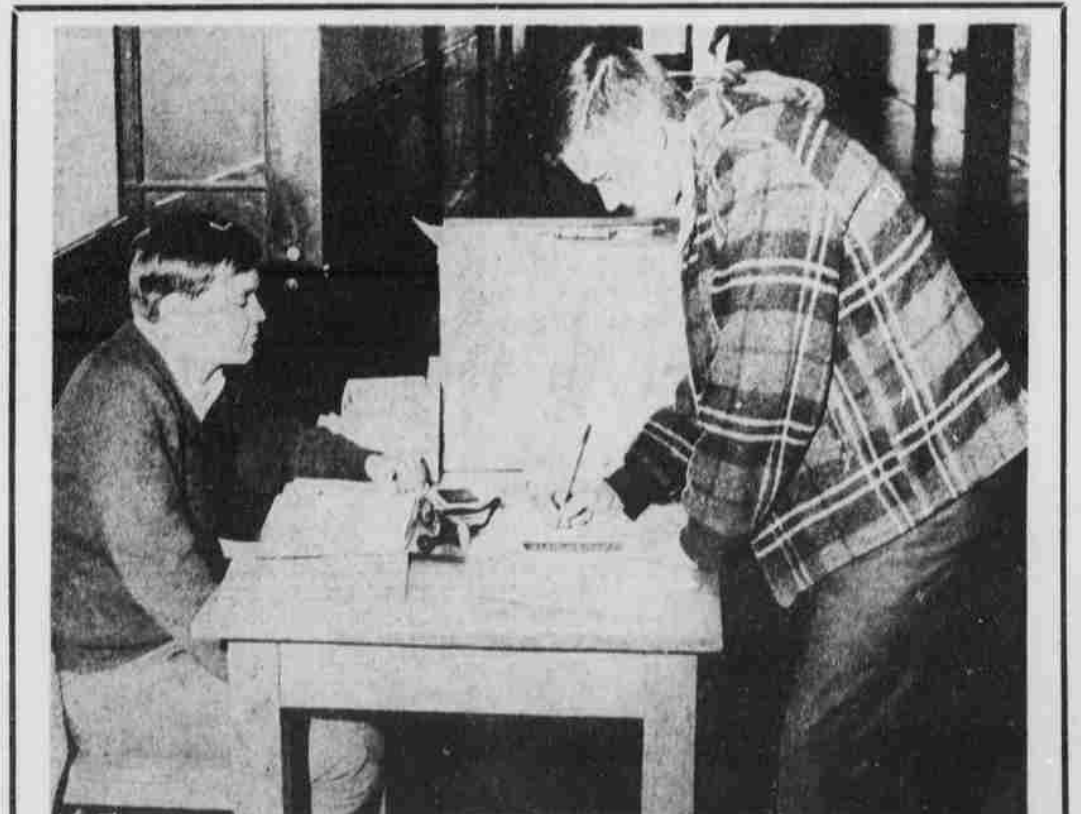
speeds in bad weather. Even if they do have an accident, Schwartz explained, the chances of serious injury are reduced.

The Lincoln Fire Department is busier too. Since most fires are in the home, and since most people are inside during the cold months, the number of fire calls increases considerably, according to a Fire Department spokesman.

Weather can affect Lincoln businesses, too. Power consumption decreases in winter, according to Consumers Public Power, because most heating is done with gas, most cooling with electricity.

The gas consumption increase was corroborated by a Gas Company spokesman. "But many large buildings, including the University of Nebraska's heating plant, switch to oil for heat since oil is more economical," he said.

The days when man was forced to huddle around a fire for protection from the elements are long gone. But the weather still plays a major role, in the northern and southern latitudes at least, in man's social and economic life.



VOTING . . . on the proposed Arts and Sciences constitution began Wednesday. John Peters casts his ballot and Don Colburn looks on. The polls are also open Thursday in Andrew and Burnett halls and the Nebraska Union.