

Senate campaign elicits political party action

CSP chairman gives platform

PSA attempts to reach voters with questionnaire distribution

by Jan Parks
Senior Staff Writer

Student Senate should get more involved in the mainstream of student thought, according to Mike Nelson, chairman of the Concerned Students' Party (CSP) of the University's newest political organization.

Nelson, who outlined the CSP senatorial platform Wednesday, said that there are more issues on campus than those indicated by bills in Senate.

"Attempts should be made to get students more interested in nation, state and local affairs," Nelson added. "We totally support Choice '68 and the Nebraska Young Adult Suffrage movement."

Section two of the CSP platform states: "... a Senator's first responsibility is to his constituents..." Nelson explained that this clause is an attempt by CSP to improve the voting responsibilities of senators.

"In many cases senators vote without regard to student opinion," Nelson charged, as he cited the Dow Chemical resolution as an example.

Fuchser pointed out that another CSP proposal is to increase student influence on University policies. The platform states, "The University must open its 'proper channels' through a greater respect for student opinion."

Supports Revolution

"CSP also supports the expansion of the World in Revolution Conference," the chairman noted. "It could be a much greater success than it was this year."

He cited better advertising and the centralization of speakers at one place as ways to improve the conference.

Nelson blamed the "failures" of this year's World in Revolution Conference on a lack of competition between student parties in Senate this year.

"This year's Senate had very little competition on student issues," Steve Fuchser, a senatorial candidate stated. "There was nobody to refute the policies of the party in power."

Student apathy cited

Nelson described the 1967-68 Student Senate as a "rubber stamp Senate" and blamed "the one party system for student apathy on campus issues."

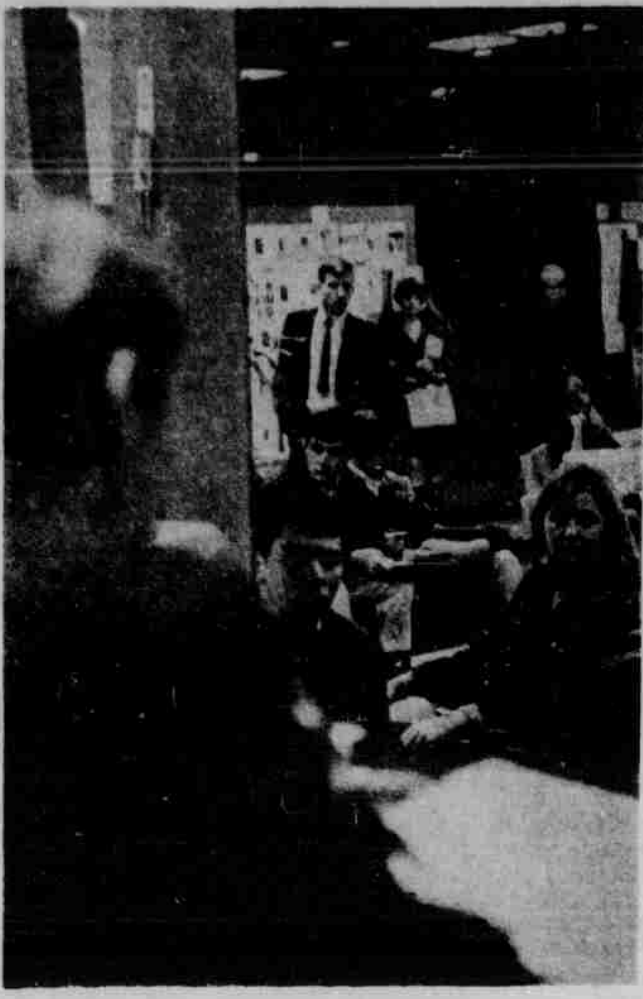
Explaining the purpose of CSP, Fuchser said, "We're not trying to degrade student Senate, but to improve it from within. We're afraid that without competition, student government will be meaningless."

One of the major planks of the CSP platform is that Student Senate should take a stand on University visitation policies within the living units.

Nelson felt that it was a mistake for Senate not to take concern in the Harper Hall issue, which involved the protest of Harper residents to the University's open house policy.

Senators uninformed

"Many senators were uninformed and unconcerned about the open door situation about the open door situation which directly influenced many University students."



Dave Shonka, candidate for president of ASUN, spoke Thursday at Hyde Park and outlined his campaign platform.

Shonka-Canarsky... Basis for platform: student power

The realization and recognition of student power is the basis for the Dave Shonka-Paul Canarsky executive platform in the ASUN executive race.

According to Shonka, an ASUN presidential candidate, student power means granting students an equal voice (equal with administration) in selecting policies involving their education and in policies which involve student non-academic affairs.

The presidential candidate promises that if he and his running mate are elected, steps will be taken to recognize the rights of the individual student.

"Too often these rights have been ignored, and too often the past student government—especially ASUN—has not taken a definite stand on student rights," Shonka has contended.

The Shonka-Canarsky platform states that University students are responsible individuals and should not be denied the right to choose their living environment, hours and activities.

The platform charges that Senate has not acted from a position of strength to further student rights.

Shonka has suggested that Senate encourage student participation on all levels.

"We will encourage student participation in the next session of the State legislature," the platform states. Students should be interested in any applicable issue, Shonka stated, including legal drinking age, capital punishment

"Justified accusations" against the 1967-68 Student Senate communications have led the 1968 Party for Student Action (PSA) candidates to try to reach the voters directly through an all-campus questionnaire, according to Diane Theisen, campaign manager for PSA.

The questionnaire, titled "PSA '68," was distributed Friday before the ASUN general elections April 10. The reason for this, according to Miss Theisen, was that University students need to start talking about ASUN.

Value to senate

"This questionnaire should be of value to the Senate even if PSA doesn't win," Miss Theisen said. "We felt that solving this problem of communications is vital if we are to involve students again in student government."

The PSA questionnaire is a sort of unconscious outline of the three main planks in the PSA platform, according to Miss Theisen. The first section, concerns special programs projected by ASUN executive candidates Craig Dreeszen, Cheryl Adams, and Mike Naeve.

"PSA state believes that these educational programs are an important part of Senate's activities," said Presidential Candidate Dreeszen. "We have worked on such programs as the Free University, the Model UN and Stillman Exchange program, and we want to know which of these and other possible programs are most interesting to our constituents."

Dreeszen thinks that Senate has a very definite role in such educational programs.

"Students at the University of Nebraska need not be passive recipients of an 'education' that is often fragmented and irrelevant," Dreeszen said.

Continue programs

"Many of the reforms sought are of a long term nature, so most of the programs begun by this year's ASUN Education Committee and the Advisory Boards must be continued next year," Dreeszen said.

In addition to this continuation, PSA proposes to establish a committee to make an "intensive evaluation" of education at the University.

between a) the students' responsibility to the welfare of the University and b) the institution's responsibility to rights of the students.

Choose environment

"We think that the student's right to choose his own living environment is so important that alternative ways of fulfilling housing financial obligations must be found," said Dreeszen.

"If the Administration and the Board of Regents persists in their reluctance to assure students rights, students can justify non-cooperation with housing regulations," he said.

PSA completely favors affiliation with the National Student Association (NSA), according to Miss Theisen.

Favor NSA

"NSA offers programs for both the individual and the student government as a whole," she said. "We urge voters to vote 'yes' for NSA affiliation in the general election."

Concerning the question of Senate-student communication, Miss Theisen said this is a somewhat general but definitely existing program.

PSA is preparing to participate in face-to-face and indirect contacts during the senate term as well as during the election campaign.

Ivy, daisy chain application read

Applications for the Ivy Day Daisy and Ivy Chains for Lincoln girls will be available in Dean Snyder's office, Motor Board member Kris Bitner Pfeiffer announced Thursday.

Freshmen through juniors may apply for the Daisy Chain and the Ivy Chain is for senior girls, she stipulated. All applications are due Wednesday, April 10.

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complaints of an 'inactive' Student Senate and ASUN, we feel that these accusations are unfounded," said Miss Theisen. "The problem has been communications between the action of the Senate and the student body."

"PSA hopes that through increased attention to senate newsletters and seminars as well as to the Senate programs and projects, we can adequately inform and interest University students in their student government."

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