



Centennial college opens doors next September

by Jim Pedersen
Nebraskan Staff Writer
An intellectual community which will make the student aware of himself, his society, and his world is the aim of the Centennial College.

The experimental college, which has been under consideration for more than a year, will open next fall and initially will involve approximately 175 freshmen, 25 upperclassmen, and four full-time instructors, according to T. E. Beck, associate professor of English.

Beck, one of four professors who will teach full-time in the college, said Thursday that the distinction between the larger University and the college will be between a passive and active education.

"MATERIAL DESCRIBING the program along with an invitation to apply will be sent to all freshmen enrolling at the University," Beck said. "From those who apply, we will choose, at random, a sample of the student body."

"This is not an honors college. We want a large number of students with average ability but also with motivation. We want to see just what effect this type of education will have on them," Beck said.

Students in the college will live in two adjacent dormitories which are

yet to be determined. Of the 175 freshmen, Beck said he expects 25 to be Lincoln residents who will not live with the residential college.

"THE UPPERCLASS students will also be selected by invitation, and will 'take part in the course while serving in a quasi-tutorial role,'" he added.

According to Beck, no one is required to live in the dormitories, but since the college is organized as a "community," the students are urged to do so.

"The student will receive 15 hours of credit of which one-third will be taken in the larger University," Beck said. "The other two thirds will be taken in the college and will involve either a math or language study and the main 'Centennial' course."

"THE CENTENNIAL course will be an interdisciplinary study in which the student will learn how to define a problem and then make full use of what he already knows to solve that problem."

"The student will investigate the problem individually or in small groups. He will not be a passive learner. He will be encouraged to make his own analysis and his own decisions."

"The idea is to make the student think, to develop methods of learn-

ing in him, and give him self-confidence.

"IF THIS type of intellectual community existed in the larger University, there would be no need for the college," Beck explained.

The second third of the Centennial College course, that of the verbal or mathematical language, will use audio-visual and tutorial methods and will be coordinated with the main course, according to Beck.

The four full-time faculty members of the college will be Beck; Dr. Robert Knoll, professor of English; Dr. Phil Scribner, assistant professor of philosophy; and Dr. Jerry Petr, assistant professor of economics. Several other University faculty members will teach in the college part-time.

BECK EMPHASIZED that the faculty will continually experiment with teaching methods.

"The training of a student in the college will have less to do with him acquiring a body of knowledge," he continued, "as it will be with developing his intellectual abilities and motivating him to learn and interpret."

"The way to discovery will be up to the student," Beck added. "Rather than have lecture or quiz sections, we will have a central line of investigation which everybody will be involved in."

"FOR INSTANCE, a group of students might be given ten ideas for a political society limited to a city. They must then establish a city to fit the ideals. Another group of students then attacks their model city, and both groups seek to amend the first proposals to make the city better.

"The students must work with a variety of methods to solve their problem. For the city, the students would apply history, politics, sociology, economics, mathematics and even linguistics to create the model city. From the model they might move on to study the problems of a modern city," he said.



Two teachers in the proposed Centennial College, Jerry Petr, economics, and Phil Scribner, philosophy, discuss plans for the curriculum.

Democratic coalition promises open meeting

The Nebraska Democratic Coalition executive committee meeting in Omaha Saturday will definitely be "open," according to committee members.

The promise of open meetings is one of several New Political guidelines adopted by the group of former supporters of Sens. Eugene McCarthy and the late Robert Kennedy.

The Coalition executive committee has planned no specific topics for the meeting, since the group only recently completed its organization, according to Wallace C. Peterson, economics department chairman and member of the Coalition executive committee.

"THE COALITION is quite loose and unstructured," Peterson said. "I think the group can be very useful in bringing in all kinds of interest in current issues and in the Democratic party."

"It is an instrument for making the Democratic party more effective," he said.

Peterson stressed that in his opinion the Coalition members want to work as an influential group within the Nebraska Democratic party.

"ONCE THE Vietnam issue is settled, there is much less likelihood that there will be a split between the Coalition and the regular Democratic party," he said.

He said that even though the 1968 national election was "unique" in its attraction of different groups into politics, the present two-party system has not changed.

"I think the (Presidential candidate George) Wallace movement is dead and that the Democratic party remains the more progressive, liberal force in politics," he said.

PETERSON SAID that although Coalition members were originally drawn together by opposition to the Vietnam war and Lyndon Johnson's

policies, the group is interested in local and national domestic issues.

"The Coalition wants to emphasize state issues." To do this the group is planning to observe the Nebraska Legislature.

"After all, politics ultimately culminates in legislation," Peterson said.

HE SAID little has been done so far except to classify bills which may be of interest to Coalition members.

Coalition members may testify before legislative committees, Peterson said, but the group does not plan to register as a lobbying force.

Peterson noted that several of Gov. Norbert T. Tiemann's programs for the next biennium were "progressive," and would gain support of the Coalition.

PETERSON ADMITTED that most of the Coalition membership centered in the Lincoln and Omaha area, but he pointed out that most of the population of the state is in eastern Nebraska, so "we are going to have lots of activity in this area."

He said that the Coalition is functioning on "rather an ambitious budget," and that all money is made through voluntary contributions.

Several people associated with the University involved in the Coalition, include: Dan Schlitt, Coalition treasurer and professor of physics; Eric Carlson, political science instructor; Dr. Robert Narveson, department of English; and students Kitty O'Leary and Jim Humlicek.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE officers are Lou Lamberty, chairman, Bill Campbell, vice-chairman, Jan Selvey, secretary and Dan Schlitt, treasurer.

Grad students: Life in a Ph.D. factory

Reprinted From The Wall Street Journal

Erik Muller has little in common with most of his fellow students here at the University of Colorado.

The 27-year-old candidate for a Ph. D. in English wears his hair in a neat crew cut on the campus that abounds with long-haired, bearded young men. He's too old to fear the draft, too poor to ski and too busy for protest demonstrations.

He likewise doesn't have a lot in common with CU faculty members. Even though he is teaching three classes this semester, he and his wife, Ann, are excluded from official faculty social affairs, and he doesn't receive such fringe benefits as a 10% discount at the University bookstore.

Erik Muller is partly a student and partly a teacher, but he doesn't really belong to either group. He's one of a growing legion of campus hybrids known variously as teaching fellows, teaching associates or teaching assistants and called "TAs" for short at most schools.

In theory, the graduate student TA does a limited amount of

teaching under the guidance of a professor; his job is supposed to be designed primarily to prepare him for later, full-fledged membership in a college faculty. The reality often is quite different, however. On some large campuses, TAs carry much of the burden for teaching the freshman and sophomore courses that senior faculty members shun. As some of the TAs see it, they are forced to neglect their own studies and find themselves the target of critics who contend that the quality of undergraduate instruction is declining.

By their own testimony and that of others, TAs also are underpaid. Erik Muller, the father of a two-year-old daughter, is paid \$3,000 plus tuition for a 10-month academic year, or about as much as busboys. At other schools, TAs earn as little as \$2,300 a year plus tuition. One Cornell University dean compares the lot of the TA to that of a medieval serf. A University of Michigan professor disagrees. "It's more like a slave labor," he says.

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Grape boycott and 3.2 beer highlight initial Hyde Park

by John Dvorak
Nebraskan Staff Writer

Perhaps the most representative and valid oration at Thursday's Hyde Park was by a bearded semihippie.

"I notice nobody has anything to say this afternoon. I don't have anything to say either. But I'm

going to get up and say that I've got nothing to say." With that he proceeded to say nothing.

Several of the more frequent Hyde Park orators did say something though. Bill Chaloupka complimented Sen. Senator Terry Carpenter. He is sponsoring a bill in the Legislature that would permit the sale of 3.2 beer in the state to anyone over 18.

Chaloupka attended hearings on the bill and speculated that Carpenter, who sells liquor in and around Scottsbluff, probably "parked his car on the highway outside Scottsbluff and saw all the kids driving to Colorado."

Chaloupka mentioned that the Lincoln police favor it. A police spokesman told how a convoy of cars makes regular runs from Lincoln to Marysville, Kansas each weekend. Kansas permits sale of 3.2 beer to anyone 18 years old.

AN ELDERLY MAN attended the hearings, representing no one but himself, Chaloupka reported. The man said that if the state sells more beer, there will be more alcoholics.

Phil Metcalf spoke on four different topics at four different times during the session.

He is spearheading a drive on campus that urges the consumer to boycott all California table grapes. He works with the Lincoln Committee of 1000, also urging the grape boycott.

The boycott is in support of the United Farm Workers Organizing Committee of the AFL-CIO. In 1965, that union struck the largest California table grape growing ranch. The ranch refused to negotiate with the strikers and

replaced them with imported workers. In January of 1968 the union launched an international boycott of all California table grapes.

Metcalf also scored the Paris Peace talks, chastised University students and other Americans for giving only \$30,000 to the Save Biafra campaign and charged that the United States does indeed have political prisoners, using draft resistor Steve Abbot and Russian agents Martin Sobel and the Rosenbergs as examples.

PERHAPS THE SHARPEST exchange of the afternoon was between former Schramm Hall President Steve R. Tiwald and ASUN Senator Bill Gilpin.

There has been no communication between senators and their constituents, Tiwald charged. The Senate should be reapportioned before the spring elections. That would require a constitutional convention which seems highly unlikely at this time, he said.

Each senator must have a constituency if ASUN is to be truly representative, Tiwald said. He pointed out that Able-Sandoz Residence Halls have one senator whereas Beta Theta Pi, with 117 residents, has three senators.

"The Senators have been lazy all year," Tiwald noted. "They should get off their fat butts and come up with a solution."

Attendance at the semester's first Hyde Park session was large but not initially lively. At the end of the hour session, one student, who was describing a book about unidentified flying objects, spoke to more chairs than people in the Union lounge.

Speculation varies on Hardin's return

Speculation is steadily mounting. Will Dr. Clifford M. Hardin quit his \$35,000 a year job as Secretary of Agriculture and return to the Chancellor's office?

No one seems to know for sure, maybe not even Hardin himself. But he has less than a year to decide; his leave of absence expires January 20, 1970.

"As far as I know, he is planning to come back after the year is over," Acting Chancellor Merk Hobson commented.

GEORGE S. ROUND, long time friend of Hardin and director of public relations at NU, said that the new ag secretary is "keeping in

close touch with the University." Round has "no idea" if Hardin will remain with the Nixon Administration.

A member of the Board of Regents said he was "not in a position to say" whether or not Hardin would return. Regent Edward Schwartzkopf did say, "I think we will know for sure within three to six months."

After his first weeks in Washington, Hardin seems fairly well entrenched. He was unanimously approved by the Senate Committee on Agriculture and Forestry. Nebraska Senator Roman L. Hruska termed Hardin a great administrator and a great leader. Nebraska Senator Carl T. Curtis said that Hardin is "eminently qualified" for the job. The head of the National Grange has also strongly endorsed the new agriculture secretary.

Hardin has said that he plans no drastic changes in the national

farm program — "not now — maybe not later."

IF HARDIN leaves his post before the end of the year, he would be breaking tradition in the Agriculture Department. Orville L. Freeman, the last secretary, served two Presidents from 1961 to 1969. Before that, Ezra Taft Benson also served eight years.

Should Hardin come back, he would simply return to the Chancellor's post, Hobson said. Hobson would then devote full time to his Vice Chancellor's position.

Should Hardin decide to spend more than a year in Washington, two options are open, Hobson explained. Hardin's leave of absence could be extended by the Board of Regents or the University could look for a new chancellor.

The first option seems highly unlikely. "I don't think Dr. Hardin's leave of absence will be extended," Schwartzkopf said. "It's highly improbable. It's just not

done in educational institutions. Anyway I don't think Dr. Hardin would want it that way."

WHEN AND if Hardin officially notifies the Board of Regents that he is not returning, then the search for a new chancellor would commence.

President of the Lincoln campus, Dr. Joseph Soshnik, explained the exact procedure to be used if a new chancellor were to be selected.

"The responsibility lies directly with the Board of Regents," he said. "They will follow a generally well-accepted procedure."

"The Regents would suggest that the faculties on all campuses designate people to serve on a special board," Soshnik said. Presumably, the students would be asked to designate representatives also.

THERE WOULD be just one advisory group, Soshnik pointed out. All groups on all campuses could work together.

This group would nominate prospective chancellor candidates. Other members of the academic community could also suggest names.

"The advisory group would then have a significant number of names," Soshnik said. The group would then review the backgrounds of the prospective candidates. Finally, the prospects would be narrowed down to a small number.

"The Board of Regents will then determine how many of the candidates they want to interview personally," Soshnik said.

"In a sense, the chancellor is the Board of Regent's man," he said, referring to acting-Chancellor Hobson's appointment. "They must make the final decision."

What type of man would a new chancellor be? "He should have a real fine educational record and be able to provide good learning conditions for all students," Schwartzkopf commented.

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Within the shadow of doubt . . . will Secretary of Agriculture Hardin vacate his cabinet post to return to the chancellorship?