

# Salary differences, heavy load, plagues grad student

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According to Hulbert, the money problem is sometimes complicated by problems in borrowing money.

"In order to get a National Defense Loan at Nebraska, you have to have taken 24 hours credit here," he added. "If you already have your masters degree, you can't borrow until you have nearly completed your doctoral work."

Robert Auerbach, a GTA in chemistry, on the other hand, doesn't think he is underpaid. Auerbach, who is single, gets \$3,000 and is responsible for two quiz sections and two laboratories.

"I haven't found that my teaching has retarded my progress towards the Ph.D.," Auerbach said. "I have been very happy and have found that my teaching actually contributes to my general progress with my own studies."

Discrepancies do exist even within the science departments, however.

A GTA in micro-biology, who is married and the father of one child, teaches two labs, correlates two others and works on a research grant for which his total pay is about \$2,700.

"I spend between 12 to 20 hours a week on teaching and correlating the labs for \$90 a month," he said. "I feel that I am definitely underpaid."

The department does the best with the money it has, he added, but it gives the same amounts to married and unmarried GTA's.

An even greater discrepancy is involved in the salary of a zoology department GTA who is married and has his masters, but receives only \$2,400 for teaching three labs.

Whether they are teaching labs, quiz sections or lectures the GTA is subject to supervision by a full-time faculty member.

According to McCashland, there is a great deal of variation in the number of GTA's any one professor supervises.

"Much depends on the organization of the courses and the individual departments," he said. "The GTA always gains more from 1-1 supervision."

"Last semester I was supervised by a full professor," according to an economics GTA. "This semester my supervisor doesn't have his Ph.D."

The GTA added that his supervisor conducts weekly meetings with the teaching assistants in which he gives them an outline but leaves much of the material and methods of teaching up to the GTA's.

Most supervision does not go beyond the weekly meetings. The GTA has

some degree of freedom, but must exercise that freedom within the boundaries of the syllabus or outline.

Much of the criticism which is usually leveled at the GTA system mourns the plight of the GTA as part student-part teacher, but a member of neither group. At the University there is a difference of opinion.

Auerbach believes he knows many of the chemistry faculty on a personal basis but still has contact with the undergraduates and knows his students well.

Another GTA in a science department thinks anyone who believes he is on the same level as the faculty is "boosting his ego."

"The department is letting you teach to help you out financially," he added. "There are many professors who would rather do their own labs. I know very well that I am a student."

"A GTA does sense a difference of rank in our department," Paul Powell, a GTA in English said, "but the difference is considerably less than in other schools."

Powell, who teaches six hours for \$3,000, often feels like he is leading two lives even though contact with undergraduates is slight.

Powell, like virtually all other half-time GTA's in the English department, holds his masters degree. The English department requires that its GTA's have their masters before teaching any courses. This is the accepted norm, but it is occasionally violated if staffing problems arise.

Powell doesn't think that he is being underpaid because he is single, but

he thinks that his salary would not be sufficient for a married GTA.

"Still, a teaching assistantship is the best way to get a Ph.D.," he said. "If I were to stop and leave my GTA post to earn more money outside the University, I would lose something, maybe even my incentive to get the degree."

David Hibler, an instructor in English who expects to receive his Ph.D. from Notre Dame University in June, believes that the GTA system here is better than it is elsewhere.

"One thing that impressed me when I came here was that the GTA's were considered at least temporary staff members," he said. "At Notre Dame I had no identity; I just fulfilled a departmental need."

Hibler added that the GTA complaint that there is too little money is justified in that they are doing the same thing that other faculty members do for considerably less pay.

"If a GTA is single, he can starve with a little bit of flair," he continued, "and if he is married with no children and his wife works, he can stay out of debt."

But if a GTA has a family, Hibler said, he is forced to go into considerable debt or scrape by teaching a full load for more money but consequently hurting his own studies.

Under that situation, according to Hibler, it may take the Ph.D. candidate eight years to complete his degree instead of four years which is becoming the accepted national norm.

To conquer the Ph.D. in four years requires almost full concentration, he

added. Ultimately, any teaching will impede the GTA's progress.

"The only solution to the problem of money is to feed enough money into the department to hire degreed teachers to share the GTA work load," Hibler continued. "In this way, the GTA can be more or less subsidized with higher salaries for less teaching."

"No GTA should have to teach over two classes. He simply cannot and still make rapid progress towards his degree."

"But at this time, the solution is economically impossible. The University simply doesn't have the money," Hibler said.

## Masters Week posts available

Positions for chairmen and assistant chairmen for Masters Week Committees are now open, according to Cheryl Tritt, co-chairman of the Masters Week Committee.

Committees will be classified either "publications" or "arrangements" and committee members will also serve as tour guides for the masters during their visit, scheduled for April 20-22.

Previous experience is unnecessary. Sophomores will be given priority in selection.

Application blanks will be available Thursday in the Nebraska Union basement across from the small auditorium and must be returned there by Wednesday, Feb. 12. Committee meetings are tentatively set for Tuesday evening at 7 p.m., Miss Tritt said.

Read Nebraska Want Ads

## Camelot tryouts

Tryouts for "Camelot," the Kosmet Klub spring show, will be Feb. 6-9 in the Union ballroom according to John McCollister, publicity chairman.

Auditions will be 7-9 p.m. Thursday and Friday and 2-5 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday.

Scripts and further information are available at the Kosmet Klub booth in the Union.



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## Campus food meet mandatory

The year's second Food Handlers Institute will be held Wednesday and Thursday, Feb. 5 and 6.

"The Institute is required for anyone involved in food handling or processing for the University or any of officially recognized University group," according to Del Weed, environmental health specialist for the University Health Center.

THERE IS a three-fold purpose for the Institute, he continued. The meetings will cover why food sanitation is necessary.

Also covered will be what types of diseases, infections and poisonings may be caused or passed on by foods and how food handlers may prevent these diseases and outbreaks.

Sessions will be held Wednesday at 2:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. in the Nebraska Union Auditorium, and Thursday at 2:30 p.m. in the Nebraska Center.

FOODHANDLERS need attend only one session to fill the requirement, he said. Sessions last about an hour and a half.

Weed said that the program of education has been very effective. There has been no instance of food-borne disease in University dining halls in recent years, he added.

Anyone may attend the sessions. There is no pre-registration.

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