

University is protected from deadly radioactivity

by Bill Smitherman
Nebraskan Staff Writer

University faculty, students and staff are protected from the harmful effects of ionizing radiation through a program of the Division of Health and Environmental Safety, according to Julius Haes, radiological health physicist for the University.

Haes said that we cannot observe radiation through our normal senses. However, more is known about radiation than almost any other industrial hazard, he said.

Radiological health is an important part of the overall safety program, he continued. Radiation is watched for its harmful effects on health and to prevent the contamination of equipment.

THE UNIVERSITY HAS a "broad scope" license from the Atomic Energy Commission for the use of radioactive materials, Haes said. For an individual to use radioactive materials on the campus he must obtain a permit from the University.

Only people with certain training may use the radioactive materials, he continued.

Radiation is used in several ways on the campus, Haes continued. The agriculture college, for example, is doing a study on how deep the roots of certain plants penetrate. This is done by putting deposits of radioactive material at certain depths in the ground and then measuring the radiation level on the plant's leaves.

Radiation is also used in medical research, chemical research and many other ways, he continued.

Radioactive materials on campus are controlled by the radiological health and safety systems committee, he said.

THIS COMMITTEE IS COMPOSED of fourteen members from the departments that use the most radioactive material Haes continued. There are also members from the Health Center and the administration.

The committee is composed so that those who have the most contact with radiation on campus will control its use, he said. Radiation must be better controlled than any other industrial material, Haes added.

Radioactive materials cannot be easily disposed of, he commented. Once materials are used they must be disposed of in a proper manner.

He said that the materials used must be picked up and stored safely. All the radioactive material on campus must be constantly accounted for. This requires the keeping of detailed records, Haes added.

All radioactive materials are ordered through his office, he said.

Then the user keeps a detailed record of his use. In this way, all radioactive materials are accounted for.

HAES SAID THAT another part of the program is to constantly recheck labs to assure that there is no contamination spread. This is done through the use of dust smears taken in the labs. Radiation counts from these samples are counted and printed out automatically, he said.

People working with radiation are also issued a film badge that measures their exposure, Haes continued. These are collected every four weeks and radiation exposure is recorded.

If there is a high exposure on the badge, the situation is checked out, he said. There has never been an instance of over-exposure at the University.

There are some 180 people that are currently being monitored for radiation. These are the 75 people who are authorized to use radioactive materials and their assistants.

HAES CONTINUED THAT radioactivity must be closely controlled to comply with state and federal laws. The safety program allows the University to keep its license for use, he said.

The University is also simply interested in the health of those connected with it, he said.

The program also saves money in workmen's compensation programs and insurance premiums. Insurance companies give better rates to institutions with good safety programs, Haes said.

At least once a year, the radiological health program is inspected by the state, he said. The program has worked well in the past. There have been no major problems, he added.

Campus Calendar

MONDAY, MARCH 24

(All events in the Nebraska Union unless otherwise indicated.)

- 12:30 p.m. Placement
- 1 p.m. U of N Chapter of Telecommunications
- 1:30 p.m. Builders—Calendar & Directory Kosmet Klub
- 3:30 p.m. Builders—Student Prof. Committee Panhellenic
- 3:45 p.m. Panhellenic Presidents Council
- 4:30 p.m. Elementary Ed. Dept. Tea
- Tassels AWS Sorority Court Union Film Committee
- 5:30 p.m. Tassels—Initiation Banquet
- 6:15 p.m. Towne Club Officers
- 7 p.m. UNICORNS Ed. Psych. Dept. Towne Club
- 7:30 p.m. Math Counselors
- 8 p.m. Delta Delta Delta
- 10 p.m. Innocents

Voter sign-up until Friday

Lincoln residents may register to vote in the city primary and general elections at the Election Commissioner's office until March 28, according to election commission officials.

Voters who have lived in Lincoln since September are eligible to vote.

Since the city primary will be held during Easter vacation, those who will be out of town may vote between March 24 and April 5 in the Election Commissioner's office, 10th and O Sts.

James Farmer discusses high-speed change in civil rights needs and plans

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"But the majority aren't the middle class," he said.

"As long as we (blacks) stay on the major highways we're okay. The young black poor, however, couldn't care less about getting served in Howard Johnson's."

"He's still in the big cities with rats and cockroaches. For him his status is quo. The number of black people has increased," Farmer said.

FARMER NOTED that black Ph.D.s and college graduates "have it easier than ever before, because everyone is looking for a showcase Negro."

Still, he likened the civil rights effort to running up a down escalator, due to the ground lost in gaining rights for the lower classes.

"We underestimated the prevalence of racism in this country," Farmer said. "We all have been brainwashed by the racist aspect of our culture. It is not possible to grow to adulthood without gaining some residues of this racist conditioning."

"The black has been taught that darker skin coloring is a deformity," he said. "The former reflection of African origin was a part of this (teaching)."

HE ASSERTED that this is beginning to change as new African nations emerge and the black sees that he has a past.

"Don't think the black can come into this pluralistic society as an individual," he warned. "America has not been a melting pot. We haven't homogenized or melted anything."

Farmer said that advocates of the "color-blind" theory of integration like NAACP leader Roy Wilkins don't understand the new "black agenda."

It is difficult for anyone from the New Deal to readjust his sights. He sees current demands as a repudiation and rejection of his entire life work."

"I see the black fitting into American society only if we can destroy racism," he said.

FARMER URGED efforts to "checkmate" racism, reducing its capacity to damage people by empowering the victim with the capacity to impose economic and political sanctions.

This can be done, he said, by organizing the "little people."

"We must learn to live in a world of power balances, coalition and alliances," Farmer said. "We mustn't

be in one political party, we must be a swing vote."

Farmer answered questions from sociology classes before his speech in a discussion led by Professor Jack Siegman.

Much of the discussion centered on Farmer's appointment to the HEW post.

"SINCE MY appointment I have received literally thousands of letters from little people," he said.

"Power for these people must be gained by local organization, by non-governmental agencies. It is too much to expect a government official to organize politically," he said.

Defending his decision to take the Nixon appointment, Farmer said there is a necessity for "some inside the government and some outside to prod, protest, and evaluate."

He called the government and the "outside" the twin agents for change in the U.S.

"Institutions tend to perpetuate themselves and resist change," he said. "Many bureaucrats tend to get away with doing as little as possible."

TO ESCAPE this bureaucratic snare, Farmer proposed to "establish dialogue between the little people and the government," by working with local organizations of health and welfare.

Farmer commented on other questions posed by the class:

—The free food stamp program for the poor in South Carolina should be extended to reach people whose income is \$1200 "at a minimum. It's all right for people with full stomachs to boycott free food."

—The negative income tax or a

family allowance plan is a good concept. "The trouble with poor people is that they have no money."

—Any group on campus with a common past or common goals (Afro-American groups) should be allowed to organize, but the organization "must be voluntary, and no one should be excluded."

—"Welfare has tended to mire people into their social levels. Welfare should only be a stopgap measure."

—If a family can't live above the poverty level on the minimum wage, then the minimum wage should be raised. "With the present situation, the rest of society is subsidizing companies by paying workers."

—Leaders must work to change the philosophy of the American people who think that if someone is poor, there is something wrong with HIM. "We must educate the public to the causes of poverty."

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Nebraskan Applauds

New officers of Pi Kappa Alpha are: John Hendry, president; Bill Dowd, vice president; Rick Peo, secretary; Glen Hass, treasurer; Leon Jurgens, pledge trainer; Phil Voyles, historian.

Recently elected officers of Zeta Beta Tau are: Ken Hoberman, president; Francis Boggus, vice president; Robert Goodman, secretary; Scott Friedman, treasurer; Ron Blumkin, parliamentarian.

New Alpha Xi Delta officers are:

Barb Ramsey, president; Linda Babbitt, first vice president; Judy Settle, second vice president; Darlene Dirks, recording secretary; Pam Hastings, corresponding secretary.

The 1969-70 officers of Young Republicans are: Larry Weick, president; Art Denny, vice president; Roni Haggart, secretary; Roxie Gee, treasurer; Matt Bosley, committeeman; Carol Madison, committeewoman.

University Counseling Service open to all types of problems

To take an activist role in student affairs is the goal of the University's Counseling Service, according to John Winkworth, one of its counselors and a doctoral student in counseling psychology.

Located in room 106 Administration building, the Counseling Service operates on a walk-in basis.

"This way students can see a counselor immediately, and we can find out his reasons for coming," Winkworth said. "Depending on his reasons, there are several courses of action we can take."

WINKWORTH WENT discussed some of the devices used in student counseling.

"With the student's permission, we make use of audio or video tape during the interview," he said. "The advantages of using tape are that a counselor can later review what was said, and also, since the interview is accessible to other counselors, he can get their opinions on it."

"Group counseling is also available if the student requests it," Winkworth continued. "In this case, a group of students is led by a counselor." He explained that the group may consist of students with a similar problem, such as trying to decide on a major. "The students in the group react to each other as well as the counselor," he said.

The sort of problems his office handles "runs the gamut," Winkworth said.

"THE MAJORITY of students we see have vocational problems, deciding which direction to go," he

continued. We also deal with a wide variety of personal problems, such as getting along with roommates or people in general."

Winkworth emphasized that the Counseling Service does not "tell people what to do, but rather looks at the problem and suggests alternatives."

"We feel it is more important to get the student in the habit of solving his own problems rather than solving them for him," he explained. "If this is accomplished he may not be back a second and a third time."

Are students having more problems now than in the past?

"THIS IS DIFFICULT to answer," Winkworth said. "We are seeing more students than before, but there are more students in the University."

In discussing the activist attitude of the Counseling Service, Winkworth said, "This year we are going out into the environment as well as having students come to us."

He explained that a counselor spends one night weekly at the

residence halls, where he may suggest activities for a floor and also be available for individuals.

"In this manner, we feel we may be able to deal with some things before they become problems," Winkworth said.

As well as dealing with particular problems, the Counseling Service is doing work of a general nature.

"Through descriptive data gathered in the initial session, such as sex, year in school, major course of study and living unit, we hope to, by the end of this year, have some idea of the kind of student that comes down for counseling," Winkworth said.

Daily Nebraskan Classified Advertising

Wanted:

One or two male roommates for apartment. Call 477-4627.

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