Current role of university elements outlined in Montgomery lecture

Nebraskan Staff Writer

"Manyuniversity governmental systems are too cumbersome and timeconsuming to meet the needs of the modern university,' Logan Wilson, president of the American Council on Education, charged in discussing the future of university grievance.

Wilson, speaking at a May 3 session of the Montgomery lectureship, outlined three axioms of university government he considers vital to its preservation:

(1) Order, with freedom and justice, must be maintained. "You can have order without freedom but not freedom without order," Wilson said.



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(2) The university cannot be a microcosm of the body politic, a welfare agency, a retreat from reality or an arena without ceasing to be a university.

(3) No group can have absolute power.

"UNIVERSITIES SERVE many constituencies," Wilson said, enlarging on his third axiom. "If we believe what we say about participatory democracy, we must include parents, trustees, taxpayers, alumni and others who are affected by what is happening in our institutions of higher learning in university government.

"The substance and relevance of knowledge cannot be whimsically determined," Wilson said. Later, he added that the university is "created for the good of the larger socie-

"This holds for students and professors, not just administrators and trustees," Wilson continued, 'The ultimate consideration must be the public good and not the immediate good of its most aggressive constituen-

cy." Wilson drew an analogy between the Brownshirts of Nazi Germany "who took over the universities to remake society according to their own idealistic model" "their latter day counterparts, who would cast aside the political neutrality of the university and make it a center for revolution.

parties to the breakdown of authority," Wilson said. Even more perplexing is their partial relinquishment of authority over curriculum to some of those least qualified to determine it."

dismay at those faculty

members who become

'The work of a university is not done when discourse is interrupted by disruption and frequently, violence," he "The answer is not to draw as many as possible into the conflict, but to improve the quality of academic life."

Discussing the future role of students in the governance of the university, Wilson said, "If they lack the experience for informed judgment, they should not vote: if they have it, it would be folly not to ask for their help.

On the role of the faculty, Wilson quoted McGeorge Bundy in saying, "they, more than any other group, must give their best," to university governance.

"THE FACULTY MUST offset the publicity generated by anarchy on campus by exerting more influence in the governance of the university," Wilson said. "If universities do not govern themselves, it is clear they will be governed by others."

Wilson cautioned faculty and administrators to be realistice about "external constraints" on their policies, mentioning that the American Chemical Society, and the American Associaition of Law Schools are both considering taking measures to halt the increase in the number of pass-fail

In discussing effective university administ ration priorities Wilson said, "the only option for some institutions is to bolster existing authority or

establish new authority. In concluding his one-nour address, Wilson cautioned not to "substitute devolution for evolution," and urged ' faculty, administration, trustees, and students," to "partners, not adversaries in a collective

endeavor toward reform." Senator Richard Marvel said he was impressed with Wilson's axioms, but added "on the whole, the student revolt is healthy - education needs to be shaken up, to be made more pertinent.

Diane Theisen, newly elected ASUN vice-president said that the University of Nebraska is suffering an "identity crisis" and "needs to define its purposes." She said that many students are concerned that the University is functioning as a "degree factory" making them "more appealing to business." Also, she added that students should have "a dominant if not controlling role in determining their social environment.'

Acting Chancellor Merk Hobson said that "imperfect as it may be." there is a logic for the present system by which faculty determines the curriculum. Explaining the "logic," Hobson said that "those who know the subject matter best should decide the curriculum," and that the present system was also designed to "protect what is taught from the changing political scene."

WAYNE WILLIAMS, panel member and president of the Afro-American Collegiate Society, addressed

himself to the question of

'I hate to use the 'collective guilt' idea as a trump card, but after 350 years of institutional racism which has defined the white as in and the black as out, I think the University has a priority to deal with the needs of black students." Williams

Referring to Wilson's point that the authority of ad ministrators should be clearly defined. Williams said that "no one seemed to be accountable" for the responsibilty of dealing with minority groups, and that his group's recent demonstration "identified those people so we can deal effectively with them."

Robert Knoll, head of the new Centennial College, discussed the roots of student revolution:

"STUDENTS HAVE observed the anomaly of the faculty, supposedly disinterested searchers for truth, but who are really purveyors of specialized knowledge for sale to the highest bidder," he said, "The chemists are for sale to the makers of poison gas."

By their activism students have not done society a disservice," he

Walter Bruns, a panelist formerly head of the Cornell University political science department who resigned after the recent uprising there, addressed himself to student revolt and to the more general question of university governance.

"The University is not a place for politicking, it is a place where people of disparate backgrounds form new groups on the basis of new experiences," he said.

Richard Woodard

Continued from page 7

What should be done? Put student priorities first on the list, according to Woodard.

"Remember the honors convocation several weeks ago?' he asked. "That wasn't for the students. That was planned for the prestige of the University. The big cats were able to put on their gowns and parade

If he had his way, Woodard would eliminate the Board of Regents, among other things. He would separate the functions of the University so that students had complete control of their own affairs. The Nebraska Union should be for the students alone, he feels, but the administration must approve any activities going on in the building. He would set up more noncredit courses. He would urge students and professors to do outside proects together. He would get the professors out of the libraries and research areas and into personal contact with the students.

"We should quit worrying about all the forms - all these red tape things," he said. "These are not revolutionary ideas; they could easily be done."

Woodard approves of any tactics necessary to create the changes students want. The university does not exist to harbor professors or keep administrators working. It exists for the students.

"Sure I approve of demonstrations," he said. 'And I won't qualify that by saying they must be peaceful or not cause any inconvetience. If you demonstrate peacefully for six months and gain nothing maybe you ought to throw some bricks through some windows so that people will listen to you.'

At this University anyway, Woodard does not foresee any great problems in terms of violence. In schools closer SAF schedules to urban centers, however, he predicts a lot more trou-

"Unless very fundamental changes are made, there is going to be a civil war within the next 10 years," predicted.

"The outcome of this civil war will be to create a tolerant and accomodating society," he said. "Each person can develop himself, but not according to the needs of an institution or a system or a pattern. Woodard simply wants the

United States to grow up, but to do that at least some parts of the old society will have to be destroyed — in a violent manner.

Woodard will not be teaching at NU next fail. He has resigned, effective at the end of this semester.

"This is a good law school," he said. "Of course if I were really perfectly happy with the University wouldn't be leaving. He is going to San Fran-

cisco, but has no immediate job plans. He definitely will

not teach next year.
"It's hard to say if I will ever teach again," he said.
"Who knows about tomor-

Final meeting

The Student Action Front (SAF) will hold its final meeting of the year Wednesday at 6:30, in the Nebraska Union, according to Ray Stangel, SAF chairman.

"All volunteers are encouraged to attend and report their experiences, and to help us reevaluate pro-grams," Stangei explained. Summer programs will also be outlined Wednesday.'

Departing faculty speaks . . .

Jim Davis

Continued from page 7 Daivs said, universities are saying to the students is this, 'You can't get changes made without demonstrations.'

Demonstrations are out of place on a college campus, Davis continued Nevertheless he approves of

"IDEALLY represenatives of both sides would work out the problems." he said. 'But this is just not done. Universities insist on dragging their feet. It takes demonstrations to get some action."

To what extent should be students be invoived in the university? That is an open ahead of the game. They in- have been pleasant."

students should definitely have more say in what's going on, "I don't know of anything on campus that the students should not be in

on," he said. On this campus. Davis is in complete agreement with black demands recently presented to the administration after three days of demonstrating.

If the demands aren't legitimate, there would be no support and no demonstrations, he said.

THE UNIVERSITY of Nebraska had a lot of advance warning about the demonstrations, he said. But the school refused to get

sisted on having a show of force.

Davis sees "more riots" in the future of American universities. The situation wiil worsen before it im-

Students can shut down any university in the United States if they want to, said Davis. That includes this

University. However, Davis will not be at this University much longer. He is leaving in June to take a position at Long Beach State in California.

"My reasons for leaving are purely personal," he said. "Sure I've got complaints. But the situation is anything but intolerable here. My two years here

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Engl 266c American Drama (3cr) Engl 293c Continental Novet (3cr) INSTRUCTOR ORIENTATION MEETING Bestul to be arranged

Stubblefield 1630 Wed., 5/14; And 102 1600 Thurs., 5/15; And 102 1600 Wed., 5/14; And 39 1530 Thurs., 5/15; And 30 1530 Thurs., 5/15; And 30

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Roberts

1. Attend Orientation and Introductory class session between May 12 (Mon.) and May 16 (Fri.).

2. INDEPENDENT STUDY over the summer. 3. At least two class sessions in September.

4. Examination session after September class session.

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COMPLETE INFORMATION

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