



Shirley Chisholm, first Negro Congresswoman

Nebraskan photo by Jim Dean

Youth 'realize it is time to act, not talk'

by Bill Smitherman, Nebraskan Staff Writer

People today tend to use students as scapegoats for the nation's problems.

Shirley Chisholm, speaking to a crowd of 300 people, said that regardless of criticism, the hope of America lies in its youth.

"Students haven't grown up in a vacuum," Mrs. Chisholm said. "They would not be speaking out on issues today if there had been no sham or hypocrisy in our society."

She added that students and young people in general seem to have a deeper sense of commitment to the ideal of social justice in America than others.

Mrs. Chisholm said that there is a social revolution in the United States. She cited the examples of "black people lashing out at society after 200 years of repression, students fighting against hypocrisy and sham and women standing up for their rights."

All this shows that something is wrong with society, she said. "We can't just ignore the problems and hope that they will go away because they won't," she added.

"The beautiful thing is that the years of repression, students fighting against hypocrisy and sham and women standing up for their rights."

Young see problems

The future of America lies in young white and black people working together, Mrs. Chisholm said. "There will be some differences of opinion because of the different backgrounds of the people," she explained.

The Congresswoman said that a certain phrase had bothered people in recent years. That phrase was "black power."

"Black power" is no different from any other kind of power in the United States," she continued. "But we had to put 'black' in front of the word power because power in this country has always been assumed to be 'white power.'"

Mrs. Chisholm explained that ethnic groups have been immigrating to the United States for the past 200 years. They work and are gradually taken into the system, she said.

Want power

"But black men came to America in shackles," she continued. "They have never really been able to move up."

After a group has established itself in society the next thing it wants is some power, she said.

"Blacks today are not doing anything different from what many other ethnic groups have done in the past," she said. "They are fighting for their rightful place in society."

"However, they are stirring up concern because they are out of their place. They are doing something that

no one ever expected the subjected Negro to do."

Congresswoman Chisholm said that no one listened to the problems of the Negroes for many years. Very few people saw that the country was headed for an explosion, she continued.

"They worked at token programs, but were really unconcerned," she noted.

"Blacks have now become fully awakened," Mrs. Chisholm stated, "and they will never turn back. They would rather die first."

But, she asserted, Blacks have been one of the most loyal groups in the U.S. in spite of their subjugation.

Love for country

"We have had many other ideals and the promises of greener pastures thrust at us," she continued. "But, we have not, as a group, accepted these ideals because we love America. We do not love her for what she is and has done, but we love her for her potential."

"If you love someone though, you don't try to hide their sores," Mrs. Chisholm continued. "You try to heal them."

She said that this is the reason it is necessary to talk about America's problems. Then we can see the obstacles and conquer them, she continued.

"In essence, this is what the 'social revolution' is all about," she said.

Mrs. Chisholm said that racism is the "bugaboo of America." It is the Achilles heel where both domestic and foreign enemies can attack America, she said.

However, this problem can only be solved with a basic change in the attitudes of the American people, Mrs. Chisholm said. Without this change, all the liberal programs in the world will be to no avail, she continued.

"That is why young people are so important, she said. They are capable of change."

"It will take courage to take a stand and fight for your convictions," Mrs. Chisholm continued. "When you take a stand, you become a target."

"It takes guts, do we have the guts to repair a society that is decaying and falling to pieces all around us?"

"I think we do," Mrs. Chisholm said. "We must find a way to light the candle of understanding in the hearts of people all over the nation so that America can truly become a country with liberty and justice for all."

Meeting to be held on Fulbright-Hays grants

A meeting for students interested in Fulbright-Hays grants for 1970-71 will be held 2:30 p.m. Tuesday in Room 108 Burnett.

Applications are in 710 Oldfather and are due Nov. 10. For further information contact Roberto Esquenazi-Mayo, 709 Oldfather.

Promotions, punishments: pressured by 'politicking'?

by John Dvorak, Nebraskan Staff Writer

Decisions involving faculty members and departments are made with only the best interests of education in mind. Is this popular assumption true?

To what extent do shining up, kowtowing and logrolling affect decisions? Are certain faculty members punished and oppressed for one reason or another? Does a form of academic politics subvert the real goals of education?

There are approximately 1,000 faculty members at the University of Nebraska and there are a possible 1,000 answers to these questions.

"We're in a curious situation because we professors are involved in a highly political kind of life," said Dr. Leslie Whipp, assistant professor of English.

"Yet we really aren't prepared for political experiences. I'm a good case in point because I'm politically naive, and many of my colleagues are incompetent in these matters as well."

Another faculty member, who has spent 13 years at the University, said, "I just work as hard as I can and do the best job I can and let everything else take care of itself. My director tries to do the best job possible, too."

But another veteran faculty member has the opposite, and a far more bitter view.

Faculty members don't usually speak out on the issues within the department or the institution, he said. When they do speak out too much, they are labeled as troublemakers, said the assistant professor, who preferred to remain anonymous.

"If the faculty member continues to ask embarrassing questions, he becomes ostracized and is punished he said. "This is the way dissenters are quieted."

As soon as a professor becomes difficult, it affects the meetings and conferences he attends, his committee assignments, salary, promotional opportunities and everything about his job, the assistant professor added.

"I know," he said, "because it's happened to me. They're doing everything they can to make me leave, but I've fooled them. I'm not going to leave."

The assistant professor pointed out several areas in which he feels he is being punished.

"They found out what classes I'd like to teach, and they won't let me teach them. They won't let me attend meetings and conferences outside the state. They'll never promote me. I seldom get raises; this year I got \$300, far less than the average five per cent."

This assistant professor received a B.S. from the University, his masters from a prestigious southern school and his Ph.D. from an Ivy League university. His doctoral dissertation was presented to an internationally renowned authority in his major field. He freely admits he has the label "troublemaker."

Leaves quietly

Generally, an unwanted faculty member leaves quietly for another job, the assistant professor said. There's about a two year time lag between the first messages of disapproval and the time the unwanted faculty member takes a new job.

If the departing faculty member is repentant and does not speak out publicly, his reputation does not follow him.

"I could take any number of jobs right now," said the assistant professor. "But my home is Nebraska. I own property here, my friends are

here and all my professional contacts are here."

Dr. Royce H. Knapp, regents professor of Education, said that he hasn't run across politics involving promotion and salary in more than 20 years at NU.

"I would have to see some evidence," he said. "There may be some internal situations where people may feel they have been discriminated against. But I've never felt it and I've never seen it work."

Dr. Robert E. Knoll, a full professor and director of the Centennial College, pointed out that promotions are as important in the University as they are in the military.

"Essentially promotions are in the hands of your peers and you're in trouble if there are animosities," he said.

A dean can correct salaries of faculty members and in theory at least, promote them as well, Knoll said. Such action could correct the results of politics on the lower levels, but it is hardly ever done, he added.

"If a man were promoted solely by the dean, then he becomes the dean's man," Knoll said. "This situation works to the disadvantage of all concerned."

One faculty member, recently promoted to associate professor, agreed with Knoll.

"To be promoted, you must practice an almost subtle kind of politics, perhaps public relations would be a better term, but you can't be obvious about it," the assenter said.

Trouble really hits, the associate professor added, when a faculty member does too much politicking or plays the wrong kind of politics.

Doubts

Bill Kelly, a political science teacher when not pursuing his Ph.D., doubts the importance of politicking in gaining acceptance in a department and getting ahead.

Kelly offered a list of ideas for getting ahead which he intends to employ after receiving a doctorate, if he stays in teaching.

"You've got to show people you are a scholar by publishing in quality, scholarly journals."

Senate loser contests ASUN election rule

by Sara Schwieder, Nebraskan Staff Writer

Charging that ASUN gave no notice of a 30-day time limit for contesting ASUN elections, plaintiff Stan Peters presented his case to the Student Court Sunday against Election Commissioner John McCollister and ASUN president Bill Chaloupka.

Peters ran for a senate seat last spring and allegedly found irregularities in electoral proceedings.

He did not file suit against McCollister at that time.

Peters attempted to file 56 days later, after the constitutional time limit had expired.

The hearing Sunday centered around the legality of a petition submitted by Peters which would allow him to file suit against McCollister even though he did not comply with the 30-day limit.

Counsel for Peters, Terry Schaaf, submitted his petition to file suit on June 17, 1969, 46 days after election results had been posted.

He said that the only time he could prepare the petition was the week of May 3-10 because law finals were held the week of May 11-17 and under-graduate finals were held May 18-23 and vacation included the first part of June.

"I was not aware of the 30-day limit at that time," Schaaf said. "Even if I had, that week of May 3-10 would not have been adequate time to get the facts."

He said that it was the responsibility of the Election Commission to inform candidates of the 30-day limit, and contended that McCollister's exclusion of it "might border on negligence."

"We only had 18 days to file the suit with dead week, and vacation the only time the ASUN office was not closed," he said. "Even then, there was no chance that the court would meet to hear the case."

Interpretation of the 30-day clause was questioned. Arguments centered around whether "30 days" meant class days or calendar days.

"The Constitution actually contradicts itself in two clauses," Schaaf commented. "First it says specifically 'class days,' then in reference to the same subject later, says 'days.'"

In addition to the ambiguity in the Constitution, Schaaf contended that McCollister "was not aware of the 30-day limit either."

"You must have the reputation of being a real good instructor. It's difficult to measure what a good teacher is, but you can establish a reputation in time."

"You've got to work well with people, be happy and take pressure with a grain of salt."

"When called upon to work on committees, you've got to do a vigorous, conscientious job."

"You have to establish good personal rapport with individual students and show them you're interested."

Professors don't want a bunch of shrewd politicians around them, Kelly said. Politics might work at times, but it generally just makes enemies.

Whipp thinks the situation varies greatly from department to department.

"I have received promotion and raises without any special kind of seeking," he said.

Whipp is in a department which over the years has earned an excellent campus-wide reputation. The faculty of the English Department have wide respect for the fairness of their chairman, he said.

"I suspect this is very unusual in a department," Whipp added. "Characteristically, a department chairman identifies with the administration. We in the English department are pleased with our chairman, but if we had a less competent man in that slot, it could be very distressing."

A lot depends on having a strong department chairman. Several faculty members pointed out that with a fair chairman, no one has to politic for an idea or for a raise. If the idea has merit or the raise is deserved, it will come.

Knoll pointed out that just as politics in salary and promotion may be prevalent, politicking occurs in other areas as well.

"A great many people want to teach a course in their specialty," he said. "In that way, they get to be experts and build a reputation."

Unfortunately there isn't always a formal procedure for deciding which professors teach what courses — a situation which invites politicking.

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Counsel for the defense, Thomas Sutherland, responded to the accusations by contending that it was not McCollister's responsibility to tell candidates about the 30-day limit.

"The ASUN Constitution is there for anybody to see," he noted. "The person is supposed to know the law, and ignorance of the law is no excuse. If you were speeding down 'O' Street and a cop stopped you, you couldn't be excused because you didn't know the speed limit."

Sutherland also said that a student running for the senate should "know the laws of the body he is being elected to."

Responding to charges that Peters was not given "reasonable time," Sutherland questioned the meaning of being reasonable.

"There is more to reasonableness than the fact that Peters had finals that week or that he didn't know that there was a 30-day limit. The law is there, and that is the only issue here today."

The verdict will be handed down by the five-member court on Wednesday.



Greg Kuzma

Nebraskan photo by Dan Ladely

Instructor to give reading

Culture returns to the Nebraska Union Crib Tuesday at 4 p.m. when a University of Nebraska English instructor will read selections of his own poetry.

Greg Kuzma, who teaches poetry and fiction writing, will read his poetry for about an hour Tuesday. Kuzma has had two of his works published. They are a book of poetry entitled "Something at Least Visible" and a pamphlet called "Sitting Around."

The poetry reading program is the

Graduate students are often the subjects of politicking, he said. Grad students are assigned to work for individual professors, and so politicking often occurs in deciding which professor gets which graduate student.

"This is a contemptible procedure," Knoll said. "I'm not sure the graduate students are even aware of it. But I don't think it is widespread."

Politics — whether it is in salary, promotion, course assignments or anything else — generally occurs when there are no well defined procedures for decision-making, Knoll continued.

There ought to be some kind of pattern, he said. Each department has a slightly different way of making these decisions and some kind of stated policy is necessary, Knoll added.

"I have real sympathy for department chairmen," remarked Dr. Bert M. Evans, assistant professor of agricultural economics. "They suddenly become a department chairman or director and they're not prepared for it."

Some people do well as chairmen because it's their nature. Other people are teachers, not administrators and if thrust into the chairmanship do not do well, he added.

"Some chairmen don't really want to become administrators so they withdraw and things just run on their own," Evans continued. "When the going gets tough and decisions have to be made, you've got problems."

Another professor, who did not want his name printed, agreed and even went so far as to name departments which he thought had either good or bad reputations.

English, economics and chemistry in particular have excellent reputations, he said. Among those departments with less than excellent reputations are mathematics, history, the languages, political science and anthropology.

"We politic when there is no better way of doing things," the professor said. "When there are good strong administrators who know which direction to go, you avoid politics and personalities. Politics is evidence of weakness."