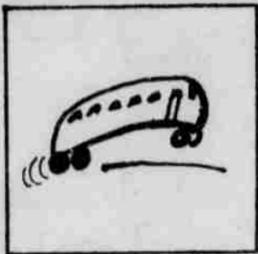


EAST CAMPUS



ASUN: going, going . . .

OPINION

by LYNN HOLDEN

What's an ASUN? It's name is one of those abbreviations which flies between the mouths of the University elite almost as often as polysyllabic words spew from the mouths of English professors.

As an animal science major, I could describe an ASUN as a 68-legged animal (on good days) inhabiting the Union mainly on Wednesday afternoons.

Unlike the steer, sheep or hog, it has no value either for its meat or hide. Instead its value may be described as, well, as . . . uh . . . indescribable.

Maybe nonexistent would be a better word. I prefer not to think so. The optimist in me refuses to let me classify anything as non-functional.

Constitutionally, ASUN is THE governing body over the students of the University of Nebraska. They have the final say over everything, right? Well, your mother is really the tooth fairy and the Board of Regents exists.

If this year's Senate were to pass something of major significance ("Let's Pretend"), it would not go into effect until the Board of Regents approved it.

That's only fair, I guess, since the Regents represent the taxpayers and the taxpayers do support the school and should have some say in how things are done.

ASUN is also undergoing an identity crisis. It has come to share the spotlight with other governing organizations which more directly affect students' lives: AWS, IDA, IFC, ICC (pardon the abbreviations) and Panhellenic.

Some of the more prominent campus issues this year have been the abolishment of women's hours and the possible establishment of coed visitation.

These matters do not fall directly under Senate's jurisdiction. With those organizations named taking care of these matters, Senate can only pass its time by proposing budgets, advising the administration or legislature, or creating committees. Senate has lost its place in the hearts of NU students.

The future of ASUN? A prophet I ain't.

Suggestions have included restructuring the student and faculty senate into one senate; establishing a bicameral student legislature; abolishing Senate; or, again waiting to see if next year's crop of student representatives will be the long-awaited ideal combination of personalities which will bring innovation, ingenuity and fearless leadership to Nebraska students.

And now, my next topic, "Eternity Is . . ."

Evaluation book

Faculty: only half there

by GARY SEACREST
Nebraskan Staff Writer

The Faculty Evaluation Book will rate only approximately half of the undergraduate courses offered at the University.

"I'm happy we got that much, considering the teachers had to shoulder a large part of the responsibility for carrying out the project," said Ken Wald, chairman of the ASUN faculty evaluation committee.

Wald explained that many courses were not evaluated either because the instructor opposed the idea of faculty evaluation, or, due to a mistake, the instructor did not receive an evaluation packet.

Although Wald was generally pleased with this year's faculty evaluation, he said, "I got angry at some of the reasons teachers gave for not participating in the evaluation. Frankly, some instructors were scared to be evaluated."

Wald said one English teacher said the only thing freshmen were capable of evaluating was the classroom atmosphere.

Wald, a junior from Lincoln, expects that the 223 page book

will be distributed by March 2. Three hundred fifty books are being printed. These will be distributed to dormitory units, fraternities and sororities, libraries and college department offices.

Commenting on the usefulness of the book, Wald said, "Students can get some general idea of an instructor. But we don't want the book to be used as the only criteria for choosing classes."

Although there were plans to include \$500 in advertising, Wald said the book would probably not have any advertising. However, Wald still expects the project will not spend more than its allotted \$5,000 budget.

The Faculty Evaluation Book will contain numerical results of a 26-question survey of courses and will have no interpretation of the raw data. The results of the evaluations of over 1,000 course sections will be in the book.

The book will provide statistics of total enrollment in each class, the number of students responding to the survey and a breakdown of instructor evaluation with ratings from excellent to poor.

Graduate courses and quiz sections were not surveyed.

Laboratory instructors were not evaluated either, but the value of labs was considered in the survey.

Some faculty criticism of the evaluation was valid, according to Wald. He said the form used for the evaluation was too rigid to measure precisely the effectiveness of an instructor.

"In order to get faculty evaluation established there will have to be a minor revolution in the American educational system," Wald said. "The faculty will have to be willing to be evaluated and they will have to be involved in planning the evaluation."

Wald hopes future faculty evaluation will become the joint effort of the Teaching Council, Faculty Senate and ASUN.

Club offers film

The original 1931 version of "The Threepenny Opera" will be shown by the German Club Thursday, Feb. 12 at 7:00 p.m. in the Nebraska Union Auditorium.

Starring Lotte Lenya, the film has often been listed as one of the top ten movies ever made, according to German Club officers. Club members will be admitted free and non-members charged 50c.

Program Council Re-interviews

The Nebraska Union Program Council will be re-interviewing students Thursday evening for positions on several film committees.

No chairmen were selected for several of the committees during last Saturday's interviews, according to Tom Lonquist, Program Council chairman.

Students are especially needed to work in the area of special films as well as a newly created area designed to deal with film festivals, underground films and local students' films, he added.

Anyone interested in applying for the positions should sign up for an interview in Room 128, Nebraska Union.

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