

# RIGHT ON!

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## Regents: A silent majority of six?

					
Greenberg	Elliott	Herman	Raun	Schwartzkopf	Adkins

**R**egent Robert Raun is a man of distinction on the Board of Regents. The 41-year-old president of the Board of Regents is the youngest Regent and is the only Regent engaged in agriculture.

However, Raun is not unique in his cautious view toward the student's role in the decision-making process of the University.

"Students' views on appropriate matters should be solicited and seriously considered by those charged with the responsibility for operating the institution," he said.

"Students should be encouraged to exercise initiative in developing a quality of life outside the classroom and laboratory that will prepare them for full participation in, and acceptance by, the greater community."

Although the President of the Regents believes students' views on appropriate matters should be considered, he seriously doubted if the state constitution would be revised to provide for a student Regent.

"In some cases there should probably be more student viewpoint available to the Regents," he said. "Great care must be taken in order that this viewpoint reflects the feelings of the entire student body, and not just the few who are most vocal."

Raun contends that the Board of Regents should generally restrict themselves to matters of overall University policy and thus allow key administrators to function as freely as possible in the day-to-day operation of the University.

"As Regents," according to Raun, "we must continually fill the very vital role of interpreting and communicating the needs and wishes of the academic community to the citizens of the state, and vice-versa."

However, he said, a critical problem is maintaining strong support from the state's citizens for the University.

Raun said two other problems facing the University are "developing the best of new ideas and approaches to education without destroying too much of the good from the past" and "maintaining a sense of obligation, purpose and responsibility throughout the University in this age of affluence."

On ways of improving teaching, Raun noted that faculty tenure is just one of the ways of building and retaining a good faculty. But he said any formal faculty evaluation by students should have the approval of all segments of the University.

Raun is a farmer and livestock feeder near Norman. He is a NU graduate and member of the Innocents Society. An Air Force veteran he has represented the Fifth District since Jan. 1966.



**U**sually only students criticize ASUN as being inept. But recently Regent Edward Schwartzkopf expressed doubts about the effectiveness of the NU student government.

"ASUN is not the strong government students want. The lack of student interest in ASUN shows to me the students are not happy with the student government and what it is doing."

Although he criticized ASUN, Schwartzkopf said that University students can play a greater role in the decision-making process of the University.



The former NU football star said: "I'm never concerned with the decisions students make as long as they have all the facts, and the facts are correct."

Schwartzkopf noted that student participation in the decision-making process at the University is increasing. He mentioned student involvement in curriculum committees, the Council on Student Life, and the chancellor search committee.

"Our student body is excellent," according to Schwartzkopf. "We can do many more things if there is increased dialog between the students and the Regents."

But, he added, the ultimate authority of the University is the citizens of Nebraska and the parents of students.

The Lincoln Regent said one of his main goals as a Regent is to provide students with the best learning situation possible.

Discussing ways to improve the University's faculty, Schwartzkopf indicated that faculty tenure has its good points and its drawbacks.

"Tenure can be a great stimulus to building a good faculty. But it can also work to the detriment of the University if teachers use it as a crutch."

Schwartzkopf favored faculty evaluation by students "as long as it doesn't interfere with the instructional program and it doesn't harass the teacher."

Asked if the punishment of a student by the University and civil authorities for the same violation was fair, Schwartzkopf said, "each disciplinary case has to be studied individually. Sometimes you can't avoid double punishment."

Schwartzkopf has represented the First District since his election in 1966. He received his BS and MA degrees from the University of Nebraska and was on the NU varsity football teams of 1939, 1940, and 1946, with a five year break in his education to serve with the armed forces. The 50 year-old Schwartzkopf is an administrator for the Lincoln Public Schools.

**O**ne of the most critical problems facing the University is maintaining adequate financial support, according to Regent Richard Adkins.

Adkins believes that the Regents have a definite responsibility of supporting the Chancellor in his efforts to secure a budget that will bring needed progress to the University.

Adkins said other critical problems of the University are unanswered questions about the merger with the University of Omaha, new and better ways to serve the state, and the individuality of the student.

Turning to the University's strong points, Adkins said, "the University's greatest assets are human ones, namely, its students, faculty members, and administrators. Our personnel is second to none."

On other matters concerning students, the Osmond banker declared, "Students should participate in decision making at the University, just as they did in the selection of a new Chancellor. They made a very real and a very substantial contribution to this critically important endeavor. Students by the same token must understand the legal responsibilities of the Regents."

"We believe that students should have a voice in their non-academic life activities, as we have shown through the approval of the Council on Student Life on the Lincoln campuses."

Asked if the punishment of a student by the University and civil authorities for the same violation was fair, Adkins said, "I hope the actions of discipline taken by the University will be toward the accomplishment of University goals and not repetitive of punishment offered by the courts."

Adkins explained the possible expulsion of students from the University for the use of marijuana on the grounds that many faculty and the general public feel the use of marijuana may be more harmful than alcohol or lead to other serious problems.

On other matters, the Regent said:

—"What is good for the University of Nebraska is good for the State of Nebraska; it is impossible to intelligently separate the two."

—He favored faculty evaluation by students.

—"Tenure has merit, but a good faculty is built where there is challenge, conducive teaching conditions, and competitive salaries. Tenure alone does not build and maintain a good faculty."

Adkins has represented the Third District for 11 years. He attended Columbia University, Grinnell College, and the University of Nebraska, and is a Navy veteran.

