



September 15, 1970

Dear Mr. Davis:

The Board of Regents of the University of Nebraska has asked that I inform you that the action taken by the Board with reference to your proposed appointment as an instructor was not based upon any specific charge or complaint made by any person or institution.

The Board, which legally has the responsibility for approval or disapproval of faculty appointments, was not convinced that you possessed the qualifications which it desired and for that reason ceased the processing of personnel actions which would have led to your appointment as an instructor at the University of Nebraska.

Sincerely,  
G. Robert Ross  
Corporation Secretary

## Davis disputes Regents' reply

by BILL SMITHERMAN  
Nebraskan News Editor

"Either the University of Nebraska Regents didn't have any reasons for not hiring me or they are ashamed to admit them."

This was the first reaction of Michael Davis, a pre-doctoral fellow at the University of Michigan, whose appointment as a philosophy instructor at Nebraska was denied by the Board of Regents.

Davis, who had been accepted by all faculty and administration authorities concerned with hiring new

"This cuts to the heart of academic life," Davis said. "This is the same situation as that of a union worker who is fired with no appeal to a grievance committee. It is bad business for a University."

Davis called the Regent's action "irresponsible because it is without foundation." He said he plans to file a complaint with the Nebraska chapter of the American Association of University Professors within the next few days.

Though the Regent's letter listed no specific charges against Davis, he defended his academic actions.

"My concerns here have been with the reform of the university," he said. "The situation at Michigan has been fluid enough that we have been able to work within the system and make changes."

Davis continued that there had been virtually no student violence at Michigan for several years.

"I believe this was partly because other students and I have been able to work within the system and make constructive changes," he said.

The philosophy department at Michigan was "extremely upset" when they found out what had happened, Davis said. They will decide what to do after they see the letter, he added.

Davis said he sees three effects of the Regent's action:

1. It diminishes NU's credibility in the academic market — it is difficult for the faculty to make commitments if they can't be sure they will be honored.
2. It strikes at the ability of the academic community to choose its own men on the basis of relevant criteria.
3. It points up the fact the students of Nebraska have a stake in having a good faculty and having them chosen on the basis of their academic qualifications.



Michael Davis

teachers, was rejected by the Board in its August meeting.

After his rejection, Davis sent a letter to the Board asking for specific, complete evidence, and reasons why he was not hired. In their Monday meeting the Regents authorized a reply to Davis.

Davis had not yet received the letter Thursday, but had instructed vice-chancellor G. Robert Ross to release a copy to *The Nebraskan*. A member of the Nebraskan staff read the letter to him over the telephone Thursday evening.



Waiting



Waiting



"What do you mean, we need a time appointment card?"

## Drop & add is pain in !/\$?:

"I opened the doors and ran like hell. I wasn't about to get trampled by a herd of students."

That was the reaction of a janitor when he unlocked the doors of the Nebraska Union at 7 a.m. Thursday and was greeted by hundreds of students arriving early for drop and add.

By mid-morning the line of students, trying to take advantage of the lengthened free drop and add, extended from the second floor of the Nebraska Union to 75 yards outside the north doors of the building.

Typical was the experience of Linda Simonson, a senior from Mullen.

"Administration told me I wouldn't need a time appoint-

ment card for Thursday and that I could get right through."

Linda arrived in the line at 7:45 a.m. At 9:30 she was handed a time appointment card for 10:30. Finally, at 10:45 she was admitted to the drop and add center where all the classes she wished to take were closed.

By the end of Friday over 6,000 students will have gone

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