

'NU not tuned to housing needs'

by MARSHA BANGERT
Staff Writer

The City-Wide Tenants Association has charged the University with demonstrating "a lack of understanding" of the serious housing shortage in Lincoln.

A resolution signed by Bea Richmond, association president, calls upon the University to "immediately recognize this problem" and "promptly take steps to remedy this housing shortage by constructing and purchasing additional housing for married students."

University students living off campus, particularly married students, are amplifying the lack of University commitment to the construction of married student housing, the resolution states.

The Board of Regents, President Joseph Soshnik, Housing Office Director Ely Meyerson and Housing Officer Wayne Blue will receive a copy of the resolution by mail.

The resolution was presented at a Tuesday night meeting of University students and the City-Wide Tenants Association, a group of Lincolniters who rent instead of own their residences.

"University students are aware of the housing problems and know the tender spots in University policy," Richmond said. "The students should organize."

In a report which parallels the resolution, senior Linda Schaefer found the University provides 57 living units for 4,049 married students enrolled at Nebraska first semester, 1970-71. The University does not have housing for 78 per cent of its married students.

The 57 living units are fewer than one-fifth the number at the University of Kansas, the Big Eight college with the lowest number next to Nebraska.

In contrast to the University, the report finds that the Lincoln Housing Authority provides 457 married student families with units under a lease-rental program. An additional 400 students rent under the program from the Arnold Height Housing Authority.

This program permits the

authority to lease units from Lincoln landlords, rent them to low-income families at 20-25 per cent of the family income and make up any difference with a federal subsidy.

Schaefer noted in her report that families often must spend 31-37 per cent of their income on rent rather than the recommended 25%. Then the family must cut elsewhere in their budget. This can produce "such serious side-effects as malnutrition."

The difficulty in finding housing for Lincoln's low-income people is

compounded by a low vacancy rate (1.6 per cent) for single-family homes, which the poor can afford. The vacancy rate is the percentage of the living units available for rent.

The 1.6 per cent compares with a 6 per cent rate for all rental property in Lincoln.

"With students added to this tight market, some low-income families are forced into doubling up in houses or living in substandard units," the report states.

The report also attributes the housing shortage to demolition activities by the city of Lincoln and the

University. In the Clinton area, for instance, the University has torn down 50 homes as part of the Northeast Radial thoroughfare construction.

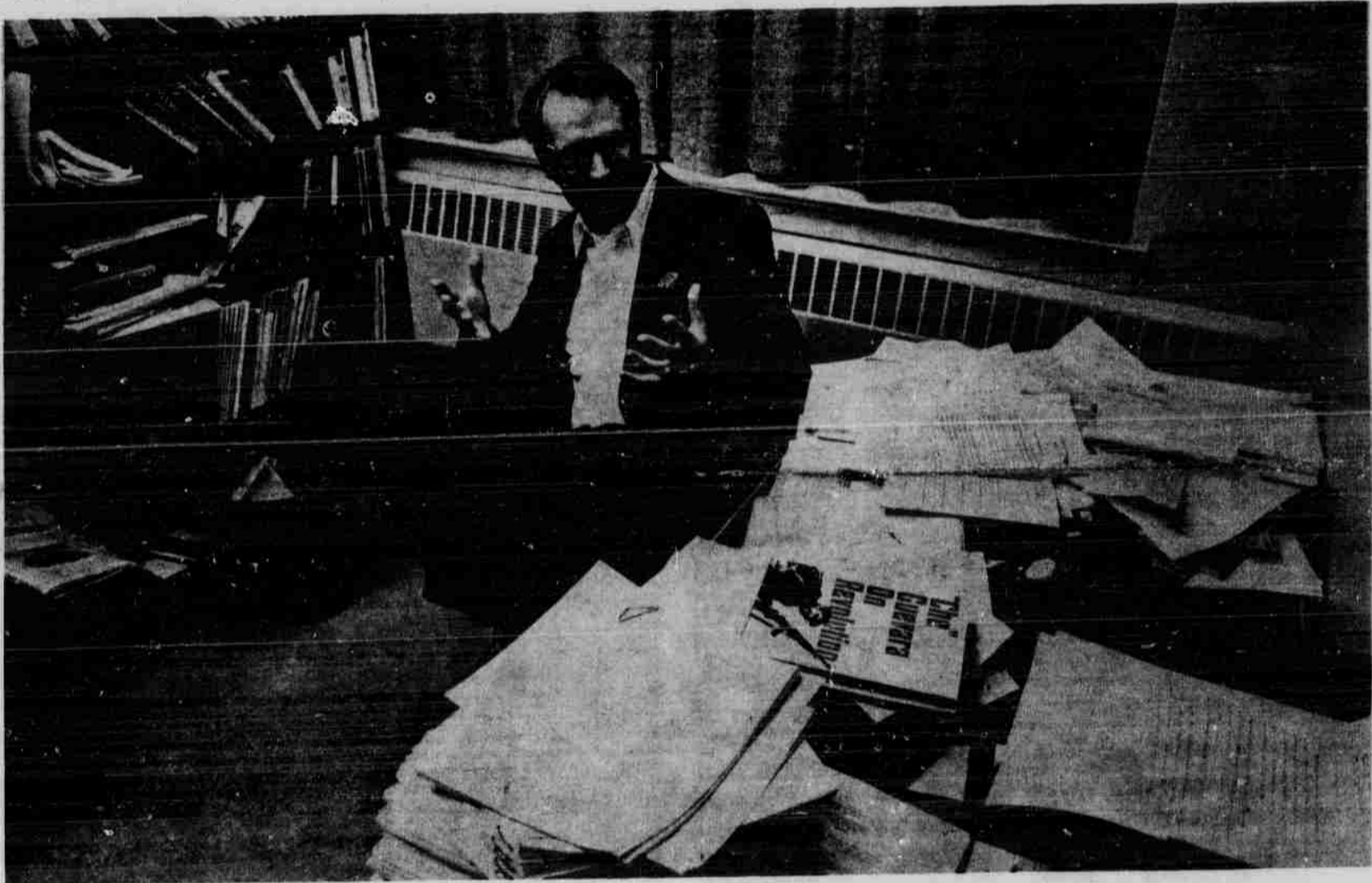
The report points out that most of the building now taking place is for moderate and high income families.

As the University expands eastward, it buys and demolishes houses in the Malone area. A 1968 research project by graduate students in social work uncovered problems connected with the relocation of residents who sold property to the University.

"Many of the families had difficulty finding comparable housing elsewhere in the city; the problems multiplied for the elderly and the welfare recipients who are on fixed incomes," the report states.

Since the University is directly involved in the critical housing shortage in Lincoln, the report recommends that the school develop a program to provide more housing for its married students.

Schaefer writes, "It is time now for the University to become a more responsible institution in the community."



Untenured education teacher

Hubbard contests possible firing

by BILL SMITHERMAN
Staff Writer

When an untenured professor at the University of Nebraska is told he may not be

rehired for the next year, he usually leaves quietly.

But Duke B. Hubbard, a 31-year old assistant professor of educational administration, is not usual. He is strongly contesting his possible not reappointment, which he feels has nothing to do with his abilities as a teacher.

In a letter to Hubbard dated Dec. 14, Dale K. Hayes, chairman of the Educational Administration Department and Hubbard's immediate superior, wrote to Hubbard: "According to established and emerging procedures it is my responsibility to inform you that you might not be reemployed by the University of Nebraska for the 1970-71 academic year."

"Reasons for this potential action include issues which I have verbally reported to you at various times. . . " Hayes wrote.

The assistant professor has been at the University for one

and a half years. During this time he said he had continually questioned the decision making process of his department.

"The current decision making process in the department leads to conformity and consensus in the faculty," Hubbard said. "Communication and new ideas are thwarted and distorted by the process."

He charged that the full human resources of the department are not being utilized because faculty members fear reprisals for attempting change. "The present system is not able to assimilate new people and ideas from the outside," he said.

Calling educational administration "a tight club," Hubbard said if he had left quietly it would have been easy to find another job. This is the reason most people who are moved out of a department say nothing. But, it doesn't change the system to simply move out

of it he added.

"My commitment and loyalty to the profession do not mean loyalty to administrators," Hubbard said. "They mean loyalty to the change process that will improve the quality of education in the department."

The department has had some healthy meetings since conflict has developed over his case, Hubbard said. "Change is starting to come about," he continued. "The questions that I have tried to raise are coming out now because of my case."

"I ask these questions because educational administration is really decision making," Hubbard said. "Right now the process is a little sick."

The professor said he was forced to hire attorneys for a fight to carry his case after all other methods had failed to initiate some kind of due process in his case. He said he

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MARRIED APARTMENT

STATISTICS 1970 - 71

Big Eight University Housing Statistical

PERMANENT UNITS OCCUPANCY OF MARRIED UNITS
INSTITUTION Fall 1970 - No. Occupied

Colorado	510
Iowa State	691
Kansas	300
Kansas State	596
Missouri	360
NEBRASKA	57
Oklahoma	757
Oklahoma State	676