

Soshnik...

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"determinants" in his decision to resign. However, because of the controversies of the last year, Soshnik's sudden departure is bound to raise speculation.

In May 1970, Soshnik was faced with a potentially dangerous confrontation with students protesting the U.S. invasion into Cambodia. He played a key role in those May events that included a three-day student strike and the occupation of the ROTC Building.

Although he sympathized with the protests of the students, Soshnik, ignored some of their urgings by refusing to commit the University to a position on the war. His performance during the all-night peaceful occupation drew both praise and criticism.

The Spelts Commission, which investigated the anti-war protest on the Lincoln campus last May, singled out the President for his actions during the protests. The Commission noted that Soshnik's conciliatory remark during the occupation that "there have been no rules or laws broken tonight..." should not have been made.

However, the Commission praised Soshnik and other administrators for spending several hours in discussion with the students occupying the building in an attempt to peacefully end the disruption.

Following the May events a controversy developed over what actually happened and how the University should deal

with future possible protests.

However, in the fall the Lincoln campus faced a new controversy after the Board of Regents refused to hire Michael Davis, a University of Michigan graduate student, because of his involvement in non-violent protests.

In November, apparent voter animosity toward the University because of the May protests, the University's record budget request and the controversy over the campus' course in homophile studies helped defeat two incumbent Regents. In addition Nebraska voters elected a new governor, J. J. Exon, who promised to hold the line on state spending.

In February the pace of

change and uncertainty on campus seemed to accelerate. The University faced the problem of how to live within the limits of the governor's budget recommendations that called for a cut in state aid. Then the Regents' decision not to rehire Stephen Rozman, assistant professor of political science, because of his involvement in last May's occupation of the ROTC Building touched off a series of student protests.

Soshnik said he agreed with the Regents decision not to rehire the controversial Rozman and in his capacity as President caught much of the criticism directed at the procedures the University

followed in the case.

The Regents accepted Soshnik's resignation "with deep regret" and Regent President Robert Raun of Minden called the resignation "a great loss."

The Regents directed Chancellor D. B. Varner to immediately launch a search for a successor to Soshnik.

Varner said: "I am genuinely depressed at the prospect of having Joe Soshnik leave the University of Nebraska—particularly at this difficult time. We are not likely to find a successor who possesses his unique combination of qualities—both human and professional."

Noting that Soshnik

possesses both human compassion and sensitivity, the Chancellor said it may well be that these two qualities "have helped persuade him—like so many other university administrators in America—to abandon the field of educational administration and move into a new endeavor at the height of his career."

Soshnik's decision to enter the investment field comes after a 25-year career as a teacher and administrator for NU and earlier, for Creighton University.

But perhaps the best compliment was paid to Soshnik by a student, ASUN President Steve Tiwlad simply said, "The students are losing a friend."

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