

# UNL college advisory boards lack student input

This is the last article of a four-part series on educational reform channels available to UNL students. Today's segment deals with college advisory boards.

by Randy Beam

If a student has something to say about his education—particularly a suggestion about how to improve it—one place to turn is his college student advisory board.

All the college boards are charged with the responsibility of keeping students' ideas and criticism in front of the faculty.

How important are they? As one member said of his board: "It's about the only place on campus where there's really any educational reform."

**AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE ADVISORY BOARD:** Lack of student input is a major problem for this 10-member board, according to chairman Ken Bruns.

"We have the faculty's ear and the administration's ear, and if we can just get the student support we'll be in good shape," he said.

For Ag College, the student-faculty Course of Study Committee makes the final decisions on new courses, courses required for majors and many other educational innovations in the college, Bruns said.

He said he felt student representation on the committee (about one-third) was

adequate, adding that the student vote carried weight and that they were well received.

**OVER THE PAST** calendar year, Bruns said the board has been instrumental in establishing a college-wide independent study program, extending the pass-fail program and developing a co-advising project where juniors and seniors team up with freshmen to advise them on college problems.

So far this school year, the board has not embarked on any specific projects except the co-advising program. However it is considering looking into teacher evaluation, extending honors classes to more students and getting ag students involved in Nebraska Opportunity for Volunteer Action (NOVA).

**ARTS AND SCIENCES ADVISORY BOARD:** Revamping college group requirements—including the language requirement—is one project the A & S board is currently involved with via its three-student representatives on the faculty-student Curriculum Committee.

The Curriculum Committee is the agency making the week to week decisions on new courses, changing credit for courses and determining courses required for majors. The committee is also charged with formulating a group requirement reorganization proposal.

According to student member Duane Sneddeker, the committee has proposed

requiring 20 hours from at least two of the following departments to fulfill the humanities requirement: Fine Arts, Philosophy, Foreign Language and English.

**SNEDDEKER SAID** students would still have to meet foreign language college entrance requirements (two years in high school, or one in college).

A counter-proposal also has been discussed, he said. It would substitute a cultural-linguist class block in place of the language.

The social sciences proposal requires students to take 12 hours from two departments. The natural and physical science recommendation has not yet been formulated.

The A & S board itself is working on several proposals, including one to establish a living-learning core course for freshmen—a Centennial College approach for freshmen, according to Tom Weist, board chairman. Revising student commencement program along college lines are also being worked on.

**HOME ECONOMICS ADVISORY BOARD:** This six-member board serves mainly a curricular function, according to chairman Nancy Anderson. It is their responsibility to make recommendations to the student-faculty Curriculum Committee, which in turn makes recommendations to the faculty, who take the final action.

"This is one of the most effective committees in the college for effecting educational change," Anderson said. "The students are listened to."

Anderson said there appears to be no big push for educational reform in Home Ec College, although that's not how she said she would like it. More effort should be made to review types of instruction, the grading system and expanding the field work program should be looked into, she said.

**SHE SAID STUDENT** interest in reform seems to be lacking. From living unit discussions, she said she gathered that students are, for the most part, satisfied with the way things are going.

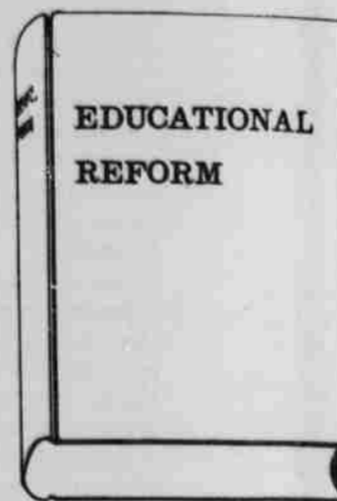
The Home Ec board currently is not working on any projects, but is rather acting primarily as a "relay station" forwarding student input to appropriate college committees.

**TEACHERS COLLEGE ADVISORY BOARD:** The 10-member Teachers

College Board is involved with several projects at this time, according to member Terry Kubicek.

A major revision of the basic Education 31 course is being considered, with an aim towards incorporating more student input in the course. The scope of this revision is such that it involves considerable time, Kubicek said, and is the board's first priority at this time.

The board also has representatives on three Dean's Committees investigating college operations, resource allocations and missions and goals.



**EDUCATIONAL** reform objectives are difficult to attain in Teachers College, Kubicek said, because of lack of manpower, over-departmentalization and unclear lines of communication.

Kubicek said there seems to be no clear inter-departmental organization which can act on curriculum changes. Not knowing where to take proposals presents a real problem, he said.

Another problem is the numerous projects that could be undertaken if there was sufficient manpower.

**BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION ADVISORY BOARD:** The Bus-Ad board is currently working on an underclassman advising program, according to chairman Marty Range.

Since students in that college don't have advisors sign their class request forms, Range said, the board felt some guidance on the student's field of study and his class selection was necessary.

Range said the 11-member board is

also toying with the idea of setting up an internship program. Under the plan, students would work at Lincoln retail establishments and businesses to secure on-the-job training.

The Bus-Ad board also appoints student members to the faculty-student Academic Planning Committee—the group which makes recommendations about course changes and class requirements to the faculty. The committee, according to Range, has also started to consider possible alteration of some college group requirements.

**ENGINEERING AND ARCHITECTURE ADVISORY BOARD:** The E & A board is set up differently than the other five college boards, according to chairman Rod Moseman, president of the college's six honoraries, which make up the board.

The group is mainly involved with special projects at the college—like E-Week, their Blue Print magazine and a Protege program (introducing students to professional engineers). The board also is considering polling students about the college's curriculum.

Although the board itself does not serve as an educational reform organ, E & A has a Teaching/Learning Council which investigates, develops and requests educational innovations. Membership on the council is limited to the college staff.

In November an intra-departmental environmental engineering minor was approved at the graduate level.



Last year's float . . . This year's will give Parade watchers a "symphony of music."

## Nebraskans pick 'Orange' float

The Nebraska Orange Bowl Float will represent the state and the team in a symphony of music in red and white. The float for the nation's number one team will be over 60 feet long and will carry eight members of the UNL men's glee club. Musical notes will be strung throughout the float while a previously recorded song from the men's glee club is played.

A revolving red heart and a football with a Number 1 symbol will be located on the ends of the \$7,500 float.

UNL pep organizations Corn Cobs and Tassels are spearheading the fundraising drive for the Orange Bowl float in cooperation with the Nebraska Association of Commerce and Industry. At the present time \$2,500 has been raised for the float.

Some 11,000 Cornhusker football supporters have been contacted for

contributions to the Nebraska float in the Orange Bowl in Miami. Gary Kuklin, the UNL student co-chairman of the Nebraska float committee, said letters asking for donations have been sent to public season ticket holders, members of Touchdown Club, Extra Point Club, and Nebraska Beef Association.

Orange Bowl floats are built and designed by Vaughn Parades, in Miami. The Nebraska float committee chose the basic theme for the float and then contacted Vaughn Parades to construct the Big Red float.

Money for the float will be collected by various Lincoln businesses, which are conducting numerous Orange Bowl publicity programs. Donations will be accepted by Tassels at home UNL basketball games.

According to Kuklin, this year's Orange Bowl float will attempt to place more emphasis on Nebraska as a great state and secondly on Nebraska as a great football state.

## Short Stuff

British Columbia—Mountains to the Sea," an Audubon Wildlife Film featuring a pack horse trip into the Caribou Mountains, will be presented by producer Wilf Gray Monday in Love Memorial Library Auditorium at 4 and 8 p.m. The program is open to the public with tickets available at the door.

Anyone interested in becoming involved with "Brother," the UNL men's liberation group, is invited to attend their regular Sunday meetings at 5 p.m. in the south Crib of the Nebraska Union, according to Greg Hickman.

Hickman said interested persons may also contact Tom Lonnquist in Student Activities or drop a note in the group's mailbox located in room 345 in the Nebraska Union.

Verdi's "Luisa Miller" will open the Metropolitan Opera's 1971-72 broadcast season Saturday at 1 p.m. on KRNU (90.3 FM).

NFU will sponsor a benefit dance to raise money for the Lincoln Free School. Bumpy Action will play, Friday from 9 to 11:30 p.m. in the Nebraska Union Ballroom. Admission will be \$1.25.

Be a Union Project Chairman! Every semester \$2 of your student fee money goes to the Union to be used for Union Program Council and is allocated to 22 Union Project areas. On December 11, UPC will be interviewing for new Project Chairmen to head these projects for the next two

semesters. Stop by Room 128 Nebraska Union or call 472-2456 if interested.

There will be a Student Chamber Music Recital at 8 p.m. Friday in Kimball Recital Hall.

The University Singers' annual Christmas Carol Concert will be presented in Kimball Recital Hall on Sunday, Dec. 12 at 4 p.m.

The India Association will

screen one of the latest hits in Hindi movies "Satiyakam." It depicts the details of a truthful engineer and the problems he has to face of bureaucracy and loose morals. The movie, with English sub-titles, will be shown Monday at 2 p.m. in Love Memorial Library Auditorium. Admission is \$1.25 per member and \$1.50 for non-members.

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