

Fraternities face financial crisis

Communication is the biggest problem facing the fraternity system at the University of Nebraska, according to both the out-going and newly-elected presidents of the Inter-Fraternity Council (IFC).

Dennis Confer, who is completing his term as IFC president, and Howard Epstein, newly elected president, agree that better communication must exist between fraternity houses, IFC, the University and students.

"The (fraternity) system has been falling behind the University," Confer said. He urged further efforts to keep it "more in tune" with the rest of the University.

The past year's IFC president urged an "increased awareness and participation" by his fellow fraternity members.

Epstein agreed, noting that a committee was recently formed to study possible racial discrimination in fraternities. He said he hoped a "more critical and deliberate look" could now be taken at the question.

Both Confer and Epstein see little chance that fraternity life will disappear from UNL.

"Naturally the system has been in some ups

and downs," Confer said. He pointed to the large financial investments as a reason fraternities would exist for a considerable length of time.

Epstein felt one reason it appears fraternities are disappearing is because the "number of students has increased while fraternity houses have not."

IFC is investigating the possibility of a cooperative buying system for fraternity houses. According to Epstein a "better price" would be realized on food and supplies if all houses combined their purchases.

Epstein hoped the next year would see an "expanded rush program." The goal would be a "rush-week-free rush."

High school seniors may be invited to visit fraternities the spring before they graduate if a proposed change in IFC regulations is made.

"Freshmen often find rush week too formal," Epstein said. He thought spring visits would permit students to get acquainted with the campus rather than be forced to make a decision on fraternity membership during rush week.

Faculty Senate hears report on discrimination

The UNL faculty senate received a lengthy statistics-filled report from the Women's Rights Committee at their meeting in Love Library Auditorium Tuesday afternoon.

The report concluded that by statistics, women at UNL "suffer wage and status inequities in almost every classification possible and on every level of education and experience." The study indicated that although 37 per cent of UNL students are women, no more than 17 per cent of the faculty is female.

Wallace M. Rudolph, professor of law, pointed out that while in Law School there

are no female professors, applicants by women professors to the Law School are almost non-existent.

"The last one we offered a job to a couple of years ago turned us down. We haven't seen any applicants since," Rudolph stated.

The law professor said the evidence in the report proved nothing, and called for removal of conclusions about sex discrimination before he would accept it.

The senate voted to postpone further discussion on the recently-circulated report until the next meeting when all members will have had time to read it.

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