

Batchelder files for regent post

Former State Sen. Clifton Batchelder filed Monday morning with the Secretary of State's office for a seat on the University of Nebraska Board of Regents.

Batchelder, long a critic of the present regents handling of the University, said Monday he filed because "the present board is (not) carrying out its responsibilities to the taxpayers."

He charged the regents with "not only refusing to face issues squarely themselves but refusing to provide an administration that will do so."

Batchelder, who will face incumbent Regent Kermit Hansen in the May 9 primary election, was an unsuccessful candidate for the GOP gubernatorial nomination in 1970.

The 62-year-old former state senator noted five examples where he felt regents and NU administration had failed to act or had acted incorrectly.

Batchelder charged no disciplinary action had been taken "when students forcibly took over the armory" in May of 1970.

He also said a controversial booklet on birth control should not have been distributed on campus.

Saying the 1971 Time-Out Conference on Human Sexuality was conducted "without authority," Batchelder said, "In the opinion of many people (it) emphasized the abnormal, was presented in many instances in coarse and vulgar language and,

in my opinion, was used as a front for the purpose of getting social recognition of the 'gay society.'"

Batchelder also lashed out at this week's World in Revolution Conference on Justice in America. Saying some of the speakers "are known revolutionaries," Batchelder said, "I do not think that the taxpayers of this state want this kind of an influence on the campus."

The former state senator also charged regents with "capitulation... on the subject of dormitory visitation."

"In spite of a skyrocketing budget which has now reached the vicinity of \$48 million per year, we do not have a good university," Batchelder said Monday.

If elected, Batchelder said he would move to immediately discontinue acquisition of additional property for the University because of the recent "downward trend in enrollment."

Batchelder also said Monday that UNO "has been either ignored or treated like a poor relation ever since the merger."

"What we have is a Board of Regents that defers major decisions to administration, faculty and even students while it involves itself in administrative details that should be the province of the administration," Batchelder said.

When students and faculty "don't have their own way," Batchelder said, they "resort to coercion and threats of boycotts and the administration lets them get away with it."

Committee submits new drug policy

A new University drug policy which proposes a more lenient attitude toward the use of drugs was submitted Tuesday to the Council on Student Life (CSL).

The policy drafted by CSL's ad hoc committee on drug policy would revise current University regulations which provide for possible suspension if a student illegally uses drugs. Any change in policy must be approved by the Board of Regents.

Since the University, as an agent of the state, must abide by state and federal drug laws, the new policy states that possession, distribution, manufacture and use of drugs on campus is in violation of University policy.

However, the proposed policy prohibits the University from taking any disciplinary action if a student:

- 1) admits to the misuse of drugs while seeking personal counseling,
- 2) seeks hospitalization or medical attention due to the misuse of drugs,
- 3) is convicted in court of misdemeanor possession of Cannabis (marijuana), given a suspended sentence or placed on probation for drug possession.

The policy didn't explain whether the user of marijuana who doesn't seek hospitalization or counseling should be turned over to civil authorities.

The sense of the committee was that Student Affairs staff members shouldn't waste their time pursuing the casual user of marijuana, according to Edward Roche, committee chairman and associate professor in the College of Pharmacy.

The policy was sent back to the committee to clear up the relationship with civil authorities and to determine if the policy is consistent with University disciplinary procedures.

The committee also was directed to determine if the policy is acceptable to the University Student Health Center.

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