Counseling staff expands services

The University's counseling center in Seaton Hall is worried not enough students are coming in to take advantage of its services.

So center staff members are beginning to go to the students now, and they've opened up a

new East Campus office as a starter. "We've trying to reach more people," explained Phil Blakeley, a psychological counselor. "In the past it's been, "You come in and see me."

"Now we're trying to meet the University's needs where they are."

So the center is expanding on an experimental basis, Blakeley said, and not just to East Campus, but also to UNL's dormitories.

The counselors have begun conducting "life planning workshops" with dorr laory residence directors and student existants. The workshops are almed at teaching the dorm leaders to do some counseling of their own right in the living units.

Blakeley and another counselor, Gail Dunning, began keeping office hours on East Campus three weeks ago.

We felt we weren't reaching as many students on East Campus as we wanted to," Blakely said.

Dunning pointed out that of about 60 students per week who visit the City Campus center, only one or two are from the College of

"We're only seeing 20 per cent of the students we should see from there," he said.

So for the last few weeks Blakeley and Dunning have been visiting East Compus dorms and deans, advising them of the new service.

Blakeley said the office operates on a "walk-in" procedure Monday through Thursday from 1 p.m. to 4:30 p.m., 152 Hall of Youth.

He said East Campus students may also make an appointment through the City Campus office.

The major focus of the center is on vocational counseling, Blakeley said.

"We don't have much to do with students transferring around within a department," he explained. "We serve the student who is just completely lost."

He said the center can also deal with personal problems, such as dating, and academic problems dealing with study habits or test anxiety.

The center is experimenting this semester with a test anxiety reduction program involving group therapy, Blakeley said.

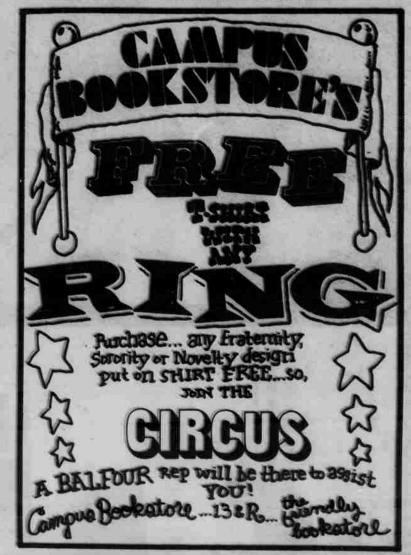
"We're doing a lot of experimentation this year," he explained, "At the end of the semester we'll evaluate all of our new programs and decide which ones to continue next year."

Chinese students to hold festival

The UNL Chinese Student Association will sponsor "China Night," a cultural exposition, Saturday, April 15 at 6 p.m. in the Nebraska Union Ballroom.

The evening will begin with a banquet of Chinese food followed by a Chinese variety show.

Tickets for the event are available at a Union booth.





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