UNDER NEW MANAGEMENT!

20 CONSCIONATION (The Lygote Brothers)

(The Lygote Brothers)

Hey? Many Humans Now engaged in whet is popular. ly known today as "The DrugCulture" have lost all senses of reality. The new Consciousness raisers want to eliminate these facades of fantasy in order to create a sanity not now existant in the low rent districts of life. our first lesson in this Direction is that of old Traditions and sayings! hets respect them...
for they have withstood
the tests of TIME!





-oBviously-This is not BIL approved way of killing two birds with one stone!!

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Selection method hampers Union Board

suggestion box

Mary Cannon, Nebraska Union Board president, is a junior majoring in history and pre-law.

by Mary Cannon

It is one of my pet peeves that, although every student pays \$18-plus for his membership in the Nebraska Union every semester, less than 300 students ever really have any say in its government. In fact, the whole policy control of the Union rests in the hands of a 13-member Union Board, which is picked by a committee consisting of ASUN representatives and the previous year's Union Board members.

Thus while ASUN elections, (an organization with much less potential student impact,) are at least open, above board and rather well publicized, the Union selects its officers in some meeting room on a Sunday afternoon. They rely solely on the thoughtfulness of its haphazard designees to insure that there is any breadth of viewpoints represented on the Union Board at all. Sometimes it works; sometimes it really doesn't.

I'm not sure I want to recommend that the Union start holding ASUN-style elections of officers. ASUN hasn't been notably successful at that. Even though Union procedure wouldn't encourage elections, they do have one useful result for ASUN. Elections force the Senate to publicize its doings, which means that it has to have a coherent, well-defined reason for anything it does-or else. This doesn't always happen in the Union because board members know that their representation of the student population is tenuous, at best. So they decide things on the basis of what always has been, and try to stir up as little controversy as possible. Things stay just about the way they've always been-which isn't always quite what they should be.

The furor over check cashing fees is a good example. The Union Board established the fees because otherwise the program budget, or some other area of the budget, would have

been cut. That would have turned the whole balance among Union activities topsy-turvy, and we would have been all month trying to straighten them out again. Pretty poor reason?

It's not actually all that bad. If you, like most of the board, believe that our present set of priorities is what it should be, then the decision not to disrupt it was logical. But the board, as I said, can get way out of touch with what students really want. Because we are a group of student activist types, our perspective sometimes gets distorted. To most of us, it makes sense to value strong programming, with wide opportunities for speakers, activities and cultural events. And, also offer free meeting and organizational office space for student groups, a relatively low-cost and convenient food service and low-cost games and bowling facilities. We could charge admission to more programs or for office and meeting space. We could hike prices on food and games. These are alternatives we could accept, if we found that you, the people, who we are supposed to serve, prefer it that way

I, for one, am very tired of Union government from back rooms. The Union makes no sense at all unless it fulfills student needs. It doesn't exist to make money, to keep Al Bennett employed or even to give me nice credentials for a job application. It exists only to serve as many students as it can reach, in whatever ways they want to be served.

The Union is your possession. Its services are your right. There is a suggestion box in the main lounge, but it is usually empty. Can you fill it? The Union Board meets most Thursdays at 5:30 p.m. in the Union. You are welcome to speak or listen. Help-Line has my phone number-sometimes I'm even home. So are other board members.

The Union can't work in a vacuum. If we hear from you, maybe we can make it work for you!

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