

Meager help from students trips PACE

By Bob Ralston

In the upper righthand corner of a UNL tuition statement there are two small boxes. One is marked "YES" and the other is marked "NO."

The two boxes are for the Program for Active Commitment to Education (PACE). Forty students are at UNL this year partly because other students marked the "YES" box last year and contributed \$3.50 to PACE.

PACE received \$15,000 last year, according to Jack Ritchie, director of the Office of Scholarships and Financial Aids. Two-thirds of this was given as grants to high-need students.

A student's need is determined by the parents' confidential financial statement, Ritchie said. PACE grants of \$300 to \$500 are given to students with the greatest need, he said.

The remaining third of the PACE money is set aside for emergency use for short-term loans and grants. The maximum amount given for loans is \$100.

"There are a lot of students who benefit from PACE," Ritchie said, "not only those who receive PACE, but students with lower financial needs. PACE opens up money for them which would have been given to higher need students."

Karen Richardson, chairperson of the ASUN Human Rights Committee which fostered and publicizes PACE, said she believes many students have the misconception that PACE is strictly a minority scholarship.

Of the 40 students who received PACE grants this year, about 10 are minority students, said Ritchie.

PACE also has another difficulty, Richardson said. While government aid to students has decreased, donations to PACE have also declined.

This is why the donation system has been changed this year, she said.

In 1971, PACE's first year, \$3.50 was included in tuition costs, and students had to subtract it if they did not want to give to PACE. Some students complained that they unknowingly paid for PACE, so the system was changed in 1972 to make students add \$3.50 to participate in PACE.

According to the Faculty Committee on Scholarships and Financial Aids, PACE collections dropped materially, from \$53,741.90 in 1971-72 to \$10,172.25 in 1972-73.

This year, two totals are shown on the tuition statement in an effort to make PACE donations simpler, according to Richardson. She said she believed the new system made PACE costs easier to see.

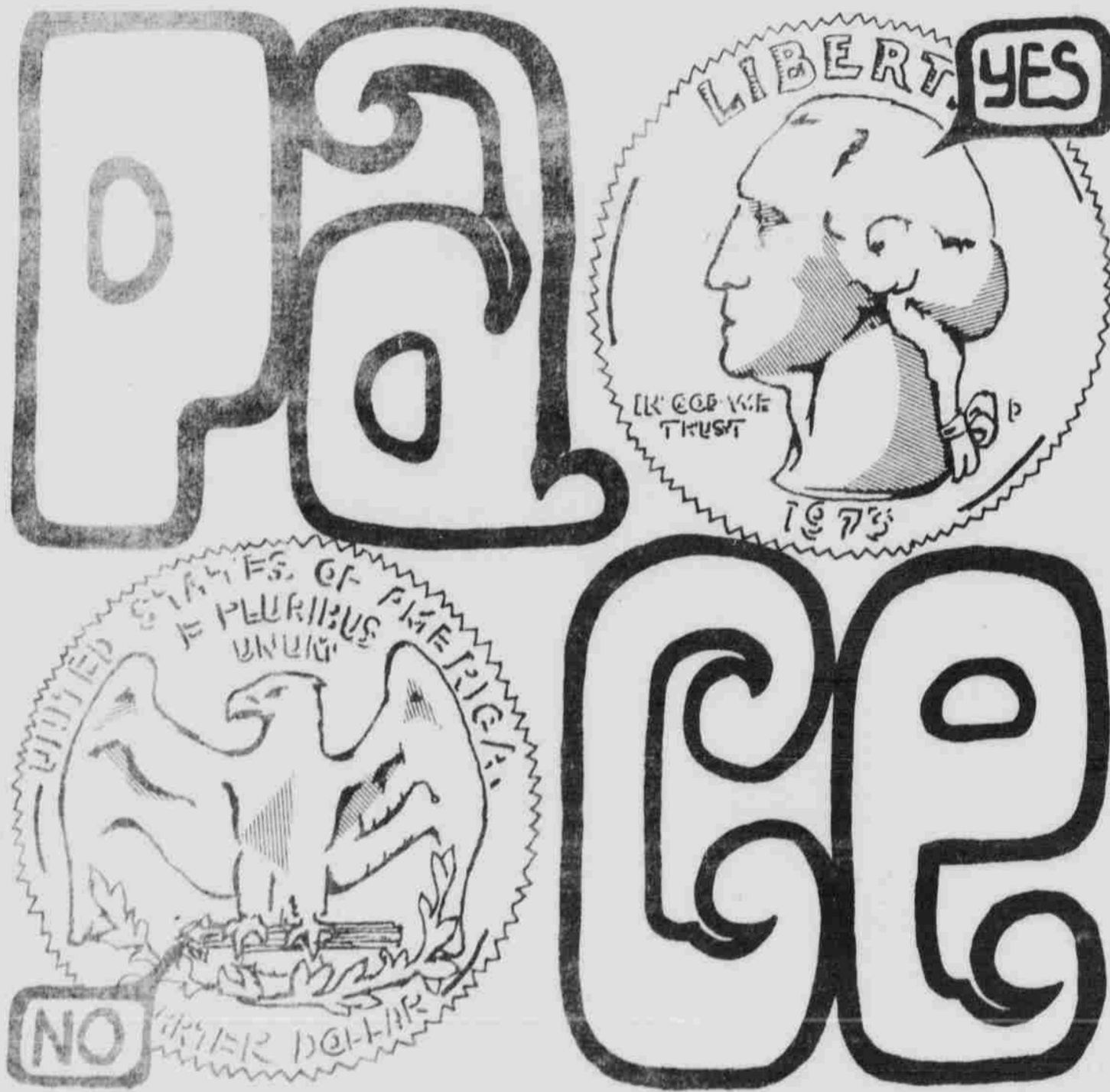
However, some students have indicated they thought they were being ordered to "pay total number one" under the new system. In fact, the line reads "It will indicate your desire to participate in PACE when you initial the YES box and pay total number one."

Ritchie said he believes the Board of Regents might discontinue PACE if the program doesn't start expanding.

Richardson said she also is concerned about the program.

"I think the regents are tired of having PACE put before them every year for evaluation," she said. "I think that some of them are beginning to feel that there's a lack of student commitment."

She said she believes PACE will receive more money this year because of the change in the tuition statements and increased publicity.



Student Affairs adds post

The Office of Student Affairs has added a new cabinet post to its structure, according to Ken Bader, vice chancellor for Student Affairs.

A director of student development is to take charge of programs and services formerly headed by the directors of student development services and student development programs, Bader said.

"These two positions can logically be combined and may help us achieve a more efficient operation," he said.

The new director of student development will be in charge of student activities, recreation, scholarships and financial aids, the foreign student office, the

counseling center, career planning and placement, conduct referrals and the coordinator of fraternities, sororities and cooperative living units.

The position of director of student development services has been vacant since Harry Cannon left the post to become vice president for Student Affairs at Northern Illinois University.

Bader said Hal Smith, director of student development programs, will be acting director of student development.

Jayne Anderson, coordinator of fraternities, sororities and cooperatives, will head a search committee of faculty, staff and

students to find candidates for the job, Bader said.

Bader said he has recommended that the committee seek qualified women and minority candidates.

"I feel this job provides us with an excellent opportunity to bring women or minority candidates into a top position in Student Affairs," he said.

A candidate should have a doctorate degree and some experience in supervising a professional staff, Bader said.

He said he expects another Student Affairs cabinet post, director of Minority Affairs, to be occupied soon. He said the search committee is now ready to report on its recommendations.