



Francis "Sissy" Farenthold spoke Tuesday in the Nebraska Union.

Feminist candidate claims need for skilled women politicians

By Mary H. Wagoner

Speaking to a crowd of 400 Tuesday, Francis "Sissy" Farenthold, National Chairperson of the Women's Political Caucus, contended that "women have to develop a reservoir of skill and experience" in dealing with politics.

Women running for national public office, according to Farenthold, first have to be "exposed to the same kind of experience, stress and responsibility" as their male counterparts.

"Traditionally, presidential and vice presidential candidates have served in the Senate or as governors. There are no women governors and few women senators," she said.

"Politics have been considered off limits for women, and women have gone along with this. I hope before long that a person's gender will not be an issue, but women have to get in and take the effort and the risk of running for office. Women can only improve their position, and I think this will be done in 1974," she said.

Farenthold cited audacity, assertiveness and awareness as the three major qualifications women need.

"I've seen an incredible transformation of awareness in women over the last five years. If you don't know where you are, you don't know where you're going," she said.

Commenting on the Equal Right

Amendment (ERA), Farenthold said the reversed position of the AFL-CIO, now in favor of the ERA, has had a big effect.

With its support, Maine, Ohio and Montana passed the amendment this year. "The amendment may not get all the states this year, but I think it will be ratified next year," she said.

Farenthold said one important issue coming out of Watergate is the public financing for national campaigns.

"Campaigning financing needs to be changed," she said. "There should be ceilings on expenditures, and full disclosures of campaign contributions."

Farenthold, asked if President Nixon should be impeached, would only say, "The mechanism (the impeachment process) is not there to be read, it is there to be used."

Asked about her views on the abortion issue, Farenthold said, "I feel, no matter what my personal view is, that abortion is the right of the women carrying the fetus. I think the Supreme Court made the only possible decision that could be made in a pluralistic society."

Farenthold, currently a Texas gubernatorial candidate, noted that women are "beginning to run for office all over the country. But women must realize that they can't wait for the party to call on them to run. They must strike out on their own, and meet the challenge."

Student Council, Greek power issues of '64

By Wes Albers

Should women have male visitors in their rooms? How much power should fraternities and sororities have in student government? And how effective is the Student Council?

Those were burning questions for NU students 10 years ago, when alcohol on campus wasn't an issue and the open door policy would have been welcomed as a big improvement.

But 10 years make a big difference, as recent telephone interviews with six past ASUN/Student Council presidents showed.

In that time student concerns have run the gamut from "Greek/dormie" squabbles and war protests to today's alcohol and visitation issues.

When John Lydick was Student Council president in 1964-1965 there was "no talk at all about alcohol on campus and only a little talk about visitation," he said.

"Black activism was growing at that time and students were just beginning to call for a greater voice in programming," he said.

Lydick was graduated from NU in 1966 with a major in mechanical engineering. Now employed by IBM, he spent several years after graduation working for a local bank.

It was during Lydick's term of office that the switch was made from the Student Council to the ASUN Senate.

"ASUN was created by a constitutional convention in 1965," he said. "It had been under discussion a long time and probably was the most significant thing we did."

Ken Neumeister was ASUN president in 1965-66 when the senate began its first year amid discussion of its effectiveness.

"The Student Council had been nothing but another student organization," Neumeister said. "It wasn't representative and had no real power. The fraternity and sorority system dominated campus activities in those days."

ASUN changed all that, according to Neumeister. The new "centralized, representative government" soon led to "a real decline in the power of fraternities and sororities," he said.

1965-66 also saw the beginning of the student unrest that was to sweep campuses in the late '60s.

"Nu was a target institution that year for the SDS (Students for a Democratic Society)," he said. "Their national vice president was here and that was the first year forums were opened in the student union for debates about the role of student government and the war in Vietnam."

A 1966 graduate, Neumeister went on to Harvard Law School and earned his master's of law degree. He is currently an assistant professor at Creighton

University in Omaha.

1969-70 ASUN president Bill Chaloupka described his year in office as "a difficult experience."

"It was frustrating, but a good opportunity for growth and to meet some people," he said. "It was the sort of experience I wouldn't recommend to anyone but wouldn't have missed either."

Now an electrical engineer for Western Electric in Phoenix, Ariz., Chaloupka said the Council on Student Life (CSL) was "just getting started" in his term and visitation had become an issue.

"I've been back on campus three or four times since then and the buildings have really changed," he said. "I'll suspend my judgment on whether or not the students have changed."

1970-71 ASUN President Steve Tiwald said the UNL student strike of May, 1970, was "the biggest single event" of his term.

The strike was marked by a student takeover of the Military and Naval Sciences Bldg.

"My job was to see that the students as citizens could express their opinions freely and openly about the war but also avoid violence," he said.

Tiwald said his administration also worked to "get students more involved in the processes of the University."

"We felt more student involvement was really important," he said. "Students are supposed to be the key persons in a University."

After graduation, Tiwald was active in Sen. George McGovern's presidential campaign and was a delegate to the Democratic National Convention in 1972. He now works for a Lincoln trucking firm.

1971-72 ASUN President Steve Fowler and 1972-73 President Bruce Beecher said campus issues have not changed much since they were in office.

Fowler, now a Nebraska state senator representing the 27th District, said the big issues of his administration were visitation and the use of student fees.

Beecher said his year as president was valuable because it gave him a chance "to work with my peers as well as with faculty and administrators."

He is currently a budget analyst for the Nebraska State Legislature.



Wayne State College is one of four Nebraska state colleges currently caught in the financial crunch of inflation and declining enrollment. See story on page 6.