

## Senatorial candidates motivations vary

By John Petrow

"Let me make one thing perfectly clear..." Is it clear, or are there muddy motives behind those running for the position of ASUN senator?

A survey of 51 of the 73 senatorial candidates shows the reasons vary as much as the weather.

A number of the students interviewed stated their interest in the senate evolved from interest in programs related to ASUN.

Programs involved with ASUN range from liaisons for Greek houses and cooperatives to representation for the Resident Hall Assoc.

Sally Shorb of the Active Communication Together Party (ACT) was the liaison for her sorority when her interest in ASUN developed.

"Having worked individually for ASUN, I became interested in the government and decided to run," Shorb said.

Mary Jenkins of the United Student Effort Party (USE) said she had worked with the Associated Student Ko-op and other ASUN programs, then became interested in running for senate.

Many candidates indicated they were running because they were tired of hearing themselves and others griping about the inefficiency of ASUN Senate.

"I heard a lot of complaints, so I decided to run and do

something about them," said Carolyn Grice (USE).

"I'm a minority," said Tony Ramirez (ACT), "and I think that the only one that can be aware of the minority role is a minority. I think there should be more minority representation in ASUN."

This reason for entering the senatorial race was offered often by the few minority candidates.

All the incumbent candidates interviewed said their past experience in ASUN and not being able to complete projects they had started were the main reasons for seeking re-election.

Many candidates expressed concern for the lack of representation from their respective colleges.

"I want to be a member of ASUN because there is no pharmacy student in the campus government. I feel it would be good for the pharmacy college," said Julie Satterfield (ACT).

A desire to represent their colleges was motivation for the majority of the candidates interviewed.

One candidate stated one of his reasons for running was that it made a good reference in the job world.

Many candidates stated their interest stemmed from wishing to have certain issues acted on. Issues most often cited were the legislative bill allowing the sale and drinking of alcohol on campus, housing policies, educational reform, student funds and teacher evaluation.

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## Poll: few informed about ASUN Senate

By Rebecca Brite

Through 15 random interviews conducted last week in the Nebraska Union, the Daily Nebraskan found few students who believed they were well informed about the ASUN Senate.

Three of the students interviewed said they had no idea what the senate was or why it functioned. Five did not know the name of the current ASUN president.

Of these five, two were freshmen, one was a junior and two were graduate students.

Steve Fisher, a graduate student in Economics, expressed complete ignorance of the workings of ASUN Senate.

When told that of the \$51.50 a UNL student pays in fees each semester, between 30 cents and 80 cents finance ASUN, Fisher said, "If their efficiency is related to the amount of money they get, no wonder I don't know anything about them."

Five of the others interviewed said they had a good idea of the senate's purpose and function.

Marty Winkler, a senior in University Studies, defined the senate as "something between a student council and a state legislature, but coming closer to a city council."

Neal Ellington, a fourth year junior in anthropology, said he understood the senate's function to be that of a liaison group which works on proposals for the regents to act on.

"About the only thing I see them do however is put stamps on posters."

Kathy Frost, a sophomore languages major, said she believed the senate was doing a good job, but added she is not planning to vote in next week's election.

Tom Hansen, a senior in psychology, defined the senate as a governing body of representatives selected from the various colleges.

"I suppose it's worth 80 cents," he said, "but it really serves no function. I don't think they do much up there but busy work."

Melinda Fowler has been an ASUN senator for the past year. She defined the senate as a representative channel for students, and said she thought the group was doing a good job.

Of the other five students interviewed Wednesday, three described the senate loosely as a governmental body, the student government or a student organization. They said they did not know the group's purpose.

Barb Vincent, a junior in University Studies, called the senate "a placebo, a farcical government."

Three of the students interviewed said they planned to vote next week. Five said they might vote, and seven said they definitely would not vote.

"I voted the last two years, but I didn't feel it did any good," said Tom Cardwell, a junior philosophy major.

"This year, I could care less," he said.

"I don't know if I'll vote or not," Ellington said. "It may be just a waste of time."

A first semester freshman in architecture said he did not even know about the election.

"If I knew something about it, I might vote," he said, "but there's hardly time to find out about it now."

## USE, ACT differ?

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It is not the number of causes that either party lacks, but concrete proposals about how they intend to work their magic.

Both pledge support to an increase in married student housing. ACT says it will be a "vocal advocate." USE states that it will investigate the possibility of litigation against the university for failing to supply it.

Both parties support the alcohol proposal, the visitation suit against the Board of Regents, an increase in the Legal Aid services and the constitutional amendment to place a student on the Board of Regents. They both contend that student fees allocation should be handled by the Senate.

Again, how will it be accomplished?

"We propose, we strongly back, we support, we will pursue with all vigor, we pledge our support, we advocate." So reads the party platforms.

It's up to the voters to decide who will make good on their promises.