

\$1 million program suggested for Law College

By Mark Hoffman

Increases in annual expenditures totaling \$1,012,010, have been recommended in a UNL Law College academic report to make the college a center of excellence and to insure quality education.

The recommendations, made in a 249-page report by the UNL Law College Academic Planning Committee, would more than double the current operating budget of \$601,383 in appropriated and nonappropriated funds.

Some of the increases, according to the report, would be used to raise Law College administrative, faculty and staff salaries to an equitable level with area law schools, increase the size of the faculty and provide for programs designed to upgrade education at the Law College.

The report is only a working draft, according to John Gradwohl, UNL professor of law and committee chairman. The final draft is expected to be completed in June. Until then, the Law College has, and will hold a series of public meetings for students, faculty and administrators to discuss the report.

Some of those recommendations, according to costs, include:

- Hiring eight more professors at a cost of \$200,000 (\$25,000 for each professor).

- Establishing a student loan fund from private sources with a projected \$200,000 to be available for law students.

- Developing programs to teach law to students outside the Law College. Four faculty members at a cost of \$100,000 would be needed for developing the programs.

- Increasing the current 16 law faculty salaries by \$5,000 each for a total of \$80,000.

- Providing \$50,000 for a "catch up" fund of library materials and \$48,000 for additional library staff.

The total package of recommendations would come to \$1,012,010. Of that amount, \$774,510 would come under budget increases appropriated by UNL and \$237,500 would come from private sources.

Law students would share in the increases by paying \$333 a year more in tuition. Residents now pay \$640 in tuition and fees a year, and nonresidents pay \$1,716.

The increases would come over a 5-year span. The \$100,000 for developing law programs for students other than law students is not included in the budget because it would involve other UNL departments and students.

Private source funds of \$237,500 also would be extended over a 5-year period. The first year, \$46,000 would be added, the second year, \$41,000, the third year, \$40,000, the fourth year, \$44,000 and the fifth year, \$66,500.

The major expenditure from these funds would be \$200,000 for a student loan program. Law College Dean Henry Grether said a drive would be conducted to raise that amount. The funding would be a revolving fund because students borrowing money would replace that money when their loans became due.

The same dollar amount has been recommended to increase the size of the Law College faculty from 17 to 25 members. The Law College currently has 16 faculty members and the dean and assistant dean teach half-time for a 17-member equivalent.

"The ratio of students to faculty has a significant impact on the educational quality of a program," and there has been a significant increase in law students to teachers in the last 14 years, according to the report.

Since 1960 the student enrollment in the Law

College has increased from 147 to 430 in 1973. At the same time, the number of professors has increased from 10 to 17. This has caused the ratio of students to faculty to increase from 14.7 students to each professor in 1960 to 25.29 students to each professor in 1973.

Among nine area law colleges in a 1972-73 report, UNL was sixth, according to the lowest student-faculty ratio. Colorado had the lowest with 17.96 students to each professor and Missouri (Kansas City) had the highest with 36.0. UNL had a 24.61 ratio at that time.

The preliminary report also is recommended that the current 16 UNL law professors' salaries be increased by \$5,000 and the dean's salary be increased by \$8,000.

In comparison with eight other area schools, the average salary being paid to a UNL Law College professor ranks seventh.

The highest average salary including fringe benefits was \$29,619. The lowest salary was \$21,210.80. UNL's average law professor's salary is \$22,668.96.

According to the report, UNL's average salary is comparable on the assistant professor level, and is "considerably below" at the associate and professor level.

"This is a very detrimental recruiting fact since new faculty members are very much concerned with where they will be 5 to 10 years from the point of initial hiring," the report noted.

There has been some concern in the Law College about professors leaving. Four professors are going on 1-year leaves of absence, and only one said he definitely would be back.

One professor, Harvey Perlman, reported his one year salary at the University of Virginia will be about \$6,000 to \$7,000 higher than it is at UNL. His salary this year is \$20,850.

Professor Ron Allen has resigned and has accepted a position at the University of New York at Buffalo, Grether said.

Allen said his reasons for going included a "significant financial difference" and "an increase in services available such as secretarial help" at the University of New York.

The recommended salary increase for the UNL Law College dean also would raise his salary from near bottom compared with the area schools.

His salary of \$37,521.56, including fringe benefits, ranks seventh of nine schools. The highest salary is \$46,316 and the lowest is \$31,350.

The report also recommends increasing funds for library materials and increasing library staff.

In a study done of 12 other law schools across the nation having about the same size student body, the size of the UNL library staff ranked 13th.

The UNL law library ranked 11th in total collection of materials in 1971-72, eighth in book budget for the same year and 11th in requested budget for books in 1972-73.

Recommendations have been made to offer more law classes and to expand clinical programming where students handle actual cases under the supervision of a lawyer. Law students have said the UNL Law School was inadequate in these areas.

The college has a clinical program now in which about 15 students handle cases for inmates at the Nebraska State Penal Complex.



Juvenile problems ride on in Lincoln

By Tom Jensen

Juvenile delinquency appears to be declining nationally, but in Lincoln, it's still as much of a problem as ever, according to statistics.

In a recently published government report called "Juvenile Court Statistics-1972," figures show that, for the first time since 1961, juvenile delinquency was on a downward trend nationally in 1972.

Delinquency related cases that year numbered 33.6 per 1,000 U.S. child population 10 through 17 years of age compared with 34.1 in 1971.

Overall, more than 1.11 million delinquency cases were brought before juvenile courts in 1972 compared with just more than 1.12 million in 1971.

The report states that since 1961, delinquency cases have more than doubled, and have risen every year since 1949, except for a slight decrease in 1961 and again in 1972.

Statistics from the Lincoln Police Dept. show that during 1972, 3,505 juveniles were contacted concerning delinquency cases as compared with 3,408 juvenile contacts in 1971. In 1973 that figure climbed to 3,967, the highest total ever.

Ten years ago the number of juvenile contacts was 2,164, and by 1968, juvenile contacts seemed to peak with 3,905. The

number of contacts decreased each year from 1969-71, but it is climbing once again.

William S. Janicke, chief probation officer of the Lancaster County Juvenile Court, said in Lincoln some juvenile-related cases have increased while others have seemed to stabilize.

"We've had some increase in cases relating to controlled substances, and we've had an increase in runaways, which seems to be a big problem with kids," Janicke said.

He said there hasn't been a large increase in car thefts because the newer cars are harder to break into.

"About the only time a car is stolen is when someone leaves his keys in his car," Janicke said.

James Arnot, director of the Youth Service System in Lincoln, said the national decline in juvenile delinquency could be due to the public being more aware of the delinquency problem utilizing alternatives to the juvenile courts.

The Youth Service System works with young people to provide a counseling service and a place for youths to stay if they don't have any other place to go.

"Maybe we've reduced the negative labeling," he said. "We don't call a delinquent a delinquent anymore. We say he's a person with a problem."

"When someone gets a negative label, he likes to play that role," he added.

Willis Gordon, head of the juvenile division of the Lincoln Police Dept., said one way to curb juvenile delinquency would be to get the community more involved in recreation and work programs for youths.

"Youths are willing to work, but sometimes they just can't find a job," Gordon said. "If we had some work programs, these kids could make some money. Otherwise, they'll just get it somewhere else."

Janicke and Arnot both said juvenile delinquency could be decreased if the family and community were more involved with youth.

"I've always felt juvenile delinquency was closely tied with the family situation," Janicke said. "If there are problems at home, kids seem to violate the law."

Arnot said there should be alternatives for the juvenile courts and the police department.

"We should think twice before sending a juvenile to Kearney or Geneva (state youth corrections centers)," he said. "Not that those institutions don't do a good job. I just think the communities ought to be more responsible for juveniles."