

Housing proposal accepted—in part

By Mark Hoffman

UNL residence halls will have differentiated housing next fall, excluding alcohol and 24-hour visitation.

By a 6-1 vote, the Board of Regents accepted UNL Chancellor James Zumberge's revised proposal Saturday. The action came after a policy to allow alcohol in the halls was rejected with only Regent Kermit Wagner of Schuyler supporting it.

Zumberge then presented "Option 3," a revised plan for differentiated housing which excluded alcohol and 24-hour visitation.

The original plan, which included the two provisions, was written by a subcommittee of the Council on Student Life (CSL).

Only Regent Robert Koefoot of Grand Island opposed Zumberge's proposal. Regent James Moylan of Omaha was absent.

Those changes in UNL residence hall living include:

-Grouping students with similar academic interests, such as business administration, teaching, fine arts and architecture, sciences, agriculture and other areas, on certain floors.

-Allowing students to choose floors with different options of coed visitation hours. These include either

no hours of visitation, zero to eight hours daily and 14 hours on Saturday and Sunday or zero to 14 hours daily, including Saturday and Sunday. Graduate students housed separately from undergraduate students may have 24 hours of visitation daily. For other on campus students, hours may begin not earlier than 11 a.m. and must end by 1 a.m.

-Eliminating the open door and sponsorship policies.

-Establishing more coed living arrangements similar to that in Schramm. That hall is coed by alternate floors. The UNL Housing Office also plans to make two Abel Hall floors coed with males and females living on separate sections of the floor.

The changes are optional for students. A supplement form with housing contracts will list the different options and will ask how much visitation a student wants and whether he wants to live in a coed hall.

The student would list those options according to his or her priority. If a student would prefer to live in a certain hall, but would also like 14 hours of visitation as a second priority, the Housing Office first would try to place him in that hall. Putting him on a floor with 14 hours of visitation would be secondary.

Students under the legal age of 19 will be required to have their parents' signature on the preference card. Also, that student may not move from his original floor to another floor having more liberal options without prior written consent of his parents. Once a student is 19 years old, he would not be bound by that rule.

Halls or floors with a particular visitation option may not increase the maximum hours of visitation during the year. Each floor will decide on the number of hours within its particular option by a 2/3 vote of the floor residents. Each dormitory will try to include all three visitation options.

The regents' vote came after a Friday night open hearing when students and Zumberge presented statements in support of a more liberal policy.

UNL's declining occupancy rate was brought up by a student at the Friday hearing. Rates during the first semester, have been as high as 100% in past years, but this year the first semester rate was about 93% and is now 83%.

Regent Kermit Hansen of Omaha commended the student effort in putting together the differentiated housing proposal and the "manner students presented it last night," he said Saturday.

"Together they represented the maturity of the students," he said.

The rejection of alcohol in the residence halls might have had more to do with legal problems than student maturity.

Regent Robert Prokop of Omaha said Friday, at the Student Advisory Board meeting that there was a "serious legal question" about allowing a student 19-years-old or older to drink in the same room as a student under age.

For related stories,
see pages 2, 7, 9.



Regents Robert Prokop (above), Camille Elliot (starting from right), Ed Schwartzkopf, Kermit Hansen and Robert Koefoot at Saturday's meeting in Lincoln.



Board: student fees may increase

By Wes Albers

An increase in student fees and discontinued funding of some fee supported programs is being considered by the UNL Fees Allocations Board (FAB), according to board chairman Dave Morrison.

Morrison told the four students who attended an open hearing Thursday night that a subcommittee had recommended a fee increase of \$7 to \$10 to offset inflation and increased costs.

Each full-time student now pays \$51.50 per semester in student fees. The fees are used to support campus organizations and programs.

The subcommittee also recommended that several programs no longer be funded by student fees because "they could be self-sufficient or are organizations which perhaps are not a legitimate function of student fee funding," he said.

Programs mentioned by the subcommittee include the Overseas Opportunities Center, the Travel Flight program, the New Student Program, the Placement Office and the Alumni Assoc.

The Fees Allocations Board was created by the Board of Regents last year to administer student fees. Final recommendations on allocations and fee levels will be made to Vice Chancellor of Student Affairs Ken Bader "within a week or two," Morrison said.

The regents will make the final

decision on allocations and fee levels, he said.

Of the \$10 increase being considered, \$4 would be designated for the University Health Center (UHC), \$2 for Nebraska Union operation and programming, \$1 for the Recreation Dept. and \$3 for unallocated fees.

Unallocated fees fund groups such as student organizations, ASUN in part and the Student Activities Office. Forty-one student organizations have applied for funding through the unallocated fees category, Morrison said.

Board member Gary Martin, a UHC administrator, told the students that the center needs the \$4 increase because "we're in a position where we're spending more money than we're taking in."

"There hasn't been an increase in student fees since 1968, and health services costs have been rising," he said. "Come next year we may have to cut services if we get no more money."

Recreation Dept. Director Daniel Steller, also a board member, said increasing salaries, services and costs of equipment make an increase in fees support necessary there.

Morrison said the increase in the unallocated fees category was being sought because surpluses carried forward from past years would be exhausted by next year.

A report to the committee last month by Dean of Administration Ely Meyerson

said there would be a \$28,500 to \$45,500 deficit in unallocated student fees next year given current spending levels.

Ninety cents of the suggested \$3 increase for unallocated fees would go exclusively to student organizations, Morrison said.

"If recommended and approved, this would generate approximately \$42,000 for distribution to student organizations," he said. "This is the only category in which we are considering a fee increase to add new services."

He said the other increases would be needed simply to maintain the present services provided by those programs.

Martin said the subcommittee recommendation to discontinue fee support for some programs was "not made because we disagree with the programs but because we think some of these things can more appropriately be funded from other sources."

Morrison said the subcommittee action was "not necessarily condemnatory" but represented the view that "there are better ways to fund them."

Cutting the suggested programs could save \$2 to \$3 a student per semester in student fees, making an increase of only \$7 necessary rather than \$10, according to the subcommittee.

Last year \$119,000 was allocated to the programs which the subcommittee suggested be eliminated from student fees support next year, Morrison said.