

Drop in enrollment forces \$1 million budget cut

By Greg Wees

Because of enrollment declines in three UNL colleges, deans will be asked to identify areas that can absorb a \$1,033,130 spending cut by June 1976, according to Adam Breckenridge, UNL vice chancellor for academic affairs.

Breckenridge said Friday he will meet deans of the 10 UNL colleges during the second week of December so areas where cuts might be made can be located.

In a letter written last January, UNL Chancellor James Zumberge noted: "Before establishing our (UNL) 1974-75 continuation budget, we subtracted \$1,033,130. We anticipate that we will be down that much in tuition income."

Flexible budget

Breckenridge also added that "credit hour production has declined so the budget had to be cut back. The budget is flexible. It is not etched in granite."

Colleges absorbing most of the million-dollar cut are Arts and Sciences, Teachers and Engineering and Technology, he said. Those colleges experienced the largest decline in student enrollments from 1970-73, he said.

The entire \$1 million were originally to be cut from this year's budget. However, Breckenridge said, "It would have been extremely difficult to take the entire amount out of our budget all at once."

Thus half of the total amount (\$522,444) will be subtracted from this year's budget layouts and another half (\$510,686) will be subtracted from next year's budget allocation, Breckenridge said.

Least damage

"This division will do the least amount of damage to our academic program," he said.

Although he could not say what programs would have to be eliminated or decreased, Breckenridge did say most of the cut would

be absorbed by the instructional budget of the colleges.

The deans must find ways to reduce their budgets for the next fiscal year, he said. He said "about \$100,000 worth" of programs which could be cut already have been identified from colleges including Engineering and Technology (\$6,500), Home Economics, and Teachers (\$34,000).

A review of all academic programs now is being undertaken to help identify further areas where reductions can be made, he said.

'Don't fill teaching vacancies'

"The most painless way to adjust the budget downward," he said, "is not to fill a teaching vacancy when one arises." But this is just one way to reduce the budget, he said.

One person dissatisfied with the announced reductions was Michael Hill, spokesman for the UNL Graduate Student Association (GSA).

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NU Regents accept Pershing College gift

By Deb Gray

The NU Board of Regents, meeting Friday at the University of Nebraska at Omaha, voted unanimously to accept the former Pershing College in Beatrice as a gift to the University.

Pershing College, which closed in 1971, will be assimilated into the NU system with no cost to the University. Beatrice has pledged between \$120,000 and \$200,000 to renovate the campus.

NU President D.B. Varner said the campus will probably be used as headquarters for the State University of Nebraska (SUN) project. The SUN program is a multi-media approach to education, offering college courses using newspapers, television and tape recordings.

Not enough room here

"We simply don't have room on the Lincoln campus," Varner said to process forms for the 8,000-15,000 students he said will eventually enroll in the program.

Varner said the University will not ask the Legislature for additional funds for the SUN program.

Varner also read a letter from Gov. J. James Exon, who said he was considering substantial cuts in budget requests from various University agencies. NU might be forced to live within its present budget next year, Exon said.

In other action, the regents voted to recommend to the Legislature three proposals to expand health care to rural Nebraska.

Medical student loans

The program includes a recommendation to forgive student loans made during a medical student's training if the student practices in rural Nebraska after he graduates. The plan also recommends the establishment of a manpower office to help Nebraska communities recruit students, informing them of opportunities available in smaller Nebraska communities.

Representatives of University labor organizations also came to the meeting to protest what they called a discriminatory University policy which did not allow them to deduct union dues from their paychecks.

AFL-CIO Nebraska president Bill Brennan said UNO had stopped the check-off system after the union raised their dues. The check-off system is mandatory upon request under Nebraska law, he said. University employees should have the same rights as other state employees, according to AFL-CIO attorney Robert O'Connor.

Delay union action

The regents delayed action until the December meeting, after the complaints were submitted for legal review.

The regents did not act on a resolution which would have provided a 45-day delay before implementing Title V of the 1974 Education Amendment. The law, which went into effect November 19, requires universities to allow students to see their records.

Varner said many educators object to the law because some people had been assured their records would remain confidential.

Student regent wins approval

Riding a wave of absentee and disabled voters' ballots, Constitutional Amendment One, the student regent amendment, won approval by 713 votes of the 396,761 votes cast, according to Deputy Secretary of State Ralph Englert.

The amendment will allow the student body presidents from UNL, the University of Nebraska at Omaha and the University of Nebraska Medical Center to sit as nonvoting members on the Board of Regents.

The amendment was thought to have been turned down by nearly 3,000 votes before the mail ballots were tabulated.

ASUN President Ron Clingenpeel said Sunday that prior to being informed of the victory he had "kind of lost hope. We had received unofficial word from someone involved that victory was out of reach. I was floored when I found out."

The totals will be certified Dec. 2 by the state canvassing board. The amendment will become effective Dec. 12, two days before the regents are slated to meet again.

Sales good throughout year

Turkey plucked of intelligence

Turkeys, often thought to be birds of questionable intelligence, are actually "fairly intelligent creatures," according to turkey farmer Herbert Heil of Louisville, Neb.

Heil, who runs a family operated farm, raises about 12,000 turkeys annually.

"As a matter of fact," Heil said, "I'm beginning to think they are more intelligent than the farmer who grows them." Heil was referring to the loss many turkey farmers are experiencing this year because of low prices.

"But I'm not crying," he said. "In general, the business is pretty good."

From the time it hatches, the turkey spends a maximum of about six months

on the farm. After this brooding and growing period, it goes to a processing plant where it is killed and plucked and eventually frozen, sacked and boxed. From there it is shipped to the distributor, wholesaler, and finally to the grocer.

Turkey sales, surprisingly enough, are not much higher close to Thanksgiving than at any other time of year, Heil said. Higher meat prices mean turkeys are being used more as a standard meal.

Although he sees more turkeys than humans every day, Heil said he dines on the birds at least once a week. They still represent a practical, inexpensive meal, he said.



Daily Nebraskan takes break, too

This is the last issue of the Daily Nebraskan before the Thanksgiving break. Publication will resume Dec. 4.

Applicants for Spring 1975 editor-in-chief will be interviewed next Monday by the Publications Board. Applications may be picked up in Rm. 34, Nebraska Union and are due Dec. 2.