

NU Construction Coordinator
Engineer takes post

By Chuck Beck

A former army civil engineer, Robert J. Pazderka, is now working in a new administrative post as NU Capital Construction Coordinator (CCC).

Pazderka was chairman of Military Science at UNL for three years before being approved as CCC by the NU Board of Regents last summer. The West Point graduate has three main duties to fulfill in the administrative post, which was created last summer, he said.

Pazderka said his first duty is to coordinate a budget for submission to the regents for construction and renovation of buildings at UNL, the University of Nebraska at Omaha and the University of Nebraska Medical Center. He has recommended priorities for 37 building projects for 1975-76 to the regents, he said.

His second duty is to prepare an annual report of construction at the three campuses, Pazderka said.

"The CCC must look at building space to make sure there's no duplication of facilities," he said.

His third duty is to "standardize the aspects around which architects must design buildings for the three campuses," Pazderka said. He said standardizing building facades for each campus was an example of determining building design criteria.

"Setting standards"

"We aren't inhibiting the architect's creativity, but setting standards to provide a central core of beauty and usefulness for campus buildings," Pazderka said.

The CCC also negotiates architects' contracts for University building projects and coordinates land acquisition for the three campuses, he said.

"It appears possible that the University can save money because building construction and remodeling projects are coordinated through the CCC for all three campuses," Pazderka said.

Before establishing the CCC, the assistant vice president for budget and finance coordinated capital construction funding in the University system. Because of the "need for justification of the amount of money spent" and the administration of the \$50 million capital construction plan, the CCC was established, he said.

Pazderka said the University operates on a six-year construction projection and a 24-year plan based on projections of enrollment and what facilities are needed.

Decline not affecting planning


The enrollment decline predicted by a recent legislative study has not materially affected advanced construction planning, Pazderka said. He indicated that a leveling off in enrollment was predicted for UNL in 1966, according to a study done for the University.

"The University's average enrollment decline is less than the national average and is actually increasing in comparison to the national trend," he said.

Pazderka was a colonel in the Army Corps of Engineers where he spent 10 years in engineering planning. He applied for the CCC post to pursue engineering planning, he said.

Pazderka received a science degree with a minor in civil engineering from West Point and a bachelor's degree from Iowa State University. He received his master's degree from Purdue University.

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