

mistake in numbering



Faculty members, college deans and department heads attended a hearing Wednesday on the revised NU "Toward Excellence" plan.

Faculty ask changes in NU plan

By Harry Baumert

UNL Faculty Senate President Richard Gilbert said Wednesday morning that the University of Nebraska's updated "Toward Excellence" Five-Year Plan should be changed to indicate which areas of the University are to receive funding priority.

He spoke at a hearing on the updated plan in the Nebraska Union attended by faculty members, college deans and department heads. They met to suggest changes for the revised plan, which was released last Thursday by Stephen B. Sample, NU executive vice-president for academic affairs. Sample chaired the hearing.

Gilbert presented resolutions approved by the Faculty Senate Tuesday evening. He said that if the updated report is a planning document, it should include budget recommendations.

Continuous planning

He called the plan "a response to the legislature, not the University's plan." He said planning has to be a continuous thing and that the three University campuses should "define their mission" to prevent unnecessary duplication of programs.

The original five-year plan was adopted in January, 1973, according to Gilbert, and LB 1054, the University's fiscal budget for 1973-74, the Unicameral asked for an updated version.

Other faculty members suggested revisions in wording of certain sections of the document, and some called for more emphasis in specific academic areas.

English professor Paul Olson made three recommendations:

—The revised plan should include a section on administrators, especially in the service section of the University.

—Nontraditional education should be given more emphasis, since "the University has made some distinguished efforts in this area."

—The University should include as an objective the recruitment of more minority faculty and staff.

Central planning unit

After the hearing, Ken Orton, chairman of the Educational Psychology Dept., said there should have been some kind of a central planning unit when the plan was compiled. Instead, he said, each campus was asked for its contribution to the report, with no "adjudicating agency" to look at each separate plan and come up with a centrally planned document.

Sample said he would bring the suggestions before the University's vice chancellors and President D.B. Varner Wednesday afternoon for possible inclusion into the plan. The final version is to be presented to the NU Board of Regents at their Saturday meeting.

"One of our starting points was that we realized we couldn't deliver a document that would suit everybody," he said.

With regard to including budget information, Sample said a five-year plan can't be specific, because of economic changes and educational trends.

ASUN lacks quorum

It was not business as usual at ASUN's final meeting of the fall semester.

Because not enough students attended, there was not a quorum and no official business could be conducted.

Al Bennett, director of the Nebraska Union, spoke to the senators about plans for the East Campus Union. He said that hopefully construction will begin early this summer.

In other business, Bennett added that he and his staff are concerned with the present state of the economy.

Bake shop products have risen because of the increase in the price of sugar, he said. This is one reason Bennett said the Board is submitting an across-the-board increase of 6-7 per cent in prices.

Commenting on the recent controversy over converting some space in the Nebraska Union for businesses, Bennett said, "I think the whole issue got a little bent out of shape. We didn't think our proposal was irrational or that it was irrationally presented."

He said that he thought by now "it is obvious, at least to me" that new revenue are needed to help keep the Union out of financial difficulty.

Bennett added that if businesses are not allowed in the Union in the near future, student fees will probably need to be raised.

Allowing remodeling of the Union would take away some of the pressure, Bennett said.

Senator Mark Hoeger asked Bennett what had been done about a resolution brought up several semesters ago which would allow liquor in the Union and the Nebraska Center.

Bennett said it would be inappropriate for the Board to play the role of advocate. A movement for alcohol, Bennett said, should be taken by the community.

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ASUN President Ron Clingenpeel reminded students that the student regents will be sworn in Thursday at 5 p.m. in Secretary of State's Allen Beermann office.

Clingenpeel said the public is invited and he encouraged students to attend the ceremony.

Bargaining try failed

Teacher's union folds

The four-year-old American Federation of Teachers (AFT) chapter at the University of Nebraska at Omaha is disbanding after an unsuccessful battle to achieve collective bargaining for professors.

AFT, affiliated with the AFL-CIO, will have no members on campus next year, according to chapter president Sheldon Hendricks, professor of psychology.

The rival American Association of University Professors (AAUP), dormant for about eight years at UNO, will reorganize in place of AFT according to George Harris, professor of economics and a former president of the UNO AAUP chapter.

Hendricks and Harris credited the AFT demise to the rejection of the federation as collective bargaining agent by the NU Board of Regents in 1972.

Harris said, "AFT had only one goal in mind."

Harris foresaw "no flood of eager people rushing to join AAUP. We probably won't have more than 12 to 15 per cent of the faculty as members."

AAUP picks up "not in response to any beef or gripe. We don't see any burning issues right now; there weren't any when 60 per cent were members ten years ago," Harris said.

A nucleus of "about 35," who retained national AAUP membership even though there was no local chapter at UNO, will help reorganize the association, according to Harris.

UNL's chapter of AAUP has "about 200" members according to its president, John Scholz, professor of chemistry and director of University Studies. He said, "It's very much to our advantage to have a viable chapter at UNO."

The AFT chapter at UNL will have an executive council meeting Monday to discuss the effect of the UNO folding according to chapter President Joseph Julian, associate professor of sociology.

Julian reported that "there's not a heck of a lot of us at UNL." He added that the UNO closing "will not be good for us."

Book exchange begins Monday

The ASUN book exchange will start during finals week and continue the first week of second semester, according to Sharon Johnson, ASUN first vice president.

Students can bring their books in, set the price and after the exchange is over students who sold books will be sent checks, Johnson said.

"If they leave their address," she added, "we'll send them the money over Christmas vacation."

At the beginning of second semester, there also will be an exchange at Abel-Sandoz and the East Campus Union, Johnson said.

During finals week the book exchange will be held from 10 a.m. until 5 p.m. in the north and south conference rooms of the Nebraska Unions.