

Faculty members complain about book selling

Faculty members are complaining about the availability of textbooks in the University Bookstore and Nebraska Bookstore, according to ASUN President Ron Clingenpeel.

In a letter to Ronald Wright, UNL Business Manager, Clingenpeel said, "These instructors have ordered their books from the University Bookstore and, by choice, did not order from any other store."

"This was done because the instructors did not wish to deal with Nebraska Bookstore. Now these instructors find out their books are in stock at Nebraska Bookstore and not at the University Bookstore," Clingenpeel said.

Clingenpeel declined to name those instructors, but said faculty members favored the University Bookstore because he said at least some of the profits from that store are used to provide financial aid for students.

He explained that until a few years ago, instructors had received a 10 per cent discount on their own books. When the discount was discontinued, instructors were told that the additional revenue being brought in would go to a financial aid fund.

Copies of Clingenpeel's letter were sent to Miles Tommeraasen, vice chancellor for business and finance; Ken Bader, vice chancellor for student affairs; Adam Breckinridge, acting vice chancellor for academic affairs; Larry Behrends, manager of the

University Bookstore and to the *Daily Nebraskan*.

In the letter, Clingenpeel said the discovery that the University Bookstore supplied Nebraska Bookstore with a list of ordered books really shocked me. It seems to me that the University is doing the work for a private enterprise and I question the ethics of this situation."

He added, "It seems to me the privileges of an instructor are being violated when his intention is to buy texts from one store and then finds another store has his order also."

Wright said the lists are provided to private concerns because of laws first written in 1869 and amended "about five or six times" since, which stipulate that the Board of Regents must have all required textbooks available for students at a fair price.

The University gives the list away because "we don't have the operating capital to buy nor the space to house all the books that will be needed," Wright said. "We'll make sure there are some of each book available but, for example, if there are 100 students in class x, we may have less than 100 of their texts in the University Bookstore."

The University Bookstore is self-supporting, receives no state funds and lets the other book stores pick up the slack between the needed number of textbooks and the supply that the store stocks,

according to Wright.

"It's the professors job to specify what books and material will be required for a course," Wright said. "I don't think it's his job to tell you where to buy your books."

Wright added that it's the University's job to sell books at "list price or less." Book orders must be received as early as mid-October so that the book store can obtain books from the publishers at the least possible cost. They must also avoid ordering too many copies.

Joan Garterell, assistant text manager for the University Bookstore said last fall some professors said they didn't want books which were required for their classes sold in any other store. At that time, Nebraska Bookstore complained and the University Bookstore was ordered to send the list to the private firm.

Further complicating the issue, shipments from the publishers of some of the books in question were overdue at the University Bookstore while Nebraska Bookstore stocked them, according to Garterell.

An ASUN study conducted last spring reported that Nebraska Book Co. owned the Nebraska Bookstore and Campus Bookstore. It also owns interest in several other regional book outlets.

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College careers lasting longer

A legislative study predicting that 14 per cent of the freshmen entering UNL in 1973 will graduate in four years should not be viewed as alarming, according to UNL administrators.

"The whole idea of getting a college degree in four years is going by the boards," UNL Chancellor James Zumberge said. "Over the long haul, about the same number of people graduate (as in the past). They're just taking longer."

The study was conducted by the Legislature's Fiscal Analyst Office. It predicted that of freshmen entering UNL in 1973, 14 per cent will graduate in four years, 17 per cent will require additional time to graduate and 69 per cent will transfer to another school, drop out of school for awhile, or drop out altogether.

99 per cent correct

Eldin Ehrlich, director of the Fiscal Analyst Office, said the study was compiled from data provided by UNL for the four-year period ending with the 1973-74 school year. If the data supplied was correct, the figures should be 99 per cent correct, he said.

Zumberge said he was surprised by the figures, but noted they could be misleading.

"I don't think you can draw any specific conclusions," he said. "You have to make a much more in-depth study."

He said the 69 per cent figure for students who drop out or transfer probably is greater than it has been in the past. More students must drop out now for financial reasons, he said, but about the same percentage eventually graduate as in the past.

1973 students surveyed

Harry Allen, UNL director of institutional research and planning, directed a survey of students who attended UNL in the spring of 1973 but failed to return that autumn.

He said the two major reasons students gave for not returning were lack of money and disenchantment with school. Loneliness and uninteresting courses, which generally are assumed to be major reasons given by dropouts ranked low on the list, he said. Most were glad

they had attended UNL, he added.

"They felt the limited experience they had here was useful," he said.

Zumberge agreed that students don't necessarily drop out because they are dissatisfied with UNL.

'Good feeling'

"They leave with a good feeling about the university," he said. "I think that's important."

Allen said of those in his survey who didn't return to UNL, 41 per cent transferred to other schools. Of the remaining 59 per cent, several probably will return to UNL in the future, he said.

Ken Bader, UNL vice chancellor for student affairs, said he believed the Legislature's figures were fairly accurate. He agreed that more students are dropping out now, but said that trend is not necessarily bad.

"I don't know how many students I have talked to who have quit for a semester or wished that they had," he said.

Dropouts benefit

He stressed that even those who drop out altogether have benefited from their stay at UNL. Many students have learned how to express themselves and have gained a better perspective of their goals while at UNL, he said.

The legislative study also predicted that of freshmen entering UNO in 1973, 12 per cent will graduate in four years, five per cent will require additional time to graduate and 83 per cent will transfer or drop out.

UNO Chancellor Ronald Roskens said many people today view a college education as "an enhancement of one's skills." Because of that view, many enter UNO to take a few courses and not to get a degree, he said.

Such part-time students are included in the 83 per cent figure, which tends to make it misleading, he said. He added that he is concerned with retaining those full-time students who drop out because they become demoralized.

"We're trying to improve our whole advising and counseling apparatus," he said.

'Farm markets in chaos'

Exon: use anti-trust

By Don McCabe

Gov. J. James Exon said Tuesday the United States is asking farmers to produce substantial agricultural products without giving them assurance of an adequate price.

Exon told members of the UNL Agricultural Economics-Agribusiness Club at East Campus that farmers are caught in the inflation squeeze with rising fertilizer, seed and fuel costs. At the same time, he said, prices for grain and livestock have declined since the beginning of January.

"We are going through a boom and bust cycle in the agricultural markets and they are in a chaotic situation now," he said.

Exon expressed the desire for an effective government program to manage agricultural resources. However, the Governor said he hoped this could be achieved without too much interference with the farmer.

One of the problems in the cattle industry today, Exon said, is that effective anti-trust laws have not been used. He referred to the financial troubles of the American Beef Packing Co. which recently declared bankruptcy.

"About 80 per cent of the redmeat in Nebraska is sold to eight or nine conglomerates outside of Nebraska," he said.

Exon said that protection is needed for the family farm from large corporations, but that proposed legislative family-farm bills may be unconstitutional.

"If a fair family-farm bill cannot be drawn up under our present constitution," he said, "a constitutional amendment should be imposed to offer protection for the family farm."

A major concern of this legislative session, he said, is the irrigation and water level problems. He said Nebraska cannot go forward without protecting its water supply.



Gov. J. James Exon

Semester's enrollment up from last spring

More students are enrolled at UNL this semester than during second semester last year, according to the director of academic services.

Gerald Bowker said 20,196 students are attending UNL this semester, 129 more than a year ago.

Fewer students decided to withdraw between the fall and spring semesters this year, Bowker said. This fall, 20,892 students were enrolled on the Lincoln campuses, 696 more than are enrolled this semester. The drop at this time last year was 1,093 students.

Bowker said this drop of about 5 per cent between semesters is expected and is

caused largely by students graduating in December and students who, he said, traditionally drop out or stop out between semesters. Stop out refers to students who temporarily withdraw from school for a variety of reasons.

"Somewhat unusual" is that the number of entering freshman students in January 1975 is greater than a year ago, Bowker said. He said there are now 273 new freshman students enrolled, compared to 248 a year ago.

Bowker said UNL's professional and graduate colleges and the Extension Division had an increase in the number of registered students, compared to mid-year

of 1973-74.

He said the total professional school enrollment this semester is 888 students compared to 864 a year ago. That includes 291 students in dentistry, 390 in law and 207 in pharmacy.

Graduate student enrollment is 3,155 this semester, a rise of 99 from last spring. Extension Division enrollment rose from 988 students a year ago to 1,065 students this month, according to academic services statistics.

Bowker said undergraduate enrollment, however, declined from 15,279 students a year ago to 15,088 this year. But he said this figure is less of a percentage decline than last year.