



Bylaws affect students

ASUN opinion

(Editor's note: Chip Lowe is a member of the Council on Student Life.)

The NU Board of Regents come to town today to examine the University's health and, more specifically, to act on the UNL bylaws. You say you've never heard of the UNL bylaws? Well, neither had anyone else until a couple of years ago.

UNL never has had written guidelines of operation: such as, what to do if a chancellor quits or what the roles of ASUN and CSL are. Everything was still there. It just wasn't strictly written down.

Two years ago it was decided that this was too messy. Much of UNL's structure was to be formalized in a concise document called the bylaws. Not to speculate on how the university functioned for all of those other years, a committee with university-wide representation was formed to write the document.

After open hearings and debate, the finished product is now available. And by this weekend, with the pronouncement of the regents, UNL will be married to it; married in the sense that after approval they will be very hard to change.

But before the regents take that vow for us, why don't you get a copy at the ASUN office in the Nebraska Union and see exactly

what is going on. Look especially at Chapter Four entitled *Students*. Read this section first because it is closest to home. We don't expect anyone to become high on these bylaws. But we at least want you to be exposed to them.

Now, we want you to go to Regents Hall on East Campus any time after 2 p.m. today when the regents will be holding their last open hearing on the bylaws. It is the last chance you have to give an opinion about them. And if you don't have anything to say, when you walk in the building, simply sit down and watch, listen and learn. It will probably be the most exciting class you have ever attended because it deals with people.

And that's something that we seem to lose sight of with any academic classes we take. Bring your bylaws with you so you can understand the proceedings. Some people are going to debate Section 4.3.1 concerning the Fees Allocation Board, while others aren't too happy with the section dealing with the role of student publications.

If you have something to say, fine. Otherwise, find a comfortable chair and listen to the classroom of the world. You may discover that there are people who care about how this university is run and influence what happens. After listening for a while, maybe you will realize that you can, too.

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