

Colleges may offer SUN credit

State University of Nebraska students in the future may receive credit at the 22 Nebraska public colleges as well as at the four SUN learning centers, according to Milan Wall, SUN regional planning coordinator.

Wall said the proposal is in the early planning stages.

"We have to talk to representatives of the colleges to see if they are interested and to see if the proposal is feasible," he said.

The proposed system would represent a departure from the original SUN concept of operating a separate learning center to supplement the college-at-home course study.

Coordinate programs

NU President D.B. Varner recently told a Legislative Appropriations Committee at an NU budget hearing that the proposal "would let us coordinate continuing education programs through the existing institutions."

SUN requested almost \$158,000 in state tax funds for its course delivery system.

Varner said the SUN courses can be delivered for slightly more than \$20 per credit hour, or half the general fund appropriation to the state colleges.

Appropriation committee chairman, Sen.

campuses as they now exist. Any subject "Any subject other than a strictly lab

Richard Marvel, said he questions whether

Nebraska can afford to support 22 separate

approach could be taught" through SUN, Varner said. And some courses, "properly developed" could be used for four or five years before updating would be required, he added.

Varner also proposed that SUN deliver all liberal arts courses of Nebraska's technical community colleges.

As an example, Varner said vocational-technical students on the 11 Nebraska technical college campuses could take all their freshman English courses from SUN.

Eliminate duplication

Such an operation would offer high quality instruction, eliminate unnecessary duplication of courses on Nebraska's postsecondary campuses and free vocational instructors from teaching academic courses, Varner said.

Wall said Varner's proposal would involve only SUN, not its regional outgrowth, University of MidAmerica.

He said it may be useful for individuals to register through the college nearest them, but presently it is not possible.

Animal, poultry science Japanese studying at UNL

Special training in livestock sciences at UNL this semester is giving 60 Japanese students the opportunity to transfer their knowledge to Japan.

The students are taking a special three-month course in animal and poultry science at the Nebraska Center on East Campus.

The course, according to Chuck Havlicek, program coordinator at the center, is designed to "meet the students' basic needs in these sciences for application on the farm."

The students are in the United States as members of the Japanese Agriculture Training Program, which is sponsored by the Japanese Agriculture Training Council in Seattle, Wash.

Two years in U.S.

About 200 Japanese students are selected each year to take part in a two-year training program in the U.S, Havlicek said.

After arriving they undergo an extensive three-month language training program, he said. Then they are sent to host farms in the United States where, Havlicek said, "they can learn first-hand American agricultural techniques." The host farms are primarily in the western states, he said, but about 12 are in Nebraska.

After 12 to 15 months on the host farms,

and poultry science, he noted. Other universities offer similar courses in horticulture and grain and fruit farming.

Return to farm

At the conclusion of the course, the students return to the farms for the duration of the two-year program to apply what they have learned, he said.

Havlicek said that the course, which is sponsored by the Nebraska Center Conference Program, is divided into beef, dairy, swine and poultry segments. He said the students are given hypothetical problems in livestock management and other livestock related areas.

"We try to set up model farm programs for each student for his specific area of Japan," Havlicek said.

He pointed out that the group are all good students, mainly because they go through rigorous agricultural training in Japan. He said that the students, who are from 21 to 29 years old, have had agricultural training in either high school or in college.

Communication problems in the classroom are eased with the help of four interpreters, he added.

While at UNL, the Japanese students stay at the Hall of Youth Dormitory at the Nebraska Center.



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they attend classes at universities throughout the country. This is the educational phase of the program, Havlicek said.

The course at UNL is the only one in animal

The current class at UNL will end March 28. It is the eighth such class.

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page 8