

Zumberge resigns post for SMU presidency bid

By Randy Blauvelt

UNL Chancellor James H. Zumberge, 51, Wednesday announced he will resign the post he has held since 1972.

At the same time, it was announced that Zumberge's name will be submitted to the Southern Methodist University (SMU) Board of Trustees as a candidate for SMU president.

According to Robert Cullum, SMU Search Committee chairman, Zumberge was a unanimous choice of the committee for recommendation as a candidate for the spot. The SMU trustees will make the final decision for the position Sept. 5.

Zumberge, vacationing at Jackson Hole, Wyo., said he couldn't pinpoint any one reason for leaving UNL except that SMU offered a better opportunity.

"I'm pushing 52," Zumberge said in a telephone interview, "and I decided that I only have about a dozen years left in the saddle. I also decided that SMU offered the best way to spend those years."

Zumberge stressed that the SMU opportunity "emerged very quickly." In the past, he said, other schools have made inquiries which he had turned down.

Increased salary

If appointed to the position, he will earn more than twice the salary UNL paid. The chancellor's salary and benefits, including a housing allowance and car, total more than \$48,000. SMU, a Dallas-based, private school, reportedly offers a \$75,000 salary with a \$25,000 pension fund for its president. Zumberge denied the increased pay

was a factor in his decision to quit.

His notice of resignation comes just as he was to begin his fifth year as head of the university system's Lincoln campus. Zumberge said he will not make any recommendations as to his successor, but added that there are qualified people within the system.

Because of the importance of "continuity," Zumberge said his resignation will not be effective until an interim chancellor is prepared to take over the duties of the office.

According to William Swanson, corporation secretary for the NU Board of Regents, no action will be taken in finding a replacement until after Sept. 1.

Committee required

The process for finding a permanent replacement, outlined in section 2.7 of the regents' bylaws, calls for a search committee to be established with input from students, faculty, alumni and administrative sectors of the school. After screening, the regents will appoint a new chancellor based on the recommendations of NU President D.B. Varner.

Zumberge emphasized that his resignation in no way reflects on the quality of education available at UNL, but that he believes the core of authority at the school will have to be decided soon.

"One of these days there will have to be a decision made as to where the Legislature's authority ends and where the regents' authority begins," he said.

Zumberge said he believes the Legislature should have full authority in determining the amount of money the school receives, but the regents should decide how it should be spent. He blamed the present confusion on the wording of a section of the Nebraska Constitution regarding UNL.

The only other complaint the chancellor noted about UNL was the Legislature's tight-fisted approach to faculty salaries.

"I have made strong pleas to the Legislature to upgrade faculty salaries," Zumberge said. "I think it is a failure on my part that salaries weren't increased."

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UNL Chancellor James Zumberge

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Student tactics vary in Fighting registration rules

By Ann Owens

"I've already been here two hours!" "You mean English 101 is filled? No, what am I going to do?"

These remarks along with similar cries of anguish filled the Nebraska Union ballroom last week as UNL students stood in lines for general registration.

Groups of students entered the room at 30-minute intervals after presenting fee and time appointment cards to Academic Services employees guarding the entrance.

Sneaking students

"Students often try to sneak through the entrance without fee cards, one door guard said, "but if they succeed, it catches up with them when records show they haven't paid their fee."

After pleading on hands and knees for admittance, one student entered without a time appointment card, according to a sympathetic guard.

"I'm so soft hearted so I let him in," the guard said. "Another girl commented on how nice I looked in my new jeans so I let her in also."

After students entered the room, by whatever means, they formed more lines to pay fees, talk with advisers, pull cards for classes and check forms for errors.

Ran smoothly

The system registering approximately 1,400 students per day, ran smoothly this year, according to Richard Young, assistant director of Registration and Records.

Nearly everyone helping—full time UNL employees, retired faculty, faculty wives, work-study students, student volunteers and even one nursery school teacher—agreed there were no major problems with general registration.

"The biggest problem is that many students who could early-register just don't," UNL Admissions Office employee Pam Thoman said.

"This includes freshmen, who are simply afraid to register early," she said. "I have no sympathy for them. After all, they had five months to take care of it, but now they complain about having to wait in line for general registration."

Space a problem

The biggest problem, according to housewife Karen Miles, temporarily employed to pull cards, is limited classroom space.

"If it were up to me I would give the students any classes they wanted," she said. "Students more often walk away disappointed than angry when a class is full."

Mrs. W.C. Meierhenry, in her thirtieth

year of helping with registration, said she believes that "students are exceptionally well-mannered this year."

"If you greet them with a smile and help them as much as possible, they are most gracious," she said.

Students remain courteous throughout the entire process, according to Sue

Blomgren and E.R. Powell, two employees checking completed registration forms.

Thankful for end

"By the time they reach this line they are usually thankful to see the end," Blomgren said.

Assistant Director Young said he is pleased with UNL's general registration

system.

Improvements suggested by employees ranged from leaving the general registration procedure as it is to eliminating it completely and using a computer.

"There is room for improvement," Young said, "and improvements will be made in the future."

Fire damages UNL building

A two-alarm fire early Friday morning on UNL's East Campus caused approximately \$1.2 million dollars damage.

The fire, which burned for approximately 45 minutes before being noticed, destroyed the roof and top floor of the Plant Industry Bldg., Don Rixstine, deputy state fire marshal, said.

The building, housing mainly research, contained the horticulture, entomology and plant pathology departments.

According to Rixstine, the fire started at approximately 1 a.m. in the attic around the plant growth chambers, because of a lighting balast short.

"A concrete slab between the attic and the third floor prevented the entire building from going," he said.

There also was considerable heat, water and smoke damage on the lower floors, he stated.

T.E. Hartung, dean of the College of Agriculture, said, "The serious damage is the research activity that was destroyed by water or fire. There is going to be a serious loss of research progress."

According to Hartung, it will be at least 45 days before they will be reassigning occupancy in the building.

"Apparently the building is structurally sound, so the main factor is the replacement of the roof and ventilation system," he said.

Low-level radioactive materials, used in plant research, were stored in the building, Julius Haes, UNL's radiation officer, said. This material is at a level only slightly higher than that of radiation found in such things as rock and soil, he said.

Haes said radiation was nonexistent, though, when he checked it immediately after the fire.



The efforts of firemen to extinguish the fire in the East Campus Plant Industry Bldg. caused water damage on the building's first floor.