

daily nebraskan

# Thesis data erased, student may sue

By Theresa Forsman

A UNL graduate student said she may file a law suit against the University of Nebraska in an effort to receive her masters degree.

Ann Nugent said she has compiled over 70 credit hours of graduate work in the Sociology Dept. at UNL during the past five years.

The student said data for her masters thesis, which she had stored in a university data system, was erased accidentally.

**No personal record**

Nugent, who discovered that the data was missing last year, kept no personal record of the lost material. Therefore, she said, she is unable to write her thesis.

She requested her masters degree be awarded on the basis of course work and a comprehensive examination.

The Sociology Dept. does not offer graduate degrees without a thesis, said James Kimberly, chairman of UNL's Sociology Dept.

A native of Switzerland, Nugent must leave the United States sometime next month because of immigration laws which took effect after her American husband's death last year. She said that even if she did not have to leave the country, she would not write another masters thesis.

"I put many hours of work into gathering the material which was lost and have paid a great deal in tuition charges," she said. "I don't think I should have to do it again."

**Discriminated against**

She also refused to write another thesis because of the data erasure and because she said she felt discriminated against as a woman and a foreigner.

Nugent appealed the Sociology Dept.'s refusal to grant her a degree directly to the NU Board of Regents last Saturday.

She asked the board to override the department's decision. The board resolved that Nugent should follow normal appeal procedures on the Lincoln campus before

presenting her case to the board.

Regent Robert Raun of Minden said the board is not qualified to make a ruling on the matter.

"It would wreck the whole academic procedure of the university," he said.

The board said that since Nugent is obliged to leave the country soon, she could meet with the Academic Affairs Committee to discuss the problem.

**Legal action**

Nugent said she has not decided whether to do this or to bring legal action against the university.

By addressing the board, she circumvented normal appeal procedures available in the Graduate College.

James Drew, dean of UNL's Graduate College, said two appeal committees exist for graduate students. Both the campus level and systems level committees were available to Nugent last spring.

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**ASUN CALENDAR**

September 10, 1975

- I. Executive Report
  - A. Senate Membership
  - B. Regents' Meeting
  - C. Chancellor Search Committee Appointments
  - D. Council on Student Life Meeting
  - E. Faculty Senate Notes
  - F. Standing Committee—tees—Jackie Learned
- II. Open Forum
  - A. Nebraska University Public Interest Research Group (NUPRIG)
  - III. Old Business
  - IV. New Business
    - A. Appointments
    - B. Resolution No. 13—Notice of Appointments
    - C. Resolution No. 14—University Bookstore Billboards
    - D. Resolution No. 15—University Budget
    - E. Resolution No. 16—Chancellor Search Committee
  - V. Announcements
    - A. Community Relations Committee Meeting
    - B. Book Exchange
    - C. Activities Mart

**short stuff**

All students planning a career in medicine are welcome to attend a NU Med meeting today at 7 p.m. in the Nebraska Union Auditorium. "Elements of the medical team" will be the topic of guest speaker, Dr. Jerry Reed.

Free advanced lifesaving and water safety instruction parts 1 and 2 are being offered by the American Red Cross every Wed. night beginning tonight at 8 p.m. at Lincoln Southeast High School. All interested welcome.

An organizational meeting for Nebraska University Public Interest Research Group is planned for Wednesday, Sept. 10 at 8 p.m. in the Nebraska Union.

An ASUN Community Relations Committee meeting is planned for Sept. 10 at 9 p.m. in the Nebraska Union 334.

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