



Photo by Kevin Higley

About 120 law students gathered for a town hall meeting Thursday night to protest the midnight closing time of the East Campus Law Library. Gene Crump, president of the Student Bar Association, led the flashlight meeting.

## Law students dissatisfied with library regulations

By Terri Willson

Law students concerned about the Law College Bldg. library's hours and fine system rallied in front of the library between 11:00 p.m. and midnight Thursday.

According to Eugene Crump, president of the Student Bar Association, law students will list their grievances and present them to Gerald Rudolph, dean of university libraries, and Acting UNL Chancellor Adam Breckenridge. Crump said students hope Rudolph and Breckenridge will find a solution to what he called a year-old problem.

Students are dissatisfied with the library's hours of 6 a.m. through 12 p.m. because the library is closed during what Crump called, "peak study hours." Crump said the former law library on city campus was open 24 hours daily.

Michael O'Hara, law student and law librarian, said although the city campus law library was open 24 hours a day, it was only staffed until midnight.

### Ethics code

Crump said the reason law students object to being fined is because law students have been on a Code of Student Discipline approved by a law faculty vote in 1969. The code states law students' responsibility for library materials, and calls for removal of students from law school if materials are damaged or library laws are not observed. He said students have respected this ethics code in the past and do not need a monetary fine imposed.

According to Sue Sovereign, law school library assistant, the system of fines is the same as other university libraries, except that the law library has a two-week loaning

period, while other university libraries loan materials for four weeks.

O'Hara said fine system rates have been reduced from \$1 to 60 cents. He said the law library personnel "has doubled over backwards" to help law students, and has added two more professionals to their staff.

Sovereign said that since two-thirds of law library material is research and non-circulating, there is no need to have fines for these materials, she said. If students obtain a special permit, research materials may be borrowed overnight.

Law library fines for non-research items are: Overnight—60 cents per item for the first hour overdue, and 10 cents for each additional hour; two-day and two-week loans—60 cents per item the first overdue day or week and 10 cents each additional day or week.

### Two-day grace period

Sovereign said the library also has a two-day grace period for two-week loans and a half-hour leeway for four-hour loans.

Crump said students also are rallying because instead of adding \$50,000 to the Law Library Fund as required by the Legislature for the 1974-75 fiscal year, Love Memorial Library apparently used \$30,000, leaving only \$20,000 for added spending. He said an audit should be performed to determine exactly what happened to the money.

O'Hara said students are not justified in rallying because the \$50,000 allotment is more than any other university libraries received.

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## Delayed NU funding report awaits medical center

By Rex Seline

Already more than nine months past its original completion deadline, the university funding report being prepared for the governor probably will be delayed at least another month, the funding commission chairman said this week.

Omahan Gus Lieske said the committee he chairs still is waiting for a University of Nebraska Medical Center (UNMC) funding study from consultants Peat, Marwick and Mitchell Co., before they submit their final report to the governor.

Although not a factor in the delay, discussion concerning recommendations on funding that the committee will make in its final report also has been troubling committee members.

Lieske's Commission on University Funding was established in August of 1974 and was directed to submit its final report to the governor by Jan. 1, 1975, to help him determine the 1975-76 NU budget.

Lieske said he is not concerned about the delay in reporting.

"The original discussion to set up the committee took place in January of '74 with the idea of January '75 as the deadline," Lieske said. "But the commission was not appointed until August."

"We determined that we wouldn't be able to do an adequate job in that time (from August until January). We will be finished in time for the next session of the Legislature."

Governor J. James Exon also said the delay is not a matter of concern.

"The timing of the report is not nearly as important as the recommendations they make on the subject of funding," Exon said.

### Portion completed

The agricultural portion of the final report was submitted last spring, Lieske said.

"One basic value of the report is the methodology established for doing the

study," Lieske said. "The establishment of the methodology has taken most of the time of the commission."

It will be easy for anyone to use the formulas the committee has established to make funding recommendations in the future, he said. But the use of formulas is what bother James O'Hanlon, committee member and acting chairman of the UNL Physical Education and Recreation Dept.

"I don't think that we should decide what higher education needs in this state on what they did in Kansas or Iowa last year," O'Hanlon said.

### Budgets averaged

O'Hanlon said that Lieske proposed that each year's university budget be determined by taking the average of the budgets of the top three area universities from the previous year.

"I don't like deciding on a reactive basis: whatever the other states did last year, we do this year," O'Hanlon said.

O'Hanlon joined William Erskine, execu-

tive vice president for administration, in filing a minority report with the governor.

If a formula is to be used, it must also take into consideration the ability of the state to pay the costs of higher education, O'Hanlon said.

"I just have a real question about formula budgeting, period," he said. "Do we value agriculture as highly as the average spent on it or more? Some areas should receive more money than the average, some less."

Preliminary findings have indicated that there might not be a need for as much money as has been spent in the past for higher education in the state, although that does not mean less money for the University, Lieske said.

The committee has not met since July, but will meet again when the UNMC study is completed. At that meeting, the committee will put together their findings and prepare their recommendations, Lieske said.

## Old City Hall, Federal Bldg

# UNL, city consider new arts center

A plan to renovate the vacated Federal Bldg. and the old City Hall into a performing arts center has been introduced to the city of Lincoln, and, according to Mayor Helen Boosalis, the plan has met with much enthusiasm.

Boosalis said discussion on the performing arts center has only started, but the Lincoln City Council has endorsed the concept as feasible.

Financing for the project would come from UNL, the city and possibly some private donations, Boosalis said.

### 2,500-seat theater

Lincoln architect Larry Enersen originated the plan whereby the two vacated buildings on the block between 9th and 10th streets on P St. would be altered and connected with a 2,500-seat theater serving the university and the city.

A new Lincoln performing arts center has been discussed for years, with possible construction costs running more than \$10 million. Enersen's renovation and building improvement plan runs from \$4 million to \$5 million.

The Mutual Development Corp. will own the Federal Bldg. after federal offices vacate to the new structure on O St., John Campbell, corporation president, said.

According to Campbell, the corporation believes the arts center would make best

possible use of the building and endorse its progress.

### Non-profit corporation

Boosalis said, that for tax reasons the building probably would be bought from the Mutual Development Corp. by a newly-formed, non-profit corporation.

John Frey, Lincoln Foundation president and Lincoln businessman, said he currently is looking into the possibility of 15 to 20 businessmen forming such a corporation.

costs each would pay is unsettled.

If the plan is approved, money the city would pay will have to come from general obligation bonds which will be city financed and voted on by Lincoln citizens in the May election.

### Space leased for \$1

Boosalis said the city also will lease office space on the first and second floors for \$1 annually plus maintenance costs which would be about \$72,000 annually.

Five city offices will be in the building so that all city departments will be centralized in either the County-City Bldg. or the old Federal Bldg.

A similar fine arts center plan was discussed a few years ago, when NU officials suggested converting the Coliseum into a center. Another plan involved construction of a new complex located where the Temple Bldg. now stands.

However the cost (\$10 million to \$15 million) did not seem worth the effort, UNL Chancellor James Zumberge said.

Zumberge said the arts center now needs "a clearly identified source of money, not only funds to build the theater and renovate the building, but also funds to maintain it as an ongoing enterprise."

Frey said that many uncertainties about the plans will be cleared up in upcoming meetings.

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The asking price of Mutual Development Corp. is \$775,000, Frey said.

Boosalis said speculative plans are that UNL and the city will share costs of building the center, but UNL will be owner and operator of the theater.

However, she added, the percentage of

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### Weather

Friday: Sunny and cooler, northeast winds ranging from 5 to 15 mph.

Friday night: Clear, cooler temperatures. Lows in the mid-30s.

Saturday: Sunny, temperatures in the low 70s.