

Committee will report tenure findings

By Randy Blauvelt

The committee ordered by the NU Board of Regents last April to study system-wide tenure density will be ready to report findings in time for the regent's October meeting, according to Conny Nelson, assistant vice president for academic affairs.

"We've got our basic research done, such as who is tenured and how many in which departments," Nelson said.

Although Nelson would not reveal any official findings of the group before the meeting he did say the group agrees on two matters.

'Good system'

"There is strong feeling for support of the tenure concept itself," Nelson said, "and the committee feels that the system we have now is a good one."

Nelson, along with Barbara Coffey, NU equal opportunity coordinator, and Steven Sample, NU vice president for academic affairs, represent the systems office on the committee. Other committee members are Donald Haworth, David McGill and Gerhard Meisels, UNL professors; Frank Forbes, John Newton and Justin Stolen, professors from the University of Nebraska at Omaha (UNO); Pharmacy Dean A.R.

Haskell, Nursing Associate Dean Lois Merrill and Dr. Norman Miller, University of Nebraska Medical Center (UNMC).

The group is not studying the concept of tenure, Nelson said, but is concerned with tenure density. He defined tenure density as the ratio of tenured faculty members and administrators to everyone who might be tenured.

"Our question was, are too many people being tenured for the good of the university?" Nelson said.

Not crisis

He declined to give a committee opinion, but gave his own views.

"My feeling is that the percentage of tenured faculty is a serious concern, but we're not at the crisis point yet."

Nelson said the committee doesn't know the danger point because there are no national feelings about the number of faculty members who should be tenured.

"There is no clear point of danger defined by anyone," he said.

However, Nelson said the committee has looked at comparative figures on tenure for 97 major American public universities.

"The University of Nebraska-Lincoln's average is too high in terms of the national

picture," Nelson said. "The whole system is lower than average."

NU compares

According to Nelson, 30.2 per cent of the campuses were comparable to UNL last year with 61 to 70 per cent of professors tenured. UNL had 68.2 percent. Only 9.4 per cent had 71 to 80 per cent and 2.2 per cent had 81 to 90 per cent of faculty members tenured. No universities in the study had tenure densities between 91 and 100 per cent, he said.

Tenure percentages previously released by Sample give this year's figures as 75 per cent at UNL, 66 per cent at UNO and 42 per cent at UNMC.

Nelson said two of "a dozen ideas" discussed by the committee for possible recommendation to the regents were establishing system-wide tenure standards and using outside recommendations before granting tenure.

"Some university body, probably a committee, could set up basic standards that should be the same for UNL, UNO and the medical center," Nelson said.

"On one hand, university-wide standards might be a good idea, but on the other hand, each of our campuses has a different mission," he said.

Because of this so-called difference between campuses, the committee does not know how it would develop standards, Nelson said.

"It will make it hard to do," he added. Nelson said the group also has discussed obtaining recommendations for tenure of NU faculty members from colleagues in other schools, but wouldn't say if it would be in the final report.

Tenure candidates now must work their way through the university hierarchy until tenure either is approved or rejected by the regents.

Recommendation process

First, recommendation is made by the department through a vote of all tenured faculty members, a committee of departmental faculty whether they are tenured or not.

It is then reviewed by the department chairman and sent to the dean or a faculty committee of the appropriate college.

The recommendation is passed to the vice chancellor for academic affairs and then to the chancellor of the campus, who presents it to the regents. The university president can comment on the recommendation when it appears before the regents for approval.

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Study dispels stereotypes of needy

By Paula Damke

Persons living in poverty do not have the same self-image that the experts who work with welfare families often think they have, according to a two-phase UNL study.

Research for the study was done by Wilma Crumley, UNL vice director of the School of Journalism and Patricia Sailor, former dean of the UNL College of Home Economics and now dean of the Louisiana State University School of Home Economics.

Crumley said the purpose of the study was to dispel stereotypes of the study and see them as individuals.

She said persons on welfare do not share common defensive reactions, so professionals cannot successfully communicate with the poor if they treat them as one mass audience.

The study was published in the Journal of Home Economics, a publication of the American Home Economics Association. Crumley said she is concerned with making the study's information useful and has used

the study's findings in her teaching.

"It is easier to stereotype than to deal with complex problems," Crumley said.

In the first phase of the study, 40 Nebraska women receiving Aid to Dependent Children (ADC) are interviewed in their homes. The women, who were chosen randomly from ADC recipients, participated voluntarily in the study, Crumley said. In the interviews, the women described ways of dealing with poverty.

In the second phase of the study, 52 statements concerning interpersonal communication, mass media communication and clothing were selected from the interviews with the ADC recipients.

ADC mothers interviewed

The statements were read by 24 other women receiving ADC. The women, interviewed in 1972 and 1973, and asked whether they agreed with the statements.

The 24 women ranged in age from 19 to 54 years of age, had an educational background of high school to one year of college and had from one to seven children.

After combining data, the 24 women were placed in groups according to common responses.

Women in the "struggling group" in-

tend to get the most out of life for themselves and for their children, Crumley said.

She quoted a woman in this group—"If we're going to avoid the second generation of welfare, then we have to give children the best—the best in culture, clothes and food."

Other spending

Another woman in the "struggling group" said, "Nobody can complain about taking care of real human beings when they consider the tremendous amounts that we are spending on space and the military, to kill other human beings."

Crumley said women in this group see clothing as a concern of higher income groups.

The responses of women in the "critical group" indicate they are critical of fellow welfare recipients and the manner in which they handle their affairs, Crumley said.

According to women in the "critical group", giving more money to the poor will not solve their problems. One respondent said, "I don't care how much money is spent, you're not going to wipe out poverty conditions. Some people are not going to do any better. They're going to sit there and let you wait on them."

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Weather

Monday: Partly cloudy, temperatures in the 70s, northwest winds ranging from 10-15 mph.

Monday night: Temperatures in the upper 30s, chance of frost.

Tuesday: Sunny and warmer, temperatures in the mid-70s.

Political clubs share ills

By Ron Ruggless

Student apathy, voter registration and lack of funds mark the problems and projects of the Young Democrats and the Young Republicans at UNL, say their leaders.

The two organizations, for persons 18 to about 35 years old, are off-shoots of the national parties.

According to Shellie Hartman, state Young Democrats (YD) chairwoman, the groups are trying to boost voter registration, but have problems with finances.

Target '76

She said the YDs are instituting a program at UNL called "Target '76," a national program to bolster voter registration.

A similar local program is being started at UNL by the Young Republicans (YR), according to Kent Fillman, chairman.

Fillman and Hartman said they will canvass students on and off campus to try to get them to vote.

"Only 67 per cent of the eligible college voters are registered," Hartman said. "With this campaign, we hope to improve that percentage."

Student apathy is the biggest obstacle to voter registration and voting, Fillman and Jeff Hunzeker, UNL YD chairman, said.

The YRs have 125 members, YD membership is near 80. The leaders of the groups said that should be enough manpower to counter apathy.

Need money

Even though many students are helping, finances for both organizations are far from ideal, Hunzeker and Fillman said.

The Young Republicans' income comes from dues, donations and fund raising events. YD gets most of its money from fund raising projects and donations.

Hartman said money always has been a problem for the two organizations, but it gives members something to work for and to be proud of.

Both groups are making plans for next year's presidential elections.

Young Republicans polled students at the recent Activities Mart in the Nebraska Union to see what they thought were the most prominent issues.

The YRs and YDs closely follow national party lines on national issues.

The groups usually endorse the same candidates as the parent organization, Fillman said.

"We are still a separate organization, though," he said, "and we have goals and ideals we work toward."



Photo by Ted Kirk

Indiana head coach Lee Corso consoles linebacker Donny Thomas (53) after a 45-0 loss to the Huskers Saturday. See related stories on page 10.

Student 'fair'

David Zech, the freshman who plunged from his tenth floor Abel Hall room Aug. 26, is now in fair condition, according to Lois Ullman, Lincoln General Hospital supervisor.

Zech's vital signs also have stabilized, Ullman said. The 18-year-old student from Douglas had been in serious condition last week.

Ullman said he remains in a coma, "although it is a lighter coma."

Zech suffered a fractured pelvis and wrist, several broken ribs and head injuries in the fall, according to Ullman. She said doctors now are waiting for Zech to come out of his coma.

"But, there's no way of predicting when that will be," Ullman said. "It can be a long process."

While still in serious conditions last week, Zech reportedly was opening his eyes, although he was not responding to stimulus.