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inside today

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Senators increase NU budget by \$4.5 million

By Dick Piersol

The Nebraska Legislature's Appropriations Committee Wednesday added \$4.5 million to the 1976-77 NU budget, including \$850,000 earmarked for undergraduate education improvement at UNL.

The action increases the committee's NU budget recommendation to \$92.4 million, \$8.2 million more than Gov. J. James Exon's recommendation. The \$4.5 million was added to the committee's previous tentative budget of \$87.9 million.

The committee has not decided yet on several issues necessary to report the budget to the Legislature for debate, such as pay raises and capital construction. The committee will meet Monday to iron out those issues.

Bereuter's amendment

The \$4.5 million total is the result of action on five issues.

The \$850,000 for undergraduate improvement at UNL is contained in an amendment introduced by Utica Sen. Douglas Bereuter. It provides funds for starting a four-year program to reduce class sizes, to eliminate graduate students from teaching assignments "where such assignment is not in the best interest of quality undergraduate education" and to recruit additional faculty members.

The Bereuter amendment specifically authorizes expenditures for up to fifteen cash awards to faculty members for outstanding undergraduate classroom instruction and for hiring instructors, including, but not limited to, senior faculty members, "particularly noted for their instructional excellence."

The amendment requires the NU Board of Regents and administration to assure the Legislature that during fiscal year 1976-77 the total number of graduate students with teaching responsibilities does not increase. Combined undergraduate teaching hours also must not decrease and at least 75 per cent of the faculty's additional workload will be for undergraduate instruction.

Marvel opposed

The regents also would be required to report to the

Legislature at the 1977-78 budget hearings on the results achieved, submit proposals for continuing the program and consider the 1976-77 expenditures as part of the continuing budget request.

The amendment was adopted 7-2, with Sens. Richard Marvel of Hastings and Robert Clark of Sidney opposed. Marvel is committee chairman.

The committee also voted to restore \$1.9 million and \$887,339 for faculty workload revision at UNL and the University of Nebraska at Omaha (UNO), respectively. Those amounts had been removed from the committee's budget recommendations previously in an effort to define the university's role as primarily an undergraduate teaching institution, forcing the NU administration to justify its research function.

A proposal to appropriate \$500,000 for UNO to gain tax support parity with UNL was amended to \$300,000 and adopted.

The committee also passed an appropriation to the University of Nebraska Medical Center for a brain scanner.

On a vote of 5-4, the committee voted to submit the NU budget to the Legislature for approval with a variation of single sum budgeting requested by the regents.

Appropriations would be made in single sums for UNO; the medical center; the Institute for Agriculture and Natural Resources, operating costs for the new sports complex at UNL and UNL academic, extension and instructional programs.

The central administration appropriation is broken down into cash amounts for the computer network, administration, State University of Nebraska, physical plant and other administrative functions.

The provisions for flexibility in spending those appropriations passed on a 5-4 vote.

Clark said the \$4.5 million in additions amounted to a "stacked committee" action, with Omaha and Lincoln lawmakers trading increased spending programs. He said Exon probably would veto parts of the NU budget if it passed the Legislature because it amounts to \$8.2 million more than the governor recommended.

Clarification of court opinion sought

Although the ASUN Student Court ruled Monday that the ASUN Senate's rescission of its Council on Student Life (CSL) appointees was invalid, legal counsel for the CSL member is seeking clarification of the court's opinion.

Bruce Smith, legal counsel for the plaintiffs, has requested that the court clarify its opinion that removal of the Senate's appointees can be based on their failure to follow ASUN Senate policy.

Smith is a first year law student from South Sioux City.

The court stated in its opinion that ASUN Senate could remove its appointees, who hold office for definite terms, only upon cause after notice and hearing.

The opinion also stated that an officer generally may not be removed for religious or political reasons.

However, removal for failure to follow clearly stated policies of ASUN Senate would be a political reason, according to a request for clarification that Smith filed with the court. Consequently, he said, he wonders if the court contradicted itself in its opinion.

Smith also said that since CSL is UNL's supreme appellate body, a situation could be created where the council would hear student grievances regarding ASUN policies.

A conflict of interest therefore would exist, he said, if CSL student members must abide by and comply with Senate policies, "yet decide the fate of students challenging those same policies."

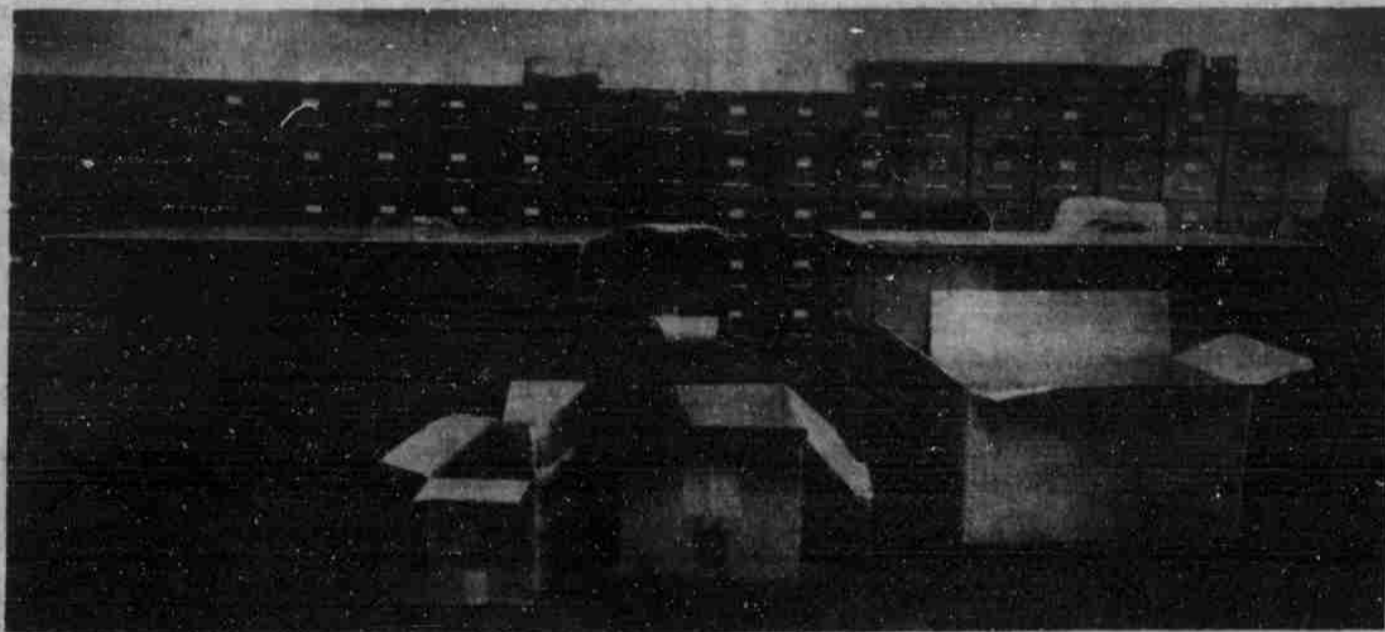


Photo by Ted Kirk

Empty filing cabinets, empty boxes, empty desks at the Southeast Nebraska Selective Service office mark the death throes of the draft.

Draft's hitch is up Saturday

Editor's note: Saturday marks the close of the Southeast Nebraska Selective Service office. It, along with Selective Service offices across the country are being closed, marking the draft's end. Remembering the peace demonstrations and draft protests, the Daily Nebraskan sent reporter Dick Piersol to witness one of the final days of this office.

By Dick Piersol

"Hey, reporter," spake the seasoned editor with foreboding rampant in her voice. "We want you to do a piece on the Southeast Nebraska Selective Service office closing, you're the only one old enough to know much about it."

Reporter cursed under his breath, stroked his greying curls and replied without much hope, "Well if it's closing Friday, why can't we run an obituary Monday?"

"Git gone, slacker!" she replied, "and take Photographer with you."

"That's easy for you to say, Editor," Reporter muttered so she couldn't hear. "With the Equal Rights Amendment, they might send you to boot camp."

Thus dispatched, the two aging alleged journalists

made their way slowly to the Federal Bldg. to record the dying gasps of the local draft board offices.

Comforting hollow

Both were grateful fugitives from active military duty, Photographer because of a large lottery number and a bum leg, while Reporter was just a bum and unfit.

They complained aloud to the sunny afternoon. "I thought I was quits with conscription in '73," said Reporter, who had escaped by two weeks the President's friendly greeting.

They entered the stone and glass Federal digs and commented. Photographer on the building's inefficiency, Reporter on how the floor looked just like the ceiling.

Entering the state Selective Service director's outer office, they encountered several nameless clerks, none showing that eagerness peculiar to an inveterate news source.

The room was spacious, with a long row of file cabinets that sounded comfortingly hollow when struck with an idle foot.

"The state director is out," said a helpful woman,



Daily Nebraskan photo

An Ivy Day protest at UNL in 1970. The draft's heyday was at the height of the Vietnam War, and campuses across the country were rocked with protests and dissent.

"but you may speak to his assistant."

"Thanks," replied Reporter, accustomed to this kind of treatment.

Assistant director Edwin Scott began a rambling discourse on the Selective Service System's slow death since they stopped drafting young men for military service in January 1973.

The county selective service offices had been consolidated into nine area offices in Nebraska. The U.S. Defense Dept. had started to promote an all-volunteer army the same year.

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