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Newly arrived chancellor Young learning about campus problems

By Marella Synovec

When problems arise it's not magic, but effort, which solves them, Roy Young said at a news breakfast last week. Young took over as UNL chancellor June 1.

Young succeeds interim chancellor Adam Brenkenridge.

Young said he would spend the next two weeks meeting with UNL's deans and vice chancellors to acquaint himself with campus programs and concerns.

"It will take some time to get a good feeling for what's going on," he said, "but my basic philosophy is unless we continue to improve, we'll be going backward."

Young said the conferences will help him determine academic areas needing more depth or quality, the feasibility of exploring new areas and programs that can be dropped.

One of the things which attracted him to the chancellorship is the broad range and stability of UNL's programs, Young said.

Research is vital to academic quality, he said.

Two areas he said he would like to see emphasized are solar energy research and academic research.

"Solar energy and gasohol programs are critical for the nation in light of resource shortages. It is a somewhat restricted area but has great possibilities," he said.

"Scholarly research contributes to total academic quality and a dichotomy need not exist between education and research," he said. "A good research program lends itself to a good instructional program."

Research money is especially difficult for newer faculty members to obtain, he said, but faculty effort can play an important part in obtaining funds.

"It is important to determine what research to do as well as how to look for dollars. Much can be accomplished by identifying what is really wanted and by setting up the right program," Young said.

He warned that a bargaining union, such as the American Association of University Professors (AAUP), should be cautious in the demands it makes.

"Academic freedom is too important to be compromised away," he said. A well-constructed tenure and promotion program has advantages over union bargaining, he said.

Commenting on a proposed amendment to authorize the Legislature to make state grants for higher education in private schools, Young said it is important to maintain private institutions for the benefit of education.

"There are no serious conflicts in states where funds are available for students to attend private schools. These funds help the institution as well as the family," he said.

Before he became chancellor here, Young, 55, was Vice president of research and graduate studies at Oregon State University (OSU).

Both UNL and OSU are land grant institutions and have many of the same programs, although there seems to be a greater emphasis on liberal arts at UNL, he said.



UNL Chancellor Young last week expressed his concerns for academic quality. Photo by Marella Synovec

UNL administrators ration \$851,000

By Theresa Forsman

According to a tentative distribution plan drawn up last month, eight UNL colleges will receive a portion of the \$851,000 provided by the Bereuter amendment to the university budget.

The amendment, sponsored by Utica Sen. Douglas Bereuter, provides the money for the 1976-77 school year and stipulates the funds are to be used to improve the quality of undergraduate education at UNL.

The money will be used to hire faculty to allow smaller classes and to increase the number of classes taught by professional faculty members.

The distribution plan, drawn up by several UNL administrators, stipulates that at least 75 per cent of the workload of these additional faculty members must be directly related to classroom instruction of undergraduates.

The money will be distributed as follows:

Five per cent to the College of Agriculture to add two positions.

Five per cent to the College of Architecture to add two positions.

Thirty six per cent to the College of Arts and Sciences to add 16½ positions and to upgrade six positions.

Twenty six per cent to the College of

Business Administration to add five positions and to upgrade nine positions.

Two per cent to the College of Dentistry to add one position.

Seven per cent to the College of Engineering and Technology to add one and one-half positions and to upgrade two positions.

Four per cent to the College of Home Economics to add two positions.

Seven per cent to Teachers College to add three new positions and to upgrade one position.

Five per cent to Summer Sessions to upgrade 50 positions.

Upgrading a position means that positions currently filled by graduate teaching assistants, instructors or part-time faculty will be converted to full-time positions at the professional level.

Before drawing up the distribution plan, administrators reviewed requests for funds totalling almost \$2 million from 45 UNL academic departments, said Alan Seagren, assistant vice chancellor for program development and review.

He said the proposals were reviewed by UNL's academic planning committee, which made recommendations for the final distribution plan. Hearings were conducted with each of the college deans before the plan was drawn up.

"This money is a tremendous advantage to the university," said Max Larsen, dean of the College of Arts and Sciences. He added the money received by the college was about one-third of that it needs. "We have needs other than those taken care of by the Bereuter amendment," he said, citing insufficient equipment and operating funds. Supplies and equipment are as necessary to us right now as personnel are, he said.

But the additional funds are a step in the right direction, according to Ron Smith, dean of the College of Business Administration. The college had been concerned about possible termination of

accreditation due to faculty/student ratios. Accreditation standards for the college stipulate that 75 per cent of the faculty must be full-time professors. Last year only 63 per cent of the faculty were full-time professors.

Smith said if enrollment does not increase, the undergraduate funds would be able to close that gap. He added the college has experienced eight per cent enrollment increases over the past few years.

Smith added the college still needs additional money for faculty research.

"We're hurting in research because of a high teaching load," he said. He said he is optimistic that UNL Chancellor Roy Young will understand the college's problems in reduced opportunities for research. Young took over the chancellor's duties June 1. He was vice president of graduate studies and research at Oregon State University before his appointment as chancellor.



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