

Centennial . . .

continued from p. 6

The committee report indicated that CEP satisfies some student needs. For example, the report said that many freshman experience an atmosphere of isolation and anti-intellectualism in a large dormitory situation. CEP's alternative is the combination of academic work and residential life, the report said. Also, Centennial allows students greater control over aspects of their education and gives teachers an opportunity to test teaching techniques and to revitalize their methods. The advising system within CEP is more detailed and person-oriented than that available to most other students, the report said.

The evaluation committee also investigated the resources available to CEP. "Existing funds are at least nominally adequate for the program, although funds could be more creatively used," the report said.

The self-study prepared by Centennial fellows showed Centennial's 1975-76 budget was \$109,000. The operating budget between the years 1970 and 1973 averaged about \$118,000, and last year's budget was less than that of the previous year, the study showed. Potter said Centennial's budget has been "remarkably stable despite inflation." The fellows estimated the cost per credit hour for each student at \$51.

Potter described CEP as a relatively small department with an enrollment now averaging 165-175 students per semester. In its early years, enrollment reached as high as 225. He said he heard "fourth- and fifth-handed reports" that the NU Board of Regents would consider the program more successful if it were larger.

Objectives would be sacrificed

"However, we don't have the facilities to handle much more than 200 students," Potter said. "It's an important aspect of the program that everyone knows each other fairly well. If the program would get too large, our objectives would be sacrificed."

The committee report suggested several alternatives to use the resources of CEP. Because fellows are "borrowed" from other UNL departments, the committee suggested that departments accept replacement costs rather than straight salary compensations for faculty members serving Centennial. Also, the reports suggested visiting faculty not on the UNL campus could be recruited on a "shared basis" with departments and Centennial.

UNL faculty members not directly associated with Centennial could be volunteer project directors. Also, Centennial could receive support from the Housing Division since it is a residential program.

The evaluation also was concerned with the quality of Centennial College. Although the self-study was considered lacking in statistical data of male/female ratios, minority breakdowns and grade point distributions, the committee report indicated that the quality of CEP deserved recognition.

Students receive awards

There was, however, circumstantial data which indicated a high percentage of ex-Centennial students receiving postgraduate degrees and awards and entering outstanding professional schools and programs.

The report stated that Centennial has had high national visibility for a program of its type. The college has been visited by representatives of other universities and could serve as a leading example of residentially-based university education, the report said. Also, the faculty "chosen or choosing to participate in Centennial are on the whole

clearly competent in their disciplines and are highly committed and skilled teachers."

The committee unanimously agreed that the Centennial program be continued, Potter said. Several recommendations were made in the report:

-Centennial should be given distinct and permanent status within the university.

-Senior fellows should be given longer terms of duty.

-A change in Centennial's position within the university administrative structure should be studied.

-The university should undertake several on-going data gathering studies to document several aspects of Centennial, and to study Centennial's effects on students and faculty to better serve as an experiment in teaching and learning styles.

Since Centennial began in 1969, Potter said, there has been a year-to-year feeling among fellows that the program would be discontinued.

Potter said the longer a fellow serves, the stronger the program becomes and the more readily it can become a part of the total university. Directors need more time to establish friendships and contacts and to understand the administrative structure of the university, he said. Each new senior fellow must start all over, he said.

Centennial has a peculiar administrative structure since it is not part of any college, Potter said. Fellows report directly to UNL's Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs. The chancellor does not have the time to give enough attention to Centennial, Potter said.

"Unsatisfactory administration"

"I feel the administration is unsatisfactory, Potter said, "but no one knows yet what would be a better alternative."

Potter's tenure as senior fellow ends next semester. Succeeding him is Gene Harding, director of UNL's Teaching and Learning Center.

Harding said he would like to see several changes in Centennial. He would like to see more fellows teaching together and an even greater emphasis on the counseling and advising systems within Centennial. Harding also said he would like to find ways to involve faculty members other than fellows in Centennial projects.

"There is no iron rule in Centennial," Harding said. "The faculty works together in deciding what to do." Harding said an unfortunate consequence of the Centennial atmosphere is that it seems unfriendly to new students. This is because it takes some time to build the close friendships that Centennial fosters, he said. The fellows will be looking for ways to eliminate this feeling, he said.

The dropout rate for freshman in the Centennial program is about half of the rate for the rest of the university, Harding said. He said the fellows are planning projects to help freshmen establish themselves in the university community.

Besides Harding, UNL's fellows for 1976-77 are:

Paul Olson, English professor; Nels Forde, History professor; Ed Pearlstein, Physics Professor; Richard Boohar, associate professor of Zoology; Sarah Hoagland, assistant professor of Philosophy; Barbara Smith, associate professor of Political Science; Mike Farrell, filmmaker at Nebraska Educational Television; Bert Evans, associate professor of Economics; Debra Hulbert, English instructor; Bill Brown, instructor in the Department of Modern Languages and Literature and Harry Orlyck, visiting assistant professor of Art.

News in brief

Charter Flight

UNL's Flights and Study Tours is sponsoring a charter flight to London or to Zurich, Switzerland from Dec. 26, 1976 through Jan. 14, 1977. Three credit-hours of study may be obtained on the tour by registering at room 345 in the Nebraska Union. Registration begins in July. Non-credit tour registration begins in August. Information about the tours can be obtained at the Flights and Study Tours office in room 345 at the Nebraska Union.

Research Grants

The National Science Foundation has awarded research grants totalling \$159,000 to four UNL faculty members. A \$75,000 grant was given to Robert Katz, professor of physics, for continuation of his research on the application of the theory of track effects to radiotherapy. Joseph Macek, physics professor, was awarded \$35,000 for his research project on the production of spin polarized atoms by scattering.

James Janovy, professor in the School of Life Sciences, received \$43,100 for his research on virulence and metabolism in Leishmania.

The foundation awarded Roger Wiegand, associate professor of mathematics, a \$6,500 grant for his research project titled "Prima Ideal Structure and Descent of Projectivity".

DeWolf Scholarship Winners

The NU Board of Regents will be asked Saturday to approve \$500 scholarships from the DeWolf Scholarship Fund for the following UNL students: Bryan Gustafson of Funk, majoring in Agricultural Economics; Kristine Rhodes of Lincoln, majoring in Food Science Technology; Ronald Roeber of Emerson, majoring in Agricultural Economics; Ronald Wallman of Beatrice studying pre-veterinary science and Gerald Slezak of Milligan who has not declared a major. All five students are sophomores and have a 4.0 grade point average.

Mellerdrammer Tryouts

Theatre Inc. of Lincoln will have open tryouts for its third Mellerdrammer of the season, *Bad Day at Boomtown*, written by Alan Nielsen. The tryouts will be at Fanny's Pink Garter in the Hilton Hotel, 9th and P streets, on Sunday, June 27 from 2 to 3:30 p.m. and from 8 to 9:30 p.m. *Bad Day at Boomtown* is a musical and has parts for ten persons. The play, which will run from July 21 through Aug. 7, will be directed by George Churley.

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