

ASUN senators reflect students' apathy—Mueller

By Tobin Beck

So far this year, the ASUN Senate met six times. The meetings, on the average, have started 25 minutes late, when enough senators were present for a quorum. Three resolutions have been introduced and adopted.

"I don't have the answer," ASUN President Bill Mueller said. "Maybe apathy is a sign of the times. It's frustrating."

Mueller said maybe the senators feel apathetic because the students they represent are apathetic.

For example, he said ASUN has had trouble filling committee positions this semester. Ten openings remain to be filled, he said.

"It's hard to represent someone when the person you represent is apathetic, too," he said. "But we (the executives) can't write all the resolutions."

Resolutions passed

Actually four resolutions have been introduced and adopted, but one, which granted student political groups a license to use student facilities, was vetoed by Mueller because he said it was inadequate. A modified version of the resolution was adopted one week later.

Another resolution provides for a four per cent surcharge on books sold through the ASUN book exchange. A third resolution calls for a parking lot south of the Coliseum and for parking permits to be sold on a space-available basis.

The senate also was criticized at its Oct. 6 meeting by Karen Dress, who said no ASUN senators came to interviews for prospective members of the Student Council on Health even though they knew about the interview. The Council's constitution requires three ASUN senators be present at interviews, Dress said.

She also said a special open house and tour of the

University Health Center was arranged for ASUN members, but only one senator attended.

Seven resign

Seven senators have resigned this semester, Mueller said, most because of changing personal plans. Graduate Sen. Ron Stephens also is resigning. Stephens' resignation brings the number of senate vacancies to four, three graduate positions and one business. Four senate vacancies already have been filled.

"Anything engineered for student participation on this campus is a farce to give sanction to decisions which have already been made," Stephens said. "As long as students are content not to have a voice in decision-making, the administrators won't give them one."

Stephens said ASUN is a "glorified high school student council."

Administrators don't want student participation or input into decision-making, and they give lip service to the fact there is a student government, Stephens said.

"They have something they can point to and say, 'See, it works' when all it is is window dressing," he said.

"The office has to mean something," he said. "Unless ASUN becomes a decision-making body, you won't get people to work on it."

Incumbent resigns

Nancy Fahberg was an ASUN senator last year. She was reelected in the spring elections, but resigned this year after the first two weeks of school.

"I resigned because of time commitments," she said. "I had other things to do besides sitting in an ASUN meeting for four hours every Wednesday. I got tired of hearing people talking, using their fancy vocabularies."

Fahberg said she didn't know how ASUN could be made more worthwhile.

"I haven't really thought about it because I don't care," she said.

The current apathy started with the reception the new senate got after last spring's elections, according to Business Sen. Bill Jackson.

'Not deserving'

"We got a 'you don't deserve to be there—you get elected by the Greek slate' kind of reaction," Jackson said.

"For a while there, we didn't know if we were the governing body or not," he said, referring to an attempt by members of the Coalition for University Reform (CUR), to acquire the student governing body instead of ASUN.

Although, he added, more could be accomplished if "the executives would organize and run the meetings a little better."

Julie Brodbeck, home economics senator, said senators from East Campus aren't apathetic, attend most ASUN meetings and are active on committees.

"Our advisory boards and faculty are always willing to work with us, and if we need students for committees or to do other work we can usually find volunteers," she said.

"Maybe the others (senators) don't have this type of cooperation."

ASUN has no real power, Brodbeck said, but is a liaison between students and administrators.

ASUN's job, she said, is to take student proposals, present them to the regents, administrators and legislators, and push until these groups adopt them.

"But the students have to back us," she said.

Greeks: Homecoming display limits not enforced

By E. K. Casaccio

Some fraternities and sororities will spend more than the legal limit on their homecoming displays this fall, according to some fraternity and sorority sources.

But it seems unlikely that they will be disqualified.

There is a \$50 spending limit for displays in the contest sponsored by Tassels and Corncobs spirit organizations. Presi-

dent Julie Schindler said if a group goes over the limit they will be disqualified. But she said there is no formal check of expenses.

"We rely on the houses to control themselves," Schindler said. "If you trust them, they generally live up to it."

One fraternity president who wished to remain unidentified, said his house probably would spend about \$90. He said he

thought that is less than many other houses spend. The lumber alone cost \$35, he said.

Winners overspend

He estimated the Alpha Tau Omegas spent \$300 to \$400 on their winning display last year. He said he thought they used pomps rather than less expensive napkins.

A sorority president said she also did not see how the Alpha Tau Omegas stayed within the limit in winning last year. She said the frame had to cost more than \$50.

An Alpha Tau Omega spokesman declined to comment for publication.

Kristi Schlegel, president of Alpha Delta Pi sorority said she thought about half of the houses with displays stayed within the limit. She said her house would spend about \$30 on its display.

"I feel that for one weekend of the year, it isn't necessary to spend a great amount," Schlegel said.

Overspending common

A homecoming display chairman from one fraternity said probably only 10 per cent of the houses would stay within the limit. He also declined to be identified. He said his house will be able to stay in

the limit because of alumni donations and by using materials saved from the last two years.

The limit restricts a lot of houses if they don't save materials from year to year," he said. "I don't think spending should be unlimited, but the limit should be higher."

Schindler said donations are legal. It is a spending limit, not a limit on the worth of the display, she said.

Enforcement wanted

Another fraternity officer, who also declined to be identified, said, "I think if they set a \$50 limit on displays they should enforce and judge the displays accordingly."

"Why should a group that stays within the written rules and abides by the \$50 limit be out of the consideration in the display judging because groups that spend more have better displays and win?" he asked.

"If they want to make it fair for every group entering the contest, I believe they should either raise or strictly enforce the limit."

"You can't tell me a judge can't tell if a display is worth more than \$50," he added.



Daily Nebraskan Photo

This homecoming display, in front of Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity, probably cost less than the \$50 spending limit, but fraternity and sorority sources say many other displays will cost more.

UNL homecoming royalty: Honor or a waste of time?

By Deb Palmer

One person said it is an "extreme honor," while another said it is a "waste of time."

Student attitudes toward UNL homecoming royalty seem to depend upon which side of the ballot you find yourself—the voting side or the side receiving the votes.

Candidate Kevin Van Renan, a 20-year-old junior majoring in construction management, said he thought it was an "extreme honor to even be considered (for homecoming king)."

"I always thought it was a big honor," he said.

Van Renan, a member of Phi Kappa Phi fraternity, said he thought candidates were considered on the basis of outside activities and "what you contribute to the university."

He is involved in UNL's rowing team, Campus Crusade for Christ, Interfraternity Council, General Contractors Association, Chemical Engineering Society and intramural sports.

"I don't see how they (those who aren't candidates) can complain," Van Renan said. "They don't take the initiative themselves" as far as filling out an application for homecoming royalty.

This year three men applied for homecoming king, and two showed up for the interviews.

Although the king side of the homecoming royalty "might eventually be phased out" because so few males participate, "The girls always take part" and so the homecoming queen role will probably remain, Van Renan said.

"It just depends on the changing attitudes of the students," he said.

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