

Roles of NU campuses need definition—Roskens

By Kathy McAuliffe

Interim NU President Ronald Roskens Wednesday emphasized the need to define the roles of the three NU campuses and their administrative offices.

He spoke in an informal discussion with the UNL Faculty Senate.

There is "far too" much confusion about the role of the (NU) system," Roskens told the senate at the Faculty Club Lounge.

The NU system includes UNL, the University of Nebraska at Omaha (UNO) and the University of Nebraska Medical Center.

"I would like very much, in the short period of time I expect to be in that (the president's) office, to clarify the role of the (campus) offices," Roskens said.

"I am not the chief executive of the Lincoln campus. Chancellor (Roy) Young is the chief executive and I am going to take every opportunity to make that clear."

Roskens, who was UNO chancellor before being selected for the interim presidency, also mentioned the possibility that the administrative structure had "grown to unreasonable proportions" and said a careful review of the structure had begun.

Roskens said there is often too much concentration on differences among the three campuses whether they are "philosophical" disagreements or "mere skirmishes." This emphasis on the surface ills of the university system detracts from the "quality and accomplishments" of the three campuses, he said.

Calling for a "coordinated effort" among the three campuses, Roskens said, "I would like very much to present to my successor an institution that is relatively united with respect to the major issues."

"I hope to present a university which understands its mission and role in this state."

To accomplish this unity, Roskens proposed the involvement of a "wider segment of the university."

He also urged the campuses to be "models of communication" and to "take far less delight in discovering a campus is in error than in helping it."

In response to a question about low faculty morale and salaries, Roskens said he thinks there is a sufficient economic base in Nebraska to maintain the university system at a qualitative level.

Roskens also said he hopes for increased budget flexibility so individual campuses can make decisions about the transfer of funds to programs with the greatest need.

Roskens urged the faculty to communicate with his office.

"We want to avoid the insulation and isolation of this office. We can do a better job with what it is we're expected to do if we're better informed," he said.

Bereuter professors display art

By Janet Lliteras

Click, buzzzz, clunk—"The Machine" is in motion. This kinetic sculpture hangs on the wall in Architecture Hall surrounded by other wooden sculptures and silk screen prints created by Robert Stowers and Robert Duncan, two UNL architecture professors.

The purpose of the display in Architecture Hall, according to Duncan, is to show the public, faculty members, and "especially the students" their expertise as professionals.

"It's a quick way to open the book to show them what we've done," he said.

Duncan taught three years in Scotland, where he said he became interested in silk screen. Having tried water color with a low degree of success, he said, he found silk screen "was the perfect answer" to obtain quality pictures. He has worked with silk screen six years.

"It's an exciting media," he said, "not one associated with architecture. It's another way to visually express oneself."

Duncan said the display has generated considerable student interest in silk screening. He said he hopes an elective course explaining the process will be added to the curriculum in the future.

Stowers, an industrial designer, said he wanted to show students that faculty members do more than talk to them in class.

"A lot of them didn't believe we could do those kinds of things," he said.

The purpose of his sculpture? "Fun," he said, "just plain fun." He also said his kinetic sculpture had some basic design qualities.

Both teachers said they like teaching undergraduate courses and would prefer to stay at UNL.

"I've always liked that level of student," Stowers said. "I like their enthusiasm. It's a fresh enthusiasm, gung-ho college. They are fun people at that age."

Stowers and Duncan are so-called Bereuter professors. Their salaries are paid through an NU budget amendment introduced last year in the Nebraska Legislature by Utica Sen. Douglas Bereuter.

The amendment provides for the appointment of instructors yearly without tenure to strengthen the undergraduate program. Teachers are hired to teach mostly 100 and 200 level classes.

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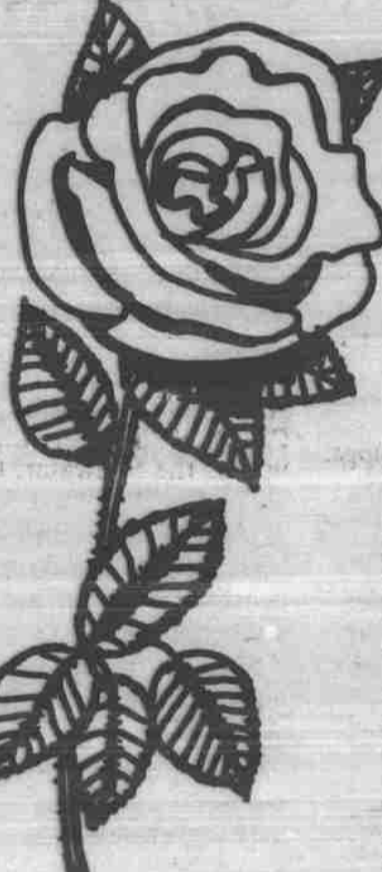
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