daily nebraskan

# Graduate faculty members meet after five years

### **By Janet Lliteras**

Despite complaints about the location and time of the meeting, graduate faculty members will gather Saturday at 10 a.m. in the Wahoo High School Gymnarium to discuss who makes policy decisions for them.

More than 100 graduate faculty members sent a petition to NU Graduate Dean Carl Leopold asking for the meeting. They said the entire graduate faculty should decide policy matters, not the Executive Graduate Council, according to chemistry professor Desmond Wheeler, one of the petition signers.

This is the first meeting of this type to be held in five years, according to Leopold. The faculty used to meet when the campuses were first joined, he said, but meetings were discontinued because of poor attendance.

The graduate faculty voted in January 1976 to make the council the graduate governing body. The council comprises 30 elected graduate faculty representatives.

They decided to put the government's decisions in the hands of the Council, Leopold explained, rather than question every graduate faculty member for every policy making decision. There are 1,350 graduate faculty members, Leopold said.

## Members want change

Now, after a year, some graduate faculty members want to see some changes made.

There is a lack of personal contact with the graduate faculty in matters that concern them, said Nicholas

Bashara, professor of engineering and adjunct professor of electrical engineering. Bashara is head of an ad hoc committee formed to study the graduate faculty issue.

He said that graduate faculty members are also concerned about the unrepresentative nature of the council.

Proposals to be discussed at the meeting include: regular meetings of the graduate faculty be held by telephone link between Lincoln and Omaha and at least once each semester the entire graduate faculty act on matters presented to them by the council. The Council would serve in an advisory capacity and UNL representation on the council be increased so that each council member represents 36 graduate faculty members instead of 52.

Leopold said he scheduled the meeting in the Wahoo gymnasium, because it is half way between UNL and the University of Nebraska at Omaha. Even so, some dissatisfaction with the time and place has been voiced by the graduate faculty.

#### **Telephone link proposed**

"Not very many faculty members are in favor of the location," Bashara said. He recommended using a telephone link between Lincoln and Omaha at least once could meet on their own campus.

Rao Chivukula, UNL mathematics professor, said he was upset with the idea of having to go to a seemingly "neutral place" to have the meeting.

"It presents an adverse relationship," he said, "I feel we are all one faculty." Traveling to another town creates a feeling that there is an "animosity between campuses," he said.

Differences should be settled

"I think we should settle our differences between ourselves," Chivukula said. "We shouldn't be going to other towns."

David Skoug, chairman of the Department of Mathematics and Statistics, said Saturday was his most productive day.

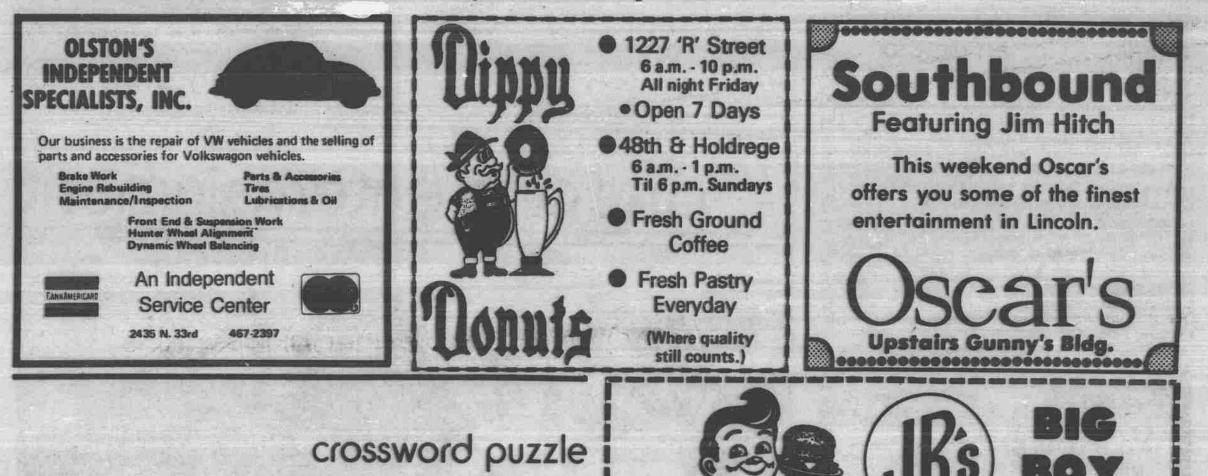
"A lot of staff members come to the office and work on that day," he said. Skoug said he believed it would cut into the work day less if the telephone link was used.

As for having the meeting in Wahoo, Skoug said he. agreed with Chivukula.

"I don't see any reason for neutral ground," he said, "because we are all one faculty. Neutral to me, means there is a conflict."

Leopold defended his selection, because people should get together and talk about their opinions. A telephone link between campuses would defeat the purpose of the meeting, he said.

"The town hall type meeting is the traditional way American people have to get together and talk over prob-lems involved," Leopold said. "I'm confident that you wouldn't get the person to person communication that's needed."



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