



Photo by Kevin Higley
 Greg Johnson addressed his first senate meeting as ASUN president Wednesday night.

Johnson stresses need for unity, common goals

By Betsie Ammons

The new ASUN Senate should work toward unity and defining common goals, said Greg Johnson, sworn in as 1977-78 ASUN president at Wednesday's Senate meeting.

In his acceptance speech, Johnson told the new Senate that the shape this year's Senate will take depends upon their attitudes.

"You are only limited by your lack of energy or your lack of imagination," he said. "We have to move actively to solve our problems."

"We can accomplish as much as you want to accomplish," he told the Senate.

Johnson also urged the Senate not to waste time and said they must work quickly to establish themselves before the end of the academic year.

"We can't sit here and waste time with frivolous debate," he said. "In fact, I feel guilty about taking your time by talking."

Johnson called a special Senate meeting for tonight at 8:30 p.m. He said the Senate will vote on their rules of procedure and elect Senate leaders at the meeting.

The rules of procedure will designate the four Senate committees which he hopes will be set up, Johnson said. They deal with academic policy, student fees, student life and special subjects.

Johnson said he thinks the Senate can get more accomplished by adopting a committee structure.

The Senate will also begin plans on the Task Force to study student government, Johnson said.

Calling it "possibly the most important thing we'll do," he said he will recommend

that the force have 16 members. He said that number would make it small enough to be workable and large enough to represent all students.

Johnson said he will reveal his ideas about the Force's structure at tonight's special meeting. He also said he will recommend that sophomore Webb Bancroft be the Force chairman.

Applications for task force positions are available to all students in the ASUN office, Johnson said.

The new ASUN first vice president, Charles Fellingham, in his welcoming address, urged the Senate to develop their own feelings about ASUN.

"It is not what someone tells you it is," Fellingham said.

In his first speech as second vice president, Ken Christoffersen said there is the possibility that Senate meetings could be changed to Thursday evenings to allow the committees more time for open hearings during the week.

Outgoing ASUN president Bill Mueller told the 1976-77 Senate that he has "a cynical viewpoint" about student government. He urged the new Senate to make changes in the ASUN structure.

"If you do nothing else this year, you should study changing the structure," he told them.

Like Johnson, Mueller also told the Senate to work on common goals, saying "we cannot stress our differences."

In other business, the new Senate approved their first Organic Act, which requires all student organizations to give membership and fee request information to ASUN.

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College costs may force students to change plans

By Maxine Kubicek

An increasingly expensive college education is a "fact of life" with few apparent avenues of recourse for students, according to some UNL administrators.

With the average cost of being a UNL student up nearly 27 per cent from 1973, financing an education is a "hard dollars and cents situation," said Jack Ritchie, director of scholarships and financial aids.

Ritchie based the 27 per cent increase on average estimated expenses of a single UNL student living in a residence hall. He said such a student would spend about \$2,800 on tuition, student fees, room and board, books, supplies and transportation.

In 1972-73, the figure was \$2,300 and Ritchie said he expects the amount to rise to be at least \$3,000.

Increasing costs mean more students will be eligible for financial aid in 1977-78 because parent and student income "is definitely not increasing at as fast a rate as college costs."

About 800 more students applied on time for financial aid this year than last year, he said. Last year about 7,500 students applied before the deadline. Fifteen hundred to 2,000 late applications are expected, he said.

Half get aid

Also about 2,000 students apply for federally insured

loans through local banks, which means about half the UNL student population receives some form of financial aid, he said.

"I think it will come to a place where two-thirds of the students will apply for aid," he said. "There is an increasingly wider disparity between the money students have and what their education will cost."

Ritchie said that as costs increase, many students may take fewer hours a semester and work more. He said he foresees more rigid academic performance requirements for students who receive aid, such as a minimum grade point average requirement for continued assistance.

Tuition, now \$20 a credit hour, has been budgeted at \$21 a credit hour for 1977-78, said UNL comptroller Robert Lovitt. This increase has yet to be approved by the NU Board of Regents, he added, and non-resident tuition has been budgeted at \$57 a credit hour. The current non-resident rate is \$54 a credit hour, he said.

Also awaiting approval by the regents is a student fee increase which may be as high as \$10, from the current fee of \$63, he said.

Housing increase

Glen Schumann, assistant director of housing, said a residence hall rate increase of \$40 has been approved for 1977-78. A double room with board will cost \$1,265 a

student, he said. A single room will cost \$1,575. Rates in 1972-73 were \$940 for a double room and \$1,140 for a single room.

Schumann said he expects the occupancy level to remain constant unless more students find cheaper off-campus housing. So far, residence halls are 30 per cent full for next year, he said, 3 per cent more than at the same time last year.

NU President Ronald Roskens said the university administration is concerned about the increasing impact of rising tuition and costs, but that state appropriations have a great effect upon the availability of funds.

He said there is a feeling among the public that students should pay a higher proportion of costs than they have previously.

"I don't share that feeling, but it is a real factor," he said.

Greg Johnson, ASUN president, said ASUN can take considerable action against student cost increases "if they so desire." Some of the increases have been astronomical, he said.

"We have to ask ourselves if we really want all these services," he said. "The administration has been open and honest with information and comments, but the student government must examine the reasons the administration gives, not just accept them."

Records office has tight grip on files

By John Minnick

The possibility of the university losing a student's academic and registration records is unlikely, said Bob Reid, assistant to the dean of academic services.

Reid said in the 11 years he has been with the office, they have never lost a single transcript.

"We have misplaced or misfiled student records on occasion, but we had the records, we never lost them," Reid said. "We may not know they are lost until there is a student or faculty request for the records."

Sherry Cole recently resigned as chairwoman of the Fees Allocation Board when she found out the records office had no proof she was registered for the last two semesters.

Reid said his office keeps two kinds of records: registration, the white form students sign at the beginning of the semester and transcript records, records of the stu-

dent's permanent record at the university. These records are kept in a computer bank and in office files.

Alice Torwirt, records office supervisor, said a student can see his records if he presents his identification card, and his academic adviser and the dean of his college can also see his records on their request.

Torwirt said anyone else must have a signed release form from the student to see his records. She said someone may call the office and check to see if a student registered, but will only receive a "yes" or "no" answer.

"We take many precautions in the records office to protect student records and basically we use good business procedures with the records," Reid said.

Reid declined to say what precautions are taken in the office.

"It's possible that records could be lost or destroyed by a deliberate action of someone in the office, like someone cutting transcripts up," Reid said. "So it's not totally impossible the records could be lost."

Reid said in the case of Cole, the university did not lose her transcript, and as far as he knows it is up to date.

"She claims to be registered for the last two terms, but we have no evidence in the office that she ever did," Reid said. "There is no record of workbooks or advance registration deposits. We claim her records are not lost."

Reid said Cole needs hard evidence that she did register for the last two semesters.

"I'm not sure how she found out that we do not have her registration records, but it could be because she belonged to an organization and the request for her registration records came from student activities."



Photo by Kevin Higley
 Bob Reid, assistant to the dean of academic services, says the UNL records office has never lost a single transcript.

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