

History of UNL fees allocation process outlined in Tuesday panel discussion

By Tam Lee

One reason for the present system of allocating student fees is student apathy in the 1960s, said Daryl Swanson, associate union director and East Union manager.

Swanson, who participated in a panel discussion on student fees Tuesday night said student fees began when students initiated and approved a referendum in 1938 to finance the building of a student union.

The students voted to tax themselves to pay for services like the *Daily Nebraskan*, the student union and health services, he said.

Students voted on student fees allocations periodically until sometime during the 1960s, Swanson said.

Swanson said he guessed the reason student votes on fees stopped was that students didn't care and the administration had no desire to bring it up.

After four or five years, the students forgot about voting, he said.

This system of direct student participation in fees allocation gradually evolved into a system in which the

student-affairs office allocated those fees which weren't used to pay off the bond issues on the union and the residence halls, Swanson said.

In 1973, the newly established Fees Allocation Board began to allocate that portion of fees.

Ken Bader, former vice-chancellor for student affairs said in a taped telephone interview played at the meeting that when officials were deciding who would allocate fees in 1972, they felt student government wasn't qualified to do it.

"FAB was a natural kind of evolutionary process," Bader said.

Don Wesely, former FAB chairman, said although he had supported FAB in the past he now thinks ASUN should have control of fees so students have more say about how fees are spent.

ASUN has initiated a process to amend the UNL bylaws to allow student government to begin allocating fees, ASUN president Greg Johnson said.



Photo by Bob Pearson

Daryl Swanson, manager of the East Union, explained the history of the Fees Allocation Board at the Fireside Chat Tuesday at the UNL Faculty Club.

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Photo by Bob Pearson

Linda Hallstrom, Miss Nebraska

School stage dazzles beauty queen more than Atlantic City Boardwalk

By Joe Starita

How ya gonna keep 'em down on the farm after they've seen A.C.?

A.C.—as in Atlantic City, N.J.; as in Miss America pageants; as in fame, beauty, wealth, glamor, chauffeurs, luxurious hotel suites; as in autographs, press conferences and appearing before millions on national television.

For UNL freshman Linda Hallstrom, the bright lights and Boardwalk nights in Atlantic City were just "fine, thank you," but they could not compare to last Friday night at Omaha's Benson High School Auditorium.

Hallstrom, Nebraska's representative at this year's Miss America Pageant, returned home Friday to crown Benson High's homecoming queen and was given a standing ovation by several hundred classmates assembled in the school auditorium.

"It was really strange because I felt poised and relaxed in Atlantic City before a national TV audience," said Hallstrom, an 18-year-old home economics education major. "But when a few hundred of the kids I went to high school with gave me a standing ovation I started to come unglued. I had to fight back the tears."

Although Atlantic City "couldn't compare with how I felt at Benson," Hallstrom said the Miss America Pageant "was a great experience."

"I feel I've learned a lot about myself and where I'm coming from, as a result of the Miss America Pageant," said Hallstrom.

The time spent in Atlantic City was organized down to the last detail by pageant officials, Hallstrom recalled.

Each contestant had a personal chaperone, every two girls an assigned hostess with limosine service and plush hotel suites provided for everyone during the week-long September pageant, she said.

In addition, the blonde, green-eyed beauty added, there was a constant barrage of interviews, conferences,

autograph-seekers and rehearsals to wade through.

"It didn't seem real those first few days," Hallstrom said. "Here I was an 18-year-old just trying to get into college and I was being treated like a movie star."

Her family, who flew out for the week-long event, provided another dimension to the experience, Hallstrom said.

"I think watching my family react to the whole thing was the most exciting part of the pageant," Hallstrom recalled. "My sister, I think, was more excited than I was."

"Every night after rehearsals she'd come up with a critique of my performance. 'Linda, you have to stand with your shoulders more erect,' she'd say, or 'Linda, your hair looked a little lop-sided tonight.'

"It was really a lot of fun having them there, taking all the slides and pictures and giving me a lot of encouragement."

Although Hallstrom said she felt her age (third youngest contestant) hurt her chances, the new Miss America, Susan Perkins of Ohio, "definitely deserved to win."

"Beauty isn't the only thing stressed," Hallstrom said. "It's the largest scholarship pageant for women in the world (more than \$1 million), and although I don't think Susan was the most beautiful girl there, she was the most intelligent and the most qualified."

Qualifying for Miss America, she said, is not always fair, and some changes could be made to correct that.

Personal interviews are heavily weighed with each contestant "immaculately dressed and seated on a throne responding to questions from eight judges," she said.

"They take you to this little room and you have seven minutes to give your political, religious and moral views."

"I definitely don't think a judge can find out much about you in seven minutes."

Progress slow but sure after inaction, resignations

By Mike Patten

ASUN's task force on student government, slowed by inaction and resignations, is progressing towards its goal of a recommendation for the future of UNL student government.

Steve Pederson, the second chairman the task force has had since its inception last spring, said the 14-member task force has had six meetings this semester.

The task force was to meet during the summer, but Pederson said it never got around to meeting. In addition, former chairman Webb Bancroft resigned last month. The task force also is three members short of its 17-member limit.

Pederson said the three members will be selected soon from a list of applications filed at the ASUN office.

"Ken Christoffersen (ASUN second vice president) said he would have his list for us before the end of the week," Pederson said.

Three branches

According to Pederson, the task force is studying what he called the three main branches of student organizations. He said these are ASUN, the Council on Student Life (CSL) and the Fees Allocation Board.

"We had Bill Mueller (former ASUN president) and Mike Eyster (former CSL member) in to talk to us about their organizations and what they do," Pederson said. "They also talked about what they thought were some of the problems with their organizations."

Pederson said the task force has set Christmas break

as the goal for its recommendation. In addition, the task force will create a guide to student government based on observations drawn from a survey of 16 universities.

Pederson said the survey results indicate varied levels of participation in student governments.

"One school has a government with 150 senators and got more than a 50 percent turnout for its election," Pederson said. "And a lot of governments are having trouble like we are."

Better participation

Pederson said it appears student governments that control student services and activities have better participation percentages than governments that do not.

"The student government that controls right down to the bookstore and the health center seems to have a higher level of participation," he said. "However, some of these schools are set up like ours too and they aren't having problems."

The task force's next meeting is Sunday. Pederson said the task force will break into small groups to better digest the information it has received to date.

"I think if the entire task force tries to become brilliant minds on everything we've learned so far, we'll be here 'til next Christmas."

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