

UNL honorary degree nominations due Dec. 3

In 1872, the Right Rev. Bishop Clarkson received the first honorary degree from UNL. Dr. Robert Holland received the latest one in May 1977.

An honorary degree is the highest honor the university can bestow on an individual. It can be given to anyone with notable achievements in the academic world, according to Robert Olson, secretary pro tem of the Faculty Senate Committee on Honorary Degrees.

An honorary degree candidate should be a well-recognized individual in his or her field, Olson said. His or

her selection by the committee should favorably reflect the university.

There is no limit to degrees awarded, Olson said. The first was given in 1872. There have been as few as one and as many as nine given at one time, he said. The degrees are presented once a year, usually in the spring.

It is an honor that is difficult to obtain, he said. UNL faculty nominations should be given to Olson by Dec. 3. The committee will then meet, examine each nominee's qualifications and make recommendations to the Faculty Senate.

Eventually the chancellor, president and NU Board of Regents will review the nominations.

Usually, according to the guidelines, persons eligible for nomination have "rendered distinguished service" to the university or to the state. They can be graduates, former students, former employees or "persons of high distinction from this country or abroad."

There is one stipulation. Rules say nominees are not to know they are being considered for a degree. Recipients of honorary degrees must attend graduation ceremonies in the Spring to receive the degree.

UNL education prices upped

By Rex Henderson

The cost of an education rose four percent more for UNL students this year than the median for state and land grant universities, according to a report by the National Association of State Universities and Land-Grant Colleges.

The median increase for the 154 institutions surveyed by the University and College Association was 6.7 percent over last year, about the same as the rise in the Consumer Price Index. The cost of a UNL education is up 11 percent according to the statistics supplied to the survey by NU administrators.

The UNL price tag for in-state students is \$2,244, including tuition, fees, housing and board. Last year students paid \$2,006 for the same services.

According to UNL Vice Chancellor for Business and Finance Miles Tommeraasen, these figures are misleading. The cost of a UNL education is actually \$42 higher, he said.

The statistics in the College and University Association report assume a 15 credit hour per semester course load, he said. He pointed out that most UNL colleges demand 128 hours, or at least 16 hours a semester to graduate within four years.

The two extra credit hours cost students \$42 a year. Tommeraasen contended that while most reports rank UNL as the second most expensive university in the Big 8, it is actually the most expensive.

State tax support at UNL for instruction, administration, and related services totaled \$42 million this year, an average of \$103 a student.

UNL ranks fifth in the Big 8 in state support per student. Kansas State, Oklahoma and Oklahoma State get fewer state dollars per student.

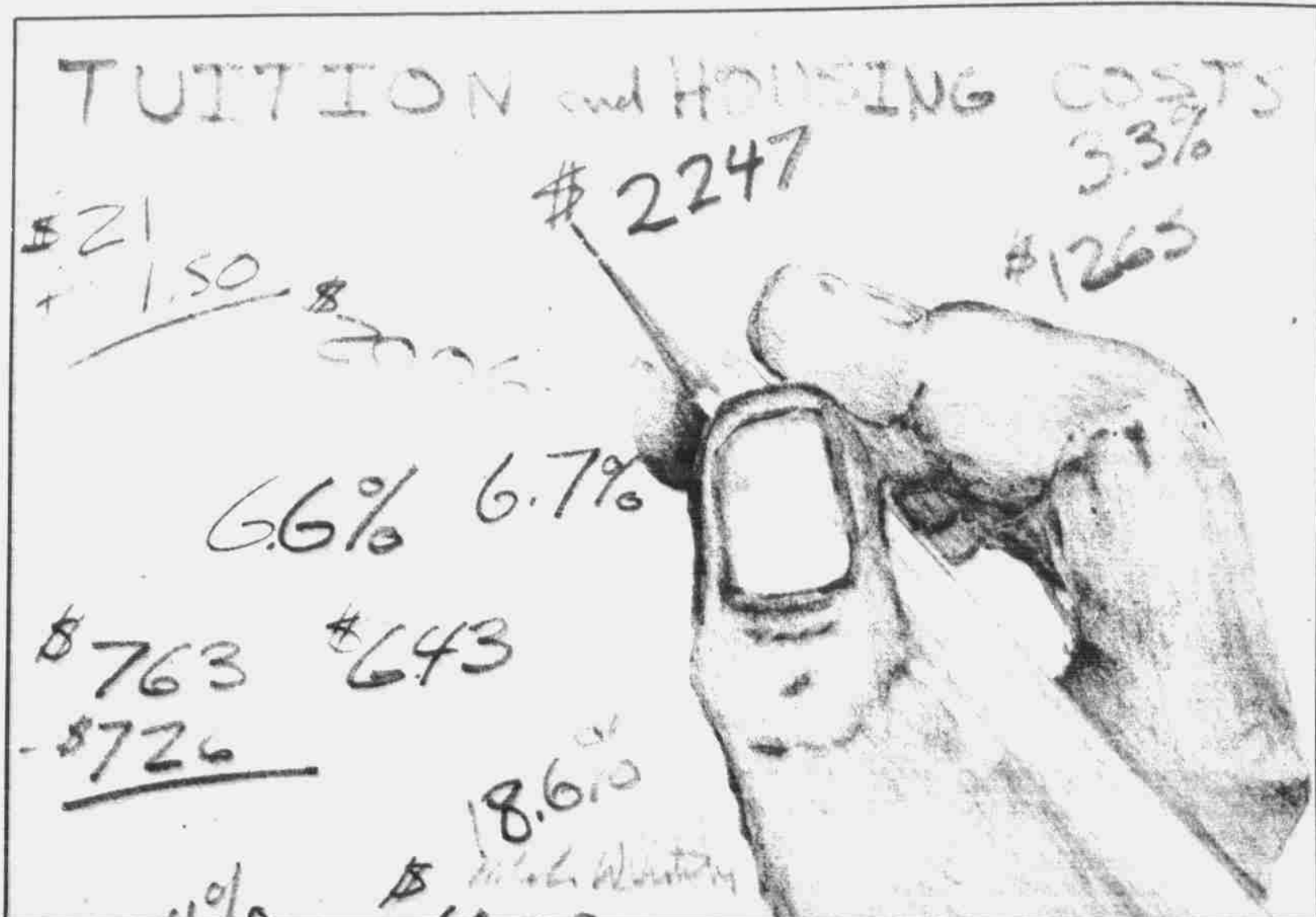
Last year UNL was \$30 above the median. This year UNL is \$136 higher than the median.

Nationally the price students pay for a year of education rose 128 percent over the past 13 years. The prices universities pay for educational goods and services has risen 108 percent.

"The larger increase in charges for tuition and fees indicates that colleges and universities have been forced to rely to a greater extent on tuition and fees for income as other sources have failed to match inflationary cost spirals," the report says.

Only one Big 8 school, the University of Missouri at Columbia, did not increase tuition, fees, room or board charges this year.

The most expensive state or land-grant university in the survey is Cornell University, Ithica, N.Y., which costs \$3,970 per year to attend. The least expensive is the University of Puerto Rico which costs \$1,388.



Tuition, fees, board and room costs slightly behind other Big 8 schools

Inflation marches on, but total college costs at UNL lag slightly behind the pack, at least for the time being, according to Robert Lovitt, assistant vice chancellor for business and finance.

While the consumer price index rose 6.6 percent over last year, total tuition, fees and room and board costs at UNL increased 3.9 percent, Lovitt said.

The total is based on room and board costs of \$1,265, up 3.3 percent, and tuition and fees on 15 hours for two semesters at \$763. Tuition and fees are up 5.1 percent over last year's total of \$726, Lovitt said.

Since 1973 UNL tuition and fees have increased from \$643, up 18.6 percent, and room and board costs have increased from \$1,020, up 24 percent. Lovitt said these increases are well below the general inflation rate.

"Housing has done a heck of a job of holding costs down," Lovitt said.

Board and room costs have increased at all Big 8 schools except Colorado and Missouri, where costs currently are \$1,452 and \$1,220 respectively, Lovitt said.

Iowa State experienced the largest rise in room and board costs with an increase of 8.2 percent to \$1,185, Lovitt said.

Oklahoma State students enjoy the lowest room and board rates of \$1,078. However, Lovitt said Oklahoma State provides only 15 meals per week, while other Big 8 schools provide 20 meals per week.

Lovitt said budget requests for next year include a 7.1 percent increase, or an extra \$1.50 added to the current \$21 per credit hour charge. Lovitt said the increase is needed to offset inflationary pressures.

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