

Graduate Association reorganizes, representatives' meeting planned

By Pat Gentzler

Graduate students from five UNL departments are making an attempt to reorganize the Graduate Students Association, an organization which has been inactive for some time.

Ross Vreeland, life sciences graduate student, said students in life sciences, chemistry, geography, sociology and modern languages are involved in the reorganization of the association.

An organizational meeting is planned for 7 p.m. Nov. 16 in the Nebraska Union, said Jane Ollenburger, a graduate student in sociology.

Vreeland stressed that this is an open meeting for graduate students and said that the more representatives, the better.

Graduate students need an organization to act as a spokesman on campus, Vreeland said.

There currently are committees in other areas on which graduate representatives serve. However, Vreeland said, some of these positions either are not filled or are filled by students appointed by the different departments.

The graduate students need a voice, Ollenburger said, and it would be better if the graduate students elected their own representatives for these committees.

Vreeland said he would like to see the association take on the form of a senate, with elected representatives from different departments.

The main issue that the association is working on right now, Ollenburger said, is the graduate tuition issue.

"We managed to get four people on Chancellor (Roy) Young's committee," Vreeland said.

The association, Vreeland said, is against the tuition hike. He said the four students on the committee have made an impact. Of the six ideas presented in the committee's report, three were from the students, he said.

Vreeland said he hopes the association can stand not just on a political basis but on a social one as well.

Vreeland said the association was not reorganized just to take action on the graduate tuition issue but will continue to be active once this particular issue is over.

"Organizations like that are dead before they start," he said.

National Bank of Commerce reduces energy-saving improvement loan rate

Lincoln's National Bank of Commerce joined the battle to conserve energy Thursday by announcing a reduced interest rate on energy-saving home improvement loans.

The announcement was made at a news conference. Lt. Gov. Gerald Whelan, Lincoln Mayor Helen Boosalis and a U.S. Dept. of Energy official attended and praised NBC for its conservation incentive program.

Home improvement loans historically have cost 12 to 13 percent, according to Jerry Thornton, NBC director of marketing. The NBC offer will make energy-saving improvements loans at a 10 percent interest rate.

Whelan said Americans have a "John Wayne syndrome," expecting the cavalry to come charging over the hill, or a Johnny Rodgers to make a touchdown run which will solve the problems.

The energy crisis will not be solved that way, Whelan said. "The answer this time is conservation," he said.

The acting regional representative of the U.S. Department of Energy, James Newman, praised the NBC program for taking action before Congress passed energy legislation expected to include tax credit for energy conserving investments.

The program is offered in cooperation with the Lincoln Electric System (LES). LES is displaying insulation techniques, heat pumps and a model of a solar energy

home in the NBC lobby at 13th and O streets.

LES will have seminars Nov. 17 and Nov. 22 on "Heat Pumps and How They Work," "Solar Homes" and "Saving Energy Around the House."

campus police weekly report

Campus Police reported the following thefts and vandalism cases between Nov. 2 and Nov. 8:

Nov. 2:

Larceny from Auto, Area 32 Agronomy Greenhouse, battery, \$50.00

Larceny from Auto, Area 32 Agronomy Greenhouse, battery, \$50.00

Larceny from Architecture Hall, Money, \$20.00

Larceny from Coliseum, fire extinguisher, \$50.00

Larceny from Women's Physical Education, fire extinguisher, \$25.00

Larceny from Auto, Area 3 Abel, battery, \$25.00

Larceny from Barkley, billfold, football tickets, \$44.00

Larceny from Smith Hall, slacks, \$20.00

Larceny from Nebraska Center, billfold/contents, \$44.00

Nov. 3:

Vandalism, Selleck, windows, \$27.00

Nov. 4:

Larceny from Neihardt, money, \$80.00

Larceny from Abel, coat, \$55.00

Larceny from auto, Area 2 19th/Q, cassette tapes, \$40.00

Nov. 7:

Vandalism, Bancroft, 3 window panes, \$70.00

Vandalism, Health Center, 3 window panes, \$20.00

Larceny from auto, Area 2 17th/R, 24 cassette tapes, \$110.00

Larceny from Harper, billfold/contents, \$45.00

Larceny from Love Library, calculator, \$90.00

Larceny from Teachers College, jacket, \$40.00

Nov. 8:

Larceny from Nebraska Hall, couch \$150.00

Vandalism from Henzlik, spilled paint, \$50.00

Total damage was \$1,133.00

Information was provided by Sgt. Joe Wehner of Campus Police.

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USAF funding aids research

Four UNL researchers, funded by the U.S. Air Force, are looking for an inexpensive way to produce devices that are important in communications and solar energy.

According to Rodney Soukup, UNL associate professor of electrical engineering, the Air Force's Office of Scientific Research has poured about \$150,000 into his project since the autumn of 1975. He moved his research when he came to UNL last year from the University of Iowa.

Soukup said he considered the UNL position a better one and that the equipment available is better. He said he uses an oven, various measuring devices and a vacuum system in his research.

Soukup and three assistants, Dan Mosher, A.K. Kulkarni and David Still, are working on a process to make electronic components from gallium arsenide. The compound made from gallium and arsenic is more useful in electronics than conventional silicon crystals because it withstands a higher frequency range. Unfortunately, it also is less abundant and therefore, more expensive.

The goal of his research is to produce better components by a cheaper method.

"The most efficient solar cell today is made from gallium arsenide," Soukup said. "But because it is very expensive, it is still somewhat a laboratory phenomenon."

He said the results of his research might be used by others to develop a device of practical value to the Air Force. That development and research might be made by industry, he said.

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