### Bill consolidates state graduate programs in NU system

A provision in the Nebraska Legislature's role and mission statement for higher education would require UNL and the state colleges to cooperate in establishing new graduate education programs in Nebraska.

The provision in LB846 is a result of the Post-Secondary Education Advisory Committee, advanced by Waverly Sen. Jerome Warner.

In the provision, new graduate programs would be established with existing ones instead of duplicating present services and expenses, Warner said.

"For every dollar it costs for undergraduate programs, it costs four to seven (dollars) for a graduate program, he said.

The NU Board of Regents and the State College Board of Trustees would "work togother for expanding graduate programs," Warner said.

There would be "no elimination of present services," Warner said, calling the provision a "preventive measure."

Lincoln Regent Ed Schwartzkopf indicated that the regents favor the program. "There should be some kind of coordination so there would be no duplication," he said.

"It (the provision) does indicate that the doctoral program will be at the Lincoln campus, although we might be working with other campuses," Schwartzkopf said. The University of Nebraska at Omaha would be a likely candidate, he said.

The provision also would prevent all institutions in the state from offering advanced degrees, he said.

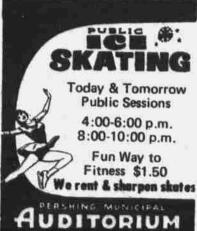
Richard Bringelson, secretary and ex-

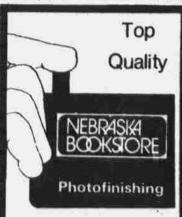
ecutive officer of the board of trustees for state colleges, said he has not participated in any discussion with the board on the matter.

"Our (the state colleges's) primary concern would be one of being able to respond to regional needs that could be met by additional or modified graduate programs," Bringelson said.

LB846 should go to the Legislature's Education Committee within two weeks, Warner said.







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