

editorial

Regents pass the buck—but not dollars—on speakers

The new speakers policy, effective July 1, is a fine example of another typical bureaucratic move.

The NU Board of Regents, after outlining the stipulations for who can and cannot be supported by student fees, concluded their policy with this handy escape clause: "In case of dispute, the chancellor or his designee shall be responsible for interpreting these guidelines."

Anyone with any degree of common sense can safely assume that "disputes" will arise, especially with the vigilant YAF keeping tabs on all speakers.

Therefore, the burden of responsibility will be shifted from the eight men responsible for deciding the speaker policy to someone who had no input in the decision.

This can be interpreted as passing the buck, and unsurprisingly, is something we've seen quite a bit of from the regents.

We only wish the regents would pass the buck—in the literal sense.

The speakers program is without any guarantee of student fee money since the regents eliminated the money designated for speakers by

the Fees Allocation Board. Even if students want to sponsor a non-controversial speaker, they now have no student fee money to do so with.

This figurative buck-passing is something we are sad to see.

If the regents had to deal with any and all disputes about speaker selection, perhaps they would think twice about their policy. Setting case after case would consume valuable regent time, detracting from the other matters these eight businessmen and farmers have to attend to.

An interesting point was raised the other night: Isn't it ironic that the

people with the greatest stake in the university are those with the least input, while those with the smallest stake hold so many of the controlling strings in their hands?

The reference was to the board of regents and NU students. The speaker was Ralph Nader.

Nadar may well be remembered the last speaker brought to UNL entirely by student decision. As of July 1, speakers (if there are any) must all have some form of administrative approval.

Let's hear it for free choice.

Rule for classroom catnaps: Don't sleep on newsprint

Besides music, beer and a little hanky panky every now and then, there is one other thing that all college students need and thrive on. Sleep. Ah, sleep . . . you can never get enough of it.

Researchers say that the normal human being needs anywhere from eight to ten hours of sleep a night, some people need as little as two to three and others as much as 12 to 14 hours a night.

michael
nikunen

When you're in school, you always need from 10-12. There isn't any time through the morning or day when any of us wouldn't like to lay down for just a few winks.

It's very easy to find the people who don't get enough sleep. About 15 minutes into the lecture their eyelids are closing slowly, fighting to stay open and look interested, but closing nonetheless. The person will shift around in his chair, looking for a more comfortable position.

They think they're fooling everyone by

putting their head on their forehead or by looking straight down at their paper or book. But everyone, including the professor, knows exactly what they're doing because we've all done the same thing.

It's at times like that that I have wished so hard that the desks were a little more like recliner chairs; or that perhaps the university could put cots in the back of the room for people who just can't keep awake.

What I'll never understand is how some people can go into a class, and in a normal sitting position fall completely and fitfully into a deep sleep, with their head in a contortionist's position, staring at the ceiling, mouth agape. I enjoy these people because they seem to sleep better in class than I do in my bed.

Professors' reactions to sleeping students are always fun. They range from quiet amusement to a burning rage.

Some take it as a hint that they should spice up the lecture from their regular monotone.

Others take it as a direct insult, and though they try to ignore the sleeping tyrant, their attention is always drawn to him.

I have to admit it would be rather difficult to ignore someone who sounds like he is sawing wood, while revealing his tonsils



to all.

I think we can all sympathize with this person, though, because it happens to us all.

At first it feels like someone is trying to squeeze your eyes shut and you just can't keep them open. You try a number of positions in your chair to avoid the tendency to lay down on the floor next to your desk.

But you know you are done for when

you start thinking about your bed at home, and how good it would feel right now. Usually at that point you're slowly melting out of your chair, or completely asleep.

In closing there is just one warning. Never fall asleep with your forehead laying on a page or newspaper. For some reason the print transfers to the skin and is hard to get off.

I know, I walked out of geography with a Daily Nebraskan headline written backwards across my forehead.

letters to the editor

In letters to the Editor April 25, a line of a letter by Pete Schmitz was accidentally omitted in production. The paragraph of his letter complaining about the bigotry of UNL students toward the gay movement should have read: "And it is terribly pathetic that the Greeks of Phi Kappa Psi (with their sign of 15 reasons not to be gay) thought they were proving their masculinity while they were only showing the public how insecure and uneducated they are."

44¢ for After Hours

I am happy that the Daily Nebraskan agrees with our efforts to minimize the cost of health care while retaining the quality services that are essential for UNL students. However, there are some misconceptions about the After Hours Service that need to be clarified.

The After Hours Service provides services for acute illness, injuries and emotional problems. Next year the cost of this service will be about 44 cents of the projected \$27.72 per student the health center receives from student fees.

After Hours cases are referred to community hospitals only when the condition is life-threatening, may require major surgery, or intensive care. Also the physician coverage is the equivalent of one and one-half full-time physicians at approximately half the normal cost.

In regard to reassignment of staff physicians to provide night coverage, it would further reduce medical coverage in the clinic during the days and/or require additional duties. The net effect of this would

be no cost savings for students. Also the time required for a student to receive proper medical treatment for acute conditions would be greatly increased.

Lastly, emergency room fees are at least three times the cost of After Hour Services at UHC.

Thus for only 44 cents a semester, students have quality medical treatment located on campus. Also, 84 percent of the students surveyed by the Student Council on Health wanted continuation of this service. The Student Council of Health seems to think that this is very reasonable considering the spiraling cost of medicine.

Mark Carlson, Chairman
Student Council on Health

Symptoms ignored

Last Monday, all city campus residence hall students received notice that it would cost 50 cents to eat the evening meal at the East Campus Union along with information on why it was necessary to apply the surcharge.

However, as is usual with a large number of bureaucrats facing a problem, they are concerned only with the immediate problem and not with the symptoms, or what led to the problem in the first place.

We are asked to look at the injustice of the East Union going into debt because of city campus transfers but what about the injustice of 300 students getting above-average meals and more than ten times that amount getting meals that are poorly prepared and served?

To anyone who does not believe there is a difference in food, I suggest they try it.

It's often been said that it must be hard to serve nearly 1,200 students at a sitting, but the coordinators at East Campus have shown that good food and large numbers go together. Perhaps they would be generous enough to share their tricks with the rest of the managers.

Jack Goetschius
Sophomore, English

More money to twirler

Equating "twirling scholarship" with "twirling major" is unfair, to say the least. There are, after all, other scholarships not directly associated with a major (is there a "football major" for football players on scholarship?).

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Actually, the connection between a twirler and "every full-blooded football team" is inaccurate. A baton twirler is historically and necessarily a marching band phenomenon.

More specifically: advance twirling, being a display of comparatively intricate movements, lends itself most successfully to solo performance. So twirling does not truly compare with cheerleading or flag corps.

It's only fair that the solo performer (the twirler), who spends a number of years perfecting her skill, should receive some compensation for performing. And a

football band show is almost the only place there is for a twirler to perform.

Since twirling is a facet of band performance, it seems appropriate that the UNL twirler scholarship is handled through the band budget. It's the band department's business to distribute its budget as it sees fit? and the department apparently agrees that a twirler is a good thing to have.

It's too bad that bands (here and elsewhere) have to scrape for traveling funds; but when Big Red goes to a bowl game and the marching band appears, their performance should not have to be without baton twirling. If the UNL twirler will perform creditably for only \$700, more power to her; and if the band department should every manage to increase the twirler scholarship fund, more power to them!

Arthur Garwood
Graduate Student, actuarial science

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