Summer teachers fewer hassles, extra money

By George Wright

Whether they like the money, the relaxed atmosphere, or just feel guilty when they aren't teaching, UN-L. summer school teachers will give 14,000 students a chance to graduate early or late, or to push onward for higher degrees.

Donald Gregory, associate professor of English, said he has volunteered to teach summer classes for ten years.

The one summer he did not teach, he said, he was "guilt stricken" for not doing so.

"I wouldn't even stop in and pick up my mail," Gregory said. "It was a funny situation. I didn't feel worthy enough to go to the office."

Gregory said he finds summer school pleasant, with "fewer hassles and no waiting in line at the Union.'

Even though students cover material much faster than in a 15-week semester, Gregory said he likes the slow pace of summer sessions, because he has fewer papers and tests to grade.

Faculty Enjoy Relaxed Atmosphere

R. McLaran Sawyer, professor and chairman of the history and philosophy of education department in Teacher's College, said he also enjoys the "relaxed atmosphere of summer sessions."

Sawyer said half of the classes offered in Teacher's College are graduate level

Sawyer said all the faculty in his department teach courses during the

summer sessions, although some do not teach as much as they would like.

William Sesow, acting director of summer sessions, said half of the eligible UN-L faculty members, or those on a nine-month contract, teach classes during the summer.

Sesow said, however, that not all faculty want to work in the summer and that in the business college there are problems in finding faculty to teach the courses that are offered. Some departments rely on visiting professors or lecturers to fill certain classes.

Last summer UN-L had 38 staff members from out of state and 69 from Nebraska, according to the 1977 summer sessions report.

The Lincoln Public Schools supplied 19 of last summer's visiting faculty members including Superintendent John Prasch, Associate Superintendent for Business Affairs Robert Den Hartog, and Associate Superintendent of Instruction Ron Brandt.

The State Education Department, Nebraska Department of Education and the Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department were the sources of other Nebraska visitors, who added summer bonuses to their regular state or municipal salaries.

Guest Faculty Offer Expertise

Some of the guest faculty are brought to UN-L to offer their expertise in certain areas, Sesow said.

Salaries are adjusted according to experience, he said, and although a visiting individual may have only a masters degree, that person may be paid as much as a local professor.

The University respects expertise of visiting staff, he said. The majority of visitors are paid on the basis of their rank, as if they were employed full-time by the University.

The visiting staff includes consultants, Sesow said. Consultants appear in certain classes or in open sessions and are usually paid \$100 a day plus expenses.

UN-L faculty members who teach six hours of summer clases are paid 18 percent of their nine-month salaries. For nine hours of teaching they would receive 27 percent of their salary, Sesow said.

For example, a professor earning \$20,000 on a nine-month contract would earn an additional \$3,600 for teaching two three-hour classes during the summer sessions. Or, an associate professor with a salary of \$17,000 would pick up an extra \$3,060 for a six-hour summer load.

Last summer twelve UN-L faculty members taught 12 hours and earned 36 percent of their base salary.

Teaching Hours Restricted

Those who teach 12 hours during a summer are restricted to a six-hour load the next year, Sesow said. Department chairpersons and college deans must limit employment of staff to a nine-hour average over a two year period.

The agricultural and home economics faculty are exceptions because they sign 12-month contracts, Sesow said.

Irv Omtvedt, chairman of the animal science department, said agricultural faculty accept joint appointments of either teaching and research or teaching and extension.

Land grant colleges have a responsibility under federal law to carry on research projects, Omtvedt said. For that reason, the faculty have 20 percent to 60 percent teaching loads and are occupied with research or extension work the remainder of the year.

Because the faculty members sign 12-month contracts, the agricultural college receives a relatively small portion of the summer school budget, which is used to pay mainly visiting staff and graduate students.

Last year the College of Agriculture received \$42,000 for summer sessions. compared with \$907,552 for the College of Arts and Science and \$561,191 for the Teachers College.

The 1977 summer sessions budget, which paid all teachers salaries, totaled more than \$2 million, a \$250,000 increase over the 1976 budget.

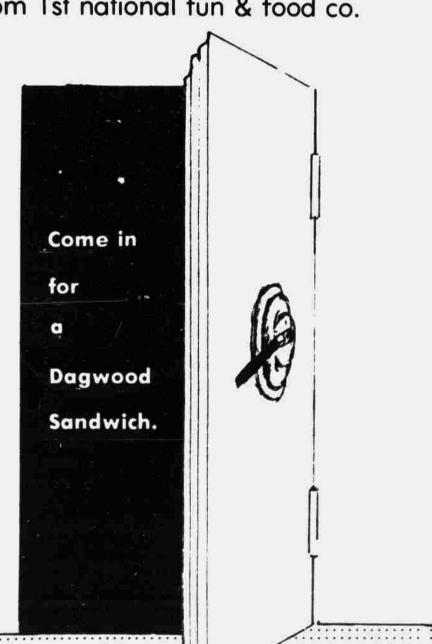
Bob Lovitt, assistant to the vice chancellor of finance, said the 1978 budget will be increased because teachers' salaries have increased.



Former UN-L student James Walla of Lincoln takes a nap on the lawn near Sheldon Memorial Art Gallery.



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