

Business College devises get-tough registration policy

By Mary Fastenau

The law of supply and demand may be taught in business classes, but the College of Business Administration has been unable to put its teaching into practice.

With a high demand for business classes and no funding available for expansion, CBA has had to make its own laws of supply and demand, according to Art Kraft, interim associate dean of CBA.

"We have had to restructure the demand to meet the supply," Kraft said.

He said CBA began developing measures last year to balance the ratio between students and classes offered. They will be implemented this year.

Some on academic probation

During the summer, letters were sent to 165 students who entered CBA as freshmen after June 13, 1977, whose grade point average was below 2.5. Kraft said that these people have been placed on academic probation.

These students will not be allowed to pre-register for any CBA classes until they improve their grades, Kraft said.

Kraft said 48 other students have been placed on probation because they have junior standing, which is more than 53 hours, and a GPA below 2.0.

If these students improve their GPAs during the summer, they will be able to pre-register, he said.

Students may remain

Kraft said students who do not improve their GPAs will be allowed to remain in CBA, but they will not be able to take business classes.

An exception to these rules would be students who wish to repeat a class to improve their grade, he said.

Even with these plans put into practice, Kraft said that "just about every 100, 200 and 300 level CBA course is closed."

He estimated there were several hundred

students who had been denied classes this semester. These students will fill out a request form and any openings will be filled using a priority system.

Prerequisites a problem

Another problem he cited was students who sign up for classes without having taken the prerequisite courses.

"The instructor must drop the level of the course to the point where everyone will understand, and if someone is lacking the background information, it slows down the rest of the class," Kraft said.

To avoid this situation, students without prerequisites will be "administratively withdrawn," he said.

Because of the number of students, Kraft said, they probably will not be able to check everyone until mid-October, and students will be withdrawn even at that date.

He said he considers the student selfish who takes a course without taking the prerequisite because the student deprives himself and another person the opportunity to take the class.

Policy to have 'bite'

He said they were going to "put teeth into the policy" and enforce it.

Another step to solve the problem will begin in registration for next semester.

Kraft said that all CBA students will have to bring their registrations to the undergraduate advising office where advisers will check that each student has met the prerequisites and is not on probation.

If everything checks out, the registration will be stamped. Kraft said anyone who chooses to ignore the policy will be "administratively withdrawn."

However, if a student has gone to see his adviser first and has a signature, the registration also will be stamped, Kraft explained. He said he hopes students will consult their advisers on a regular basis.

Life long education needed.

Another demand upon CBA is the trend toward lifelong education, he said.

Kraft said he thinks CBA is behind other colleges in offering night and late afternoon classes for non-traditional students.

He said a study done by CBA showed about 23 percent of people surveyed expressed interest in taking business classes, although they were not necessarily majoring in business.

Kraft said if the study is believable, CBA must make some changes to deal with those numbers.

The college must serve both markets, he stated.

However, he said problems exist because the size of the college must remain stable as there are no budget increases for this year or next.

Kraft said he feels that by refusing budget increases, the Regents and the Legislature are saying the problems are internal and must be solved internally.

To solve these problems, CBA is defining their population and attempting to serve that group, he said.

Credit Union may soothe students in money pinch

By Pat Gentzler

Things are looking up for UNL students who occasionally find themselves in a financial pinch. A university credit union has been informally approved by the Nebraska State Banking Department.

There has been no official word from the banking department approving the credit union, ASUN President Ken Marienau said Friday, but he has received a phone call unofficially confirming the approval.

A public hearing Monday, August 7 by the department considered an application for a credit union charter. A decision was to have been made within a two week period.

Plans call for the credit union to operate out of the student government office, Marienau said.

Short-term loans emphasized

Manferd Peterson, UNL associate professor of finance and president-elect of the credit union, defines a credit union as an "organization of individuals with a

common bond," in this case, association with the university.

Faculty members, staff, alumni, or anyone connected with the university in addition to students, would be eligible to be members, Peterson said. An initial deposit of \$5 will be required for union members.

A lot of institutions don't like to make loans of \$500 or less, Peterson said, because of the paperwork and bother. However, the emphasis of the UNL credit union would be on those small, short-term loans that students often need to meet tuition and housing payments.

Helps establish credit

Students often find when they run short of money that they need a loan only until their next paycheck, Marienau said. "Especially at the first of the year," he said, when housing bills, book expenses, and other bills hit them all at once. The credit union should be in operation within a few weeks, he added.

"There are a lot of side benefits," Marienau said. Students usually have a hard time establishing credit ratings, but will find that the credit union will help them do so, Peterson said.

Passage no problem

Although the ASUN student senate has not yet voted on the credit union proposal, Marienau said he foresees no problem in its passage. It entails no cost to the senate, except publicity expenses, and should soon pay for itself, he said.

At a summer ASUN meeting, which did not have a quorum, the topic was discussed but could not be voted on. The senators present had a few questions, Marienau said, but none said they were opposed to the credit union.

\$1.5 million in financial aid available

Students looking for a part-time job or a loan this fall may be able to get the help they need from the UNL Office of Scholarships and Financial Aids.

Acting Director Ron Fritz said \$1.5 million has been approved for loans this year. Fritz said he does not know how much money is available for loans now because some applicants may be rejected.

"Right now we're in a holding pattern," he said. "We're not going to know for a couple of weeks." (how much money is available).

Student jobs are posted outside the office, Administration Building 103. A "job locator" will be hired by Sept. 1 to help the office find more jobs for students, Fritz said.



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