

# Speechwriter . . .

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The question raised by Fallows deals with the country's other energy crisis. How long can the idealist-liberal last in government before his energy peters out? Is it automatic that those who burn bright one year burn out the next? Must hot blood become tried blood?

If Fallows has any anger at learning that his brain was going dead from in-box tedium, he directs it as himself, not others. But he insists that this energy crisis happens to everyone, and that troubles begin when those in government won't face it. He refers to the worn-outs in Congress who have dogged it for 25 years, never knowing when to pull out.

### Leave too soon

That may be true, but a reverse problem exists. People like Fallows, idealists of billowing sail, often leave too soon. A few years ago, I was dejected when Harold Hughes of Iowa voluntarily left the Senate, when Fred Harris of Oklahoma yielded without a fight, when Ken Hechler of West Virginia gave up a safe house seat to run as a hapless longshot for governor at home. All were needed; all were missed.

Each spoke of the frustrating slowness of reform. They also weren't up for the daily battles against the in-box. Fallow's departure leaves me disappointed because that is one less sharp mind near the President. It is another regrettable indication that liberals, more than conservatives, have little taste for pacing. They tend to be

sprinters, not marathoners. They prefer a hard run and quick finish. Leave the long-haul trudging to the pragmatists.

### Trudger's victory

The trudger, whether pragmatists, conservatives, bureaucrats or whatever, are delighted to have the government more to themselves. Chances of shake-ups, fresh breezes and reforms are that much less likely when one idealist or another wearily announces that the system has gotten to him and he is moving on.

I'm making no hard judgments about Jim Fallows. He saw himself succumbing to the routine, and opted for change. But I wonder whether the routine is all that powerful a foe. Some of the most socially useful work in Congress and federal agencies like HUD and HEW is done because a committed idealist refuses to be ground down by what appears to be institutional inertia.

### Weakened species

It took 38 years to get a federal strip mine bill, and a mild one at that. But for the past decade, a few advocates persisted, dead brain cells or not. Some were in Congress. Some were staff people. Some were in the environmental lobby. If they hadn't hung on, the reckless coal industry would have gone unchecked.

I can't help regretting that Fallows didn't stay longer. Idealists don't often surface near the top. When they leave early, the species is weakened.

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## THE ETSIMOBILE is coming to Lincoln!!!

Wednesday, September 20



The ETSImobile will give you a view of the future regarding our nation's energy transportation needs. Exciting exhibits explain the concept of coal slurry pipelines, and show you what ETSI's proposed pipeline system will mean to Nebraska.

Join us while we visit Lincoln. There will be favors for children and souvenirs for adults, along with informational literature to take home with you.

The ETSImobile will be open to the public from 10 a.m. until 5 p.m. on September 20 at the Cornhusker Hotel parking lot, 301 So. 13 in Lincoln.

You are cordially invited to come and see this interesting and unusual exhibit! It's free!

 **ETSI**  
Energy Transportation Systems Inc.

### NEBRASKA UNION BOARD Proposed By-Law Changes September, 1978

Portions of the by-laws below to be deleted are in parentheses; Portions to be added are in bold face type.

#### PROPOSAL I

To change the second paragraph of the Role Statement of the Board to read as follows:

The Board shall assume the role of advocate for the various publics of the Nebraska Union (services and programs) as regards facilities, services, and administration, and shall represent the policies and positions of the University and the Union to the publics of the Union programs and services. The needs and attitudes of these publics will be presented to the Director through the vehicle of regular public meetings of the Board conducted in accordance with the Bylaws.

#### PROPOSAL II

To change Section I as follows:

I.A.1. b. Student members of the Board shall not hold membership on the Board and serve on (either Union Program Council) **the CAP Advisory Board** at the same time, with the exception of the **Board member elected to that body** (officer from each Program Council).

c. Student membership shall (be in two categories as follows:) **consist of ten (10) at-large members.**  
(1. Eight (8) at-large members.)  
(2. One (1) officer from City Program Council and (1) officer from East Union Program Council.)

I.B. 1. Student Membership

(a) Selection of (eight (8) **ten (10)** student members (at-large) shall be by procedures determined by ASUN.  
(b) Selection of two (2) student members shall be by vote of each Program Council, one (1) City Campus and one (1) on East Campus. The respective Councils will elect one of its officers to membership.)

I.C.2. a. Of the (eight (8) **ten (10)** members (at-large), six (6) members shall be appointed for two-year terms. Three of the six shall hold terms nonconterminous with the other three. The remaining (two) **four (4)** members of the (eight) **ten (10)** shall be for a one-year term. (The two members selected by the Program Councils shall be for one-year terms.)

II.J. 1. Each member of the Board, excluding officers, will be expected to serve on a Board Committee. There shall be (four (4) **three (3)** standing committees concerned with each area of the Union structure and special committees created as needed. **One student member of the Board shall be elected as a member of the CAP Advisory Board. Chairpersons shall be members of the Board and shall be selected by the Board.**

The membership of any such committee shall not be limited to Board members, but shall include students, faculty, staff, administrators, and off-campus consultants as appropriate to their skills and the task assigned.

II.J. 3. The (four (4) **three (3)** standing committees shall work with the respective directors and staff in their areas.

II. J. 3. (c. Recreation and Programming)  
(The Committee will work with matters pertaining to recreation and programming. They shall also offer input on recreation programming ideas and review hours of operation and pricing procedures.

This Committee shall also have an interviewing function. Members will be expected to serve on interviewing committees for both program councils, new Board members, and others as the need arises.)

#### PROPOSAL III.

To delete section II.B. as follows:

II.B. (The Board's Function in Decisions Dealing with Program Activities)

(1. The Board shall address the out-of-class social, recreational, cultural and educational needs of the campus appropriate to its capabilities. It hereby provides for a volunteer student group to be named the Program Council. There shall be a Program Council resident to the City Campus facility and a Program Council resident to the East Campus facility.)

(2. The Program Councils shall act as the executive bodies responsible for the implementation of program activities as funded by program and facility fees granted the Board through the Fees Association Committee in fund Category A.)

(3. Each Program Council shall have the authority and responsibility to prepare By-Laws and/or statements of policies and procedures ordering the operations of the Councils and guiding the expenditure of fees according to policies of the Board and the Fees Allocation Committee.)

(4. The Program Councils' By-Laws, along with proposed changes and amendments, shall be subject to approval of the Board. The Program Councils are obliged to operate within the policies and procedures of the University, the Nebraska Union and the Nebraska Union Board.)

(5. The Board shall approve and review proposed or existing policies and procedures set by the Program Councils.)

(6. The Board will annually direct the Program Councils to formulate and document the program activities budget outline for review and approval of the Board. The Board will forward and seek funding for the program budget in hearings before the Fees Allocation Committee as part of the Board's principal role.)

(7. The Board shall participate in the interview process for East and City Union Program Council applicants.)

The Nebraska Union Board will vote on these proposed changes at its regular meeting September 27, at 7:00 p.m. in the East Union. Anyone so wishing may attend. Comments may be directed to the Board at Room 220 of the City Campus Union.