

# Grounds dept to begin master planning of landscape

By Alice Hrnicek

More time will be devoted to master planning in the UNL grounds department according to Kim Todd, landscape architect.

Todd said past emphasis has been on smaller projects because the major priorities have been more complex.

More consideration will be given to identifying spaces specified for people, building sites, parking and beautification.

Todd noted that green spaces have been a controversial issue.

"What we recognize is that you need green space to soften the environment to give people a better atmosphere to work and study in," she said. "We need them for

a coherency and a unity and continuity between buildings."

#### Campus identity

The department also will try to build an identity for the UNL campus, she said. Involved in this are plans for a sign system at critical points downtown so visitors will be able to find their way around city campus and east campus. Another aspect of the plan includes the creation of visitor centers on both campuses to act as directory stations.

One of the complaints the grounds department receives is that the campus is not well taken care of, Todd said. She said this is not true, but that there has been a recent letdown.

In response to the rising costs of fuel, there has been a stress on energy conservation, Todd said.

She said one conservation method is the planting of trees on the south side of buildings in order to add warmth in winter and promote shade in summer. In the spring, native grasses will be planted on parts of campus, thus eliminating the need for watering and cutting down on upkeep. Varieties of shrubs which require less mulching also will be planted. "But we can't let the entire campus go and expect people to think we're doing a good job," Todd said.

#### Ground restoring

Restoration of grounds is another area which the department will focus on, she said. The red oak trees along R Street are being replaced, a plan has been developed for Memorial Mall (east of Memorial Stadium) and a project for the area between Avery and Hamilton halls is underway.

Bud Dasenbrook, director of the grounds department, said that the university is located in the middle of a state with a severe environment. He said that drought and dutch elm disease have an adverse affect on plant life and therefore plant care is difficult. A further difficulty arises from the fact that Nebraska has a prairie soil, which is not conducive to growing trees, he noted.

He added that inflation and other cost-cutting influences also had an effect on upkeep.

#### Blending plants

A common theme of the department has been the blending of plants in an attractive environment, Dasenbrook said. This has been facilitated by the development of training programs for forestry and grounds.

Dasenbrook outlined the department's expenditures in the various areas and tasks. Noting that 21 percent of the man hours are spent in removal practices, including litter and gardens, he said he hopes this section will eventually become more efficient.

He expressed a satisfaction in the expenditures in the areas of planting, plant care, mowing, irrigation, development and

equipment maintenance. However, he added that there is always room for improvement.

With the limited number of workers available for handling ice and snow, he said he was amazed at "how well we are able to get the job done."

## Scholarship honors former CTU chairman

Central Telephone and Utilities has established a permanent scholarship fund with the University of Nebraska Foundation in honor of the company's former chairman, Clarence Ross for his more than 50 years of service to the company and utilities industry.

At least one student each year will be awarded a one-year tuition scholarship from the Clarence Ross Scholarship Fund, according to Wilson Garnett, the company's executive vice president.

UNL's scholarship committee will award the scholarship based on academic excellence and leadership qualities to a student enrolled in the Colleges of Business Administration or Engineering or Technology.

Ross, a native of David City, Nebr., graduated from UNL in 1922, and earned his law degree in 1925 from Harvard Law School.

He is now serving as director of Chicago-based Central Telephone and Utilities, for-

merly headquartered in Lincoln. Ross has worked for the company since 1926 and was its chairman from 1968 through 1976.

"Under Clarence Ross's stewardship, Central Telephone and Utilities moved into the front ranks of the independent telephone industry," Garnett said. "His active pursuit of technical improvements, his sound financial judgment and his constant emphasis on strong management have had a significant impact on the operations of the company."



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