

Iranian students running short on finances from home

By Alice Hrnicek

For a number of Iranian students, the semester ahead may pose a financial threat in addition to worries about their families' safety. Due to the turmoil in Iran, the students are not receiving needed financial aid from their parents.

In response to their crisis, members of the UNL administration met with International Educational Services representatives Thursday and worked out a solution which may alleviate the problem.

Upon recommendation of the IES, the administration has agreed to defer payments on tuition in special cases, according to Dean of Students Dave DeCoster.

Depending on individual circumstances, a schedule for payments throughout the semester is set up with a promissory note to bind the agreement.

DeCoster said that the policy has been necessary in "very few cases." He added that the amount of time given the students to pay the fees depends on their resources.

An anonymous member of the Iranian Student Association believes that the problem applies to a large number of the Iranians.

"There is no money from abroad because the whole Iranian economy depends on oil. There is no money in

the banks because many rich people took it and left the country."

His farther, for example, was unable to cash any checks and couldn't send him any money.

Terrible situation

Before the administration's decision, the student said that the financial situation for the Iranian students was terrible.

"Registration is almost over and many of them can't register."

Because striking oil workers are resuming work, the economy is undergoing a partial recovery. It is only a matter of a few months, he said, before money can be sent abroad.

In the meantime, he believes the Iranians in the U.S. need the awareness and support of Americans.

An anonymous graduate student from Iran said that his father has been unable to collect his salary from the government for the last two months. The graduate has received no money from home for the last seven months and therefore is unable to pay his tuition.

He is willing to pay, "but I need more time," he said.

Forced home

Although some of the students remain unaffected, the majority do not have enough money to pay. Those who

are forced to stop taking courses must return home, according to immigration regulations.

The students can also find employment and work their way through college. The problem with this, according to another anonymous ISA member, is that foreign students can legally work only on campus and therefore must settle for low-paying jobs.

"I haven't received money from home in three months and I've paid half of my savings to the university," he said. "There is not enough to pay both rent and tuition."

Students see no future for Bakhtian government

Because the new Iranian civilian government headed by Shahpour Bakhtiar has little support among the people and no military, it will not succeed, said an anonymous member of UNL's chapter of the Iranian Student Association.

"This is not what the people are struggling for," he said. "There will be a military coup with an absolute dictatorship or the people will gain power."

A graduate student from Iran said he also believes the people will not support the new government because it is "not a servant of the people." He said he believes that its association with the shah will cause it to collapse.

The graduate said he cannot understand how Bakhtiar can use the term "civilian government."

"There are just two kinds of government—a government for the people and one that is not. This government will for sure be down because it is not of the people," he said.

Although both Iranians are convinced that the shah will leave the country, neither one accepts the policies being set up.

"Any government that doesn't belong to the people will for sure be down," said the graduate. "The shah has one of those."

"I think he will leave because he has no powers now," said the ISA member. "He can't have any with 30 million against him."

The ISA member pointed out that Karim Sanjabi, leader of the opposition Nationalist Front, who would be willing to head a new government is "not an important figure. He wants a seat in the parliament, not to overthrow the government."

He added that the Nationalist Front has gained little support among workers and others because of a number of competing revolutionary groups. "Unless they all unite, they will remain scattered."

Sanjabi would be "more useful for the people than Bakhtiar," according to the graduate student. However, he is not certain that the leader is anti-imperialist or anti-shah.

But he believes Sanjabi would be a religious leader because he has agreed to meet with exile Moslem leader, Ayatullah Khomeini in Paris to plan a new parliament for the Iranians.



Photo by Mark Billingsley

Daily Nebraskan Ombudsman Jim Kay

Jim Kay appointed to ombudsman post

Jim Kay, a 21-year-old Lincoln senior journalism major, has been named *Daily Nebraskan* ombudsman for the spring semester.

Kay, who is beginning his seventh semester at the paper, has served as a reporter, columnist and editor and is the first person to hold the position of ombudsman.

"I see my job as being two fold," Kay said. "First, handling complaints from readers and sources on matters of accuracy, balance, fairness on professional standards, and second, serving as internal critic for the paper."

Ombudsmen now work at 27 newspapers across the country, according to Charles Seib, ombudsman for the Washington Post.

Seib said most ombudsmen use internal memoranda to communicate with the editors of the paper and respond to reader's complaints by letter or phone call. Usually ombudsmen also write columns about the paper and the press in general for their papers Seib said. Kay will be writing a column for the *Daily Nebraskan*.

Readers wishing to contact Kay with questions and complaints can reach him in his office at the *Daily Nebraskan* from 10:30 a.m. to noon on Monday, 10:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Wednesday and Friday and by appointment on Tuesday and Thursday. His office phone number is 472-1756. Messages for him can be left by calling the *Daily Nebraskan* at 472-2588.

FOURTH-NITE is a non-sectarian fellowship and discussion program open to students, faculty and staff from UNL.

It meets on Wednesday evenings at 7:00 p.m. (starting Jan. 17, '79) at Commonplace, 333 N. 14th.

Each week a topic will be announced as a beginning point for discussion, but the focus will be on the immediate concerns and questions of those present.

It is intended that each session will be open to new persons, with additional individuals and groups being invited along with those who have developed a continuing relationship in the group.

TOPICS FOR JANUARY:

Jan. 17 — Long Lines, Red-tape, Bureaucrats & Creativity

Jan. 24 — Careers and Personal Identity

Jan. 31 — I'm Responsible; But To Whom, and For What?

Further topics will be developed from the interests of the group and announced later.



7:00-9:00 P.M.
Beginning Jan. 17, 1979

Fourth-Nite

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