

# Faculty Senate attacks bill

By Lucy Bighia

A bill to establish collective bargaining by college employees, LB108, met with hot opposition last week from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln Faculty Senate.

William Campbell, a UNL physics professor and Faculty Senate president, accused NU systems officials of trying to push the bill through the legislature without informing the faculty.

If passed, the bill would establish one bargaining unit for each category of university employees. This would mean that faculty from UNL, UNO and the NU Medical Center would all be included in the same unit.

Campbell said this is the senate's main complaint about the bill.

"We don't feel there are enough similarities between the faculty of the three schools to form a successful coalition," he said. "It would be very difficult for the med school to get together with us because they have very different interests and concerns."

### Already settled in courts

The senate also opposes the bill because the question of collective bargaining already was settled in the courts, Campbell said.

The State Court of Industrial Relations defined the NU Dental College, University of Nebraska Law School, UNO faculty and the rest of the UNL faculty as separate bargaining units, he said.

So now, after having lost the case in the courts, the regents have gone to the legislature to try to win the issue, Campbell said.

Campbell said it was only by chance that the senate learned of the bill before it came up for a hearing. One of the senate members was reading over the list of proposed bills, and happened to spot it, he said.

According to Campbell, this isn't the first time the central administration has failed to inform the faculty of matters affecting them.

### Should have been contacted

"We continually find ourselves reacting

to situations where we should've been contacted ahead of time," Campbell said.

But Campbell said he didn't think the faculty senate would have been able to change the regents' minds about supporting the bill, but should have had the opportunity to oppose it.

Campbell also said he'd heard that even the chancellor's office didn't know of the bill before the hearing.

But Richard Fleming, assistant to the chancellor, said that isn't true.

Fleming said that, although he usually tries to notify university employees of legislation that might affect them, by the time he learned of LB108 the senate already knew about it.

But William Swanson, cooperation secretary, said the chancellor's office found out about the bill at a meeting of deans and directors about a week before the hearing.

## daily nebraskan

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5:30-8:00 Banquet for business representatives and faculty featuring an address by C. Barry Schaefer, Vice President-Law of Union Pacific Railroad on the topic "Development of the Human Resource: Private and Public Sectors Views" and entertainment by the Scarlet and Cream Singers  
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