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Photo by Mark Billingsley

State Senator Loran Schmit of Bellwood supported a proposal for a veterinary school in Nebraska at a hearing Tuesday.

## ASUN presidential candidate Cuca wants student government overhaul

By Shelley Smith

**Editor's note:** This is second in a five-part series on parties and candidates running in the ASUN election. The candidates will be interviewed in the order they will appear on the ballot.

The ASUN election is not real world politics, according to the presidential candidate of the Students of the University of Nebraska (SON) party. And, he said, he doesn't aim to be a politician.

Bud Cuca, a junior business administration major, said he is trying to be realistic about what power student government has and is "just trying to get some things done."

"Student government is long overdue for an overhaul," according to Cuca. He said that by not being affiliated with ASUN before, he can objectively accomplish that overhaul.

"If someone is involved with ASUN so long, he can't see it objectively," Cuca said.

"I have experience with people," he said. "I want to get things done through people and not through policy."

The SON party comprises 15 students from residence halls, off campus housing and Greek houses. Cuca is a member of the Alpha Tau Omega social fraternity and has worked with the Nebraska Human Resources Research Foundation.

### Human resources

He said his connection with the foundation has given him the opportunity to work with leaders and made him realize that the "human resource is the greatest resource if you can effectively use it."

He said he feels ASUN this year "spent too much time playing games."

"They talk and talk until they're blue in the face," he said. "They don't have enough time to listen."

The SON platform states that "the most important job of student senators is listening to students who are not student senators."

Cuca said he plans to apply this policy by proposing several basic organizational reforms of the student senate.

One, he said, would establish a research branch of the senate to collect data that deals with student issues.

Another would be to place an equal number of students that are not senators on each senate standing committee, he said.

### Could be listening

This would increase the amount of student input into ASUN and free senators of time that could be directed towards listening to students and their concerns, according to Cuca.

Cuca said he decided to run for the presidency because "looking at ASUN from the outside, I wondered if the students were really being represented."

If elected, Cuca said, his role as a student regent would

be to work with the NU Board of Regents, rather than against them.

"The worst way to start off with someone is by punching him in the nose," he said. "The regents are getting a little wary of new ASUN senates because they've come in and dropped bombshells on them right away," he said.

Cuca said he feels a student recreation facility is needed at UNL, and said this will be one of his major priorities if he is elected.

### 96 cents

"We did some figuring the other night and found out that it would probably cost 96 cents extra on student fees," he said.

He added that he feels there is too much conflict with the athletic department about when students are allowed to use the facilities.

He also said that parking will be one of his major concerns and said he questions the \$5 charge for parking tickets when the UNL police over-issue parking permit.

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Photo by Mark Billingsley

SON Presidential Candidate Bud Cuca

## Nebraska students face 'closed doors' without vet school

By Cindy Coglianesse

Proponents of a legislative bill, LB357, that would establish a school of veterinary medicine on East Campus agreed Tuesday that the school would benefit Nebraska's agricultural economy despite the cost of the regional school.

NU Regent Robert Raun, UNL football player and pre-veterinary science major Jim Pillen and Dr. Earl Dickinson, chairman of the UNL Veterinary Science Department were among the supporters of the bill who testified at a hearing of the Nebraska Legislature's Education Committee.

The bill, introduced by the Legislature Agricultural Committee, would provide for a five-state regional veterinary college with North Dakota, South Dakota, Wyoming, and Montana incorporating with Nebraska. (Only one state so far has made a formal commitment for the college.)

### Closed doors

Agriculture Committee Chairman Loran Schmit told the Education Committee that educational opportunities for pre-veterinary science students is not optimistic if UNL continues to rely on other state's veterinary college to accept Nebraska students.

"If we rely on other institutions for education, there is a possibility that those doors may be closed," Schmit told the committee.

Dr. Earl Dickinson reported there are currently 98 UNL students enrolled in out-of-state veterinary colleges. Eighty-eight of these students are subsidized under UNL with "student support fees." Dickinson said the other ten are exchange students with the University of Missouri.

Schmit said the cost of constructing the veterinary college would be \$30 million to \$60 million. He said the college would be paid for by general funds from the state.

### NU Regent support

"We need to recognize at this point in time that unless we are committed to that kind of expense, then we should not even embark on the project," Schmit said.

Schmit added that the veterinary college should be built on the strength of the opinion that the agricultural industry is growing, and the growing need for people to solve complex livestock problems and diseases.

Regent Robert Raun also presented a statement that reflected the support of the NU Board of Regents. Raun said support was given because the Board of Regents would have control over admissions and would have a voice in the administration of the college.

In addition, Raun said the veterinary college would provide for strong veterinary services and research in Nebraska. Related industries also would be inclined to locate near the college, he said.

### Surplus of vets

Raun also supported a suggestion from Sen. Walter George from Blair to emphasize instruction in large animal veterinary medicine to serve the livestock population of Nebraska as opposed to the small animal practice.

Other supporters of the bill included the Nebraska Farm Bureau Federation, Nebraska Wool Growers, Nebraska Livestock Feeders Association, Nebraska Pork Producers and the Ag Builders of Nebraska.

In addition, the Nebraska Stock Herders Association, Nebraska Soybean Association gave support to the bill.

Opponents of the bill included a number of small animal veterinarians, claiming that the total amount of taxpayer's dollars spent on the college would not be beneficial particularly when studies indicated that there is not a large demand for veterinarians and will be a possible surplus of veterinarians by 1990.

Rhonda Maddox, a researcher for Sen. John DeCamp of Neligh told the committee that a large percentage of graduates do not return to their native states, indicating a little gain for the cost of the college.

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