

Regents should handle charges-senators

By Gordon Johnson

Three state senators concluded Tuesday that charges made by Marianne Davidson against UNL business professor Wayne Dobson should be handled by the NU Board of Regents.

Senators George Burrows of Adams, Richard Maresh of Milligan and Harold Sieck of Pleasant Dale met with Davidson for two hours Tuesday. The senators then met with dean of the Business College, Gary Schwendiman and Dobson.

Davidson has charged that Dobson violated university bylaws by missing classes to teach at a private banking school and by acquiring outside paid consultancies.

Sieck said some charges have merit, but added he felt the university has taken care of them.

"There were just a couple of items that were on the shady side, but nothing very serious," he said.

Davidson has attempted twice to present evidence in support of her claims to the regents, but has been denied both times.

At the June board meeting, Davidson was denied time to present a report which outlined her charges against Dobson because, according to board chairman Robert Koefoot, she did not follow proper procedure.

However, after following proper procedure in July, she was again denied time because Koefoot, from Grand Island, said she was nursing a "personal vendetta."

"The regents dropped the ball when the charges were first brought up," Sieck said.

"What made us go to Dobson and Schwendiman was because she (Davidson) came to us and said no one else would listen to her," Sieck said.

It is time to get the information out in public, Sieck said.

Burrows also agreed that the regents dropped the ball by not allowing Davidson to speak.

Since the board allowed Dobson to present his side it is only fair that Davidson should also be given a chance, he said.

Burrows said he is disappointed in the way the regents handled the case.

If the board just sits on this one, the only recourse for the legislature may be the withholding of funds, Burrows

said. This is the only way the legislature has any control over the university, he said.

At the board's July meeting, Koefoot, after consulting with NU attorney Richard Wood, said that for the board to follow the state's open meetings law, it must give Davidson a chance to speak.

Davidson was then given permission to speak at the September board meeting. No meeting is scheduled for August.

Davidson said she is working on a new report and trying to find more substantiation for her allegations.

"I have been spending a lot of time looking at the accounts," she said. She declined to be more specific about some of the other areas she will be looking into.

Ned Hedges, vice chancellor for academic affairs said he has asked Davidson to meet with himself and Schwendiman later this month.

He said he hopes to answer questions relating to Davidson's charges.

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Regents vote tuition hike

Cuca, Kirk plan for reconsideration

By Shelley Smith

The NU Board of Regents can expect opposition to the 1980-81 budget request approved Saturday, according to University of Nebraska-Lincoln Student Regent Bud Cuca.

The regents voted 5-2 to approve the request that would require a 10 percent undergraduate tuition increase and a state aid increase "not to exceed 15 percent."

Cuca, who serves as president of the Association of Students of the University of Nebraska (ASUN), said he and University of Nebraska at Omaha Student Regent John Kirk plan to ask the board to reconsider its vote at the Sept. 14 meeting.

The budget request, which was amended from NU President Ronald Roskens' recommendation of a 19.6 percent state aid increase, must be submitted to Gov. Charles Thone by Sept. 15.

Cuca said he and Kirk had planned to ask the regents to limit the tuition hike to a 5 percent increase last Saturday, but became confused during the budget debate and "didn't get a chance" to offer the amendment.

"I thought John was going to do it and he, I guess, thought I was going to," Cuca said.

Cuca said he would have asked for a reconsideration vote Saturday, but the meeting was adjourned before he could make the motion.

The proposal would raise resident undergraduate tuition rates from \$24 per credit hour to \$26.40 in 1980. Non-resident rates would increase from \$65 per credit hour to \$71.50.

Tuition at the College of Medicine would be raised 25 percent and 20 percent in dentistry and pharmacy.

Thone opposition

The budget request could also meet opposition when it is presented to Thone in September. Thone has said a university budget increase of 15 percent would be "reaching too far."

Regent Robert Simmons of Scottsbluff

proposed Saturday the budget increase be limited to 7 percent and requested that faculty salaries be increased by 10 percent.

Simmons said because the Legislature cut NU's operating budget by 10 percent last May, the faculty was forced to "pay for our mistake."

"Our faculty cannot afford this procedure again," he said.

He added that the problem the board annually confronts is trying "to be too many things for too many, and spreading our funds among more faculty than we can afford."

Tuition hike "easier"

Hubert Brown, ASUN first vice president, asked the board the reasoning behind increasing tuition when the Legislature won't increase state funding.

He argued it was "easier" for the administration to increase tuition, and said that even with the increase "there would be no measurable change in educational quality."

Brown added that tuition rates, if increased 10 percent, would be the highest in the Big Eight.

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UNL Student Regent, Bud Cuca.

photo by Shelley Smith

Journ. 'college' discussed

The University of Nebraska-Lincoln Journalism School should have been made an independent college five years ago, according to Journalism School Director R. Neale Copple.

Copple, Saturday, told the NU Board of Regents who will vote on the school's autonomy in September, that the proposed separation is the result of 25 years of evolution.

The journalism school began appearing as one of the nation's top 10 journalism schools 10 years ago and was recently listed in the top eight by the Chronicle of Higher Education, he said.

Now, he said, in order for the school to progress, it must have the flexibility of a free standing unit.

This involves the quality of journalism at the University of Nebraska," he said.

However, Vice Chancellor of Academic Affairs Ned Hedges told the

board that not everyone approves of the school's separation from the Arts and Sciences college.

Most of the opposition, Hedges said, involve financial questions.

Hedges said the separation will spur additional costs to the journalism school, but added that they would be minor because the school already handles their own records and advising.

If made a college, the journalism school would have its own budget, develop its courses, establish its graduation criteria and be directly responsible to Hedges and UNL Chancellor Roy Young.

Copple, who would be made dean, said he believes the school could solve financial problems because of donor willingness to give to a journalism college rather than to a school within a college.