

UNL professor first woman to receive agronomy award

By Kathryn Haugstatter

A UNL professor of agronomy is the first woman to receive a fellow award from the American Society of Agronomy.

Rosalind Morris, who holds a doctorate in the field of agriculture, received the award in August at the society's annual meeting, held this year at Colorado University at Fort Collins.

The award, the highest honor the society gives, was started in 1924.

Morris said she was pleased because she was given the award as a scientist, and not as a "woman" scientist.

Morris's field is cytogenetics. This is the study of crop cells and the way characteristics are inherited.

As part of a research team at UNL's Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources, Morris studies wheat, one of the major crops of this state. She said basic genetic information is needed to develop wheat with winter hardiness and disease resistance.

"Without the information, it's a matter of luck if you come out with a good variety," Morris said.

Morris said her interest in agronomy began during her childhood on a 50-acre fruit farm in Canada. She attended

Term paper...

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work will be "used for research only" and not "for submission to an academic institution." The Post Office must prove that the company had knowledge of the paper being used unethically by the student, Ziebarth said.

"THAT'S THE hard part," he said, "but nobody's kidding anybody. It (the contract) is just a sham. They're just closing their eyes."

According to Ziebarth, the papers cost too much just to be used as research. They cost about \$5 to \$6 per page from a company, he said, and anywhere from \$8 to \$12 per page from private individuals.

Ziebarth said the operation is illegal because it's unlawful to seek money through the mail through false representation. The term paper companies are giving false representation to the students who, in turn, give it to the professor, he said.

Ziebarth added; "Plagiarism is illegal on any campus I know about."

The UNL Student Code Of Conduct warns that using someone else's work as one's own can lead to discipline. A professor would have to bring the matter to the attention of authorities.

A HEARING would be held and the student, if found in violation of the policy, could be given a warning, put on academic probation or suspended from the university.

The professor in a given class would determine any grading penalty related to the use of plagiarized material.

Meanwhile, the sellers are close-lipped about the issue. John McGhee, president of Collegiate Research Systems, New York, would not grant an interview to the Daily Nebraskan.

However, in an interview earlier in the year with "Nutshell," McGhee said his company could not sell materials to be turned in for college credit because "That's unconstitutional."

State Supreme Court hears cases' appeal

By Associated Press

The State Supreme Court will hear back-to-back oral arguments next Monday in the cases of two men who are appealing death sentences, stemming from their separate convictions for first degree murder.

Robert E. Williams was sentenced to death by a three judge panel on two counts of first degree murder in the August 10, 1977, slayings of Patricia McGarry and Catherine Brooks, both 25, of Lincoln. He was also convicted of first degree sexual assault.

Williams' attorneys have argued in briefs that he deserves a new trial because his constitutional rights were abused through misconduct by police and prosecutors, including the alleged withholding of evidence that might have helped his case. Williams further argued that a confession was improperly admitted as evidence and that the trial should have been moved from Lancaster County because of extensive pretrial publicity.

Richard Dean Holtan, sentenced to death by a three judge panel for the 1975 slaying of Omaha bartender Larry Loder, has already seen one unsuccessful appeal through the state judiciary system and the U.S. Supreme Court.

Holtan now wants the State Supreme Court to grant him post-conviction relief. He argues, among other things, that he should have a new trial because he didn't have effective assistance of counsel when the case was initially before the Douglas County District Court.

Holtan, who was on the FBI's list of 10 most wanted fugitives prior to his arrest, argued that he wouldn't have pleaded "no contest" to the charge of first degree murder if his attorney had given him proper advice concerning the case.

Ontario Agricultural College, and was a graduate assistant at Cornell University in New York.

One professor she assisted was a Nebraskan who told her of an opening in a new cytogenetics department at NU, she said. In 1947, she began assisting Dr. E. F. Frolik, head of the department, who was working with the effects of radiation on corn.

As Frolik moved into administration, Morris took over more of the research. In the 1950's she began studying wheat.

Morris said she spends one-third of her time teaching and two-thirds researching.

Although she would like to have more time for research and writing, she said it's good to keep in contact with young minds.

Morris is president-elect of the Nebraska Academy of Sciences, but she said she isn't the first woman to hold that position. Morris said Dr. Elda Walker of the NU Botany department was president of the academy about 60 years ago.

In 1920 Walker helped form a Nebraska chapter of Sigma Delta Epsilon, a national organization for women in science.

In recent years, the Nebraska chapter has separated from the national organization. It is still active locally,

Research Assistants of Los Angeles, which ran an ad last week in the Daily Nebraskan, is one of the largest research companies in the country. Vice-president Michael Spencer would not speak to the Daily Nebraskan. "I've been through this a hundred times," he said.

As for suggestions on how to curb the use of ghost-written material on campus, Ziebarth offered the following tips to professors:

- Assign term papers sparingly.
- When assigned, monitor work and research carefully.
- Make an oral presentation accompanying the paper mandatory.

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however. Morris said members include UNL graduate students as well as professors.

"It's a good way to get in contact with other women in science. We can find out what problems there are, and help each other," Morris said.

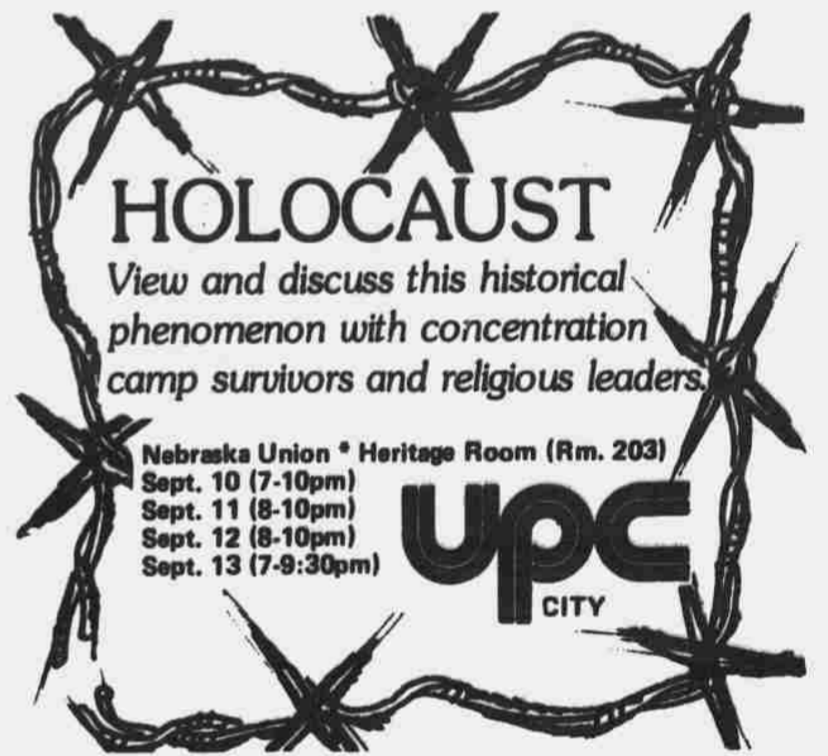
Last year, the group gathered a panel of women scientists from all over the country for a workshop. Funds were provided by a grant from the National Science Foundation.

Morris said women in agriculture are less isolated than in the past. This year the American Society of Agronomy held a "Women in Agriculture" seminar that generated a lot of interest from men and women.

Morris said she was lucky to begin graduate work during World War II. If there hadn't been a shortage of men, she said she probably would not have been able to enter Cornell's plant breeding department.

Although there are few women on the staff at the Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources, she said she has not felt any discrimination from the men she works with.

She added that this was demonstrated by the fact that it was one of her male colleagues in the department that nominated her for the award.



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