

Big Eight council passes Pan-Africanism proposal

By Patti Gallagher

Pan-Africanism was the unifying idea in a Big-Eight council on black student government this weekend at UNL. The resolution to adopt the idea of Pan-Africanism, proposed by the UNL delegation, Afrikan Peoples Union (APU), was both the opening and closing topic of discussion. It was not passed.

Pan Africanism is a general term referring to black people from all nations of the world, and their unification.

Other resolutions discussed included initiating "a diverse membership" into all Big Eight black student groups, improving the procedures of their councils, and recruiting black high school students to their groups.

The council was made up of six of the Big Eight schools, with each school sending a three member delegation to represent its individual black student group.

According to Roshan Magnus, of Oklahoma University national chairman of the council, this weekend's council was for "the purpose of bettering our conditions as black students on predominately white campuses."

Pan-Africanism, according to Doreen Charles, chairman of UNL's APU, is a term referring to "unification and individualism of all black people."

Charles said Pan-Africanism is the thrust for bringing together all black people through the entire world, not just American blacks.

If Pan-Africanism were passed as a resolution, it would become law to fight for the causes that Pan-Africanism advocates.

The Oklahoma delegation expressed much the same in support of Pan-Africanism. "When you got more people, you got more power," one OU student said.

Hubert Brown, parliamentarian for the council from UNL took the opposite view in adopting the Pan-African resolution. Although he said he was not against the idea of world unity for blacks, he said he was opposed to the

term "Pan-Africanism."

"We can't organize on race alone," he said, inferring that the resolution was fighting for vague causes, defined only be a common skin color, "but on organizational purposes."

"In actions, more than anything else, we identify who and what we are," Brown said.

However, a UNL student present at the council, who spoke as the UNL's representative on Pan-Africanism said the Big Eight needed to adopt Pan-Africanism because blacks are severed in the Midwest.

Hodari Sababu compared the Midwest black student situation with that of coastal campuses, which tend to include more nationalities of blacks in their local efforts.

Sababu said that Pan-Africanism would serve as a "removal of discrimination against any black."

A student from Emporia State University in Kansas, supported Brown's ideas, Joseph Gilkey, Jr., also said he "loves the ideas of Pan-Africanism, but the name is going to kill you."

Gilkey said "The administration is ruling. They control control." He referred to the white man as the administration who make the decisions that affect the black students on their campuses.

Gilkey said that the label of Pan-Africanism will serve to separate the unity that has been fought for, and that the other people, referring to the white man, "don't understand the word."

He received an ovation from the council when he concluded his plea not to pass the NU resolution.

Charles responded that failing the resolution just because "the white folks won't like it," would be wrong.

Another resolution proposed by NU included the term "diversified membership." According to Charles, the author of the resolution, many international black students are excluded from their own school's organizations, and these organizations should adopt a more world wide membership.

She said this diversified membership has "greatly increased the effectiveness of our organizations," in the case of NU's black student government groups.

Charles said that NU has made its efforts at uniting all nationalities of blacks in changing the name of the UNL black student group from Afro-American Collegiate Union to Afrikan Peoples Union, and including more black students from different nations in their programs.

A resolution proposed by the University of Oklahoma dealt with recruiting black high school students to their own campus organizations. This proposal received some debate on how actual recruitment could be accomplished and how to adopt it throughout the Big-Eight.

Arms race topic

The coordinator of the Rocky Flats action group involved in support for nuclear disarmament, will be speaking on "Human Costs of the Arms Race" 7:30 p.m. Tuesday in the Nebraska Union Ballroom.

Pam Solo has worked for seven years on peace and justice issues and is currently the coordinator of the Rocky Flats project for the American Friends Service Committee and the Fellowship of Reconciliation.

Solo recently returned from a 2-week visit to the Soviet Union discussing with Soviet groups the arms race and the conversion of military industry to peace time usage.

Admission is free.

Public input needed in industry-architect

Henry Sanoff, professor of architecture at North Carolina State University spoke at the Sheldon Art Gallery Auditorium Thursday as part of the College of Architecture's Hyde Speakers series.

Sanoff's lecture titled "Social Architecture: A New Delivery System" dealt with the broader theme of the Hyde Speakers Series which is "Professional Accountability: Responsiveness to Human Environment Futures."

"People who are affected by design decisions should be involved with the design decisions," Sanoff said.

People who use the environment have a different expertise than the architect who designs, Sanoff said, adding the problems how to integrate these experts.

Sanoff maintains it is essential for people to understand the value of their environment, which is why he believes "public education (about architecture) is a primary concern for the industry."

Architects no longer should be associated with the blueprint but with diagnostic ability, he said.

Sanoff told the architecture students, "No one is really held accountable for the physical environment. If in fact, architects were to become accountable for their actions . . . this would insure a higher quality of environment."

Sanoff also gave a slide presentation describing various community projects he has taken part in. One project involved a small town in North Carolina named Murfreesboro. The project was designed to develop a process to train people to solve community problems, Sanoff explained.

Members in the community were actively involved since they decided the particular goals of the town and the strategies to attain those goals. He said the community's citizens were encouraged to take specific walks in order to notice the character of the area affected and the accessibility. In this way, Sanoff said, "Residents themselves used the site plans to point out the serious problems."

Sanoff has taught at North Carolina State since 1966. His latest book "Designing With Citizen Participation" deals with citizen participation in the design process and community development.

He has written and practiced extensively in his profession and is best known for his concern with design methods and processes, and architectural programming. Sanoff's recent work, "Design Games" was the focus of a mini-course workshop conducted through the Department of Architecture on Friday.

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