

Photo by Mitch Hrdlicka

Associate Prof. John Lynch

## Lynch: 'Radical' label an unusual one for me

By Kent Warneke

An associate professor of Life Sciences said he has had the unusual experience—for him—of being called a radical.

John Lynch has been extensively involved in past weeks with the petition endorsed by UNL Arts and Sciences faculty members to dissolve the NU Central Administration.

"I'm not a big-city-type of person. I like small towns and the accompanying rural attitudes and I am a conservative to the point that I have been called a redneck," Lynch said.

"But I felt I had to do something because the things that I enjoy—teaching, research and education—in a broad sense, were being threatened," Lynch said.

Lynch was born in Iowa and reared in Illinois. He received his bachelor's and master's degrees from the University of Illinois and his Ph.D. from the University of Kansas before coming to UNL 10 years ago.

"My special area of research is in tropical America, near the equator, so it didn't really make much difference where in the United States I was in that respect," Lynch said. "But I did want to be close to a major museum with a significant portion on South America, and I can reach it in less than a day's drive at the University of Kansas."

MUSEUMS OFFER a controlled collection that frees a piece of time that does not restrict researchers to the present, Lynch said.

Lynch said ideally he likes to travel to South America once a year to work on different projects. Hopefully, he said, he will spend the 1981-82 school year there, provided he receives federal support required for this type of project.

However, the proposed trip to South America is still in the future and Lynch is committed toward what he calls "an investment in my future."

"I have seen the financial crisis that is

facing UNL and I feel it is incomprehensible that it could have gotten to this point," Lynch said.

Lynch said in his department, many "super" young scientists have been hired and the mid-career types, of which he is included, are expecting a great deal from them.

"The time spent getting these young people and working with them is an investment for the future and if the university cannot keep them here I want to know why," Lynch said.

Lynch said he thinks many people may not realize UNL is a Class I institute, which means it has a doctoral program. Consequently, expectations of the faculty are great. UNO is a Class II institute, which has no doctoral program, Lynch said.

"I DON'T ARGUE WITH the fact UNO deserves an increase in its budget," Lynch said. "But I find it truly disgusting that the flagship campus (UNL) is at the bottom of the heap."

UNL has the biggest total budget, but in terms of percentage of increase, UNL is on the bottom, Lynch explained.

"NU President Ronald Roskens said that it is up to the people in Nebraska as to what kind of a university they want," Lynch said. "It is possible that we do not have a population great enough to support a Class I institute."

"Teaching isn't just standing in front of 400 kids giving a lecture, but many people think of it that way," Lynch said. "I work on a lot of various papers, but I will always stop whatever I'm doing to help a student with his/her problem and try to work something out."

Work behind the scenes on things such as university committees is all part of being a teacher, Lynch said.

"Even starting a revolution if you have to," he added.

A cartoonist by hobby, Lynch had a cartoon printed in the Daily Nebraskan last week and said he might submit more.

## 'Musty' water corrected

The Lincoln water department received about 50 phone calls Thursday from residents who complained that their water had a strange taste.

Rich Robinson of the water department said too much anhydrous ammonia was added to the water at the city's treatment plant at Ashland.

Anhydrous ammonia is added to the city's water to chemically bind the chlorine to the water, Robinson said. However, earlier this week, an equipment malfunc-

tion caused too much of the substance to be added to the water, accounting for the taste, which Robinson described as "musty."

Robinson said the corrections have been made and the water should be back to normal by Friday. He also said the level of ammonia was not high enough to cause health problems.

Area hospitals, including the University Health Center, reported no reports of water-related illness.



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