

Committee to study toxins

An NU steering committee is studying ways for the university to help meet the national need for toxic substance analysis, the committee chairman said.

"The university has many people who are actively involved in toxicology at UNL, UNO and at the NU Medical Center," Dr. Kenneth Barker, committee chairman and dean of graduate studies and research at the Med Center, said. "The committee is cataloging toxicology research and related classes and studying the possibility of organizing an interdepartmental toxicology program."

Barker said the steering committee's study is in its initial stage. The final report is expected in six months, he said.

The nine-member committee met for the second time last week in UNL's chemistry department. Professor Michael Gross, director of UNL's Midwest Center for Mass Spectrometry, explained the chemistry department's sophisticated

chemical analyzing equipment, and discussed its possible application to toxicology.

"The Center for Mass Spectrometry is one of the best, if not the best, in the country," Gross said. It will soon be receiving new equipment that will increase the number and type of samples it can analyze, he said.

One piece of equipment, a mass spectrometer, can detect the presence of certain chemicals in the parts per billion and parts per trillion range, he said.

The mass spectrometer was purchased with a grant from the National Science Foundation, which stipulated that the grant be used in part for collaborative scientific research. An inter-campus toxicology program done with the Eppley Cancer Institute's cooperation would be a collaborative effort, Gross said.

In the future, students might see the effects of the toxicology study with the offering of an upper level toxicology class, Barker said.

Awards deadline looms

Each year, UNL offers students the chance to nominate one of their professors for consideration for the "Distinguished Teaching Awards." The deadline for this year's nominations is Feb. 1.

All full-time faculty members are eligible to receive the award.

Nominations should be made on the basis of expertise in the field, the ability to communicate that expertise, the ability to stimulate and inspire academic endeavor, and concern for the students.

Students can pick up nomination forms at the Teaching and Learning Center and return them to the dean's office of their college. Nominations will be reviewed by a committee of faculty members, undergraduate students and alumni.

Teachers receiving the award get a medallion, \$1,000 and recognition for excellence in teaching.

Larry Andrews, assistant vice chancellor for academic affairs, is handling nominations.

Two UNL ag professors recognized in ceremonies

Two UNL agriculture professors have been honored in separate ceremonies recently.

William E. Splinter, professor and head of the Department of Agricultural Engineering, has been elected to the four-man executive committee of the American Association of Engineering Societies' Board of Governors.

The AAES had its organizational meeting in Washington, D.C., earlier this month. The group will represent the formal association of more than 1 million engineers belonging to 20 professional societies.

The group will bring together the spectrum of disciplines within the engineering profession like the American Bar Association and the American Medical Association do for their professions, Splinter said.

A UNL professor and extension veterinarian was named Veterinarian of the Year at the 83rd annual convention

of the Nebraska Veterinary Medicine Association in Kearney.

Alex Hogg received the honor for his work in establishing better lines of communication between the university and practicing veterinarians throughout the state. Hogg has been on the NU extension staff for seven years.

He said he wants to continue helping practicing veterinarians with continuing education so they can meet the demands of livestock producers in today's markets.

He also expressed mixed emotions about the proposed College of Veterinary Science at UNL. He expressed concern about the possibility of over-producing veterinarians, but added that there is a need for more veterinarians in the state.

"If we overproduce, it will be bad, but business will grow if more veterinarians are available. The livestock producers will seek them out if they are available," Hogg said.

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POLITICAL ADVERTISEMENT

WASHINGTON REPORT

"We will be at war with Russia in thirty days." With knowing looks that whisper went from one Member to the next in the cloak-rooms of Congress. The time was the spring of 1948.

A few days later some of us had a visit with Admiral Hillenkoetter, then Chief of the Central Intelligence Agency. This organization heads up America spy and secret service efforts. As such, its Chief is the best informed man in America of what goes on in all countries.

Admiral Hillenkoetter talked to us off-the-record. That meant that we could not go out and promptly report what he told us. This off-the-record technique is regularly used (and abused) in Washington.

Now three years have gone by. So the off-the-record limitation is out-dated. What he told us would have amazed the American people. But if he had spoken out publicly he would have gotten the axe one way or another. If the Members who heard him had done so, they would have been cunningly discredited.

WHY? Because Admiral Hillenkoetter, who knew what was going on, declared that signs of offensive war by Russia in the foreseeable future were completely lacking. Answering our question he detailed a mass of factual data from his secret sources indicating just the opposite situation. Developments since that time have proven his facts.

Why did the war drums beat so loudly in America at that time? For one thing, the Administration wanted to put through a draft law for compulsory military service. They wanted the people frightened — so that Congress would be bludgeoned into ending freedom for our youth. The scare worked.

Hitler and Mussolini found the cry "the Russians are coming" the perfect weapon with which to enslave the people. But now we know the real peril to those people was not in Moscow. It was in their own capital cities. Will we learn by their experience before it is too late?

—copy of letter released by Representative Howard Buffet, Nebr.'s 2d Dist. Sept. 15, '51
the above letter was published in a Benson Nebr. (Omaha suburb) newspaper then reprinted for wide distribution.

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That worst outcrop of herd life, the military system, which I abhor. Heroism on command, senseless violence, and alas the loathsome nonsense that goes by the name of patriotism — how passionately I hate them! I would rather be hacked to pieces than take part in such an abominable business. My opinion of the human race is high enough that I believe this bogey would have disappeared long ago had the sound sense of people not been systematically corrupted by the commercial and political interests acting thru the school and the press.
—Albert Einstein

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