

ASUN to hear Chicano discrimination complaints

By Rose Fitzpatrick

Problems of discrimination faced at UNL by students of Mexican descent researched in a paper by Rinaldo Lovato will be presented at the ASUN meeting Wednesday.

Lovato, a graduate sociology student, said students have complained of discrimination applying for work-study, in the classroom and in other organizations.

Lovato said he and other Chicano and Chicana students hope to get greater minority student participation on the senate.

Leroy Casodos, an undergraduate sociology major, said they would like to see a change in the ASUN constitution because the constitution was drawn up together before minorities came to campus.

One of the main constitutional changes should be in the voting procedure, Casados said.

Casados said native American and Chicano students with non-Anglo names won't get elected.

Lovato and Casados are working also on a new organization, United Chicanos and Chicanas of Aztlan, whose purpose is to address issues.

Lovato said that through the organization they want to bring a better understanding to the majority students of the Chicano and Chicana students.

Tolerance

"We can live with different religious groups in society with no threats but with a tolerance of religion. Ethnicity can be tolerated and lived with as long as everyone understands," Lovato said.

Lovato said the purpose of this organization is political, to bring about understanding and to allow individuals to develop leadership and to participate in the community as a whole.

This organization is not designed to split up other Mexican-American or Chicano organizations but to allow students to articulate political ideas, Lovato said.

Isolation

Lovato said the off-center location of the Culture Center serves as a means of isolating minority students.

He said an office in a location such as the women's resource would get more recognition, so the majority students know that it exists.

In his research paper, Lovato contends that assimilation is a process of rejection for minority people and immigrants to the U.S.

"It causes self-hatred and rejection, the feeling of being inferior when in fact your culture is not inferior," he said.

As individuals of Mexican descent get into the university system they identify more as Chicano or Chicana than Mexican-American, Lovato said. This is often the result of discrimination.

Reaction...

Continued from page 2

Prokop said that one of the reasons Larsen may have for considering other employment is "a certain conflict between the Arts and Sciences college and the administration units."

"You can't go against your bosses," he said.

John Parsons, ASUN senator and candidate for the 1980-81 ASUN presidency, said he thought Larsen's interview at Wyoming stemmed from UNL budgetary problems and from the Arts and Sciences faculty petition to abolish NU Central Administration.

"Larsen is respected on campus and also is not afraid to speak his views," Parsons said.

"The implication is there" of a difference with administration, Parsons said. There are some things you can read into it but people won't come out and say, he added.

Wessels said that Larsen is sensitive to the students' needs in the College of Arts and Sciences, although these

views may not be popular.

She said this job is difficult because he must deal with a "year to year programmatic existence." She also said that it is frustrating for Larsen to tell faculty they may have to do with less pay or less research.

Wessels said she would be discouraged if Larsen left because "he works diligently and consistently in what he feels is the best for the college."


Prokop offered reasons for Strong's and Sample's reasons for applying at other universities, suggesting that many administrators may not perceive the job they have as what they wanted it to be. He cited Strong as an example of this and added that he is originally from Oregon.

Concerning Sample's interview, Prokop said that Sample may want to be directly involved in academics. His current job at the NU systems office is not involved with academics, he said.



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