

Budget practices questioned

Officials find NU funding discrepancy

By Gordon Johnson

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This year's NU budget request includes \$157,000 to cover an expected loss of federal funds although the Legislature has already appropriated money to cover those losses, according to correspondence between the university and the state budget office.

The situation is analogous to asking a friend for a \$5 loan to buy a book one week and then asking for another \$5 to buy the same book a week later, according to David Wagaman, budget analyst with the state budget division of the Dept. of Administrative Services.

When the 1974-75 budget was under consideration, Wagaman said NU administrators thought the federal government would cut \$471,000 in capitation funds from the College of Dentistry budget. The university thereupon requested and received a state appropriation to cover those losses.

However, the funds never were eliminated, and have only been cut in increments since 1974-75, Wagaman said.

The \$157,000 is the difference between a \$366,981 capitation fund appropriation in 1979-80 and \$209,179 the dentistry college expects to get from the federal government in 1980-81.

Shift

According to correspondence from Richard Bradley, dean of the College of Dentistry, the capitation funds

were shifted in 1974-75 from the state-aided portion of the budget to the portion not receiving state aid. However, the capitation funds were returned this year to the state-aided portion, which is paid out of the state general fund.

Wagaman said the NU administration's justification for the budget change was that the dentistry college moved from UNL to the NU Medical Center, and the center classifies capitation funds in the state-aided portion.

Capitation funds are funds administered by the U.S. Dept. of Health, Education and Welfare and used for medical and medical-related programs. The funds are allocated to universities on a per-student basis.

In this year's budget request, the NU Board of Regents asked the Legislature to appropriate \$157,000 to cover the expected loss of capitation funds. The money would go to the College of Dentistry which is under the administration of UNMC.

Pull something over

Neal Vanselow, chancellor of the NU Medical Center said he did not like the implication that the university was trying to pull something over on the Legislature. He said the administration has been completely open with Gov. Charles Thone in explaining that the capitation funds were previously appropriated in 1974-75.

According to Wagaman, nothing was said to the governor until Wagaman found the funds had been previously appropriated last November.

Donald Leuenberger, state budget officer, said Gov. Thone had a lot of questions when he heard about the discrepancies.

"Thone had some pretty hard questions, I'll put it that way," Leuenberger said. He refused to comment further on Gov. Thone's reaction.

Gov. Thone was unavailable for comment.

"After I raised the question, they (NU administration) were out front," Wagaman said. He said that if he had not asked the university about the discrepancy, it possibly could have gotten to the appropriations committee without anyone noticing it.

Continued on Page 2

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Some architecture majors unaware that 4-year degree not accredited

By Michelle Carr

Six of eight architecture students interviewed by the Daily Nebraskan said they did not know that the College of Architecture four-year degree is not accredited.

However, Cecil Steward, dean of the College of Architecture, said students have an adequate opportunity to find out.

The four-year bachelor of science degree in Architectural Studies is not accredited, Steward said, but the six-year master of architecture degree is.

The four-year degree is not accredited because National Architecture Accrediting Board members believe four years is not enough time for a student to learn all the skills needed to become an architect.

Steward said that very few four-year architecture degrees are accredited in the United States.

Students who graduate with an unaccredited degree may run into trouble when attempting to register as an architect in another state, Steward said. Because the four-year degree is not accredited, students who apply for registration in other states may have to study an addition-

al two years at an accredited college or intern with a registered architect for an extended period of time, he said.

Required internship

Currently architecture graduates with a four or six-year degree are required to work with a registered architect for a specified number of years.

In Nebraska, a graduate with a four-year degree must work five years, according to Arthur Duerschner, executive director of the Nebraska Board of Examiners for Engineers and Architects. A graduate with a six-year degree is required to work three years before becoming a registered architect, he said.

Only three years of the four-year degree are accepted in Nebraska, Duerschner said, but this requirement varies in other states.

Gordon Hardle, a junior architecture major from Fullerton, said he was unaware that the four-year degree is not accredited. Hardle, who is planning to receive a four-year degree, said he "took it for granted" that the degree is accredited.

Continued on Page 7

CFA increases paper's allocation

By Kathy Stokebrand

The Committee for Fees Allocation voted Thursday to increase the Daily Nebraskan's tentative allocation from \$28,960 to \$32,900. This will leave \$800 in student fees for a contingency fund.

Originally the committee cut staff benefits and editorial salaries. Staff benefits include insurance for two full-time permanent staff members and two staff dinners per year. The committee said student fees could not be used for the dinners. The insurance costs were funded, however.

Editorial salaries pay editors, reporters and photographers. Part of the increase was based upon two clerical employee salary increases.

The increase was also based upon the paper's allocation last year, when the Daily Nebraskan received \$32,900.

Gordon Johnson, legislative bureau chief and Randy Essex, associate news editor for the paper, said the reporters need the financial support they receive for their work at the paper, although it doesn't come near the minimum wage level.

A cut in the paper's budget request would mean something else would have to be cut, Essex said, adding that reporters could be lost "to hamburger joints and gas stations" for employment where they would at least receive

minimum wage. It would be discriminatory if students couldn't work for the paper because they couldn't afford to, Essex said.

CFA member Steve Speer questioned where journalism students would get their portfolio material if they didn't work for the paper. Rocky Strunk, Daily Nebraskan editor in chief said reporters might get their material printed in other papers or in classes.

CFA member John Parsons said the committee was justified in cutting the staff parties. If news is the last thing to go if the budget cut is approved, then the Publications Board should make necessary changes in the budget somewhere to keep the five-day publication, he said.

Mark Bowen, chairman of the board, said the paper could go elsewhere and become independent of the university. Then, he said, it would not be primarily university news though. The paper would concentrate on the audience of its downtown advertisers, Bowen also said the board might decide to go back to a four-day publication.

Anne Shank, Daily Nebraskan business manager, said the paper is currently losing money on the five-day publication which was started at the beginning of the current school year.

CFA member Rocky Yapp III said he would feel bad if the board evaluated the situation and decided to go back to a four-day publication, because he said he felt students want the extra published paper each week.



Photo by Mark Billingsley

Despite snow cover and less than spring-like temperatures, this robin has managed to stay fairly fat foraging for berries in such places as this protected corner of the Nebraska Union. This bird even took advantage of Thursday's warmer weather by grabbing a few worms in freshly thawed ground nearby.

inside friday

Full Speed Ahead: Tom Petty and the Heartbreakers' new album, *Dann the Torpedos* fires up record reviewer. . . . Page 8
They'll never take me alive: The Progressive Student Union has organized a demonstration against draft registration. . . . Page 9
Who Are You?: Weekend basketball matches will determine Nebraska's opponent in the opening round of the conference playoffs. . . . Page 10