

Union Board approves five-year plan

By Patti Gallagher

After one year in the planning stage, months in the writing stage, and three weeks in the discussion stage, the Nebraska Union Board passed their five-year plan Wednesday night.

The plan was approved 9-0-1, with new faculty appointee Robert Stowers, associate professor of architecture, abstaining.

The plan was tabled last week after presentation of an

ASUN resolution which would prohibit board action on the plan until the ASUN Budget and Fees Committee had one week to review it.

ASUN passed a resolution Wednesday recommending the plan be advanced to the Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs Richard Armstrong.

According to Union Board President Maynard Krantz, the ASUN resolution neither supported nor opposed the five-year plan, because after consideration, the Budget and Fees Committee concurred that one week was in-

sufficient time to take a stand.

Proposed changes

The five-year plan, presented to the board by the Nebraska Union Planning Committee on March 26, is an incremental plan for renovations in the union. Major proposals in the plan include converting the North Crib into a fast food operation, eliminating the bowling alley, consolidating the University Bookstore into one unit and switching ownership of the bookstore from the university to the union.

According to Union Director Daryl Swanson, the plan is far from complete. Although approved by the board, the plan must still go to the vice chancellor for student affairs, chancellor, and the NU Board of Regents.

The board also discussed room allocations for student organizations in the union, with three groups vying for first floor space in room 117.

The board's operation committee had proposed that the Student-YWCA and the University Program Council Culture Center occupy the space, and the UPC-City remain in its present location in room 221.

After hearing representatives from each group and debate by board members, the vote was 6-4 to keep the room assignments as initially proposed.

Finals week schedule

The board also voted to continue their discounted drinks program in the unions during finals week. Ten-cent coffee and tea will be available May 5-9 with the closing times extended from 11:00 p.m. to 1:00 a.m. at the city union, and from 10:30 p.m. to midnight at the east union.

In the director's report, Swanson said utility costs from July 1 to March have been down 15 percent from the projected figures. He said the savings amounted to approximately \$20,000, and was due primarily to mild winter weather.

Swanson also said that gross sales in the unions for March increased more than 20 percent compared to March of last year. The figure was derived from sales tax reports, he said.

In other action, the board discussed a proposed Programs and Activities Council by-law change. PAC presently requires the presence of three union board members, three ASUN representatives and one member from each UPC group to have a quorum. The by-law change proposes that attendance of all members not be mandatory for a quorum vote.



Photo by Mark Billingsley

Fork in the road

Sometime we will all have to make the decision that will affect the rest of our lives. In doing so, we struggle to determine which direction to take. See today's Fathom section for more on decision-making.

Officials criticize plan but call comment premature

By Patti Gallagher

At last week's Nebraska Union Board meeting, the board's five-year plan drew criticism from UNL officials on the proposed Nebraska Union ownership of the University Bookstore.

Wednesday, the officials seemed tight-lipped in restating their concerns because, according to one, discussion on the issue is "a little premature."

UNL Business Manager Ray Coffey said at last Wednesday's board meeting that he did not agree with the idea of union ownership of the bookstore.

Coffey also expressed concern that the profits estimated in the five-year plan for a consolidated and union-owned store were too high.

However, in a Wednesday morning interview with Coffey, University Bookstore Manager Larry Behrends and Director of UNL Support Services Joseph Pospichal, Coffey said that criticizing the proposed bookstore ownership was not appropriate because the proposal is only in the planning stage.

University ownership required

However, Coffey said, a university-operated book supplier is mandated by state law. According to Coffey, the law says the NU Board of Regents will sell textbooks at a cost not exceeding the publisher's list price.

He said that the regents possibly could grant the union ownership of the bookstore, but that the price ceiling on textbooks would still be required.

Pospichal later said, "We have to stand by his (Coffey's) 'no comment' at this time. Maybe our personal feelings have to come second fiddle to that."

Pospichal added that "discussion needs to be done through the vice chancellors."

Wednesday night the board passed the five-year plan, which will now go to Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs Richard Armstrong for approval. The plan was tabled last week after ASUN presented a resolution prohibiting board action on the plan until their Budget and Fees Committee had one week to review it.

Resolution passed

Also, ASUN passed a resolution advising moving the plan to Armstrong. According to Budget and Fees Committee Chairman Eric Torrison, the resolution has a neutral tone.

He said the committee wouldn't decide either to support or oppose the plan in its entirety, because committee members remained split on some aspects of the plan.

He said that much of the committee members' questions have centered on the proposed union bookstore ownership.

Torrison said that he and ASUN President Renee Wessels met Tuesday with three persons, including Behrends and Pospichal, who voiced their objection to the union bookstore ownership. Torrison said it seemed strange that the officials would speak freely with Wessels and him,

yet would not make their comments public.

The Budget and Fees Committee met

Charges filed against four in series of Cather burglaries

By Suzanne Sayed

Four Lincoln residents, including one UNL student face charges of burglary and receiving stolen goods for a series of burglaries in which items valued at more than \$2,000 were stolen from two floors in Cather Hall, campus police said.

Brett Willingham, 19, of 420 Cather Hall, was arrested April 15 on burglary charges when UNL police entered and searched his room and found several of the stolen items, along with door screws from the rooms which he had allegedly broken into.

Nicholas Huenick, 20 and Dan Anderson, 19, both of 2753 Candlewood Lane, were arrested on April 16 on charges of receiving stolen articles.

After their investigation, police developed suspects and obtained search warrants, according to UNL police investigator, Randy Kleager. The burglaries apparently occurred during spring break.

The remainder of the stolen articles were found at 8301 Elizabeth on April 17. Robert Poutre, 19, was also arrested on charges of receiving stolen goods, Kleager said. Although no warrant was obtained for the search of the house,

Tuesday night with the five-year plan's author, John Kreuzer, Torrison said, and he cleared up many of their questions.

Poutre cooperated in recovering the stolen items.

The burglaries were reported April 6 and 7 by residents of 12th and fourth floors of Cather Hall. Police suspected the burglaries might be related, according to Bob Fey, UNL police investigator.

Joseph Junge reported \$1,160 worth of items stolen from his room in 1214 Cather. Included were a stereo system and speakers.

A digital clock radio, a suede jacket and several miscellaneous items valued at \$229 were stolen from Michael Bennett and Brian DeBrie in 419 Cather Hall.

Kevin Trembly and Ron Henkel also reported \$430 worth of items missing from their room, 418 Cather. A typewriter, calculator, tape recorder, popcorn popper and miscellaneous food items were among the stolen articles.

Fey said a screwdriver was used to gain entry into the rooms and that the burglar had broken the locks to each door in a similar fashion.

Willingham, Huenick, and Anderson were arraigned in County Court April 17 and will appear for a second hearing on April 28, according to County Attorney John Colburn. Poutre will appear today at 2 p.m.