

Figures indicate 2,276 favor formation of SSA

By Patfi Gallagher

Thursday final figures on last week's petition drive to form a State Student Association indicated that 2,276 signatures were obtained.

By last Friday, 1,674 students had signed the petition. According to Nette Nelson, chair of the Government Liaison Committee, between 20 and 25 will be turned in today.

An SSA body is composed of students from all the state colleges and universities that lobbies for statewide student concerns.

UNL members of the SSA will meet with other student representatives on Jan. 22. The State College Board of Trustees meet in Lincoln on that day, Nelson said, and will provide a convenient opportunity to meet with other

college leaders.

Nelson explained that the Government Liaison Committee and the SSA are not the same group. GLC is the UNL student lobbying body, she said, whereas the SSA will lobby for issues of state concern.

After being further organized, the SSA will elect its own chair and be completely separate from GLC, she said.

Nelson said a second petition drive will be taken during January for two weeks. The drive is to get student support behind an SSA, she said, and no specific number of signatures is being sought.

Other SSA activities planned for next semester include a visit from Missouri student lobbyist, contact with every student organization at UNL and condensing the SSA

fact sheets that have been distributed to explain the association.

Nelson said that because of the fast pace at which an SSA is being formed, many student groups on campus have not yet been contacted. By going to each group "One-on-one," she predicted additional support could be picked up for the association.

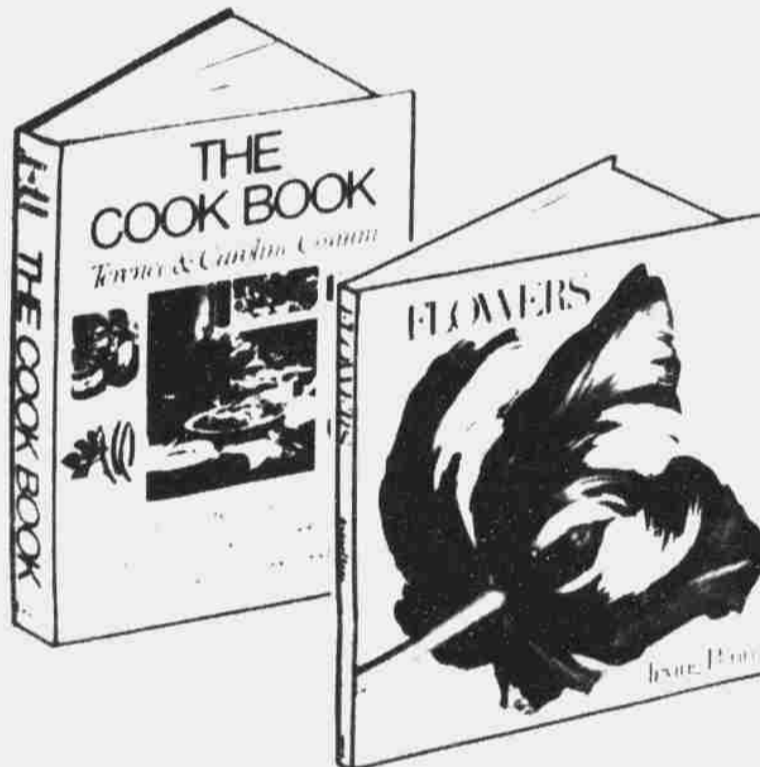
GLC members have spearheaded the efforts to form an SSA, during this semester. In addition to the petition drive, other efforts to form an SSA have included visits by the national chairman of the United States Student Association and the director of the Kansas State Student Association, meetings with students from the other NU campuses and meetings with state legislators and university officials.

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