

Regents vote to end student president salaries

By D. Eric Kircher

The UNL student president chosen during the March 1981 elections will be the last paid ASUN president unless the NU Board of Regents reverses its decision to eliminate the salary.

The regents Saturday passed by 6-2 a policy resolution introduced by NU Regent Kermit Hansen of Omaha that prohibits salaries for student presidents. They can be repaid for regental-related expenses. Student presidents elected before Sept. 1 can receive salaries until the end of their terms. Regents John Payne of Kearney and Robert Koefoot of Grand Island opposed the resolution.

Hansen said he thinks Nebraska's constitution forbids salaries for student presidents who are also non-voting regents.

"The compensation comes from that one combined job," Hansen said.

The constitution requires campus regents be the elected student presidents. It prohibits salaries for regents.

Hansen said he disagrees with NU Counsel Richard Wood's opinion that the salaries are legal. Wood has said the offices of student president and regent are separate and the student fees pay for only the president's duties.

"I still stand on the opinion I gave the board last summer," Wood said.

Although the resolution prohibits compensation for any purpose from any funds under the control of the NU Board of Regents, Wood said he interprets it as allowing work-study pay, scholarships and other financial aid.

Regent Edward Schwartzkopf said he preferred involvement from more students.

"I really liked the format we had before the student regents," Schwartzkopf said. "I think we ought to pass that responsibility around to other students."

Before Nebraskans approved in 1974 the constitutional amendment providing for student regents, six or eight students discussed important issues before the meet-

ings, Schwartzkopf said.

Payne reminded the board that separating the president and regent offices would require a constitutional amendment.

Although student regents had raised the possibility of a student challenge of a salary prohibition, Schmidt predicted students wouldn't fight the resolution. It is legal because the regents only changed their policy, he said.

UNL student president and regent Renee Wessels receives a salary of \$160 a month for eight months, plus part of an ASUN fund during the summer. UNO regent Florene Langford receives \$62.50 monthly and NU Medical Center regent Michael Schmidt receives \$80.

Regents approve increase in residence hall rate

By D. Eric Kircher

The cost of living in a residence hall will increase again next fall.

The NU Board of Regents passed a proposal Saturday that will add \$140 to 1981-82 room and board rates. Last year the rates were raised \$130.

The 9 percent increase in room and board rates passed

by 8-0 with seven other amendments. The increase from \$1,555 to \$1,695 is needed because of inflation, said Ronald Wright, UNL vice chancellor for business and finance. Along with the rate increase, the university will cut some services, but it will still provide good service to students, Wright said.

Students who feel their social life suffers because their residence hall floor has restrictive visiting hours could find

the hours easier to change.

Saturday the NU Board of Regents approved by 6-2 a change in the policy for increasing visiting hours. Under the new rules, at least 90 percent of the students living on a floor must approve the change before hours can be increased. More than four dissenting parents would stop the change. Students would vote by secret ballot.

The previous policy, approved in 1974, required 100 percent approval from students and their parents before visiting hours on a floor were changed.

Visiting hours still won't change until students who prefer the previous visiting hours have a chance to move. Parents voting against the change could require their son or daughter to move before the visiting hours increase.

For more stories on Saturday's
NU Board of Regents meeting,
see page 6.

The proposal failed by 3-5 on the first vote. But later Regent Edward Schwartzkopf of Lincoln asked the regents to reconsider the change. After further discussion, six regents favored the policy change.

Regents James Moylan of Omaha and Robert Koefoot of Grand Island opposed the change. Regents Robert Prokop of Wilber, Robert Simmons of Scottsbluff and Kermit Wagner of Schuyler reversed their votes.

Richard Armstrong, vice chancellor for student affairs, said the old policy was inflexible.

Schwartzkopf originally questioned the need for the new policy, but he later praised the fairness of the students who developed it.

"It recognizes the majority and the minority," he said. "I think that's a fine safeguard to be concerned about that 10 percent."

Opposing regents feared students favoring the previous hours would lose their rights.



Photo by Mitch Hrdlicka

"Practiced" pool player, Steve Mizerak, demonstrated his skills Saturday in the Nebraska Union ballroom. See story on Page 3.

Commission threatened before vet school arrives

By Reid Warren

The Old West Regional Commission, a major supporter of the proposed UNL Veterinary School, may get shot down before it sees the school become a reality.

The Reagan administration has proposed scaling down the commission, and some, including Office of Management and Budget Director David Stockman, favor killing the commission.

Earl Dickinson, veterinary science department head, said the commission's funding and support of the Veterinary School has been essential and valuable.

"It really couldn't have been done without the commission," Dickinson said.

But the commission's involvement with the proposed school seems to have run its course.

"I don't expect any continuing support," Dickinson said. "I really don't think it will have that great an impact in the future."

"But I'm grateful there was no previous phase-out of the commission."

Commission support

The commission's support of the Veterinary School involved architectural drawings, a regional government system for the school and other studies.

"Where it goes from here, and what effect it will have, I just don't know," said Dr. Kenneth Blackburn, a staff

member in Billings, Mont.

The Old West Regional Commission, like seven similar commissions in the United States, is designed to encourage economic development of regional issues in five states.

"The commission has supported the Veterinary School concept," Blackburn said. "But each state has reserved its independence about participating."

The states in the Old West Regional Commission are North and South Dakota, Montana, Wyoming and Nebraska.

Blackburn said Montana and Wyoming send students to a veterinary school at Colorado State, but that three states were sufficient to provide for a program.

The commission is evidently studying the veterinary school proposal. Whether it makes any more studies is up to President Reagan.

Reagan address

"When he mentioned us last night (Wednesday) on television (during his economic address to Congress) it was a real concern to us," Blackburn said.

Dickinson said he appreciates what the commission has done for the veterinary school, but he added that no more studies need to be done.

"I think the thing has been studied enough," Dickinson said.

"It's been studied and studied. I'd put this stack of studies up against any study done at the university."

inside monday

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