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## CAREER PLANNING AND PLACEMENT

### Spring Semester Orientation

For students who plan to utilize career planning services this semester, a series of meetings will be held in the Rostrum in the Nebraska Union, on:

JAN. 13 WED. 3:30 p.m.

JAN. 14 THURS. 3:30 p.m.

### Topics to Be Covered:

- on-campus interviews
- resumé preparation
- interview preparation
- general orientation to career planning facilities

**You only need to attend  
one meeting**

## Professors foresee reduced research

By Lori Stewart

Reductions in the NU budget may cut time and money professors have for research and publishing, several English professors said recently.

Frederick Link, English Department chairman, said putting more students in classes would be an easy way to solve budget problems. Fewer teachers would then have to teach more students.

However, teachers would also need more preparation and grading time. Even the addition of only two students to a writing class could mean up to 25,000 extra words a professor would have to read and grade, Link said.

If professors have less time available to do research, research productivity or teaching quality could suffer, he said.

The overall class load for English professors — six courses a year — has remained fairly constant over the past few semesters, Link said.

Temporary teachers have been hired with emergency funds allocated by the administration, he said. But those funds may not always be available.

"To the extent that the teaching load of permanent faculty is significantly increased by budget cuts or whatever, productivity may suffer," Link said.

### Teaching stressed

The English Department is primarily a service one, and the faculty members place more emphasis on teaching than on research, Link said. The faculty members have thus "accepted the burden" of teaching six courses a year in order to keep classes small, he said.

Large classes are not suited to English courses, especially writing ones, Link said. And the classrooms in Andrews Hall, where English classes are held, are too small to accommodate large classes.

But research still is important. Professors generally publish results of their research in literary and scholarly magazines, giving national exposure to the university.

Because a university's reputation is based largely on its graduate programs and the research being done by its faculty, publishing research helps the university gain prestige, Link said.

Publishing is a condition of tenure, and "people publish because they enjoy doing research and want to share their discoveries," he said.

Expectations of how much research a professor can do must be adjusted realistically to a department's budget, Link said.

"Everybody who does research will do more with more time and money," he said.

"But people who really care about research will do the best they can with what they have. It will just take longer," Link said.

Stephen Behrendt, assistant English professor, said research is important because it helps keep professors' minds fresh and "charged up."

Professors who present papers at conventions and whose articles are published in journals also help give the school a good image, he said.

But the conflict between the faculty's obligations to provide classes for students and to do research is a problem, he said.

### Large classes

Emergency class limits, which allow for two or three more students than original limits did, will probably become permanent, he said. Each additional student requires a professor to devote more time to the class.

"It may only be a couple of hours at a shot, but that's time you can't do something else," said Behrendt, who does research on British Romantic poets.

The university administration is trying to support research, he said. But research is traditionally seen as being dispensable when it becomes necessary to cut corners, Behrendt said.

James McShane, professor of English, said doing research is a way of "keeping the mind alive."

If a professor is not continuously learning, what he teaches becomes stale, he said.

### Less personal contact

McShane, who does research in traditional literature and 17th century poetry, said he was concerned that if course loads increase, time available for both research and for personal contact with students will decrease.

John Robinson, professor of English, said he also was concerned that as professors teach more students, they will have less time for research.

A professor who does research is usually more interested in his subject and a more exciting teacher, according to Robinson.

Having a course load of four classes a year, like the professors at many Big-Ten universities do, would be desirable, he said.

Robinson, who does research on English drama, said having more time for research would be a "very positive step."

Gerry Meisels, interim dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, said the administration understands the importance of research and other creative activity to the University's reputation and to the quality of teaching.

Meisels said he did not know whether budget cuts will reduce the amount of time a professor will have to do research, but said it may be a possibility.

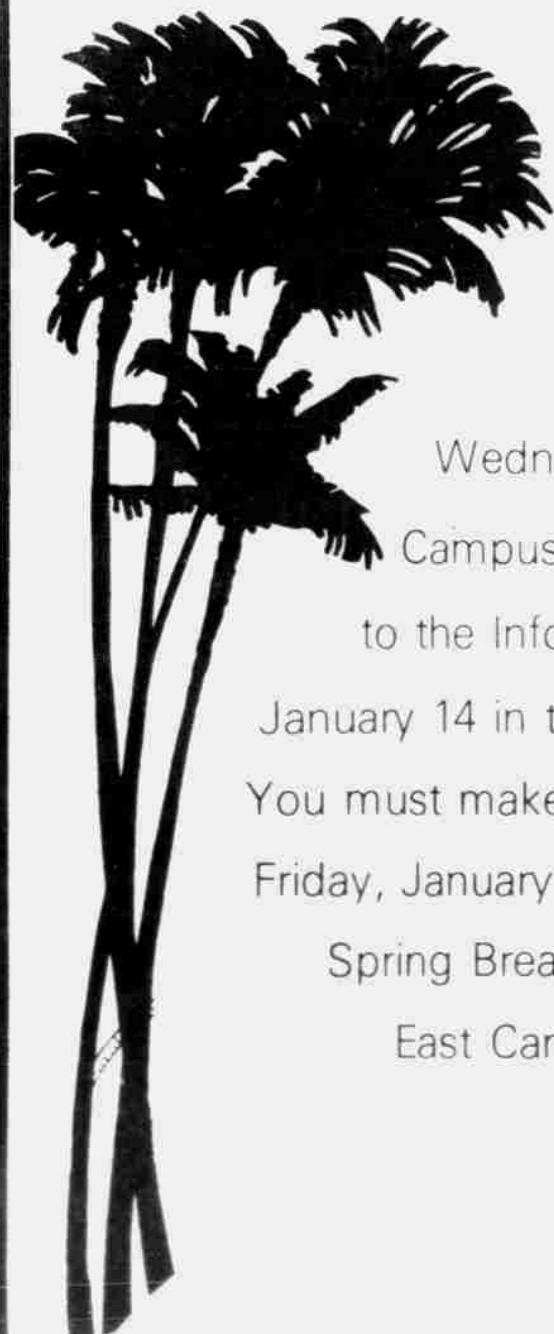
Where the cuts will come from has not been decided yet, he said, and will depend on the recommendations of each particular department.

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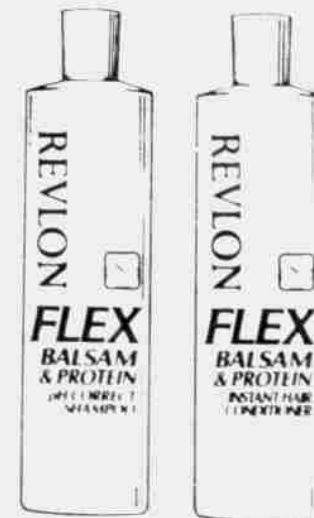
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