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Regents approve budget request of \$156.3 million

By Duane Retzlaff

The NU Board of Regents approved the 1983-84 budget request Friday after much discussion by board members about adopting a "lump sum" request format.

The regents approved a specific line-item budget request for 1983-84 and similar budget request guidelines for 1984-85, along with a statement that they would prefer the state appropriation to be made in a lump sum.

The measure passed 7-1, with Regent John Payne of Kearney voting against it.

The board asked for \$156.3 million for 1983-84, a 6.1 percent increase from the \$147 million in the 1982-83 budget. Both budget totals do not include salary increases for university employees.

Jim Raglin, NU director of public affairs, said the regents are waiting to see how the economy develops before submitting a salary-increase request, which should be made later this fall.

Regent Robert Simmons of Scottsbluff was the strong-

est supporter of the lump-sum budget request.

"I don't see what's wrong with asking for a lump sum and not being tied to it," he said.

Payne opposed

Payne opposed the lump sum request, saying it could cause misconceptions about the budget and hurt the university in the long run.

Regent Kermit Hansen of Omaha said he favored asking for a lump sum from the Nebraska Legislature, but that information should be provided about how the money is spent. In addition, the regents should claim the prerogative to shift funds from one program to the other, he said.

Simmons had earlier moved to ask the Legislature for a lump sum of \$140 million for 1983-84, which the university could spend as it saw fit. The motion was defeated 7-1.

NU President Ronald Roskens said he has asked the Legislature every year for a lump-sum budget, but has made no inroads with them on the subject.

The regents' request probably will be disregarded as well, because special interest groups in the Legislature will want to make sure the area of the university that concern them will be funded, Roskens said.

Regent Kermit Wagner of Schuyler agreed, saying "every senator has a pet item on the university budget."

With such large amounts of money involved, the Legislature naturally wants to know how the money is spent, Wagner said.

Residency requirements changed

In other board action, the regents unanimously approved changes in residency requirements for tuition. The minimum residence period for foreign students trying to establish U.S. residency two years to 180 days.

Regent Ed Schwartzkopf of Lincoln, chairman of the academic affairs subcommittee, reported that university enrollment figures are not yet available.

However, he estimated enrollment at UNO is up one-half of 1 percent, UNL enrollment up slightly less than 1 percent and enrollment at the NU Medical Center "down a little bit."

The board voted unanimously to disallow the complaint of Alan Lemke, assistant professor of English and curriculum and instruction at UNL, who said his academic freedom was violated when he was not granted tenure.

The regent's decision came after the UNL Academic Freedom and Tenure Committee concluded there had been no violation of Lemke's academic freedom and recommended that the complaint be disallowed.

Related story on Page 3.

Voter registration in Unions planned by NSSA, GLC

By Eric Peterson

A voter registration drive co-sponsored by the Nebraska State Student Association and ASUN's Government Liaison Committee will take place in both the Nebraska Union and East Union this week, said GLC state liaison Andy Carothers.

Voting information and out-of-county registration applications will be available today, but Carothers said Lancaster County voter registration won't start until Tuesday. He said the League of Women Voters will register Lincoln voters in both the unions Tuesday and Wednesday.

Carothers noted that voters may register for any precinct that they have lived in for at least 10 days, which means UNL students can register as Lincoln voters. "Students can register if they consider Lincoln their permanent residence," he said.

Carothers added that if students wish to vote by absentee ballot or to register to vote in their home county, NSSA and GLC can handle that, too.

Students must first fill out an application, which GLC will mail to the county registrar.

When the county mails the absentee ballot or registration form back to the student, Carothers suggested they bring it in to the ASUN office to be notarized.

He said one problem with the registration process last year was that some students signed their ballots before bringing them in to the notary public in the ASUN office — the law requires documents to be signed in the notary's presence. Carothers said ballots may, however, simply be signed again.

Carothers said NSSA and GLC are bringing in two speakers for the registration effort. In the Nebraska Union lobby, Democratic gubernatorial candidate Bob Kerrey will speak Tuesday at 2:30 p.m. while the Nebraska Young Democrats help register voters.

On Wednesday at 2:30, Nebraska Secretary of State Allen Beermann will speak as a stand-in for Gov. Charles Thone. The UNL College Republicans will help out with registration that day.

Students can register as Lancaster voters from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. both days, and can get out-of-town voting material on both days until 4 p.m.

Carothers said the week's goal is 500 new registered voters, compared to the estimated 350 voters NSSA and GLC registered last spring. In any case, Carothers said, the organizations will work with registering student voters before every primary and general election.

"It's our big concern to get as many students registered to vote as we can. We can get across to the administration and others how politically involved students are," he said.



Corncobs spirit organization members Dennis Kean and Lynn Larsen take a ride on a miniature Go Big Red car during Saturday's Nebraska-Iowa game. For more photos of the game turn to pages 10 and 11.

Faculty research grants down

By John Koopman

The good news is that the UNL faculty received almost \$25 million in grants and gifts for research in the 1981-82 fiscal year. The bad news is that the amount is down from the two previous years.

According to Earl Freise, assistant vice chancellor of research at UNL, administrative officials do not look at it as a "down" year.

"The amount of money the faculty received this year is the third-highest amount in the history of the university," he said. "Just because it's down from the last two years is no reason to look at it in a negative sense."

Freise said the grant total was lower mainly because of federal cutbacks in the amount of grants given.

The amount of money gathered for grants in the 1979-80 fiscal year totaled more than \$30 million and the 1980-81 fiscal year totaled more than \$31 million.

Amounts of the grants awarded to various faculty members were as varied as the different types of research done.

The smallest amount awarded was \$25 to the chemistry department for the Research Equipment Fund, given by Buckwell University.

The largest amount was \$1.6 million awarded to the International Programs division of the Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources. The grant was from the Development Support Bureau of the Agency for International Development for the Sorghum/Millet Support Program.

Freise said competition for grants can sometimes become a vicious circle.

"Our faculty has to be competitive, but part of the ability to be competitive is to have the facilities within the institution to back them up. In other words, you've got to have equipment and facilities to get more equipment and facilities," he said.

Since UNL's computing facilities are not yet well developed, it's hard to get grants for them, Freise said.

On the other hand, UNL has one of the leading centers for mass spectrometry in the nation and receives a great deal of money every year for this.

David Brooks, freshman chemistry coordinator, explained the grant process for the science department as an example of how grants are solicited for each department.

"When a new faculty member is hired, the university will set them up with a certain amount of laboratory equipment and supplies. The amount of money the university supplies may reach as high as \$100,000 but numbers of \$50,000 have been typical in the past. Somebody would be hired in a general area of scientific expertise and would be expected, as a part of their career, to attempt to get support for that work from a federal agency like the National Science Foundation, the National Institute of Health or the National Aeronautics and Space Administration. They would be expected to try to get additional funds to support their research. Writing grants is an expected part of a faculty member's job," he said.

He said the way most competitive grants are awarded is by a peer review process. Generally, he said, whether you get a grant depends upon how highly your research idea is regarded by your peers.

"If you don't have outside funding, then the only source of support you have to do research with is state support, and state support is just not close to adequate," he said.