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Proposed budget cuts worry faculty members

By Laurie Moses

Three more members of the university community expressed concern Wednesday about potential cuts in the university budget that could be made during the special session of the Nebraska Legislature.

Members of the School of Life Sciences and the College of Arts and Sciences previously voiced disapproval of the cuts.

"We have been suffering inadequate funding at the university for a while. We had a budget cut last year and it affected the university greatly. We had cuts and low morale in teachers," Wallace Peterson, UNL economics professor, said.

"There is no place to cut (into the budget)," Jack Siegman, chairman and professor of sociology department, said. "The only place we can cut is people."

The Legislature will begin a special session Nov. 5 to cut the state budget.

"The university is not like a factory," Peterson said. "They can't shut down and start up again. There is a slow erosion of the university. The state is timid to keep the university alive."

"I'd hate to see them (NU Board of Regents) raise the cost for students (in tuition). This might be a way of dramatizing our problem," he said.

Some options open to the administration at this time, according to Siegman, are stopping operations in the department, stopping all paper work and closing classes.

"My point of view is this is most ridiculous. What we would be doing is telling the students and the citizens of the state that we are expendable," he said.

"It concerns me that any cuts that will be made will be without students, faculty and staff input," Siegman said. "The only way the Legislature will respond is with response from the university."

"They will be cutting back after we are into our fiscal year, that began in July. This will effect us greatly into the whole year," Peterson said.

"The faculty and students and staff ought to be angry at the timid political leadership. This will damage it further," he said.

"I think it's a real serious situation. At this point there is a possibility for anything. We are looking at all of the information from all of the colleges. All of the colleges are trying very hard at this time," R. Neale Copple, vice chancellor of Academic Affairs, said.

"The cuts haven't been made yet," Stan Liberty, dean of the College of Engineering and Technology, said. "My general attitude is I'm not worried about it right now. If something ever materializes, then we will deal with it."

"If there were a 5 percent cut, it would amount to about a quarter of a million dollars. This can't come out of our operating budget, so it would come out of the staff. There would be a reduction in staff instructors. One thousand to 1,500 students could have to delay their graduation," he said.

"We need the faculty, staff and students both inside and outside the university to say something about this. If the parents and staff are willing to take it, so be it," Siegman said.

"People need to speak out and tell how they feel. It's difficult to say what else we can do," Peterson said.



Daily Nebraskan Staff Photo

His moped lying in the grass, David G. Krogh, a sophomore business major, speaks with a Lincoln police officer after being involved in a collision with a car driven by Rheinhold J. Zimbelman of 257 Alexander Road. Neither person was injured in the accident, which occurred at 16th and R streets.

Goodman: All we did was to reclassify ketchup

By Eric Peterson

Ellen Goodman, a Boston Globe syndicated columnist who won the Pulitzer Prize last year for her commentary on the social and political choices of women, said she isn't pretentious.

She was in Lincoln Wednesday to speak at the Lincoln YWCA's Tribute to Women award luncheon.

At a press conference Wednesday, she played down the exaggerated impression she said many political columnists have of themselves.

"I think we tend to have a grandiose notion of what our own role is, at times," she said. "All I think we did was to reclassify ketchup." Many political columnists pointed out the absurdity of the Reagan administration's inclusion of ketchup as a vegetable in the federal nutrition requirements of school lunches last year.

Goodman's columns have been praised for looking at the personal consequences of government social policy. Any other approach is psychologically inappropriate, she said.

"I think it is bizarre not to find the connections between our own lives and politics," she said. "I don't believe in keeping it at arm's length."

Her columns regularly appear in the Daily Nebraskan and the Lincoln Star.

Sexual discrimination

Goodman said she has seen sexual discrimination in her work, discrimination that she pointed out continues in an economy where women earn 59 cents for every dollar men make. Goodman said the hiring of journalists was discriminatory when she first started work at Newsweek around 1960.

"Literally, all the women were researchers and all the men were reporters," she said. She left that job to report for a Michigan newspaper and finally the Boston Globe.

"The miracle was that women didn't make a fuss about it (job discrimination) sooner," she said. "I left Newsweek instead of suing it."



Staff Photo by Dave Bentz

Ellen Goodman

This situation continues in America's newsrooms, she said.

"The people who still make the decisions about what is news are still overwhelmingly men."

Information on family issues tends to be labeled "soft" news as opposed to "hard" news in areas like macroeconomics, she said.

"Even the discussion (terminology) has certain sexual overtones," she said.

Women have begun to emerge as a separate political force, she said. The nuclear freeze and disarmament movements are examples.

"Certainly the peace movement...has been a women's

movement up to this time," she said. Suffragettes early in this century also worked in their time for disarmament.

Gap widens

She pointed out that an increasing political opinion gap exists between men and women on the Reagan administration.

"I think most women's groups feel the worst thing that's happened to women is Reagan, she said. "This administration is clearly anxious to push women back."

This has caused some feminists to favor liberal male candidates rather than conservative female political candidates, she said.

Part of the reason for the political separation of opinion between men and women is female participation in the workplace, she said. Women tended to vote with their husbands before they started working, she said. "Women always had a different view, but they didn't trust themselves," she said.

Goodman said she believes the 1980s will be a regrouping period for women. Activist women divided themselves into two groups about 10 years ago when the women's movement first hit society—radical liberationists who depreciated marriage and family and traditionalists who disapproved of any change in sexual roles.

Most women—"the new middle," she said—are trying to "change conservatively." Their psychology is conservative, not their politics. In effect, the new middle wants both professional achievement and personal and family fulfillment.

The insistence on both career and family has brought great pressure to bear on many women, she said.

"In my generation, we have gone from the myth of Supermom to Superwoman," she said. "The Superwoman is the woman who has changed without upsetting the men in her life."

But men have not taken on any previously female roles, she said. "We are operating under a heavy burden."

Looking at the conflicting demands for the perfect career and the perfect family, Goodman asked the question that was the title of her speech, "Can we have it all?"

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