

Increased NU budget control proposed

By Mona Koppelman

Increased legislative control over university spending could give students at NU a stronger voice in setting budget priorities, a state senator said Tuesday.

Sen. Karen Kilgarin of Omaha introduced a constitutional amendment Friday that would give the Legislature authority over the NU Board of Regents regarding the university's budget.

"The Legislature will be much more accessible and accountable to students," Kilgarin said. "They (the students) won't have to wait three weeks just to get on the agenda."

Kilgarin's LR5, co-sponsored by 10 senators, would amend Article VII, section 10 of the state constitution. It would provide that the "general government of the university . . . shall be vested in a

board (of regents), under the direction of the Legislature."

LR5 was referred from the Executive Board to the Constitutional Revision and Recreation Committee. The committee will decide whether the resolution will have a public hearing, and if it will appear on the floor.

LR5 would reverse a 1977 Nebraska Supreme Court decision that said the regents, unlike other state agency officials, decide how to spend funds appropriated by the Legislature.

"That's never been good policy," Kilgarin said. "It essentially forces the Legislature to write a blank check for slightly more than 20 percent of the entire state budget."

State tax money going to the university in 1982 amounted to \$147 million, prior to special session budget cuts.

"We won't be into courses and curriculum policies," Kilgarin said. "We will be involved primarily with budgetary concerns."

"Students got socked pretty hard with the tuition hike," she said. "The Legislature might have made the same raise, but students would have had a better opportunity to speak out against it."

The Legislature's public hearing process and several debate stages make it relatively easy for students, faculty and concerned citizens to express their views, Kilgarin said.

"This proposal isn't a personal attack on the board of regents," she said. "The amendment would promote a cooperative atmosphere between the Legislature, the regents and the public."

Co-sponsors of LR5 are Sens. Sam Culan of Hemingford, Rex Haberman of Imperial, Marge Higgins of Omaha, Rod John-

son of Harvard, Vard Johnson of Omaha, Martin Kahle of Kearney, Howard Lamme of Anselmo, Dave Newell of Omaha, Jack Pappas of Hershey and Loran Schmitt of Bellwood.

Rudy Lewis, assistant to the chancellor, said he believes the Legislature is "well aware of the tight situation we are in at the university."

"I think the board is doing a good job relaying our needs to the Legislature," Lewis said.

Lewis said that although it is early to judge the consequences of LR5, he believes the proposed amendment would strengthen the existing working relationship between the Legislature and the regents.

"I don't think things would change much for students," he said. "I would hope there would be no adverse effects."



DROP OR ADD?

'I'm confused. I need a beer.'

By Bill Allen

"I had to add a class. I always do, every year," Lori Spath said Tuesday, as she left the Centennial Ballroom of the Nebraska Union, site of Drop/Add.

Spath, a senior in human development and the family, was one of the many UNL students going through the first day of Drop/Add.

Tony Schkade, assistant director of registration and records, said that so far, this semester's Drop/Add isn't much different than in past second semesters.

Students gave a variety of reasons for going through Drop/Add on the process.

Bob Friend, a senior business major, said a mistake in an university bulletin caused him to sign up for a class in which he lacked a prerequisite.

Lynda Landers, a senior psychology and life sciences major, said that because she didn't preregister, she had to go through general registration and Drop/Add to get her schedule complete.

Jeff Hoham, a freshman English major, had some problems during his first time through Drop/Add.

In the first place, the English department lost his file, he said, and instead of changing one class, he ended up having to change several.

"I'm confused," Hoham said. "I need a beer."



Staff photo by Dave Bentz

Top: Scott Wehrman was one of the many students who lined up early to go through Drop/Add Tuesday. The line extended from the Nebraska Union Ballroom past the information desk on the first floor. Above: A student selects the cards for his classes.

Strong returns; Copple, Crumley resume posts

By Jeff Korbelik

Although many students may feel their class schedules are complete pandemonium, it is nothing compared to the game of musical chairs played by some university administrators.

This semester, Acting Vice Chancellor of Academic Affairs R. Neale Copple returned to his position

as the dean of the School of Journalism. Wilma Crumley, who was acting dean of journalism last semester, also has returned to her position as the school's associate dean. John W. Strong, former dean of the UNL College of Law, has returned from a leave of absence to assume the position he acquired last spring — that of Vice Chancellor of Academic Affairs. Sound confusing?



Staff photo by Craig Andresen

"The switching is not a major problem and it is not unusual at this kind of institution," Strong explained. "I do not recommend all of the switching, but it is what you would call the nature of the beast, and I don't foresee any change."

"Last year three of the five vice chancellors were on an interim basis: the vice chancellor of business, agriculture and myself. It is part of a modern landscape of education's tremendous movement, and we try to make sure all the positions are covered," he said.

Strong became acting vice chancellor after Ned Hedges resigned June 30, 1981. Strong accepted the position only on an interim basis and did not plan on being a candidate for the job because he had requested a leave of absence to work on a textbook he had co-authored.

UNL Chancellor Martin Massengale asked him to reconsider, and Strong ended up getting the position as well as his leave of absence. Strong was appointed vice chancellor May 1, 1982 and his leave extended from Aug. 1 to Dec. 31, 1982. Copple served in his absence.

The vice chancellor's job is to serve as the chief academic officer overseeing the academic colleges and non-teaching units such as Sheldon Art Museum, ROTC and Kimball Hall. He also is the principle advisor to the chancellor and assists in determining the budgets of previously mentioned programs.

"I didn't experience too much difficulty while being an interim vice chancellor," Strong said. "The only substantial obstacle would be the people working with interim administrators because there would be a lack of feeling that decisions may not be permanent."

Strong said the transition of Copple moving from his journalism office to the vice chancellor's office and back again in less than a year was not as difficult as it may seem.

"Copple has been in very close touch with his department, and is much more up to speed than people think after being absent a semester," Strong said.