

# Hot line offers help to new teachers

By Tish Mockler

The Teachers College is considering setting up a hot line next fall for graduates of the college. If a teacher in Scottsbluff or Columbus needs some advice on a problem, he will be assured of having someone to discuss it with, said Ronald Joekel, assistant dean of the Teachers College.

Teachers could call the hot line as soon as a problem arises and get advice from a Teachers College faculty member or administrator.

Joekel said first-year teachers frequently feel threatened about talking to their administrators about teaching problems because they think they will be admitting

a weakness. Teachers would not have to feel threatened if they could talk to their former administrators, he said.

The college is working on another program to let new teachers "know we haven't forgotten them," Joekel said.

Under this program UNL faculty would be assigned to visit new teachers across Nebraska on UNL in-service days. The visit would allow new teachers the chance to talk over their problems. Currently, visits by teachers to former students are done to a certain extent on an informal basis, Joekel said.

One method the Teachers College has for determining what the concerns of new teachers are is a follow-up study it has conducted annually since 1972. All the

new graduates and their employers are asked to answer a questionnaire concerning how the graduates are doing on the job, what program revisions are needed, what the teachers' strengths are and what areas need support.

The college added a program about mainstreaming handicapped children when the follow-up study showed the need for it. In 1975, Public Law 84142 — a federal regulation — was passed, mandating that the handicapped be put in the "least restrictive environment." After UNL's mainstreaming program began, improvements were reflected in the follow-up study, said Marg Kluender, coordinator of grants development in the Teachers College.

The follow-up study also asked teachers whether they believed UNL taught the importance of relating to parents, teachers and administrators.

Kluender said the dean's office, which follows up on Teacher College graduates, is considering starting a pilot study next fall primarily for first-year teachers. The study would provide detailed information about what issues interest teachers at different stages in their teaching.

If the department implements the pilot study, it will begin to line up volunteers this spring. The first-year teachers will be given a tape on which to record each day's highlights, and they will send it back to the university at the end of each week, Kluender said.

# Nebraska suffragist, Stevens, remembered in speech

By Jann Nyffeler

"We're making sure we don't forget again," said Jane Hood, who gave a lecture Tuesday on Nebraska suffragist Doris Stevens in conjunction with Women's History Week.

Hood, a senior program officer with the Illinois Humanities Council, received her doctorate from UNL in 1977.

Her lecture on Stevens, a Nebraska women's rights advocate, international feminist and co-founder of the National Woman's Party, stressed Stevens'

achievements, which many Nebraskans are not aware of.

Stevens was born in Nebraska in 1888 and graduated from Omaha (now Central) High School. She then studied music at Oberlin College in Ohio, where she was first introduced to the women's suffrage movement, Hood said.

Stevens, along with international feminist Alice Paul, founded the National Women's Party, which was opposed to restrictions placed on both sexes. They also stressed confrontational, non-violent action to get governmental support.

In 1917, members of the group picketed in front of the White House as part of their effort to free American women. They were arrested for obstructing traffic.

Even at that time, Stevens saw the Equal Rights Amendment as "economically essential for American women," Hood said.

In the 1930s, Stevens and the NWP advocated international women's rights and warned women about fascism. Hood said the NWP reached its greatest triumph in Latin America, with the advent of the Inter-American Commission of Women. This commission supported two treaties: an international equal rights treaty and a national equality treaty. One of the major provisions of the latter was that women would not lose their citizenship if they married a foreigner.

Stevens was active in the women's movement and the NWP until the mid-

'40s. She broke away from the party "because she was on the losing side of an internal power struggle," Hood said.

Besides writing a number of articles, published in various journals and a book, "Jail for Freedom," Stevens also was a composer.

"Her songs illustrate her commitment to equality and achievement," Hood said.

During the lecture, Hood reiterated the purpose of Women's History Week:

"We (women) can't afford to lose our history. It's so essential to understand and preserve it. Without awareness, people's assumptions tend to be effected by myths — malign or benign myths."

The lecture was sponsored by UNL's history department, the Nebraska State Historical Society and Lincoln City Libraries and funded by the Nebraska Committee for the Humanities. Hood spoke at Bennett Martin Public Library.

## Work-study bill...

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"The scholarship program has never been funded," Cullan said. "This would put meaningful revenues in the program."

The money for the program would be taken out of the general fund for the period of July 1, 1983, to June 30, 1984. The funds would go to the Nebraska Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education for distribution.

Sen. Jerome Warner of Waverly tried unsuccessfully to get the bill killed in committee. Warner said LB126 does not specifically commit funds to the program.

Warner introduced LB126A appropriating \$2.125 million to carry out the provisions of LB126.

Cullan said he had "mixed feelings" about LB126A.

"If Sen. Warner is serious about giving it (LB126) support, then I would support him," Cullan said. "But if the only purpose of the A bill is to delay passage (of LB126), then I couldn't support it."

William Swanson, UNL vice president of governmental relations, said the university supports LB126.

Swanson said Warner Tuesday introduced an amendment to LB126A that reduced funding to \$1,000. The funds would be used by the postsecondary commission to write the rules and

regulations for the program.

"In other words, there is no actual funding for the work-study program this year," Swanson said. "However, it may be available in subsequent years."

"We are always concerned with cutbacks in federal funding," he said. "We support any additional funding... at the state level."

Douglas Severs, assistant director of scholarships and Financial Aids, said that from his understanding of the bill, its implementation would closely resemble that of the federal college work-study program.

"I think you'd see the same kind of requirements," Severs said. "We'd have to go out and generate more work-study possibilities and slot students in them."

Severs said he believed his office would make the program part of the general application for financial aid with the normal deadlines.

"It depends on if the program would use the same need-analysis we use now," Severs said. "If so, then the program would integrate right into our system. Otherwise, we would have to re-tool our application... and awarding process."

"I don't think that it would be any problem at all," Severs said.

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