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Job placement offers better chance

By Judi Nygren

With UNL summer graduation nearing, graduates will soon be trekking through town, looking for jobs.

According to Fred Wendel, acting director of UNL's Career Placement Office, graduates who use the office's services have a better chance of finding a job than graduates who search for jobs on their own. For example, Wendel said, Teachers College graduates who use the office have a 75 percent placement rate as compared to a 7 to 10 percent placement rate among graduates who seek teaching jobs independently.

Graduates who use the office can take advantage of a library filled with job-related books and counselors. The counselors line up interviews with the 250 to 300 companies that visit UNL in the fall, winter

and spring, Wendel said. The office also helps graduates perfect interviewing techniques. Some of the techniques counselors help graduates with are poise, self-confidence and vitality, Wendel said.

"The sharp students who have self-confidence and are able to sell themselves in an interview are the ones who get the jobs," he said.

Graduates who are willing to move out of the area and have past job experience also have high placement rates, he said.

While personal attributes help land jobs, Wendel said, the job market itself plays a role in placement rates. Currently, the highest placement rates are among engineering and business administration graduates. The lowest placement rate is among journalism graduates, he said. But the job market changes so quickly, Wendel said, that in five years a

new area will open and another area will tighten up.

Whether a chosen field has a high or low placement rate, Wendel said, summer graduates have a tougher time finding work immediately than spring graduates do. Because most companies make recruiting decisions in the spring, he said "summer graduates must work a little harder and be more patient."

If a summer graduate has problems finding a job, other options exist. Wendel said many colleges have placement programs for their graduates. Some of the colleges include engineering, law, journalism, agriculture and geology.

No matter what program UNL graduates use, Wendel said, they have a good chance of landing a job over graduates from other states.

"Whether it's business or education, employers like the UNL product," he said. "They are dependable and they are not afraid to work."



David Trouba/Daily Nebraskan

A broken chair sits in a nook of Bessey Hall waiting to be discarded.

Roaches snag renovation

By Mike Welbel

After surviving 68 years of UNL students, Bessey Hall is receiving its first major facelift since its construction in 1916. The \$2.3 million project will leave little of the original building first used for the study of life sciences.

"It will be completely gutted," said John Amend, assistant to the director of UNL's Physical Plant. "But we will maintain some of it, including the old stairways."

According to Amend, the building will receive all new lighting, new flooring and many new walls and ceilings.

Builders Inc. received the bid for general, mechanical, electrical and elevator reconstruction of Bessey Hall. So far, the contractors said

they have run into few difficulties.

"Our biggest problem is the cockroaches," said Paul Hensen, construction superintendent. "Some of them are up to two and a half inches long."

Bessey Hall is scheduled to reopen in September 1985, housing the departments of anthropology and geology, Amend said.

"I'm elated," said Samuel Treves, chairman of the geology department. "We will be able to improve the quality of our labs and instruction with more room."

Amend said that most of the space the geology department vacates in Morrill Hall might be taken over by the museum.

However, Treves said the fourth floor will retain some space for the geology department because of the special electronic equipment that is housed there.

Program to help fund 8 UNL research teams

By Jana Dahlman Bouma

A \$25,000 program is helping fund eight UNL research teams to develop research proposals, according to Norman Rosenberg, assistant to the Vice Chancellor for Research & Graduate Studies.

The Sponsored Projects Development Program is providing funds to researchers in the College of Arts and Sciences, the College of Engineering and Technology, Teachers College, and the Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources. The program was developed by Earl Freise, Vice Chancellor for Research and Graduate Studies and Rosenberg.

According to Rosenberg, the funds will also help researchers to seek funding from federal agencies and private organizations for their proposals.

20% of AAUP members vote in national election

By Judi Nygren

Election preparations had been going on for months for the American Association of University Professors' election. Candidates had been hashed over and the two parties had been plagued by turmoil throughout the ordeal. It appeared to be a typical election year, but one thing set the 1984 election apart from the rest: hardly anybody voted.

In the AAUP's recent national election, 80 percent of the members, divided on the question of using AAUP as a collective bargaining unit, withheld their votes. Ballots for the biennial election were mailed to about 49,000 faculty members nationwide. By the end of the two-month election, about 10,000 votes had trickled back to national headquarters. The majority favored the non-collective bargaining party over the collective bargaining party.

Linda Pratt, the UNL AAUP president, said voter apathy resulted from a lack of interaction between national leaders and faculty members. The lack of contact between the two groups made faculty members feel distanced from the hub of AAUP, she said.

"It's like a whole other world to them," Pratt said.

"But worse than voter apathy," Pratt said, was the landslide victory for the non-collective bargaining party.

"I think it's unfortunate that the election was lopsided on either side," she said. "It was not a healthy election."

Researchers in the environmental programs department in the Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources received \$1,000 from the development program. Research associate Edward Vitzthum said the funds will be used to seek external grants to develop educational and resource materials. The materials would be used by health, safety and law enforcement officials who must deal with pesticide accidents.

Assistant Professor Richard Petosa said he received close to \$2,000 from the program. The money provided Petosa's salary while he applied to the William T. Grant Faculty Scholar Program to fund a five-year study of the impact of stress and coping strategies on adolescents.

Other departments whose faculty members received grants included physics, political science, modern languages and literature, mechanical engineering, and electrical engineering.

Because of the unequal representation, conflicts that have plagued AAUP for many years have deepened, she said. Leaders are bickering over control, rather than examining AAUP's stands and goals, she said.

"Leadership is not working well together," Pratt said. "I think it's going to leave leadership in conflict over how to resolve problems."

The misrepresentation problem could be resolved if voters would do away with straight tickets, Pratt said, adding that she prefers to vote for candidates of both sides. Misrepresentation also could be avoided, she said, if the two parties could reconcile their differences and work as one.

But until the two parties reconcile their differences, AAUP must work with today's problems. One of AAUP's problems is the yearning by many members to return to the "old days" when AAUP was a defender of academic freedom and did not get involved in collective bargaining," Pratt said. If the view continues to grow, Pratt said, AAUP could cease to exist.

"If AAUP dropped its collective bargaining, AAUP would cease to exist because 60 percent of its members are involved in bargaining."

The 1984 officers are Paul Walter of Skidmore College, president; Henry Mason of Tulane University, first vice president; June Pollack of California State University at Fullerton, second vice president; Morris Mendelson of the University of Pennsylvania's Wharton School, secretary-treasurer.