

Professor says Chinese students more serious

By Beth Thompson
Daily Nebraskan Staff Reporter

Teaching Chinese students in his homeland, and more recently, teaching American students in this country, has given English professor Chen Yongpei room for comparison.

After teaching English classes

at Zhongshan University for more than 20 years, Chen came to UNL in August to teach a course in Chinese literature.

Chen's American students are very interested in Chinese literature, he said. He also said he is "highly satisfied" with his student's attentiveness and progression.

Chen described Chinese students as "more reserved" and modest. Chinese students always seem to be serious about their studies and their teacher. And in return, Chen said, the teacher grows to love his students.

Professor Bob Haller, one of Chen's colleagues, described Chen as "a very approachable man" who is "easy to talk to."

Haller said that while Chen has adapted to America, he senses Chen's Chinese traditions, citing the importance of respect for elders.

Chen stressed this as very dominant in Chinese society, yet not as apparent in America.

A Chinese principle that Chen described is that a teacher and student should learn from each other and grow in their studies together. Students should inspire the teacher with simplicity, devotion and the spirit of hard work, he said.

A student's respect leads the instructor to feel "more duty-bound" to his pupil, Chen added.

Chinese students also have set goals to devote themselves to the betterment of their country, Chen



Kathleen Green/Daily Nebraskan

Chen

said, because industry, agriculture, defense, science and technology have become vital to China's modernization.

Scientists and professors "would be most attractive titles in

China" right now, Chen said. And Chinese women have the same goals as their male counterparts. However, the first one home does the cooking, Chen said with a smile.

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Union Board...

Continued from Page 1

ASUN President Mark Scudder said universities are places where students learn to make choices. Discontinuing sales of the magazines "may hint of some imposed values" on other students, he said.

Board member Phil Karsting said the Union Board should not make decisions for other people about lifestyles, attitudes and values. He said he was offended by a letter the Union Board received from Suzanne Brown, chairperson of the UNL Chancellor's Commission on the Status of Women.

In the letter, Brown told the board that discontinuing sales of the magazines would "affirm the values for which both the union and the university stand."

"It'll be a cold day in hell," Karsting said, "before she (Brown) ever figures out one set of values for 30,000 people."

Knobel said everyone has different values stemming from different backgrounds and religious beliefs.

Bob Brandt, complex program director for Selleck Quadrangle, said the magazines display bondage, degradation and dominance of one sex. For those reasons, he said, the magazines should be removed.

"We're talking about the living room of the campus," he said. "The issues should be looked at in that way."

Brandt said the union probably would allow Nazis to voice their opinions, but he doubts that pro-Nazi materials would be sold in the union. The same thing should apply to Playboy, Penthouse and Playgirl, he said.

"I would give Hugh Hefner every opportunity to come and speak at this university, but I don't need to sell his magazines for him," Brandt said.

Knobel said he didn't feel com-

fortable imposing his opinions on other people. They should have an opportunity to make their own decisions, he said.

Board member Diane Davis disagreed.

"We can only think about other people so far," she said. "But then we have to remember that we are one of those people as well."

Davis said putting the issue on the ASUN ballot would "defeat the whole purpose" of the committee—to become more informed about the issue. By putting it on the ballot, she said, the decision would be left to less-informed people.

After the motion to discontinue the magazine sales failed, Dan Bigbee, faculty board representative, suggested that a sign be displayed at information desks advising people that some magazines sold there may be sexually exploitive and violent.

The Union Board will consider this motion at its meeting Dec. 4.

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