

Lack of funds add to teacher shortages

By Kip Fry
Staff Reporter

UNL's College of Engineering and Technology has a "problem," said Dean Stanley Liberty. Recently, three people applied for a permanent teaching position, but none were qualified enough to be hired and the position remained open. The college eventually hired someone to fill the position temporarily. "We have a supply and demand problem," Liberty said. "We have many faculty positions open, but there is just a low productivity of PhD's."

While the engineering college is struggling to fill faculty positions, other UNL colleges are finding that they don't have enough money to attract qualified faculty, according to Law School Dean Harvey Perlman.

"We have one person leaving this year for a visiting position because he was offered \$9,000 more at another university," Perlman said.

Part of the engineering school's problem is that approximately half of the doctorates awarded to students go to foreign nationals, Liberty said. While some of these graduates stay in this country to teach, many return to their native country.

"They help alleviate the shortage, but there is not enough of them," Liberty said.

Liberty cites popular social attitudes and the high age of the present faculty as a few of the main problems.

"Salaries went up for those people with just bachelor's degrees in the private sector," he said. "They want to make money now and not make any contribution to society by going to grad school."

"The challenge is to find good quality personnel, he said. "It's both fun and scary."

Liberty said finding replacements for faculty is a long process which takes a full year of advertising and recruiting to fill an open position. At present, there are six or seven openings, he said.

"It's not a budget problem," he said. "It's a human resource problem."

Money is an obstacle, however, for the law college, according to Perlman, differentiating it from the engineering college. While the faculty is not at full strength right now, he said it could develop into a serious problem later.

"Faculty for our on-hand clinical experience is our most glaring shortage," Perlman said.

The College of Agriculture has many faculty nearing retirement age, and will have to be replaced within the next five years, Associate Dean Earl Ellington said. Many of these were educated through the help of the GI bill at the end of World War II. The college also does not have enough prospective young people to fill these openings.

"Students are opting away from agriculture because of incomplete or incorrect information about the college," Ellington said. "A lot think you automatically go into farming or ranching with such a degree. Ironically, 40 percent of our students come from urban addresses and the majority don't go to farms. Because of this bad information, the pipeline is drying up."

Many graduates want to go into the private sector and work in pharmaceutical companies which offer attractive salaries, Ellington said.

Dean Hazel Anthony of the College of Home Economics said that the college is having to deal with a little of both predicaments.

"There are not enough people with PhD's and we don't have enough money to attract outstanding personnel," Anthony said.

One way to alleviate the shortage is to hire temporary teachers. But Anthony does not like to have temporary people on the staff for more than one year. The college does hire some part-time people, but they are not hired for a permanent position.

While the field of home economics has expanded, an internal reallocation has forced the cutback of two and one-half positions, she said.

The Dental School has many vacancies and Dean Henry Cherrick believes it is because their salaries are lower than others around the nation. Subsequently they have been forced to hire a number of part time faculty which Cherrick calls an "excellent part of the program."

The number of dentistry teachers is smaller than it was a few years ago, because the limited enrollment was lowered from 66 to 56 students per class.

"It is not a problem, because there are more jobs available than there are people to meet the job needs," Cherrick said.

Both the Teacher's College and the College of Arts and Sciences have had trouble hiring teachers for specialty areas. While Teacher's College is in good shape, according to Dean James

P. O'Hanlon, specialties such as health occupation education and coaching education, are especially hard to fill.

"It took two years to find the person we wanted to teach reading," O'Hanlon said. "The special education field has expanded recently, and there will be a lag there until the demand is met. In educational administration we just don't pay enough."

The College has lost nine faculty since Jan. 1. O'Hanlon noted that the staff is getting smaller, but the reduction is nothing dramatic. "It was done by our choice," he said.

In the College of Arts and Sciences the high demand for teachers depends on the popularity of the major, Associate Dean John G. Peters said. Modern Languages, English, Speech Communication and Computer Science departments have a difficult time staffing all the sections.

"We don't list the course if it is not staffed," Peters said. "UNL is reviewing the core requirements for liberal arts, so the faculty may have to be shifted around."

"There are always rapid changes in the student demand for certain courses," Peter said. "So it's hard to plan with such uncertainties. We have to be careful with expanding."

A question Peters said needs to be kept in mind is what predictions can be made about the demand for certain subjects five to ten years down the road.

Grant provides legal services to elderly

By Deb Pederson
Senior Reporter

The UNL College of Law received a two-year grant totaling \$99,000 from the Legal Services Corporation to provide legal services for low income elderly persons.

The grant is part of the Corporation's Elderlaw Project and will be administered by UNL law professor Peter Hoffman as part of the Civil Clinical Law

Program.

Senior law students will get actual work experience through the program, which is authorized by the Nebraska Supreme Court, Hoffman said.

Hoffman said students will perform nearly all of the duties of a practicing attorney while under his supervision, such as handling a caseload of clients, working with the clients, filing suits and appearing in court.

"The grant allows us both to improve the quality of our educational program

and to be of service to older Nebraskans," said the Dean of the Law College, Harvey Perlman.

The emphasis of the program is on consumer, family and housing cases, Hoffman said. The grant will provide services to elderly clients in Lancaster, Butler, Fillmore, Polk, Saline, Saunders, Seward and York counties. The Law College will cooperate with the Lincoln Information Services for the Elderly in providing services under the grant.

The UNL College of Law is one of only

19 law schools in the country to receive a grant, he said. Congress earmarked funds for the grant last year and gave the funds to the corporation to be allocated. Over 100 law schools across the country applied for the funds, he said. The purpose of the grant is to give students some experience while helping out the elderly.

"It's a good chance for the students to put the theory they learned in the classroom the first two years into practice," Hoffman said.

Device gives 'false security'

By Michael Hooper
Staff Reporter

A device meant to help motorists calculate how much they can drink without becoming drunk has received mixed reactions from Cornhusker Motor Club officials and state highway and safety officials.

The device, called a drink-drive calculator, allows a "false security" for motorists who drink and drive, Bare Wade of the Cornhusker Motor Club said.

Dale Nissen, a project manager with the Nebraska State Highway Safety Department, said Wednesday the device helps motorists know what their "approximate" level of Blood Alcohol Count (B.A.C.) is and said "we like to let people know what alcohol does to them."

The drink-drive calculators, Nissen said, are similar to the blood alcohol content cards his department distributes, and show the blood-alcohol level resulting from a certain number of drinks per hour for a person of a given weight.

The drink-drive devices have been distributed recently in Omaha, Wade said.

Wade said the devices ignore individual differences such as "emotional or physical" conditions, which also effect the motorists ability to drive, he said.

"Just to rely on a calculator could mislead someone," in his or her driving, he said.

Although Nissen said a drink-driving device or card is a "ballpark indicator" of someone's blood count, found by matching the individual's weight and drinks per hour, it gives the motorist an idea of his or her B.A.C. level, he said.

Wade argued: "They (the drink-driving devices) provide a broad outlook, a guideline, to motorists — but that's the dangerous part about it. It could give them a false security," Wade said.

Body Weight	Number of Drinks								
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
100	.032	.064	.096	.128	.160	.192	.224	.256	.288
120	.027	.054	.081	.108	.135	.161	.188	.215	.242
140	.023	.046	.069	.092	.115	.138	.161	.184	.207
160	.020	.040	.060	.080	.101	.121	.141	.161	.181
180	.018	.036	.054	.072	.090	.108	.126	.144	.162
200	.016	.032	.048	.064	.080	.097	.113	.129	.145
220	.015	.029	.044	.059	.074	.089	.102	.117	.131

One drink is 1 OZ. 86 proof liquor, 12 OZ. beer, or 4 OZ. of wine.
Subtract .01% for each 40 minutes of drinking.
Courtesy of Nebraska Office of Highway Safety

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Who's News

Four UNL College of Agriculture animal science students have been awarded Moorman Manufacturing Scholarships of \$1,000 each. The recipients are Michael Rober, a sophomore, incoming freshman Mark Fahleson, junior Scott Kurz, and senior James Slavik.

The \$1,000 Cornelius J. Claassen Scholarship has been awarded for the second time to UNL student Matt Spilker, a senior agricultural economics major.

Seventeen UNL College of Agriculture students have been awarded Samuel and Martha McKelvie scholarships. Ten of the scholarships are for \$1,000 each. Recipients are sophomore animal science major Sally Hircock; sophomore agriculture general major

Russell Hennerberg; senior animal science major Sandra Hotovy; sophomore ag honors/food science major Elaine Berry; sophomore agriculture economics major Linda Leavitt; junior agricultural honors major James Friesen; sophomore animal science major William Riecken; sophomore agricultural honors major Kevin Meyer; junior animal science major Marvin Westerman; senior agricultural honors major with emphasis in animal science and agricultural economics major Todd Ibach.

UNL Police Officer Joe Scott graduated with the 85th Basic Law Enforcement Class last month at the Nebraska Law Enforcement Training Center in Grand Island. Scott received the Outstanding Student Award for Achieve-

ment at the graduation ceremony.

Ryan Hulbert, a doctoral candidate in clinical psychology at UNL has been awarded the Belgian American Educational Foundation graduate study fellowship.

The fellowship, established in 1920 to commemorate the relief work of the Commission for Relief in Belgium during World War I, is intended to assist higher education and to promote the exchange of intellectual ideas between the U.S. and Belgium. There were eight fellowships awarded this year.

Hubert will receive \$8,000 to help cover expenses for one year of study at the University of Leuven, Louvain, Belgium. The university is the oldest Catholic university in the world.