

Editorial

Nursing tuition hike will eliminate college

The NU Board of Regents' decision to raise UNL's tuition at the College of Nursing supports the elimination program duplication at the state university. Although the regents voted this summer to keep the UNL nursing college, tuition for UNL's approximately 240 nursing students was increased 25 percent.

At Saturday's meeting, the regents again raised tuition for the nursing college to \$56.50 per credit hour for undergraduates and \$59.50 for graduate students.

The nursing students won the battle to keep the Lincoln program alive, but the regents' latest tuition hike may have priced nursing students out of the college.

Instead of raising tuition, trying to divert money from a doctoral program or trying to generate "outside funds," the regents should have transferred UNL's nursing students to the NU Medical Center in Omaha.

Each of the four courses UNL nursing students take in Lincoln are offered in Omaha. Some graduate courses are taught only at UNO, and Lincoln nursing students *must* transfer to Omaha to complete their graduate studies, said Ruth Wiese, associate professor and chairwoman of the UNL nursing college.

If students, equipment and instructors were transferred from Lincoln to Omaha, the overall strength of the university's nursing program would be increased because a larger, more unified department would be created. Students, faculty and research would be concentrated at one campus, rather than two.

Rosalee Yeaworth, dean of UNL's nursing college said transferring students would not solve the UNMC's budget problems. But a 45 percent tuition increase in less than a year certainly won't solve it either. Obviously, money can be saved if nursing students use facilities at one campus only, instead of two campuses. Fixed costs would be lower.

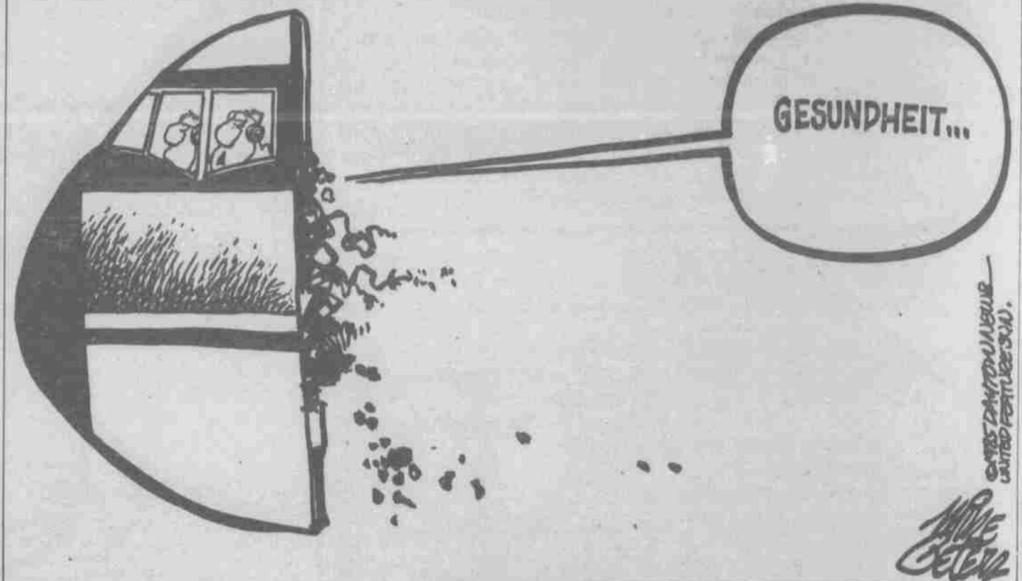
Wiese said there would be a lack of clinical space at the UNO nursing school, which serves about 440 students, if UNL students were transferred.

But the lack of space could be overcome by scheduling more class sections at night and early in the morning. Nursing college administrators also could research the possibility of transferring Omaha students to Lincoln, if more space was available at UNL.

The university recently bought the Whittier Junior High building, yet it remains empty.

Last summer was not the first time the UNL nursing college has been on the chopping block, and its faculty and students should be commended for their valor in retaining the program.

UNL nursing students and faculty should realize that their program is getting phased out. It's still listed in the course schedule, but as tuition increases, the number of students will decrease.



When state cuts funds, weep; then request project - it works

These are hard times for dear old NU but not every part of the university is suffering.

The Legislature and the governor have tightened the screws — classes are growing in size, professors' salaries are stagnating and class sections are closing. But that doesn't mean all of NU's clouds are without silver linings.

The NU Board of Regents has just authorized a \$20 million bond issue for construction for the Lied Center for Performing Arts; something even the Legislature was willing to blow a few million on. Lied supporters say the center will bring quality performers and new prestige to the UNL performing arts schools. They also point out that the center will be paid for mostly with private donations, so the university won't suffer.

Although some money is being raised for maintenance of the center, eventually it will be a drain on the university's resources. There can be no doubt that state tax dollars as well as some of the donations would go to other parts of the university if the Lied Center was not built. It's also questionable whether the center will be used sufficiently. Many national musical and theatrical

events at Kimball Hall don't sell out.

Now Sheldon Director George Neubert is getting on the bandwagon with a proposal for an underground expansion for more art exhibit space. This proposed 28,000-square-foot addition would cost \$5.5 million. The NU Foundation, which organizes such projects, may decide to fund this project after the Lied is finished.



Chris Welsch

It may seem strange that Neubert would ask for a new addition after the Legislature cut 141,000 from his \$225,000 budget. But I think he's on to something.

If you can't get enough money to run an art museum, why not ask for funds to build a whole new one? When the theatre, dance and music departments are grossly underfunded, why not build a \$20 million performing arts complex?

Instead of concentrating on lobbying for tax money and donations for paying our professors and funds for research and educational materials, NU and its supporters are building monuments that will stand long after the last Husker blows away in the next dust bowl.

I think other department heads should take a crack at getting a new building, or at least some sort of shrine.

The English Department chairman should propose a Willa Cather Memorial Reading Tower. This highrise would provide scenic study lounges for those future Nebraskans who can read. This would also ensure the economic stability of the university bookstore.

The College of Dentistry could propose the Tommy Tooth Dental Research Center and Museum. The effects of a diet of crow meat on the teeth of aging administrators could be studied in about 10 years.

The College of Architecture could propose The Big 'N' Building, a showcase of the state's architectural prowess. If it's left empty, it would be a valuable symbol of the university. Oh, yes! The 'N' stands for knowledge.

Hope for 'perpetual summer' prevails

The light has already changed. The soft airbrushed quality of August has lifted and everything — the prematurely red branch of the sumac, the wilting jewelweed, the overripe rosehips — is outlined in September clarity.

Lying on the porch with my prop (the book that accompanies my nap), I try to postpone the new year, to fend off the lists that lurk right outside my vacation consciousness. I want to sink for just a few more hours into that state of timelessness and ease that is as comfortable and unrestrained as the rope of the hammock beneath my body.

Like most of those whose biorhythms were imprinted by the school calendar, I know that summer doesn't last until the 22nd. Already this "Dear Parent" is being urged back into seasonal harness.

Leisure — is being urged back into seasonal harness.

Leisure — not that American oxymoron "leisure-time activity" but real leisure — is being replaced by alarm clocks and time frames and schedules. There is a foreign hand at the metronome and as the temperature goes down, its tempo goes up. By some unnatural order, we are given more to do just as the days get shorter.

What do I want to take home from my summer vacation? I close my eyes and think. Time. That is what I would like.

The wonderful luxury of being at rest. The days when you shut down the mental machinery that keeps life on track and let life simply wander. The days when you stop planning, analyzing, thinking and just are.

The line that runs through my head on this stolen day at the cusp period of fall, is one written by Paul Simon: "Did you ever experience a period of grace/ When your brain just took a seat behind your face?" Summer is my period of grace.



Ellen Goodman

I don't know why it is so hard to find the same piece of time during the rest of the year. Life is more frenzied, I am told by friends. They say this philosophically, as if "it" were in charge and we had lost control.

The people I know live within the confines of their weeks-at-a-glance. When more is demanded of us, we get larger datebooks with more elaborate planners. We fit things in. We schedule — family, work, friendships. We organize with a fury of split-second timing. But we almost never pencil in time to

do nothing.

It gets harder every year to figure out what separates our own lives from those of the creature frantically working the golden rod beside me against a deadline of frost. What is the difference? A soul, the theologians say, a sense of mortality, a sabbath. Maybe it is the last, a day of rest, that we have lost first.

One of the advantages of this summer retreat is that I truly vacate both the workplace and the marketplace. But soon, at home, I will be again subject to Shopping Sundays, and to Washing Sundays, Cleaning Refrigerator Sundays, Driving the Car Sundays. There is no empty day in my weeks-at-a-glance.

My father, my grandfathers, I don't know how many generations back, worked six days and had one off. I don't at all envy their work life. But most of us work five days at one job, then thank God it is Friday and proceed to work two days at another.

Our mothers and grandmothers, for their part, labored for their families full time. Now we hold two jobs, moonlighting every week, and then consider Sunday shopping to be a wonderful modern convenience, a sure sign of progress.

Please see GOODMAN on 5

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