

Board supports gay committee

Opponents encouraged to seek Fund A refunds in protest

By Kim Schwartze
Staff Reporter

The Nebraska Union Board on Tuesday approved the University Program Council proposal to form a gay/lesbian programming committee under UPC.

"I can see that there is a need on this campus for (gay/lesbian) programming," Union Board member Bruce Lear said.

Board member Wade Clement said he thinks it is important that information representative of what goes on in the gay/lesbian culture be made available to the public.

The Union Board approved the proposal in a secret ballot after holding an open forum.

UPC will now formulate the gay/lesbian programming committee's budget on a program-by-program basis and will submit the budget for approval to the Committee for Fees Allocation.

Board member Hollis Heimbouch said the existence of a gay/lesbian programming committee would "pre-suppose its membership" and suggested before the vote that gay/lesbian programming be made a priority of an existing UPC committee, such as UPC Talks and Topics.

Lincoln psychologist Paul Cameron disagreed with the Board decision. Cameron, who spoke during the open forum, said if Board members approve the idea, they may be helping to kill someone.

Cameron said that information he had compiled indicates that there are three to six homosexuals with AIDS on campus and that 20 to 30 others are probably carrying the virus.

"If you in any way make it easier for these people to transmit this virus to others . . . to a degree, and I realize it will be to a limited degree, you will be sharing in their blood as they die,"

Cameron said.

UPC-City Council President Angela Swantek said the gay/lesbian programming could educate homosexuals and others about AIDS and the homosexual culture.

UNL student Tim Teebken, who spoke against the idea, said he's talked to Christian group leaders who said they would encourage their constituents to withdraw funding from UPC if the proposal is passed. UPC gets \$2.99 from students willing to comply with the Fund A requests, totaling about \$123,000 each year. Paul Fenster, a Lincoln pastoral counselor said gay/lesbian programming would provide emotional support for oppressed homosexuals.

If CFA passes the UPC budget the proposal will be voted on by ASUN, and must be approved by acting Vice Chancellor of Student Affairs James Griesen and Chancellor Martin Massengale.

Programs could be facing budget cuts

CUTS from Page 1

Kerrey said Waverly Sen. Jerome Warner, chairman of the Legislature's Appropriation Committee, generally agreed with his package of cuts. But he said the committee might choose to change the package dramatically before it sends the cuts to the full Legislature early next week.

All but \$100,000 of NU's proposed budget cuts are aimed at the university's general operations. The rest would wipe out the money given UNMC to start a bachelor's degree nursing program at West Nebraska General Hospital in Scottsbluff. Kerrey vetoed the \$100,000 for the nursing program during the regular session, but the Legislature overrode his veto.

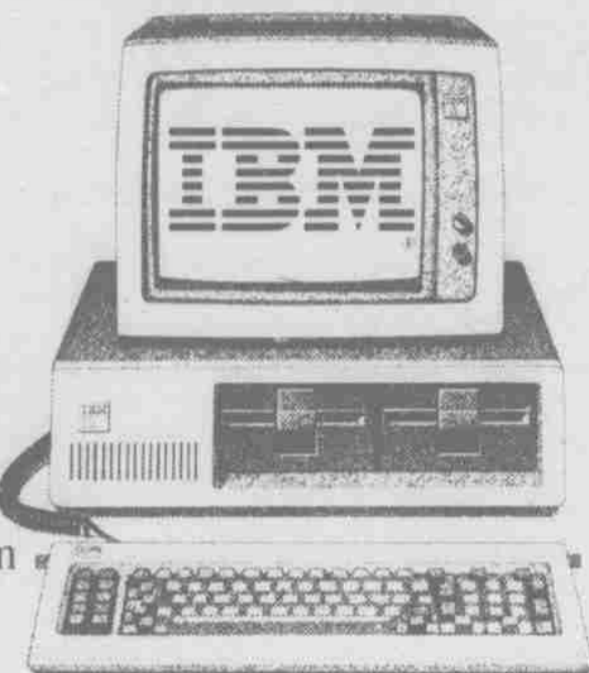
A similar budget-cutting special session last fall took 2 percent from NU's general-fund budget, which left the university with less money in the 1985-86 school year than it had in 1984-85. NU also lost 3 percent of its previously approved state support in 1981-82 and

2.4 percent in 1982-83.

Other parts of Kerrey's budget-cut package include a \$2.5 million reduction in state aid to counties, schools and technical community colleges and a \$243,000 cut in support for the state

colleges. Three "advocacy commissions"— Indian Commission, the Mexican-American Commission and the Commission on the Status of Women — would lose half of the funding restored to them by the Legislature this spring over Kerrey's objections.

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