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Olsson

Business interns go overseas

By Dorothy Pritchard
Staff Reporter

Jonas Olsson said he came to the United States from Sweden to "gain some international understanding" and improve his English. At UNL, where he is interning in business, he has had opportunities to do both.

Olsson's internship was arranged by the International Association of Students in Economics and Business Management (AIESEC), a 2-year-old business organization at UNL that has sent five of its 25 members overseas on business internships.

Olsson worked for the Nebraska Business Development Center and the International Affairs office. He now works in the NU president's office on a committee that is planning the installation of a \$1.5 million software package at NU. He leaves in June.

Jill Fujan, president of the UNL chapter, said AIESEC (eye-sec) is the

largest non-profit, student-run organization in the world. Sixty-two countries have AIESEC chapters, and 64 chapters are in the United States.

Fujan said the group's goals are twofold. On the local level, members try to get hands-on experience in their majors. On an international level, they participate in an internship exchange program. Exchanges occur four times a year and are based on a direct match between countries. If Lincoln companies hire four foreign students as interns, four American students can apply for internships abroad.

Fujan said the group is sending its sixth intern abroad this summer. Todd Tolly, a UNL business graduate who is working on a Spanish degree, will leave in June for an advertising and marketing internship in Mexico.

In the two years the AIESEC has been at UNL, Lincoln companies have hired interns from Amsterdam, South Africa, Sweden, Taiwan, Switzerland and Australia. Marjike Vanden Berg from

Amsterdam took an internship at National Bank of Commerce, working in the international department as well as in the auditing and loan analysis departments. The manager of the international department, Paul Warfield, said he was pleased with the program and his department will take more interns as job openings become available.

Warfield said participation in the exchange program helped one member of UNL's AIESEC chapter to go abroad as well as helping NBC.

"The bank definitely has an interest in international services," he said.

Olsson, who graduated from the University of Lolund in Sweden with a degree in international business, said he enjoyed his experience in America and would recommend AIESEC to others.

"It's a great opportunity for getting abroad," he said. America needs to get more internationalized — not just to learn the language, but to get exposure to other cultures."

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City mission unveils \$1.3 million building

By James M. Lillis
Staff Reporter

Lincoln's new city-mission building will help officials expand the quality of programs offered by the People's City Mission, the executive director said.

Steve Janovec said the \$1.3 million building will allow mission officials to expand mental health, job labor pool, mother's ministry, long-term parent support groups and volunteer programs.

Ribbon-cutting ceremonies for the new building at 110 Q St. were Saturday. The mission's family shelter and men's shelter programs were moved from the old 124 S. Ninth St. location on Jan. 30.

The new brick building measures almost 22,000 square feet and includes a dining room, kitchen, residential level, and chapel. \$1 million of the building's cost was raised through pledges by local businesses, foundations and citizens, Janovec said. The rest came as "sweat equity" — volunteer labor and supervision.

Janovec said the mission also received "good prices" and donated materials from the building's contractors and subcontractors.

The mission provides crisis emergency service, shelter, food and clothing. The mission works closely with Lincoln's social services, hospitals, law enforcement officials, county health commission and churches, Janovec said.

Janovec said the new building will have a cost advantage over the old one because it meets all building codes and is energy efficient. Utility costs will be about the same as those in the old mission building, he said, although the new building is "twice the size" of the old one.

Finding a new site for the mission was a problem, Janovec said.

"We met with a lot of neighborhood opposition," he said.

The mission board approved finding a new location in 1981, but the site wasn't found until 1984.

Former Lincoln Mayor Helen Boosalis's task force helped find the new mission site. The criteria for finding a new location were that the site had to be within a mile of downtown Lincoln, had to be accessible for pedestrian, automobile and rail transportation, it had to be affordable — less than \$100,000 for 1 to 2 acres of land and it could not stand out visibly.

"Once we found the site, we had tremendous community support," Janovec said.

The mission has an 80-year history of serving Lincolnites' "physical and evangelistic" needs, Janovec said. The non-denominational mission was started by a group of local church leaders. It had been located on Ninth Street since 1909, Janovec said.

The mission was moved because the old site was overcrowded and aged, Janovec said. The old building is now used for storage and is for sale.

The People's City Mission is the only agency that provides Lincoln's homeless with temporary shelter. The mission serves almost 10,000 men, women and children a year. People who need food, shelter or clothing may stay at the mission for less than a week, Janovec said.

Because the mission has been relocated, its renewal and restoration program will include women, Janovec said. Officials also are considering starting a new program for youth from broken homes.