

CFA decreases UPC budget requests

By Victoria Ayotte
Staff Reporter
and Mary Nell Westbrook
Senior Reporter

Members of the Committee for Fee Allocation voted Tuesday night to reduce parts of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln's University Program Council's student fee request.

CFA members have one area of the budget left to consider Thursday night, but have already made \$9,982.42 in cuts.

UPC's initial request was \$163,717.51.

CFA considered the UPC City

budget, UPC East budget, American Minority Council budget and Executive Board budget.

The Fund Allocation Committee's budget request was tabled until Thursday night's meeting.

The CFA's subcommittee on UPC presented a report that recommended reducing UPC's overall funding request by \$12,541.27.

This proposal would have increased student fees by 60 cents to \$3.63 for UPC. This is a 21.4 percent more than last year.

The report was initially accepted by a 6-2 vote before an appeal was made by UPC officials.

Barb Meister, executive board coordinator for UPC, presented nine reasons why UPC programs need the requested funds.

Meister said UPC may appeal its budget requests further to the Association of Students of the University of Nebraska. UPC has made similar appeals in the past, she said.

A lot of the problems associated with the appeals stem from recent changes in CFA procedure. A new format for procedure began last October, too late for UPC to make adjustments in its budget proposal, Meister said.

"The new procedures imple-

mented need serious evaluation," she said.

Meister said the percentage expenditures as of Jan. 1, 1988 can't reflect what expenditures will be for next year because several of this year's programs have yet to occur.

UPC also targets a zero balance of its budgets and does not intentionally over or underspend, she said.

Programs are not locked in and need to be flexible, she said.

"Things happen and it's a dynamic process," she said.

UPC's City budget request was reduced from \$55,310.85 to \$52,145.93, while UPC East's re-

quest was reduced from \$20,510.65 to \$20,350.75.

American Minority Council's request was reduced from \$17,794.01 to \$16,136.80, and the Executive Board's request was reduced from \$5,100 to \$2,834.

Last year's budgets were \$51,749 for City, \$19,291 for East, \$16,591.50 for AMC, and \$2,711 for the Executive Board.

Michele Krieger, CFA's UPC subcommittee chairperson, said the reason for most of the reductions was that the subcommittee didn't feel the requests were justified.

GSL refunds available for some students

By Randy Lyons
Staff Reporter

Students who received Guaranteed Student Loans after Oct. 20, 1987, and were charged an additional .5 percent origination fee will receive a refund.

The additional charge by the federal government was dropped when the new federal budget was passed by Congress. The fee was an attempt to help balance the federal deficit and bring it in line with the Gramm-Rudman-Hollings deficit reduction bill.

At least 250 to 300 University of Nebraska-Lincoln students were affected by the additional charge, said Doug Severs, assistant director of loans in the Office of Scholarships and Financial Aid.

Severs said the financial aid office will notify students of refund checks that are sent to the office. Most of the checks will total about \$20, he said, but it depends on the amount of the loan.

The Department of Education

gave lenders three options for returning the money.

Nancy Boeche, student loan administrator and credit representative for Havelock Bank, 14th and M streets, said a check can be written and given to the borrower. Another option, she said, is to apply the refund amount to a reduction of the loan principal or add it to the next check of a multiple disbursement loan.

She said Havelock Bank is applying the refund to the principal of the loan. The student's bank account is credited. Students have been notified that this has taken place, she said.

Joyce Jones, supervisor for student loans at Union Bank at 19th and O streets, said students who received GSLs through Union Bank will receive refund checks. She said the checks will be sent beginning Feb. 15.

Although students will receive money refunds, Severs said, the quick changes in legislation have caused additional costs for lenders, guarantee agencies and financial aid offices.

He said the changes amounted to five to six extra hours per week of clerical work at UNL. Most of the expenses of the changes are not shouldered by the Department of Education, Severs said; they just notify the agencies to do the work and the cost is passed on.

Boeche said Havelock Bank wasn't notified until Dec. 30 about the change in legislation.

"The government reports for the bank close Dec. 31, and so we had to make a lot of changes before finishing the reports," she said.

Boeche said the changes caused about 16 hours of additional work for the student loan department. She said that although the new rules cost the bank, the bank will benefit eventually because the change in the law will allow the banks to make more profit.

The special allowance rate, established by the government to allow banks to earn a profit by granting loans, rose to 3.25 percent, Boeche said. Previous changes in legislation had reduced the rate to 3 percent.

Although this year's budget passed and the additional .5 percent origination fee has been repealed, Severs said, it is possible the charge could occur again next year.

"If they come to a point where

legislation is not going to meet Gramm-Rudman-Hollings, they'll have to do it again, Severs said. "Knowing the relationship between Congress and the president, it's a possibility."

Helmet bill to be reconsidered

By Amy Edwards
Senior Reporter

Motorcyclists in Nebraska are once again facing the possibility of a mandatory helmet law as legislators voted 30-16 Tuesday to reconsider LB428.

Sen. Vard Johnson of Omaha filed the motion for reconsideration Jan. 27 after the bill failed to pass final reading by two votes Jan. 26.

Johnson said he filed the motion because he was away on business and missed the final reading.

Sen. Ernie Chambers of Omaha said Johnson's absence was not a valid argument for reconsideration, because it could lead to an endless number of reconsidered bills if someone didn't like the outcome of the vote.

Sens. Jacklyn Smith, Frank Korshoj, Scott Moore, Sandra Scofield and Marge Higgins also spoke against reconsideration of the bill.

Smith, of Hastings, and Moore, of Stromsburg, made a priority motion to return LB428 to select file for a

specific amendment.

The amendment would require only motorcyclists 19 years old and under to wear helmets and show proof of motorcycle safety education.

Smith said the amendment would be a good compromise, since motorcyclists would support the amended bill.

Scofield, of Chadron, said she supported the amendment. Without it, she said, the legislation would be resented and would "drive a wedge between us and our constituents."

Sen. Dan Lynch of Omaha, the original sponsor of LB428, read

names of motorcyclists over the age of 19 who were killed in accidents in 1987. Lynch said the amendment would not save lives, because most of the motorcyclists killed in Nebraska were more than 20 years old.

The bill failed to return to select file with a 22-25 vote.

Moore then moved to bracket the bill until today. Twenty-five votes were needed to bracket the bill. The motion failed 24-23.

Sen. William Barrett, speaker of the Legislature, said later that the bill will return to the floor for final reading next week.

Roskens speaks for faculty pay, research money

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the following: Chancellors Martin Massengale, UNL, Del Weber, University of Nebraska-Omaha, and Charles Andrews, University of Nebraska Medical Center; Vice Chancellor Irvin Omtvedt, Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources; Faculty Senate President Jim Lewis, UNL; student regents from each university branch; non-faculty representatives; business, community and parents' organizations; university faculty and university students.

Sen. Dave Landis said the appropriation decision will not come down to decimal points and salaries at peer institutions.

"It comes down to a gut instinct," he said.

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