

# Daily Nebraskan

Thursday

**Weather:** Wednesday, partly cloudy, breezy and cooler, high in the low 40s with winds from the NE at 15-20 mph. Wednesday night, mostly clear and chilly, low of 15-20. Thursday, mostly sunny, high in the low to mid 40s.

**A&E:** Artist in our midsts! —Page 5.

**Sports:** Kansas State defeats Cornhuskers in men's basketball. —Page 13.

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University of Nebraska-Lincoln

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## ASUN kills bill to lower student fees

### Senate to survey UNL about smoking policy

By Lee Rood  
Senior Reporter

ASUN voted Wednesday to survey students and faculty members about a University of Nebraska-Lincoln smoking policy with no discussion, but debate caught fire after the introduction of a bill that would lower student fees.

John Goebel, vice chancellor for business and finance, is waiting for campus input on the policy that would prohibit smoking in many university buildings including classrooms and laboratories.

Surveys are available this afternoon through March 9 at the Student Information Center in the Nebraska Union.

But most discussion at Wednesday night's meeting was on a bill that would have lowered student fees 10 percent.

After about two hours of debate, ASUN members voted against Sen. Steve Henning's bill that would have reduced the budgets of all Fund A and Fund B fee 10 percent.

Fund A fee users are the Daily Nebraskan, the University Programs Council and ASUN. Fund B includes the Nebraska unions, the University Health Center and the Office of Campus Recreation.

Henning, a law student, said he introduced the bill because student fees have increased about 44 percent in the past four years.

Henning said fees should be reduced next year because tuition is likely to go up to pay for part of a faculty salary increase. Students also will face higher book prices and decreased financial aid.

Dan Wolf, chairman of the Committee for Fees Allocation, said the decrease would have been "a sweet way" to end students' paying more next year, but it's not "the best way."

Wolf said he thinks CFA did its job when it recommended fees be increased from \$111 this year to \$115.05 next year because services have also increased. Fees could still increase if the Legislature approves a salary hike for university staff members.

John Bergmeyer, 2nd vice president of ASUN, said if ASUN voted to decrease fees

after just approving an increase, students might think senators are "running scared and that is a bunch of crap."

Bergmeyer told senators to remember why they made the decision in the first place and relay that to their constituents.

James Griesen, vice chancellor for student affairs, said while he did not want to influence senators' votes, he thought the decrease would be a "knee jerk" reaction.

Griesen encouraged senators to "act with great care, study and reflection."

Fee recommendations must also be approved by Griesen and UNL Chancellor Martin Massengale.

Griesen is currently reviewing ASUN's previous fee recommendations.

### Candidates voice plans for action

ASUN elections stirs debate on commitment, qualifications

By Amy Edwards  
Senior Reporter

ACTION and VOICE candidates poked, tested and questioned each other's commitment and qualifications Wednesday for the Association of Students of the University of Nebraska.

Presidential and first vice presidential candidates from both parties joined in the debate, sponsored by the University Program Council's Talks and Topics Committee.

Jeff Petersen, ACTION presidential candidate, said the executive candidates for his party are in prominent ASUN positions and can use



Butch Ireland/Daily Nebraskan

**ACTION first vice presidential candidate Nate Geisert speaks while (from left) Jeff Petersen, ACTION presidential candidate; Chris Stream, VOICE presidential candidate; and Andrew J. Wupper, VOICE first vice presidential candidate listen during an ASUN debate Wednesday afternoon in the Nebraska Union.**

Greek houses to get student input. First vice presidential candidate Nate Geisert said every residence hall floor would select a delegate to relate concerns to ASUN.

Geisert said the party would give a "state of the university address" each semester to hear concerns from off-campus students.

Petersen said ASUN senators would be required to meet with students from their college to discuss ASUN problems and keep the students involved with ASUN.

Stream said UNL students would not be apathetic about student government if they were given a chance to express their views.

The VOICE party has a slate that is 55 percent Greek and 45 percent non-Greek, which Stream said shows they are willing to get fair representation already.

Stream said too many ASUN members belong to the same house as

the president or are in the little-sister program of that house.

"ASUN has become a country club with the execs as the gate keepers," Stream said. "We must tear down the walls of the ASUN country club."

Petersen said the VOICE executives are all members of the same fraternity.

Stream said he and fellow executive candidates Andrew Wupper and Steven Showalter were asked to take over the VOICE party after its original organizers decided not to run.

The candidates also differed on what issues ASUN needs to lobby for at the Nebraska Legislature.

Geisert said Petersen worked with ASUN to help raise faculty salaries. He said that when the administration was willing to "let faculty salaries die," ASUN continued the fight at the Legislature with Petersen's help.

Geisert said ACTION would continue to push for higher faculty sala-

ries to keep quality education at UNL.

Stream said that for the past few years, ASUN has not been dealing with the issues that students face. Stream said the VOICE party would address more than one issue and work to give students something back for what they pay into the system.

Both parties said ASUN needs to improve its image with students.

Wupper, VOICE's first vice presidential candidate, said students from the Afrikan People's Union expressed concerns that they do not see ASUN senators once they are elected.

Wupper said VOICE would assign ASUN senators to attend minority student meetings to keep ASUN aware of their concerns.

Geisert said ACTION is proposing a New Student Orientation program designed specifically to address the problems of foreign students and make them feel like they

are part of the student body.

Candidates were asked to comment on the process for allocating student fees.

Stream said that with a new leadership the Committee for Fees Allocation can be run more efficiently and with better representation.

Petersen said the current process does a thorough job of allocating the "necessary evil" of student fees.

Improvements in communication between senators and students were among both parties' priorities.

Stream said student faith in ASUN must be restored and relations between East and City campuses improved.

Petersen said ACTION priorities are to direct representation from students, to make ASUN senators accountable to their constituents and to create an information hot line to clarify confusing student services.

## Resolution for UNMC health-care project OK'd

By Amy Edwards  
and Mary Nell Westbrook  
Senior Reporters

Nebraska legislators argued for about two hours Wednesday before passing a resolution by a 30-3 vote that would approve the University of Nebraska Medical Center 1988 Health Care project.

The project is designed to address the needs of the center's instruction, ambulatory care, inpatient room renovation and off-street parking.

UNMC wants to enter a cooperative program with Bishop Clarkson Memorial Hospital

to share the expensive equipment needed by both.

The proposal includes \$29 million to finance the project.

LR266, introduced by Sen. Bernice Labedz of Omaha, supports the project and commends the university and the University of Nebraska Board of Regents for their efforts to develop cooperative relations with Bishop Clarkson Memorial Hospital.

Labedz said the regents do not need the Legislature's consent to start the project, but Chancellor Martin Massengale and UNMC officials thought it would be right to get approval.

Sen. Marge Higgins of Omaha made a motion to indefinitely postpone the resolution because she did not know the proposal included the \$29 million for financing.

Higgins later withdrew her motion and asked to have her name withdrawn from the resolution.

Sen. Tim Hall of Omaha urged senators to adopt LR266 because the proposal gives students at UNMC the opportunity to practice with equipment they might use in their careers.

Hall said the \$29 million just "gives them a place to park while they're learning."

Another university-related bill that was

advanced would eliminate the university's associate degree of nursing program.

LB890, introduced by Sen. Arlene Nelson of Grand Island, passed on a 26-0 vote, but not before an amendment the Education Committee added was declared unconstitutional.

In the 1977 Supreme Court case, Board of Regents v. Exon, the board was granted the "power to operate the board as free from political influence as possible."

The proposed amendment would have delegated some of the regents' power to the Nebraska Coordinating Commission, which would have violated the court's ruling.