

# Daily Nebraskan

Tuesday

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**WEATHER:** Tuesday, considerable cloudiness, high near 70 with winds from the NE at 5-15 mph. Tuesday night, cloudy with a 20 percent chance of showers, low in the mid 50s. Wednesday, partly cloudy, high of 70-75.

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## Women's center mission debated at forum

By Eve Nations  
Staff Reporter

An open forum about the Women's Resource Center at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln drew intense debate from about 50 students and 10 community members Monday.

The forum, which included sessions for students, faculty and staff, alumni and community members, was held at the Nebraska Union after numerous complaints were received questioning the purpose of the WRC.

An eight-member review team, chosen by James Griesen, vice chancellor for students affairs, and Peg Johnson, director of special projects in Griesen's office, listened to several hours of discussion.

The team consisted of Johnson, Peg Lonquist, former director of the Women's Resource Center at Iowa State University in Ames; David Brinkerhoff, an associate professor of sociology; Fran Kaye, associate professor of English; Wendy Whalen and Gayle Boyd, undergraduate students; Mary Beth Rice and Connie Neal, two UNL graduate students.

Those who attended, many of whom asked not to be identified, said people on campus were not aware of the center's existence.

Students who once worked in the office said the center needs to make an effort to inform UNL students of their presence and available programs.

"The WRC should be promoting itself to a much larger degree," said Nanci Hamilton, a UNL student and WRC volunteer, "to let people know that feminism is for everyone, not just for radical lesbians."

Several others suggested that the center advertise their programs and facilities.

**'There was never a chance for a resolution to take place because their was never an acknowledgment that there were problems.'**

— Franks

The role that students should play at the center was also discussed.

Several student volunteers said that they felt they were powerless in the decision-making of the center.

At least one former WRC volunteer said most of the problems seemed to stem from the change of a professional staff person from part-time to a full-time position.

Bridget Franks, a former WRC volunteer,

said that when the students raised concerns, they were often ignored.

"When the students raised issues they were concerned about, the response was very much in the line of kill the messenger," Franks said. "I was treated like I was the problem."

Franks also said that Campus Activities and Programs office would not deal with the issues raised.

"No issues were unsolvable," Franks said. "There was never a chance for a resolution to

come to the committee and say the programs were not good."

Some of WRC's programs were frequently considered by some to be of no use on campus, Franks said, and many were discontinued.

"People who were trashing them were quite willing to admit they had never even attended them," Franks said.

Johnson said that Araujo was asked not to attend a majority of Monday's forums so discussions would not be inhibited.

The center's operational aspects was yet another issue raised by former volunteers who asked not to be identified.

Many said they were asked not to stand in certain areas of the center or were told they were smoking in the wrong area or were criticized for slouching on desks when using the phone.

Others said they felt like they were "totally inhibited or threatened by the collective group."

Sheila Bollish, 27, a UNL student and WRC volunteer, said that the center is running in a positive way.

"We have between 15 and 25 new volunteers at the center," Bollish said. "We are touching those not usually involved in feminist issues."

## 'Election Week' may increase voting numbers

By Kari Mott  
Staff Reporter

National Election Week, Sept. 9-16, has been designated to call attention to the importance of registering to vote, according to Joan Peterson, election commissioner for Lancaster County.

Promotional efforts are being utilized to urge people to register to vote before Oct. 28, Peterson said.

"It is important for people to register and it is so easy," Peterson said.

Students requesting information need to call or write to their county clerk and request a mail-in form, she said.

According to Bryan Hill, chairman of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln's Government Liaison Committee, 18 to 20-year-old voters have the lowest voting percentage nationally.

In the 1986 election, a non-presidential election year, only 18.6 percent of the 18 to 20-year-old population voted nationally.

Students who can't get to their county to vote on election day are eligible to apply for an absentee ballot.

A student can send for an absentee ballot by requesting one from their county clerk. The ballots need to be returned to their county, postmarked by the Nov. 8 election day.

GLC will hold a voter registration drive Oct. 4 and 5.

The League of Women voters will

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Doug Carroll/Daily Nebraskan

Adrian Pountney, a sophomore music/education major from Bellevue takes part in Monday night's MTV Remote Control contestant search at the Nebraska Union. The contest was limited to the first 100 people in line, with winners to be flown to New York City later this year to participate on the actual show.

## Minority faculty members say problems still exist

By Jamie Pitts  
Staff Reporter

Despite recent efforts to increase recruitment of minority faculty at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, some minority faculty members say the situation hasn't changed.

Minority faculty recruitment became a major concern of some UNL officials last year. The issue was revived at the Sept. 7 meeting of the Association of Students of the University of Nebraska.

At that meeting, ASUN voted to rewrite a bill urging UNL officials to make further efforts to attract minor-

ity faculty to UNL.

Maurice Tate, instructor in multicultural education, taught at UNL from 1975 to 1978. He returned last May, he said, because he likes Nebraska and the university. But he still hears the same complaints he heard in the 1970's.

"I think things are more covert now," he said.

"People don't really care about those people who have left," Tate said.

UNL's Bureau of Sociological Research is currently conducting a survey of minority faculty members who have stayed at UNL over the last five years, said Robert Furgason, vice

chancellor for academic affairs.

The survey should be completed in October and will help determine areas at UNL that may be causing problems in minority faculty recruitment and retention, he said.

Tate said minority faculty recruitment is important but retaining minority instructors is a larger problem.

"We cannot retain our faculty," Tate said.

"Salary is not the main issue," he said. "The minority community is null, almost nothing."

A balance of faculty is crucial to students' educations because, Tate said, "we can learn from other cultures and other views, the students are

being deprived of some experiences."

James Griesen, vice chancellor of student affairs, said hiring minority faculty members is important because they "expose the white majority to the minority."

Minority faculty members let UNL students see that the world is not all "white and Christian," Griesen said.

Colin Ramsay, assistant professor of actuarial science, returned to UNL this fall after resigning last spring.

Ramsay resigned last spring because faculty and student attitudes weren't conducive to minorities. Another factor, Ramsay said, was UNL students' lack of intellectual

stimulation.

Ramsay said after his resignation he talked to faculty members, students, and Sam Cox, professor and director of the actuarial science department.

Ramsay said he also spoke with State Sen. Ernie Chambers. "He was advising me to stay, and I took that into consideration," Ramsay said.

"The arts and sciences department made a lot of effort to keep me here," Ramsay said. "There were a lot of negotiations."

"They made my stay here more attractive by giving me research fa-

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