

# Equality reigns in military, officer says

By Jana Pedersen  
Staff Reporter

The contribution women are making to the armed forces is increasing, according to Mike Dunn, a commander in the U.S. Navy.

"Women are playing important roles," said Dunn, who is also a naval science professor at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. "They have all the roles men have with only some exceptions."

Nationally in 1987, 14 percent of the enlistments in the Navy's selected reserve and 10.2 percent of those in active duty in the Navy were female. At UNL, 15 of the 130 students involved with the Navy's program are women, which is above the national average.

In 1972, there were about 7,000 women in the Navy. Today, more than 54,000 are enlisted.

Sophomore biology major Amy Wood is a midshipman in the program

here. She said she joined the Navy for the experience.

"I wanted to be exposed to many different career fields because I wasn't really sure what I wanted to do," she said.

Dunn agreed that more women are getting involved because of the expert training provided.

"Here, they're trained technically to lead people, which gives them a good opportunity to succeed. The pay is good, and the promotion is fair," he said.

Women have been given increasingly equal treatment and opportunities for promotion over the past 20 years, Dunn said.

"(Women) are moving beyond what used to be restricted. They're getting away from just shore duty," he said.

Currently, 10.1 percent of the Navy's officers are women, including two recent appointments of female Naval aviators to command air squad-

rons. Wood is optimistic about her chances for promotion.

"That's why I'm here," she said. "I want to develop my career and become a military officer."

Despite advances in equal opportunities for women, some restrictions still exist according to Dunn.

"By law, women are restricted from combat," he said.

Women are allowed in combat zones as part of support teams, he said, but are prohibited from taking part in actual combat.

As far as training is concerned, however, women are given no breaks.

"We all have to do, for example, physical fitness," he said. "Women have to do the sit-ups, the push-ups and the running just like the men do."

He also pointed out that required times for running and required number of sit-ups and push-ups differ between men and women, but the point schedule for which physical

fitness is determined is basically the same.

"In reality, there are certainly some differences between men and women," he said, "but there are no breaks (for women)."

Wood agreed and said she was glad no breaks were given to her.

"If I was treated differently, the advantage would really be a disadvantage because other people would see that I wasn't being treated equally. Really there are no extra advantages. I have to keep working just as hard," she said.

Equal treatment for both men and women is an area that the Navy has placed special emphasis on. In fact, the Navy now requires all enlistees to take a course on sexual harassment.

The course is required because the Navy sees sexual harassment as a waste of productivity, Dunn said.

"We have realized that sexual harassment has been a problem so we are trying to train people how to act

professionally," he said.

However, Dunn said he does not see sexual harassment as a problem in the program here.

"Of course, there will always be harassment by peers, but it's not at all sexually oriented," he said.

Wood agreed, adding that she believes the group is very close.

"Everyone's so supportive," she said. "We all support each other to do our best and to reach our full potential."

This support has led to equal treatment, she said.

"I don't feel that I'm treated any differently by my peers. In the beginning they were sort of testing me out, but once they found I have enough strength to stay with it, they treated me more like a little sister."

Wood said she doesn't mind being treated like a little sister by her peers because she feels it develops a personal relationship.

"I think they see me as just like one of the guys," she said.

# Faculty senate gives support for libraries

By Jamie Pitts  
Staff Reporter

A resolution in support of increased funding for the University of Nebraska-Lincoln libraries was unanimously passed at a Faculty Senate meeting Tuesday at the East Union.

Faculty Senate President Robert Diffendal said the purpose of the resolution is to create interest in fundraising for the libraries.

Diffendal said Tuesday's resolu-

tion was an addition to the one passed last Feb. 2.

The original resolution states, "an essential university priority must be the protection, maintenance, and support of the university library."

"We, the faculty senate encourage the administration to make the libraries a high priority in their request (to the Nebraska legislature) for funding," Agnes Adams, collection management coordinator, said.

"Basically we are running out of room to shelve materials," Adams

said.

"If Love Library continues collecting at the rate we are, we will reach 100 percent capacity in about four years," she said.

If the shelves fill up, more shelves will have to be added which will reduce study space available to students, Adams said.

Current study space available is already 75 percent below American Library Association standards, the resolution states. The budget proposed to the legislature would require

additional monies to raise UNL library standards to peer institutions.

Diffendal said the faculty senate's support is essential because UNL's libraries are, "important to everyone, they're not just a piece of hardware."

Adams said copies of the resolution will be sent to the administration and members of the NU Board of Regents.

Adams said it's also important to let legislators know that no section of UNL's budget proposal takes priority over another.

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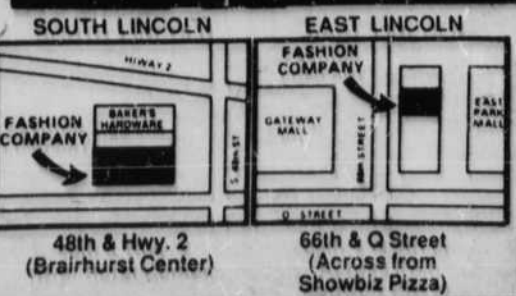
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