

Daily Nebraskan
University of Nebraska-Lincoln

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ASUN revamping

Students would save money, gain control

A major restructuring of branches of the Association of Students of the University of Nebraska was announced by President Jeff Petersen Wednesday night.

The changes, restructuring in the Student Information Center and the Government Liaison Committee as well as other alterations, has not been implemented but would be July 1, 1989, after ASUN Senate approval.

Petersen proposed changes which, as he and GLC chairman Bryan Hill put it, would bring better student representation to the student government. In essence, students would have the strongest voices in deciding the direction of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

The Daily Nebraskan, after much thought and discussion with those individuals involved, agrees.

The GLC/SIC change would eliminate the positions of the staff coordinator of GLC and SIC director, held by one person. The current SIC secretary also would be dismissed. A new position of a GLC/SIC secretary would be created, leaving the coordination of those two offices to students.

The offices and student government will become a stronger force because students are in control. Through GLC, students will create the policies and programs for other students and for the university. GLC will lobby at the Nebraska Legislature as a student lobbying group.

A major problem concerning the DN is the compromising of GLC's lobbying effectiveness without a staff coordinator.

But the staff coordinator does not work directly with legislators. It is more of a managerial position, according to Petersen and Hill.

"It's not a technical job," Hill said. "It's making sure things (projects) get off the ground." Students, he said, could handle the job.

Hill said he consults UNL's professional lobbyists, administrators and professors when dealing with legislators. He also said his experiences as a legislative intern and page have helped him.

He said several UNL students have experience in the Legislature, and many of them would be valuable to GLC. GLC positions, he said, are very attractive to these students.

Possibly the most attractive part of the change is the money students would save in their student fees. Petersen estimates that \$14,000 could be reduced in ASUN's budget without the positions. ASUN draws its revenue from student fee money.

In his opening remarks, Petersen said that it was time somebody took a stand against the rising costs of education. He's right. Its commendable Petersen is taking that stand first by cutting the ASUN budget.

The changes, as sweeping as they may seem, will only benefit UNL students and the university itself.

— Curt Wagner
for the Daily Nebraskan

opinion READER

A voice from DN's past

I had to smile to myself when I read T.E. Graham's description of Daily Nebraskan columnist James Sennett (Daily Nebraskan, Nov. 4) as "cut from the same far-right mold" as William F. Buckley and Pat Buchanan.

Oh, if it were so.

Even aside from Graham's McCarthyite verbiage ("far-right?" Why not just "conservative?" Not enough possibility for smear?) the evidence doesn't support Graham's conclusion.

During my tenure at the DN, I always hoped Sennett would finally come around and contribute his voice to the choir of reaction (in which I sing, a little off-tune sometimes, but always very heartily). Sad to say, in spite of all my best efforts Sennett

insisted and still insists on being an original, independent and eclectic thinker beholden to no ideological posture.

I suppose a freshman can be excused for this, not having the benefit of reading Sennett's work during the four years he has been writing for the DN (and for that scandalously liberal evangelical rag, The Wittenburg Door).

And yet, that Graham should glory in his shame and throw out such a hilariously wild accusation is evidence only of this enduring principle: The most bigoted are the most ignorant. Tsk, tsk, Mr. Graham.

Jim Rogers
Brown University
Providence, R.I.

BULL SHORTS

I wanted to write this week about how much I hate to see the big market football teams (Chicago, New York, L.A.) week in and week out. But how can I do that when there is still such a terrible thing coming over our air waves?

Sarah Thompson is still there. I was hoping I could get them to stop the commercial, but it seems they now are playing it more.

I make a personal challenge to all greeks, residence halls and any individual to get letter-writing campaigns going. Picket the radio stations and Hinky Dinky. Apathy is dead. Now we all have a common cause.



Graduation fears and fantasies

Pollock contemplates and concentrates on future, not present

I apologize. An editorial columnist is supposed to read the news and maintain a good knowledge of current happenings. I have not.

No, it's not because I don't have the time; I am not that bogged down in schoolwork, at least not yet anyway. It's because I simply can't concentrate on things like current events.

Sure, I can keep up in my classes (most of the time), but lately, I just haven't been able to sit and read a newspaper or watch Cable News Network. I try. I sit down, stare at the paper, and my mind wanders away. It strays off worrying about what I want to do with my life — something my younger self (two weeks younger) never did much of.

"No, not me. I'm usually stable and content. I'm practical, I live day-to-day. OK, maybe I start thinking about a test next week or a class next semester."

But this fall is different. I'm realizing that practical is not just next week or next semester or next year. Practical is next... um... the next 40 years. Wow, that's a long time! And it really frightens me, too. It's discouraging to envision myself as a 60-some-year-old, gray-haired idealist who isn't satisfied with life.

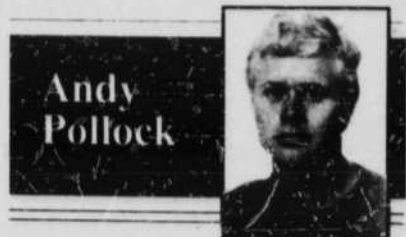
I'm not saying I'm unhappy now, I'm just saying there are things that I wanted to do but haven't. But now, I still have time to do them. In 40 years, I probably won't.

What I am weighing are, on one scale, my personal and societal goals, and on the other scale, my professional goals. About both I wish to learn and enjoy, but only about the

latter is my commitment necessary.

About the former, my commitment is necessary if I think and feel that fulfilling these goals is an important part of happiness. Now, they are important and my desire to fulfill them is real. I hope this attitude won't change tomorrow.

What are my goals? Too many and too weird to describe right here, publicly. But if you want to sit down for a mug of beer or a cup of coffee sometime I'll tell you about some of them.



Andy Pollock

Regardless of what they are, they unfortunately will be placed on the back burner, heating up occasionally. But most of the time, they'll be waiting and probably becoming less impelling and less effective in summoning my desire and ambition.

During my 4 1/2 years at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, these goals have sat on the back burner, idly waiting for Christmas breaks and other free time when I can work on them some more.

But now, I'm asking myself whether I don't have the time or whether I don't have the ambition to fulfill these goals.

I think it's lack of time. I don't have the time to do a lot of things. I don't have the time to read everything I want about Thomas Jefferson or

Karl Marx, or by William Faulkner and R.W. Emerson. I don't have the time to write what I want to write. I don't have the time to worry about what I want to worry about, or what I have to worry about — like deciding what I want to do with my life.

The problem is that I might never have time. And that scares me.

Finding a balance between personal goals and professional necessities appears to be very difficult. I'd like to make enough money to be able to live comfortably and then create spare time during which I could work toward my own goals, which are tasks for which I won't get paid much, if anything.

I guess I'm too much of a materialist to give up living comfortably. That's something that really bothers me about myself. Why can't I just live with the bare necessities and do what I want to do? Why does driving a car, owning a house, having a book collection and traveling seem to be essential parts of my happiness?

I don't think it's inherent, but rather I think it's a product of the environment in which I live.

I hope that I don't get so entrenched in the fantasy of this environment that I forget my goals and how bad it sometimes feels to know that I've not fulfilled them yet.

I think my recent worries have something to do with the fact that in a little more than a month I'll graduate from this university and step closer to that big and mysterious foreign land called "the real world." I'm kind of scared by it all, if you can't tell.

Pollock is a senior news-editorial major and is a Daily Nebraskan editorial columnist.