

Daily Nebraskan
University of Nebraska-Lincoln

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KSC dominates talk People ignore issues concerning NU

Tuesday, a Consultant Study Team will be in the Nebraska Union as one stop in a circuit of hearings to listen to citizens' opinions about higher education in the state.

The team was appointed by the Nebraska Legislature to study Nebraska's higher education system and determine what changes, if any, need to be made.

Unfortunately, most of the testimony heard thus far has been about the pros and cons of adding Kearney State College into the university system. KSC is an important issue, but it is not the only one.

If Tuesday's hearing is anything like the others, politicians will tell the consultants what a logical move adding KSC to the university system is, KSC students will tell the consultants how much they want to attend a university but can't afford or don't want to live in Lincoln or Omaha, and UNL students will tell the consultants how unfair it is to stretch the university budget over another campus.

Of course those opinions need to be heard, but by testifying only about the KSC issue, UNL students are missing a rare opportunity to let people know how they really feel about NU and the governance of higher education in the state.

People have become so concerned about KSC becoming part of the NU system that they've managed to ignore all the other issues that the consultants need to hear about.

What about an official vote for student regents? Have they forgotten that NU students pay a lion's share of the university budget in tuition and fees, yet have no real vote on the NU Board of Regents? Last year's approval of an unofficial vote for student regents was a step in the right direction, but not a big enough step.

The forum also would be a good opportunity to discuss whether the regents should be appointed or elected. In light of the controversy over former NU President Ronald Roskens' dismissal, many students are bound to have strong opinions on that.

And what about the future of NU's central administration? In the past, many in the university community have said that central administration is a bloated, unresponsive bureaucracy, and should be abolished. Others think NU could not survive without it.

No doubt these are controversial issues in the university community. Nonetheless, they should be on the table while the opportunity exists.

Imagine the consulting team's surprise if UNL students spoke up about something other than KSC. After being swamped with testimony about the KSC issue, the consultants may welcome the opportunity to talk about something else.

UNL students certainly should.

-- Jana Pedersen
for the Daily Nebraskan



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Nightmare at Love Library Pursuit of higher education provides higher blood pressure

After four weeks of blowing things off, I made the difficult personal decision of actually staying home from the bars.

Of course, my timing wasn't exactly accidental. I had a 25-page research paper due the next day and there was only one place I could do it -- Love Library.

To get me through this trying experience, I decided to start the night off right with a liter of Mountain Dew. Past encounters with the library's "pop cop" taught me that I had to hide my pop well, so I tucked my treat carefully into my backpack.

It was 5:15 p.m. As I entered the covered outdoor portion of the library, I was blown back by a gale of hurricane proportions -- the Love Library wind tunnel. I staggered toward the door, and using all of my strength, eventually managed to pull it open. Before I could make my way into the library, more wind gushed through the entrance, knocking me over and sending me hurtling backwards like a lost bundle of tumbleweed.

I think I was knocked out for a couple of seconds, recovering not only from the pain, but also from the shock of that unnatural gust of wind. I woke up in a daze and thought I was in a dream because the man helping me up looked like George Michael. Only then did I realize that it was the front desk clerk at the library.

Getting my first obstacle out of the way, I started up the library stairs. I was running a little late, but I had a full night ahead of me, so why should I worry? Twenty-five pages in four hours? No problem.

I made my way to the information desk and asked a woman there how I was supposed to find all the periodicals I needed. After one of those easy-to-follow 15-step processes on how to find what I needed, I was on my way.

I went to the periodical listings and found about 20 possible articles that could help me with my research paper. The only problem was that five

of them were located in Love South, three of them were in Love Northeast, six were in Love North and eight of them were over in Love Southwest. Surely, there was an understandable map to the library somewhere . . . Nah, that would be too easy.

I then took out my compass and started to look for the periodicals.



Kim Beavers

I braved Love Northeast first, only to find out the articles I needed had been torn out. In Love Southeast, I was clueless -- the Love Southeast, I was nowhere to be found. In all my confusion, I managed to find three articles -- by pure luck.

I looked up the books I needed in the card file, and was shocked to find that they were all in the same place. On my way down the stairs, a friend asked me where I was going, I replied, "the stacks." A frightened look came across her face. She asked me if I had some kind of weapon with me . . . I decided I should forget the books and start my research.

As I walked back up the stairs, I started feeling badly, not only because I had been walking through a maze for three hours, but it's truly sad when all of your friends go to the bars and you go to Love Library.

But then I looked around and wondered who could be at the bars because everybody I knew was at the library. I'd discovered a new place to have a social hour. It's funny to watch people with six books in front of them thinking that they're going to get something done. Who are they kidding? They should have brought a six-pack.

The right-hand section of Love

North could have been a fraternity party. In fact, that would be kind of a creative idea . . . There were about 10 different pledge classes sitting down at the tables, and they weren't people I wanted to see.

I had loud shoes on, and with every step I took each head turned and looked. I laughed to myself when I thought about what I must have looked like after my experience in the wind tunnel. Oh, who cared? I wasn't here to try to get a date, I had a paper to write.

By the time I finally sat down and did some research, it was 11:45 p.m. I knew that I had to leave because the library was closing, so I went up to the desk to check out my books.

The only problem was that I had a few library fines. By the time George Michael tallied it up, I figured I would need a student loan to pay it all off.

Being the nice guy that he was, George told me I could hold the books there until the next day. I did and went home to slumber. My nightmare had ended for the evening.

So I didn't get a lot done the first time around, but I knew where the books were, and I had ample time -- two hours -- to finish my paper before class.

I made my way through the wind tunnel uninjured the next morning, chipper and ready to write. I gave the man at the front desk my hold slip to claim my books. He looked under the counter. He looked in the back. He made some phone calls. He found no books.

"Ma'am," he said in the most aggravating voice I've ever heard. "You must be mistaken. We have no books on hold for a Kim Beavers."

At this time, I chose to walk away, vowing never to return again. Forget it. I would rather turn in nothing than go through that nightmare again, it wouldn't be fair to my nerves. My time with Love Library was over.

Beavers is a senior advertising major and a Daily Nebraskan editorial columnist.

editorial

Signed staff editorials represent the official policy of the fall 1988 Daily Nebraskan. Policy is set by the Daily Nebraskan Editorial Board. Its members are Amy Edwards, editor; Lee Rood, editorial page editor; Jane Hirt, managing editor; Brandon Loomis, associate news editor; Bob Nelson, columnist; Jeff Petersen, columnist; Brian Svoboda, columnist.

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Editorial columns represent the opinion of the author.

The Daily Nebraskan's publishers are the regents, who established the UNL Publications Board to supervise the daily production of the paper.

According to policy set by the regents, responsibility for the editorial content of the newspaper lies solely in the hands of its student editors.

Reader says dump Jim
Kill Jim and burn his journal.
Tom O'Hara and Pat Erb
seniors
electrical engineering

letter

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Letters will be selected for publication on the basis of clarity, originality, timeliness and space available. The Daily Nebraskan retains the right

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Readers also are welcome to submit material as guest opinions. Whether material should run as a letter or guest opinion, or not to run, is left to the editor's discretion.

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Anonymous submissions will not be considered for publication. Letters should include the author's name,

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