

COLAGE sponsors Coming Out Day rally

By Robin Trimarchi
Staff Reporter

About 25 students and faculty members at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln participated in Wednesday's National Coming Out Day rally near Broyhill Fountain.

Sponsored by COLAGE, the Committee Offering Lesbian and Gay Events, this year's rally theme was "Take the next step."

COLAGE chairman Dave Whitaker said a rally is only one way for gays, lesbians, and their parents and friends to show their visibility.

"People have the choice of how visible they want to be," Whitaker

said. "They can take any small step."

Whitaker, a senior from North Platte majoring in English, said National Coming Out Day marks the anniversary of the Gay and Lesbian March on Washington, D.C., Oct. 11, 1987, when 600,000 demonstrators marched for gay and lesbian civil rights.

Virginia Uribe, who started Project 10 for gay and lesbian youths at Fairfax High School in Los Angeles, spoke to the crowd about issues of isolation and violence that these youths often face in school.

"Students should have a sense of

worth and desire," Uribe said. "Equality within the education system is a right we shouldn't have to fight for."

"Liberty and justice for all. Remember those words, because they mean everyone."

Margie Winn, a senior advertising major from Omaha, said that coming out provides "positive and realistic role models for gay and lesbian youth."

"Coming out is a difficult process because they are stigmatized," Winn said. There are "different comfort levels and different stages," she said. "It can be a lifelong process."

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duplication and unite office and function, McShane wrote.

It also would give the president enough to do so that he or she would not "micromanage" campuses other than UNL, he wrote.

McShane wrote that an alternative

to combining the offices could be hiring a single staff officer who would answer to the regents and have no independent authority.

Only after central administration problems have been solved, McShane wrote, should the university choose a new chief executive officer.

If the chief executive is selected before the problems are solved, he

wrote, the selection would produce only "the definition of an ideal scoutmaster."

Other concerns such as the addition of KSC into the NU system and redefining roles and missions for each campus of the university can occur only after a final decision is made on how central administration will operate and a chief executive is selected, he wrote.

in brief

NEWS

UNL, Charles University plan 5-week student exchange

Some University of Nebraska students will trade places in 1990 and 1991 with students from Charles University in Prague, Czechoslovakia.

The two universities will have a student exchange, thanks to a \$50,000 grant from the U.S. Information Agency of the U.S. State Department.

Nine students from each university, five in 1990 and four in 1991, will trade places. The exchange will last five weeks.

The University of Nebraska-Lincoln and the University of Nebraska at Omaha received the grant.

Nebraska students who want to participate in the exchange should

be enrolled at UNL or UNO, be under 25 years of age and have a knowledge of Czech.

Since 1981, almost 40 students, faculty members and administrators have participated in the UNO exchange program. UNO currently is hosting two visiting faculty members from Charles University.

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Wood said if ASUN wants to deny funding for any student organization, it must establish content-neutral standards to judge all organizations.

As long as the standards weren't based on the speech content student groups wished to sponsor, he said, the circuit court ruling would not apply.

For example, he said, standards based on attendance would be content-neutral.

Wood said a proposed change in ASUN bylaws to allow the UNL ROTC to be exempt from ASUN constitutional requirements for student organizations would be legal under present law because ROTC is covered under federal law.

The change, sponsored by general studies Sen. Steve Thomlison, would allow ROTC exemption if the ASUN constitution conflicts with federal government regulations.

Thomlison said he proposed the change because federal regulations only allow 17- to 35-year-old students in ROTC, which puts the UNL ROTC program in conflict with the ASUN constitutional requirement prohibiting age discrimination.

But Arts and Sciences Sen. Julie Jorgenson said the change was aimed at allowing ROTC to discriminate on the basis of sexual orientation.

Currently, she said, the ASUN constitution doesn't interfere with ROTC.

The bylaw change motion failed 11-13.

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If students come away from his class with these goals accomplished, Berger says he is satisfied.

However, he says he can't be certain if his goals are met by students.

"I'm not a good judge of that," he says. "You'd have to ask my students."

Helpful, supportive and enthusiastic were the terms used to describe Berger by Brad Vasa, one of Berger's former students and a member of the honors program.

"He presents the material in an interesting way and gets the student excited about it," Vasa says.

"He goes the extra mile."



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