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State senators say plan would help all campuses

By Emily Rosenbaum
Senior Reporter

The plan for sweeping changes in Nebraska's higher education governance, recommended by an independent consulting firm, would benefit post-secondary education by better representing all campuses, according to some state senators.

The proposed creation of seven lay boards of trustees to oversee each state campus would allow the "day-to-day decisions" to be made

'As always happens in higher education, everyone will come in and protect their turf and ignore the big picture.'

-- Moore

for each college and then would provide a new board of regents to "sort the issues," said State Sen. Ron Withem of Papillion.

The Higher Education Committee will hear testimony Wednesday from the advisory committee, which includes NU Regents Nancy Hoch of Nebraska City, Donald Fricke of Lincoln and Margaret Robinson of Norfolk.

Often there is a "turf battle" between campuses, said Withem, co-chairman of the Higher Education Committee created to oversee a study of post-secondary education in Nebraska.

The University of Nebraska at Omaha, for example, may receive a program and University of Nebraska-Lincoln officials later may say they need it also, Withem said. The new plan for governance would allow cohesive decisions to be made by the board of regents, he

said.

"You'll have a lot more coordination from the various campuses," he said.

The proposed changes would create the lay boards to oversee the three NU campuses and the four state colleges. Under the recommendations, a board of regents would be elected to supervise the boards of trustees.

Currently, the Nebraska State Board of Trustees oversees the four state colleges, while the NU Board of Regents oversees the three NU campuses.

State Sen. Scott Moore of Stromsburg said the proposed board of regents could "prioritize the considerations" of the boards of trustees and better represent the interests of all schools.

Moore said the proposed coordinating council, which would coordinate Nebraska's higher education goals, would be an important source of public opinion for the board of regents, allowing them to work with the private sector.

State Sen. Jerome Warner of Waverly, co-chairman of the Higher Education Committee, said, "Conceptually, I think it (the report) responded to concerns that have been voiced over the years."

But the precise role of the proposed boards of trustees and the board of regents must be determined, he said.

"There's nothing in the report I feel is insurmountable," Warner said.

State Sen. John Lindsay of Omaha, a member of the Higher Education Committee, said he agrees with the overall plan for changes in the post-secondary system, but said he wants some details addressed before the committee files its final report.

Lindsay said he could not specify what those details are until the committee has a chance to "read and digest" the recommenda-

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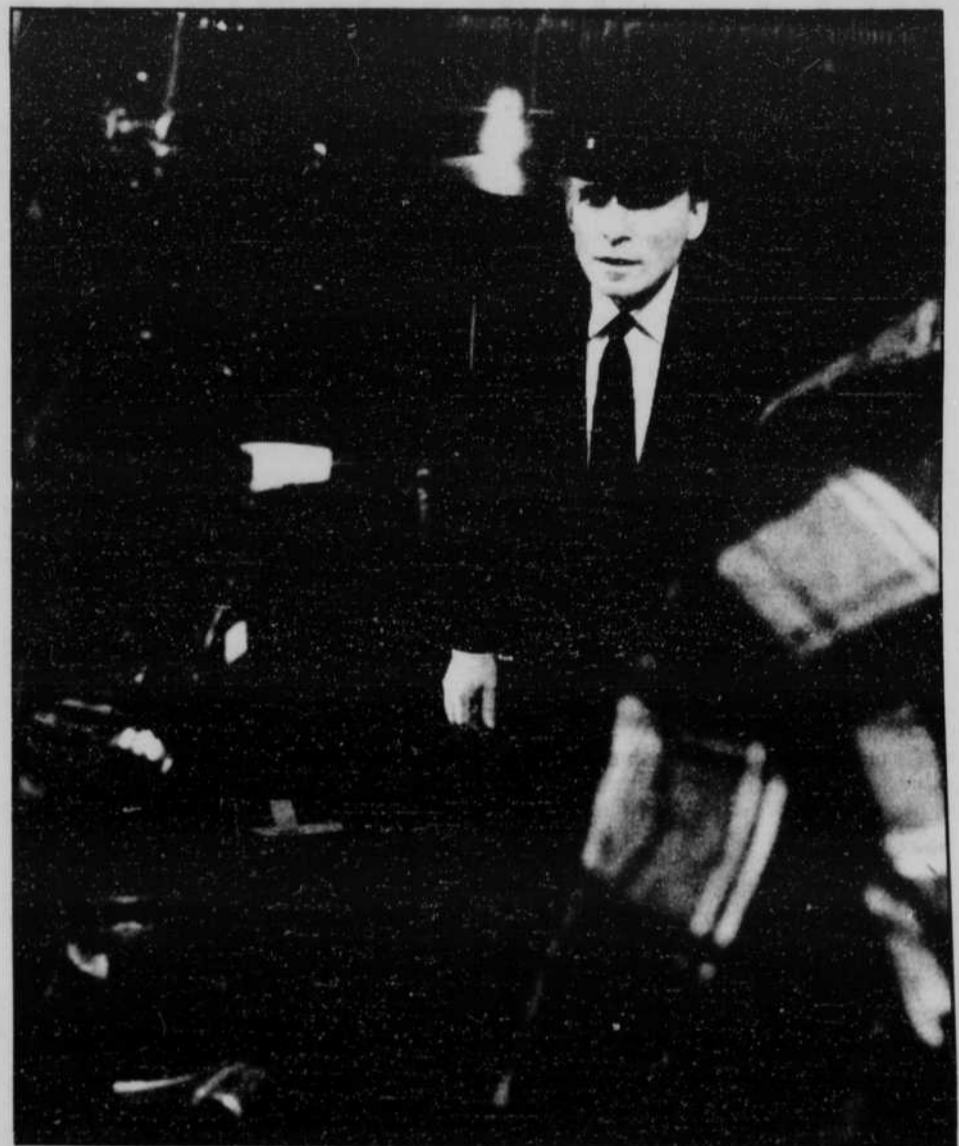
Tuesday

WEATHER:

Tuesday, variable cloudiness, 20 percent chance of light snow, high in the low 20s, south winds 10 to 15 miles per hour. Tuesday night, considerable cloudiness and cold, 30 percent chance of flurries, low of 0. Wednesday, colder, partly cloudy with a chance of flurries, high of 10 to 15.

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William Lauer/Daily Nebraskan

Dick Cavett checks the teleprompter between takes at the Lied Center for Performing Arts Monday. Cavett, a Nebraska native, was in Lincoln to film a promotional spot for the center.

Plans for 21st century

Teachers college to evolve

By C.J. Schepers
Staff Reporter

Educational reform in the 1990s ultimately will dictate high expectations for students enrolled at the UNL Teachers College, according to the college's dean.

"Teachers in the future have got to be prepared to teach differently than they have in the past," James O'Hanlon said Monday.

By the end of the 21st century, these reforms will help the Teachers College evolve from a teacher-training institution into a professional college, he said.

O'Hanlon said several major changes are planned for the college: higher standards for accepting students into the college, a stronger emphasis on scholarly research, a promotion of cultural appreciation, more collaborative research between the university and secondary education, and a stronger computer training curriculum.

In the next few years, such reforms will create stricter criteria for students who apply for admission to the teaching program, he said.

"We are becoming much more selective in our program," O'Hanlon said.

Part of this selective process includes a "personal qualities" test in which students' personal strengths and weaknesses as teachers are measured, O'Hanlon said.

If a student tests poorly in personal traits required of a good teacher, for example, that student may be required to have more practicum experience to build those skills.

Students who apply to the program in their sophomore years would be required to take the test, he said.

The college currently is using the test on a trial basis, and in fact, could officially begin testing by fall of 1990.

Teachers of the future also will need to have a better understanding of their students' culture, home and language backgrounds.

"All schools -- even in small communities -- are becoming more heterogeneous," he said.

O'Hanlon said a growing number of students speak first languages other than English. In fact, at Lincoln High School, 26 native tongues other than English are spoken.

O'Hanlon said he is concerned that some teachers do not understand the effect that culture and home life have on a student's education. Appreciation of different cultures is something that must be addressed to be an effective teacher, he said.

He said the Midwest no longer can work under a "Midwestern white framework," but must educate and understand students from a variety of cultural and ethnic backgrounds.

"It's not going to be a bunch of white middle-class Protestants ...," he said.

Another area of major concern is research. O'Hanlon said professors used to talk about their own experiences as teachers to train students to teach.

But future methods will entail more training based on long-term research results.

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Ex-UNL officer responds to suit

By Jennifer O'Clarka
Staff Reporter

In response to a U.S. District Court suit filed by a former UNL library security guard, a former UNL police officer contends he acted in "good faith," not harassment, during his investigation of the guard.

The response, filed last week, denies allegations that former University of Nebraska-Lincoln police officer Edward Mentzer and the NU Board of Regents are liable to charges filed by the former guard, Raymond Mahlberg.

Mahlberg filed suit in November against Mentzer and the regents for attorneys fees, at least \$750,000 in damages and triple damages under Nebraska Revised Statute 28-926.

The suit states that alleged harassment by Mentzer cost Mahlberg his job at the library, a later job at the University of Nebraska Medical Center and his position on the board of directors of the Nebraska Association of Farmworkers.

According to the suit, Mahlberg, who began working as a Love Library security guard in January 1987, discovered in May a library door that had been forced open. He then noti-

fied UNL police, the suit states.

The suit alleges that Mentzer, the officer dispatched to investigate, concluded "without probable cause" that Mahlberg committed the break-in and took him to UNL police headquarters for more than two hours of interrogation.

Mentzer contacted the Lancaster County Attorney's office to begin criminal proceedings against Mahlberg, the suit states. The county attorney's office informed Mentzer that no action would be taken, the suit states.

Although the defendant's response admits Mentzer contacted the county attorney, it does not address whether the county attorney's office said it would not take action.

According to the original suit, Mentzer then began an investigation of his own into Mahlberg's personal records and background.

Mentzer allegedly contacted Mahlberg's friends and professors during the course of the investigation, the suit states. On July 1, 1987, the Lancaster County Court issued a search warrant so Mentzer could enter Mahlberg's apartment to look for certain computer disks, according to the suit.

The suit says Mentzer and another officer conducted the three-hour search of Mahlberg's home, removing computer equipment, textbooks and personal notebooks. Also, the officers checked serial numbers on Mahlberg's computer, television, stereo, guns, tools and camera equipment, the suit says.

The response states that Mentzer searched Mahlberg's apartment only on July 1. It does not address a warrantless search, stated in the original suit, of Mahlberg's office at UNMC.

In his original suit, Mahlberg alleges that after his apartment was searched, Mentzer arrested him, took him to UNL headquarters and locked him in a closet. Later, Mentzer took Mahlberg to the Lincoln Police Department where he was charged with felony theft by receiving stolen property, the suit states.

Mahlberg's suit also says Mentzer informed a supervisor at Mahlberg's later job at UNMC of the investigation. Mahlberg's suit alleges this action led to his being fired from the position.

On Sept. 29, 1987, Mahlberg's counsel filed a motion to suppress

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Regents approve union pizza franchise

By Lisa Twiestmeyer
Staff Reporter

The NU Board of Regents has approved a lease agreement for the operation of a pizza franchise, scheduled to open in the Nebraska Union by the start of next semester.

At the board's monthly meeting Saturday, regents voted 6-1 to approve a lease agreement with Cormack Enterprises Inc. of Lincoln to operate a Pizza Bakery franchise in

the union.

Pizza Bakery will be located in the area formerly occupied by the UNL Dairy Store east of the information desk on the first floor.

James Griesen, vice chancellor for student affairs, told the regents the Union Board had received and evaluated proposals for four pizza companies: Pizza Bakery, DaVinci's, Plump Tomato and Valentino's.

Griesen said the Union Board chose Pizza Bakery based on taste, quality of food and service at existing

sites, performance and sales at existing sites, total amount of bid, brand recognition and cleanliness and sanitation practices.

Pizza Bakery is different from other pizza vendors, Griesen said, because it sells custom-baked mini pizzas, rather than pizza by the slice.

The franchise uses a 90-second baking process, he said, and all pizzas are custom ordered, fresh baked, and

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