

# Daily Nebraskan

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University of Nebraska-Lincoln

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Friday	
<b>WEATHER</b>	<b>INDEX</b>
Friday, mostly cloudy, 30 percent chance of thundershowers, high around 70, east wind 5-10 miles per hour. Friday night, low around 50. Saturday, partly cloudy and mild, high in the low-70s.	News ..... 2 Editorial ..... 4 Sports ..... 6 Arts & Entertainment ..... 9 Classifieds ..... 10

## UNL professors examine 'fighting words' policy

By Pat Dinslage  
Staff Reporter

Three UNL professors Thursday offered qualified support to the proposed "fighting words" policy.

Two of the professors from the University of Nebraska Lincoln College of Law, at a Student Code of Conduct Review Committee in the Nebraska Union, said the proposal may pass constitutional challenges, but would not address the real issues of verbal attacks and discrimination against minorities.

John Snowden, professor of law, said the proposed policy does not prohibit the sharing of racist or sexist ideas, but focuses only on "fighting words," which are not protected under the First Amendment.

One of the problems with the proposed provision is that it attempts to punish violators only if the words are used to harass someone or a hostile environment is evoked, he said. Those situations could be addressed if they were included in existing disturbing-the-peace provisions of the student code, he said.

And indirect racist, sexist or degrading statements in classes or on banners displayed on campus wouldn't be addressed by the policy, he said.

The consequences of adopting a "fighting words" policy also need to be examined, Snowden said.

"Historically, these statutes have been used against the very people they were trying to protect," he said. "Fighting words policies have been used to oppress minorities."

Anna Shavers, assistant professor of law, said she is not sure what kinds of constitutional challenges would result from passage of the

provision.

Verbal assaults on racial minorities currently are not subject to UNL penalties, she said.

Shavers said she would like to see the code of conduct contain some mention of the kinds of acts addressed by the "fighting words" policy, rather than leaving it as is.

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**One result of the narrow drafting of this policy is that it's not going to reach the kind of thing we want to stop.**

Anna Shavers  
assistant professor of law

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But she said one result of the narrow drafting of the proposed policy -- it would only penalize "personally abusive epithets" -- is that "lots of things offensive to people are not addressed by this policy."

"One result of the narrow drafting of this policy is that it's not going to reach the kind of thing we want to stop," she said.

Colin Ramsay, assistant professor of actuarial science, said that to be substantial, a "fighting words" policy would have to infringe on freedom of speech.

Ramsay said if the university wants to make a "serious attempt" to address discrimination, education is required, and courses should be es-

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## Involvement needed to solve Earth's problems, speaker says

By Julia Mikolajcik  
Staff Reporter

The environmental crisis is not just about dirty air and acid rain, but about the survival of humanity, a UNL professor said Thursday.

Royce Ballinger, director of the School of Biological Sciences, spoke in the Nebraska Union as part of a series of speeches in conjunction with Earth Day.

Ballinger said most people don't seem to care about the environment or think about the long-term effects that pollution and global warming will have on the Earth. He said people may be interested, but they may have more immediate obligations.

Many people think some unknown science or technology will solve the Earth's problems. Ballinger said it takes more than technology, and people will have to change their lifestyles to improve the environment.

"It will probably take a major environ-

mental crisis" for people to act on environmental problems, he said.

Ballinger said people waste time questioning global warming. Instead, he said, they should do something to stop it.

Global warming probably already has begun because in 1880 the average global temperature was 57 1/2 degrees compared to a 1989 average of 60 degrees, he said.

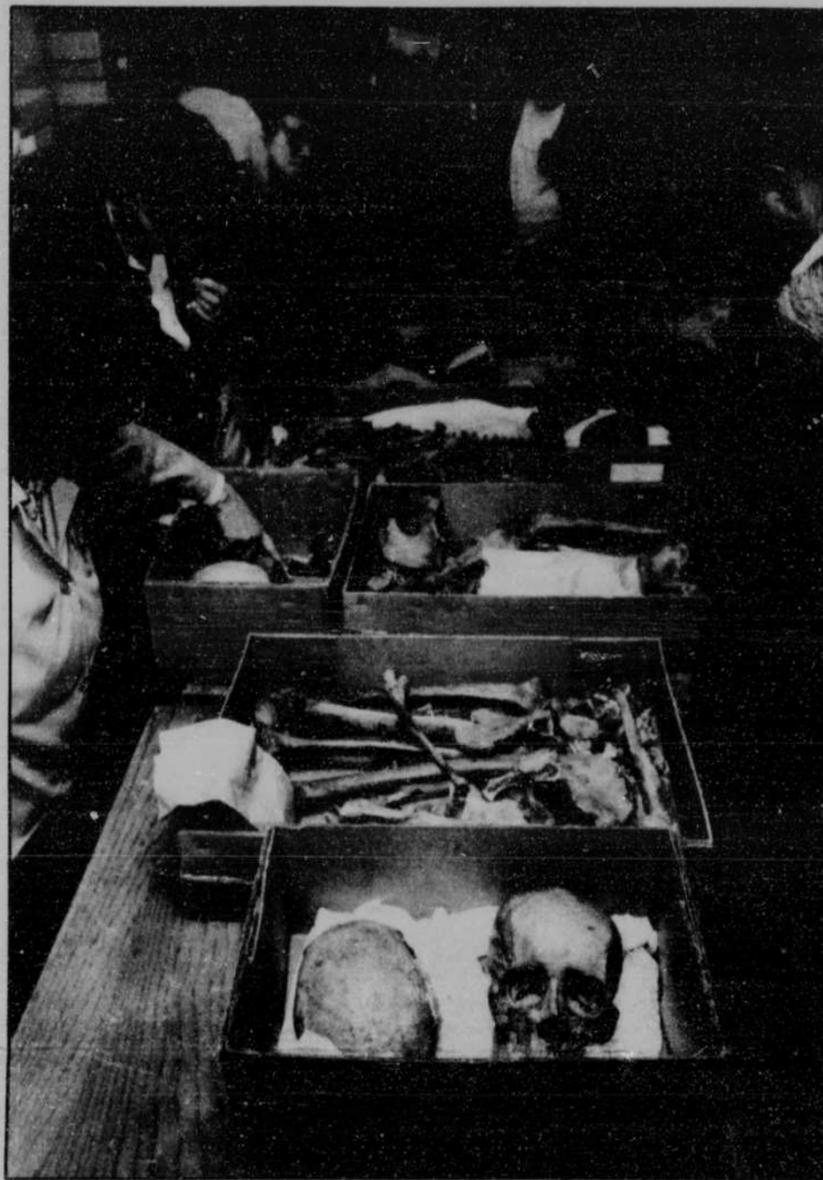
Ballinger said a seven-degree temperature rise is predicted to melt the polar ice caps, raising the sea level by two to five feet in the next 50 to 100 years.

To save the environment, he said, drastic changes are needed. He recommended using wind and solar energy, and not burning fossil fuels.

Ballinger was involved in the first Earth Day in 1970. He said 20 years ago, "the new word was 'ecology' and every lay person thought it was a general term for all kinds of pollution," he said.

"Recycling was something you did when you cleaned out the barn to let the garden grow," he said.

The world has made some progress since then, but environmental problems will not go away and "all of us must get involved," he said.



Butch Ireland/Daily Nebraskan

Members of the Omaha and Santee Sioux tribes look at some of their ancestral remains Thursday afternoon in Nebraska Hall. The remains eventually will be returned to the Omaha for reburial in compliance with Nebraska legislation.

## Yost to join Alabama university

Thomas Clouse  
Staff Reporter

A University of Nebraska-Lincoln official has been appointed provost and vice president for academic affairs at the University of Alabama at Huntsville.

John Yost, UNL vice chancellor for research and dean of graduate studies, was selected from a national search conducted by UAH, a university of 8,100 students.

Yost, who has been at UNL since 1967, said he accepted the Alabama position because of the "adventure and risk" involved with a new job.



Yost

The Alabama position, Yost said, gives him the opportunity to work at a "relatively young and developing institution at a higher level of responsibility."

Yost will begin his new job Aug. 1.

Louis Padulo, UAH president, said in a press release that the university had excellent people to choose from, but Yost was nominated early in the search and immediately emerged as the leader.

John Goebel, UNL vice chancellor for business and finance, said university officials will see how Yost's UNL position fits into UNL's long-range goals, then create a search committee to find a replacement.

"John was really an outstanding scholar and administrator, and he'll be sorely missed," Goebel said.

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## Retired businesspeople use past experience

By Emily Rosenbaum  
Senior Reporter

A group of retired men and women is helping people SCORE in the business world.

The Service Corps of Retired Executives is in its 26th year of offering consultation to people who want to open businesses.

Orville DeFrain, who served as chairman of SCORE last year, said the free service was started because of concern about the growing number of small businesses forced to declare bankruptcy.

The Small Business Administration, a government agency based in

Washington, D.C., started SCORE to provide legal information, advice and answer questions for people wanting to open businesses.

"The idea is to help prevent, if we possibly can, businesses from going broke," DeFrain said.

The Lincoln division of SCORE is made up of 50 retired businesspeople, who have owned and been involved in businesses, DeFrain said. Over the years, SCORE has included doctors, lawyers, accountants and a shoe store owner, he said.

DeFrain opened Camp-A-Way, a campground located at First and Superior streets, 10 years ago. He

said the experience of starting a business convinced him to help others if he could.

"We had to learn the hard way," DeFrain said. "Experience is great, but it sure as hell can cost you a lot sometimes."

He said a lot of people have "no idea" what it takes to open a business and make it a success.

"Some think all you have to do is open the door and have a cash register to collect all the money," DeFrain said.

Another problem some new businesses have is that they usually don't make money the first year, he said.

Some new business owners don't realize that and will sink a vast amount of money into a business and have nothing left to live on that first year, he said.

"They go under because they are actually working for nothing the first year," DeFrain said.

He said SCORE counselors try to warn people who come to them about the pitfalls of new businesses.

"We don't try to deliberately discourage anyone," he said. "We just want to see if they can live up to all the obligations of opening a business."

Potential business owners who come

to SCORE first must fill out applications. Then their requests are assigned to a counselor who matches their needs most closely.

SCORE receives about 325 applications every year, he said.

"We sort of take them by the hand and lead them through things," DeFrain said.

Although SCORE was started by a government agency, it receives no government aid other than office supplies, and the counselors all are volunteers.

"There's nothing more pleasing than watching someone you've helped go on to success," DeFrain said.