

Editor tells of first college experience

So, yer a college student now. Congratulations. You're in. You made it. A whole new world of experiences awaits you.

I'm going to tell you a little bit about my first experiences with college and the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

I came down from Omaha to New Student Enrollment with my mom. It was a rainy, cold day. I wasn't happy. I signed up for classes. I wasn't happy. We ate residence hall food. My stomach wasn't happy.

But I thought my experiences with NSE were good ones overall because I got a feel of what it was like to be in college. It was cool.

When August rolled around, I was ready. I wanted to get out of Omaha and dive right into college life. Two guys and I moved into our triple room in Abel Hall the first day the halls opened. We were so happy to be starting college.

That night we went to our first college party. A friend of ours from Omaha was having a shindig and he invited us over. We walked in the door to find a guy named Zig with two gushing taps from Old Milwaukee kegs pouring into his mouth. Wow, college.

This column is supposed to be about my first

college experiences, but to tell you the truth, I don't remember this one too well. I would like to tell you how great that party was, but I can't because I honestly don't remember that much of it.

I guess we had fun because the next morning I awoke to find one of my roommates puking and the other running down the hall holding his drawers.



"So, this is college," I thought to myself as I began to miss Omaha, my parents, my bed, my dog. Yep, I wanted to go home. I was genuinely homesick the first few days I was in college. What a disappointment.

I eventually got over my homesickness, and I was ready for school to start. My roommates and I went to buy our books.

After we did that there was nothing to do so we waited around and drank beer until school started.

When the first day of classes finally arrived I was so excited and nervous that I sat on the edge of my bed and watched "Nothing in Common" twice.

It was finally time to go to my first college class, French 101. I left my dorm room about a half hour early to be sure I could find the building and was on time for class. Well, to make a long story short, I couldn't find the building, and I was about twenty minutes late.

God, I felt dumb. I finally sat down and looked around the room. This didn't seem like that big of a deal. The class had about twenty people in it, and they all looked like nice people. The teacher was a really nice woman from France with one of those sexy accents.

I left that class feeling only mildly stupid. My next class was right down the hall in the same building. Once again, no big deal.

The next day I had a class in the Love Library auditorium. Wow. I had never seen so many people in one classroom before. It was kind of intimidating. But things did get better

when I happened to see Mike, a friend of mine from high school, across the swarm of people. We sat down together and listened to the teacher explain a little about the class. And then, after five minutes he let the class out. Awesome.

My classes were your basic college courses. A lot of reading was assigned, and I didn't do much of it. I don't know if teachers really expect you to read all of the stuff they assign, but it's up to you if you read it or not.

I think one thing college freshmen find out about classes is that you get out of them what you put into them.

In high school you HAD to do the work. You had to turn in your math assignment every day. In college, you won't have teachers picking up assignments every day. They just assume you do the work they assign.

A lot of times, written homework isn't assigned, it is recommended.

I recommend that you do the work. My first semester I didn't do anything. By the time finals rolled around, I had forgotten where a few of my classes were.

That semester I got lucky. I got a 3.0 GPA.

See **HEREK** on 9

ASUN president encourages new students to get involved

By Cindy Wostrel
Staff Reporter

The office of the Association of Students of the University of Nebraska isn't just for student leaders, according to ASUN President Phil Gosch.

"I encourage them (new students) to come in here because this is their office," he said.

Gosch said students can come to the ASUN office, located in room 115 of the Nebraska Union, anytime with problems or concerns about campus, city, state and national issues.

ASUN, UNL's student government, is the vehicle for student fees allocation, he said. It also represents students to the administration, committees, the NU Board of Regents and the Nebraska Legislature. And through Student Legal Services, it helps to provide free legal advice to students, he said.

ASUN First Vice President Stacy Mohling said ASUN also considers complaints about violations of the university's dead week policy. Dead week is the week before finals when no tests may be administered and no new homework may be assigned.

Gosch said that next year, ASUN will continue lobbying the Legislature and will work to achieve a statewide coalition of college students.

And, he said, "I think you'll see a lot of ASUN involvement in minority issues."



Gosch



Mohling



Scott

ASUN also will strive to increase appreciation of cultural diversity at the university next year, he said.

Gosch said UNL is "a whole different culture" for many students who must adjust to students of different skin color, accent and sexual preference.

Gosch said he wants the current ASUN government to be both more visible and more successful than past administrations.

Mohling said this summer's projects include promoting a campuswide system of outdoor telephones to increase safety on campus. That system should be in place by this fall, she

said. Another plan to promote safety is the expansion of a campuswide program in which fraternities, sororities, residence halls and possibly ASUN itself would provide escorts for students crossing campus at night, she said.

Mohling said that students who want to get involved in student government should contact ASUN Second Vice President Yolanda Scott, who is in charge of appointments.

"They can go to me for information if they want to get something (projects) started," she said.

Gosch said there are positions open

on student government throughout the year. Any student who is interested in student government should come into the ASUN office, Gosch said, and he will find an opening for the student.

One option for students is working on the Government Liaison Committee. Mohling said GLC lobbies the Nebraska Legislature for student needs. Any student can be a member of the GLC, she said.

Students active in the committee attend weekly meetings and may be involved in activities like speaking to organizations to encourage them to pass resolutions and distributing petitions to students, Mohling said.

Executives fill different roles

The Association of Students of the University Nebraska is composed of three executives--the president and first and second vice presidents--and a student senate.

The ASUN president, Phil Gosch, sits on the NU Board of Regents and serves as the voice of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln student body.

The first vice president, Stacy Mohling, acts as a liaison with the faculty senate and presides over the ASUN senate.

The second vice president, Yolanda Scott, serves on the appointments board and performs general public relations duties.

The ASUN senate, comprised of representatives from each UNL college, meets weekly to debate and pass legislation on campus issues.

Senators introduce legislation to the executive committee, which assigns the legislation to committees. If the legislation receives committee approval, it moves on to the senate and then to the president to be signed or vetoed. A two-thirds vote by the senate is required to override a presidential veto.



Shelf-expression . . .

Above: Roger Simond, a new student, browses among the shelves in the University Bookstore. Simond plans to major in mathematics in the fall.

The Nebraska Bookstore offers shoppers three levels to choose from.

Photos by Michelle Paulman for the Daily Nebraskan.