

# Students condemn, defend ASUN president

## ASUN president pressed to resign for campaign deal

On Wednesday, Sept. 13, I attended the weekly Association of Students of the University of Nebraska meeting and called for the immediate, absolute and unconditional resignation of ASUN President Phil Gosch.

The senators lined up on Gosch's side. That was expected. What I did not expect, however, was the flawed logic that was used to base their support.

College of Journalism Sen. Alisa Miller said that because ASUN had passed twice as much legislation as last year, this proves Gosch provides leadership.

College of Business Administration Sen. Dave Gale said, "We're not in the business of debating morals or wrongs. We're here to help students."

The senators almost universally want to forget Gosch's "mistake" and move on.

I wish it were that simple.

I just want each and every senator to put themselves in Deb Fiddelke's shoes. How would each of you feel if your opponent in the ASUN had underhandedly acted to take victory in the election away from you?

Would you then want to forget and move on?

I question whether you can move on.

The 1990 version of the U.S.S. student government was built with a crack in its hull. As the ship continues to sail, how much will the hull continue to crack? How much water will the ship take on? When will the ship sink?

Oh, it will eventually sink.

I urge the Daily Nebraskan to support my call for Gosch's resignation, and I call for the support of other students. If you are a student concerned with the actions of Gosch, let him know, call him. Tell Gosch to resign.

ASUN senators say and preach what a "wonderful" job Gosch is doing. And they may be right.

My only question is, what kind of job would Deb Fiddelke be doing?

But we'll never know because Gosch decided winning at any cost was acceptable.

Gosch, I urge you once more to do the right thing -- resign immediately.

Harold Houser  
senior  
teachers college

## UNL student body urged to keep faith in student leaders

I would like to respond to the recent articles and editorials concerning the alleged "secret deals" and improprieties involving President Phil Gosch, his student-election group VISION and Joe Bowman and his STAND party.

The first thing I would like to do is ask the student body to not lose faith

in the Association of Students of the University of Nebraska because of this incident. As a student senator, I feel safe in saying that most, if not all, of the current Senate had no idea or notion about this incident until very recently. We, as senators, try to make the best possible decisions for the students we represent, and after the election we put aside party ties to become an effective Senate with open minds. I beg students to remember that we will continue to be open and honest to their ideas, needs and concerns.

The second thing I would like to say is that all three political parties made mistakes in the last election that should not go unnoticed; but, we have to look at some of the good things they did as well. It is a fact that last year's election saw the highest voter turnout at this university in years, and participation by students in the election process sent a message to the NU Board of Regents that we are not as apathetic as they might think. Also, we had three quality parties with ideas that have made this university a better place to live. I have often noticed that newspapers forget the positives in order to accentuate the negatives.

The third thing I think we need to do is evaluate the job that Gosch has done. It seems to me that in every case he fights for, he never seems to forget that he is representing the student body that elected him. For example, he spent the entire summer working with administrators and students to find scholarships for South African students so that they can study our freedoms and principles and go back home and make a difference. He also is forcing the Board of Regents to take a position on South African divestment so that they are not allowed to play politics with this controversial issue. He established a bipartisan committee made up of teachers, administrators and students to find a solution to the "fighting words" discussions last year. And, he followed through with his campaign promise by allowing the Senate to elect the GLC chairperson. I admit I am seriously questioning his thinking last year when he signed that document, but in my eyes he has more than redeemed himself by his performance in the last six months.

The last issue I want to address is the document surrounding the firing of Marlene Beyke. I think that Joe Bowman, Russ Johnson and the rest of the people criticizing Beyke are way out of line. I certainly feel it is unfair to make allegations about someone without first confronting that person for their opinion. What kind of credibility can we give those who criticize and condemn someone without any substantial proof? I have personally worked with Beyke for nine months and it is my opinion that she is a tremendous asset to ASUN and to the student body. We are lucky to have her.

In conclusion, I think it is time we put this entire controversy behind us. The truth is out, the allegations have been made and the accused and involved have responded. We need unity

on this campus to get things done, and I think it is time to forgive and forget.

ASUN Sen. Andrew Sigerson  
sophomore  
general studies

## Beyke applauded for contributions to student leaders

In response to your front page article and ensuing editorial on Sept. 11, 1990, I wish to convey my feelings of admiration and respect for Marlene Beyke, ASUN director of development.

Throughout my three years of service to ASUN, I had the distinct opportunity to work closely with Beyke on many student issues and projects. Beyke is, by no stretch of the imagination, a power monger. She has always been impartial in her support and advocacy of issues and projects, but determined and inspired in her execution and support of the decisions of students.

Beyke's continual support of ASUN representatives and other student leaders has been admirable. Other student organization advisors should follow the lead of Beyke in listening to and respecting the opinions of students. Although Beyke is a friend to many student leaders, she has never attempted to sway their opinions nor supported any candidates in any way during elections.

In short, the students of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln are fortunate to have a person with the experience, integrity and drive of Beyke.

John Bergmeyer  
law college  
Former ASUN senator and second vice president

## STAND members not going to stand by former leaders

We, the members of STAND, would like to clear some misconceptions about STAND's role in the recently disclosed deal between Joe Bowman and Phil Gosch.

STAND as a party had nothing to do with the unethical and morally bereft decision to endorse Phil Gosch in return for his promise to fire Marlene Beyke. As you may recall, the majority of STAND refuted Bowman's endorsement publicly and in the Daily Nebraskan immediately after the ill-advised endorsement was made known.

Most of us only learned of the deal last Tuesday when the DN revealed it. It was never discussed in STAND meetings. We thought STAND stood against such impropriety and corruption. Evidently Joe Bowman, STAND presidential candidate, and Mark Buhrdorf, STAND campaign manager, thought not. They betrayed us and everyone who supported STAND. Phil Gosch's role in this deal was

equally improper and casts doubt on his qualities as student-body leader.

Marlene Beyke serves as an information source for senators and executives of ASUN. Conspiracy theories about her are utterly irrational, paranoid and stupid; they are false.

For everyone who supported STAND for its proclaimed ideals, thank you. Had we known Joe and Mark had putridly improper ends in mind, we would not have run with STAND.

Lynn Kister  
junior  
women studies/English

Jeremy Felker  
junior  
political science

Steven Berryman  
senior  
political science/philosophy

Ike Isaacson  
graduate student  
chemistry/engineering

Nell Eckersley  
junior  
Spanish/sociology

Christopher Potter  
senior  
arts and sciences

Barbara E. Walker  
junior  
arts and sciences

Todd Long  
senior  
business

U.S. Department of Health & Human Services

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