

ASUN applauds NU Foundation and the Office of Student Affairs

By Cindy Wostrel
Staff Reporter

Student leaders on Wednesday applauded the NU Foundation for partially divesting of its South African investments and commended the Office of Student Affairs for helping students being activated to the military.

ASUN President Phil Gosch said it was proper for the Senate to thank the foundation for divestment of South African interests.

Sen. Chris Potter of the College of Arts and Sciences agreed that the Association of Students of the University of Nebraska should thank the foundation but reminded members that it was only a partial divestment.

Last spring, ASUN called for the foundation to divest of its South

African investments. Gosch said that the foundation's divestment shows that student government can have some effect.

"We did have something to do with that," he said.

That resolution passed unanimously, as did the resolution commending the Office of Student Affairs for helping students who are activated due to the Middle East crisis.

Senators debated whether to bring another resolution to the floor on emergency status that would support Spencer resident Lowell Fisher. Fisher is on a hunger strike to protest the nuclear waste site to be developed in Boyd County. The site has been approved without full support of county residents.

Potter said the resolution does not take a stand on the issue of

nuclear waste disposal but supports Fisher's efforts at gaining community consent. Ecology Now-UNL voted Tuesday to support Fisher.

General studies Sen. Andy Sigerson said the resolution, which was distributed to senators about two hours before the meeting, needed more consideration before being brought to the floor.

"I just really think that sends a bad message to the people we represent that we can vote on an issue with only about two hours notice," he said.

The resolution will be considered at next week's meeting.

The body also elected arts and sciences Sen. Andy Massey speaker of the Senate.

The Senate speaker is a member of the Appointments Board and can initiate legislation.

Amendment

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State College Board of Trustees, keeping down costs and making programs more effective.

The structure of the Board of Regents and the Board of Trustees would stay the same, but the boards' duties would be reduced to the day-to-day management of institutions.

The new commission's 11 members would be appointed by the governor with the approval of the Legislature for six-year terms. Six members would be chosen from six districts of equal population and five would be chosen on a statewide basis.

If the amendment is approved, the new coordinating commission would become effective Jan. 1, 1992.

The proposed measure has the support of citizens and leading educators from across the state.

Sue Renken, a co-chairperson of Nebraskans for Cost-Efficient Higher Education, said she is "very confident" that the amendment will be approved in November.

"The only thing that would defeat us is the failure of people to vote," Renken said.

The main objective of the committee is to raise the consciousness of Nebraskans to the higher education

issue, Renken said.

D.B. "Woody" Varner, former NU president and member of the committee, said the committee is trying to educate the public through brochures, news releases, newspaper advertisements and television commercials.

"I think the chances of passing this amendment are pretty good," Varner said. "But awareness of the issue is important because someone who doesn't vote at all has in effect voted against it."

Regents chairman Don Blank of McCook, a member of the committee, said he believes there is a chance the amendment won't be approved because it originated in the Legislature and not as an initiative referendum.

"With an initiative referendum, you already have a lot of support from the public," Blank said. "An amendment originating in the Legislature is very difficult to pass because you don't have a groundswell of people already supporting it."

Blank said many other issues, such as the proposed 2 percent lid, are taking the spotlight on this year's ballot.

"Amendment Four could get lost in the shuffle," Blank said. "The end of the world won't come around if it doesn't pass. The issue can always be brought up again."

Panel calls for diversity

By David Burchell
Staff Reporter

Panelists on cultural diversity agreed that cultural diversity is important, but disagreed on how to achieve that goal.

The panel discussion Wednesday in the Nebraska Union was part of Appreciating Cultural Diversity Week sponsored by the University Program Council.

The six panelists discussed their own views of racial diversity and experiences with differing racial attitudes.

Helen Long Soldier, a counselor with the Office of Multicultural Affairs, said, "We do not have racial diversity on this campus."

Long Soldier said that in comparison with campuses in other regions, the number of minority students at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln

is low. The University of California-Berkeley, she said, is 60 percent non-white.

The university needs to do more recruitment of "people of color," she said.

"We need to stop looking at racial diversity as a burden or a problem," Long Soldier said.

Reshell Ray, coordinator of ethnic and minority programs and services with Campus Activities and Programs, said members of different racial groups need to get "back to the basics" when it comes to racial relations.

"I'm not convinced that just getting more (minority) people here is the answer," she said.

Dealing with racial diversity must be started at the individual level, Ray said, by improving relations between people of different groups.

Ed Munoz, a graduate student in

sociology, said UNL needs true diversity, not just equity between black and white.

"To me, it seems like there is a more active recruitment of African-Americans and Asian-Americans," he said.

Chicanos and Native Americans don't get their share of recruitment, Munoz said.

Vaughn Robertson, counselor for the Minority Assistance Program and assistant director for the Student Opportunities and Services Program, called for a universitywide plan to achieve racial diversity.

Racial relations should be a part of UNL's mission, he said, with racial diversity issues incorporated into every instructional aspect of the university.

"It seems to be that the whole issue of the plan" hasn't been addressed, he said.

Women

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Sadker said.

The problem doesn't begin in college classrooms, she said.

Men do better than women on the American College Test before college, she said, and this trend continues on graduate school entrance exams.

That can surprise some women who get good grades, she said. She said A's sometimes are given to women as a compromise "for being good."

Men get more attention both in quality and in quantity, Myra Sadker said.

According to previous studies, men are asked more thought-provoking questions than women, who are primarily asked questions of rote mem-

ory, she said.

The questions men are asked challenge them -- the questions are broad and analytical, she said.

For their participation, men receive both more praise and more criticism, she said, which allow them to improve.

Wright said the Teaching and Learning Center at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln will help professors videotape and analyze their classes using a method that the Sadkers developed.

Professors then can look for differences in how they treat men and women, she said, which is difficult to do while they are teaching.

But ultimately, it's up to the students to get involved, Myra Sadker said.

"Students have got to know that education is not a spectator sport," she said.

Cuts

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the Department of Education.

But he said \$44.5 million would be cut in the amount of special allowances paid to lenders. The cut would decrease the allowance paid to lenders from 3.25 percent to 3 percent, he said.

Lenders would raise the origination fee for borrowers from 5 percent to 5.5 percent to compensate, Beacon said. Origination fees are the initial fees a student is charged for a loan application.

"If there's any impact, it will be on the student, because the origination fee (would be) increased by half a percent," he said.

The Gramm-Rudman-Hollings

Deficit Reduction Act sets targets for each year's deficit, an official from the Office of Management and Budget in Washington, D.C., said. If the actual deficit is higher than the target deficit, cuts are made, he said.

The target deficit for the fiscal year ending Monday was \$64 billion. In August, the actual deficit was estimated to be \$149.4 billion, the official said.

The difference, \$85.4 billion, will be cut from the budget Monday, unless Congress and Bush's administration reach an agreement to make cuts in other areas, he said.

"The possibilities are up in the air. There are a number of different proposals," the spokesman said.

If an agreement is not reached by the end of the 1990 fiscal year, most government programs will be cut across the board, the spokesman said.

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police REPORT

Beginning midnight Tuesday, Sept. 25

2:24 a.m. -- Bicycle stolen, reported late, Bob Devaney Sports Center, \$225.

8:21 a.m. -- Indecent exposure, reported late, C.Y. Thompson Library.

9:02 a.m. -- Book bag stolen from auto, parking lot south of Bob Devaney Sports Center, \$34.