

Regent: Revised guidelines need attention

By Jennifer O'Cilka
Senior Reporter

Regent Kermit Hansen of Elkhorn Thursday said he will not pursue plans to bring up on emergency status revised role and mission statements for consideration by the NU Board of Regents today.

This is because Kearney State College introduced its role and mission statement Thursday before the NU Board of Regents Planning and Governance Subcommittee, of which Hansen is chairman, he said.

The regents are meeting today in Varner Hall at 8 a.m.

The role and mission statements for NU central administration, the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, the University of Nebraska Medical Center and the University of Nebraska at Omaha were brought up at the Sept. 7 board

meeting as an information item. Before Kearney introduced its role and mission, Hansen said, he might have considered bringing the statements before the board on emergency.

The campus role and mission statements are the "most important" things the regents have to consider, he said. And, although the issue did not make it onto October's agenda, Hansen said, he thought it should be considered as soon as possible.

"I think early action is in the best interests of the board," he said.

Regents Chairman Don Blank of McCook said the board should not consider the issue today because the consulting firm hired by the Nebraska Legislature, Widmayer and Associates of Chicago, has not released its recommendations yet.

Widmayer is studying role and mission as

the second part of the LB247 study mandated by the Legislature.

The firm should release the role and mission recommendations soon after the November regents meeting, Blank said.

"Some of the regents and I tend to agree that it might be a little presumptuous" to act before those recommendations are made, Blank said, because the state constitution gives the Legislature responsibility for the role and mission of the university campuses.

The content of proposed role and mission statements is not the reason the issue did not appear on today's agenda, Blank said.

"I don't think it's a big issue," he said. "It's procedurally how we move forward, not only for the benefit of the university but also the state."

Hansen said the regents should take action before the consulting firm makes its role and

mission recommendations.

"We need to say what business we're in," Hansen said. "We need something to discuss away from rather than react to."

UNL Student Regent Phil Gosch, however, said it seems "fiscally irresponsible to approve the new role and mission statements" before Widmayer and Associates make their recommendations.

The role and mission statements are long-term guides for the university, he said, and delaying the decision for a month or two would not hurt.

Regent Margaret Robinson of Norfolk said she feels the two regents to be elected Nov. 6, who will join the board in January, should be a part of the role and mission decisions because they will be making the role and mission work.

"I hate to have anyone feel that something was rushed without their input," she said.

Regents to consider repairs on some UNL buildings

From Staff Reports

The NU Board of Regents on Friday plans to act on a resolution that would allow repairs to the University Health Center, Nebraska Unions and some university housing buildings.

If the board approves the resolution, \$558,700 would be spent on the repairs.

Requested repairs include the conversion of kitchen space into classroom space at the health center for \$40,000; the purchase of cash registers, micro-computers and software,

and student ID card scanners for the unions costing \$68,800; mattress and drapery replacements in residence hall rooms for \$55,000; and a new roof for Abel Residence Hall costing \$80,000.

The board also will consider minimum conduct standards regarding drugs and alcohol for students and

employees.

Joe Rowson, University of Nebraska director of public affairs, said the board needs the conduct standards to be in compliance with the federal Drug Free Schools and Communities Act passed by Congress in 1989.

The regents have had a drug policy

statement since 1967, he said.

The regents also will consider the re-roofing of Manter, Hamilton and Avery halls on the University of Nebraska-Lincoln campus. The project would cost \$119,366 and could be finished before winter if approved.

Poster

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whole church that's behind the pro-life movement."

Munn said the use of a UNL phone number leaves the impression that the university is condoning an attack on Catholicism.

He noted that the Women's Resource Center is financed by the Nebraska Unions through the Campus Activities and Programs office. "We can't be using fees or university money to support this kind of activity," he said.

Nell Eckersley, a facilitator for Early Warning!, said the Women's Resource Center was not involved in the flier's production.

Lisa Weems, chairwoman of the

Women's Words and Music committee of the University Program Council, said many fee-supported groups take positions on political issues.

"Practically every student organization on campus has co-sponsored Anti-Apartheid Week," she said, "and that's definitely a political issue."

Richard Duncan, a UNL law professor, said he's concerned that Catholics are being targeted in what should be a political, not religious, battle.

"I think Cardinal O'Connor has pushed himself into this debate" through his public commentary, Duncan said. But the poster takes the issue too far, he added.

"The language itself — 'the Pope's Mouthpiece'... if it were Jewish, you'd call it anti-Semitism," he said.

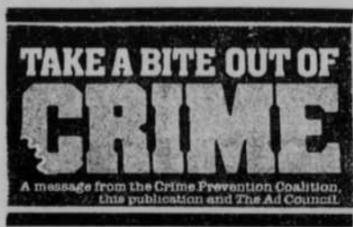
Rayburn said the reference to the pope was used to make sure people

are "aware that Catholics are very pro-life."

"Because the pope is in the public eye," she said, "he's going to be brought into the issue."

Duncan said it's ironic that GLSA is co-sponsoring the event because that organization continually pushes for an end to intolerance of homosexuals.

"They're not practicing what they preach," he said.



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