

Nebraska may be 5th state to join education compact

By Sara Bauder Schott
Senior Reporter

Backers of a Midwest compact for higher education are pushing to make Nebraska the fifth state to join.

Proponents gathered in the State Capitol on Thursday to share information with lobbyists, who they hope will help steer the compact proposal through the Nebraska Legislature.

Bill Sederburg, a state senator from Lansing, Mich., and chairman of the committee working on the compact, said he thinks either Nebraska or Ohio

could be the fifth state to approve the compact.

It must be approved by five states by 1995, he said.

Four states — Michigan, Minnesota, Kansas and Missouri — already have approved the compact, Sederburg said.

Phillip Sirotkin, a senior adviser at the Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education, said the compact probably would do many of the same things compacts in other regions of the country do now. Compacts exist in New England, the South

and the West, he said.

The existing compacts work on student exchange programs among states, Sirotkin said, making it possible for students to attend public, private and community colleges in another state at a lower cost than they normally would pay.

One of the exchange programs set up in the Western compact is for professional students, Sirotkin said.

Not all states can support medical, veterinary or law schools, he said. Under the Western compact, the stu-

dent's home state supports part of the professional education, so the student only pays resident tuition rates to go to a professional school in another state, he said.

The compact also would provide neutral information to legislatures and schools on key issues such as tuition, capital facilities and minority education, Sirotkin said.

The compact would be governed by five commissioners from each state, Sirotkin said. How the commissioners are chosen would be up to the state

legislature, he said.

Sirotkin emphasized that the compact would have no enforcement authority, and states and institutions could participate in whatever programs they wanted to, he said.

The compact would get about one-third of its funding from the state dues, which would be \$58,000 for each state each year, Sirotkin said. The rest of the funding would come from grants, contracts and other small income producers such as publications, he said.

Perceptions of Carter contradicted by study

By Tabitha Hiner
Staff Reporter

Economic figures for the Carter years do not support the idea that his presidency was a time of poor economic policy, an economics professor said.

Ann May, an assistant professor of economics at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, said perceptions of Carter's economic performance are low, but those perceptions are based mostly on 1980 when he was facing an oil shortage and the Iran hostage crisis.

May will deliver her paper, titled "Jimmy Carter: Keeping the Faith," this weekend at the eighth annual Hofstra University Presidential Conference in Hempstead, N.Y.

She said that she used "broad" economic figures including gross national product and employment to create an index which ranked post-war Presidents Carter, Lyndon Johnson, John Kennedy, Dwight Eisenhower, Richard Nixon, Gerald Ford and Ronald Reagan on a 10-point scale, 10 being the most successful.

The overall economic performance index places Carter in the middle, with Johnson, Kennedy and Eisenhower ranking higher. Carter received a 5.3.

"You don't normally think of the

Carter years as a time of business expansion," May said. "Corporate profits and capital spending were extremely strong."

Carter ranks at 6.56 for capital investment, a figure rivaled only by Johnson's 7.65. Capital investment figures are the amount that businesses spend on things such as equipment and property.

As for his economic policies, May said, Carter engaged in a mild expansionist fiscal policy at the beginning of his term. For example, May said, he didn't call for a huge tax reduction.

Carter engaged in an economic contractional policy when inflation started to increase, May said. An example of this was his delay of tax cuts.

These policies contradict those that many presidents use, May said. Theories state that presidents tend to pump up the economy before their re-election and incumbents do the same for their party nominees, she said.

"If you believe the theory, you would say that they are looking out for their own self interests," she said. "Carter in the end was a tragedy because he was trying more to help the general welfare."

May's study will be part of the book she is writing, "Macroeconomic Policy and Presidential Elections in the Post-War Era."

Addictions must be cured in the home, expert says

By Adeana Leftin
Staff Reporter

Drug, alcohol and sex addictions can't be cured medically, a health expert said Thursday.

Instead, those problems need to be addressed at home, said Dr. Richard Keelor, chief executive officer of Health Designs International and lecturer for UNL's Steinhart Series.

"The family system is where you learn who you are," he said.

Keelor said children are programmed to think that it's "not what you are, it's what you do that counts."

Children are taught that if they don't work hard, they'll never amount to anything. When they get too caught up in hard work, he said, they become unable to express their emotions.

Criticism, humiliation and unreasonable expectations have a similar effect, he said.

"You couldn't inject them with a more harmful virus than that," Keelor said.

Children are taught not to cry by traditional sayings such as, "big boys don't cry," Keelor said.

"Well I've got news for you — big boys do cry," he said.

When children throw tantrums, he said, they often are persuaded to calm

down with candy. Besides leading to food addiction, that teaches children to mask their emotions.

That can lead to more serious problems, such as drug, alcohol and sex addiction later on, he said.

A healthy family begins by expressing its feelings, he said. Children should be allowed their own boundaries and opinions, even if they differ from those of the parents, he said.

To have intimacy in the family, Keelor said, "first you have to have intimacy with yourself. How can I share when I don't even know what I feel?"

The healing process also begins with the individual, he said.

"Health is a spiritual relationship — I'm not talking religion — that acknowledges that you and me are special, precious and unique creations of God and gives us permission to put me first," he said.

"You've got to dig it out of yourself and your own family system," he said.

Individuals, by healing themselves first, can prevent family problems from perpetuating into the next generation, Keelor said.

"We can only take care of ourselves because you're the only one you have control over."

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NEWS

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The deadline for nominations for the 1991 Outstanding Research and Creative Activity Awards is today.

The program recognizes research and creative activity of national/international significance conducted by faculty at the University of Nebraska.

The awards are up to \$3,500 each. Nominations may be submitted by any full-time faculty member.