

UNL may face fourth administrative opening

By Pat Dinslage
Staff Reporter

Who's minding the store these days at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln?

With two top administrative positions at UNL being filled by interim staff and a third to be vacated Friday, the campus may face yet a fourth opening.

The position of UNL chancellor will be open if Chancellor Martin Massengale accepts the position of NU president.

In addition to the chancellor's position, UNL is searching for a director of university relations, a vice chancellor for research/dean of graduate studies and a vice chancellor for academic affairs.

Massengale said that "very competent, capable, intelligent people with long-term administrative experience" have stepped in to fill the two positions of vice chancellor for research and university relations director.

William Splinter, formerly the associate vice chancellor for research, is serving as interim vice chancellor for research.

"He is very capable, with long-term administrative experience, who has stepped in with little loss of momentum (of the department)," Massengale said.

Neale Cople, interim university

relations director, has worked in many capacities at UNL, Massengale said, including dean of the journalism college.

"He has a long history and excellent record of serving the university," Massengale said.

"We are most fortunate to have these kind of people to fill in," he said. "The search process (for the two positions) is moving along."

The position of vice chancellor for academic affairs will be vacant with the departure of Robert Furgason on Friday. Massengale said that he expects to name an interim vice chancellor before Furgason's departure.

However, formation of a search committee to fill the position may be delayed until an evaluation of the academic affairs position is complete, Massengale said. He does not anticipate any major changes in the position or its responsibilities.

Massengale said that he expects the position will be filled permanently by late spring or early summer.

Joe Rowson, NU director of public affairs, said that if Massengale accepts the presidential position, he will not necessarily assume the presidency immediately.

"He's involved in the UNL campus," Rowson said, "and there would probably be some reasonable amount of time before turning over to the interim person."

A search committee would be formed to fill the UNL chancellor position, Rowson said, and Massengale would appoint an interim chancellor.

The chancellor search process would be similar to the one recently completed for the NU president and probably would take about the same amount of time, possibly six or seven months, Rowson said.

Don Blank, NU Board of Regents chairman, said that one difference

would be the makeup of the search committee. The chancellor search committee probably would be more heavily faculty-oriented than the presidential committee.

Rowson said that the recommendations of the search committee would be forwarded to the NU president, who would make a recommendation to the board. The board would do the actual hiring, which is normal procedure for any position at the college dean level or above.

Blank of McCook said that the search committee would consider both internal and external applicants for the chancellor's position.

"This is a very historic time in the development of the university," Rowson said, referring to the selection of a new president and the filling of top UNL administrative slots.

"All personalities involved at this time are going to have a major impact on UNL and the future of the university."

Dunn

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phonograph needle," he said. "I can always talk."

This, he said, is an essential part of his job. Whether in front of groups, classes, or just his student assistants, he constantly is talking about the stars.

His interest in astronomy, he said, began with a professor at Midland College in Fremont.

When he was 10 years old, Dunn began visiting his neighbor, Gilbert Leuninghoener, to use his stereo and help with his photography.

"I just thought he was a neat guy," Dunn said. "And I didn't know when I first met him that he had anything to do with astronomy."

Dunn enrolled at Midland and eventually took a position at the college's planetarium, working under Leuninghoener. He began to focus his education on astronomy.

After graduating with a composite science degree in 1969, Dunn moved to Louisiana where he was in charge of the planetarium at the Lafayette Natural History Museum and Planetarium for a little over a year.

In 1971, he heard of an opening at UNL and returned to Nebraska to become planetarium coordinator at Morrill Hall.

Since then, he said, a large part of the excitement of his job has come

from working with his student assistants.

"I think they're a lot of fun," he said. "Though I'm not saying I haven't gotten a few extra gray hairs because of some of them."

He said he feels most rewarded when he hears what his former students are doing now.

"They still enjoy astronomy, and they enjoy music, and they want to learn something."

In a time when a broad knowledge of the world is uncommon, Dunn said, such an attitude is refreshing. People in other disciplines sometimes are unaware of even the simplest science principles, he said.

"I think that sometimes people today get too narrow. They get narrowed into their own field," he said.

Dunn, 44, said he worries about people his age because their interests can be so limited.

"They've gotten so much into their jobs and whatever that if you try to talk to them about music, they hear only what's on their clock radios and in elevators."

He said he tries to encourage people to develop broader interests.

Although his field is astronomy, he said, he still has an appreciation of music and history and art. This, he said, makes for a happier life.

"The neat people," he said, "are the people who find all things interesting."

Students

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Phil Gosch, University of Nebraska-Lincoln student regent, voted for Massengale. He said he thinks the argument that the campuses disagree about Massengale was "completely blown out of proportion."

"I think in the past year, Dr. Mas-

sengale served all three of our campuses and especially all three of our faculties in a very fair and equal manner," Gosch said.

Gosch said he thinks Massengale was the best person interviewed by the regents. And, although it is unfortunate that the board's vote was not unanimously in favor of Massengale, this shouldn't hurt his presidency, Gosch said.

police REPORT

Beginning midnight Wednesday, Nov. 21

1:13 p.m. — Car mirror damaged, 19th and R streets parking lot, \$50.

1:37 p.m. — Hit-and-run accident, Westbrook Music Building parking lot, \$300.

2:58 p.m. — Woman followed by man, 33rd and Holdrege streets.

3:32 p.m. — Tractor-car accident, 9th and U streets parking lot, unknown damage.

Beginning midnight Thursday, Nov. 22

12:42 a.m. — False fire alarm, Richards Hall.

1:47 a.m. — Man taken to detoxification, 18th and R streets parking lot.

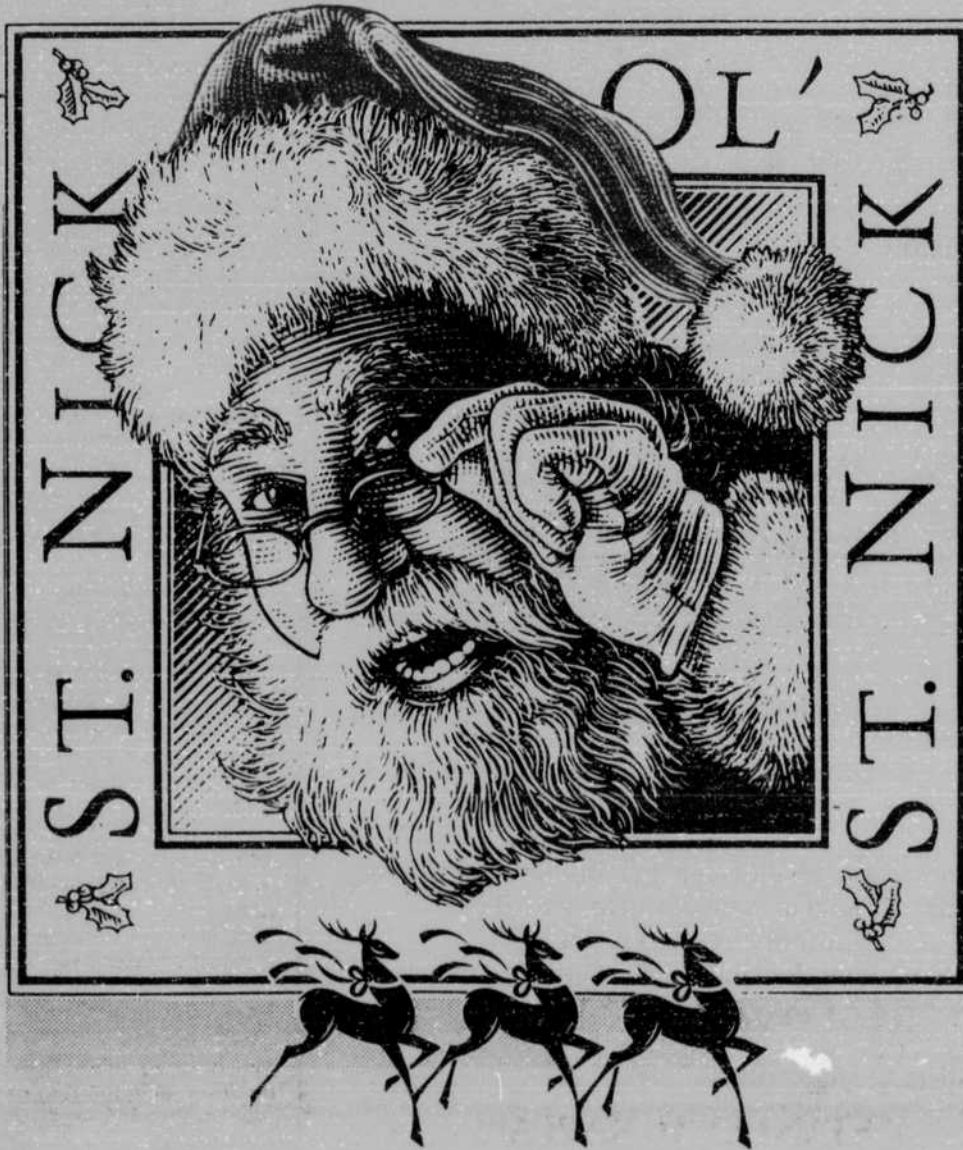
Beginning midnight Friday, Nov. 23

3:16 a.m. — Car radiator cap taken, S Street between 15th and 16th streets, \$10.

3:16 a.m. — Keys taken, Selleck Residence Hall, \$5 loss, \$10 damage.

Beginning midnight Saturday, Nov. 24

4:21 p.m. — Burglary, College of Business Administration, \$140.



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