

Rally

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"It's not that we want the military off campus," said Doug Overfield, a junior English major. "We just want them to change their policy."

Overfield said he hopes the rally will show how military policy is different from UNL's policy.

Another kiss-in participant was Kat Hindman, a senior pre-

law major, who organized Queer Nation Nebraska in December 1990.

Queer Nation is a multicultural, direct action group dedicated to fighting heterosexism and homophobia and promoting "queer visibility," Hindman said.

"We're celebrating what happened last night (at the Academic Senate), but at the same time we're telling D.C. that it's got to stop" discriminating, she said.

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ROTC discrimination

ASUN urged to protest policy

By Adeana Leftin
Staff Reporter

At its first meeting Wednesday, the 1991-92 ASUN senate was confronted with student concerns about ROTC's homosexual exclusion policy.

Scott Shanks, a senior in the Teachers College, and Paul Moore, a senior speech communications major, encouraged the Association of Students of the University of Nebraska to consider as one of its first resolutions a stand against ROTC discrimination.

Shanks mentioned the anti-discrimination rally on campus earlier Wednesday at which he was attacked. He asked ASUN to join the protest.

He said the protest was not against ROTC, but against discrimination based on sexual preference.

UNL's Academic Senate passed a

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Shanks
UNL senior

resolution Tuesday calling for the ROTC program to change its policy. If the policy is not revoked by 1993, the resolution urges renegotiation of ROTC contracts to eliminate credit for ROTC courses.

"If we set down a precedent . . . the Defense Department will have no other choice than to change the policy," Shanks said.

Former ASUN College of Arts and Sciences Sen. Andrew Sigerson said

kicking ROTC off campus is not the solution.

He said many students depend on money provided through participation in ROTC to pay for school.

Sigerson said he was denied an opportunity to address the Academic Senate with his concerns.

Teachers College Sen. Steve Thomlison also was not allowed to address the senate.

Thomlison said he was told by Academic Senate President James McShane that too many students wanted to speak.

He said one of his first pieces of legislation in this year's ASUN will be "strongly worded senate action that I don't think that's kosher."

Students are allowed to speak at meetings of ASUN and the NU Board of Regents and at hearings of the Nebraska Legislature, Thomlison said.

Festival promotes ethnic diversity

From Staff Reports

Students from around the world gathered Wednesday at the Culture Center, 333 N. 14th St., to "expose the campus to ethnic diversity."

Reshell Ray, coordinator for ethnic minority programs and services for Campus Activities and Programs, said students from about 10 countries

took part in the 5th annual Springfest. This year's theme was "A Festival of Culture, A Celebration of People."

Chinese, Asian-American, Mexican, American Indian, Palestinian, Nigerian, Malaysian, Indonesian and Pakistani students "celebrated and displayed a part of their culture through foods, artwork, traditional dress and a wide range of artifacts," Ray said.

She said about 150 people viewed the exhibits in the morning.

The event, which was sponsored by CAP, was expanded this year to include international students, Ray said.

The ethnic artwork that was displayed will be sold at the Culture Center until Friday.

Ethnic

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with a "dedicated core" of nine students and six University of Nebraska-Lincoln faculty and staff members. They will be charged with the responsibility to advise the vice chancellor for student affairs on issues concerning minority affairs and minority student life.

The feat of improving campus life for minorities is going well in many regards, Griesen said, but "it's had some problems."

Griesen said the timeline for the group puts its first meeting just three weeks away, April 30.

The team was created to replace ad hoc committees with an organized group to tackle various projects, Griesen said.

"We expect a dedicated group with a sustained interest," he said.

With RPAT, Griesen said, he hopes to see some past ideas turned into reality.

Peg Blake, an assistant to the vice chancellor, said DREAM (Developing Realistic Educational Activities for Minorities), a now defunct group designed to promote appreciation of cultural diversity, touched on some of the issues but struggled with leadership and money.

Blake said she hopes RPAT will involve a diverse group of students, including members of all races, both undergraduate and graduate students and many majors.

Griesen said a representative group is desired but not guaranteed because committee members will not be selected through quotas.

One of the main items on the agenda for the group, he said, is planning UNL's annual retreat on diversity issues scheduled for the fall semester.

"I hope the group will develop part of their own agenda. All we have now are examples of projects," he said.

Blake said the group's projects will complement those of the Chancellor's Commission on the Status of Minorities.

Advising on issues of faculty and staff hiring, organizing diversity programs for the classroom and serving as contact persons for students will be duties of RPAT, she said.

"The group will need to have a baseline understanding of the diversity on campus and the barriers involved," she said.

Student members will be selected for one-year appointments and are expected to give from six to 10 hours a month to the team.

Applications are available at the Office of Student Affairs, the Office of Multi-Cultural Affairs, the Association of Students of the University of Nebraska office, Campus Activities and Programs offices, the Culture Center and at the law and dental colleges.

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