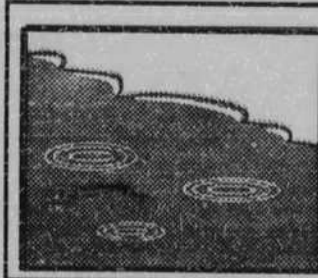


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TODAY'S WEATHER

Partly sunny today with the high in the 60s and a 20 percent chance of late afternoon thunderstorms. Tonight, a 30 percent chance of thunderstorms with the low in the mid-to upper-40s. Thursday a 50 percent chance of thunder storms.

UNL salaries compare well in nation, state

Officials credit research work for higher pay

By Michael Hannon
Staff Reporter

The discrepancy between faculty salaries at UNL and other postsecondary institutions in the state stems from UNL's research work, diversity of teaching positions and doctoral program, officials said.

Faculty salaries at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln are the highest in the state and exceed other institutions' salaries by 20 percent or more, according to a recent Nebraska Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education report.

Stan Liberty, UNL interim vice chancellor for academic affairs, said the salary discrepancy was not surprising. Higher salaries can be found at research institutions in any state, he said.

Liberty said UNL's doctoral programs and research give it a unique mission in the state. That means UNL's marketplace for faculty members generally has higher salaries than the one in which the state colleges acquire their faculty, he said.

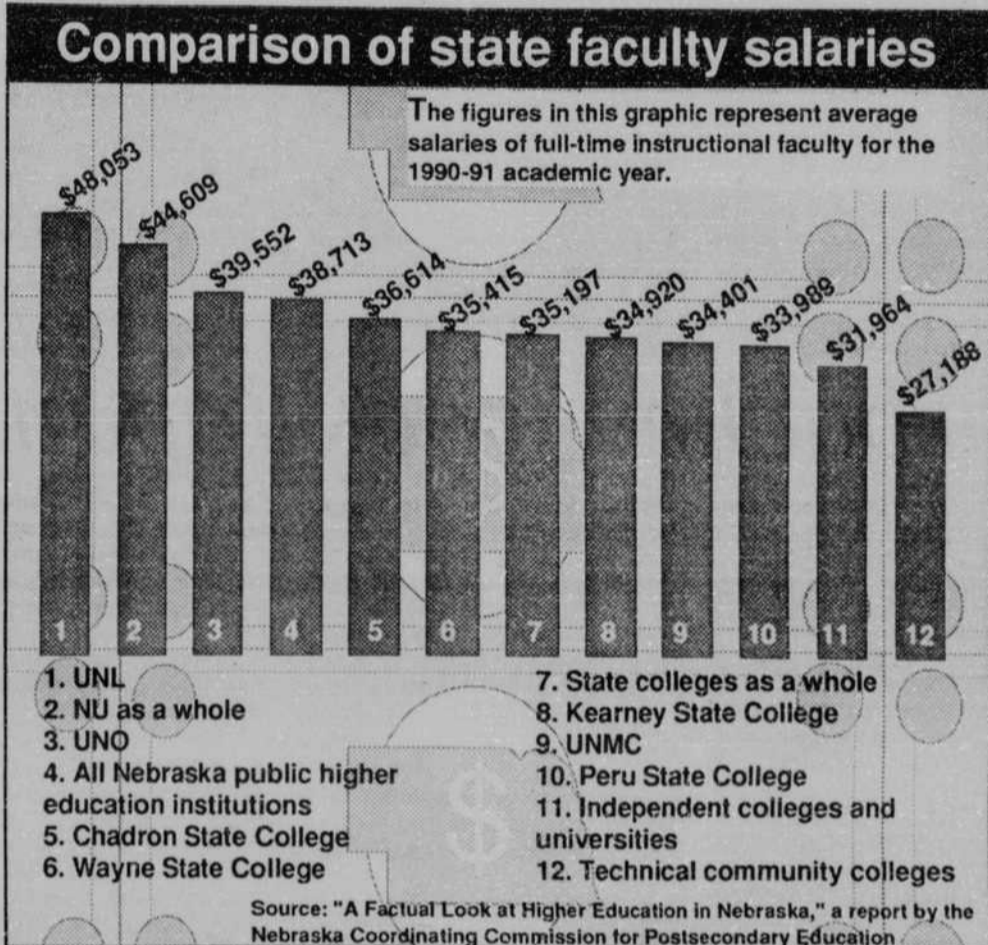
Sen. Roger Wehrbein of Plattsmouth agreed that the report's findings should have been expected.

"It's not surprising that UNL salaries should be somewhat higher because it's a research institution," the Nebraska Legislature's Appropriations Committee member said.

Appropriations Committee Chairman Scott Moore of Seward said the report showed that UNL and its faculty have been treated well and should look back at the last four to five years if they don't get everything they want this year.

Sen. Joyce Hillman of Gering said overall averages like the ones in the report are not a good basis for comparisons between the state's higher education institutions.

Hillman, an Appropriations Committee member, said not all teaching positions at UNL



Pay-hike rates for faculty top inflation rates

By Wendy Mott
Staff Reporter

Although the average professor's salary raise nationwide cannot keep pace with spiraling costs of living, UNL professors' salaries are increasing above the inflation rate, UNL Academic Senate President James McShane said.

The average salary for professors is 5.4 percent higher nationwide than last year's average, according to a study by the American Association of University Professors cited in The Chronicle of Higher Education. But that hike is not enough to keep up with the cost of living, which is projected to increase by 6 percent.

According to the AAUP survey, the average salary for the 1990-1991 academic year at a doctorate-granting institution is \$49,320, while the average salary at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln is \$46,700.

McShane said that in the past UNL professors received raises at rates that were "sizably above inflation." The raises were close to 10 percent each year.

McShane attributed increases to a salary initiative implemented three years ago to bring UNL salaries to the midpoint of its peer institutions' salaries.

The Chronicle article said the AAUP's findings could be a result of the country's poor economic condition.

Nebraska is not necessarily faring better economically than other states, McShane said, but officials realized they needed to improve faculty salaries and took steps to do that.

The article said professors at private colleges and doctorate-granting institutions earn more than instructors at public institutions, which could cause them to move away from public institutions.

McShane said UNL has witnessed a similar trend.

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have counterparts in the state colleges. Salaries must be gauged by faculty members' educational level, experience and other factors, she said.

Sen. Dan Lynch of Omaha, an Appropriations Committee member, said he hasn't decided if it is beneficial for UNL's salaries to be higher.

He said one issue the Appropriations Committee will have to look at is how the peer group for UNL is established.

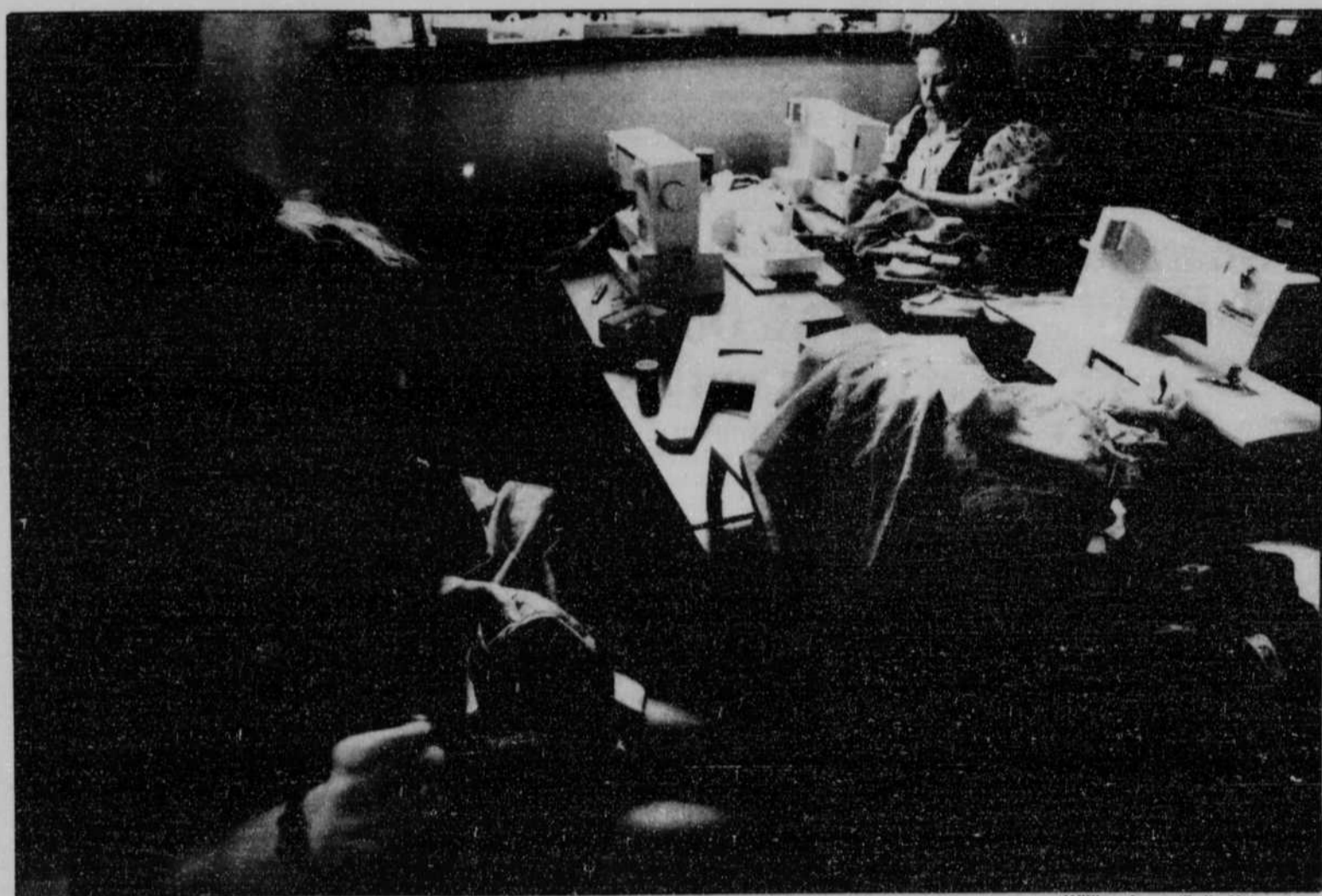
UNL salaries lagged 22.6 percent behind the average of the peer group it selected, according to 1987-88 data. They fell 6.9 to 7.9 percent below the peer group suggested by the

National Center for Higher Education Management Systems.

The commission's report, titled "A Factual Look at Higher Education in Nebraska," also indicated a large gender gap in faculty members. At UNL there are 408 male professors and 28 female professors.

Liberty attributed part of this problem to the gender ratio of those who acquire doctorate degrees. He said there are fewer women with doctorate degrees to apply for positions.

"We certainly do have a low representation of women in the faculty and we have an institutional commitment to change that," Liberty said.



Keeping them in stitches

Amy Aern (left), a freshman theater major, and Ann Watson, costume shop supervisor, make alterations Tuesday to costumes for "A Streetcar Named Desire." The play opens Friday at the Temple Building.

William Lauer/Daily Nebraskan

New speaker starts action for ASUN

From Staff Reports

ASUN senators advanced their plan to get legislative procedures underway by electing Teachers College Sen. Steve Thomlison speaker of the senate at a retreat Sunday.

When Thomlison was appointed to the Association of Students of the University of Nebraska as a freshman, he said he didn't know anyone on the senate and felt at a loss.

Since then, Thomlison said, he has noticed that unfamiliarity with ASUN policy and procedure is common among new senators and he hopes he can work with senators to help them along, "to provide some guiding support."

Thomlison said he also plans to work with individual senators to help them ensure success in their own projects and with committee chairs to

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WEDNESDAY

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