

Official: No graduates yet, just candidates

By Kara Morrison
Staff Reporter

This year's graduates are not celebrating just yet. Many have a lot of work ahead of them before they can don caps and gowns to receive diplomas.

"At this point, there are no graduates, just candidates," said Rod Moore, assistant director of Registration and Records at UNL.

Moore said graduation candidates must be in good standing in all of their classes to graduate, and that professors still had the opportunity to change grades until 4 p.m. May 10. Some of the candidates have final exams scheduled that day, Moore said.

As of Monday, the University of Nebraska-Lincoln had a list of 2,114 graduation candidates eligible to attend commencement ceremonies in May.

The list included a number of students who will go through graduation

ceremonies at UNL, but actually receive their degrees from other schools in the University of Nebraska system.

The College of Dentistry and Nursing Center graduates receive degrees through the University of Nebraska Medical Center in Omaha.

Criminal justice and social work graduates receive their degrees from the University of Nebraska at Omaha. These students, along with the rest of the UNL graduates, will go through ceremonies in Lincoln May 11.

For the first time this year, however, the Dentistry College and Nursing graduates plan to have their own separate ceremony at the Lied Center for Performing Arts on the same day, Moore said.

The number of graduates over the last few years has been fairly consistent, Moore said.

The number of students who received degrees from UNL was 1,730 in 1988, 1,749 in 1989 and 1,721 in 1990.



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History

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Staff Reporter

Moore said he talked to a professor from Iowa State University who at-

tended a commencement exercise at a college in Scotland and was "really amazed at the similarities."

The uniform code of the Intercollegiate Bureau of Academic Costume, which has been adopted by more than 700 American institutions, sets forth specific guidelines for graduation ceremony style following the tradi-

tions of England. For example, there are three types of gowns, for bachelors, masters and doctors. They are differentiated by sleeve design. The doctors' gown also has three velvet bars, usually a color denoting the course of study.

Moore said one of the most important items of attire is the hood. Hoods can be granted to those who have received a bachelor's degree, Moore said, and masters wear them during the ceremony. Doctors' candidates carry their hoods in over their arms. Faculty members place them on the candidates' heads, he said.

Moore said the proper dress is vital to the ceremony of graduation.

"We simply say that for a person to participate, they must wear gown, mortar board and tassel," he said. "A person couldn't come in street clothes to the ceremony."

Moore said the processional and recessional are also both long-established traditions.

"As I understand, it comes from Europe," he said.

The choice of which music to be played during the march of the graduates is left up to the music department, but usually the familiar "Pomp and Circumstance" is performed, Moore said.

"I don't know where that comes from," he said.

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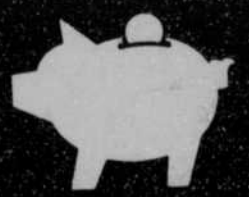
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