

Speaker says diversity works for public radio

By Adeana Leftin
Senior Reporter

The diversity and difference of public radio compared to commercial radio is what makes it work, a speaker said Tuesday.

Douglas Bennet, president of National Public Radio, told about 150 people that public radio stations can push program limits because their listeners are interested.

"You abuse (listeners) by giving them wallpaper, not diversity," he said. "Diversity will work on the radio."

Tuesday was the dedication of the nine Nebraska public radio stations that make up the Nebraska Public Radio Network, which was formed in September. Bennet addressed the Lincoln Town and Gown Organization on aspects of public radio.

Bennet, former head of the U.S. Agency for International Development and special assistant to the U.S. ambassador to India, called the Nebraska Network a "grass-roots success."

"What you have here is a real symbol of what we're trying to do," he said.



Kiley Timperley/DN

Douglas Bennet, president of National Public Radio, speaks at the University Club on Tuesday morning.

As society develops in the 1990s, Bennet said, people will have a greater need for information. He said television is not the best media for transmitting news.

Besides time restraints, television assaults the viewer with too many pictures that are difficult to absorb and understand, Bennet said.

In radio, listeners envision for themselves what is happening, he said. Public radio stations have "succeeded to provide service that the rest of the broadcast networks are backing away from," he said.

However, Bennet said it was a mistake for public radio stations to try to compete with commercial sta-

tions. He said stations would lose their uniqueness if they became mainstream.

"I think we're as counter-cultural now as we were 20 years ago," he said.

But Bennet rejected the idea that only a small radio station was valid. He said public radio should try to reach as many people as possible.

Reaching people inexpensively will make public radio an important part of the future, Bennet said.

"Sometime soon there has got to be a reassertion of civil values," he said, adding that diverse radio that speaks to people will be an operative part of that.

POLICE REPORT

Starting Monday October 7.

11:41 a.m. — Bicycle stolen, Sandoz Residence Hall, \$257.

1:54 p.m. — Hit-and-run auto accident, 1820 R St., \$75.

5:31 p.m. — Intoxicated woman, transported to detoxification center, 721 K St.

6:29 p.m. — Bicycle stolen, Sandoz Residence Hall, \$23.

9:54 p.m. — Vehicle door kicked, parking lot west of Harper-Schramm-Smith complex, \$150.

10:54 p.m. — Bicycle stolen, Selleck Residence Hall, \$450.

UNL students attend greek teleconference

By Rainbow Rowell
Staff Reporter

About 40 representatives from University of Nebraska-Lincoln fraternities and sororities attended a two-hour teleconference on the greek system Tuesday.

The teleconference, titled "The Greek System: An Institutional Asset or Liability?" was broadcast live from Oklahoma State University. Five panelists from around the country discussed the ideal, reality and future of greek organizations.

The program opened with a discussion of the ideal greek letter organization. Tom Goodale, vice president of student affairs at Virginia Tech, stressed the importance of "a balance between personal and academic interests" within the greek organizations.

"Academics are the real reason the person comes to college in the first place," Goodale said.

Panelists also examined positive and negative aspects of present greek letter organizations. Favorable aspects

included leadership opportunities, positive peer pressure and involvement on campus and in the community.

Robert Frackelton, president of the Interfraternity Council at University of California-Los Angeles, said the greek system "integrates students into the scholarship program of the university."

Stephanie Palmer, a sophomore English major at UNL and a member of the Chi Omega sorority, and Cory Borer, a senior pre-dentistry major and president of the Phi Kappa Psi fraternity, agreed that the teleconference reinforced issues they were already aware of, but they said that greek stereotypes should have been further addressed.

"People tend to overemphasize the individual problems rather than looking at the system as a whole, and seeing what it's really about," Borer said.

"There needs to be more involvement between greek and non-greeks," Palmer said. "There are negative stereotypes on both side."

ASUN

Continued from Page 1

to the chancellor.

"We've been doing horizontal cuts for so long . . .," Massey said. "We're restricting the quality of teaching."

Massey said he would prefer fewer quality programs for students instead of more mediocre programs.

At ASUN's meeting today, the senate will discuss a bill suggesting that the Academic Senate strike part of a resolution it passed. The resolution urges the UNL chancellor to renegotiate the contracts of the three branches of ROTC at UNL if they don't eliminate homosexual restrictions from admission standards.

The ASUN bill states that because

ROTC students are not responsible for laws barring homosexuals from the armed forces, making ROTC a non-credit program would not be fair to them.

The senate also will consider legislation to support adding four positions to the UNL Research Council.

Massey said the council, which studies research and potential areas for federal funding, needs to be more diverse.

The bill recommends that the committee be made up of three members each from biological sciences, physical sciences, social sciences and humanities.

"If they add these fields . . . they'll have a better knowledge of where research is going," he said.

Budget

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gender equity adopted by the university.

In 1990, only 16 percent of UNL faculty members were women, Baird said. Under the current budget reduction proposals, 48 percent of the positions that would be eliminated are held by women.

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I know I am not alone in having had my confidence in this university shaken.

*Esther Cope
Member of arts and sciences executive committee*

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"In the current proposals, the budgetary impact falls squarely on the shoulders of a disproportionate number of women faculty who are already underrepresented" at UNL, Baird said.

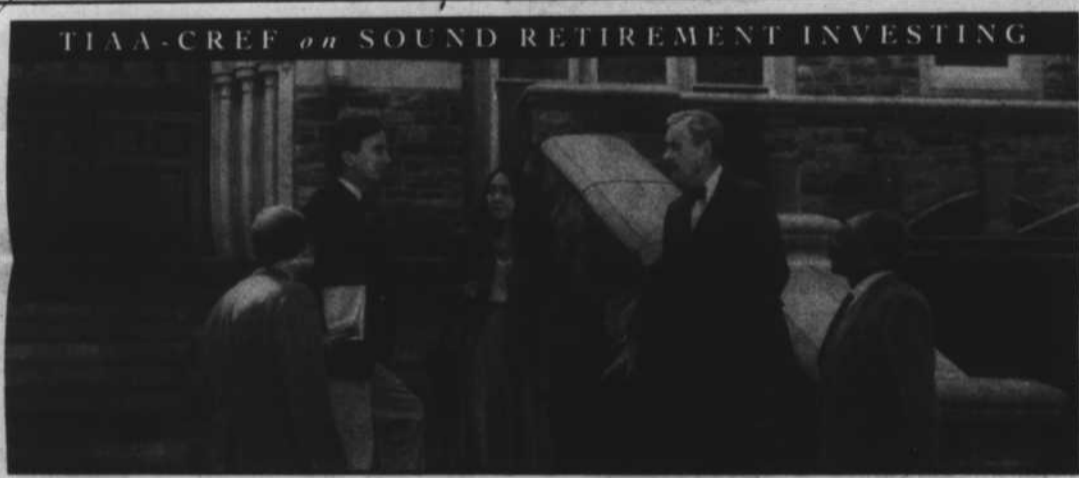
She urged those who would make the final budgetary decisions to adhere to the gender equity priorities that had been set by faculty, administrators and the NU Board of Regents.

Representatives of AAUP next urged adoption of AAUP guidelines and requirements for faculty termination, despite NU general counsel Richard Wood's opinion that UNL is not bound by AAUP rules.

Linda Pratt, a member of AAUP, said the current recommendations to terminate faculty "do not safeguard the institution's responsibilities to its faculty . . ." She urged the BRRC to "reject these recommendations and seek new ones that honor academic integrity and the meaning of tenure."

"The AAUP's scrutiny and potential investigation of UNL will continue as long as tenure is held hostage to budget cuts," Pratt said.

Thomas Zorn, chairman of the BRRC, said the committee would follow its "best judgment" in deciding which recommendations to forward to the Academic Planning Committee in November.



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