

# Official expects position to be filled in 4 months

## Budget delays search for minority post

By Kim Spurlock  
Staff Reporter

An administrative position created last year to improve cultural diversity and minority recruitment is expected to be filled within four months, a UNL administrator said.

Herb Howe, associate to the chancellor, said the search for an official to fill the position of associate to the chancellor and director of human and community affairs had been a slow process because of "one problem after another."

**“**We need a person who has a good understanding of a minority community.  
— Howe, associate to the chancellor

“Most administrators have pretty good intentions,” Howe said, “but when one crisis after another comes up and needs to be dealt with now, like the two-percent budget cut, it’s put on the back burner.”

To publicize the open position, job announcements were publicized in major regional newspapers, The Chronicle of Higher Education and specific minority publications, Howe said.

Although the position is not guaranteed to be filled by a minority, Howe said that a minority candidate would have a “certain advantage” over a white candidate in the screening process.

“We need a person who has a good understanding of a minority community . . . I’m not going to say it has to

be a minority . . . there are not very many (whites) who understand.”

Howe said one responsibility of the new administrator would be to keep issues of cultural diversity “on the front burner.”

Increasing retention rates of minority students at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln also would be a responsibility of the new administrator, he said.

UNL needs to be more conducive to the success of minorities, he said.

Although the new administrator would have many responsibilities, Howe said that person would not be expected to single-handedly increase cultural diversity. Howe said that responsibility went to everyone — faculty, staff, students and administrators.

Many departments in UNL have not hired new faculty in more than 10 years and when they do hire, Howe said, they would have to start from scratch.

“(The administrator) will develop a strategy to help the departments achieve goals of creating a pool of qualified ethnically diverse people,” Howe said.

Howe said the new administrator also would be involved with the minority community to build a positive relationship with that community.

A search committee, consisting of a cross section of people, such as members of the academic senate, vice chancellors and possibly students, will be selected to nominate candidates, Howe said.

The search committee will present their list of candidates to Chancellor Graham Spanier, who would review and choose several names to invite to UNL for an interview.

## NEWS BRIEFS

### Arboretum to dedicate tuliptree in honor of Wilke

The UNL Botanical Garden and Arboretum is dedicating a tuliptree today at the Sheldon Memorial Art

Gallery at 11 a.m. The tree has been designated to honor Allen Wilke, founder and curator of the Elks Arboretum in Colum-

bus. Allen recently made a contribution toward the improvement and beautification of the Nebraska landscape.

### Local dermatologist to speak about hair loss treatment

A Lincoln dermatologist will speak on treatment for hair loss at 7 p.m. Wednesday at the Nebraska Union.

Dr. Rod Basler will answer questions from students, faculty and staff on medical aspects of hair loss. The

speech is sponsored by the University Health Center and is free. The room for the event will be posted.

## Groups develop plan for action

By Juliet Yenglin  
Staff Reporter

The creation of a better communication network between racial minority students and the rest of the campus community is grounded in student organizations on campus, a UNL official said.

James Griesen, vice chancellor for student affairs, said that the 1991 Cultural Diversity Retreat, held Sept. 27-29 in Milford, prompted more communication between student organizations at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

At the retreat, Griesen said, participants developed a plan of action and a list of goals to be pursued at UNL.

He said an emphasis was placed on promoting awareness and greater communication between racial minority students, majority students, administration, faculty and racial minority groups.

Both the Association of Students of the University of Nebraska and the University Programs Council have started programs to involve students and the community in cultural awareness, he said.

Andy Massey, president of ASUN, said an executive bill recently was passed to create a liaison between racial minority organizations and student senators. With passage of the bill, Mas-

sey said, senators would attend meetings of groups mainly represented by racial minority students, and in return, leaders of these groups will attend ASUN meetings.

Massey also said a second bill encouraged better representation of racial minority history and culture in courses and textbooks.

“It takes time, and we’re opening the lines of communication,” Massey said.

Frank Forman, president of UPC, said he recognized the need for communication links between student leaders at UNL and had initiated a plan to establish a roundtable meeting for presidents of all recognized organizations.

Student leaders who showed an initial interest in the plan held their first meeting in mid-October to establish goals and provide an information network between student organizations.

Forman said he was anxious to involve all student organizations, faculty, graduate students and other interested parties in offering input and resources to promote cultural awareness and diversity.

“It’s important to hear the voice of each organization,” Forman said, “to serve the students’ needs, break down cultural barriers, to come together and get everyone involved.”

UPC currently is working with the University of Nebraska Inter-Tribal Exchange and with the Na-

tive American Special Events to meet Nov. 23-24, Forman said.

The Association for the Worldwide Advocation of Real Education is another UNL student group that has seen an increase in membership and interest, said Otto Green, group president and chairman of the community outreach program.

Green said the purpose of the organization was to provide an atmosphere and an outlet to educate and address issues that affect all humans, regardless of color, class, sexual orientation, or creed on campus and in the Lincoln community.

“The group is a challenge and (is) willing to be sensitive to different perspectives,” Green said.

Griesen said that by becoming actively involved in area high schools and the community, minority students had better opportunities to recruit minority students to UNL.

For the minority students at UNL, he said, the Student Opportunity Services at the Multi-Cultural Affairs Office had doubled its federal funding to provide counseling, tutors, study instruction and additional academic support.

“It’s critical that we first recognize the problem of attracting and maintaining minority students, and that we mobilize resources to help the problem,” Griesen said.

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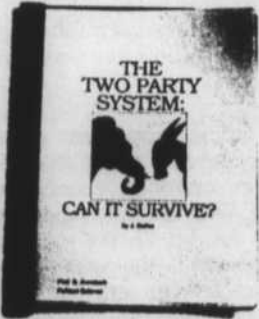
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