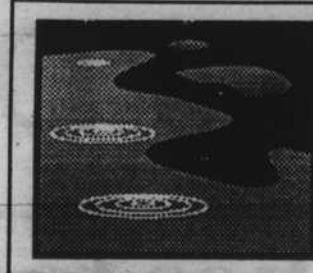


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TODAY'S WEATHER

40/25

Today, rain likely in the morning, decreasing clouds in the afternoon. Tonight, cloudy. Friday, partly to mostly sunny. High 40 to 45.

Officials say cost obstacle for UNL phone registration

Regents set to look at information systems in committee meeting

By Wendy Navratil
Senior Reporter

University of Nebraska-Lincoln administrators have reached an agreement over the general guidelines for purchasing a new student information computer software package — but they haven't figured out a way to pay for it.

The system, which would make possible class registration and degree-audits by telephone, would cost about \$800,000 to \$1 million.

Jim Van Horn, UNL associate vice president for administration, said UNL and the other NU campuses will present reports regarding the status and quality of their existing student information systems Saturday at the NU Board of Regents' planning committee meeting.

The focus of the discussion will be UNL, Van Horn said, because its student information system is in the most dire need of improvement.

Regents Chairman Don Blank of McCook said he hoped a proposal to replace UNL's antiquated system, which was developed at UNL rather than purchased from an outside vendor as was done at the other NU campuses, would be accepted.

"The major problem is we've just outlived the system," Blank said. "We've known it for several years. But the dollars are always tight, so you try to sneak one more year out of it."

UNL asked the Board of Regents last year to include a request for funding for a new student information system in its legislative appropriations requests.

But Van Horn said it didn't make the narrowed list of priorities that the regents submitted to the Nebraska Legislature last year. The regents placed a higher priority on faculty salary increases.

Andy Massey, UNL student regent and president of the Association of Students of the University of Nebraska, said he sensed that the university was becoming more "consumer-conscious," and that would work in favor of the purchase of a new system.

"I think that the regents know that the main reason for the University of Nebraska is students," Massey said. "They will want to move ahead with this."

Regent Charles Wilson of Lincoln said the student information system issue is a major problem that does more than just cause inconvenience for students — it affects the general climate for students at UNL.

"But as far as it being a priority this year, there are other very important matters competing for priority status," Wilson said.

Judging by the budgetary situation at the university right now, Wilson said the system may not be financed.

"It would depend on where it winds up on the priority list. Those at the top will be funded" rather than resorting to tuition increases to pay for them, he said.

James Griesen, vice chancellor for student affairs, said legislatively appropriated funds could not be obtained until next year when the university makes its requests for the next two-year budgetary period, and even then the funding might not be granted.

Internal reallocation would be considered, but because UNL has already gone through that with budget reductions, Griesen said it probably would not be a feasible way to finance the purchase.

Van Horn said the university may consider

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Michelle Paulman/DN

Out with the old

Construction Group Inc. employees Ed Pickett and Dwane Sorensen work Tuesday morning on frames for new windows at the Apothecary, 140 N. 8th St. Work on the upper floors is expected to continue for four more weeks, building owner Jon Camp said.

Fewer dead week violations reported to ASUN

By Adeana Leftin
Senior Reporter

Reported violations of UNL's dead week policy are down in number but up in validity, an ASUN senator said Wednesday.

Jason Krieser, Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources senator and chairman of ASUN's academic committee, said that in past years, more complaints were turned in to the Association of Students of the University of Nebraska.

Last year at least 10 complaints were reported compared to this year's

five. But most of the previous complaints were invalid, while the complaints turned in this year have been valid violations, Krieser said.

Many of the cases reported this year were a result of new professors or teacher's aides who weren't familiar with the dead week policy, he said.

University of Nebraska-Lincoln policy states that only lab practical, makeup or self-paced examinations may be given during dead week. The policy also states that projects, papers or speeches may not be scheduled for completion during dead week unless

they have been assigned by the end of the eighth week of classes.

Krieser already has helped three students clear up violations and is working on two more cases, but he said he knows there are more complaints out there.

"I would strongly encourage the students to bring the complaints in," he said. "We have the time, and we'd like to help."

Students might not report cases because they either don't know ASUN can help or they fear retribution from their professors. Krieser said that to file complaints, students must fill out

a form, but they don't have to leave their names with the ASUN office. Also, he said, he does not tell professors which students have complained.

"It's a totally anonymous situation," he said. "There's no repercussion possible at all from the professor."

Most professors are cooperative when Krieser contacts them to discuss the violations, he said, but if they aren't, he will go to their supervisors.

"We need to make a definite attempt to follow" the dead week policy, he said, "and if they won't make an attempt to follow it then I'll go up the ladder."

Krieser said he has never had to progress past the department head to get a response.

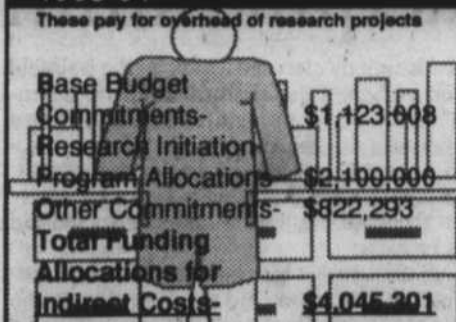
Leo Chouinard, an associate professor of mathematics and statistics, proposed Tuesday to the Academic Senate that part of the dead week policy be changed.

"The impression I get is that there are regular violations of the dead week policy," he said.

His concern is that students are being pressured to consent to take tests during dead week. He said the policy should ensure that the consent is indeed unanimous.

Spanier defends dispersal of funding

UNL Indirect Cost Reimbursement Allocations 1990-91



Source: Chancellor's office

Scott Maurer/DN

Chancellor says process makes research 'bargain'

By Tom Kunz
Staff Reporter

Although some faculty are questioning the disbursement of research funds, UNL's chancellor said the problem is minimal.

Speaking at the Academic Senate meeting Tuesday, Graham Spanier addressed the issue of indirect cost reimbursement allocations.

At the October meeting of the Academic Senate, Clifford Walton, an associate professor of chemical engineering, introduced a resolution regarding state-funded budgets. The resolution calls for any permitted indirect costs associated with externally funded programs to be the first items cut from the state-funded

budgets. These cuts, according to the resolution, would come prior to any cuts of academic programs.

Indirect cost reimbursement allocations are funds siphoned from grants to finance the overhead of research projects. For example, if an English professor were to receive a \$100,000 grant, the English department would take a percentage of that to pay for overhead costs such as electricity, salary and equipment.

Spanier expressed disagreement with the senate resolution, saying, "There seems to be a belief that there is tons of money floating around in this mysterious category of indirect costs."

The UNL indirect cost reimbursement rate is set by the vice chancellor's office for research at around 40 percent, while the national rate is about 55 percent, Spanier said.

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THURSDAY



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