

Daily Nebraskan

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University of Nebraska-Lincoln

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DIVERSIONS

THURSDAY



82/58
Partly sunny today.
Tonight, a chance of rain.
Cooler tomorrow and cloudy.

Officials consider required curriculum

Plan would apply to undergraduates, transfer students

By Shelley Biggs
Senior Reporter

Administrators at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln are working on a plan that would require students to complete a uniform general education curriculum before they graduate, an official said.

Joan Leitzel, UNL vice chancellor for academic affairs, said the plan would require undergraduate students to take a minimum of 30 hours of outlined course work by the second semester of their sophomore year.

The program is designed to ensure that students are more well-rounded when they graduate, Leitzel said.

"The plan was developed because we realized that not all students were getting a strong program within their majors," she said. "Under the proposed structure of general education, students will be receiving a coherent whole."

The curriculum is designed for traditional students, Leitzel said, but provisions also will be worked out for transfer and non-traditional students.

The tables that transfer students use to determine if their class credits will transfer to the university will have to be reworked as a result of the new course curriculum, Leitzel said. UNL is prepared to work closely with community colleges and other universities, she said.

The university already offers some of the required courses, Leitzel said, and could meet current requirements for majors.

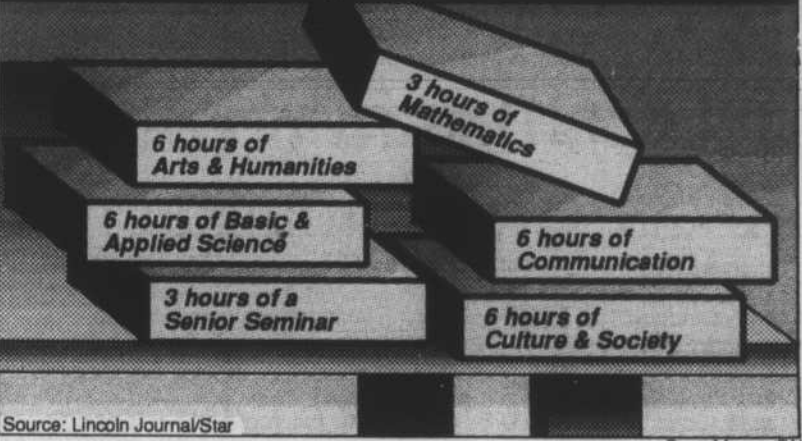
A college committee will be primarily responsible for making recommendations to the university committee about any new courses needed to implement the plan. The committees will be formed soon, she said.

Leitzel said the administration would run a pilot program next year and begin the requirements with the 1994-95 school year.

One-time monies will be used to develop new courses, Leitzel said, but ongoing funds also will be needed to track enrollment changes that occur once the curriculum is in place. She said she did not know what the cost of the program would be.

Proposed General Education requirements

New curriculum would require students to complete at least 30 hours in specific subjects.



Source: Lincoln Journal-Star

Scott Maurer/DN

Close campaign sparks jump in student support

By Jeff Zeleny
Staff Reporter

As the November presidential election gets closer, President Bush and Bill Clinton are scrambling to gain voters' support, and more college students are helping them.

Interest in the upcoming election has doubled the membership of College Republicans and Young Democrats, two political organizations at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

Robert Sittig, a UNL political science professor, attributed the high campaign interest to the close race between Bush and Clinton.

Students need to pay attention to the presidential campaign, even though candidates are not making a specific appeal to Nebraska students, Sittig said.

Suzanne Lipsey, a senior meteorology major and president of the Young Democrats, said students realized the importance of politics this year more than ever before, and that they were ready for a change.

The economy is the big issue for students, Lipsey said.

"Friends are graduating and not getting jobs; it's hitting closer to home," she said.

Trent Steele, a junior secondary education major and president of College Republicans, agreed that the economy was slow but said the president was not to blame.

"I don't think problems of the economy and

jobs can be pinned on one man," he said. "It isn't that his ideas aren't working; they just haven't been tried."

The two groups endorse parties, not candidates, and they will help local campaign workers promote their parties' messages.

Steele said College Republicans would campaign by telephone and by foot.

"It's fun volunteer stuff, not just grunt work," he said.

Students who want to support either Bush or Clinton can join one of the groups formed to promote each candidate.

Students for Bush became an officially recognized student organization in January after it received approval from the Association of Students of the University of Nebraska.

About 50 people have expressed interest in the group, said organizer Kristine Hubka, a senior political science major.

Patrick Adams, a junior political science major and coordinator of Students for Clinton-Gore, said he expected ASUN to approve the Democratic group this week.

"Students for Clinton-Gore gives people beyond party lines who are fed up with the status quo an opportunity to participate," he said.

"People our age are feeling the impact of a failed Bush policy; they want change and progress."

But Steele said he thought most college students supported Bush.

Students not only identify with Bush's goals, such as his concern for education, but they also trust and like the president, he said.

ASUN to advise committee

By Angie Brunkow
Staff Reporter

ASUN will play an important role in making Nebraska a leader in multicultural education, one official said.

Jim Kubik, staff coordinator of the Nebraska Legislature's multicultural education committee, said he wanted to use ASUN senators as advisers to help the committee spread multicultural awareness.

Kubik said the Association of Students of the University of Nebraska had gained a "soft spot" in his heart because it was instrumental in getting LB922 passed last spring.

The bill, sponsored by Sen. Ernie Chambers of Omaha, requires Nebraska secondary and elementary schools to develop and implement multicultural education programs.

The programs would not add new classes or

teachers to the school, but would require schools to integrate multicultural programs into existing curriculums.

Kubik said ASUN President Andrew Sigerson was one of the first to come out in support of the bill.

Sigerson lined up several speakers to testify at the public hearing before the Legislature last spring.

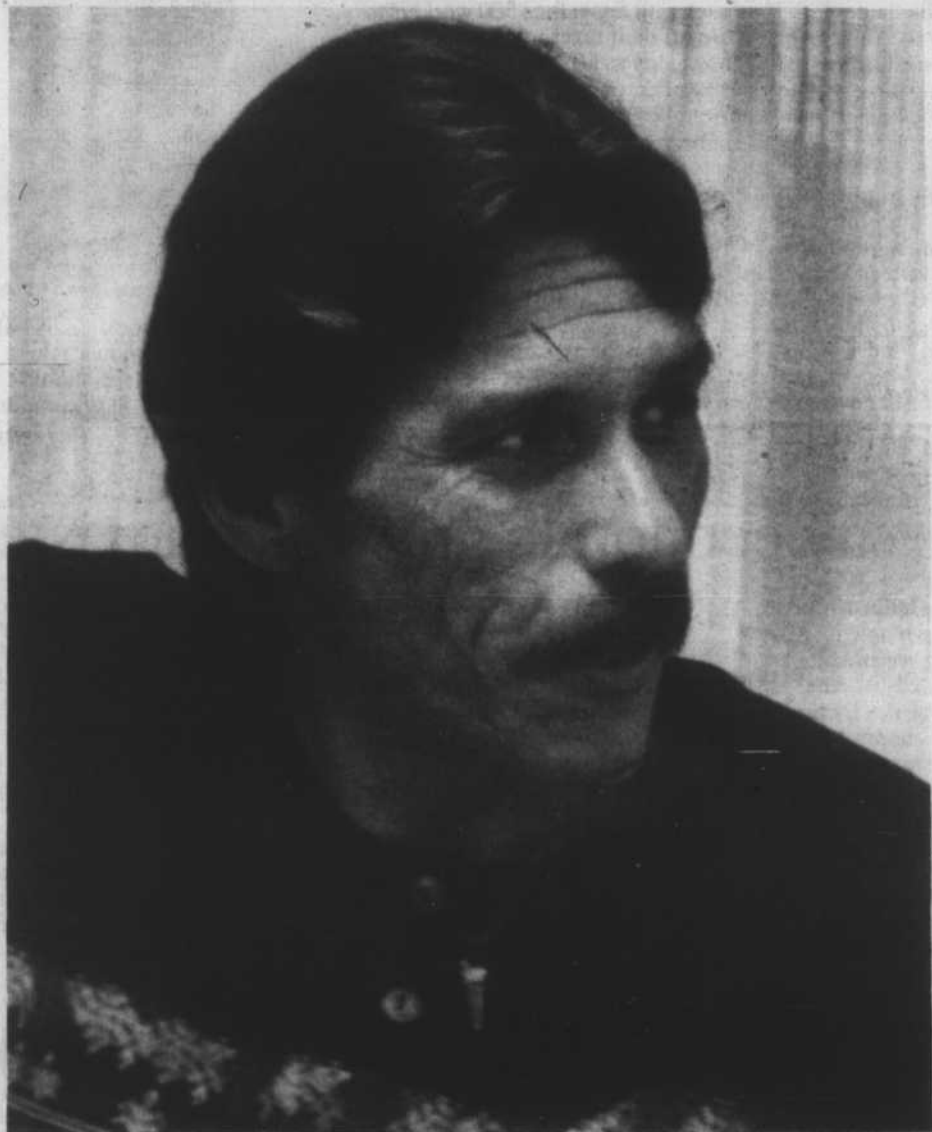
Kubik said the vast student support overwhelmed the Legislature and led to the bill being passed more quickly.

He said he would like to report his ideas to the senate and get senators' reactions, and he said he expected their candor and honesty.

"I can't think of a better group than right here," he said.

Sigerson said being chosen as an advisory body to the multicultural education committee was a tremendous achievement for ASUN. He said it gave the senate a voice in multicultural education across the state.

He said he thought students often came to



Jeff Walling/DN

Richard Carper, an AIDS activist, speaks at the Union Wednesday night.

No immunity

Activist says AIDS will affect all

By Virginia Newton
Staff Reporter

Richard Carper, a nationally known AIDS activist, told a group of UNL students and members of the community Wednesday night that AIDS would touch each one of them.

Carper, whose visit was sponsored by the Gay/Lesbian Student Association, spoke in front of a group of about 30 people at the Nebraska Union. He has appeared on "Donahue," "20/20" and has authored a book about AIDS.

His goal Wednesday, he said, was to inform students about the dangers of AIDS and to make them aware of its implications for society.

"My focus is to try to get the student population to acknowledge and understand that HIV is their problem," Carper said. "A lot of people have never met somebody with

HIV.

"HIV is going to touch every social element of our society from the president, to the director of health, to the board of trustees of campus, to the student population, to the faculty that should be giving accurate information out," he said.

Carper, a former heroin addict, was diagnosed with HIV in 1986. He had a blood transfusion in 1984, before testing blood for the virus became common.

Carper said he could have contracted HIV through either intravenous drug use or the blood transfusion.

Long after people should have learned to take precautions, Carper said, many are still making the mistakes that lead to contracting the virus.

The reason, he said, is that politics is preventing people from getting the informa-

See AIDS on 6

See ASUN on 6