

Committee bans public from officer meetings

President says some topics need confidentiality

By Angle Brunkow
Staff Reporter

The Academic Senate's Executive Committee decided Wednesday to close its meetings to the public.

The resolution, which closed the meeting to everyone except executive officers and their guests, passed 4-3 with one abstention.

Sally Wise, president of the academic senate, said the committee was not required to have open meetings, and some issues the committee discussed needed the confidentiality of closed meetings.

Also, often the committee discusses information from university officials that has not been made public yet, she said.

Deanna Eversoll, division of continuing studies senator, said she

noticed executive committee members had been more constrained in discussion since the Daily Nebraskan began covering the meetings. Free discussions are crucial to the group in making decisions, she said.

“We're going to be better off with access.”

—Tuck
member of the Academic Senate

George Tuck, past president and news-editorial senator, said the meetings should be open.

Tuck said that while he thought current executive officers would be open about what occurred at the meetings, successors might not. “We're going to be better off with access.”

The committee still will make its agenda and minutes public, and the committee will decide whether interested parties can attend specific meetings upon request.

Senators fail to make quorum

ASUN meeting three short of needed attendance

By Andrea Kaser
Staff Reporter

Despite attempts to contact absent senators, the Association of Students of the University of Nebraska could not perform legislation Wednesday because too few senators attended the meeting.

In order to conduct business, at least 21 senators needed to be present. But only 18 senators showed. This was the first time this year ASUN had not met quorum.

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Oxley, senator for the Graduates College.

Even though the senators couldn't pass any legislation, parliamentary procedure allowed them to hear committee reports and open forum.

But the guests invited to open forum, members of Students Creating Opportunities in the Pursuit of Equity, asked to reschedule.

Both ASUN and SCOPE would reap the most benefits from the presentation if every senator were present, said Reshell Ray, director of the diversity-education group.

SCOPE probably will meet with the student government in March.

ASUN President Andrew Sigerson said several factors contributed to the

low attendance.

One senator had his car towed, he said, while another was sick. The snow and the fact that the meeting was held on East Campus probably confused things.

The basketball game was another factor to consider, he said.

First Vice President Trent Steele, who presides over parliamentary procedures, said any senator that did not have a legitimate excuse for missing the meeting would have to face the consequences.

Steele removed one senator last semester for too many unexcused absences, he said.

Senators are allowed three unexcused absences per year.

Seats

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few years,” Byrne said. “There are more non-traditional students these days, and their interests lie elsewhere than athletic competitions.”

But Byrne added that both proposals were in the “very preliminary” stages.

Also discussed at last week's meeting was the possibility of installing

sky box seating and an instant-replay scoreboard in Memorial Stadium.

According to the minutes of the meeting, preliminary drawings were given to athletic department officials, with tentative plans to install the sky boxes atop west stadium.

The instant-replay scoreboard probably would be installed in either the north or south stadiums.

The only other college football

program in the country with instant-replay capability in its stadium is the University of Texas.

Besides Byrne and Fouraker, those present at the Feb. 15 meeting included Football coach Tom Osborne, Barb Hibner, assistant athletic director in charge of women's athletics, and seven other athletic department administrators, coaches and personnel.

Debate

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said, students could come back to reality and have more fun.

“This is college. Let's have a good time,” he said. “I'm serious about doing this job, but I'm also realistic.”

An audience of about 40 people posed questions to the groups on a variety of subjects, such as services for disabled students, campus smoking policies and parking.

Trent Steele, VOICE party first-vice-presidential candidate and a junior secondary education major, said awareness had increased for disabled students through programs such as Wheelchair Wednesday, which he helped organize.

The program brought local celebrities and politicians on campus to see what disabled students face daily, he said. Winter is an especially difficult time for disabled students, he said, and more students must be made aware of the difficulties they face.

“Goodness, I've slipped and fallen in this snow,” Steele said, “imagine what it's like in a wheelchair.”

The no-smoking policy in Nebraska Hall's 24-hour study lounge also was discussed. Dietz said the recent ban was not necessary.

“Why should students who are used to smoking have that taken away from them?” he asked.

Benes said the ban was implemented by students in the College of Engineering.

“We stand by those students and their right to study without smoke,” Benes said.

Matt Maser, PARTY second-vice-presidential candidate, addressed a parking question posed by an audience member.

“Parking has been a problem for 25 years, and will probably be one for 25 more,” Maser said. “It's kind of a dead issue. It's really not an issue that can be solved.”

Benes disagreed.

“I don't think that just because the Daily Nebraskan writes an editorial on parking it's a dead issue,” he said. “It's a logistical nightmare.”

Ekeler

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break down the walls that divide us, things will stay the same.”

Ekeler said he planned to pursue a master's degree in education and go on to get a doctorate in sociology. He said he eventually wanted to become a university president or chancellor.

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