

UNL policy stirs up smoke

By Kristin Armstrong
Staff Reporter

Smokers may be forced to stand outside to fulfill their craving as of Aug. 1, but not if John Snelling has anything to say about it.

The University of Nebraska-Lincoln's new clean air policy, which will go into effect in two months, will ban smoking inside any building as well as within 10 feet of any facility entrance or work site.

The policy, now called "The Tobacco Free Campus Policy," began in 1988, and was revised last month to reflect recent environmental health research findings, according to a report by John Goebel, UNL's vice chancellor for business and finance.

Smokers against the policy met last week in the East Campus Union to discuss their views. The meeting was led by Snelling, who is a supply control clerk for Business Services at UNL.

Snelling told the crowd of about 15 smokers that the purpose of the meeting was to form a committee. He said he wanted to take action because the university was taking away smokers' rights.

"As long as we are paying taxes on tobacco products, we should have some say so," Snelling said. "I have a problem getting pushed around when I'm paying taxes and non-smokers

aren't."

Jack Hardy of the Nebraska Department of Revenue, said the funds created by the sale of cigarettes in 1992 amounted to more than \$36 million.

Hardy said if Nebraska raised the sales tax on cigarettes another five cents, this could bring in another \$728,027.65, most of which would go to the university.

Snelling said based on these figures, funds should be used for separate smoking areas in buildings. He said this would allow smokers to remain inside when they wanted to smoke, but away from non-smokers.

"Why can't the university spend some of this money to keep the non-smokers happy?" Snelling said.

Snelling said his goal in forming a committee would be to convince officials to keep the policy that was established in 1988 without the current revisions.

The original "Clean Air Policy" allowed smoking in designated areas only.

Snelling said that he wanted the policy to be fair to both smokers and non-smokers.

"Anybody that wants to smoke should be able to smoke," Snelling said. "In days of old, they use to make colored people go to the back of the bus — after Aug. 1, we won't even be able to get on that bus."



David Badders/DN

Legislature

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"If President Massengale would have accepted it or if students wouldn't have rallied, the \$14 million would have been closer to reality."

More than 150 students marched to the State Capitol during a March rally. That show of support helped reduce the cuts, Peterson said.

"We saw a sense of urgency that something may have to be done," he said. "Every two years, it's the responsibility of the students to remind senators that the university is the state's best resource for a brighter future."

Sen. John Lindsay of Omaha opposed the override, but said his vote was not against higher education.

"I thought the governor was frugal, he was selective in cuts," he said. "I thought the cuts were well thought out."

Peterson said the legislative session was good to the university, but the entire system must continue to be aware of possible future cuts.

"The university does need to look at itself to find more efficiency," he said. "The next time the budget axe comes calling, we can say we've made tough cuts in the past."

Kerrey lauds UNL Food Processing Center

By Jean DeShazer
Staff Reporter

Nebraska Sen. Bob Kerrey, who is considered a key leader in the development of the University of Nebraska's Food Processing Center, was on hand to help the center celebrate its 10th anniversary last Friday on UNL's East Campus.

The Food Processing Center, which moved into the \$11.5 million Food Industry Building in 1990, began in 1983 as a resource center for new Nebraskan food-processing businesses to provide advice on start-up, federal and state regulations and packaging.

Since its beginning, Kerrey said the cen-

— 66 —
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— Kerrey
Nebraska Senator

ter was the largest cause for the 150 new food-processing businesses in the state.

"Growing food is a strength in our state," Kerrey said. "We are good at it and we should try to build on it."

Kerrey cited the center as the best of its kind in the United States.

He said the focus of the center has always been on state business and jobs for Nebras-

kans.

"The idea of being able to help big and small business alike makes it even more attractive," Kerrey said.

In the center's annual report, a list of new entrepreneurs accounted for 25 new food-processing companies in 1992. The companies represented a wide range of products including farm-raised trout, gourmet cheese-

cakes and goat cheeses.

Irv Omtvedt, vice chancellor of the Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources, said that compared to a national average of 10 to 20 percent, 80 percent of food related businesses added in Nebraska were still in existence five years later.

"I think that says something about our program," Omtvedt said.

Stuart Miller, a representative from the Department of Economic Development, said although many public and private partnerships organized by the state do not work, the center was a perfect example of a successful partnership.

"If you look at this as an example, this is the prototype," Miller said.

Dean

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Forsythe said, "John Peters has been an excellent dean — his departure is a great loss to UNL but a fine addition to Tennessee."

Joan Leitzel, senior vice chancellor for academic affairs at UNL, said an interim dean will serve a one-year

appointment. She said by Oct. 1, an internal and external national search will be conducted to find a permanent replacement for Peters.

But, Leitzel said, the search would not be easy.

"I anticipate it will take some time to find a person of Dean Peters' considerable academic and administrative caliber," she said.

Graduation

Continued from Page 1

tive GPA in high school core classes of English, mathematics, science and social sciences of at least 2.0.

Grooters said an athlete must make "satisfactory progress towards a major" to keep their scholarship.

Nebraska football coach Tom Osborne, who during his tenure has helped the Cornhusker football team lead the nation in academic All-Americans, said he stressed to his players that their reason for being at UNL was to study and earn a degree.

"Their No. 1 reason for being here is to graduate," Osborne said.

He said his players were required

to go to every class and tutorial session assigned to them.

"At the beginning of the year, the players are each given five points," Osborne said. "If they miss a class or a tutorial session, a point is taken away. If a player would happen to lose all five points, he could not play in the next game."

Osborne said one reason many football players fail to graduate is because they decide to go to play professionally.

But graduation was still necessary because professional football wasn't the answer for everyone, he said.

"Fifty percent of the pro football players leave broke," Osborne said. "It is critical to have a degree."

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FAX NUMBER 472-1761

The Daily Nebraskan (USPS 144-080) is published by the UNL Publications Board, Nebraska Union 34, 1400 R St., Lincoln, NE, 68588-0448, weekdays during the academic year (except holidays); weekly during the summer session.
Readers are encouraged to submit story ideas and comments to the Daily Nebraskan by phoning 472-1763 between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. The public also has access to the Publications Board. For information, contact Doug Fiedler, 472-2588.
Subscription price is \$50 for one year.
Postmaster: Send address changes to the Daily Nebraskan, Nebraska Union 34, 1400 R St., Lincoln, NE 68588-0448. Second-class postage paid at Lincoln, NE.
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THE DAY

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