

Tuition hike on agenda

By Jean DeShazer
Staff Reporter

Talk of a university-wide tuition increase will top the agenda at Saturday's NU Board of Regents meeting.

According to the agenda for the regents monthly meeting, a proposed tuition hike would result in a 4.9 percent increase for resident undergraduate students at UNL. The increase would raise UNL tuition from \$61.50 to \$64.50 per credit hour, and a 5.1 percent increase for nonresident undergraduates from \$167.50 to \$176.00.

The proposal would also raise graduate tuition rates 4.9 percent for resident graduate students from \$81.50 to \$85.50 per credit hour; and for nonresident graduate students the proposal would create a 5 percent tuition increase from \$201.25 to \$211.25 per credit hour.

Other items slated for Saturday include:

- A report of the status of construction projects on all NU campuses. According to the agenda, UNL will see a number of construction projects taking place soon, including the partial demolition and reconstruction of the 501 building.

- A report on the approval of a contract for engineering services for the analysis of Memorial Stadium.

Issues from the regents' May meeting may also resurface. Last month, it was announced that the services of presidential search company Korn/Ferry International will be retained to assist in the search for a new UNL president.

Instead of charging a percentage of the overhead, as is the case with most firms, Korn/Ferry charges a flat fee of \$25,000 to do a search, according to Regent Don Blank.

"No one wants to spend money that we don't have to, but this person will be the CEO of our university," Blank said. "Some things we just don't dare not do."

Regent Nancy Hoch asked about

prayer at the UNL commencement, and UNL Chancellor Graham Spanier reported that student regent and student body president Keith Benes gave a statement about religious beliefs followed by a silent prayer.

Regent Robert Allen of Hastings said the prayer issue needed to be reviewed.

"I would like to see the Chancellor review the situation and return to a normal benediction at graduation ceremonies," he said.

Another item from the May 15th

meeting that will probably be discussed this weekend concerned the possibility of eliminating the Czech language program at UNL.

Last month, the regents and audience members heard testimony from several people interested in retaining the Czech language program, including former U.S. Sen. Roman L. Hruska.

A subcommittee meeting will be held at 3:30 p.m. this Friday in the Varner Hall Board Room to discuss the future of the Czech program at UNL.

Czech fate debated

By Jean DeShazer
Staff Reporter

The future of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln's Czech Language program may be on shaky ground.

A proposal to move the 86-year-old Czech program from the curriculum offered in the Modern Languages department to the division of Continuing Studies will be the topic of a NU Regents subcommittee meeting Friday.

Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs Joan Leitzel said the language portion of the Czech program would be phased into Continuing Studies within two years because of the lack of enrollment in the language classes.

But Czech professor Mila Saskova-Pierce said that it was not the quantity but quality of the students enrolled in the program that counted.

"The students who enroll in the program are very intelligent and have a clear goal in mind and a desire to use their knowledge of the Czech language in a pragmatic manner," Saskova-Pierce said.

The proposal to cut the Czech language program as suggested by UNL Chancellor Graham Spanier, was amended by the regents who proposed that the program be

moved to Continuing Studies.

But students involved in the program are concerned that the move to Continuing Studies will actually decrease enrollment and eventually lead to the elimination of the Czech language program.

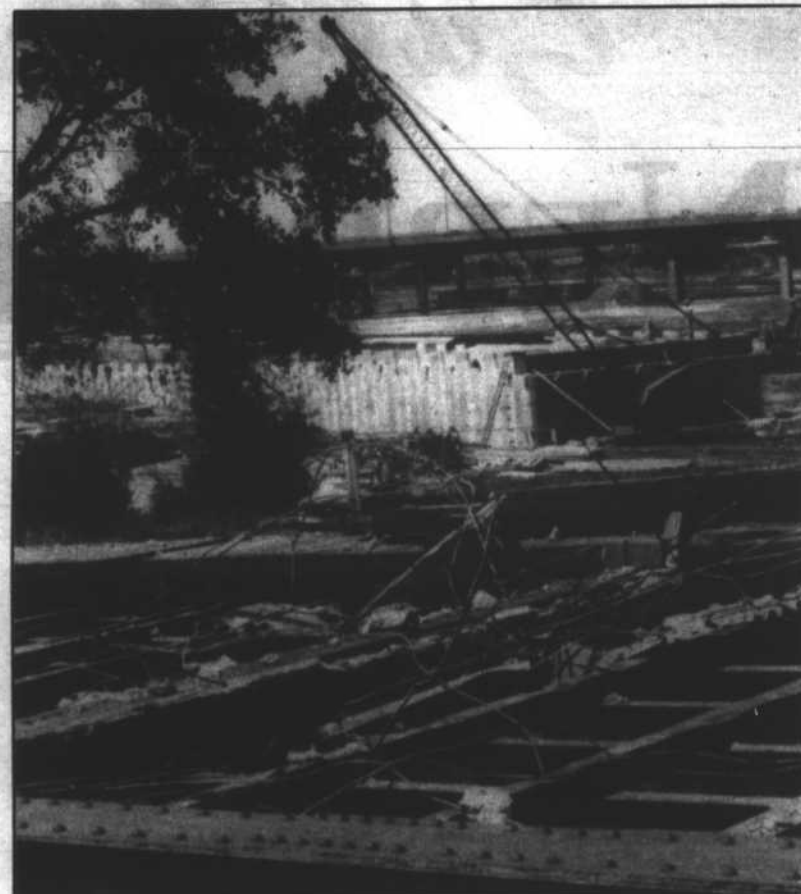
"Spanier is not a native of Nebraska and I don't think he fully understands the importance of the Czech language and Czech heritage in Nebraska," UNL student Michael Wanek said.

Wanek said that not only is Czech important as a part of Nebraska heritage, but also as a communication tool with the newly-formed Czech Republic.

"Because of its abundance of natural resources, I believe that the Czech Republic will be able to become a world power equivalent to countries like West Germany," Wanek said.

For Wanek and his wife Tracy, who hope their children will be able to learn Czech, the move to Continuing Studies could spell the slow death of a program that concerns much of the population of Nebraska.

"Three-fifths of the population of Nebraska is of Czech heritage," Wanek said. "Cutting the Czech program is like missing out on a golden opportunity."



Damon Lee/DN

A portion of the 10th Street bridge awaits removal as a new overpass is erected in the background. The new overpass is scheduled to be finished in December.

Van Horn

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day, and planned to further examine university-wide budget aspects, including risk management, human resources, capital construction, planning and financial management.

"We really have extensive capital construction needs on all campuses," Van Horn said. "Our top priority is to obtain funding for Burnett Hall."

Burnett Hall on the University of Nebraska-Lincoln campus has been targeted for improvements, but funding wasn't made available during the 1993 legislative session.

Copeland Hall on the University of Nebraska at Kearney Campus is also a concern for Van Horn.

The NU budget wasn't reduced during this year's legislative session,

but Van Horn said just because the university was spared this biennium doesn't mean the budget problems were solved.

"My first response to the 1993 Legislature is one of gratitude," he said. "They stayed with and supported higher education, but the next biennial budget does not balance at this point."

"We have to work with key members of the Legislature and Appropriations Committee and try to find the right solution."

Additional financing might have to be done by the university, including a five percent tuition increase, Van Horn said.

"We are continuing some efforts to find increased ways to be more efficient in the business and finance areas," he said.

Jobs

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changed in this area, but we have people in jobs with low pay who are underemployed," he said.

However, Routh said, the job market is not all bad news for persistent graduates, since there are still jobs to be had.

Routh said while Fortune 500 companies have cut back on hiring, smaller and medium sized businesses are still hiring steadily.

"Fortune 500 companies are reducing management and practicing a leaner fashion of managing," he said. "But smaller and medium sized companies are already lean and don't have as many layers of management, so they have not downsized."

Routh said recent majors that have done best in the job pool are those who have engineering, computer sciences or agriculture degrees.

"Agriculture has done well because agriculture has not felt the recession as much as other companies," he said.

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