

Waste

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By year's end, she said, some of the mixed waste may have deteriorated to a point where it would be safe to move.

UNL also could save money on shipping costs, she said. The university pays a contractor \$1,500 per trip to ship the waste to dumps. A larger storage space would allow UNL to hire a contractor just once a year. Osthus said the violations were minor, but environmental officials disagreed.

"The information I have doesn't indicate that I agree with that statement," said Lorraine Cope, RCRA program specialist.

"From the EPA standpoint, they were significant because they could have led to a problem," she said.

In January, she said, the EPA cited the university for violations. Cope said she could not comment on the specifics of the violations because the case was being investigated.

But she said UNL's violations were serious even though no contamination came to soil or personal health.

Cope said UNL was trying to make amends.

"The university appears to be very serious in getting back into compliance with the EPA."

UNL has a history of EPA violations, said Dale Armstrong, public affairs spokesman with the agency in Kansas City, Kan.

- In 1988, the EPA cited UNL for hazardous waste violations.

- The university was cited again in 1989.

- In 1990, UNL was fined \$36,000.

- In 1991, UNL again was found to have violated federal low-level radioactive waste regulations.

- Last August, UNL was cited again during a surprise inspection. This time, the violation listed improper handling of mixed waste storage.

EPA officials reinspected the campus in September to make sure the violations were being corrected.

Armstrong said he could not comment on the specifics of the 1992 violations because the cases were being reviewed.

The violations are unusual for a university campus, Armstrong said.

"I wouldn't call it typical," he said. "We do consider it serious that these violations have occurred."

James Rhone, UNL director of the Hazardous Material Program, said many past violations were minor.

UNL was once cited for not labeling a chemical on a shelf and for forgetting to put a lid on a bottle of chemicals, he said.

Federal regulations are difficult for UNL to follow, he said.

The rules are created for industries, he said, and industries generate much more waste than a university campus.

An industry can generate 20 to 50 tons each of several chemical by-products. UNL generates 800 or 900 grams of the same amount of by-products.

When the amount of waste is minute, he said, it is difficult to follow strict guidelines.

The rules change often, he said, and are hard to keep up with.

"What we're doing today probably will be a violation next week because the regulations change so fast," he said. "It's a little hard for us to cope, but we manage to find a way," he said.

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Angie Hoelsing, student assistant for Selleck 6100, said she was trying to find activities that would work with the busy schedules of Spanier and Lisa Schmidt, director of High School and College Relations. Both Schmidt and Spanier are faculty advisers for Selleck 6100.

Hoelsing said the program would help Selleck's students realize administrators and faculty members were there to help them.

The students on Hoelsing's floor are excited about working with Spanier and being involved in the program, she said.

But Hoelsing said she wasn't afraid Spanier would usurp her role as student adviser.

The faculty and administrative advisers will enhance the S.A.'s role, she said, providing a faculty member to talk to personally. Usually, the S.A. just refers the student to an unknown source.

Volgyes

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These institutions have become quite successful, he said.

"I am proud that I was able to nurse them along," he said.

However, Volgyes does not believe he has done enough.

"If I were to sum up my work done, my only answer is that I have learned a lot and helped a little bit," Volgyes said.

"There are people hurting out there everyday. I should have done better at making people more aware of the diverse options they have — both Hungarians and Americans."

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Learn to respect the ways of others — not tolerate them — but respect them.

— Volgyes
political science professor

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Volgyes said he thought all Americans could learn a few things from Hungarians.

Americans could learn to be more pessimistic about promises made by politicians, Volgyes said.

"Promises are cheap in American political life," he said.

"We could also learn a bit of tolerance in terms of taking adverse conditions. In Hungary, they withstood 20 percent unemployment, and in this country there would be a revolution."

Volgyes said his message to both his Hungarian and American students had always been one of respect and achievement.

"Learn to respect the ways of others — not tolerate them — but respect them," Volgyes said.

"Assume responsibility to do the very best you can and perhaps even that might not be good enough, but that's all you can do."

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