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# State senators hear students' views

## Subjects include building repair, hazing, gambling

By Matthew Waite  
Senior Reporter

Some University of Nebraska-Lincoln students got to play lobbyist Thursday.

The Government Liaison Committee invited students and state senators to Senators on Campus, a luncheon where students could voice their concerns to senators.

Andrew Loudon, GLC chairman, said this was the only chance UNL students would get to take senators out to lunch like other lobbyists.

Student government has taken a stance on two bills before the Legislature, Loudon said.

The Association of Students of the University of Nebraska has opposed a bill to defer emergency funds to pay for building repairs and has supported LB1129, a bill that would make hazing a crime.

The topics of discussion at the tables ranged from gambling issues to health care.

At one table, Sen. James Jones of Eddyville talked about health care and economics with students.

Michael Murphy, a freshman in the College of Arts and Sciences, asked Jones if he thought the Clinton health-care plan would force regulations on state government.

"I'm scared of what might be coming down," Jones said. "These are things that we could be paying for the rest of our lives."

Murphy said he was trying to stay up on the health-care issue because he was a pre-medicine major. He said the plan would dictate which direction he would go in medicine.

At another table, a student asked Sen. Dennis Byars of Beatrice if he met with many lobbyists.

Byars said he was lobbied from all sides. He told the group his wife and two sons were all vocal about political issues.

"It gets real interesting in our house," Byars said.

At the same table, Sen. Michael Avery of Gretna told the students he supported a bill allocating money for building repairs at UNL.

In the past, Avery said, state buildings were used until they were completely run down. He said the buildings were then torn down, and new

buildings were built.

"It's just not practical to just tear down buildings and rebuild them," Avery said.

At another table, Sen. Jim Cudaback of Riverdale said the current lottery gave some money to gambling-addiction counseling.

"I'm not saying I don't gamble," he said. "I just feel sorry for those that (are addicted)."

Cudaback said he was in a store and saw a man buying lottery tickets as his only source of money.

"It's supposed to be a fun thing ... not to make money," he said. "If you're doing it to make money, you better go out of business because you are hooked."

Mark Byars, an ASUN general studies senator, lobbied Sen. Dan Fisher of Grand Island about bills that would protect UNL students.

Mark Byars said students would be talking to Fisher about the hazing bill and asked him to consider looking into changes in Nebraska tenant-landlord laws.

Students who live off campus are getting the runaround when it comes to their initial deposits, Mark Byars said, and that needs to stop.

# Delegates to share ideas at environmental summit

By Matthew Waite  
Senior Reporter

Brainstorming, garbage and the vice president of the United States are waiting for three UNL delegates to the Campus Earth Summit at Yale University this weekend.

The summit will draw three delegates from each of 100 universities in the United States and 25 universities from around the world.

The summit will feature workshops, panel discussions and speakers on environmental issues. Vice President Al Gore will address the conference via video.

Al Williams, director of environmental studies at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln; Mark Petersen, president of Ecology Now; and Galen Wray, a representative from the Environmental Resource Center, will represent UNL.

The summit is divided into three tracks with different topics. They range from government relations to environmental studies programs.

Williams, who will attend the panel discussion entitled "Making Environmental Education a Top Priority," said he would be presenting UNL's Environmental Studies Program as a model of how it should be done.

"It does say that the program is working well," Williams said. He said he hoped to bring back ideas of how to develop the program on the graduate level.

Wray, who will attend "Organizing Campuses for a Sustainable Future," said he was going to use the summit to do some networking.

"It should be a good brainstorming session to get new ideas," Wray said. "Maybe to see how other environmental groups are working on environmental issues."

Wray said each delegate would spend a lot of time on one of five strategy teams.

In the strategy team about environmental resource centers, Wray said he would share knowledge about UNL's

center.

"We're going to try brainstorming on ideas of how others can establish environmental resource centers in their areas," he said. "I guess I didn't realize how special the center is here."

Wray said the only other campus-based resource center of which he was aware in the area was at the University of Chicago.

Petersen said the main idea of the conference was for campus environmental leaders to get together and share ideas.

He said he would be presenting a plan he wrote last semester trying to ease the problems associated with bikes on campus. He said the plan would add bike routes to UNL.

Petersen said he also would be talking about the UNL recycling coordinator, Dale Ekart, who is starting an organized recycling effort on campus.

"We have a recycling coordinator on this campus — that's also something we are very lucky to have," Petersen said. "Other campuses just had recycling here and there like we did in the past."

Petersen said he would be discussing other programs at UNL. He said replacing incandescent light bulbs with compact, energy-efficient bulbs was a major move for energy conservation.

When the delegates return, they will be presenting the information to the groups sponsoring them and to any interested student groups.

Wray said he and Petersen would be presenting reports to the Nebraska Unions, university housing, the vice chancellor for student affairs and the business and finance office. He said those offices provided money for their trip.

Wray said the number of people coming to the summit would only strengthen the ideas discussed.

"By having a mix of different people you'll have a lot of different problems," Wray said.

# CFA grants increases

From Staff Reports

increase in budget of \$350.

Representatives of the Office for Student Involvement and the Women's Center met Thursday with the Committee for Fees Allocation to discuss appeals of the proposed reduction in their budget proposals.

The Office for Student Involvement was granted \$1,000 for events, training and travel Tuesday, which was an \$840 reduction from what they had requested.

Thursday, the appeal for an increase was passed and the Office for Student Involvement was granted an

The Women's Center appealed most of the CFA-proposed cuts. Representatives of the Women's Center argued the need to update and continue their subscriptions to periodicals, brochures and other books. CFA reinstated \$300 for supplies and materials, which gave them \$1,450.

Nebraska Unions were successful in appealing \$600, which came to be a reduction of their budget by \$2,399. CFA's recommendation was 1,700,266.50 for the Nebraska Unions.



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