

Increases in lab fees reviewed by Regents

By Sean McCarthy
Staff Reporter

Last January many University of Nebraska-Lincoln students objected to an increase in laboratory fees for the 1994-95 academic year. As a result, the Board of Regents adopted a policy last February requiring lab fee revisions be reported to the board. Those revisions were made available at the July regents meeting.

The fees were approved by a committee of three faculty members and two students. The committee included George Sturgeon, of the chemistry department, Al Rometo, of the School of Music, David Fowler, of the Teachers College, and two students, Michelle Pfeiffer and Doug Stobbe. The students were approved by former ASUN President Keith Benes and Dr. Brinkerhoff, associate vice chancellor of Academic Affairs.

Requests for increased fees were submitted by departments. The committee then reviewed each case separately and made a decision.

"Each person on the faculty was genuinely student-oriented," Dr. Brinkerhoff said. "There was a real concern for the student and the cost for the student."

The increase in the cost of materials for the student was the most common reason many departments requested additional funding, Dr. Brinkerhoff said. Though inflation and cost of living were factors considered in increases, many requests from departments were turned down by the committee, he said.

Some of the greater lab fee increases included Nutrition Science 474, Food and Beverage Management, which now has a \$55 lab fee, and Advertising 489, Advertising Campaigns, which now has a \$30 lab fee.

Lab fees for the 1995-96 year are estimated to remain about the same as the 1994-95 year, Dr. Brinkerhoff said.

"If one looks at increases over the long haul, one would recognize that we went through a long period without increased cost," he said.

Lab Fee Changes

course	93-94 fees	94-95 fees	course	93-94 fees	94-95 fees
Advertising 489		30			
Arch 824		25			
Art 201	10	25	Mech Engr 311	15	20
Art 221	5	15	Mech Engr 340	10	15
Art 222	5	15	Mech Engr 342	10	15
Art 263	35	50	Mech Engr 401	15	20
Art 275		10	Mech Engr 443/843	10	15
Art 301	10	25	Mech Engr 445/845	15	20
Art 302	10	25	Mech Engr 446	10	15
Art 321	5	15	Mech Engr 447	10	15
Art 322	5	15	Mech Engr 450/850	15	20
Art 324	5	15	Mech Engr 452/852	15	20
Art 401	10	25	Mech Engr 480	15	20
Art 402	10	25	MechSystMgt 354		10
Art 421	5	15	Met Engr 360	15	20
Art 422	10	15	Met Engr 461/861	15	20
Bio Sci 109	10	20			
Bio Sci 112	10	20	Nutri Sci 469		15
Bio Sci 911		30	Nutri Sci 473		10
Bio Sci 913		30	Nutri Sci 474		55
Civil Engr 252		15	Nutri Sci 973		10
CRP 431/831	15	25	Physics 441/841	10	30
CRP 810	15	25	Physics 442/842	10	30
CRP 824	15	25	Physics 443/843	10	30
CRP 830	15	25	Theatre 420/820		20
CRP 840	15	25	Theatre 398/898		50
CRP 911	15	25	Theatre 398/898		25
CRP 990	15	25	Theatre 402/802		15
Geology 102	10	20			
Geology 869		20			
Management 198D 15		25			
Math 221		15			



Source: Board of Regents Agenda, July 16, 1994

Amy Schmidt / DN

Youth

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issues for kids," Close-Conoly said. "Thousands of kids are neglected in Nebraska," she said.

Ten times as many are neglected in the United States. Sylvia Ann Hewlett, author of "When the Bough Breaks: The Cost of Neglecting Our Children," estimates that up to 330,000 children are homeless and 20 percent of all children grow up in poverty. She points out that unemployment, family breakdown, lack of housing, inadequate health care and substandard child care contribute to child neglect.

Hewlett also described child neglect in affluent families where more time was devoted to careers than parenting.

Experts agree parenting is a key issue for those dealing with youth violence and destructive behavior.

"Getting parents into schools is critical," she said.

However, fewer parents are involved with schools, often because both parents have to work to make ends meet.

"Lincoln has a much higher than the national average number of working mothers," Susan Obrist of the Consortium for Children said.

The Consortium is a non-profit group working within the Lincoln Public School system to help address the needs of children.

Obrist said the workplace needed to support families.

"The workplace has to be educated," she said. "The business world must learn that (youth violence) affects them, too."

Economic stress isn't the only barrier to parental involvement, Close-Conoly said.

"There are huge numbers of people who had bad experiences in school," she said.

When kids acted up in school, they used to be kicked out, which wasn't necessarily a good thing, she said. They may have had a learning disorder or some other problem. Those types of problems are identified today, but the schools don't have the money to deal with them, she said.

Even adequate funding won't take the place of parents.

"The public school system hasn't had the power to bring parents into the schools," Close-Conoly said, "but until the last generation of kids, we haven't had to. Parents saw education as valuable."

If a teacher was mad at a kid, so were the parents, she said. Community support is vital for teachers.

"It takes a well-trained teacher and a huge amount of cooperation from other organizations" such as police, recreation and family services programs, she said.

"We need coordinated efforts between different agencies and schools," she said. "It seems easy, but it's not."

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