

Political campaigns employ UNL students

Campaigning offers pay, class credit

By Angle Schendt
Staff Reporter

PC might not stand for politically correct for some UNL students.

For students working for candidates running for office, it could stand for "political campaign."

Because this is an election year, student volunteers are working hard to get their candidates' names out before voting day.

Sophomore Joe Cipolla is president of Students for Kerrey. Bob Kerrey, a Democrat, is running for re-election to the U.S. Senate against Republican candidate Jan Stoney.

"I put in 30-plus hours a week, at least," he said.

Cipolla also is a member of Republicans for Kerrey, where he works as a paid intern. In addition to the pay, he receives six credit hours from the political science department.

Political science professor Robert Miewald said Political Science 395, the class that gives the credit, has been offered for about 20 years.

"If students do more than stuffing envelopes and putting up yard signs, and they work with many significant aspects of the campaign, they can get credit for that work," Miewald said.

In addition to volunteering at a political campaign, students can work in a senator's office or at different organizations, Miewald said.

Senior Kyle McCormick, a political science major, works for Patrick Combs, who is running against Doug Bereuter for the 1st



James Mehling/DN

District seat in the U.S. House of Representatives. McCormick, who is the campaign's field director and volunteer coordinator, said he gets paid and works about 60 hours a week.

"Volunteers go to parades, they do phone work, and they do general office and clerical work," McCormick said.

Working as a volunteer is also a good way to get your foot in the door for later political work,

McCormick said.

He began as a volunteer for two weeks, and then was approached for a paid position.

They also can inform people what their candidates' policies are or let others know what events are going on with the campaign. Volunteers have campaigned before football games and at the state fair, he said.

Before NU's football game against the University of Pacific

Saturday, freshmen Amy Williams and Tammi Reichel handed out rosters containing advertisements for Stoney.

Williams, a chemical engineering major, and Reichel, an accounting major, both said they had no interest in getting involved in politics later on but believed in their candidate.

"I volunteer about two hours a week," Williams said.

Williams also volunteered for

the George Bush for President campaign in 1992 when she was in high school.

Reichel is a member of College Republicans and had been a member of the Young Republicans in high school.

"It's a great, free way to get involved on campus and in the community," Reichel said. "It's also a great way to meet people."

Students from colleges and universities across the state volunteer for political campaigns. Students from the University of Nebraska at Omaha also were handing out rosters and stickers for Stoney before the game.

Tricia Bruning, a senior political science major, is state coordinator for Students for Kerrey. She oversees all the Students for Kerrey chapters in Nebraska.

"Doane, Creighton and Wayne State all have Students for Kerrey organizations," she said.

Sophomore English major Genelle Campbell is another student involved with Kerrey's campaign. She had been a volunteer but was promoted to an intern and will receive political science credit.

"Working on a political campaign is fun, and it looks great on a resume," she said. "In order to get an internship, you have to have experience."

Volunteering is the best way to get experience and to network, she said. Even if the volunteering doesn't pay right away, it doesn't cost anything to join the campaign, Campbell said.

Freshman Will Stanley, a political science major, said he saw a booth for College Republicans at Big Red Welcome and signed up. He now volunteers about 10 hours a week for the Stoney campaign.

"I've always been interested in politics. I do it for both the support and the experience," Stanley said.

University's enrollment drops 3.6 percent since fall of 1993

From Staff Reports

Enrollment at the University of Nebraska has decreased 3.6 percent since last fall.

The number of students enrolled on all four NU campuses has decreased from 51,342 in the fall of 1993 to its current enrollment of 49,502, a decrease of 1,840 students. The numbers include undergraduate, graduate and professional studies.

With a 2.8 percent increase, the University of Nebraska Medical Center was the only NU campus to show an increase in enrollment. UNMC added 75 students to its 1993 fall total of 2,703.

Enrollment at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln campus decreased 2.5 percent, a 606-student drop from 24,695. The Omaha and

Kearney campuses had more dramatic decreases, 5.3 percent for Omaha (848 students) and 5.7 percent for Kearney (461 students).

The University of Nebraska at Kearney reported 8,045 students for fall 1993, whereas the University of Nebraska at Omaha had 15,899 at that time.

Graduate enrollment, however, has increased at all four campuses. UNL saw its number of graduate students rise 7 percent, or 311 students, from its previous report of 4,421.

UNO reported the second-largest increase, 119 students or 4.6 percent, in graduate students. It previously had 2,588 students.

UNK saw an increase of 27 graduate students, 2.4 percent, from 1,105. UNMC gained eight graduate students, an increase of 2.2 percent.

Club

Continued from Page 1

ance is something that students would look for in that type of setting."

The Crib could not be changed into a permanent club, Swanson said, at least for the time being.

"It would have to be dual purpose," Swanson said. "A student lounge by day and nightclub by night. We can ill afford to designate space to a single purpose."

Depending on the popularity of the club, a more permanent change could still be added to the proposed future renovation of the Nebraska Union.

There is nothing about a club in the program statement now, he said, but like the club, renovation plans are still in the early stages.

Bower said the concept for an alcohol-free nightclub was announced at a deans and directors meeting in the spring. Swanson said he immediately volunteered the Crib as a pos-

sible location.

A 17-item survey of 200 students from greek houses, residence halls and academic classes just before the end of the spring semester indicated that 86 percent wanted the club.

Of those, 82 percent said they would be willing to pay a \$2 to \$3 cover charge, Bower said.

Swanson said additional funding could come from both Fund A and Fund B student fees.

The Nebraska Union and University Health Center, which receive Fund B fees, have already said they were willing to commit some money toward the project, he said. Organizers plan to ask the University Program Council, student government and other organizations receiving Fund A allocations for additional support.

Bower said it would be impossible for one department to shoulder a project this large. In the coming year, he said, the committee plans to contact as many organizations as possible to widen the scope and the responsibility.

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