

# New center's funds won't affect UNL projects

By Paula Lavigne  
Senior Reporter

The NU Board of Regents approved funding on Friday for a \$42 million Lied Transplant Center at the University of Nebraska Medical Center, but the center will not rob funding from other renovation projects.



Regent Chairman Charles Wilson of Lincoln raised the issue at the board's Friday meeting. He said he wanted to discuss why the board was

approving construction of the center over other renovation projects.

In response to his own question, Wilson said although renovations at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln and other campuses were ranked higher on the board's capital construction list, the regents approved construction of the transplant center because its funding came from private and federal sources.

The Nebraska Legislature has to appropriate funds for the other renovation projects on the list, Wilson said.

The transplant center did not receive any money from the Legislature, he said. The center received \$15 million from the Lied Foundation and \$5 million from the U.S. Senate. The

remainder of the money will be sought from private sources.

The renovation projects associated with the new transplant center will receive internal UNMC funds, Wilson said.

"This project didn't leap in front of the others and take their money," he said.

The transplant center was ranked ninth on the board's 1995-97 capital construction list. Burnett Hall renovations are first on the list. Richards Hall renovations are sixth, and renovations of UNL's hazardous materials are eighth.

The center is the only construction plan on the list, while the rest are renovations, Wilson said. He said new construction plans, such as the

Beadle Center, the Lied Transplant Center and the Eppley Cancer Institute, are more likely to receive private funds.

"We can build new things, but we haven't adequately maintained old ones," he said.

Wilson said board members could not transfer funds for the transplant center to other renovation projects on the list.

"It's kind of frustrating when you hear constituents saying, 'Why are you building new buildings when you should be raising faculty pay?' ... You just can't transfer private funding," he said.

Wilson said the board wouldn't know whether it could fund the other capital construction projects until the

Legislature determined its budget.

With the state facing a budget shortfall between \$70 million to \$120 million, Wilson said renovation prospects were dim.

"Burnett Hall has been in our top four ever since I came on the board four years ago," Wilson said. "... It's a serious problem, and these buildings seriously need to be renovated."

In other business, the board set aside Dec. 9 and 10 for its next meeting to discuss the findings of an engineering task force.

University of Nebraska President Dennis Smith charged the task force with creating a plan that would establish a separate engineering college at the University of Nebraska at Omaha.

## Amendments

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edly held that technical violations of the law should not defeat the rights of the people at the ballot box. The court should hold so again."

The motion also stated the court had applied the wrong statute for the time line. The court used a filing time line from a statute that applied to actions before a governing body. The amendments weren't filed before a governing body, so the statute shouldn't apply, the motion stated.

Beermann said he had been involved with filing similar proposals for almost 30 years. None ever were removed from the ballot.

But Beermann said he normally received the proposals before the deadline.

Although he said he was upset the amendments were removed, Beermann said his main concern was the effect the removal would have on voter turnout.

"Each of those amendments has a support of an opposition group," he

said. "They now have no amendment to vote on."

Beermann said the personal interest that many had in the amendments would have drawn them out to vote.

The five amendments were:  
● Amendment One: providing for binding arbitration and mediation to be written into general contracts.

● Amendment Two: to overhaul the state Board of Equalization and Assessment.

● Amendment Three: dealing with victims' rights.

● Amendment Four: to legalize off-track betting.

● Amendment Five: requiring a three-fifths majority of the Legislature to dispense with the reading of bills before a final vote.

The motion for a rehearing is a last gasp, of sorts, for the amendments, Beermann said. If it is turned down, the Legislature couldn't propose them again until 1996.

## Revamped election clears hurdles

By DeDra Janssen  
Senior Reporter

Mohammad Shahin won the presidency of the International Student Organization on Friday in a landslide victory over his opponent, Sunjae Park.

The election marked the second time since last spring that Shahin and Park vied for the office. Last spring, the student court of the Association of Students of the University of Nebraska declared the organization's first election invalid and called for a new election.

Boon Lee Lim, current president of the international student group, said Shahin received 68 percent of the vote and Park received 32 percent.

Each of the 105 foreign countries represented at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln could cast one vote in the election, Lim said. Forty-nine countries voted in the election for a record-high voter turnout of 41 percent, he said.

Two countries handed in blank ballots, he said.

Lim said he was pleased with the election procedure and had heard no complaints about it.

"I think the election was conducted in a very professional way," he said.

Judy Wendorff, adviser for the

group, said changes in election procedures made the second election 100 percent better than the first.

Voters had to show student identification to verify their eligibility, she said. Previously, no identification was required.

The location of the election also was changed, Wendorff said. The first election was held in the international student lounge at the International Affairs office, she said.

In the new election, an assembly of voters met in the Regency Suite at the Nebraska Union to decide who would cast each country's vote, Wendorff said. Members of each country chose one representative to cast their country's vote.

Election officials first verified each country's representatives as eligible voters. The representatives were then escorted one by one from the Regency Suite to a private voting table outside the Centennial Room in the Union.

A member of the organization's electoral commission, a UNL police officer and Wendorff supervised the voting area. Candidates were not allowed near the voting area, Wendorff said.

Also in the new election, candidates' names were printed on the ballot, she said. Voters wrote in names

before, she said.

Wendorff said she received some complaints from students who were not allowed to join the assembly of voters because they came after the designated time for the voters to meet.

"Some countries weren't able to vote at all," she said.

She said she also received complaints because foreign exchange students were not allowed to vote in the election. Only degree-seeking students were allowed to vote, she said.

Fikru Haile, a graduate student from Ethiopia, said he was mad because he was not allowed to join the voter assembly, which started at 5 p.m. Haile said he arrived 10 minutes late and was turned away.

He said he was unaware he could not participate if he arrived after 5 p.m.

He also said he thought it was unfair that foreign exchange students were not allowed to vote.

However, Haile said he thought the election procedure was fair.

Jung-Ho Son, a graduate student from Korea, also said he thought the election procedure was fair. But he agreed with Haile that students who came after 5 p.m. should have been able to participate.

"Many had to go back home," he said.

## Death

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At that time, Wyant said, he couldn't see Ball's face.

Outside doors to that area remain unlocked all night, he said. Wyant said he assumed Ball was sleeping and waiting for the building to open.

When Wyant returned to unlock the inner doors at 7 a.m., Ball hadn't moved. Wyant said he then saw Ball's face, and could tell instantly he was deceased. Wyant did not want to comment further on Ball's condition.

After discovering the body, Wyant said he went to call Univer-

sity of Nebraska-Lincoln police.

It was reported that police did not suspect foul play in the incident.

Parish said Ball was rarely sick, but he often took food from the garbage, which could have caused the stomach pains. Wyant said he hadn't talked to Ball for several months, but other employees had told him that Ball hadn't looked well all week.

"Like one employee said, 'He could have had a heart condition for three years or more and nobody would have known,'" Wyant said.

UNL Police Chief Ken Cauble would not confirm any details of the incident Sunday. He said he would release more details today.

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