

NU office responds to harassment quickly

By Kara G. Morrison
Senior Editor

One UNL affirmative action officer said Wednesday that no sexual harassment complaint is ignored and that if contacted, his office is obligated to act.

"We look at the issues very quickly regarding sexual harassment allegations," Ronald Ross, associate director of Affirmative Action, said. "We will handle the problem that day if the situation warrants that."

Ross said University of Nebraska-Lincoln students and employees who have sexual harassment complaints against UNL employees should deal with them through the Affirmative Action office.

Faculty or staff members also can report harassment cases to a supervisor, he said. Ross said supervisors usually then contacted Affirmative Action to help resolve any problem.

"We encourage supervisors to contact us when they have those types of issues so they are handled consistently," Ross said.

Ross said his office also provided training sessions for department supervisors so they knew how to handle such complaints.

Supervisors are instructed how to handle such complaints and how to talk to someone who feels he or she has been sexually harassed, he said.

"We have had problems in regards to those issues," Ross said, "and we have (provided training to some departments)."

Someone making a complaint must first complete an intake form, he said. The form asks the person to disclose his or her name, department, persons involved and the

nature of the alleged harassment.

The person with the complaint is also asked to describe in writing what he or she would like the Affirmative Action office to do. They must then sign their name agreeing to cooperate with the office and verifying what they are saying is true.

Ross said general procedure for reporting sexual harassment varied case-by-case at this point.

If people with complaints want to handle the situation on their own, he said, the Affirmative Action office merely advise on how to do so.

"We don't intervene unless they ask us to," Ross said.

However, Ross said in some cases, such as quid pro quo harassment, in which a person has been asked to perform sexual favors for a grade or employment benefits, Affirmative Action strongly recommends intervention.

Ross said the department would confront the alleged harasser, but he said the person with the complaint would be kept informed of any action the office had taken on his or her behalf.

"We keep them apprised of all the steps of what we are doing," Ross said. "We don't blindside a person by going in with guns blazing."

"We treat the alleged harasser in a very dignified manner, and we're as confidential as we can possibly be," he said.

Ross also said people who had complaints should not worry about retaliation by their alleged harassers.

Retaliation is considered a separate violation even if the person is found to not have committed the alleged harassment, Ross said.

POLICE REPORT

Beginning midnight Sunday
7:54 a.m. — Security alarm, unknown cause.
12:37 p.m. — Larceny, 1541 S St., greek letters taken.
5:59 p.m. — Security alarm, unknown cause.
Beginning midnight Monday
1:32 a.m. — Hit-and-run accident, Area 10 lot at 14th and Vine streets, sign damaged, \$200 damage.

11:11 a.m. — Security alarm, unknown cause.
12:58 p.m. — Property damage, Area 10 lot near Nebraska Hall, \$100 damage to vehicle.
3:14 p.m. — Security alarm, accidental trip.
7:23 p.m. — Security alarm, accidental trip.
10:14 p.m. — Indecent exposure, 1531 S St.

10:34 p.m. — Hit-and-run accident, Area 2 lot at 21st and Vine streets, \$400 damage to vehicle.
Beginning midnight Tuesday
7:34 p.m. — Larceny from building, Nebraska Union, bag and contents taken, \$197 loss.
8:50 p.m. — Larceny from building, Nebraska Union, daily planner and calculator taken, \$120 loss.

World AIDS Day

December 1, 1994

Stop by the World AIDS Day booth Dec. 1st from 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the City Union to checkout UNL World AIDS Day activities, and to receive a red ribbon and educational materials pertaining to HIV/AIDS.

Lights Dimming
From 7:45-8 p.m. the lights at the NE Union Lounge will be dimmed in conjunction with the White House's lights dimming.

UNL AIDS Quilt Panel
Help create a UNL AIDS Quilt Panel to be created and sent to the National AIDS Quilt.

Love Safely Packets
Students may stop by the booth to pickup a "Love Safely" packet. These packets contain information and materials that promote a safer sexual environment.

Red Ribbon Distribution
Receive a FREE red ribbon to wear on your lapel for the day. 10% discount at some NE Union restaurants for those wearing red ribbons!

UNL World AIDS Day activities are sponsored by the PERSUN (Peers Encouraging Responsible Sexuality at the University of Nebraska) Program, Campus Red Cross, University Health Center Student Advisory Board and the Nebraska Department of Health.

AIDS and Families
Protect And Care For The Ones We Love

World AIDS Day promoting awareness and compassion

By John Fulwider
Staff Reporter

Organizers of today's World AIDS Day activities at UNL hope to increase awareness of the worldwide epidemic, a University Health Center administrator said.

Pat Tetreault, Health Center sexuality education coordinator, said observance of World AIDS Day was important because of the great number of people the disease affected.

"The more awareness and compassion we can bring to this, the better off everyone will be," she said.

Today is the seventh annual World AIDS Day. This year's theme is "AIDS and Families: Protect And Care for the Ones We Love."

Tetreault said there was no set way to observe World AIDS Day. Communities around the world choose events that match local needs, she said.

The University of Nebraska-Lincoln's observance will feature a booth in the Nebraska Union today from 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. It will feature information about AIDS and sexuality, Tetreault said.

A quilt representing Nebraska will be available for students to sign. The quilt will become part of the national Names Quilt, Tetreault said. The Names Quilt, which is the size of several football fields, has pieces memorializing people who have died of AIDS.

Awareness of the disease is especially important to college students, who are in a time when they are exploring their sexuality, she said.

The booth will have "Love Safely" packets that include condoms and information about disease prevention. Red ribbons will be available for students to wear to show their awareness of AIDS.

The booth is sponsored by Peers Encouraging Responsible Sexuality at UNL, Campus Red Cross, the University Health Center Student Advisory Board and the Nebraska Department of Health, Tetreault said.

Union businesses also will observe World AIDS Day. Amigos, Burger King and Subway will give 10 percent discounts today to anyone wearing a red ribbon, Tetreault said. The Subway discounts apply to sandwiches only.

go to work at Kimball Recital Hall.

University Police Officer John O'Grady looked into the Nov. 14 incident and, because no law was broken, took no action. O'Grady did file a report on the call. Police records show Brunkhorst called police Oct. 27, but that no police report was filed on that date.

UNL Police Chief Ken Cauble said Wednesday that the information taken by the officer did not warrant further investigation. He said the incident would not have qualified as a stalking under Nebraska's stalking law.

Brunkhorst and Bartholow agreed in court Tuesday to dismiss the protection order if Bartholow avoided using the Johnny Carson Theater doors and the adjacent area.

Harassment

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Bartholow said.

Carole McMahon-Boies, Brunkhorst's lawyer, would not comment on Bartholow's statement. Brunkhorst declined to speak to the Daily Nebraskan.

Brunkhorst called University Police to report what she perceived as stalkings Oct. 27 and Nov. 14. On Nov. 15, she applied for a protection order in Lancaster County District Court.

Court records show Brunkhorst called University Police the morning of Nov. 14 and said that Bartholow was following her and watching her

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