

# Health Center requests funds

By Chad Lorenz  
Staff Reporter

The University Health Center requested Tuesday a 2.23 percent increase in next year's budget from the Committee for Fees Allocation to fund two staff additions and upgraded telecommunications.

The \$68,634 increase in student fees would bring the center's total receipt from fees to \$3,152,947. Kunle Ojikutu, University Health Center director, said he wanted to add a full-time nurse and a part-time physical therapist. He said the health center could expect to spend \$21,000 for the nurse and \$10,000 for the physical therapist.

The \$31,000 personnel cost is a 2.26 percent increase over last year.

Ojikutu requested \$15,500 to upgrade telephones and computers as part of a campus-wide rewiring to connect every phone and computer to HuskerNet.

The cost of upgrading the health center's 108 telephones and 208 computer ports is a 63.56 percent increase, he said.

When the health center receives all its funds, Ojikutu said, it would need to set aside \$23,081 to pay for the increased cost of resale items. He said the increase was needed because of pharmaceutical companies had raised prices.

Ojikutu said the increase wouldn't necessarily come from student fees.

The health center's budget also called for increases in funds for supplies, postage, consultants, travel and training, maintenance, small equipment, utilities and other operating expenses.

Ojikutu asked for decreases in

funds for purchased services, insurance, printing and advertising. The decrease would save \$13,717, he said.

Ojikutu said the health center added new benefits to UNL students last year.

For example, he said, the Health Center used money from closing the after-hours clinic to hire an additional full-time physician, he said.

Last September, the Health Center hired an optometrist, and in February, will offer contact lens service.

Also, he said, the Health Center will save money this year because of a contract with the Amerisource Corporation, a pharmaceutical company that offers lower prices.

Although only 58 percent of UNL students use the Health Center, Ojikutu said many more were helped through student health aides and outreach services.

## McHenry

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He said the international community was reluctant to get involved in internal conflicts. This reluctance, he said, explains why it took a long time to respond to the crisis in Somalia.

One reason that the U.S. is slow to get involved in peacekeeping operations, he said, is that the U.S. frequently must bear the greatest burden in terms of expense and manpower, sometimes acting alone.

But, he said, U.S. power makes it likely that it will have to act alone even more in the future.

McHenry said that because of this, the United States was faced with a dilemma: Should it respond late, not at all or do the sensible thing and respond multilaterally?

"The public is and remains opposed to unilateral action by the U.S.," he said, "but supports

strongly multilateral operations where others share the burden."

After discussing the problems with U.S. and U.N. response to international conflicts, McHenry suggested some solutions to international conflicts:

— Increase specialized peacekeeping training of U.S. armed forces, similar to the Scandinavians, who train their forces to understand diplomacy as well as fighting.

— Provide for common training with other nations, especially in communications technology and command structures.

— Position equipment around the world to deal with any emergencies that may occur.

McHenry said even though the United States had domestic concerns, the international 911 would continue to ring, and the country must be ready to answer.

"However much we may wish," he said, "today's problems will not go away."

## Tally

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such as the highway trust fund, Medicaid, welfare and Aid to Dependent Children.

"But I support the concept," Bromm said.

Sen. DiAnna Schimek of Lincoln said cutting the deficit was a popular issue with most people, as well as with her, but that people also needed to look at the potential minuses and listen to debate on the issue.

Schimek said she probably had a

preconceived notion that leaned her against a balanced budget amendment, but she had not made up her mind.

Bernard-Stevens has introduced a resolution that would provide for ratification of the amendment in Nebraska.

LR26 was introduced with the idea of giving senators some control over the ratification process, Bernard-Stevens said.

When the hearing is held, Bernard-Stevens said, he wants to have a thorough discussion.

"There's no hurry," Bernard-

Stevens said. "The states have seven years."

Nebraska currently has its own version of a balanced budget amendment in the state constitution. The state is required to reserve 3 percent of its revenue.

Sen. Roger Wehrbein of Plattsmouth said that meant that out of \$100, the state could spend only \$97.

Wehrbein is chairman of the Appropriations Committee, which controls the Nebraska budget. He said a balanced budget amendment would probably also affect local government.

## Budget

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shifts the burden to state governments, that only means states have to re-create those programs, he said.

"We may not really be reducing the overall size of government very much," he said. "And the federal government has been pretty good at mandating state governments to do things without providing the funding."

That means state deficits could pile up, he said, while Congress declares "problem solved."

The current state budget is tight, Anderson said, but stable. Nebraska is not alone in facing a projected deficit of several million dollars, he said.

Anderson said the rush to pass a balanced budget amendment spoke more of politics than fiscal responsibility.

To become a constitutional amendment, 38 states must ratify the balanced budget proposal.

MacPhee said the states seldom ratified constitutional amendments.

"If history is any judge, there have been relatively few proposed amendments to the constitution that have been ratified by the states," MacPhee said.

If the Senate doesn't apply the brakes and decide who will pay for what, and how, he said, all indications are the states will apply the brakes.

## Boycott

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edge of what (the contractor) was doing," Blattert said.

Once he found out what the protesters were doing, Blattert said he called the Rev. Paul Witt at St. Mary's Catholic Church.

"I told him I had my obligations to meet the needs of my people," Blattert said. "I sell to over 400 contractors. Somebody's making a big issue out of something and found a person's name to put on it."

"Somebody wants to make a big stink out of somebody wanting to put food on the table for their employees? I don't know what I'm doing wrong."

Witt told him the church only wanted the contractors involved in the project to "pull away." Witt also told Blattert to call Lincoln Right to Life; however, Blattert said none of his calls had been returned.

Witt said he encouraged parishioners who knew the contractors to call them and ask the companies to reconsider. He did not ask them to "browbeat" the contractors, Witt said.

Chris Funk, executive director of Planned Parenthood of Lincoln, said priests passing out the lists violated the separation of church and state.

"I think we should require all priests to take History 101," she said. "They should be reminded this is not a theocracy, and this country has its roots in the separation of church and state."

Because of the controversy, Funk said, some contractors declined to help because they feared for their children's safety.

"I'm sure there's some people who don't want to work on our project because they don't be-

lieve abortion should be a legal choice," she said. "But most of the people who said 'no' were just afraid of the harassment that they were going to get."

Blattert said he felt he was being singled out.

"If this was to be brought out, they should talk to the people who allowed it to happen," he said. "They should talk to the people who supply the water, the electricity ... these people also donated, and their names weren't listed. They should talk to the people who govern the laws."

"I just can't understand ... this is going way too far, they're pin-pointing people, and it's sad. They're going about it in the way of hatred, and to me, hatred shouldn't be a part of religion."

Blattert said he personally was anti-abortion, but the lists portrayed him as being on the other side of the issue.

"Nobody's asked me," he said.

"As far as I'm concerned, there's nothing I'm supplying. I don't seek to supply anything further, unless my contractor asks for it," Blattert said. "And even then I'm undecided. If the clinic asks me to do anything at this time, with all the advertising being done, it'll hurt my business."

But Blattert later retracted that statement.

"Until pro-life calls me, I'm obligated to supply the contractor with anything he wants."

But for now, Blattert will wait to hear from the Right to Life group.

"I hope they will pronounce my name as a person whose name has been removed from the list," he said, "that I'm trying to help them."



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