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Board selects new DN editor

By Jeff Randall
 Staff Reporter

After two and a half hours of interviews and nearly an hour of closed-session debate, the Publications Board took one brief minute to select the editor-in-chief for next year's paper.

J. Christopher Hain, a senior news-editorial and political science major, was chosen with seven of the board members' nine votes.

Other applicants were Patrick Hambrecht, Tim Pearson and Matt Woody.

Each applicant gave a five-to-seven minute speech to the board, then answered four core questions, followed

by a series of questions from individual board members.

Hain was the first to speak before the board. He stressed the responsibility the Daily Nebraskan had to the university and its community.

"The mission of the Daily Nebraskan, first and foremost, must be to service the university community," he said.

As evidence of his commitment to the paper, Hain pointed to his three years of experience at the Daily Nebraskan, in which he served as a staff reporter, a night news editor and a senior reporter.

"I think I understand not only the editorial side, but also the business

and advertising side of running a successful paper," he said.

Other issues Hain discussed included making letters to the editor able to be sent through e-mail, developing a better system of teaching young reporters and drawing from the entire university population when hiring staff members.

After the board's decision was made, Hain said he was "a little overwhelmed."

"It's a great opportunity for me to continue the tradition of excellent college journalism," he said.

"I hope to be as attentive as I can to the needs of the community and put out a newspaper that the students can be proud of."

Candidates agree on grading

By Sean McCarthy
 Staff Reporter

Student involvement in elections and grade policy changes were two topics discussed in an open forum debate among ASUN candidates Thursday in the Nebraska Union.

The Innocents Society, Mortar Board and Golden Key welcomed the four announced candidates in the Association of Students of the University of Nebraska in a debate that featured questions by students who attended the debate.

Each party was given the opportunity to deliver a three-minute opening statement that featured the platform of each party. After the opening statements, the forum was open to student questions.

One question on which all candidates agreed pertained to the upcoming vote to change the grading system. Each candidate was opposed to the plan to add minuses to the system.

ACCESS presidential candidate Chad Pekron encouraged all students to come to the meeting where the vote on the policy will be taken.

"This decision is going to affect our lives," Pekron said.

Mark McGovern, presidential candidate of the CUT COST party, said he was optimistic that the policy would be defeated.

Other questions such as the re-evaluation of the foreign language requirement for undergraduates received mixed reaction.

Candidates of IMPACT, LETTUCE and CUT COST were supportive of the current requirement of four semesters of a foreign language in liberal arts colleges.

But Pekron said he would support re-evaluating the requirement.

"Why should a student take four semesters of a language when they don't want to?" he said.

Pekron said he would support a policy that would either enable a student to take four one-semester classes of different foreign languages or other classes that would enhance students' skills in the job market.

The issue of diversity in ASUN also brought mixed reactions from each party.

Steve Korell, first vice presidential candidate for IMPACT, said his party would have an open invitation for minority students. Korell also stressed that his party had five minority students running in other election's

How can we persuade minorities to participate in our election process when the entire student body doesn't elect?

BRIAN FITZGERALD
 Presidential candidate for LETTUCE

Brian Fitzgerald, presidential candidate for LETTUCE, said his party was more concerned with the entire student body participating in student government. He said low voter turnout last year was a key issue regarding minority participation in the election process.

"How can we persuade minorities to participate in our election process when the entire student body doesn't elect?" he said.

The debate, which lasted less than an hour was concluded by brief statements from the party candidates.

Advising center to improve access

By Becky Keasling
 Staff Reporter

More accessibility is the key to improving the Advising Center for the College of Arts and Sciences, the college's advising coordinator said.

Anne Kopera said the current advising system in the college was difficult for students to use.

The advising center is located on the 12th floor of Oldfather Hall. Since many students don't take advantage of it, she said, a plan is under way to move the advising center to the first

floor of Oldfather Hall.

The plan is still being finalized, but Kopera said the center definitely would be moved. Estimates about cost and a completion date have not been released.

"We're going to go ahead with the plan," Kopera said. "Two of the first-floor classrooms will be used for the new advising center. These classrooms will be both visible and accessible to the students."

The current location of the center poses numerous problems for both students and advisers. The major problem for students, Kopera said, is that they rarely go to the 12th floor.

Kopera said she thought students would be more likely to stop in and schedule appointments with their advisers if the center was in a more central location.

Peer Adviser Beth Johnson said another problem with the current advising center was that it was located near the dean's office.

Johnson said using first-floor classrooms for an advising center would be an advantage because advisers would be in one central location.

Kopera said advising was not mandatory in the college, but she expected increased student involvement when the new center opened.

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