

Professor earns mathematics medal

From Staff Reports

Combinatorics may sound like an ancient language, but it is actually a branch of mathematics.

Doug Stinson, UNL professor of computer science and engineering, was recently awarded the Hall Medal from the Institute of Combinatorics Applications.

Combinatorics can be compared to cryptography, or solving secret codes, but these security codes happen to deal with computers and ways to keep them from being tampered with.

Stinson's research has dealt mostly with cryptography, which in his case is codes in computer languages, by making use of com-

binatorics applications.

The award is given to researchers who have achieved recognition for their work before age 40.

"It is nice to receive an award such as this from my peers," Stinson said. "I have been working on this since I was a college student, 20 or so years ago."

Hurtgen urges cut protest

UNL lagging in opposing pending student aid cuts

By Kasey Kerber
Staff Reporter

UNL has not done enough to fight Congressional financial aid cuts, ASUN President Shawntell Hurtgen said at Wednesday night's meeting at the East Campus Union.



James Griesen, vice chancellor for student affairs, spoke to the Association of Students of the University of Nebraska about a bill that would cut nearly \$10.8 billion from student aid.

"Three things will happen under this bill," Griesen said. "The first will require students to begin paying off their loans immediately following graduation, as opposed to the current six-month grace period."

"The second involves the placing of a .85 percent tax on student loans. For us, this means we must now come up with an additional \$340,000."

The final effect will be on direct lending, Griesen said. The University of Nebraska-Lincoln has recently joined a program to make it easier for students to borrow from leading institutions or banks, he said. The bill would put a 20 percent cap on direct lending.

Griesen asked the student senate

for help to fight the proposal. "This bill will be voted on no later than Oct. 10 and we have little time," he said. "We need more of a grass roots effort at this point."

Hurtgen pointed out the lack of such an effort at UNL.

"I've had reporters from Washington to the Journal Star calling to find out why the University of Nebraska is not protesting this legislation as much as other universities," Hurtgen said.

Another topic of the meeting was Senate Bill No. 10, which was sent back to committee for revision at last week's meeting. The bill would recognize four campus organizations.

Before voting on the bill, a motion was made to postpone the vote for another week.

Plato Chan, a graduate senator, said there were problems with one of the organization's bylaws. Other senators said the senate did not need to look at bylaws to recognize an organization; the bill was approved.

Also at the meeting, Hurtgen addressed the senate's attempts to improve advising.

"I met with the Admission and Advising Committee and some of our advising ideas were hit pretty hard," she said.

ASUN's proposed changes were in three areas: faculty advising training, advising records and standardized drop forms for each college. But the committee said it would take too much effort and time to make these changes, Hurtgen said.

"We might need to revise our ideas before presenting them again for consideration," she said.

Health

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have to work through several case workers or fill out several forms.

Nelson said the streamlined system would save money. With the federal government's drive to balance the budget, he said, the state must be prepared to handle finan-

cial changes.

"It's not a question of whether we make changes," Nelson said, "but how."

The Nebraska Partnership Project will report back to the governor in December. Robak said the project would introduce legislation in January. With legislators' cooperation, she said, the changes could go into effect by January 1997.



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