

Disability program needs more student volunteers

By RUSSELL T. WILLBANKS
Staff Reporter

Many students find taking notes and reading textbooks tedious, but students with disabilities can find those tasks sometimes impossible.

The University of Nebraska-Lincoln has a program designed to help those students, but it needs volunteers.

The program, Services for Students with Disabilities, gives students with disabilities the opportunity to pursue their college goals through the use of technological and academic services.

Marie Ward, director of Services for Students with Disabilities, said the service was available for any student who has a disability or requires special accommodations. The names of the students who need assistance are kept confidential.

Services include providing note takers, test accommodations, interpreters and taped textbooks for those who qualify. SSD needs volunteers to take notes and transfer books onto audio tape.

"There are a large number of students who are visually impaired or have severe reading disabilities, so they cannot read their textbooks," she said.

SSD receives help from organizations such as Recordings for the Blind and the Nebraska Library Commission,

which provided 45 books on tape. Volunteers are needed to make up the rest. "This semester, we are looking at a total of 78 books that we need volunteers to read," Ward said.

The SSD tries to match the interests of the volunteers with the needs of the program.

"We are looking for anyone who has the time to read," Ward said. "What we try to do is have volunteers come in and take a look at what is available and try to match them up with something that is of interest to them."

One of the volunteers said she thought she got as much out of the program as the people she had helped.

Evlyn Donaldson, a retired French and English teacher who has read SSD books for six years, said she enjoyed her readings in history, anthropology, philosophy and modern religion.

She said people were too intimidated by volunteer work and did not realize what they could get out of it.

"Personally, I think that I have received a free education and I did not even realize it at the time," Donaldson said. "When you are reading aloud for someone else to comprehend you tend to absorb more."

"Many people wonder why I do this, why I dedicate my time to helping others. I just tell them that I hope that someone would do the same for me if the situation was reversed."

UNMC chancellor resigns

UNMC from page 1

said Aschenbrener made the decision that was in the best interest for the medical center.

"There was this major disagreement, they could not reconcile and the medical center was paralyzed," Miller said. "She did the right thing because this leadership dispute was hurting the medical center a lot."

Miller said university administrators think "very highly" of Aschenbrener, but some UNMC faculty did not like her vision for the center. He said some doctors may have personally disliked Aschenbrener's administrative style. "A lot of doctors, those 28 plus more, disagree with where she was taking the medical center," Miller said.

The option of a partnership with

Alegent may even still be feasible, he said. UNMC faculty didn't necessarily think the partnership would be bad, Miller said, they just thought it needed more study.

"A lot of them said, 'Things are going too fast. Yes, we need to change, but we can wait a while longer,'" he said.

Smith, who did not return phone calls Tuesday, said in a statement Friday that he would pick an interim chancellor soon.

Miller said he hoped the new chancellor will continue in the direction Aschenbrener took.

"The vast majority of her decisions were right," Miller said.

William Berndt, vice chancellor for academic affairs at UNMC, agreed that the new chancellor should move ahead with exploring

partnership options with medical groups such as Alegent.

"The concept is not something anybody disagrees with, but we need to explore other options as well," Berndt said. "That's where the professional disagreement arose."

Katen-Bahensky said UNMC needed to get past all the arguments.

"I hope we can mend the fences, because we've been delayed from doing our real work for a number of months," she said.

Even after all the disagreements about Alegent, Aschenbrener may still have laid out UNMC's future.

"She set very clear direction for the organization," Katen-Bahensky said. "She'll be greatly missed, but some other lucky organization will have her leadership in the future."

Name is only change for former LT&T

By SARAH BAKER
Staff Reporter

Wondering where your phone bill is? Haven't seen that familiar envelope in your mailbox? Well, don't think you're off the hook.

The local telephone company, formerly known as Lincoln Telephone and Telegraph, recently changed its name to Aliant Communications.

Lela Kelliher, LT&T communications specialist, said the company had to consolidate eight identities.

"We had eight small divisions through the company, all with a different name. It was confusing for our customers, so we decided to change to one single brand name, Aliant Communications."

Kelliher said some customers were concerned that the company had changed more than just its name.

"The company didn't change

hands, and no organizational changes were made either," she said. "The only change made was the name."

Customers of Aliant saw the change on their Aug. 26 bills. The bills featured a new Aliant Communications logo, but the same Lincoln address.

The company notified customers of the change in late July through inserts in their bills. If customers weren't living in Lincoln at that time, they could find out through billboard, radio and television advertisements.

Regrettably,
all sections
are full this
semester for

Remedial

Thermodynamics

Discounts off AIRET basic rates. Refers to AIRET home or AIRET Calling Card accounts. Subject to billing availability. Certain exclusions apply. *Subject to credit approval. †Valid for 1 yr. Must sign up in 1996 and use service at least 1 hr./mo. \$2.50 for additional hrs. or \$8995 for unlimited usage.

