

# UNL graduate increases endowment for engineering college to \$1 million

By **BRIAN CARLSON**  
Staff Reporter

Paul Henson, a UNL graduate and pioneer in the field of fiber-optics communications, recently announced he is increasing the endowed professorship he created for the College of Engineering in 1988. With his latest gift to the college through the University of Nebraska Foundation, the endowment is now at \$1 million.

"As the information age moves along, it is more and more incumbent upon schools to seek excellence in the field of computer science and communications," Henson said. "It's going to be a real force for the next generation or more, and I firmly believe in striving for excellence in this area, as in any other."

James Hendrix, dean of what is now the College of Engineering and Technology, agreed that research in communications and information sciences will continue to be a primary focus of the professorship.

Spyros Magliveras, professor of computer science and engineering, has been the Paul and Betty Henson Professor for Communication and Information Science since the professorship was established. He continues to conduct research under its funding.

Magliveras' research has focused on cryptography, coding theory and data compression. He has written more than 20 journal publications, developed new courses in his field and has supervised the research of five doctoral students.

"By being involved in the development of knowledge in your field,

**"Economic development goes hand in hand with excellence in research. The research we do is not only for intellectual satisfaction. It helps mankind in immediate or not-so-immediate ways."**

**PAUL HENSON**  
UNL graduate and communications pioneer

you have more enthusiasm for teaching," he said. "Students then become more a part of the field they are studying and want to become involved themselves."

A native of Bennet, Henson earned his bachelor's degree in electrical engineering from UNL in 1948 and his master's degree in 1954. He now lives in Mission Hills, Kan.

After working for Lincoln Telephone and Telegraph, Henson went to work for United Telecommunications and became its president in 1964, serving until his retirement in 1990. In 1986, United Telecom merged with GTE Sprint Co., forming U.S. Sprint. Led by Henson, the company developed the world's first all-digital, all-fiber-optic network.

Henson said he meant the funds to be a repayment for the education he received at UNL.

"I'd like to see them get leading-edge faculty, have enough funds for research, and be at the leading edge of technology," he said.

Henson also emphasized faculty research.

"If you're going to attract the right kind of people, research must

be your bill of fare," he said.

Hendrix and Magliveras echoed Henson's claim that having a nationally-recognized engineering college would be beneficial to the area's economy.

To attract technology companies to Nebraska, Hendrix said, the state must have a university with a reputation for outstanding scholarship in various fields and an excellent training program for potential employees.

Magliveras said that while professors gain some motivation from being "intellectual pleasure-seekers," the real benefits of professorial research are derived from its positive effects on society.

While Henson said he hoped his professorship improved the college and led to economic growth, he emphasized that improvement is ongoing and will require long-term commitment.

"It's going to take time and more than one grant, obviously. But you set a course and say, 'this is what we're going to try to accomplish,'" he said, "and with dedication and commitment there's no reason we can't accomplish it."

# Commission approves new master's degree

By **ERIN SCHULTE**  
Senior Reporter

A new master of science degree in survey research and methodology at UNL was approved Tuesday by the Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education.

It was the only University of Nebraska-Lincoln project voted on, said Patsy Martin, communications coordinator for the commission.

A \$9.5 million renovation to the University of Nebraska at Omaha field house was also approved by the com-

mission.

The funds for the project are coming from a private donor. The commission had to approve the renovations because there will be an additional \$191,000 in maintenance fees each year after the improvements, Martin said.

Much of the project money will go to projects such as fixing the field house roof.

Most of the meeting was spent hearing 1997-1999 budget proposals from NU President Dennis Smith and representatives of the State College and Community College systems, Martin said.

# Nelson won't release tax returns

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business paid out nearly \$13 million in taxes from 1988-1991, the time Hagel served on the company's board.

"Either the governor is grossly ignorant of how companies are started or he and his campaign are off again deliberately distorting my record," Hagel said in the statement.

In a press conference Tuesday morning, Nelson said Hagel was just trying to bolster his campaign and draw attention away from weaknesses.

"Instead of education, Mr. Hagel wants to talk about income tax returns," he said. "That's just trying to divert attention ... from things that are more important."

Nelson said he would not disclose his income tax returns because he already has financial disclosure information on file.

As governor, Nelson is required under Nebraska law to file financial disclosure information. He said that information was just as good as income tax returns.

But Hagel's campaign disagreed. While no formal statement has been made about Nelson's refusal to disclose his tax returns, Hagel campaign spokeswoman Deb Fiddelke said the fight was not finished.

"This will obviously continue to be an issue," she said.

# Earthquakes, human rights and China will begin UNL series of forums, symposiums

From Staff Reports

A seminar, forum and symposium begin this week with discussions on earthquakes, China and human rights.

The first Paul A. Olson Seminar in Great Plains Studies begins with a natural phenomenon that hasn't shaken the Midwest in 100 years — earthquakes.

In the Tuesday seminar, Atorod Azzinamini, associate professor of civil engineering at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, will discuss "Buildings vs. Earthquakes: Natural Disasters and Earthquake Engineering in the Great Plains and the World."

The seminar will be from 3:30 p.m. to 5 p.m. in the Great Plains Art Collection, 215 Love Library. The Tuesday seminar will also mark the 20th anniversary of the Center for Great Plains Studies.

The rest of the Olson seminar 1996-97 schedule is:

• Oct. 1: "A Lot Easier Than Drawing," C.M. Russell's Sculptural Inspirations, Brian Dippie, professor of history, University of Victoria, British Columbia.

• Oct. 30: "Gender and Age: Southern Arapahoe Perspectives on Social Change, 1869-1928," Loretta Fowler, professor and chairwoman of anthropology, University of Oklahoma.

• Nov. 20: "An Afternoon with Dr. Elda Walker, First Woman Botanist at the University of Nebraska," Kathleen Keeler, UNL professor of biological sciences, portrays Walker in presenting "Vegetation of Nebraska: The Lecture as it Might Have Happened, Nov. 20, 1916."

• Jan. 29, 1997: "The Impact of Race and Victim Resistance on Domestic Violence Perceptions: A Great Plains Study," Cynthia Willis Esqueda, UNL assistant professor of psychology and American Indian studies.

• Feb. 26, 1997: "Illusion and Reality in Great Plains Gay and Lesbian History," Peter G. Boag, associate professor of history at Idaho State University.

• March 19, 1997: "From Montana to Moscow: Researching Rural Radicalism on the Northern Plains," William C. Pratt, professor of history at the University of Nebraska at Omaha.

• April 3-5, 1997: "Literature of the Great Plains," the 21st annual interdisciplinary symposium.

• April 16, 1997: "Community Health Partners of Nebraska: Shaping Visions for Health and Lifestyles of the Great Plains," a panel discussion.

U.S. and foreign ambassadors will highlight the three-day Hendricks Symposium on Human Rights, which begins Thursday.

Harry Barnes Jr., former U.S. ambassador to India, Romania and Chile, will open the symposium Thursday at 8 p.m. at the Cornhusker Hotel. Barnes, the human rights director at the Carter Center for Human Rights at Emory University in Atlanta, will present "U.S. Foreign Policy and Human Rights."

Mark Hong, Singapore's ambassador to Russia, will close the symposium with an address Saturday at 1:30 p.m. at Valentino's, 232 N. 13th St., titled "U.S. Foreign Policy and Human Rights: An Asian View."

A partial schedule of the presentations to be given at the Nebraska Union is:

• Friday: 9 a.m. to 10:30 a.m., John Hibbing's "Human Rights and American Society;" 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., Michael Combs' "The U.S. and Human Rights Treaties;" 1:15 p.m. to 2:15 p.m., Ole Holsti's "American Public Opinion and Human Rights;" 2:30 p.m. to 4 p.m., Philip Dyer's "The U.S. and Democracy Abroad."

• Saturday: 9 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.,

William Avery's "The U.S. Economics and Human Rights;" 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., Joseph Stimpff's "U.S. Foreign Policy and Human Rights."

The E.N. Thompson Forum on World Issues will begin Thursday with a presentation on the divisions and unification throughout Chinese history.

Daniel W.Y. Kwok, professor of Chinese and world history at the University of Hawaii, will present "China: The One and the Many. An End-of-Century View of Culture and Polity in China."

The discussion will also address the reference of Greater China, Hong Kong's reversion to China, and Taiwan.

Thursdays forum will be at 3 p.m. at the Lied Center for Performing Arts.

The rest of the 1996-97 schedule is:

• Oct. 22 at 3 p.m. "Lethal Viruses, Ebola and the Hot Zone. Worldwide Transmission of Lethal Viruses," by Cols. Nancy Jaax and Jerry Jaax, specialists of "hot" viruses at the U.S. Army Medical Research Institute of Infectious Diseases.

• Shooting at Penn State leaves one dead Nov. 20 at 3:30 p.m. "International Development: Global Vision in Myopic Times," Diane Willkens, president and founder of the Development Finance International Inc.

• March 5, 1997 at 3:30 p.m. "Africa After the Cold War. African Political Scenery: Past, Present and Future," by Ali Mazrui, director of the Institute for Global Cultural Studies at Binghamton University, State University of New York.

• April 9, 1997 at 3:30 p.m. "American Settlerism: Indigenous vs. Nonindigenous Right, Responsibilities and Relationships," by Walter Echo-Hawk, senior legal counsel for the Native American Rights Fund.

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