

Moeser names Durst to new assistant position

BY ERIN GIBSON
Senior Reporter

In an effort to better coordinate arts outreach efforts at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, Chancellor James Moeser last week created a new assistant to the chancellor position.

Dick Durst, dean of the UNL College of Fine and Performing Arts, said he will take on added duties as assistant to the chancellor for the arts.

In his new position, Durst said, he will report to Moeser and serve as a liaison between the university's three arts centers that also report to the chancellor: the Lied Center for Performing Arts, the Sheldon Memorial Art Gallery and Sculpture Garden, and the Lentz Center for Asian Culture.

Moeser said the position will not move any of the budgets for the three centers under control of the fine arts college. Those budgets will remain under his direct control, Moeser said.

The new position will restructure the way UNL arts units coordinate arts education, he said.

"This restructuring will provide closer coordination between the College of Fine and Performing Arts and the world-class arts units we have on campus," Moeser said. "The college, the Lied Center, the Sheldon and the Lentz Center will be able to draw more readily on each other's strengths."

Durst said enhancing coordination of the arts at UNL will be exciting. He said he will focus on coordinating arts education outreach.

"We have several really outstanding arts organizations on this campus, all of which are doing outreach to pub-

"The college, the Lied Center, the Sheldon and the Lentz Center will be able to draw more readily on each other's strengths."

JAMES MOESER
UNL chancellor

lic schools and communities across Nebraska," Durst said.

Durst said his new position does not mean any operational changes at the Lied center, Sheldon Gallery or the Lentz Center, though.

"We have great staff in place," he said. "I'm not so assuming as to think that I bring something else to that operation."

Charles Bethea, director of the Lied Center, said the chancellor assured him operations would not change and the Lied Center will still report directly to the chancellor's office.

Coordination was the goal in creating the new position and will benefit all university arts units, Bethea said.

"I think there's some real positive details to this," he said. "We all have a common goal for creating a greater awareness of the arts."

Relatives of slain officers testify in support of bills

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police officers occur as the officer is attempting to make an arrest, the bills were designed to include such situations under aggravating circumstances.

In 1990, the Nebraska Supreme Court ruled in "State vs. Reynolds" that existing law included only those situations where an officer's murder was committed by an assailant already in the officer's custody.

In that case, Terry Reynolds was convicted of the murder of Lancaster County Sheriff's Deputy Craig Dodge.

When Dodge responded to a call reporting possible violence in Reynold's home, he was confronted at the door by Reynolds. Reynolds, brandishing a gun, used his wife as a shield to prevent Dodge from firing in self-defense.

Reynolds then stepped from behind his wife and fatally shot Dodge.

Because Reynolds was not in Dodge's custody at the time of the murder, the court ruled the aggravating circumstance could not be used. Reynolds is currently serving a life sentence in prison.

Dodge's widow, Barbara Dodge,

"We must provide the opportunity for maximum punishment for those who kill on-duty officers."

GOV. BEN NELSON

told the committee that Reynolds had vowed earlier that day to kill any police officer who came to his door.

"Craig was killed because of the uniform and badge he was wearing, nothing else," she said. "This law would make criminals think twice because this crime would put them on death row."

By the end of the hearing, the Judiciary Committee lacked a quorum and held no executive session in which to consider the legislation.

Black leader says Lincoln should promote leadership

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and staff."

She said she was disappointed by reactions of minority professors at UNL toward a fraternity ceremony last month that involved a cross burning. She said she believed both media outlets and university administrators could have done a better job of exposing the ritual and its possible racial overtones.

"I didn't see anything on the television news and the Lincoln Journal Star with quotes from professors of color at UNL," Polk said. "In the old days, there would have been massive

demonstrations by faculty, staff and students against this type of incident."

The end result, she said, is that little will change for blacks in the city of Lincoln and the state of Nebraska until the attitudes of the people change.

"Nebraska refuses to address the issue of race. Race is an issue, and people won't talk about it," Polk said. "They think if people talk about it then they will have to do something about it."

"Nebraskans don't like change, and they don't like people who make change."

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