

# Fund expands research

■ Honors students will now be able to conduct faculty-assisted studies.

BY IEVA AUGSTUMS  
Staff Reporter

University of Nebraska-Lincoln Honors Program students now have the opportunity to conduct their own research with the help of experienced research faculty members.

The Undergraduate Honors Student Research Program, which is a part of the Agricultural Research Division, has received \$25,000 this year and will receive an additional \$28,738 next year, totaling \$53,738 annually, as part of UNL's reallocation plan.

"We have a strong commitment to undergraduate research," said Steve Waller, assistant dean and director of UNL's Agricultural Research Division. "The reallocation of university funds gave us the opportunity to submit a proposal and create a program solely devoted to student research."

Jim Partridge, associate director of UNL's honors program for the College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources, said ARD's program allows students to do more than complete undergraduate research.

"The program is one of a kind," Partridge said. "It allows students to set and carry out goals, and in the process it gives them practical, real-world experience."

The program is expecting more proposals than it can afford, but it will pay for 12 this year. Up to \$2,500, for a maximum of 12 months, will be transferred to an ARD faculty member's project to support a student, Waller said.

Patrice Berger, director of UNL's honors program, said students in all academic areas are encouraged to apply to the program.

"The goal of ARD's program is to have students work along with a faculty mentor and conduct original

"If you have a chance to do a thesis, do it."

JENNIFER FRIESEN  
junior veterinary science major

research, which can be applied to their honors thesis," Berger said.

The completion of an honors thesis is an implied contract for every honors program student. Whether or not the student completes an honors thesis is up to the student, he said.

"Only 25 percent of honors program students actually complete an honors thesis," Berger said. "Our long-term goal is to have all Honors Program students complete a thesis."

He said he hopes programs like the ARD's will help more students complete their honors theses.

Waller said the university has many research opportunities for students, but many are independent studies.

"Many students do work in labs along with professors already," Waller said. "But ARD's new program provides the opportunity to receive academic credit through supervised, scholarly research at the expense of the university."

The program is open to junior and senior honors students. Partridge said sophomores are encouraged to enroll in Agricultural Sciences 299H (Honors Thesis Seminar) or Human Resources and Family Sciences 498H (Research Methodologies) courses before they begin their honors theses. However, enrollment is not required.

"The seminar helps students write a proposal for undergraduate research," Partridge said. "Once a student creates a proposal, they then can decide if they want to submit it to ARD."

Waller said students think they are competing to be a part of the program because it offers several benefits, including the opportunity to work in a interdisciplinary, problem-

solving, environment as part of a team.

"We have highly capable students attending school here, and they will be the leaders of tomorrow," Waller said. "We have to continue to support students and we must be optimistic with their endeavors."

Jennifer Friesen, a junior veterinary science major, is in the final stages of her honors program thesis.

Friesen took the honors thesis seminar in the second semester of her freshman year, in 1996. The class, Agricultural Sciences 299H, is a one credit independent study course focusing on research methods and proposal writing, she said.

"The seminar really helped me develop my research proposal," Friesen said. "I was able to talk with different professors and find the one that I wanted to work along with for my undergraduate research."

Friesen was not a part of ARD's student research program, but recommends applying for the program if the opportunity arises.

"If you have the chance to do a thesis, do it," she said. "It's a lot of work, but there are many rewards in the end."

Waller said ARD relies on students who took either Agricultural Sciences 299H or Human Resources and Family Sciences 498H last year to consider the program this year and take advantage of the new funding.

Students who have written an undergraduate research proposal are encouraged to apply for Agricultural Research Division's Undergraduate Honors Student Research Program. Applications are due today to the Agriculture Research Division office. For information contact Waller at (402) 472-2201.

# Latinos to establish cultural fraternity

BY LINDSAY YOUNG  
Staff Reporter

**I**nvolvement

A group of Latino students is about to do something that hasn't been done on this campus in 44 years — establish a fraternity.

The first steps to the establishment of a chapter of a traditionally Latino fraternity could be taken as early as next semester, Oscar Baeza, an organizer and junior psychology major, said. This will be the first fraternity brought into the University of Nebraska-Lincoln greek system since AgMen was established in 1953.

There is an active African-American fraternity that was in the fraternity system's original charter in the early 1900s.

Baeza is working with about 10 students and the Greek Affairs office to unearth the chapter of one of two traditionally nonexclusive Latino national fraternities at UNL. The fraternities the group is looking at are Sigma Lambda Beta and Omega Delta Phi.

Forming a chapter is a massive undertaking, Baeza said.

"There's never been anything like this on this campus," he said.

And Juan Izaguirre, an organizer and sophomore social sciences major, said it is needed. Organizers said the fraternity will:

■ Establish the bond of Latino brotherhood on campus.

■ Encourage academic success and cultural enrichment.

■ Serve as a stepping stone for the recruitment of Latino students to UNL.

■ Help with the retention of Latino students at UNL.

Because of the low population of about 400 of Latinos at UNL, it is important to establish brotherhood, Baeza said.

Scott Berryman, fraternity coordinator in the Greek Affairs office, said the fraternity provides a good opportunity to bring more universi-

ty students into the greek system. He also said it would bring more minorities into the greek system.

"I think it will be a good tool to diversify the greek system," said Lori Lopez Urdiales, staff assistant in the office of admissions.

Urdiales said Gabrielle Dalton, president of the Mexican American Student Association, and a group of students also are looking into bringing a Latina sorority to campus.

Berryman said he doesn't know how the fraternity will affect the other houses in increasing minority membership.

"It will be hard to say what effect it will have on the other houses," he said.

Organizers hope other students and offices are excited about the chapter.

"This is going to be an excellent opportunity for our university," Berryman said.

"I hope we have the support of the other university offices to make it a success," Urdiales said.

Representatives from Sigma Lambda Beta and Omega Delta Phi, the prospective national fraternities, will be visiting today and Saturday with organizers and any students interested.

Izaguirre encourages any students interested to come, take notes and ask questions, which will be taken into consideration in determining which fraternity will be best for the campus.

Today Sigma Lambda Beta will be visiting with students at 7 p.m. in the Culture Center. Omega Delta Phi will be at the Culture Center in the upper multipurpose room Saturday at 1 p.m.

Anyone wanting information on each fraternity can see their Web pages. Sigma Lambda Beta is at <http://www.lambdas-betas.org/> and Omega Delta Phi is at <http://w3.arizona.edu/~odphi/national.html>.

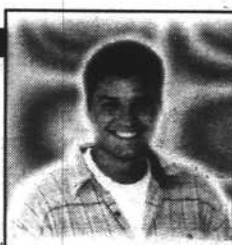
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M	T	W	T	F	S
1 MEN'S BASKETBALL/V AT TULSA 6:00 PM TV: ESPN2	2	3 WOMEN'S BASKETBALL/V VS. BRADLEY DEVANEY	4 WON'T FIT ON 5TH... M/W SWIMMING AND DIVING/V UNIV. OF TEXAS INVITATIONAL AT AUSTIN WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL/V NCAA TOURNAMENT	5 MEN'S BASKETBALL/V AMERITAS CLASSIC DEVANEY WOMEN'S BASKETBALL/V COPPER BOWL CLASSIC AT TUCSON	6 M/W SWIMMING AND DIVING/V UNIV. OF TEXAS INVITATIONAL AT AUSTIN WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL/V NCAA TOURNAMENT
7	8	9	10 MEN'S BASKETBALL/V AT CREIGHTON	11	12 WOMEN'S BASKETBALL/V AT WISCONSIN-GREEN BAY
13 MEN'S BASKETBALL/V AT MINNESOTA WOMEN'S BASKETBALL/V AT WISCONSIN-MILWAUKEE	14	15	16	17	18 WON'T FIT ON 6TH... MEN'S FOOTBALL/V BIG 12 CHAMPIONSHIP AT SAN ANTONIO

Co=Co-recreational / V=Varsity / C=Club / I=Intramural



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