

Earth Day celebrated with music, games

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Luck of Aelea.
The University of Nebraska-Lincoln's Wildlife Club, Amnesty International and Outdoor Adventures helped promote the day by providing information booths. Michelle Haddix, project coordinator, said she was pleased with the day's activities and the turnout. She said it was an excellent opportunity for students to learn about the environment.

Haddix said she was especially encouraged by the amount of interest displayed by students during the question-and-answer portions of various speeches.

"It's important for people to get something out of this," she said.

Among the guest speakers at the event was Eugene Glock, an agricultural representative for Democratic Sen. Bob Kerrey. Glock addressed a crowd of students about environmental issues pertaining to government.

Though the purpose of the event was to educate students on the environment, Haddix said it also was an opportunity for students to be outdoors. Many threw Frisbees and kicked around Hacky Sacks.

Dan Armendariz, a senior criminal justice major, said it was only fitting that the weather remained nice throughout Earth Day. He said the event was an excellent idea because it "takes a little of the edge off of going to school."

"We should celebrate our Earth every day," he said. "It's the only one

"Hemp is a very useful product. It can save us a lot of money."

MITCH LANGVARDT
communications major

we have."

Mitch Langvardt, a sophomore communications major, said he enjoyed the various information booths that were set up to answer questions. He said the hemp booth, in particular, contained a great deal of information.

"Hemp is a very useful product," he said. "It can save us a lot of money."

Langvardt said it was important for the university to sanction such an event.

"It's good because people tend to concentrate mostly on school or jobs," he said. "They tend to forget about nature."

Kate Hoke, a sophomore criminal justice major, said it was disappointing that more students could not attend the event. But she was happy a majority of the students who did attend "made the most of it."

"The main point is to let people know what they can do for this campus," she said. "There's a lot of issues to know about."

Professors deny harassment charge

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university if the situation is not resolved to their satisfaction.

Political science faculty members said they have not seen the confidential report that sanctions the department.

UNL Chancellor James Moeser has 30 days to respond to the committee's report, with which he was presented late last week.

Moeser will decide what sanctions, if any, will be carried out against the political science department.

"Let me say first that these are issues of grave concern, and I will give them serious attention," Moeser said.

The committee recommended Moeser require faculty members and graduate students in the political science department complete sensitivity training for race and gender issues.

All members of the university community need to be sensitive to race and gender, Spinner said, though he said the political science department should not be singled out.

"We appeal to the chancellor's sense of justice and fairness," Spinner said, "that before he sanctions us in any way, he ensures that fair proceedings are held."

Michael Combs, a political science professor, said he resented the charge in the report which said racial concerns received greater attention than gender concerns in the department.

Combs, who is black, said the department is more assertive hiring

women than racial minorities.

Jean Cahhan, an adjunct political science professor who has taught in the classics, history and philosophy departments, said she has never experienced anything "the least bit" hostile in the political science department.

"I've dealt with four different chairs in the political science department alone," Cahhan said, "and each one of them has tried to help me with my career. They've only been appreciative of my presence."

Cahhan, who is Jewish, said the department was cooperative when she wanted to cross-list courses in Judaic Studies and experiment with classes.

"I don't think the faculty in that department are any more sexist or ethnocentric in any particular direction, any more than any other department I'm familiar with," she said.

One of the chairmen of the department Cahhan worked with was David Forsythe, a professor who resigned from his chairmanship in February.

Forsythe is a visiting professor at the Netherlands Institute of Human Rights in Utrecht until July, and could not be reached.

Elizabeth Theiss-Morse, political science associate professor, said it was "absurd" that Forsythe was exonerated in the report while the department was still found guilty of having a hostile environment.

"This department has been pretty proactive, especially over the past five years or so," she said. "We've taken very direct, aggressive action to make sure there's not a bad climate for women."

In her classes, Theiss-Morse said, her students have been surprised about the allegations.

Cynthia Berreau, a UNL law student, graduated with a master's degree in political science in 1995 and said she never questioned the climate.

"I never had a problem with male professors or male students," Berreau said. "I didn't perceive an atmosphere of sexual harassment in any sort."

Despite some political science professors' insistence that the atmosphere in the department is friendly to women, Moeser has the ultimate power to decide the fate of the department.

He said he would consult with Senior Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs Richard Edwards and Director of Affirmative Action Linda Crump when making his decision.

"While I can't comment on the specific case," Moeser wrote in a press release, "let me reinforce my commitment to engaging leadership among faculty, staff and students alike to create a more welcoming climate on this campus."

Kara Slaughter, an arts and sciences college ASUN senator, said she hopes administrators will talk openly about the situation.

Instead of a problem confined to the political science department, Slaughter said, an unwelcome environment permeates through all aspects of campus.

"There are no monsters in the political science department," Slaughter said. "But there's always more we could be doing."

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