

# ASUN questions party system

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current party system election process.

"We want to know how students feel about this," Fuchs said. "It's their election."

Fuchs said the survey asks students what they see as good and bad about the party system. It also asks students if they feel they know enough about the election process to run for a senate position.

Russell said she is looking at the pros and cons of having a party system and having students run on their own. However, the pros and cons to both options are equal, she said.

"What's pro for one system is a con for the other, and vice versa," Russell said.

For example, candidates running under the party system have a large pool of resources. Candidates running individually don't necessarily have the access to many resources. But as individuals, student support and resources can be created, she said.

"The party system makes you work," Russell said. "But in order to run on your own you must work hard, too."

Christina Anhalt, a sophomore environmental sociology major, said she thought student government would be able to represent more students if the party system were eliminated.

"Without the party system student government would be more inclusive," Anhalt said. "People besides the greek system would be involved."

Eric Rost, a sophomore mechanical engineering major, said he is not happy with the present party election process but still believes a party system should exist.

"Parties need to have a clear, clean-cut direction," Rost said. "Elections would be confusing if you don't have set parties."

Rost said by having a party system with set guidelines, students would be able to identify candidates and their positions on issues.

Russell disagrees. "A lot of students don't care who is elected," Russell said.

## ASUN Watch And the score is ...

- The following is a list of goals ASUN has set, and the progress it has made.
- 1. Continue commitment to diversity through sponsored events and increased communication with the campus community.**  
—Howard T. Rainer, program administrator for the Native American Educational Outreach Programs at Brigham Young University, will speak Oct. 12 during Homecoming week. ASUN President Sara Russell said Rainer's presentation will bring diversity awareness to the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.
  - 2. Maintain regular campuswide community service projects.**  
—ASUN's first service project will be 8 a.m. Sunday. Students interested in helping pick up trash in Memorial Stadium should meet at the Husker Legacy statue on the east side of the stadium.
  - 3. Enhance technological services to students.**  
—ASUN Appointments Board is still accepting applications for a Public Relations Liaison. Joel Wiegert, Communications Committee chairman, said the position does require Web design experience. Applications are available in the ASUN office, 115 Nebraska Union, and are due at 4 p.m. Friday.
  - 4. Research the options to make student evaluations more effective.**  
—Academic Committee Chairwoman Kara Slaughter said she is looking for the senate's approval tonight to formulate a midsemester teaching evaluation form. The evaluations would allow students to give feedback on teaching techniques. If approved, the form would be presented to the Academic Senate, she said.
  - 5. Address campus parking concerns.**  
—ASUN senators are continuing to research and discuss campus parking concerns.
  - 6. Continue efforts to unite City and East campuses.**  
—Campus Life Committee Chairman Ryan Anderson said the committee is no longer looking into the possibility of creating a hike and bike trail connecting City and East campuses. Anderson said according to the UNL 12-year Preliminary Master Plan, a trail eventually will be built uniting both campuses.
  - 7. Create a larger representation of students through outreach initiatives.**  
—Anderson said the Campus Life Committee is reviewing a proposed ASUN bill to create a new student assembly that will meet on a trial-run basis. The 25 member assembly would be a check-and-balance measure for student government and would ensure a good cross-section of residence hall, commuter and greek students, he said.
  - 8. Raise awareness of the proposed spending lid amendment to the Nebraska Constitution and the immediate effects imposed on UNL and its students.**  
—ASUN is working with Students Against the Lid to inform the university about initiative 413, a tax lid constitutional amendment proposed for the November state election ballot. The proposed amendment, if passed, would cut \$20 million from NU's budget and would increase tuition, according to university budget estimates. Students wanting more information about the tax lid are welcome at an informal informational session, sponsored by ASUN at 9 p.m. Thursday in the Ctr in the Nebraska Union.
  - 9. Lobby for student input and concern regarding the ASUN government party system.**  
—Friday is the deadline for the ASUN party system survey drive. Russell said depending on the outcome of the surveys, she will be making recommendations to the ASUN Electoral Commission on whether there should be a reorganization of student government elections. A town hall meeting discussing views about the current party system is scheduled for 9:30 p.m. Tuesday in the Neihardt Residence Center blue lounge.
  - 10. Work to promote alcohol awareness and education campuswide.**  
—To raise money for the Laura Cookson Memorial Scholarship Fund, Russell said \$1 from every Homecoming dance ticket sold will be donated to the memorial. Homecoming dance tickets are \$3. Anderson said the Campus Life Committee and ASUN are continuing to brainstorm other fund-raising ideas that would support the fund. The memorial scholarship would go to a UNL student who actively promotes and brings awareness to the adverse effects of alcohol.

"Many students vote on party lines without getting to know the issues and the candidates positions."

Fuchs said the Electoral Commission is working to make the election process more simple.

Fuchs said that once all surveys are collected and organized, Russell will approach the Electoral Commission with election policy suggestions.

The commission will consider all options, including student pro-

posals, and create a set of rules for the March ASUN election. Election regulations would then be voted on by the Senate, he said.

A town hall meeting will be held to discuss the issue at 9:30 p.m. Tuesday in the Neihardt Residence Center blue lounge.

Students who have suggestions about keeping or eliminating the current party system can e-mail ASUN with their proposals at 00210764@bigred.unl.edu.

# Computers removed from halls

BY JOSH NICHOLS  
Staff writer

Students needing to use a computer this year in Cather and Pound residence halls will not be able step out of their rooms and use the floor's computers.

The computers are no longer there.

In an effort to keep room and board fees down, outdated community computers were removed from all but the top two floors of both buildings. Cather and Pound had previously been the only residence halls on campus with computers on each floor.

Students affected by the change have mixed reactions.

Alyson Stein, a junior English major and Cather resident, was against the removal of the community computers.

"The computers were outdated, but the Microsoft Word was efficient enough to write a paper," she said.

Stein also said she wondered where the laser printers went that had been in each floor's computer room.

Doug Zatechka, director of housing, said most of the laser printers were becoming obsolete, and the few that were working were spread throughout other computer labs.

Glenn Gray, Cather, Pound and Neihardt residence director, said housing administrators knew last year either the computers would need to be replaced or the labs would need to be closed.

"A year ago we faced the reality that the existing labs were becoming very obsolete," Gray said.

Gray said it would cost between \$20,000 and \$100,000 to update the labs. Students would have paid for the updates with their room and board fees.

"We would have been faced with an astonishing amount," Gray said.

Students still have access to a 24-hour computer lab on the first floor food service building between Cather, Pound and Neihardt residence halls. Neihardt also has a lab that contains 18 computers.

The total of 42 computers provides one computer for every nine students in the complex.

Gray said his goal was to get 50 computers in the lab, which would lower the student-to-computer ratio by one.

"Our goal was to provide computer services to students without computers while keeping room and board rates down," he said.

Gray said he had only one complaint about the lab closings.

Eric Kettenburg, a senior news-

editorial major and Pound resident, said he didn't see the removal of the computers as a big deal.

"The computers were getting old and outdated. They would lock up and crash a lot," he said.

Gray said the amount of complaints he has received might echo students' sentiments.

"At this time last year, I had close to 50 complaints because of problems with computers."

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