

News Briefs

Union policy still challenged

The Nebraska Union Board is still feeling the effects of a recent policy it passed. The policy prohibits non-students from using the northwest study lounge after 6:30 p.m. Sunday through Thursday.

Two students, who have spoken against the policy at several meetings, asked the Union Board on Tuesday to reverse its vote on the policy.

Union Board President Matt Luth said the board will not review the policy until Nov. 10.

Ed Abplanalp, a UNL graduate student in philosophy, said prohibiting non-students, particularly homeless people, from certain parts of the union was morally offensive to him.

"I am embarrassed that my money is going to a union like this," Abplanalp said. "I'm actually offended that this thing went through."

But Union Board members and Swanson said student concern about non-students in the union led to the policy's passage. That concern still exists, members said.

Shawn Nichols, board member, said he thought the majority of people at UNL agreed with the policy.

Board member Ryan Fuchs said the policy may be the best choice for the union.

"This is probably the greatest good for the greatest amount of people," he said.

Swanson said since the policy

went into effect last week, one non-student has been asked to leave the northwest study lounge.

Women's Studies office moves

University of Nebraska-Lincoln students and community members are invited to join the UNL Women's Studies Program from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. today for an afternoon of food and music.

In celebration of its new office, 307 Avery Hall, the open house will show off their new home and promote the program, Women's Studies Director Christina Brantner said.

Brantner said the College of Arts and Sciences allocated the office space to the program this year. The program's old office was in Andrews Hall.

Brantner said anyone who is interested in the Women's Studies Program is welcome, even if it is not their major, as well as UNL professors, faculty members, staff and community members.

New member on committee

Teresita Aguilar, a UNL associate professor and the Center for Curriculum and Instruction, was elected to the Executive Committee of Academic Senate. History professor Timothy Mahoney also was nominated.

Compiled by staff writers Ieva Augstums and Jessica Fargen

Students build instead of design

By SANDI ALSWAGER
Staff Writer

Some UNL architecture students are spending their Saturdays building houses instead of planning them.

The students are building seven houses in Nebraska City as part of an independent study program. The program gives them hands-on experience by helping in the construction of homes, while helping to improve neighborhoods, said Jennifer Watson, assistant professor of architecture.

"It is amazing to see how much the students know," Watson said. "They apply their skills on site and learn from each other on site."

The project, which builds low-income housing, is a mutual self-help housing program done through the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Rural Housing Service.

Students construct the houses every Saturday along with the future homeowners, a construction manager and people from other community groups.

"The students participate in what they actually learn about in class," Watson said. "It is good to work with communities. The students see (building a house) can't be done by one person."

Jeffery Davis, a first-year architecture graduate student, said the project gives him a different perspective

"It is amazing to see how much the students know. They apply their skills on site and learn from each other on site."

JENNIFER WATSON
assistant professor of architecture

on the industry.

"The project interests me because architects need to be more knowledgeable about construction techniques," he said.

Davis said this project allows him to see how objectives in architecture are applied to the construction field.

"It has been a humbling experience," he said. "Architects are supposed to know how things work, and we had trouble doing some things."

Students involved in the project are not only learning new things, but they are aiding underprivileged people by helping them build a house.

"We work with the families of the houses," he said. "It has done wonders for those people."

Spencer Sear, a fifth-year architecture graduate student, said the firsthand experience is something he couldn't learn in school.

"It would be nice if this was a required class," Sear said. "This is something everyone should do."

The project offers three credit hours of independent study, but Watson said it may be offered as a formal course next semester. This is the first year a project like this has been offered by the College of Architecture.

Construction of the housing project began in August and should be completed by April or May, she said.

The five students involved in the independent study also are working on plans to renovate a school building in Edgar. The students are designing plans to convert the school building into an apartment complex.

The project will include designing the existing 13,000 square-foot building into 12 apartments and a public library.

Watson said construction of the project should begin next year.

This project, she said, will allow students to use plans designed by them, unlike the housing project in which existing plans were used.

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 in Provo, Utah, will speak at 7 p.m. Monday in the NU Coliseum during Homecoming week. ASUN President Sara Russell said Rainer is a motivational speaker whose presentation will help diversity awareness within the university.

2. Maintain regular campuswide community service projects.

— Ryan Anderson, chairman of the Campus Life Committee, said ASUN's next community service project will be with Habitat for Humanity.

3. Enhance technological services to students.

— The senate last week appointed junior art history and marketing major Meggie Doyle as ASUN public relations liaison. Russell said Doyle will be updating the ASUN Web page.

4. Research the options to make student evaluations more effective.

— ASUN Academic Committee members are working with the UNL Teaching and Learning Center in promoting the use of midsemester teaching evaluation forms. The center already has "midsemester feedback forms," but very few professors pass them out to students. Committee Chairwoman Kara Slaughter said it is ASUN's goal to publicize and encourage professors to use the optional evaluations.

5. Address campus parking concerns.

— ASUN senators say they are continuing to research and discuss parking concerns.

6. Continue efforts to unite City and East campuses.

— Russell said ASUN members are trying to make this year's Homecoming events inclusive on both campuses. East Campus Homecoming activities include a fun run at 1 p.m. Sunday and music, food, and fireworks on Oct. 15 at 6:30 p.m. Anderson said the Campus Life Committee is working with the Student Involvement Office on East Campus to get more student representation through campus organization booths in the East Campus Union.

7. Create a larger representation of students through outreach initiatives.

— The Campus Life Committee killed the senate legislative bill that would have created a 25-member representative of residence hall, commuter and Greek students. The bill, originally proposed by Russell, would have served as a check-and-balance measure to student government. Anderson said the committee's decision was primarily based on the limited time the assembly would have to pursue legislation if formed this semester. Russell said she is planning to write a constitutional amendment asking for the creation of the 25-member assembly for the March 1999 ASUN election ballot.

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 continuing to work with Students Against the Lid to promote awareness of Initiative 413, the proposed tax lid amendment that could cut \$20 million from the NU system's budget. Russell said members of the Student-Athlete Advisory Board and the Unity Council are working with ASUN senators trying to encourage the UNL community to wear blue, instead of red, to the Nebraska vs. Missouri football game on Oct. 24. Athletic teams also are being encouraged to display blue in some manner.

9. Lobby for student input and concern regarding the ASUN government party system.

— ASUN received about 200 party system surveys from students. Russell said she has reviewed the surveys and tallied responses. Russell will make a recommendation to the ASUN Electoral Commission this week on whether the current party system should be changed.

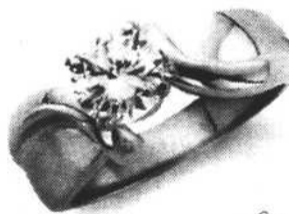
10. Work to promote alcohol awareness and education campuswide.

— ASUN raised \$339.17 for the Laura Cockson Memorial Scholarship Fund on Monday during Do It Sober, a formal presentation advocating low-risk, responsible drinking. ASUN also is working this week with Project CARE and Party SMART, two UNL organizations that advocate low risk drinking and alternatives to drinking, to promote alcohol education and awareness.

You can't win if you don't play.
The Daily Nebraskan
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www.unl.edu/DailyNeb



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