

Changes proposed for makeup of senate

Place of residence will be a factor

By IEVA AUGSTUMS
Staff writer

Depending on a vote by student government leaders Jan. 13, the face of ASUN could change for future University of Nebraska-Lincoln students.

Association of Students of the University of Nebraska President Sara Russell proposed a constitutional amendment Wednesday night that would change the senate's composition by adding one additional senator, as well as change election procedures.

Russell said a new senate body would have a cross-section of student representatives from different colleges and places of residence.

The constitutional amendment comes from a previous proposal ASUN President Sara Russell made in August where a 25-member student assembly, based on students' places of residence, would have had input on ASUN issues and policies. The senate voted down the proposal in September.

Under the new proposal, Russell said, 18 students would be chosen by their colleges, and 18 students would be elected by their place of residence, including residence halls, greek houses and off-campus residences.

Each college and living unit would be guaranteed at least one representative. Additional representatives for both areas would be elected proportionally, based on total number of students, she said.

"The idea of this is to guarantee a good cross-section of students involved in student government," Russell said. "It would finally balance the representation between colleges and living units."

A majority of the senate agreed with the bill; however, some did not fully support the idea.

Speaker Matt Boyd said students may have a concern about the number of seats allocated to students based on their places of residence.

"It's a really great idea to have different avenues to get elected; 18 and 18 may be too ultraconservative for people," Boyd said. "We are in Nebraska, you know."

College of Arts and Sciences

ASUN

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SARA RUSSELL
ASUN president

Senator Urrvano Gamez Jr. agreed. "Off-campus positions tend to not be filled anyway," Gamez said. "Reducing the number is a good idea."

But some senators disagreed with Boyd and Gamez.

"If we want equal representation, reducing the numbers won't help," said Jason Boykin, a senator representing graduate students. "Let's keep them and make students get to know their constituents better."

ASUN Director of Development Marlyne Beyke said student representation in student government offices varies year to year.

"Some years we've had a widely representative student government, other years we haven't," Beyke said. "It all depends."

Senators will vote on the constitutional amendment at next semester's first ASUN meeting Jan. 13.

If passed by the senate, the amendment would appear on the March 1999 election ballot.

Two-thirds of the voting student body would have to pass the amendment to change the ASUN constitution. The amendment would not go into effect until the March 2000 election.

Russell said each senate member would still be required to keep in touch with constituents and would discuss universitywide issues, she said.

"We're not decreasing the responsibilities of each senator," Russell said. "We're increasing representation."

Students in hot tub raise money for housing

They will relax near the Nebraska Union while raising money for charity.

By DANE STICKNEY
Staff writer

David Williams and some of his friends once joked about raising money for a worthy cause by just relaxing in a steamy hot tub.

That joke has turned into reality. The National Residence Hall Honorary will be sponsoring Hot Tubbing for Habitat on Friday to raise money for Habitat for Humanity.

Williams, president of the UNL chapter of the National Residence Hall Honorary, said a hot tub will be set up from noon to 8 p.m. west of the new Broyhill Fountain.

Various greek houses and residence halls have been asked to pay \$40 to seat four people in the hot tub for a half hour, Williams, a senior English major, said.

"Right now we have 15 groups that have reserved their space," Williams said. "We hope to have 15 more."

Williams said the goal is to raise \$1,200 to donate to Habitat for Humanity to build a house for a family of six.

"We are doing this to help the needy family and to spark an interest in Habitat for Humanity," he said.

The fact this type of event is unique does not worry Williams.

"This is the first time that this has been done, but we hope to make it a tradition," he said.

The hot tub will be provided by Home Innovations, and Pepsi will be giving away products. Radio station KFRX-FM (102.7) will be broadcasting live from the event.

National Residence Hall Honorary is a group of 40 student leaders from various residence halls on campus. Its goal is to help the university to get involved in activities that provide aid to the community, Williams said.

"It feels good to partake in something that helps the university and a worthy cause," he said.

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Star City Parade prepares to dazzle downtown area

By DANE STICKNEY
Staff writer

It is once again time for huge inflatable cartoon characters, marching bands and thousands of people to take over downtown Lincoln.

The 14th annual Star City Holiday Parade will be held at 11 a.m. on Saturday.

The parade will begin at 10th and O streets and work its way through the downtown area. It will stop in front of the Cornhusker Hotel at 333 S. 13th St.

Executive Director Suzi Shugert said this year's parade would have at least 67 entries, from large inflatable balloons to floats.

The parade will be essentially the same as it has been in past years with one minor change.

"It will be a little bit shorter," Shugert said. "We thought an hour and a half was too long for little kids, so we've shortened it to around 74 minutes."

More than 4,000 volunteers will be involved in the parade, Shugert said. Their duties involve parade coordination, staging and bleacher monitoring.

Shugert expects 50,000 to 70,000 people to attend the parade. More than 85,000 people are expected to watch the parade on television on Channel 10 KOLN-TV.

Shugert said the parade originally was created as a way to get people to the downtown area to kick off the shopping season. However, with many downtown stores having left the area, its focus has changed and the parade has grown into something larger.

"The parade does a phenomenal amount for the community," Shugert said. "It stresses cooperation and collaboration throughout the city. The city has shown tremendous support over the years."

The parade is the highlight of many events that make up the Star City Holiday Festival. Some of the events include a downtown lighting ceremony, a polar picnic and ice

"The parade does a phenomenal amount for the community. It stresses cooperation and collaboration throughout the city."

SUZI SHUGERT
parade executive director

sculpting. A post-parade party will be held at the Cornhusker Hotel. Anyone is invited for refreshments. The announcement of 17 awards for the best floats and units in the parade will also take place during the party. "The parade has grown into a family tradition," Shugert said. "It is just a fun thing to do."

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