

Professor's dual roles bring conflict to senate

By SHANE ANTHONY
Staff writer

Academic Senate

The Academic Senate didn't have enough members present to vote Tuesday, but members face an interesting question:

What should they do about President Patricia Kennedy?

Kennedy moved from associate professor of marketing to College of Business Administration associate dean Jan. 4. This caused some Academic Senate members to fear a conflict of interest if Kennedy served both as an administrator and senate president.

She replaced Ronald Hampton,

who she said will teach in the marketing department. Kennedy will teach one course each semester during her three-year appointment.

But the move from professor to administrator raises questions about whether or not she can continue as Academic Senate president.

A motion was made that Kennedy continue as president for the remaining four months of her term. But only 44 members of the Senate were present — not enough for quorum, so members could not vote.

James Goedert, associate professor of construction systems technology, said he had no problem with Kennedy, but he worried about setting a precedent.

Donald Jensen, professor of psychology, said he would support letting President-elect Gail Latta, associate professor of information services and libraries, assume the role of president two months early.

Before the discussion about Kennedy's role, the Senate heard from NU President Dennis Smith, who spoke, among other things, about the budget and university goals.

Smith said he would like the university to be in the top 25 public research

universities in both teaching and research.

But Nebraska's financial climate has pushed the Legislature to keep spending down.

"I think this year is going to be a long, hard-fought process," he said.

Chancellor James Moeser echoed Smith's comments, saying the university could benefit from enrollment increases.

But tension among faculty members was evident.

Gargi Roysircar Sodowski, educational psychology professor, said she and her colleagues feel they are asked to do a lot with very little.

Moeser said the people of Nebraska

"I think this year is going to be a long, hard-fought process."

DENNIS SMITH
NU president

have always asked for much in return for very little.

"Isn't that the nature of our calling?" he asked.

"No," Sodowski said. Another senator said the same as Moeser sat down.

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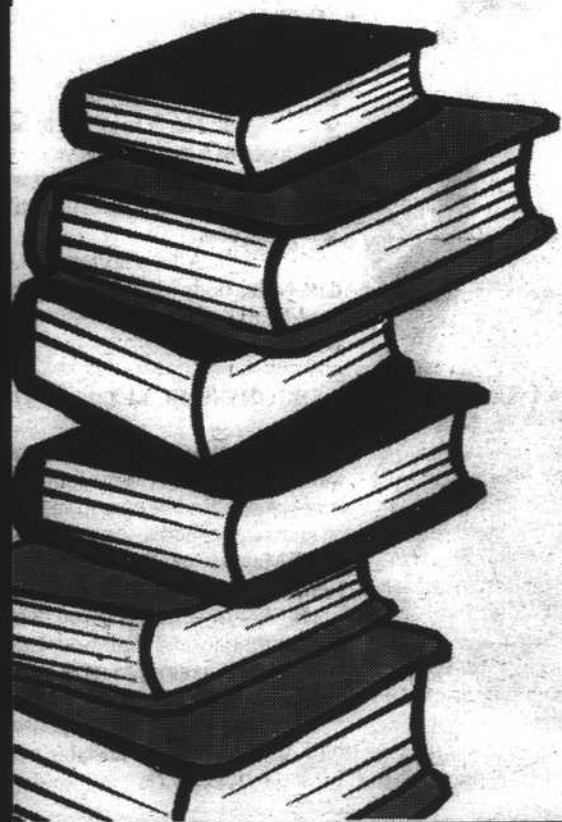
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