

# Two parties aim for ASUN power

BY VERONICA DAEHN  
Staff writer

Next spring's ASUN election will see two parties vie for control of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln's student government, unless more parties sign up by the Jan. 26 deadline.

So far, Impact and Empower are the only recognized election parties.

There is no limit on the number of parties that can form, said Marlene Beyke, Association of Students of the University of Nebraska director of development.

The filing deadline for all candidates is Feb. 2 at 4 p.m.

But existing parties have already begun work on their campaigns.

Impact presidential candidate John D. Conley said his running mates will help the party represent all students.

Brad Bangs, a member of Phi Kappa Psi Fraternity, is the first vice presidential candidate, and Laticia Martinez, an off-campus commuter student, is running for second vice president.

With Conley living in Harper Residence Hall, he said all three executive candidates will bring different ideas to the table.

Empower presidential candidate Heath Mello said he is planning for the work that will take place next semester.

Mello said he does not yet know who his running mates will be because he is waiting to hear back from several people, but that he has initial platform ideas of his own.

Mello said his goal is to provide opportunities for more students to get involved.

He said the hard work and dedication he's shown so far in ASUN prove he has the passion and ability to lead the student body.

"I have the vision and the drive to get things done," Mello said. "I want to make the average student feel they can come in, and make them feel like they have a part in what we're doing."

Conley said his party's platform is still in the works but that he wants to address issues with a different perspective than the "regular status quo."

"We think we can change things because we have an outsider's perspective," Conley said. "Some people call it lack of experience, but we feel that will be an asset. We will be able to look at and make changes that before no one wanted to make."

Bangs and Martinez have never been involved with ASUN, Conley

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JOHN D. CONLEY  
ASUN Presidential candidate

said. Conley serves on the sexual orientation advisory council and helped with last year's elections.

Mello is an ASUN senator for the College of Arts and Sciences this year.

He has been involved since his freshman year with Student Impact Team, Publications Board, the College of Arts and Sciences Advisory Board, and he was ASUN recording secretary.

Mello said experience is good, but he'll surround himself with people who "want to shake it up."

"I have some ideas and solutions," Mello said. "But not all by any means. Call me a moderate liberal, but I want to turn ASUN upside down."

Mello said he wants to change the minds of students about what ASUN does. He wants to change the senate composition and the makeup of the committees.

"We're here to make undergraduate and graduate education better," Mello said. "We need to be doing it."

Conley said his party is trying to find solutions to long-term problems, not just ones that will appease the current student body.

The Impact party is holding an informational meeting Sunday from 3:30 to 5 p.m. in the Nebraska Union.

Conley said the meeting will be more about the election process and candidates' roles than about his party.

"We're holding the election process higher than the parties at this time," he said.

Anyone interested can attend. Conley said the Impact party wants to mobilize students more and get them to share their opinions.

Part of getting students involved is educating them, Conley said, and that is part of a party's responsibility.

Mello said he wants to educate students as much as possible and give them a say in ASUN.

"It should be that we're all coming together," he said. "We'll fight for what you want. That's where our vision is."

# Hagel rejects Clinton's remarks

BY JOSH KNAUB  
Staff writer

Republican Sen. Chuck Hagel on Wednesday again condemned President Clinton's handling of last week's World Trade Organization talks in Seattle.

In a written statement, the second he has issued on the subject, Hagel called Clinton's remarks to WTO delegates "ridiculous" and "dangerous."

The WTO is the only international organization dealing with the global rules of trade between nations. Its main goal is to ensure that trade flows as smoothly, predictably and freely as possible.

Hagel said Clinton used the WTO conference to introduce new trade barriers instead of finding ways to promote free trade.

"Our government should be working to ... increase access to foreign markets," Hagel said in the statement. "Instead, to please labor unions and a bunch of protesters — and to serve Al Gore's presidential ambitions — President Clinton went to Seattle and issued an ultimatum."

During a press conference Wednesday, the president rejected the suggestion that his insistence on

inclusion of worker rights in future trade negotiations was done to win the backing of labor unions for Gore's presidential campaign.

Clinton's opening speech to WTO delegates included appeals to the delegates to pay attention to labor standards and environmental issues. Clinton told WTO delegates he wanted them to take action to improve working conditions, especially for children.

"I believe the WTO should work more closely with the International Labor Organization, which has worked hard to protect human rights, to ban child labor," Clinton said in his speech.

Hagel agreed with Clinton that improving human rights was important.

But he said Clinton used the issues as obstacles to the easing of trade restrictions.

Hagel said past efforts to improve trade had improved living conditions around the world during the past 50 years.

"Labor standards are important. But there is a global organization to deal with world labor issues," Hagel said, referring to the International Labor Organization.

During Clinton's speech to the WTO, several delegates from

developing nations removed their headsets, used to translate Clinton's words, in protest.

The delegates saw efforts by the United States and other developed nations to enforce labor standards as thinly disguised moves to give the developed nations an unfair advantage in trade.

Clinton tried to appease the delegates in his remarks.

He said he realized some people in wealthy countries might try to use labor standards to oppose free trade. But he said delegates should work to write labor standards in a way that could not be used against poorer nations.

Hagel said he thought the WTO needed to be improved. But he said the organization was limited in scope.

"The WTO should not be seriously threatened by overloading it with irresponsible demands and issues it was never intended to deal with," Hagel said.

"If we allow this to happen, the world will pay a very high price in global instability — and in lost hope for opportunity and a higher standard of living for all peoples."

The Associated Press contributed to this report.

# Bioethics advisory group to be formed at university

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Commission formed by President Clinton in 1995. It also has 18 members.

The national commission testified before Clinton and Congress against using in vitro fertilization to create extra eggs that scientists could extract stem cells from.

However, the commission reported that research on tissue that is a result of deliberate abortions should continue to be eligible for federal funding.

The national commission also recommended that embryos remaining after infertility treatments should be eligible for federal funding.

Smith said he wanted the commission to make recommendations in a number of research areas while being flexible enough to allow public debate.

He named no committee members but said he intended to begin naming them after the first of the year.

"I view it as a very responsible, balanced response to the public's call."

GAIL LATTA  
UNL Academic Senate president

Latta said she would be inquiring about the role faculty would have choosing members.

Smith said members of UNMC were consulted about the idea of a commission and supported it.

Forming a commission with expertise from a number of areas will improve public discussion of the research issues at hand, he said.

"It's important to get input from a variety of sources," Smith said. "Then we can establish guidelines we are all happy with."

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