

Speech examines race, education

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Because some blacks aren't educated fully in school about their heritage they are searching out an identity, Caldwell said.

"What has become 'black culture' is not black culture at all," he said. "It is a culture that is in search of an identity in an America that has muted its growth."

Blacks need to learn more about their heritage so they are able to move forward, Caldwell said.

"I think it's extremely important for African Americans to reclaim their historical frame of reference," he said. "Without that reference we will continue to meander in search of it."

The lack of education affects discussions about multiculturalism, Caldwell said.

"Without African Americans having a sense of identity, they can't even

talk about multiculturalism," Caldwell said. "They just spout out what they've been taught from the Eurocentric perspective."

Because blacks aren't given enough background information from an African-American perspective, multiculturalism discussions do not benefit them, he said.

"I personally question multiculturalism," Caldwell said. "Because in some ways without it being defined, it becomes supremacy."

To overcome the lack of education in school, Caldwell said he had to educate himself about his heritage.

"When I grew up I had two sets of books," Caldwell said. "One I needed for school, and one I needed for me."

Pacquette said that multiculturalism class requirements are good because they educate students about other races that they never may have come in contact with.

"I've come across a lot of people, especially in Midwest Nebraska, that I've been the first black person they've seen or talked to, besides on TV," Pacquette said.

Educators need to figure out what they want the product of their teachings to be, he said.

"Higher education needs to make a decision whether it wants to be a custodian of a greenhouse or owners of a flower shop," Caldwell said.

He defined the custodians as planting seeds, cultivating and helping trees and shrubs develop.

The owners deliver the flowers and try to make them look pretty so someone will buy them before they wither away, he said.

"Higher education can't afford to be flower-shop people," Caldwell said. "Half the brothers we get wither away and die before they get to graduation."

High school leadership conference held at UNL

From staff reports

UNL's Phi Beta Lambda, a business leadership organization, played host to more than 200 high school students Wednesday in the Nebraska Union.

The students, all members of the Future Business Leaders of America, converged on the University of Nebraska-Lincoln to experience campus life, attend leadership workshops and network with area business leaders.

PBL President Ryan Ragsdale said the UNL group holds the conference, "The Path to Success," every spring.

Along with business-related workshops, PBL included a panel of college students during the day to let the high school students ask questions about UNL.

"It's a great learning experience for the high school students," said Ragsdale, a junior business administration major.

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Arts dean to leave UNL

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he is leaving," he said. "He's been very willing to let me do things needed to be done to improve the department."

Michael Hoff, an associate professor in art and art history, said Durst's biggest contribution was his commitment to fund raising.

"Dick has provided tremendous support in finding money for scholarships and fellowships for our department," he said. "It's been tremendous the way he was able to find a large amount of money to benefit the college, the Lied Center and the Sheldon."

At Penn State, Durst will also be the executive director of University Arts services.

He holds a similar position at UNL. As a special assistant to the chancellor, Durst oversees the Lied

Center for Performing Arts, the Sheldon Memorial Art Gallery and the Lentz Center for Asian Studies.

Lawrence Mallet, director of UNL's School of Music, said Durst has served Nebraska well in this role.

"He's been a good advocate of the arts for the community and the state," Mallet said.

The position Durst will soon fill at Penn State was held from 1986 to 1992 by UNL Chancellor James Moeser.

Moeser succeeded former UNL Chancellor Graham Spanier, who is currently president of Penn State.

Durst, who said the decision to move was best for him and his family, said he was happy to be part of the pipeline of people flowing both ways between Penn State and UNL.

"No one has left Nebraska with hard feelings," Durst said. "I'm leaving with the best of feelings."



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