

Lamm focuses on rights of transgendered

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gender roles in life.

"I personally don't believe I was born a woman," she said. "I was born a baby who grew up to be a woman."

There are many transgendered people who are convincing in their chosen gender, Lamm said.

"I know plenty of people who pass as men every day and have vaginas," she said.

People have to let others choose which gender to live as, Lamm said.

"The heart of the issue is that you have to trust people to come up with their own identity," she said.

Last year at a music festival only for women in Michigan, transgendered people were put in a dangerous situation, Lamm said.

Some transgendered people were let in, but they were surrounded by upset women, she said.

"People were screaming, 'Men on the land! Men on the land!'" she said. "It was weird because the women who felt threatened were doing the threatening."

Lamm said she understood why some of the women were upset because of bad experiences with men.

But she also said that just because there aren't any men around, that

doesn't mean women are safe.

"It should be about a person who did something to you, not about a genital," she said. "The idea that a woman is safe without a penis around is absurd."

Transgendered people have other difficulties in their daily lives, such as choosing which gender of public bathrooms to use, Lamm said.

Because most public bathrooms are segregated, many transgendered people won't use them, she said.

"Most of the transgendered people that I know won't go into the bathroom," she said. "It's too scary."

One of the ways people can help

transgendered people is to purposely go into the wrong bathroom, she said. This will make people more used to the idea of sharing a bathroom with the opposite sex.

Another issue facing transgendered people is the lack of shelters for them when they are in abusive relationships, Lamm said.

Vanderwerff said she agreed feminists should fight for more than themselves.

"I think that she made a good point that to be a feminist doesn't mean you have to be inclusive to one group," Vanderwerff said. "We should try to identify and accommodate."

"I know plenty of people who pass as men every day and have vaginas."

Nomy Lamm

writer, lecturer, performance artist, musician

Parking fees may increase in fall

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fees by charging students and faculty fees to ride the buses or shuttles.

The fee, estimated at \$20 per year, would be charged to an estimated 6,250 people.

"This assumes that we are going to make people pay their fair share," Specht said.

James Main, the assistant vice chancellor of business and finance and PAC member, introduced another proposal attempting to reduce the parking fees by using alternative funding.

"We have not been neglectful in pursuing alternatives," Main said.

The alternative funding would

come from increased meter rates, meter fines and fees for football parking.

Revenue from these sources was estimated at \$192,000.

This proposal was rejected because it relied on soft money.

"If the projections show we'll come up short, we'll have to raise rates," Main said.

Since the fees have yet to be finalized, Myers said students and faculty can keep parking fees low by encouraging the administration to delay building the parking garage and eliminating parking spaces.

By delaying one year, "we would be financially ahead and not lose those spaces," Myers said.

But according to Stan Campbell, PAC committee member, building costs are expected to increase in the next few years. Delaying construction would add to the cost of the buildings, Campbell said, and higher costs could mean fewer buildings.

With the elimination of the 260 parking spots, Myers expects a large demand for parking.

"We're going to be in a mess next fall," Myers said.

Sandy Lineberry, PAC committee member, encouraged the committee to keep parking permit fees low.

Let's try to keep these down, so we can show some face to those we represent," she said.

Prison care investigation continues

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mistreatment or lack of treatment provided for inmates throughout the state by the Department of Correctional Services.

Arlene Trainor, a registered nurse who worked for the department for 14 years, said mostly the nurses and physician assistants, not the doctors, had problems thinking of the inmates as people.

"The inmates have become very dehumanized," Trainor said. "(Staff members) don't like inmates as a group of people. If you can't work with this population, you need to move on."

Trainor, who left the department in July 1995, said the staff, excluding most of the physicians, were hateful and vindictive when it came to inmates' medical treatment.

She said Dan Danaher, a physician's assistant for the department who also addressed the task force Friday, had once told her if inmates requested something such as new shoes, they should be sent through various sections within the department.

The section would send them to another and then to another, until the inmate got tired and gave up on the request.

But when Danaher gave testimony to the task force Friday, he said "anything short of our best effort (for patient care) is unacceptable."

Claudia Werner, who has been a nurse for 21 years and left the department in 1996 after three years, disagreed with Danaher.

"The administration said we could be patient advocates but not prison advocates," Werner said. "But the inmates were our patients. I don't understand."

She said the standard answer for medical requests was on the same level as instructing them to take two aspirin and call in the morning. But that answer does not work for chronic pain or life-threatening ailments, such as heart conditions.

She also said she had seen repeated requests for medical treatment go

"(Staff members) don't like inmates as a group of people. If you can't work with this population, you need to move on."

Arlene Trainor

registered nurse and former department worker

unnoticed.

Werner and Trainor left the department because of the treatment and attitude toward the patients, they said.

Danaher also testified that some of Pedersen's testimony on Feb. 25, which asked the task force to investigate such things as response time, staff salaries and the number of medical contacts to patients each day, were inaccurate.

One of Pedersen's greatest concerns was the amount of time it took to reach a patient in need.

Danaher said maintaining security in the facility is the No. 1 responsibility, even during a medical emergency when response times are crucial.

He also said that the recorded medical contacts for patients were 150 a day, which was not unreasonable when it equals 15 contacts for each facility in the department throughout the state.

As for staff salaries, he said the department is constantly asking for revisions and adjustments to ensure enough money to employ quality caregivers, Danaher said.

Julia Andretti, who worked for the department in food service, said the department did not have high-quality physicians.

"They (doctors) have all been in trouble and can't go anywhere else," Andretti said. "So they're here."

She was appalled at the treatment given to patients and was aware of how her husband, Anthony, had been treated.

Anthony Andretti suffered a heart attack while incarcerated, Julia Andretti said.

Medical staff had wanted him to walk about a mile from the Lincoln Correctional Center to the Diagnostic and Evaluation Center, which are connected by a tunnel, she said.

When he made it over to the center in a wheelchair, the staff hooked him up to a monitor that did not work, and they could not get a reading, she said.

Anthony Andretti told his wife that the nurse's statement to the doctor was, "My god, don't you know a heart attack when you see one?"

Julia Andretti said she was told by Anthony Andretti's caseworker that "it does not matter what kind of care he gets - he is only an inmate. I'm sorry, I know he is your husband, but he is only an inmate, and therefore his care does not matter. We will give him whatever care we decide."

Danaher agreed with the caseworker, saying physicians have control.

"It is the practitioner's responsibility to determine what the patient needs, not what the patient wants," Danaher said.

Julia Andretti, after speaking to inmates, said care should be more like the care on the outside.

She suggested that like the outside, prisoners should be charged a dollar, which is basically a day's wage, for medical examination. It would cut down on unnecessary medical requests.

No matter the department's defense, Julia Andretti said the problem with the care is the lack of it.

"It's so inadequate that our pets get better care."

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Gerald Early will deliver the annual Abraham Lincoln Lectures on March 7, 8, and 9. His program, "Princes Kept the View: America in the 50s and 60s," will feature talks entitled "Muhammad Ali as Third World Hero," "Sammy Davis Jr. as Establishment Rebel," and "The Rise of Black Philadelphia," a look at militant political action in Early's hometown during the 1960s.

Gerald Early is a professor of English and Afro-American studies at Washington University in St. Louis. Early also serves as Washington University's Director of African and Afro-American Studies and Director of the American Culture Studies Program. A frequent commentator for National Public Radio, Early's books include *The Muhammad Ali Reader* and *The Culture of Bruising* which won the 1994 National Book Critics Circle Award for criticism.

The talks are free and open to the public and will commence at 7:00 each evening in the Great Plains Art Collection, 215 Love Library, on the University of Nebraska campus in Lincoln. A reception and book signing will immediately follow Thursday's lecture.

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