

Search narrows for dean

■ Four finalists remain in the search for a leader for the College of Arts and Sciences.

FROM STAFF REPORTS

Potential deans for the University of Nebraska-Lincoln's largest college will visit City Campus next month.

The search to find a new dean for the College of Arts and Sciences has been narrowed to four finalists, said David Brinkerhoff, acting senior vice chancellor for academic affairs.

William Frawley of the University of Delaware at Newark, Richard Hoffmann of the State University of New York at Albany and Russell Tomlin of the University of Oregon at Eugene join UNL chairman of mathematics and statistics W.J. "Jim" Lewis as finalists.

Frawley has been at the University of Delaware since 1979 and has been chairman of the linguistics department since 1994.

He was a Fulbright professor in English at Jagiellonian University in Krakow, Poland, in 1985-1986. Frawley has also taught in Poland, Hungary and Morocco.

Hoffmann has been the dean of the College of Arts and Sciences at the State University of New York at Albany for two years.

He taught biology at the University of Pittsburgh and zoology and genetics at Iowa State University in Ames, where he spent 18 years.

Tomlin has been a part of the University of Oregon faculty since 1979 and has been associate dean of humanities since 1996.

He has spent nearly all of his career at Oregon. He served a year as a visiting professor at the University of Alberta in Edmonton, Canada. Tomlin has been an associate professor, professor and head of the department of linguistics at Oregon.

Lewis has been a member of the UNL faculty since 1971 and chairman of the mathematics and statistics department since 1988.

He has been active in the advancement of elementary, secondary and undergraduate education in mathematics and the sciences by co-authoring grants that netted more than \$11 million.

The four candidates are vying to replace Brian Foster, who left last spring to take a job as the vice president and provost of academic affairs at the University of New Mexico at Albuquerque.

Linda Pratt, chairwoman of the English department, is currently the interim dean of the college.

Committees ready, eager to fill voids

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The new dean will also need to understand how a university works, Fought said. He or she should know how to get things done within the hierarchy of the administration.

"Deans have to know people," Fought said. "They have to understand where people are coming from and know how to relate to and work with them."

Fought said he didn't think the university had looked in the wrong places for deans before, although he said it would be good to hire someone with experience at a public institution similar to the university.

Despite that criteria, Fought said the university doesn't need to limit the search to just people from UNL.

"Maybe we need more contact with our roots," he said. "But the greater we cast the net, the greater chance we have to catch someone great for our institution."

Despite faculty members who are anxious for permanent leaders at UNL, Dennis Smith said there is no rush to fill the positions.

"I think the future looks excellent," Smith said. "I don't see the sense in spending a year recruiting a new chancellor. But I don't know exactly how long it will take."

Search committee tapped to find new research chief

■ The process will begin to replace Marsha Torr, who resigned in August.

BY MARGARET BEHM

To fill one of the most prestigious jobs on campus, a search committee has been formed to find a new vice chancellor for research.

Marsha Torr resigned from that job in August to become vice president of research at Virginia Commonwealth University in Richmond, Va.

Torr had been vice chancellor since April 1999.

Don Helmuth, the associate

vice chancellor for research, was named interim vice chancellor for research until a replacement for Torr can be found.

There are eight members on the selection committee.

Linda Pratt, chairwoman of the committee, said it's important to get someone in the position quickly.

"This is a critical position for the well-being of our university," said Pratt, interim dean of Arts and Sciences. "We want to get someone very, very good in there who can take the job on a permanent basis."

Evelyn Jacobson, associate vice chancellor for academic affairs, said that even though the

committee hasn't met yet, the process should be underway soon.

"The committee is really small," said Jacobson. "So we're hoping to proceed very quickly to identify and appoint a vice chancellor for research."

The current location of potential candidates isn't an issue, Jacobson said.

"The university looks for the best person who is available and interested," she said. "Sometimes that person is an internal candidate; sometimes they're from outside the university."

The position will be advertised nationally in academic media, including the Chronicle for Higher

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Linda Pratt
interim Arts and Sciences dean

Education.

The top ranking applicants will be brought to campus to meet faculty.

The committee will then send their final recommendations to Interim Chancellor Harvey Perlman, who will make the final decision.

Other members of the committee are:

Supriyo Bandyopadhyay, professor of electrical engineering.

Judy Diamond, professor of museum studies.

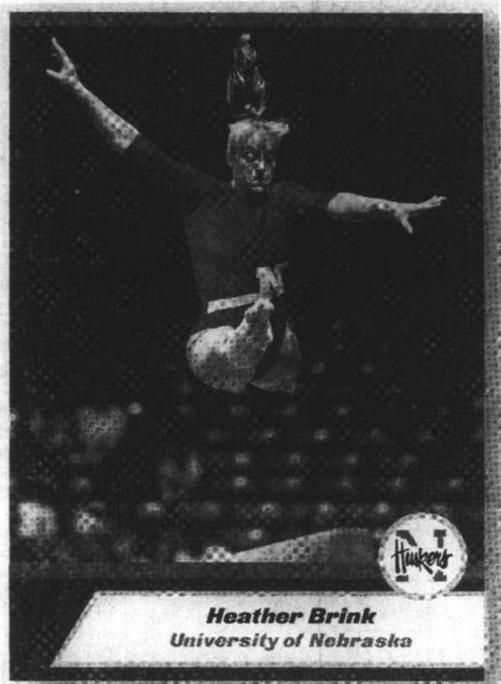
Ruben Donis, associate professor of veterinary and biomedical sciences.

Adam Green, a graduate student.

David Johnson, professor of sociology.

Charles Wood, professor in the School of Biological Sciences.

Shashi Verma, professor in the School of Natural Resources.



Congratulations to Heather Brink, Gymnastics University of Nebraska, 1999-2000 Honda Award Winner.

Heather Brink's flexibility, balance and athleticism made her worthy of her very own trading card. But it's the impressive combination of her athletic ability, her performance in school and her involvement in the community that's prompted over 900 NCAA-member schools to bestow this year's Honda Award upon her. On her behalf, American Honda will make a donation to the women's athletic program at your school. In June, Heather and 14 other winners were recognized at the NACDA Convention during the Collegiate Woman Athlete of the Year banquet. If you see Heather, by all means, congratulate her. And have her sign this trading card. Chances are, it'll be a collector's item very soon.