

ASUN senators unlike Big 12 peers

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Joel Schafer, ASUN president, said he didn't know about the perks of the position he now holds when he decided to run, but he thinks student government officers should receive compensation.

"I don't think people realize that this is a full-time job," Schafer said. "I spend about 50 to 60 hours a week working on student government and attending dinners to speak to different organizations."

Because he is a student member of the NU Board of Regents, Schafer gets a free faculty parking permit, Lied Center tickets and two tickets to each home football game.

He also gets a free trip to Husker bowl games.

Though he thinks some positions should receive compensation, Schafer said money should not become the reason students want to be involved in student government.

"I'm not outraged that I don't get paid," Schafer said. "And I don't think I would be any less or more motivated if I were paid."

Riley Peterson, first vice president for ASUN, said offering scholarships to all executives would help.

"It's kind of like a kick in the face when he (Joel) gets all his tuition paid for, and I get nothing," Peterson said.

The universities in the Big 12 that do compensate their student leaders typically use money from student fees.

The compensation student leaders receive varies from school to school.

At Iowa State University, the president, vice president and finance director receive free tuition, room and board.

Steve Medanic, finance direc-

tor for the Government of the Student Body at Iowa State, said receiving compensation enables him to concentrate on working for the students instead of at another job to help pay for school.

"It allows us to be a lot more efficient and get a lot more done," Medanic said.

Ben Golding, student body president at Iowa State, said having his tuition paid for is a necessity in order to help pay for college.

"There is no way you can be a student body president of a Big 12 school and work another job to pay for college," Golding said.

Other schools aren't as generous.

At Oklahoma State University, the president is only given \$2,400 a year, while the vice-president is given \$1,200 a year. Plus, the president and vice president receive two tickets apiece to football and basketball games.

Some students at UNL think student leaders benefit in other ways besides free tuition and football tickets.

"Nobody is making them do it," said Jamie Shelton, a senior business administration major.

Low pay, benefits lead to staff losses

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Despite the benefits the University of Houston is offering her, Rapoport said she appreciated her time at UNL.

"I met some of the most talented, most personable law professors at Nebraska," she said. "And I have many fond memories of them."

Durst said another draw to Penn State was its rank as one of the top universities in the country. It is also significantly larger than UNL, he said.

Durst said he was disheartened UNL never came through for a job offer for his wife.

"That was my biggest disappointment," Durst said. "The whole time these talks of me leaving were going on, offering my wife a job never even came up with Nebraska."

Even though they've left Nebraska, all three former deans said it was unfortunate UNL was facing such extreme

administrative turnover.

But UNL's situation is not uncommon.

Foster said that at the University of New Mexico, there are 60 to 70 provosts, and half of them have been there for fewer than two years.

New Mexico has two interim vice presidents and several open dean positions, he said.

"(Turnover) is a fact of life in many institutions," Foster said.

Durst said it was unfortunate so many administrators left UNL in so short a time, but he said the university could make itself more attractive to its talented administrators.

The university should look at improving a couple key areas, he said, including the retirement package and the salary scale.

"Salary scale is low, and that becomes a factor - especially when you get into administrative jobs," Durst said.

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THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

UNITED NATIONS — The world laid out its hopes for the third millennium Wednesday at an extraordinary convocation of leaders great and obscure, with President Clinton pleading for help in bringing peace to the Middle East before it is too late.

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About 150 world leaders — the greatest assembly of presidents, prime ministers, monarchs and other rulers in history — listened as Russian President Vladimir Putin called for an international conference to outlaw the militarization of space.

And they heard Cuban President Fidel Castro, viewed by many developing countries as their premier spokesman, decry the poverty that he says afflicts 80 percent of the world's 6 billion people and accuse three dozen wealthy nations — especially the United States — of using their power "to make us poorer, more exploited and more dependent."

The leaders observed a moment of silence to remember U.N. workers slain when their headquarters were overrun by rioters in Indonesian-controlled West Timor, then launched a three-day marathon of speeches and negotiations on the world's

most vexing problems.

Outside the hall, New York's streets gave an alternative podium to conamoners.

In the largest demonstration, about 2,000 followers of the Falun Gong spiritual movement marched from China's U.N. mission to the United Nations, protesting Beijing's crackdown against the sect. There were others who protested slavery in Sudan, and still others who objected to the Mideast peace process.

On the sidelines of the conference, the statesmen were meeting privately — Clinton with Putin and with the parties in the Middle East, Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Barak with French President Jacques Chirac, British Prime Minister Tony Blair with Saudi Arabian Crown Prince Abdullah, and many more.

Privately and publicly, they exchanged advice and warnings on Mideast peace, disarmament, access to new technology and, above all, giving billions of the world's poor a better life.

The morning started with a lemming-like migration of motorcades to Manhattan's East

Side, a traffic-strangling stream that tried New Yorkers' patience.

"If you wanna be the capital of the world, you deal with it," said Merton Alexander, 71, as he strolled through his East Side neighborhood. "It means a little more walking for me, but that's OK."

The leaders were in a festive mood — they kissed and shook hands and smiled, milling about and drinking orange juice. The summit started nearly a half-hour late.

"The new millennium is an opportune time, as any, for a fresh start," said the president of the Maldives, Maumoon Abdul Gayoom. "The gap between expectation and result must be eliminated."

The start of the meeting was overshadowed by a reminder of the United Nations' very real difficulties in a world in which violence is never far from the surface: A moment of silence in memory of U.N. aid workers killed in West Timor.

"The problems seem huge," said U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan, listing poverty, AIDS, wars and environmental degradation.

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