

# Love Library renovations underway

BY GWEN TIETGEN

With the renovations underway in the Love South Library, even the exit can be hard to find. Chanty Stovall, a reserved-book coordinator at Love Library, said some students have been confused since the main exit was switched from Love South to Love North. "Even with the signs posted, a lot of students still ask, 'How do I get out of here?'" Stovall said. Renovations in Love South started in November 1999 and are scheduled to be completed

in March 2002. Dean Waddel, UNL's chairman of branch services, said the renovations will make things easier to find in Love South, which was built in 1942. "We want to establish sight lines so you can see where you want to go and how to get there," Waddel said. Some of the renovations that will be done include installing more efficient heating, air conditioning, ventilation and plumbing systems; new elevators that will access all four floors; and a fire sprinkler system to protect the book stacks

and students. Workers will also put in new rest rooms and make upgrades in lighting and windows. "There may be some confusion, but there are signs and library staff members around to show students where things are," Waddel said. Clark deVries, project manager for the renovation project, said the construction is ahead of schedule. "We are progressing the way we anticipated," deVries said. Renovations underway inside the building are complicated because the library

remains occupied during the renovations, deVries said. "Currently, we are completing the third floor finishes including the dry wall and duct work," deVries said. Once the third floor is completed, all the offices, books and information move again. "The process is that we start at the top and work our way down," deVries said. Other renovations are being made outside of the library. Next to the link between Love North and Love South, a new emergency generator was recently installed.

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# Professors fight online notes companies

U-WIRE

DURHAM, N.C. — Since dozens of online class note-publishing companies invaded the Internet a little over a year ago, the academic world — and even one state government — have taken measures to fight back.

But because many professors are split on the issue, the responses have varied in intensity. At Yale University, undergraduates may not "represent any commercial interest" without permission, and the school was forced to take action late last year against versity.com, a company that paid students for their lecture notes.

"We attacked (versity.com) in March of this year..." said Tom Violante, assistant director for institutional issues at Yale College. "We issued a statement which said Yale was objecting to what they were doing. They complied and took down the Yale notes."

Duke University, too, issued a policy on intellectual property rights late last year following versity.com's activity on campus. The policy, which was approved by the Academic Council in May, reads: "Notes in a course shall not be taken or disseminated for commercial purposes unless approved by the instructor."

Although some schools have taken a more hard-line approach in one form or another, students at Duke still have an option to take notes with a professor's approval.

"At this point, any faculty member who does not want this sort of thing to be done in his or her class has at least implicitly the right to forbid it," said Classical Studies Professor Peter Burian, chairman of Duke's Academic Council.

"If the university had a [stricter] policy... students would be by the very nature [of it] subject to the rules of some judicial proceeding. Whether we want to go that route or not is a question that hasn't been decided."

At versity.com's new Website, www.versity.collegeclub.com, more than 200 Duke courses are listed. Provost Peter Lange said the university must test out last year's policy before even considering an expansion. The council is not slated to revisit the issue this semester.

At Harvard University, an undergraduate student can be expelled if he sells his lecture notes to anyone. And the University of California system has forbidden companies from even coming to campus without permission.

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Peter Burian

chair of Duke University's Academic Council

ing the approach that it has the right to regulate business on campus," said Jeff Gibeling, chair of the Academic Senate at UC-Davis. "You have to have a contract, the idea being to protect the intellectual property of the faculty."

Despite these intellectual-property issues, some professors said they have other ethical problems with online note-taking companies.

"Teachers should be in command of their own classrooms. The teacher doesn't only have the right but has the responsibility to teach his or her class," said Mathieu Deflem, an assistant professor of sociology at Purdue University.

"If they hook up with these companies, they're giving away their responsibilities."

Deflem has waged his own campaign against these companies and has set up a Web site with centralized information about them.

But enforcing note-taking

policies can be extremely difficult. Although students must notify Duke professors before they agree to take notes for an online company, Professor of Experimental Psychology Carl Erickson said that until receiving a phone call from The Chronicle, he was unaware there was a note-taker in his Psychology 91 class.

"It's one of those things we have little control over or seem to have little control over," Erickson said. "I've always taken it as something that's beyond the professor's control."

Although the war against the online note-taking industry has been waged largely at the academic level, it has recently moved to the government level.

Within the last two weeks, the California State Assembly and Senate passed a bill — A.B. 1773 — prohibiting the sale or distribution of class notes for commercial purposes; now, it is awaiting judgment from Gov. Gray Davis.

# Opportunities keep some at UNL

SCHOOL from page 1

do intriguing and challenging things within the Teachers College.

"There are always new opportunities to learn," he said.

O'Hanlon said he never intended to stay at the university this long and said most people don't plan it that way.

He has been involved with institution-building activities, and O'Hanlon said many administrators who stay at the university do so because they have a stake in the university's future.

That's why Omtvedt said he stayed at UNL for so many years. He thought he could positively affect the university's future, he said.

"My interest was where I could utilize my background and make a difference," Omtvedt said. "I felt I could make a difference in academic excellence and move the university forward."

Omtvedt came to UNL as

chairman of the animal science department in 1975.

During his time at the university, Omtvedt was also vice chancellor for extended education and the interim senior vice chancellor for academic affairs.

With the different positions he held, Omtvedt said he had no reason to look elsewhere for a job.

"Each one of those opportunities gave me the chance to grow professionally and be stimulated professionally," he said.

While Omtvedt enjoyed being an administrator, he said he had no desire to move up to a university chancellor or president, but said there was pressure on him to do that.

"That's not what I wanted to achieve in my career," he said. "I

*"I felt comfortable here."*

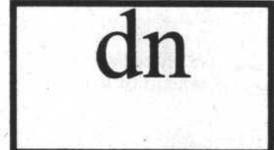
Irv Omtvedt  
Former UNL administrator

felt comfortable here."

Omtvedt said the university was a good place to work. The large number of administrative openings plaguing the university right now has little to do with UNL itself, he said.

Administrators are staying for lesser amounts of time at institutions across the country, he said.

"People aren't bailing out," Omtvedt said. "This is a good institution to be associated with."



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