

DailyNebraskan

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Regents to examine reallocation effort

■ The board also will review 11 of UNL's degree programs

BY VERONICA DAEHN

The NU Board of Regents will take a look today at the reallocation of dollars in the University of Nebraska system last year.

For the fiscal year beginning July 1, 1999, and ending June 30, 2000, the four NU campuses together redistributed more than \$11.7 million.

The University of Nebraska-Lincoln reallocated more than \$4.6 million.

The money for UNL's reallocation came from a 2.6 percent reduction in UNL's overall budget.

NU spokesman Joe Rowson said the

Regents

reallocation report was a way to let the regents know how the campuses were spending their money. No action will be taken on the report at the 1:30 p.m. meeting today.

The reallocation at the University of Nebraska has been going on for the last three years, Rowson said. It allows university officials to take money that becomes available and give it to high-priority programs.

"The university has become a lot leaner because of this," Rowson said. "Any excess funding or fat has been squeezed out with this process."

Money becomes available through

faculty positions that are not filled and by taking it from low-priority programs, he said.

UNL's 2.6 percent budget reduction resulted in the removal of the equivalent of 77.25 full-time positions. Thirty of these were faculty positions. Thirty-two jobs for students also were eliminated.

Rowson said nobody was fired because of the reduction.

Reallocation is important, Rowson said. The university needs that money to pay for operating expenses.

The money NU receives from the Legislature is only enough to pay salaries, Rowson said. All other costs need to be paid for with the yearly reallocations.

Though the reallocation started only several years ago, Rowson said he thought

it was something that was always being done.

"I hope people are always looking to be efficient," he said.

In other items on the regents' agenda, the board will look at reviews of university programs.

The Nebraska Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education requires NU to review a certain number of academic programs each year and submit its findings to the commission for approval.

Twenty existing degree programs at the University of Nebraska were to be reviewed by the end of the year. The board will review 12 at its meeting, 11 of those from UNL.

The commission looks at guidelines

such as student credit-hour production and need for the program.

"If you don't meet their standard, there would be a question as to whether to continue the course," Rowson said.

David Brinkerhoff, acting senior vice chancellor for academic affairs, said he didn't foresee a problem with any of UNL's programs being approved.

"There's a few cases where (the programs) don't meet the requirements, but those are typically new programs that haven't had time to blossom yet," Brinkerhoff said.

The regents also will take action on a proposal that would make football tickets available to the public on an individual game basis. They would be sold over the Internet.

A BIT OF HUMOR: Actor and comedian David Spade jokes with the crowd at the homecoming pep rally Thursday night at the Bob Devaney Sports Center. Students and public bought tickets to see the rally that included introductions of basketball coaches and members of the football team.



Scott McClurg/DN

Nelson defends ads, predicts Tuesday win

■ Retiring Democratic Sen. Bob Kerrey lent his support for the candidate, who leads Republican Stenberg in the polls.

BY BRIAN CARLSON

OMAHA - Five days before Election Day at a rally with supporters in an electrical workers' union hall, former Gov. Ben Nelson predicted victory in his Senate race with Republican Don Stenberg.

"Tuesday night we'll celebrate one of the most important victories we've had in the state of Nebraska," said Nelson, the Democratic nominee. "This will be a victory for the people of Nebraska."

In a copyrighted Omaha World-Herald poll published Monday, 49 percent of respondents said they would vote for Nelson, while 37 percent supported Stenberg, the attorney general.

"I'm encouraged to be up by 12, but I always keep in mind that the only poll that counts is the one on Nov. 7," Nelson said in an interview.

Several hundred supporters - including retiring Democratic Sen. Bob Kerrey, whom Nelson hopes to replace - gathered at the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers hall to show support for Nelson.

In a brief address to the gathered throng, Nelson emphasized campaign themes of reforming federal farm policy, preserving Social Security, providing a patient's bill of rights and extending prescription-drug coverage to seniors.

"I have people call my office and say: 'This month, my prescription-drug bill was more than my Social Security check,'" he said. "Isn't it awful when the pill that can save your life instead cuts into your savings?"

In an interview, Nelson also defended his campaign's recent TV commercials. The ads criticize Stenberg's proposal to allow younger workers to invest a portion of their payroll taxes in private investments.

The Nelson ads say Stenberg's plan would remove \$1 trillion from Social Security funds, forcing higher retirement ages or reduced benefits.

Stenberg has called Nelson's ads "scare tactics." He said he would ensure those at or near retirement received their promised benefits.

Nelson said Stenberg's plan may help younger workers, who would benefit from higher investment returns, but it would jeopardize the funds needed to pay promised benefits.

"I stand by my statement that his proposal would destabilize the Social Security system," Nelson said.

He also disputed Republican Party ads accusing him of siding with Vice President Al Gore against tax relief.

Nelson said he supported eliminating the inheritance tax and the so-called "marriage penalty," which forces some married couples to pay more income taxes than if they were single.

Please see NELSON on 3

Panel: Don't ignore racism

BY JILL ZEMAN

With the backdrop of the American and state of Nebraska flags, a group of eight sat in front of more than 150 people and addressed how to overcome problems of race.

The eight panelists participated in a town hall meeting Thursday in the Nebraska Union auditorium as part of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln Hendricks Symposium.

The symposium was created to support the exploration of controversial political issues in a non-partisan manner.

The theme of the meeting was "Overcoming Problems of Race: Are Law, Politics and Protests Enough?"

John Hibbing, political science professor, and Miguel Carranza, associate professor of sociology and ethnic studies, represented UNL in the discussion.

The other six panelists came from across the country to discuss and represent their backgrounds.

Other panel participants included Mack Jones of Clark Atlanta University in Atlanta, Linda Williams of the University of Maryland, Rick Thomas of the Santee Sioux Tribe of Nebraska, Eduardo Bonilla-Silva of Texas A&M University in College Station, William Nelson of Ohio State University and Dianne Pinderhughes of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

The discussion was moderated by Lucius Barker from Stanford University in Stanford, Calif.

The panelists agreed racism existed in the United States, and while law, politics and protests are helpful, they don't solve the problem.

Please see RACE on 5

Osborne's foe accepts 'Other Guy' status

Editor's note: This is the last of two stories on the 3rd District Congressional candidates. Thursday, Tom Osborne was profiled.

BY TIM KARSTENS

The Saint came marching in. No blaring trumpets or angelic proclamations, just a barely discernible buzz.

The Other Guy stopped and wheeled around. With a wave of his hand - part exasperation, part simple acknowledgment - he mumbled: "There he is."

Silhouetted against an intense midday sun outside the tent at an agricultural trade show in Grand Island, the Saint smiled and chatted quietly, autographing hats and plastic tote bags.

He wore a crisp white shirt, neatly pressed olive-green pants and a blue and gold diamond-patterned tie not a centimeter below or above the belt line. It was perfection concocted by Heaven's spin doctors, perfect as going 13-0.

The Other Guy had white, tousled hair and wore a baggy white shirt that hung over his too-long gray pants, which hung over sensible black Rockports.

"Come on, let's go meet him," the Other Guy said. Soon, the Saint craned his neck and smiled broadly, extending a firm, sweat-free handshake. "Hello, I'm Tom Osborne."

And so it was, two men - the Saint, Republican Tom Osborne, and the Other Guy, Democrat Rollie Reynolds - vying for the hearts and minds of Nebraska's 3rd Congressional District. Two men on vastly different trajectories who want to go to Washington. Two men standing face to face in the blast-furnace heat of early autumn in rural Nebraska. Two men who have virtually nothing in common.

One has been to Tokyo, the White House, Miami and New York. The other to Broken Bow, Ogallala, Table Rock and McCool Junction. One is world-famous; the other has to introduce himself in his



Steven Bender/DN

own hometown. One played professional football; the other went to the Korean War. One was a legendary football coach at the University of Nebraska; the other attended the University of Nebraska College of Agriculture.

One is a sure bet. The other has no chance.

It is part Shakespeare, part David and Goliath, part Twilight Zone. And when the votes are tallied on Nov. 7, it could be the most lopsided election in Nebraska political history. Whatever you choose to call it, it is not 3rd District Congressional Nebraska politics as usual.

In one corner is Tom Osborne, the 63-year-old Republican candidate from Hastings by way of LeMoyne, his adopted 3rd District home. He was a

three-time national-champion football coach of the beloved Nebraska Cornhuskers, the university where he earned a doctorate in educational psychology.

And he is the current paradigm of attributes Nebraskans feel makes Nebraska the Good Life: hard-working, God-fearing, trustworthy. In Osborne's sprawling 3rd District, a 63,000-square-mile electoral behemoth the size of Iowa, Republicans outnumber Democrats 2-1.

Here, Dr. Tom is loved and revered. Parents name their children after him. Even detractors - if you can

!Please see REYNOLDS on 5