At its March 4 meeting on the UNK campus, the BOR heard the following presentations by UNK students and faculty:

“Partnerships with the Greater Community” showcases the work of Professors Tim Burkink (CB&T), Kate Heelan (COE), Paul Burger (NSS), Tami Moore (CB&T), and Richard Schuessler (CFAH).

“Advances in Carillon Technology: Repairing the UNK Bell Tower” describes how UNK students Aaron Graddy, Dustin Kozal, Davin Jones, and Brett Chloupek designed and completed a student government project to repair the Carillon, which had been silent since 2002.

“Enlightened: A Partnership between Interior Design (A Priority Program of Excellence) and the Calvin T. Ryan Library” describes how students in FSID 318 undertook a renovation of certain areas of the Library.

All booklets containing these presentation materials will be placed in the Faculty Senate archives.

March 5, 2005

Items of interest to UNK:

1. Bonnie Payne, Campus Events and Reservations Coordinator, received a KUDOS award.

2. The BOR accepted the gifts from the University Foundation for the renovation of Foster Field.

3. The BOR approved the contract with the NU Foundation for the purchase of Real Property located in Kearney. This property will be used as “swing space” for 60-70 students during residence hall renovations.


5. The Board approved naming the spillway bridge on the UNK campus the “Alvie and Ruth Payne Family Bridge,” expressing on behalf of UNK “its deepest gratitude and appreciation for their continued generosity and support of the University.”

6. Much discussion of LB 239, which calls for resident tuition for undocumented alien students. According to the provisions of LB 239, alien students would be eligible for in-state tuition under the following conditions:
   A. They have applied for lawful status under federal law and have established a home in
Nebraska for at least 180 days or
B. They have resided with a parent or guardian while attending high school in Nebraska and have
   received a high school diploma or equivalent
   resided in Nebraska at least 3 years
   registered in a Nebraska college
   filed (or plan to do so) for resident status

The Academic Affairs subcommittee of the BOR proposed the following policy statement, reprinted here in its entirety:

   Education is the key to improving economic opportunity for individuals, and increasing the level of educational attainment in the state is critical to the economy and quality of life in Nebraska. Therefore, it is the policy of the Board of Regents to support affordable access to higher education for all Nebraskans who are prepared for admission to the university. The Board has special concern for providing increased educational opportunities for underrepresented minorities, so that all people of Nebraska may enjoy the demonstrable benefits of a quality college education. While the Board of Regents in no way condones illegal immigration, it does support the extension of educational opportunity, at residential tuition rates, to undocumented immigrants who have attended and graduated from Nebraska high schools and have officially initiated action to become permanent residents of Nebraska.

This statement is not tied to the details of a particular bill; the BOR does not write legislation. Instead, the Board would vote to affirm or reject the policy statement. The bill passed with six ‘aye’ votes and two abstentions, which will be recorded as ‘no’ votes. UNK Student Regent Brad Bohn spoke in favor of the policy statement.

7. The BOR distributed a “Summary of President Bush’s FY06 Budget Proposal.”

   Impact on UNK:
   A. The National Science Foundation Division of Undergraduate Education (DUE) program would experience a 12% ($18.67 million) cut. DUE serves as the NSF’s focal point for improving undergraduate science, technology, engineering and mathematics education. The proposed budget cuts funding to Math and Science partnerships grant awards to improve student outcomes in math and science for students in grades K-12 through partnerships with higher education.
   B. Cuts in agricultural research would impact external funding of the UNK biology department.
   C. Teacher Quality Enhancement Grants -- proposed elimination
   D. Fund for the Improvement of Postsecondary Education -- 86% reduction from $163 million to $22 million. Would negative impact UNK, UNL, and UNO teacher education programs.

Martha Kruse, recorder