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FROM THE DEAN’S DESK
Start to finish describes it all

T he Dean’s Office of the College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources has developed a publication, From Start to Finish, that describes all of the academic majors in the areas of agricultural sciences and natural resources at all Nebraska community colleges, state colleges and universities, and private colleges and universities.

The publication, made available in April, was compiled from information furnished by all of the colleges and universities in the state, and serves as a succinct guide for persons seeking careers in agricultural sciences and natural resources.

From Start to Finish grew out of the unique concept of a network of colleges and universities across Nebraska that would allow a person to begin a college major at one campus and transfer to another to complete a degree. This start-to-finish network permits citizens to pursue majors in the areas of agricultural sciences and natural resources from numerous locations across the state.

Place-bound people can receive some courses through television and at-home study. Most, however, would need to travel short distances to receive a full two years’ study for an associate degree. With the exception of a few natural resources, environmental studies and agribusiness majors at public and private colleges and universities, BS, MS and doctoral degrees would be taken from the College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

The network provides for further innovative educational programs; and, in the future, more baccalaureate, master’s and doctoral degrees may be taken at other sites throughout the state.

To assure continuing quality of all majors and the appropriateness of transferability of courses between campuses, representatives from all of the campuses offering majors in the areas of agricultural sciences and natural resources meet at least once a year to conduct an in-depth review of the programs.

From Start to Finish highlights over 150 majors, embracing agribusiness, animal science, biochemistry, biological systems engineering, environmental studies, horticulture, veterinary science and water science, as well as numerous transfer and pre-professional programs available.

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Football Reunion September 25

The annual CASNR football reunion will be September 25, 1993. Details and registration forms will be mailed to CASNR Alumni Association members soon. If you have not received a brochure by mid-August, contact the Alumni office at (402) 472-2841.

Alumni Awards nominations due August 1. See page 4.

The reality of the start-to-finish network and the resultant reviews and publication of From Start to Finish is the product of the work of CASNR Associate Dean Steve Walker, Alice Mizerski and Billie Lefholz.

To receive a copy of From Start to Finish, write to Alice Mizerski, Dean’s Office, CASNR, 103 Ag Hall, UNL, Lincoln, NE 68583-0702 or call (402) 472-2201 or 800-742-8800 and ask for extension 2201.

Donald M. Edwards
Dean

I want to thank the three board members whose terms end July 1. They are Paul Kenney of Kearney, Mark Kubik of Auburn, and Mark Moravek of Grand Island. These board members have added many ideas, spent hours of their time and traveled many miles providing support for the Ag Alumni Association and the College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources. Best wishes to them -- and thanks!

We held our annual basketball event in January. It was structured differently this year, as we joined with five other UNL college alumni groups at the Devaney Center. Many of the alum participants were able to visit with Chancellor Graham Spanier one-on-one. Also, Jeff Smith, an assistant NU basketball coach, gave us insight to the game to be played that day against Missouri. It was an enjoyable time, and we had a rousing game watching Nebraska defeat Missouri in overtime.

Mentor program to continue

We have completed the first year of the Alumni and Students Associating Professionally (ASAP) mentor program. Students in the college were aligned with alumni in their field of study and interest. We have completed a critique of the program and found the students and professionals feel it is a program we should continue. The consensus indicate

the program has benefits for the students and is an enjoyable for the mentors in the working world as well.

The purpose is to help a student with career choices, goal setting, “real-life experiences” out of the classroom, and interaction with graduates of UNL’s Ag College.

We continue to need your help and support as alumni to be mentors. Please call Alice Kadavy at 402-472-2841 if you are interested in becoming a mentor. We want to broaden our occupational base and would appreciate your help during the coming year.

Graduation awards presented

By the time you read this, we will have held another Spring Graduation Celebration event. It was held at the Beef Barbecue Pit on the State Fairgrounds prior to the graduation (Continued on page 2)
Budget reductions have impact on academics

By Dean Donald Edwards

Over the past two years, the University of Nebraska-Lincoln has experienced a 4.5 percent budget reduction (about $6 million). Of that amount, approximately $2 million has been taken from the budgets of the Institute of Agricultural and Natural Resources. The IANR reductions have been taken from teaching, research, extension and services, and have had a distinct bearing on ongoing programs.

Impact on academics

The budget reductions have had a great impact on the academic programs that provide educational opportunities to undergraduate and graduate students in the College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources (CASNR).

A goal of CASNR, IANR and UNL is to provide the best quality education to citizens at an affordable price. Unfortunately, tuition has been increased to offset some of these reductions. The enrollments in CASNR have increased about 20 percent over the past two years. This has been a mixed opportunity; with more students, more resources are needed. However, with more students, tuition income has also increased. What impact have the budget reductions had upon the undergraduate and graduate programs in CASNR?

Equipment purchases down

For all academic programs, there has been hiring freeze which has cut the amount of equipment purchased. In 1992-93, no funds were available to purchase new equipment, and very few dollars were available for maintenance of existing equipment.

Teaching assistants are few, with further decreased funds for teaching assistants for 1993-94.

No computer replacement was possible in 1992-93. CASNR has prided itself on being able to provide one computer in “open” no-fee laboratories for about every 15 students (adequate for advanced accessibility to computers). Undoubtedly, in the future, fees will need to be added to maintain computers. Fees will become common in many laboratories. Today, only a few classes have fees.

More temporary part-time instructors will be hired to teach some classes. These temporary, part-time instructors will be hired only if tuition income generated by the class will cover the cost of salary.

Animal Science programs reduced

In the Animal Science Department, the reduction of faculty in poultry management will reduce undergraduate and graduate course offerings. Poultry management graduates are in great demand. A consortium of Midwest Universities will be offering two poultry management courses via telecommunications, namely AG*SAT.

Students in Nebraska will be able to continue to specialize in poultry science by taking two poultry management courses by AG*SAT and by spending part of one summer at an Institute on poultry, probably at the University of Arkansas. Then rest of the summer will be spent on internships.

Because students will not have an income for the summer, private support for this program is necessary.

With the reduction in the beef cattle genetics program in Animal Science, the graduate program will also be reduced.

Judging and demonstration activities have been reduced -- most noticeable is the deletion of the dairy judging team.

Agronomy courses suffer, too

Reduction of funds in the Agronomy Department have eliminated undergraduate and graduate courses in soil microbiology and a graduate course in advanced plant breeding. The agricultural microbiology course has been dropped by the School of Biological Systems. This affects many students.

The Department of Agronomy is turning to Kansas State University to obtain a soil microbiology class via telecommunications.

Cuts felt College-wide

In Agricultural Economics and Agribusiness, a computer technician position may not be filled. The result is that a popular computer class may have enrollment limited.

A graduate course in marketing may not be offered.

The Department of Veterinary and Biomedical Sciences will not be able to offer a pathogen microbiology laboratory. Operating expenses to support student advising in the department are needed. In light of the increased interest in veterinary science, advising becomes increasingly important.

Majors offered through the Department of Biological Systems Engineering (Ag Engineering) will be touched by the budget reductions.

Enrollments in the new Biological Systems, Water Science, Mechanized Systems Management majors, and the retained Agricultural Engineering majors are increasing. Lack of funds may result in larger classes and more use of interactive telecommunications. An animal environment management course has been dropped. A plant and animal environmental engineering course is taught by telecommunication. And, with the retirement of our safety specialist, emphasis on safety in courses has decreased.

More?

In the Department of Horticulture, courses on vegetables and woody materials are not being taught because of lack of faculty.

The Department of Agricultural Leadership, Education and Communications (Ag Ed) dropped a graduate course in beginning teaching, as well as international and extension education. Faculty time spent with beginning teachers in secondary schools has been greatly reduced. In-service for agricultural education secondary teachers has been eliminated. Three (Ag Ed) positions have been reduced to academic-year appointments.

Other departments, such as Food Science and Technology; Biochemistry; Biometry; Entomology; Plant Pathology; Agricultural Meteorology; Forestry, Fisheries and Wildlife; and the CASNR Dean’s Office have also experienced a reduction in teaching resources.

CASNR still aggressive

While the new budget reductions mean fewer options available to students, CASNR is moving forward aggressively to address new student needs and opportunities.

CASNR is committed to providing quality educational programs to all qualified students. The College continues to offer majors leading to degrees in agricultural sciences and natural resources that are among the best in the nation. To assure that quality programs will be available to future students, we need your support.

A call, or letter, to your state senator encouraging continued support of IANR and UNL programs is greatly needed.

We cannot continue to take budget cuts and maintain the quality programs Nebraska deserve. Your continued gifts for scholarships and other programs are essential.

In future issues of The SOWER, we will share with you some of the new programs being developed in the College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources.

The SOWER is published three times per year by and for alumni of the College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources, University of Nebraska-Lincoln. CASNR Alumni Association is located at the UNL Alumni Association offices, Wick Alumni Center, 1520 R Street, Lincoln, NE 68588-0216. SOWER editor: David E. Parrish; artist: Kevin Wright; Association coordinator: Alice Kadavy.
In Memoriam

William Buford Lancaster, '29, died January 31, 1993 at the age of 84 in Sacramento, California. He was a FarmHouse member.

Merritt Plantz is now enjoying traveling and family research after a career that included military service in Europe during WWII and in Korea, a 20-year career with the Soil Conservation Service and, from 1976 to 1990, as owner/operator of an electronics store in Ainsworth. He and wife, Mary, have three daughters, all graduates of UNL. Harold Stevens and Warren Sahs received UNL Alumni Achievement awards at the Golden Anniversary Half Century Club reunion in May. Stevens is extension agent emeritus (Dawson County) and Sahs is emeritus superintendent of IANR’s Research and Development Center at Mead. Stevens also received the Pioneer Irrigation award from the Nebraska Irrigation Association in March.

M.F. Cadwallader is retired and living in Liberty, Missouri.

Dale Wolf served as the 70th Governor of Delaware from January 3 to January 19. He was elected Lieutenant Governor in 1988.

Samuel Wiggins retired in January as principal horticulturist with USDA/CSRS, after a 41-year career including service in the U.S. Army, and work at the Universities of Wisconsin, Iowa State, Oklahoma State and Vermont (where he served 18 years). He is the son of C.C. Wiggins, chairman of the Department of Horticulture and Forestry at UNL from 1924 to 1956. He and wife, Ruth, have two sons and four grandchildren.

Mark Keller received the 1993 AgriBusiness Pioneer Award from the Columbus (Nebraska) Area Chamber of Commerce.

Douglas Nelson, an entomology major, is retired and lives at Amelia Island, Florida.

David Austin is retired and living in Thousand Oaks, California. He writes, “My college degree allowed me opportunities that I would not have otherwise had, such as a commission in the Army on graduation, entry in the agricultural industry with a major corporation, and finally a secure pension and retirement. Along the way, as a sideline, I raised a herd of purebred Simmental cattle. The degree from the University of Nebraska was well worth the effort.”

Burt Carter raises wheat, cattle and certified seed on his farm near Chappell. He is past president of the Nebraska Crop Improvement Association. He and his wife of nearly 40 years, Shirley (Parson) have five grandchildren.

Awards

Cal Kuskas has worked (Kuska/Associates) in the area of composting and soil bioremediation in the U.S. and overseas for over 20 years; the most recent accomplishment – establishment of a base-wide compost program for the U.S. Air Force Academy, the first in the military. He lives in Greenwood Village, Colorado.

Donald Pohlman was installed as the 127th Grand Master of the Grand Lodge AF & AM of Nebraska in February. The Stanton native, who now lives in Norfolk, served with the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve and the Iowa National Guard.

William Ramaccio is an agent for Security Mutual Life of Nebraska. He lives in Omaha.

Elden Svec received his Doctor of Veterinary Medicine degree from Oklahoma State University in 1963 and, from then until 1980, practiced large animal medicine in Scriber. He continues to be a volume swine producer. He and wife, Mary (UNL ’57), have six sons and live in Scriber.

Norman Husa farms and grows certified seed near Banneston. He is treasurer of the Nebraska Crop Improvement Association, and is secretary of the Nebraska Development, Utilization, Marketing Soybean Checkoff Board.

David C. Nelson was on the faculties of North Dakota State University and Moorhead State University, where he was appointed Dean of Business Industry and Applied Programs in 1975. He retired this year. In between, he served two terms as a consultant in Cameroon, first with the Southern University staff and, from 1985 to 1987 with the University of Florida. He now lives near Detroit Lakes, Minnesota, where he enjoys gardening and fishing – and he hopes to return to Africa in some professional capacity. He has two children and one grandchild.

Arlen Skorr teaches economics at Mankato State (Minnesota) University and is a contractor for homes, apartments and office buildings. He lives in Mankato.

Sheila Larsen lives in Omaha, where she is a project manager for a computer organization. She received a MALS from the University of Missouri at Columbia and a Master of Business Administration degree from the University of Nebraska at Omaha.

Harlan Schott is currently senior vice president of Security National Banks in Superior, Lawrence and Jansen, Nebraska. He was previously vice president and ag loan manager with a Vermillion, South Dakota bank. He has two sons, one a junior at UNL and the other a 1993 incoming freshman. He lives in Superior.

What have you been up to since graduation?

The ALUMNI NOTES section of The SOWER continues to be the best-read part of our effort to keep alumni informed about CASNR, UNL and ag grads.

Studies over the years have shown that information published about alumni for alumni is indeed, well-received. Everyone wants to know about former classmates.

You may have, in the past, received a request for information about yourself in the mail. If you did, and responded, take another minute to update us all on what’s been happening in your life. If you received a request and did not respond, it’s time you did.

If you have NOT received a request for information about yourself, your career(s), your family, your interests and your observations about college life on East Campus... consider this a formal request. A few minutes of your time and a 29-cent stamp can/will make The SOWER more enjoyable to your friends and classmates.

Reminiscences about college life, as well as photos, are welcome, too! (Be sure to include your class year and major(s).)

Please clip and return this form to: The Sower, CASNR Alumni Association, Wick Alumni Center, 1520 R Street, P.O. Box 880216, Lincoln, NE 68588-0216.

SPRING 1993
News notes

Hall of Ag Achievement recognizes two CASNR alumni

The Nebraska Hall of Agricultural Achievement honored two Ag College alums this spring.

Dayle Williamson, director of Nebraska Natural Resources Commission and David McGill, professor of agronomy emeritus at CASNR, were selected to the Hall for their contributions to the state’s ag industry.

Williamson, a Fillmore county native, graduated in 1953, and after service in the U.S. Army, worked with the Cooperative Extension Service in Gage and Jefferson counties. He was instrumental in the formation of the state’s natural resources districts. He is also a retired brigadier general from the Nebraska National Guard.

McGill, ‘49 (PhD Iowa State, ’54), joined the CASNR Department of Agronomy as a research technician in plant breeding and crop management. Since then, he has taught and counseled over 8,000 ag students.

IANR’s Team Award includes alumni

The Integrated Resources Management Team, organized to help Nebraska beef producers optimize efficiency in cattle production rates, has received the 1993 IANR Team Effort Award.

Team members include staff from Lincoln, Concord, North Platte and Scottsbluff as well as agricultural agents throughout the state.

CASNR alumni members of the team are beef specialists Rick Rasby, ’80, and Jim Gosey, PhD ’76; beef physiologist Jim Kinder, ’73; beef geneticist Merlyn Nielsen, ’70; former reproductive systems analyst Sara Azzam, MS ’82, PhD ’85; and former farm management specialist Marshall Frazier, ’83.

Alumni extension team members are Dennis Bauer, ’75, MS ’78, Ainsworth; Mick Everton, ’63, MS ’68, Kimball; Terry Gompet, MS ’70, Center; Paul Hay, MS ’75, Beatrice; Larry Howard, ’80, West Point; Kevin Kock, ’84, MS ’90, North Platte; Russ Lang, ’56, MS ’58, Fremont; John Lambert, ’64, MS ’66, Ogallala; Marshall Logan, ’66, MS ’73, North Platte; Steve Melvin, ’84, MS ’85, Hebron; Phil Menke, ’65, Broken Bow; Noel Mues, ’67, MS ’72, Beaver City; Steve Pritchard, ’78, MS ’87, Burwell; Dewey Teel, ’69, MS ’70, Neligh; and Bruce Telfer, ’75, MS ’78, Lexington.

Through the IRM effort, a cow/calf program for record keeping called PC-Cowherd was developed to help producers monitor their information in microcomputers.

The award carries a $10,000 stipend to help underwrite the team’s work.

Alums named to AgRelations posts

Rob Raun, ’51; and Les Sheffield, ’50, MS ’64, PhD ’71; have been elected to the two top posts of the Nebraska AgRelations Council.

Raun, Minden farmer and past director of the Nebraska Department of Agriculture was elected president after serving a two-year term as vice president.

He is a former NU Regent, and currently serves as director of the Kellogg Foundation.

Sheffield, newly elected NAC vice president, has been a UNL staff member for over three decades. He is professor emeritus of agricultural economics and is coordinator of Water Center outreach programs.

McGill was, for many years, special projects coordinator for the CASNR Alumni Association.

Waldo receives NAC Award for 1993

The 1993 Ag Relations Award was presented to Bill Waldo, ’34, DeWitt, for his leadership in the state’s ag industry.

The Nebraska AgRelations Council presented the award to Waldo, one of many he has carried over the years for his leadership efforts. Those efforts include legislative leadership in the establishment of the Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources within UNL.

He began his career as a voc ag instructor, then was a County Agent in Franklin and Cass counties before founding Waldo Farms, the world’s largest recorder of SPF Duroc swine. He also was a state senator and NCIA certified seed grower, and was a charter member of the Nebraska Council on Public Relations for Agriculture, the predecessor of NAC.

Dairy Group looking for college milk product testers

If you were a participant in collegiate dairy products evaluations contests, the Dairy and Food Industries Supply Association is looking for you.

The DFISA is planning a reunion of contest participants during the Food and Dairy Expo ’93 in Atlanta, Georgia next October. If, as a student, you “tasted” butter, cheese, milk, ice cream or cottage cheese in a judging contest, and are interested in the reunion, contact the DFISA at 6245 Executive Blvd., Rockville, MD 20852.

(Continued on page 5)
NEWS NOTES
(Continued from page 4)

Three alums named to Hall of Ag Achievement

Three CASNR alumni were among the seven recently inducted into the Nebraska Hall of Agricultural Achievement. Cylnt Bish, '43, Lincoln, is a former ag extension agent in Hamilton, Adams and Lancaster counties. He was part of Backyard Farmer team on Nebraska ETV for 25 years. Keith Gregory, '49, Hastings, was a research geneticist with ARS, USDA at UNL, and was director of the Roman Hruska U.S. Animal Research Center at Clay Center from 1966-77. Donald Magdanze, '38, Omaha, is retired chief operating officer of the National Livestock Feeders Association. Earlier, he was secretary-treasurer of the Nebraska Livestock Feeders Association. Other NHAA inductees are Harry Cullin, Hemingford; Barbara Marcy, Chadron; Ivan Rush, Scottsbluff; and Elaine Stuh, Bradshaw.

Food Processing Center celebrates 10th anniversary

It was a decade ago when U.S. Senator Bob Kerrey dedicated the UNL Food Processing Center. Alums who haven't been on East Campus in that time would no longer recognize Filley Hall—which now includes pilot plant facilities for dairy processing, vegetable processing, grain milling, fermentation and packaging, AND the beloved Dairy Store.

The concept of the Food Processing Center was an outgrowth of collaboration between UNL and the Nebraska Department of Economic Development. It is one of a kind in the world, and is funded in part by grants from USDA Smith-Lever funds.

ALUMNI NOTES
(Continued from page 3)

California Pacific Medical Center in San Francisco, California.

Mark Caspers joined his father in the real estate, appraisal and auction business in 1987, when they opened an office in Auburn. He writes, "Things haven't changed much since then, except it seems like we just keep getting busier and busier."

Sheila O'Connor is a commercial account executive with a major Lincoln printing firm. She is active in community affairs -- a member of the executive council of the Updowntowners; a trustee for St. Monica's Home for women in need of rehabilitation; a member of Lincoln's C of C hospitality and membership services committees -- and president-elect of the Love Memorial Hall Alumni Association. "Yes," she writes, "I was a Love Hall Lover! Some people say I moved to Lincoln to attend college and never left -- which is partly true. I am a 'perpetual student,' taking classes which apply to my professional and personal well-being."

Pam (Hein) Hanson was married this spring and is currently employed as a merchandise distributor manager in Duluth, Minnesota. She is looking for employment in the food/meat industry (her major) in northern Minnesota/Wisconsin or possibly going back to school. She and husband, Clair, live in Superior, Wisconsin.

Holly Elfeldt moved to Rhode Island this spring to work for Monsanto as a sales representative for New England. She plans to marry this September, in Sutherland, Nebraska. She lives in Portland, RI.

Lyle Roe is currently ag extension agent with the University of Wisconsin extension service in Ladysmith, WI.

Michael Stigge, a new animal science grad, was named Outstanding Male Athlete of the Year by UNL. He was the punter on the Cornhusker football team.

Another campus landmark gone

The state champion hackberry tree, which has stood sentinel-like next to the Ag Communications building at the south end of East Campus mall, is gone. Old age and disease finally claimed the landmark tree, which one alum told The SOWER was an inspiration, since it was there when he was a student and was still there and growing every time he re-visited the campus over half a century. The hackberry, which had been cabled and braced over the years, stood 74-feet tall and was 13-feet in circumference. Its crown spread 78-feet. UNL staff in Landscape Services worked three days cutting it down and another three grinding out the stump.

The tree was estimated to be 80 to 100 years old, and valued at over $24,000. Its exact age could not be determined because the heartwood had rotted, preventing the counting of inner rings. The same alum mentioned above said, "We haven't just lost a tree. We've lost a friend."

Enrollment increases due in part to transfers

Student enrollment in CASNR has been steadily increasing, and a major reason has been transferring-in students, according to Cindy Cammack, CASNR recruitment and placement coordinator. (See Dean's column, page 1.)

This spring, the third annual conference of UNL, state college and community college representatives reiterates the importance of a student's right to transfer credits from a local institution to CASNR. Representatives at the 1993 conference were from Peru State College; Southeast Community College in Lincoln; Metro Community College (Omaha) Elkhorn campus; Central Community College (Platte campus in Columbus), and the Grand Island and Hastings campuses; as well as UNL.

The transfer program (called 2+2 as described in previous SOWERS) helps both the traditional and non-traditional student who has a family or full-time job in a community distant from the UNL campus.

Steve Waller, associate dean of CASNR, said "There is a whole network of educational opportunity in agricultural sciences and natural resources throughout the state where traditional and non-tradition students can enter." For CASNR, the transfer option is a high priority.

"HUMMER" replaced "JEEP" and now going civilian

By Cheryl Alberts, IANR News Writer

Nothing since the 1970s has caused such a stir at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln Tractor Testing Laboratory. Until early April, that is. In the '70s the attraction was Russian-made tractors; in 1993 it was the Hummer. The Hummer was among four vehicles tested at the UNL lab through a contract with Successful Farming magazine. Essentially a Jeep replacement, the military has used the Hummer equivalent since 1985. It’s also been on the civilian market for about six months....

In the past, Successful Farming sponsored farm-use tests for garden tractors and All-Terrain-Vehicles with pickups being this year’s feature according to their senior editor, a former Hampton, Nebraska, resident.... The four vehicles -- Dodge, Chevrolet and Ford pickups, plus the Hummer -- underwent three days of testing.... (Continued on page 6)
Internships increasing for CASNR students

Potential internship opportunities, which mainly translate into summer jobs for CASNR students, have increased from previous years.

In addition to a significant increase in the number of employers contacting CASNR with available internships, (recruitment and placement coordinator Cindy) Cammack said the number of company representatives coming to campus to interview students has increased...compared to previous years.

Some paid internships and some permanent positions are available, she (Cammack) said. Internships can provide valuable career experience as well as sometimes lead to further company opportunities...

Biochem starting scholar program

By Vicki Miller
IANR Science Writer

Beginning in the fall, some freshmen majoring in biochemistry will form research partnerships that could last throughout their undergraduate careers. A $40,000 grant from the Camille and Henry Dreyfus Teacher-Scholar Grant Program in Chemical Sciences will support the program for three years. The program aims to enhance undergraduate biochemistry majors' interest in science, provide mentoring and involve them in research work throughout their undergraduate years, said Herman Knoche, biochemistry professor and chief advisor to undergraduate biochemistry students.

"Mentoring is a powerful teaching tool," Knoche said, and a major component of graduate studies in science. "This program will expand that mentoring to undergraduates."

Students will experience first-hand the excitement and challenges of science by working beside researchers in UNL's Center for Biological Chemistry, Knoche said. Typically, participants will enter the program as freshmen and continue working in the same laboratory until graduation.

Approximately eight freshmen will be selected to participate annually, beginning with the Fall 1993 semester. Selection will be based primarily on previous academic performance.

Participants will work about 15 hours weekly during the school year in faculty members' laboratories. They will earn wages and be encouraged to enroll for undergraduate research credit, Knoche said.

Initially, students will assist with ongoing research as they learn laboratory procedures from research team members. Their responsibilities will grow with the knowledge and experience. By their junior or senior years, participants should have their own research projects and may write scientific papers on their work.

"They will become a member of a small scientific community," Knoche said. "This should give them a greater sense of belonging" as they explore the work they eventually may pursue as professional research biochemists.

Daily contacts with scientists should afford ample opportunities for mentoring and encouragement of students' scientific interests, Knoche said. Laboratory work experience also will give students a head start if they pursue graduate work.

Vet Science changes name

By Dave Roberts
IANR News Assistant

The word biomedical has been added to the name of the Department of Veterinary Science to better convey the mission of the unit at UNL. Dr. John Schmitz, head of the Department of Veterinary and Biomedical Sciences, said the new name approved by the Board of Regents will benefit all department programs.

The department is unique among veterinary science departments in the United States because of the scope of its mission, Schmitz said. The mission includes the new veterinary medical student clinical teaching and related research and service missions of the Great Plains Veterinary Education Center (GPVEC) at Clay Center; research, extension, and diagnostic programs; and traditional graduate and undergraduate teaching programs.

He said the faculty, who sought the name alteration, believed that the previous name conveyed a narrow, stereotypical image that related only to traditional livestock and poultry disease research and teaching activities.

Adding biomedical to the department name reflects the changes that have occurred in recent years through the biotechnology initiative and the development of GPVEC, Schmitz said. "It represents the broader scope of the department's expertise."

Eight of the department's 17 research projects are currently supported by USDA, the National Institutes of Health and the Nebraska Department of Health.

The department currently advises about 200 undergraduate students and 43 graduate students with 22 seeking doctorates. Veterinary research began at UNL in 1886, when the Board of Regents authorized the investigation of animal diseases and instructed the dean of the School of Agriculture to hire a veterinarian to conduct research on methods of controlling hog cholera.

In 1886, the department was known as the Pathobiology Laboratory; in 1894, the Department of Animal Pathology and in 1918, the Department of Animal Pathology and Hygiene. The Department of Veterinary Science name was adopted in 1960.