Motion of no confidence a rarity

New general studies program sparks serious debate on April Fool's Day

BY ERIK DODGE
Antelope Staff

The four-hour marathon Faculty Senate meeting on April Fool’s Day proved concern about the general studies process was no joke, even though the vote of no confidence failed to pass.

The new general studies program to be implemented fall 2010 is the goal that stirred emotional debate from Faculty Senators.

Approval of the various courses and structure of the new program has been the responsibility of the Academic Affairs Committee, within the Faculty Senate, and the General Studies Council. Concern with the process resulted in a motion by professor of history and Faculty Senator at large Dr. Roger Davis, for a vote of no confidence in the general studies process.

The vote failed to pass, but the Faculty Senate did pass a motion by chemistry professor Scott Darveau: According to the draft of the meeting’s minutes by Faculty Senate secretary Aaron Dimock, the motion read: “That the Faculty Senate work with the Executive Council and the General Studies Council to commission a joint committee of the Faculty Senate and General Studies Council…”

This body will be charged with addressing any problematic issues remaining in the general studies program.

Several Faculty Senators felt the process had been rushed and favored taking more time to address lingering problems. However, implementation of the new general studies program is under a tight deadline according to Executive Council and General Studies Council member Daren Snider. A report showing the university has resolved the problems with assessment in

FACULTY SENATE, PAGE 11
Foursquare hits the social network scene

BY ALEX MORALES
Antelope Staff

“Serendipity,” a film released in 2001 featuring John Cusack and Kate Beckinsale tells a story of the spontaneity that takes place in the social world before the use of technology. In fact, the lack of technology leads the events in the film to fall magically into place, carrying the viewer on a roller coaster of “what if.”

Odds are in real life most of us won’t experience our ‘cupidial’ social encounters this way. But certainly, we have all caught a glimpse into chance encounters. You know when you see someone; eye contact is made for a split second. You hardly remember the time or the place, but you remember the feeling, a glimpse at serendipity and a heart-sinking feeling that screams, “Yep, you probably won’t see that person ever again.”

Precisely what makes the social scene what it ought to be, a scene of many uncertainties and slight feelings of elation. Perhaps a hopeless version of the social world, I’ll admit. The root cause: the excess implementation of technology to the social scene. It’s turned chance encounters into planned serendipity, and let’s face it, with many aspects geared towards finding that match, or for that matter, many matches.

Well, social networking has recently acquired yet another game, and it’s quickly gaining popularity. Remember that playground favorite, foursquare? It’s making resurgence. But this time around Foursquare is making its comeback on the virtual playground, competing with and joining the ranks with new favorites like Facebook, Twitter and Myspace.

In short it could be described as a glorified Facebook status update or Tweet. But there is more to it than that. Dennis Crowley, co-founder of Foursquare and an interactive telecommunications connoisseur, best describes it as “a little bit of a friend finder, a little bit of a social city guide and social or night life game.”

The newest member to the mobile social family allows people to publicize their location and highlight the hot spots of a particular city through the use of GPS technology on mobile devices.

Heavican v. Boredom

BY ERIK DODGE
Antelope Staff

The keynote speaker at last week’s criminal justice conference was certainly worthy of some excitement; at least from the criminal justice and political science majors on campus. After all, Michael Heavican is the Nebraska Supreme Court Chief Justice.

Unfortunately, this was another case where boredom bested any excitement.

Chief Justice Heavican started off well by exiting the comfort of the podium and delivering his lecture in a way that he described as a little less formal. That was perfect, except that he spoke at a rapid pace.

In a soft monotone, Heavican described the structure of the Nebraska court system in a tidy half hour or so. This was particularly hard for me to swallow because I am taking a Courts and Judicial Processes class that already covered this topic in similarly dry and extensive detail.

Now my complaint isn’t simply that I had to listen to a repeat lecture, but surely the Chief Justice of the Nebraska Supreme Court has something more valuable to discuss with a room full of criminal justice and political science majors.

I was hoping to hear stories from specific cases, about smoking cigars in the judges’ chambers, or whatever justices do to get their blood pumping. In one case I’ve heard of, U.S. Supreme Court Justices went into a basement room to watch porn. That kind of thing must not happen in the Nebraska Supreme Court.

Heavican did show sound judgment after his lecture when he said, “I could tell that while I was presenting you were all very excited.” After using up his daily dose of sarcasm, he explained why he couldn’t discuss specific cases or his opinion on legislation; judges aren’t supposed to pre-judge legislation or discuss opinions given in cases.

I’m sure he’s right, and maybe this example of restraint is the best lesson to take from his visit. Even though professionalism may be the correct choice, it certainly isn’t a fun one. As retention elections prove, the Chief Justice is no doubt an intelligent and competent judge, but in the case of Heavican v. Boredom, as decided by the UNK audience, Boredom beat Heavican in a near unanimous decision.
Should America go green?

Marijuana legalization debate in America is louder than ever

BY JORDAN HOFF
Antelope Staff

The buzz about legalizing marijuana in America is now bigger than ever. Legalization of the drug has been a movement across the country for years now. And the question still remains: Are we going to see it happen in the near future?

Well, truthfully, it could be much sooner than you think. This coming November could be the first time in history that we will see the legalization of “pot” in America. Last month California lawmakers proposed a historic marijuana reform measure that easily qualified to be placed on this November’s 2010 ballot. This action came after the Regulate, Control and Tax Cannabis Act of 2010 submitted nearly 700,000 signatures to state authorities back in January. In a 2009 field poll, 56 percent of Californians supported taxing and regulating marijuana.

If this proposal were to be passed, it would tax and regulate marijuana like alcohol in the state of California. This would make it legal for adults 21 and older to possess up to one ounce of marijuana and brings cities and counties in the state to impose a tax on the sales of the product. This move seems likely to help the struggling California economy tremendously as they are suffering in over $60 billion in debt.

You think this is crazy? Well California is just the beginning, folks. The movement is spreading like a wildfire and is becoming a discussion everywhere. The state of Colorado is also very pro-legalization of marijuana. Last November in Breckenridge, Colo., the city passed a bill legalizing possession of marijuana and paraphernalia for adults. It passed with an overwhelming 73 percent vote. Back in 2005, Denver became the first city in the nation to make the private use of marijuana legal for adults 21 and older as an alternative to alcohol, a far more harmful drug. The Mile High City is also for completely decriminalizing possession of marijuana as they continue to push for alcohol-marijuana equalization laws.

Natural alternative medicine (medical marijuana) has been a rapidly growing subject for many years now and is currently active in 14 states. With medical marijuana dispensaries everywhere throughout these selected states, patients with a doctor’s prescription card can purchase taxed medical marijuana legally. Medical marijuana has been proven to help conditions such as arthritis, asthma, glaucoma, migraines, muscle spasms and pain. Many people believe in the benefits of medical marijuana and the patients number over 114,000 nationwide. So I guess people are thinking that we may as well just make it legal for all adults then, right? Well with groups like NORML (National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws) that have been supporting the decriminalization of marijuana gaining in numbers, it could be only a matter of time before they will finally see their goal happen right before our eyes.

NORML, now the largest marijuana lobbying firm in the nation, has been seen more support over the years throughout various cities and campuses all across the nation— including ours here at Kearney. UNK NORML launched by president Matthew Cass, is starting to generate some hype for the group in the area. You can follow UNK NORML on Facebook for further information on scheduled meetings and events on campus.

The time has come now for America to make a decision. Legalization of marijuana will most likely not be the end of the world, but in fact could actually help out our struggling country in many ways. Instead of spending over $10 billion a year to enforce marijuana laws, think of having all that income back that could help pay off the 12 trillion and counting in debt— more than any other country in the world.

This would also free up jail space and save millions in inmate expenses for nonviolent marijuana criminals. Marijuana arrests now comprise almost 50 percent of all drug arrests reported in the United States. Legalization would force police to spend less time chasing harmless marijuana users and more time trying to solve the tens of thousands of unsolved crimes every year.

Marijuana arrests now comprise almost 50 percent of all drug arrests reported in the United States. Legalization would force police to spend less time chasing harmless marijuana users and more time trying to solve the tens of thousands of unsolved crimes every year.

So to all you people wondering when or if this was ever going to happen or be an issue in America, the first step to the answer lies right around the corner in this year’s elections. This could be one of the biggest moves America has ever made. I’m saying: Don’t be surprised if you see total legalization happen in our lifetime.

What do students think about legalizing marijuana?

“I think it would be a positive thing. There are already so many users. I believe that if it were legal it wouldn’t be abused, and more people would understand and learn about the product.”

Keristiena Shenouda
Junior from Alexandria, Egypt
Political science major

“I say why not? Research shows it has no proven harmful side effects. I think if it was legalized it wouldn’t be a bad thing.”

Clyde Thomas
Sophomore from Omaha
Visual communications and design major

“I don’t think it would be a good idea. Too many people would do it, and it would be abused way too much.”

Sarah Hoeferl
Sophomore from Firth
English major

“I believe it would be effective for our country, like in Colorado it’s not a problem because people act in a safe, medicine-controlled manner.”

Nick Argyle
Junior from Portland, Ore.
Broadcasting major
Second annual HIV screening a success

UNMC nursing program students provide free HIV screenings for UNK students

BY RYAN LARSEN
Antelope Staff

UNK students had the opportunity last week to participate in a free HIV testing event. It was organized by a group of seniors who are in the UNMC nursing program here on campus. The free screenings were given at the West Center Building on Thursday and the student union on Friday. There was a major turnout, with over 50 students taking part during the first day of screening.

Organizers say there are many reasons why students should get tested. “A lot of college students engage in risky behavior that puts them at risk for HIV,” said Hillary Borer, a senior nursing major from Albion. “Finding out about it early can not only decrease the spread of it, but can help prevent the disease process from continuing.”

There was additional incentive to participate in the event besides just getting screened for HIV. Free door prizes were given out both days for those who attended. It was also educational for anyone who wanted to learn how to decrease their risk of contracting the disease, as well as preventative measures.

The HIV screening process was completely confidential for students. During registration, students were simply given a number in the testing order. The screening itself consisted of only a finger prick and about a 15 minute time frame to process the results.

This is the second year of the event for the nursing students. They organize it annually as part of their Community Health course. They also had assistance from the Nebraska AIDS Project. “We feel it’s a great way to reach out to the community,” Borer said.

UNK BECOMES A DISASTER ZONE

Cuts, burns and blood were commonplace at UNK's mock disaster drill held on April 14. The drill was made possible by a $28,000 Homeland Security grant in 2007 that was awarded to help test the emergency response system at UNK.
I’m sure many of us are guilty of this driving violation, even if it puts our lives in danger. This very common habit is about six times more likely to cause a car accident than drunk driving.

What is this madness? It’s texting while driving. Despite the risks, the majority of teen drivers ignore cell phone driving restrictions. In 2007, driver distractions, such as using a cell phone or text messaging, contributed to nearly 1,000 crashes involving 16- and 17-year-old drivers.

Because accident records indicated danger, Nebraska legislature passed a law in 2007 that bans people under the age of 18 from texting and talking on their cell phones while driving. The sponsor of that measure, Sen. John Harms of Scottsbluff, also introduced the 2010 bill to expand the measure, Sen. John Harms of Scottsbluff, introduced the 2010 bill to expand the law. Harms proposed making texting while driving a primary offense for all drivers, which means people could get pulled over and fined if seen texting on their cell phones while behind the wheel. Violators would face fines of $200 to $500 and could lose three points on their driver’s license.

Katie Lee, a UNK sophomore sports administration major from York, believes passing this bill will do little to no good. “Even if the bill would get passed to be a primary offense, it’s not like the law enforcement can regulate every driver on the road,” she said. “People are still going to text and drive as long as they’re getting away with it.”

While some believe the bill would be hard to enforce, Harms begs to differ. “People in law enforcement have told me they can usually tell when people are texting while behind the wheel,” Harms said. “Just having the law would make people aware of the decisions they are making.”

But Harms was not successful in trying to pass his driving-while-texting bill (LB945) as a primary offense. On Wednesday, March 31, the lawmakers of Nebraska passed an amendment to make texting while driving a so called secondary offense, much like the state’s seatbelt law. In this case, drivers will have to get pulled over for a primary offense, such as speeding, before being ticketed for texting.

Senator Kent Rogert of Tekamah proposed this amendment, and it was passed on a 25-16 vote. “The bill as written would not stop people from texting, and it would give law enforcement a reason to pull people over—especially young men,” Rogert said. The senators who agreed with Rogert didn’t believe that the bill would be enforceable, and they also had concerns about using texting as an excuse to pull people over and cause racial profiling.

Harms believes that making the bill a secondary offense sends the wrong message. “If it’s not important enough to be a primary offense, it’s not important enough to enforce,” Harms said.

As technology advances with voice-to-text functions, senators hope this problem of texting while driving will be solved and the number of accidents resulting from it will be reduced.
Coach Ron Brown adds final key to 'true champion'

By Travis Borchardt
Antelope Staff

For the fourth and final key to what it means to be a true champion, we will look to Husker football coach Ron Brown. Coach Brown was hired on to the Husker staff in 1987 as the receivers/tight ends coach. He was with the Huskers through 2001, but brought back again in 2003 and one final time in 2008.

Coach Brown has been a part of some of the most exciting times in Husker history as well as some of the darkest; however, there are things that have not changed with the times—his faith, his integrity and his heart.

When it comes to being a true champion, coach Brown says, “It starts from the inside out.” He points to a pole vaulter. If the vaulter’s heart is not in the jump, if he doesn’t believe he can make it, he won’t. “The vaulter has to throw his heart over the bar,” Brown says. “Whatever limit the heart sets, the body will follow.”

Brown says this was seen in 1954 when Roger Bannister broke the four-minute mile. “It obviously wasn’t impossible,” Brown says. “It was a mental barrier.” Bannister had it in his heart that he would be the first to break the four-minute mile, and he did it.

Within 46 days of Bannister’s monumental mile, the record was broken again by John Landy. Then to determine who was the fastest mile runner on earth, the two raced and Bannister broke the record again. By the end of 1957, 16 runners had broken the four-minute mile barrier.

Through this series about what makes a true champion, I have sought the wisdom of those who have embodied that champion on and off the field.

- Coach Martin says a true champion makes relationships.
- Coach Osborne adds that a true champion makes his faith, his integrity and his heart.
- Coach Brown says, “It starts from the inside out.” He points to a pole vaulter. If the vaulter’s heart is not in the jump, he won’t. “The vaulter has to throw his heart over the bar,” Brown says. “Whatever limit the heart sets, the body will follow.”

Nerves build as dance tryouts near

By Jill Jumps
Antelope Staff

The pressure is on. Trying out for the dance team at UNK can be very nerve-wracking for a senior who is about to graduate high school and start a new chapter of her life. Allison Palmer a freshman pre-med biology major from Council Bluffs, Iowa, said she was nervous and excited about the competition to be a Sapphire.

“I was very nervous when I tried out for the dance team during my senior year of high school. I wasn’t yet in college, and so it was very different to try out with new girls in a new place. I was so excited to try out though, because I really wanted to be a part of the team. When I made the team I was so excited, because that meant all my nights practicing paid off.”

Dedication, determination and technique are crucial for those who want to be part of the UNK Sapphires’ dance team.

At this year’s tryouts, on Friday, April 30 at 3 p.m. in the Health and Sports Center Arena, women will be required to learn a routine in an hour and then perform before the judges. Dancers are also required to perform a list of technical elements along with a self-choreographed 45-second routine. Technical elements include double pirouettes, triple pirouettes, fouettes, toe touch, leap combination and splits.

Tryouts come with a variety of challenges, but Amanda Simmons, a junior dance team member and elementary education major from Aurora, says, “The hardest part of tryouts is learning a routine on the spot and turning around and having to perform it for the judges. It’s nerve-wracking because you don’t have time to perfect it, you have to learn fast and perform it your best.”

Tryouts are not only for the new women who would like to be part of the Sapphires’ team; members who have already been on the team are still required to try out. This prevents dance team members from becoming lazy or complacent.

“We try out every year because we want to continually get better. If one team member wasn’t pulling their weight the previous year, they must prove themselves again at tryouts. I’m glad that we have to try out every year, because it makes people work hard to earn their spot on the team,” Simmons said.

Palmer said tryouts are important “to show that we are dedicated and to help the coach pick out new dancers for the next year with similar dancing abilities.”

There is no specific number of girls that are allowed to be on the dance team. The Sapphires go for quality not quantity. “My freshman year we had 15. My sophomore year we had 13, and this past year we had 10. They are really focused on quality rather than quantity,” Simmons said.

Members of the Sapphires’ dance team are required to perform at all men’s and women’s basketball games, the men’s football games, participate in Loper’s Women’s Walk, and in the lip sync contest during homecoming week.

“My favorite thing about being part of the dance is to get to show spirit for my school, and it’s a great way to be involved,” Palmer said.

Simmons believes that it takes a lot of hard work to be a member of the dance team, but it all pays off in the end.

“My favorite thing about dance team is performing. Although early morning 6 a.m. practices aren’t a lot of fun, throughout the year they pay off when we get to perform in front of all the UNK fans,” Simmons said.

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Earth Day launches 'green' awareness on campus

BY AMANDA HODGE
Antelope Staff

Resident Hall Presidents’ Council and the Locke and Key Society are pulling out all the stops and launching a green awareness event on Earth Day, Thursday, April 22.

The event will run from noon to 4 p.m. with a variety of exciting activities throughout the day. The mission of the event is to create an environment where the community can be more educated and informed about green products, services and actions.

Highlighting the event, Nebraska third congressional district candidate, Rebekah Davis; the Iowa fifth congressional district candidate, Mike Denklau; and a Nebraska Public Power District representative, John McClure will participate in a bi-partisan panel on cap and trade.

To promote the importance of going green, a Greentown Greensburg, Kan., representative will be doing a presentation via Skype to inform viewers about going green. Local vendors will display eco-friendly products, organic products and earth friendly services that can be purchased and provided locally.

Students who want to experience the benefits of earth friendly activities can go to the Calvin T. Ryan library for a gardening revitalization project. Students can help garden all afternoon in order to revive the plant life surrounding the library.

OWL, featuring members of Phi Gamma Delta are excited to be involved in the event. Ryan Lieb, guitar and singer in OWL, said: “We are just a few FIJs with a passion for music. We are excited to have the opportunity to play for the event and showcase the songs we have been working on all year. We hope everyone can come out enjoy the event and our music.”

The campus radio station 91.3 KLPR will be providing information throughout the week of the event and during the event.

CHANNEY STEPS UP

Photo by Craig Hall
New UNK head women's basketball coach Kevin Chaney met Loper fans and supporters on Monday at a public reception in the Alumni House.

He took time to talk about his feelings on being a coach at UNK and being in Kearney itself. As for his style of play: "I love a transition offense and pushing the ball up the court," Chaney said. Chaney will look to turn around the Loper women's basketball team that finished the 2009-10 season with a 9-18 record.

SAVE THE EARTH

• Re-route your commute. Ride your bike or walk instead of driving.
• Recycle smart. Everything that can be recycled should be. The campus offers recycling in many locations.
• Save energy. Try using natural light.
• Get a plant for your room. Some plants can help remove indoor air pollutants.
• Buy used. Get used furniture and decorate with homemade items.
• Use local amenities. Rent textbooks and movies instead of buying them.
• Stop wasting water. Shut the water off when brushing your teeth and take faster showers.
As the days get longer and the weather gets warmer, college students get more and more restless, and they’re not content to spend their days locked inside cramming for finals. What better way to give them a taste of summer than with a concert?

The Loper Programming and Activities Council (LPAC) has brought a variety of entertainment to UNK this year, including Reza the Illusionist, Jim Wand and now a very special guest, country artist Kellie Pickler. Pickler, who reached superstardom on “American Idol” with hits like “Red High Heels” and “Best Days of Your Life,” will be performing at UNK on April 22. Megan Mullins, a fresh face on the country music scene, will be Pickler’s opening act.

“We try to get someone with name recognition who the students will like and will grab their attention. We try to look at different artists that will be available at the time and in our price range,” said Tim Danube, associate director of the student union.

“Hopefully this is something good for students that are here, and they will realize that besides the academic benefits, UNK has a lot to offer outside the classroom.”

Brittney Hagan, a senior education major from Culbertson and the chairperson of LPAC’s Main-Stage Committee agrees. “I think it helps to show college students to come back to UNK next year. We do a lot of things at UNK, and it makes it a fun environment. If we draw a lot of the community and high school students from around the area, maybe they will consider coming to UNK.”

LPAC had originally planned to have Billy Currington perform at UNK, but due to a show booked here this summer, the negotiations fell through. With Pickler’s name still on the table, the pieces fell into place. “It was really close to get her here as she is touring with Taylor Swift right now. They have quite a few dates set up, but this was one date that there was enough space between her other concerts so that she could perform here,” Danube said.

As each year winds down, LPAC does their best to end the year with a bang. Last year rock bands The Red Jumpsuit Apparatus and Secondhand Serenade performed to a full house of over 2,500.

Kellie Pickler scheduled to perform at UNK

BY ASHLEY LEEVER
Antelope Staff

As the days get longer and the weather gets warmer, college students get more and more restless, and they’re not content to spend their days locked inside cramming for finals. What better way to give them a taste of summer than with a concert?

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With two successful albums and three Country Music Television awards under her belt, Danube hopes that Pickler will draw a record crowd of over 3,000 people. “The students bring it to campus for the students’ enjoyment. We hope to draw the community out as well to these big events,” Danube said.

LPAC hopes this event will show students all that UNK has to offer. As Danube said, “Hopefully this is something good for students that are here, and they will realize that besides the academic benefits, UNK has a lot to offer outside the classroom.”

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Research disguised as recess

Exercise science major seeks data on playground

BY BRIE MAASKE
Antelope Staff

He is a part of some of the most fun and interactive research on campus. He thinks so, anyway.

For 10 weeks, Brad Peters, a junior exercise science major from Gering, worked with Kearney elementary schools as part of a group, teaching students games and monitoring their physical activity levels.

The group then presented their findings at this year’s American Alliance for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance Conference in Indianapolis over spring break.

In his research, Peters looked at the effect of temperature on the time spent outside for recess and how it affected the amount of the students’ activity.

By collecting data on students through direct observation and an accelerometer, which measures the minutes of physical activity, Peters said they found that the students got the same amount of activity no matter the temperature. This meant that teachers were the ones cutting recess short, not the students.

Peters spent three days a week with the elementary students, teaching them new, fun games that would keep the students going.

One of the games that the students played was Capture the Ball. “The students were divided into two teams separated by cones placed along the middle of the field. About 15 gator balls were placed next to the soccer goals in hula hoops on both sides of the field.

The object of the game was to cross the midline to steal the other team’s balls and return them to their team’s hula hoops. Once a student crossed the midline in an attempt to steal a ball they could be tagged by the opposing team. If tagged, they go to ‘jail’ in that team’s soccer goal,” Peters said.

“I have worked with many of these kids on multiple occasions, which made it very easy for me to connect with them because they became familiar with me.”

Brad Peters

Sudoku answer:
Upside down, from page 11

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Stop it. “I’ve learned about the risks and causes of child-
hood obesity by being able to work directly with the
kids. At the same time, I have also learned many cre-
tive and fun ways to prevent obesity by observing what
the kids like and dislike as far as physical activity goes,”
Peters said. 

Working with these students allowed Peters to learn
more about childhood obesity and what can be done to
stop it. “I’ve learned about the risks and causes of child-
hood obesity by being able to work directly with the
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tive and fun ways to prevent obesity by observing what
the kids like and dislike as far as physical activity goes,”
Peters said.

This project, along with others I have helped with,
has allowed me to apply what I have learned in the
classroom to real world situations,” Peters said.

This summer Peters is doing an internship at Duke
University in Durham, N.C., in their Human Perfor-
mance Lab and hopes to go to medical school after
graduation for pediatrics or orthopedics.

Peters from page 10

that day,” Peters said.

This is Peters’s third year participating in research
in the Human Performance Lab at UNK. He has also
worked on research dealing with childhood obesity,
Building Healthy Families, in which the college stu-
dents teach families about nutrition, exercise and diet
and help them make a plan to be healthy as a family. Be-
tween 10 to 12 families participated in this nine-month
program.

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the kids like and dislike as far as physical activity goes,”
Peters said.

“This project, along with others I have helped with,
has allowed me to apply what I have learned in the
classroom to real world situations,” Peters said.

This summer Peters is doing an internship at Duke
University in Durham, N.C., in their Human Performance
Lab and hopes to go to medical school after
graduation for pediatrics or orthopedics.

Peters from page 10

Dr. Roger Davis (center) proposed a vote of no confidence in the general studies process. The new general
studies program is set to be implemented in fall 2010.

the general studies program will need to be submitted
to the North Central Association, the regional accredita-
tion association, in April 2011. “I don’t even know if it
would be an option to delay now,” Snider said.

Other Senators did not agree that the process was
forced through. Dr. Ralph Hanson, chair of the com-
 munications department and General Studies Council
member, was involved in a similar process at West Vir-
ginia University and said, “To characterize this as a rush
job would not fit with what I’ve seen.”

In response to Davis’s motion, professor of psy-
chology Dr. Richard Miller pointed out that the facul-
ty senate has considered a vote of no confidence only
twice in the last 20 years. He insisted that faculty sena-
tors consider the professional and personal implications
of such a vote and said, “A vote of no confidence should
never be taken lightly. It is the nuclear option.” The mo-
tion was then amended into a vote of concern, which
failed to pass.

Despite unwillingness to pass either motion, facul-
ty senators were more than willing to voice their unease.
Various senators raised problems with the process of
making structural changes and course placement within
the general studies program. Issues also arose over
the faculty senate’s lack of authority over the General

Studies Council. In reference to earlier debate profes-
sor of history Dr. Jim Rohrer said, “It’s interesting that
we have the authority as faculty senate to pick apart the
first year program, but with something as fundamental
as general studies, many, many people feel that they
were totally disempowered in the process, because Sen-
ate didn’t really have oversight. It was given away to
general studies.”

During debate the process was compared to the
health care debate and a motion to suspend debate failed
only after a tie vote was decided by Executive Commit-
tee President Dr. Joseph Benz.

Dr. Rohrer broke faculty concerns down to two
problems that were “both serious and both need to be
dealt with.”

“One is the immediate problem that general studies
is overwhelmed.”

The second contrasted worry that a vote of no con-
fidence would hurt feelings. “I don’t think we can deny
that things have already happened that have been hurt-
ful, that have been divisive. If you just plaster that over
and pretend that it doesn’t have implications for how
people feel about what general studies is doing you’re
fooling yourself. There has to be some way of dealing
with the hurt that’s already been caused.”

Champion from page 6

Champion from page 6

valuable contributions to society in the classroom and through
service.
• Coach Bowden says a true champion will give it their all
through integrity and honor.
• Coach Brown adds that a true champion digs deep and
puts his or her heart into overcoming any obstacle. I believe
true champion encompasses all of these things and looks to put
the team and community ahead of him or herself. Brochardt
was an undergraduate assistant and Loper football running
backs coach.
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