Department News

Final Exams for Coordinated Courses

Times and dates for all coordinated unit exams can be found at http://registrar.unl.edu/final-exam-information-spring.

Locations will soon be posted outside the door of the Faculty Mailboxes and Workroom (1107 South)

Alternate exams can be scheduled with your language coordinator.

Executive, Graduate and Coordinator Meeting

Evelyn has called a joint meeting of the Executive and Graduate Committees as well as the coordinators of the basic language programs, Tuesday, April 22 at 11:00 in 1126 OLDH.

Important Dates

APRIL

22nd - Executive, Graduate & Coordinator Meeting

28th - May 2nd - DEAD WEEK

MAY

5th - 9th - FINALS WEEK

Please send your announcements, Bravos and events for the weekly newsletter to Casandra (csiefkes2@unl.edu) by 5 pm on Thursdays.
Writing Opportunity for your students

Do you want to write about Movies, TV, Arts, Anime, Comics, Games, Literature or other art forms? Do you want to get your foot in the door and enter the big-wide world of the online media and have your work read and shared by millions of readers? We invite you to The Artifice: http://www.the-artifice.com

The Artifice is an online magazine that covers a wide spectrum of art forms. We do not run The Artifice, you do. The Artifice is collaboratively built and maintained by your fellow writers. It is structured to let you focus on the quality of the content while it deals with the exposure of it to an audience of millions.

The Artifice does not work quite the same as other publishing platforms. For example, the first question you may ask is "What are you looking for?" At The Artifice, your fellow writers ask you instead: "What are you an expert on? What are you passionate about?"

You can write about a whole host of things for pleasure, passion and/or to boost your CV with vital experience in this ever competitive media environment.

Our current writers range from undergraduates, to graduates, to emeritus professors.

Grab the opportunity and join our team of writers. Join now: http://the-artifice.com/write/

Phi Beta Kappa

Phi Beta Kappa has invited the following Modern Languages majors to become members. Congratulations to:

- Carly Ann Smith, German
- Noah Daniel Glover-Ettrich, Russian
- Marie Margaret Baumgartner, Spanish
- Amanda Shereen Karimi, Spanish
- Brittny Dee Ofstedal, Spanish Haley
- Christine Medlik, Spanish
- Sachi A. Mistry, Spanish

Faculty Activities

Congratulations to these professors who have or will soon present a paper from the following conferences.

- José González, Midwest Popular Culture Associate in St. Louis, Missouri.
- Iker González-Allende, MACHL in Columbia, MO
- Rigoberto Guevara, MACHL in Columbia, MO
- Chantal Kalisa, South Central Modern Language Association Annual Conference in New Orleans, LA
- Nora Peterson, 16th Century Society and Conference in San Juan, Puerto Rico.
- Radha Balasubramania, Central Eurasian Studies Society in Madison, Wisconsin.
- Isabel Velázquez, Symposium of Spanish as a Heritage Language in Lubbock, Texas.

Upcoming Conferences

- Tom Carr, Joint Colloquium by the University of Southern California and the Université de Marne La Vallée in Los Angeles, California.
- Isabel Velázquez, Second International Conference on Heritage and Community Languages in Los Angeles, California.
- Kelly Kingsbury Brunetto, Georgetown University Roundtable in Washington DC.
- Liz Enkin Kentucky Foreign Language Conference in Kentucky
- Iker González-Allende Discourses in Peripheral Sexualities in Hispanic Studies in Boca Raton, Florida.
- Hana Waissenova, American Comparative Literature Association in New York City, New York.
- Rigoberto Guevara, 17th Annual Spring Symposium at Ohio State.
Calls for Papers
See Bulletin Board in 1107 for more information

- Céfiro; Texas Tech University; DUE: Mar 14
- UIC Bilingualism Forum; Chicago; May 4
- Sakarya; Paris, France; DUE: June 13

Bravo to Rebecca Ankenbrand
on her award of the Digital Scholarship Incubator.

See full news story: http://news.unl.edu/newsrooms/unltoday/article/unl-launches-digital-scholarship-

Language Clubs & Student Centers

- Spanish Basic Help Center
  Mon, Wed, Fri
  9:30 - 11:20pm
  12:30 - 2:30pm
  5126 OLDH

- Spanish Tutoring Center
  Mon & Wed
  2:30 - 4pm
  1126 OLDH

- French Table
  Tuesdays
  4 - 6pm
  Yia Yias Pizza
  #UNLTableau

- Komenský Club
  Wednesday
  6:30 - 8:30pm
  UNL Union
  #UNLKomensky

- Portuguese Table
  TBA
  #UNLPortuguesetable

- Spanish Table
  Fridays
  6pm
  The Coffee House
  #UNLMesa

- Japanese Table
  Intermediate - Advance
  Tuesdays 4 - 5 KRR
  Beginners
  Thursdays 4 - 5 KRR
  #UNLJapanTable

- Stammtisch
  Wednesdays
  4:30 - 6pm
  Dempsey's
  #UNLStammtisch

- Russian Table
  Wednesdays
  2:30 - 3:30pm
  1107 OLDH
  #UNLRussClub

- Arabic Table
  Thursdays
  3:30 - 5:30pm
  1126 OLDH
  #UNLArabicNadii
CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS

For The 2015 Edition

The Cid is a journal devoted to the dissemination of critical and creative work in Spanish of graduate and undergraduate students. We encourage original contributions in any literary genres—critical essays, short stories, and poetry (maximum 5,000 words). Works submitted to El Cid should have not been previously published nor be under consideration for publication elsewhere. Students may send multiple submissions, but only one will be published in a particular edition of the journal. All publications will be eligible for the Ignacio R.M Galbis literary prize for best original work. Essays should follow MLA style and be submitted as Microsoft Word (.doc or .docx) files. Please state the title, the student’s name, institutional affiliation, and email address on the first page. No reference to the student’s name should appear elsewhere in the manuscript.

The deadline for submissions is December 1st, 2014.

Submissions should be sent to: Dr. Hellín-García (mhelling@citadel.edu)

The Citadel-The Military College of South Carolina
Dept. Modern Languages, Literatures and Cultures
171 Moultrie Street, Charleston, SC 29409, USA
MEMORANDUM

TO: Chancellor Harvey Perlman

FROM: Joel D. Pedersen
Vice President and General Counsel

DATE: May 7, 2008

RE: Regents Policy 4.1.2 Regent Campaigns

Opinion:

Head Coaches are "administrative officers" prohibited from participating in campaigns for Regent candidates under Regents Policy 4.1.2.

Question:

Whether the phrase "administrative officers" as used in Regents Policy 4.1.2 includes Head Coaches?

Short Answer:

Yes.

Analysis:

Regents Policy 4.1.2 Regent Campaigns

No administrative officer of the University of Nebraska shall be asked to participate or shall participate, directly or indirectly, in the campaigns for election of members of The Board of Regents. This prohibition shall not be interpreted as limiting an administrative official from exercising his or her right to vote for a candidate for public office.

Reference: BRUN, Minutes, 33, p. 151 (July 12, 1971). (Emphasis added.)
The following were also reviewed in preparing this opinion: *Bylaws of the Board of Regents of the University of Nebraska* §§ 2.1 (Procedures for Selection of Senior Administrative Officers) 3.1.1 (Professional Staff) and 3.9 (Political Activities of Employees); Executive Memoranda 2 (The University of Nebraska Administrative Structure) and 7 (Guidelines for granting appointments to Academic-Administrative staff positions in accordance with Section 3.1.1.1 of the Bylaws of the Board of Regents); Neb. Rev. Stat. §§ 20-160 (Reissue 1997); § 49-14,101.02 (2) and (8) (Cum. Supp. 2006); and 81-1315 (Reissue 1999); 5 U.S.C. §§ 1501-1508 and 7321-7326.

There is no specific definition of "administrative officers" included in the Regents Policy. However, under the administrative structure of the University, it is my opinion that the following officers are prohibited from participating in the campaign of a Regent under Regent Policy 4.1.2:

Senior Administrative Officers (President, Vice Presidents, Chancellors, Vice Chancellors, Deans and equivalent ranks); Associates and assistants to any Senior Administrative Officers; Department Chairpersons/Heads; Directors; Assistant Directors; Head Coaches; and equivalent ranks.

The purpose for Regent Policy 4.1.2 is twofold: (1) to protect against any appearance that University officials are providing "official" support to a candidate for Regent, and (2) to act as a safeguard against coercion of University employees. The purpose of the Regents Policy is only incidentally related to the conduct of the campaign by Regent candidates and should not be interpreted as a campaign regulation.

The vested authority of the Board of Regents to provide for the general government of the University allows it to adopt Regents Policy 4.1.2 as a rule for the conduct of University employees. "There is overwhelming support for the proposition that the government may proscribe certain political activities by public employees." *Naccarati v. Wilkins Township, PA.*, 846 F. Supp. 405, 410 (W.D. Pa. 1993). Laws that restrict political activity by government employees are popularly known as Hatch Acts, a reference to federal legislation dealing with this subject.

The goal of the Hatch Act was described as serving the following purposes: "that employment and advancement in the Government service not depend on political performance, and at the same time to make sure that Government employees would be free from pressure and from express or tacit invitation to vote in a certain way or perform political chores in order to curry favor with their superiors rather than to act out of their own beliefs." *United States Civil Service Commission v. National Association of Letter Carriers, AFL-CIO*, 413 U.S. 548, 556 (1973). The fact that Regent Policy 4.1.2 does not apply universally to all University employees is not to be interpreted to somehow
allow employees that are not "administrative officers" to be coerced or pressured to participate in the primary or general election campaign of a Regent – either by or on behalf of a candidate, a Board member, or by another University employee.

Parts of the Nebraska Political Accountability and Disclosure Act also apply to University officials in addition to any restriction in the Board’s policy. Neb. Rev. Stat. § 49-14,101.02 (Cum. Supp. 2006) provides: (2) “Except as otherwise provided in this section, a public official or public employees shall not use or authorize the use of public resources for the purpose of campaigning for or against the nomination or election of a candidate or the qualification, passage, or defeat of a ballot question.” . . . [and] (8) “Nothing in this section prohibits a public employee from campaigning for or against the qualification, passage, or defeat of a ballot question or the nomination or election of a candidate when no public resources are used. Except as otherwise provided in this section, a public employee shall not engage in campaign activity for or against the qualification, passage, or defeat of a ballot question or the nomination or election of a candidate while on government work time or when otherwise engaged in his or her official duties.”

An earlier law, also less restrictive than the Board’s policy also applies: Neb. Rev. Stat. § 20-160 (Reissue 1997) "Unless specifically restricted by a federal law or any other state law, no employee of the state or any political subdivision thereof, . . . , shall be prohibited from participating in political activities except during office hours or when otherwise engaged in the performance of his or her official duties. No such employee shall engage in any political activity while wearing a uniform required by the state or a political subdivision thereof."

Regent Policy 4.1.2 does not prohibit University employees from declaring candidacy for Regent (as Donald F. Costello has), but the employee-candidate must work within the framework provided under § 3.9 of the Bylaws of the Board of Regents of the University of Nebraska so that University duties are performed without interference by outside activities.

The combination of state statutes, Board By-Laws and Policies as well as the administrative structure of the University and the purposes of the Policy all support including Senior Administrative Officers (President, Vice Presidents, Chancellors, Vice Chancellors, Deans and equivalent ranks); Associates and assistants to any Senior Administrative Officers; Department Chairpersons/Heads; Directors; Assistant Directors; and Head Coaches and equivalent ranks within the definition of administrative officers.

The state statutory provisions and federal constitutional cases also provide some guidance on what may be considered as "directly or indirectly" participating in the campaign of a Regent candidate. The difference to note for
the University's administrative officers under Regents Policy 4.1.2 is that it includes “after hours” or “off the job” activities regarding Regent campaign participation, and it basically restricts the ability of the University's Administrative Officers from endorsing a candidate for regent. The following questions and answers are provided for guidance in particular situations related to Regent campaigns:

Question: May a University administrative officer make a contribution to the campaign, attend a campaign fundraiser, wear a campaign button, place a campaign yard sign at their home, or affix a campaign bumper sticker to their car?

Answer: No.

Question: May a University administrative officer help organize a campaign fundraiser, or personally solicit, accept, or receive campaign contributions?

Answer: No.

Question: May a University administrative officer's name appear on invitations to a campaign fundraiser or in an advertisement as a supporter, sponsor or point of contact?

Answer: No.

Question: May a University administrative officer speak at a campaign fundraiser?

Answer: No.

Questions about the application of this policy to other situations may be directed to this office.

cc: President Milliken
    Chancellor Harold Maurer
    Chancellor John Christensen
    Chancellor Doug Kristensen
    NU Vice President and IANR Harlan Vice Chancellor John Owens
    Linda Pratt, Executive Vice President and Provost
    David Lechner, Vice President for Business and Finance
    Pete Kotsiopulos, Vice President for University Affairs
    Board of Regents Executive Committee:
    Regent Hassebrook, Regent Schroeder, Regent Wilson, Regent Hruza, and Corporation Secretary Burns