

# Vanselow: No plans to move dental college

By Jack Kennedy

There are no plans to move the dental college from Lincoln to Omaha, University of Nebraska Medical Center Chancellor Neal Vanselow assured the dental college faculty members Thursday.

"There are some people who still think this is the first step in taking it brick by brick to Omaha," the chancellor said. This is not true, he said.

The faculty heard from Vanselow and UNL Chancellor Roy Young concerning a proposal from a joint committee to put the dental college under

administrative control of the medical center. Some faculty members say the plan would hurt morale, leave them "in limbo" between the two campuses and affect their relationship with longtime UNL colleagues.

Dental college Dean Richard Bradley said despite the outcome of the merger, he and the faculty will attempt to work more closely with the medical center. Neither Bradley nor university officials could assure the dental faculty that there would be an increase in the budget or their salaries because of the administrative change.

There should be an attempt to cooperate on various programs before a merger takes place, several faculty members said, to see if it would work.

Vanselow and Young both admitted the distance between the two schools might present some problems. Whether dental students actually spend more time at the university hospital is up to the dental

school, UNMC officials said.

The faculty was assured that the dental college will still be a separate entity. There were even assurances from UNL Academic Vice Chancellor Ned Hedges that the faculty could keep its football tickets and parking stickers.

"I'm not anxious to preside over the disillusionment of my academic community," Hedges said with a smile. But there are advantages to the change, he said.

There will be no change in the access the dental college faculty has to many UNL services such as the library, Hedges said.

"The years ahead for the health professions are going to be difficult" financially, Vanselow said. However, he and Dean Bradley said that collaboration and the merger would aid both administration and financing of the dental college.

UNMC officials said they saw no conflict between medical center and UNL promotion and tenure policies. The dental

college would be represented on the medical center faculty senate.

Several administrators said the change would not affect the personal faculty ties which professors have to the Lincoln campus. Some faculty members said travel time could cut into their teaching and research time.

Young said forms will be distributed Friday seeking faculty opinion on the administrative change, but there will not be a yes or no vote on the proposal. It could go to the NU Board of Regents next month, Young and Vanselow said.