

I was thinking about today how having been in the body for eight years and been out of school a number of years, at least that amount of time, and how at this particular time a lot of times you pay attention to particular issues. I know in the middle of the legislative session it's difficult to concentrate on other issues but it was tough for me to remember the amount of time that I used to spend reading periodicals dealing with different issues and topics that were important to society. And I think a lot of ways when you're in school you're able to formulate opinions on different issues that are before either Congress or the Legislature or the City Council or County Board. I think what makes this Legislature such a good place is that we have people from different walks of life. I may not be an expert on farm issues like Senator Moore or Senator Wehrbein but I try to bring what I can to this body from my different perspective and that's what makes this body good and that's where I think we get some good laws, some good contrasts in opinion, and I think that a lot of times a student can offer a different perspective. Now, it may not seem significant to me at this time on how late that library stays open or student center or what the cost of books are, but I can tell you that that is a very important subject to the over 20,000 students we have down on campus in Lincoln, and it's a very important topic to the students that attend UN-O or Kearney State or Wayne State or Chadron. Those are the types of issues that are very important to them. And when I was going to school it was very important to me as well. I can recall in law school when one of the most heated debates came over how late that library should stay open and there was a policy at that time where, before I got to school there, that kept the law library open 24 hours a day. And they decided to shut it down at one. I don't know you had some students there that were willing to study at all hours of the night but that was an issue that was very important to the students. And I think that bringing the students' perspective into a Board of Regents is good. I am not saying that I want every single member of that Board of Regents to be made up of students but I think maybe one member to offer a student's perspective would be important. We all understand how votes work around this body and I don't think one vote would make a substantial difference, but I think that person that would be voting might have an impact and at least might present some issues that are important to students. I think it's important. I think it's important that they should be on the Board of Regents and I think it's important that they have some say in how that school is run. Thank you.