

KRNU 90.3 FM

Community Issues and Responsive Programs

April-June 2017

The following is a list of perceived community issues, and the programs broadcast by KRNU 90.3 FM, Lincoln, which addressed those issues during the second quarter of 2017, April 1 through June 30.

Campus Governance – A review of topics related to governance of the various constituencies of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

Again this quarter, the station continued its long-standing practice of providing live coverage of the public business meetings conducted by the University of Nebraska Board of Regents when those meetings are held at the Regents' meeting room in Varner Hall in Lincoln.

The Regents met twice on campus during this quarter, and the station carried the meetings on:
--Thursday, May 4 – 10:07 a.m. to 12:13 p.m. (2 hours and 6 minutes)
--Thursday, June 1 – 10:08 a.m. to 12:22 p.m. (2 hours and 14 minutes)

In addition, KRNU carried live coverage of the installation ceremonies for Dr. Ronnie Green as the Chancellor of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

Live coverage of that event took place on Thursday, April 6 from 11:00 a.m. to 12:40 p.m. (1 hour and 40 minutes)

Finally, the University of Nebraska-Lincoln's Executive Vice Chancellor and Chief Academic Officer, Donde Plowman, was a guest on KRNU's "*Campus Voices*" public affairs program on June 25. EVC Plowman, who came to the position having served as a former dean of the university's College of Business Administration, discussed the newly-expanded duties in her role, her success at growing the College of Business, and the challenges and opportunities facing the university in the coming year.

Her "*Campus Voices*" episode aired on Sunday, June 25 from 10:00 to 10:31 a.m. (31 minutes)

Communications & Media Issues – A review of topics related to both interpersonal and mass communications – and the effects of both on our listening audience.

During this quarter, the station aired two broadcasts related to an event in April held in Andersen Hall, the home of the College of Journalism & Mass Communications. Flyover Media is a start-up organization created by alumni from the journalism college. It focuses on the challenges of telling stories on the Great Plains. Spurred by criticism during the last presidential election that media outlets largely ignored the population of “flyover country” like Nebraska, Flyover Media created an event called “The Anvil” to bring journalists, storytellers, and content creators together in an effort to understand the needs, the challenges, and the best practices of reporting on stories from largely rural communities. Their afternoon-long event was held on Saturday, April 8 in Andersen Hall, and featured both individual speakers and a panel discussion.

In advance of the event, KRNU featured the event’s organizer, University of Nebraska-Lincoln journalism alum Andrew Dickinson of Flyover Media, on a mid-week episode of the station’s traditional Sunday morning public affairs show “*Campus Voices*” to discuss the upcoming event and the reasons behind it.

His interview aired on Wednesday, April 5, from 5:00 to 5:30 p.m. (30 minutes)

Then, the station aired live coverage of the actual “Anvil” event the following Saturday, April 8, including the individual speakers and the concluding panel discussion. Live coverage began at 1 p.m. and continued until 6 p.m. that evening. (5 hours)

Also during this quarter, one of the co-founders of Twitter stopped by the College of Journalism & Mass Communications while on campus to receive an honorary degree and give the spring commencement address. Evan Williams, a Nebraska native and former advertising student in the college, spoke to an audience of students, faculty, and guests on Friday, May 6, during an hour-long session in the large lecture hall of the college. The following Sunday morning, KRNU replayed his recorded remarks, and the questions from the audience that followed it, as part of the regular Sunday morning “*Campus Voices*” public affairs program.

The replay occurred on Sunday, May 7, from 10:00 to 11:00 a.m. (60 minutes)

Finally, College of Journalism & Mass Communications alum Andy Boyle, now the Director of Platform Architecture for the new online news website Axios, stopped back at his alma mater in May to record a segment of “*Campus Voices*” and discuss the changes in news coverage, challenges to rebuild the trust of the public in the wake of persistent “fake news” charges, and his own personal path through the journalism industries.

His “Campus Voices” segment aired on Sunday, May 21 from 10:00 to 10:35 a.m. (35 minutes)

Gender Issues – A review of topics about gender-related issues, controversies, and policies as they relate to the University of Nebraska-Lincoln community and the greater communities of Lincoln and Nebraska.

Two episodes of KRNU’s “*Campus Voices*” public affairs program focused on issues in this category this quarter.

First, Zac Palmer, Men’s Programming Coordinator for the university’s Women’s Center, visited the program to discuss programming for an upcoming “m@n” (“Men At Nebraska”) series on campus. This yearly series aims to shed light on issues young men face in dealing with relationships, their roles as men, and their sexuality. He discussed the various components and guest speakers of the series, which was held the first week in April on campus.

His episode of the program aired on Sunday, April 2, from 10:00 to 10:30 a.m. (30 minutes)

The following week, the program featured Rae Thomas of the university’s Women’s Center, and specifically of the “UNL Prevent” program within the Center. “UNL Prevent” is tasked with raising awareness about sexual assault on campus, and tries to educate the campus populations about “bystander intervention” best practices, which can be used to intervene in potentially threatening situations or to come to the assistance of potential victim of assault. A number of events were planned for the campus during the second week in April to call attention to sexual assault, and Rae visited the program to discuss those events, and the ongoing efforts to reduce violence on campus and within the community.

Her segment of “*Campus Voices*” aired on Sunday, April 9, from 10:00 to 10:30 a.m. (30 minutes)

In addition to that recorded program, Rae Thomas brought a number of students to the KRNU studios to record their own personal “bystander intervention” stories, which the station crafted into 30-second public service announcements to air on the station and our companion webstreams.

Those PSAs will continue to air on the radio station throughout the year.