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News Release

Sept. 5, 2008

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Symposium to focus on civic involvement of college students

LINCOLN – A Sept. 12 symposium in Lincoln will focus on promoting civic involvement by Nebraska college students, including getting more of them to the polls.

The Nebraska Civic Engagement Symposium is a nonpartisan event sponsored by Nebraska Secretary of State John Gale and his College Student Advisory Committee.

"We want to encourage the students to be active citizens at all levels," Gale said. "This includes voting, performing community service, becoming community leaders and holding public office."

The event will highlight the importance of engaging college student in the election process. "This starts by getting them to register to vote and casting ballots in the November election," Gale said.

The invitation-only symposium will be attended by leaders of student organizations at the Lincoln, Omaha and Kearney campuses of the University of Nebraska. The College Student Advisory Committee consists of six student government leaders from the three campuses.

The event begins with a luncheon at 11:30 a.m. at the Nebraska Club, 233 S. 13th St. NU President J.B. Milliken will be the luncheon speaker.

The symposium will reconvene at 1:30 p.m. in the Warner Chamber at the State Capitol. The afternoon will include panels involving state senators, state constitutional officers, election officials and advisory committee members. Gov. Dave Heineman will address the symposium at 3 p.m.

"We hope the symposium serves as a springboard to make college students champions of our democracy," Gale said.

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