

DULUTH--A special Delegate Intern Program, directed at familiarizing UMD students with state political party processes, becomes a working proposition in February.

Six UMD students, three Democrats and three Republicans, will attend precinct caucuses of their respective parties, then carry through into county, district and state conventions.

The Republican caucus date is Feb. 13. "Delegates" Susan Franz, Duluth; Archie Chelseth, Duluth; and Roger Ralph, Hastings, will make their own choice as to which Duluth caucus they will attend.

The Democrats caucus Feb. 27. Louis Gehring, Duluth; Paul LaTour, president of the campus YDFL party from Duluth; and Virginia McQuiston, Finland, are the DFL "delegates."

"They will just observe what goes on at the precinct caucus," said Dr. Harry Lease, Jr., a political science instructor and director of the campus' National Center of Education and Politics. "None of them will be old enough to work with the group.

"At the county, district and state conventions they will go there not only as observers but also as participants," Lease pointed out. "They can do such things as campaign for someone seeking endorsement, work in favor of getting certain resolutions passed and things of that sort."

"In addition, we hope they will have privileges of the floor and be attached directly to delegates, work closely with them, get into the smoke-filled rooms and find out just how a political machine works first hand."

Hibbing Junior College, Bemidji State, the University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, the University of Minnesota, Morris, St. Cloud State, St. Olaf and Winona State are also participating in the program.

This year the DFL state convention is scheduled for Duluth May 26,27. The Republicans will gather in Minneapolis on June 7,8,9.

"At the end of this period, Lease said, "we would like our 'delegates' to write a brief report about the insight they gained through their experience."