

September 15, 2025

Email to Regents

Dear Regent,

The Executive Committee of the Faculty Senate at UNL is deeply concerned about the proposed \$27.5 million reduction to our campus budget.

It has become clear that the stated timeline is unworkable. Asking our leadership team to design and implement cuts of this magnitude in just a few months risks lasting harm to the long-term health of the university. A measured approach—spread over several years—would better protect the quality of education and research, and would be fairer to faculty, staff, and students, who bear no responsibility for the financial condition the institution now faces. Indeed, one could argue that insufficient investment in higher education has been a major factor contributing to the current crisis.

We also ask you to consider the broader consequences for the people of Nebraska. A reduction of this scale, enacted within weeks or months, would create disruption not only for our campus community but also for alumni, parents, and the state as a whole. The impact will be felt far beyond the university.

We urge the Board to anticipate questions and concerns from stakeholders, and to be prepared to address them openly. Transparent discussion of the rationale, the process, and the expected consequences of these decisions is critical to maintaining public trust.

Thank you,

John Shrader
Faculty Senate President
University of Nebraska-Lincoln