

Senator Lavon Heidemann  
Appropriations Committee  
Nebraska Legislature  
State Capitol  
District 1  
Lincoln, NE 68509

Dear Senator Heidemann:

Enclosed is the University of Nebraska's "Agency Efficiency Review Plan" for FY2010-11 and  
FY2011-12. (L.D. 935) Attached are the budget and the "Agency Efficiency Review Plan" for FY2010-11 and FY2011-12.

Senator Lavon Heidemann  
September 15, 2010  
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The next few years will be challenging, and they will provide a test of our commitment to education and to the future of Nebraska. At a time when the rest of the world has recognized the advantage the U.S. has enjoyed largely because of higher education, and is pulling ahead of us in

our own game, we must commit ourselves to providing affordable loans and timely completion of a college education. And while we understand that there are other important and worthwhile state priorities, I question whether Nebraska can afford to make budget decisions that limit access to higher education and its personal and societal benefits as well as its impact on the long-term prospects for Nebraskans and our economy.

I look forward to working with you to address these challenges.

Sincerely,

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1 Milliken

# Appendix 1: University of Nebraska Agency Efficiency Review Plan - 2010-2012

September 15, 2010

## Introduction

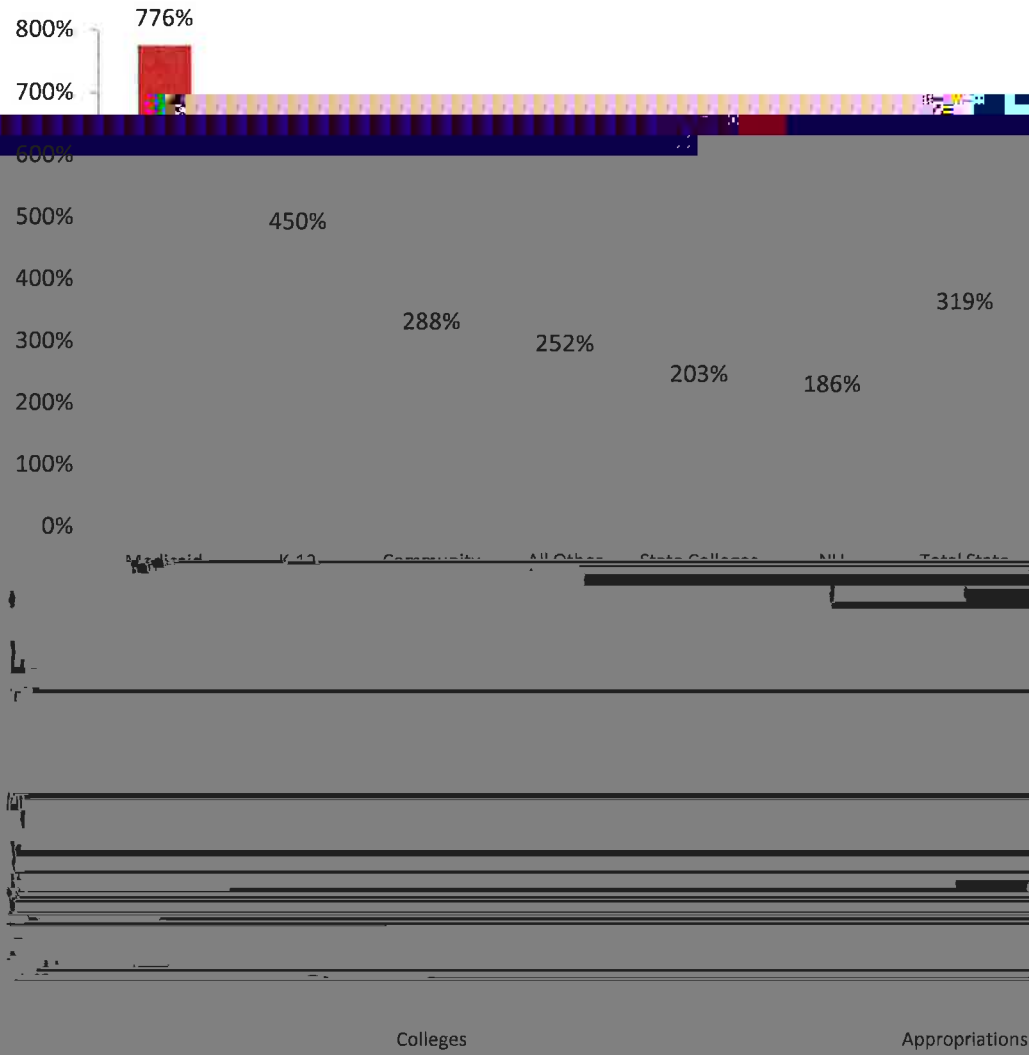
It's clear that the state of Nebraska faces a difficult fiscal period, and the University of Nebraska shares the expectation that all recipients of state funding will feel the impact of these challenging times. The University is committed to doing its part but asks to be treated equitably and fairly. We have lived with a flat state budget for two years and have provided no general salary increases for our employees. While this is not sustainable over the long term if we want to be competitive, we understand that we need to take steps now to emerge in a strong position as the

[REDACTED]

- Enjoy better health;
- Are more likely to vote, volunteer and participate in their community;
- Have children who have better cognitive skills as pre-schoolers and a greater likelihood of going on to college after high school

Regaining our competitive advantage in higher education is a clear national priority. That's why the President and a number of national organizations have developed a plan to

[REDACTED]



**Chart 1: The University's growth in state appropriations, 1986-2011, is 40% less than overall growth.**



The University of Nebraska's strategic framework, adopted in 2005, guides the actions and

costs and be more efficient in order to invest our limited resources in the priorities identified through our strategic planning. In complex, relatively decentralized organizations such as large, modern universities, this is labor-intensive and time-consuming work. A recent study conducted

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Recent successes in consolidation and cost effectiveness contemplated by L.P. 025 include:

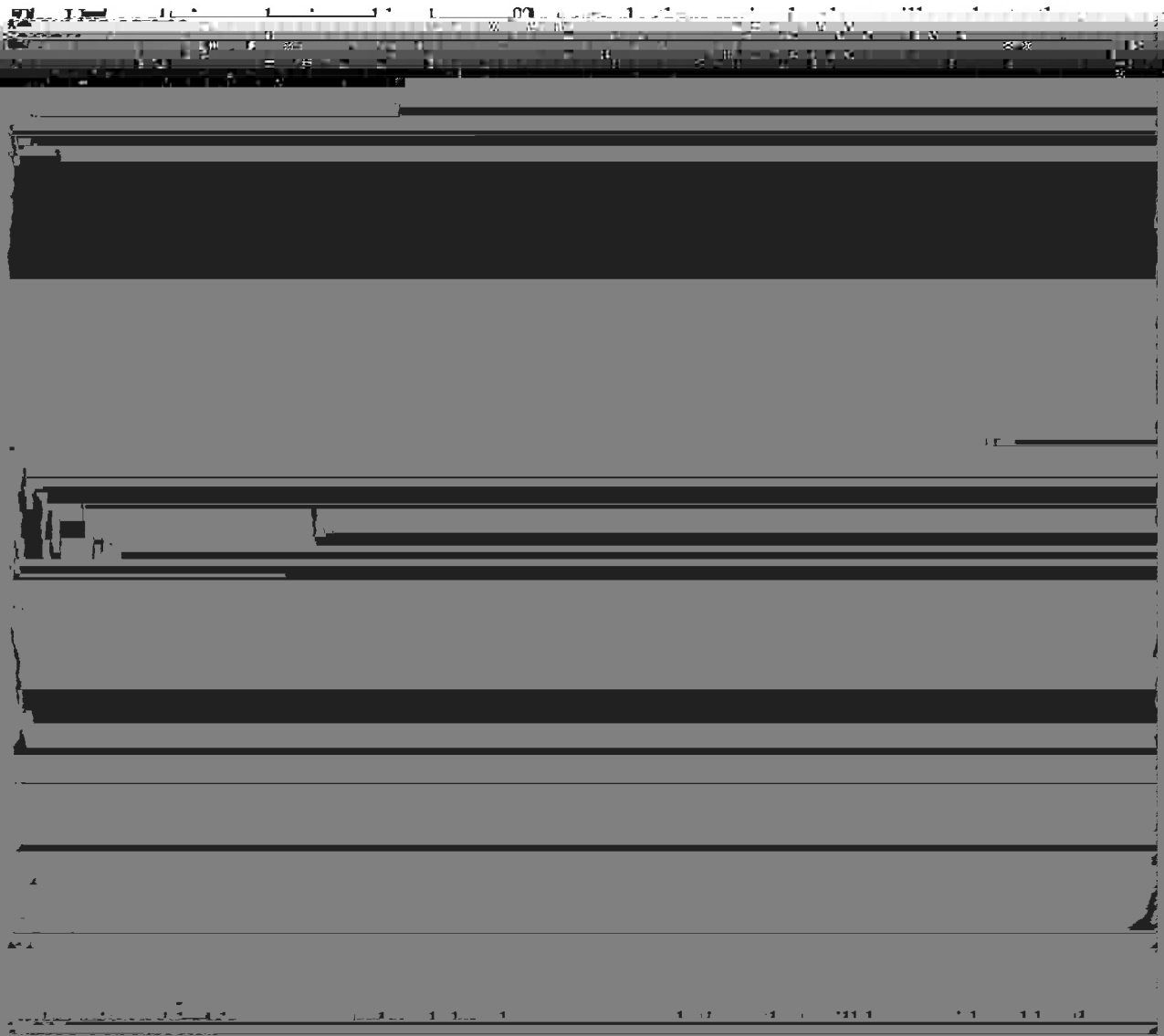
[REDACTED]

- A new Student Information System serves not only the University of Nebraska's four campuses but also the three institutions in the Nebraska State College System, providing

[REDACTED]



In the business areas, university-wide teams of subject-matter experts are analyzing potential savings in six major expense categories: travel, procurement, information technology, facilities, human resources and benefits, and marketing and printing. As work on these areas continues, we also plan to identify additional business areas and processes for University-wide review.



## Review of Mandates and Requirements

The Education Committee of the Legislature, pursuant to LB 542, has done an important service in identifying statutes and mandates that have an impact on Nebraska's educational institutions. The University is working with Chairman Adams and the Committee on a comprehensive review of process in which changes in existing statutes might result in cost savings. This review is

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

**85-1,104. University of Nebraska Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources; established; administration.**

*§ 1. The University of Nebraska Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources shall be established*

*and shall have the following powers, duties and responsibilities:*

*(a) To receive and administer the funds appropriated to it by the Legislature and the University of Nebraska System, and to receive and administer any other funds that may be received by it from any source.*

*(b) To employ and fix the salaries of such personnel as may be necessary for the efficient operation of the Institute.*

*(c) To acquire, hold, lease, convey, and dispose of real and personal property, including the purchase and sale of securities, and to execute any instrument necessary to carry out its powers and duties.*

*(d) To enter into contracts and execute any instrument necessary to carry out its powers and duties.*

*(e) To sue and be sued, and to defend itself in any court of law.*

*(f) To do all other things necessary to carry out its powers and duties.*

*§ 2. The University of Nebraska Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources shall be established as a separate legal entity within the University of Nebraska System, and shall have the following powers, duties and responsibilities:*

*(a) To receive and administer the funds appropriated to it by the Legislature and the University of Nebraska System, and to receive and administer any other funds that may be received by it from any source.*

*(b) To employ and fix the salaries of such personnel as may be necessary for the efficient operation of the Institute.*

*(c) To acquire, hold, lease, convey, and dispose of real and personal property, including the purchase and sale of securities, and to execute any instrument necessary to carry out its powers and duties.*

*(d) To enter into contracts and execute any instrument necessary to carry out its powers and duties.*

*(e) To sue and be sued, and to defend itself in any court of law.*

*(f) To do all other things necessary to carry out its powers and duties.*

- Statutes and policies related to the Commission of Industrial Relations impact the Board of Regents' ability to set salaries for faculty at UNK and UNO
- Medical research centers – Eppley Institute for Cancer Research §85-801 and Regional

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

These process and mandate reviews could create opportunities to significantly reduce costs, but are unlikely to entirely address the significant fiscal challenges the State faces next biennium.

### **Four-Day Work Week**

We do not believe that a four-day work week at the University of Nebraska is practical.

The table below is almost entirely obscured by heavy black redaction bars. Only a few faint horizontal lines and a small portion of a cell in the lower right quadrant are visible. The redactions appear to be in the form of thick black horizontal bars covering the content of the rows.



- Eliminated Bachelor's Degree program in Public Administration
- Eliminated the Education Specialist degree and related faculty position and staff support

into a School of Interdisciplinary Informatics, which resulted in administrative savings

- Integrated some satellite operations (e.g. NBDC) into new College of Business Administration

