

# REAFFIRM 2016: KEY POINTS



## ASSESSMENT

Academic programs are reviewed every seven years to ensure they are relevant, high quality and consistent with the mission. Achievement-Centered Education courses are assessed. Surveys identify student participation in—and satisfaction with—academic and co-curricular programs, services and activities, as well as improve student affairs programs. Customer surveys and assessments identify constituents' needs and satisfaction. Students, peers and/or appointed supervisors evaluate all instructional staff members, including part-time lecturers.



## DIVERSITY

The university remains a predominantly white institution and continues to wrestle with the challenges of creating an inclusive community for students of color. Programs, activities and resources help increase knowledge and awareness of diversity among our students, faculty and staff. A strategic plan for increasing diversity and inclusion of our faculty and students is being crafted and plans are in place to map diversity efforts, programs and courses and identify gaps and opportunities for growth. International students, staff, and faculty contribute largely to the university's diversity.



## INTEGRITY AND ETHICS

The university ensures that students, staff and faculty understand ethical responsibilities, and use and apply knowledge responsibly and ethically. Faculty instruct students on how to complete assignments and assessments with academic integrity.



## MISSION

As Nebraska's only public, research intensive, land-grant research university, the university's mission is to teach, do research and serve Nebraskans. The university has enacted this mission with a consistent focus on two priorities—excellence in undergraduate education and excellence in research—always pursued within the context of engagement derived from its land-grant tradition. We have a mission statement that provides a clear sense of identity. With new senior leadership, we have powerful opportunities to engage in synergistic reflection about and implementation of processes, resources, initiatives and strategies needed to achieve university goals for increasing student enrollment, graduation rates, faculty hires, research funding and national awards by 2020.



## SERVICE, OUTREACH AND ENGAGEMENT

The university demonstrates its commitment to the public good by addressing the state's workforce and research and development needs; contributing expertise to Nebraska's P-12 schools with a special emphasis on early childhood; serving the public through Nebraska Extension programs in all 93 counties; and providing educational and cultural enrichment through programs in the arts, humanities, sciences, agriculture, business and other areas that are available to all citizens. Learning occurs not only in the classroom but also through engagement in campus life and in communities and organizations beyond the campus, preparing students for a lifetime of success and leadership.



## TEACHING AND LEARNING

Every encounter with a student is a potential learning experience and every member of the university community has a role to play in student learning and success. The university has highly qualified faculty to carry out their teaching responsibilities. Staff is well-trained and support is appropriate. Full-time faculty members have terminal degrees in their fields or appropriate experience relating to their disciplines. We have the appropriate facilities, including teaching laboratories, technological infrastructure and libraries, and adequate space to support student learning. Co-curricular activities serve to enhance and enrich students' learning experiences.



## STUDENT SUPPORT

The university provides support services for students in a variety of forms from the moment they enter the university until they leave. Significant investments in building and expanding services to advise, track, tutor and provide peer mentoring are helping students overcome barriers to retention and degree progress.



## STRATEGIC PLANNING

All colleges and many units have strategic plans. Moving forward, a campus-wide analysis of organizational scaffolding will create a more unified, interconnected system of the academic, student, research and athletics components of our mission.



## TECHNOLOGY

Measures to boost technology infrastructure have been the subject of significant focus since our last review. Technology infrastructure was prioritized for investment and innovation, and campus-wide IT services were transformed to meet university priorities.



## RESEARCH

As a research-intensive, public land-grant institution, the university supports student and faculty scholarship, creative work, and the discovery of knowledge that benefits society, contributes to global advancement and expands human knowledge. Sponsored research is at an all-time high. Fostering interdisciplinary research is a key strength. Connecting faculty scholarship to partnerships with the private sector also is a priority. Annually, more than 400 undergraduates collaborate with faculty on creative activity and research; many individual programs promote research and creative activities for both undergraduate and graduate students.



## RESOURCES

The University of Nebraska-Lincoln is financially stable. The necessary infrastructure is in place, including resource and budget monitoring processes. The university has invested more than \$32 million in the renovation of classrooms, laboratories, student support service centers and learning resource centers. The current budget model is being reviewed to better align funding with the university's core mission and support strategic resource allocations for high quality academic programs, enrollment growth, research, and outreach initiatives.