

University of Nebraska 2010-2011 Operating Budget

The University of Nebraska's proposed 2010-2011 operating budget, which will go before the Board of Regents for consideration on June 11, represents prudence during difficult economic times and strategic preparation for potentially challenging times ahead. Key elements of the proposed budget include:

■ A 6% increase in tuition. The university's increases have been steady, and keep NU campuses well below tuition rates at similar institutions. This year's proposed increase means most resident undergraduates carrying 15 credit hours per semester would pay \$135 to \$170 more per semester, depending on which campus they attend. *NU peer tuition increases on back.*

■ A 6% increase in need-based financial aid, including Collegebound Nebraska, which guarantees that students who qualify pay no tuition at the University of Nebraska. Collegebound Nebraska was expanded in 2009 to include most students with a family income of \$50,000 or less, and will be expanded again for 2010 to cover those with a family income of about \$53,000 or less.

■ An additional one-time investment of \$2 million in student financial aid to meet additional needs of students. This follows last year's \$1.2 million Student Assistance Fund, which was created to help students who encountered unexpected financial hardships.

• Other one-time investments in strategic priorities that position the University for the next biennium and beyond, such as energy efficiencies that will save money over the long term, student recruitment initiatives that will increase revenues, and essential deferred maintenance projects.

■ No funding provided for salary increases for faculty and staff not covered by collective bargaining agreements, in order to help preserve jobs and manage funding reductions from last November's special legislative session. This practice, while aimed at preserving resources in the short term, is not sustainable in the long term if the University is to compete successfully for top talent.

■ A shortfall of \$10.1 million – the equivalent of a 5% tuition increase. This comes in addition to \$8.5 million in reductions the University identified in 2009-2010. Between 2000 and 2010, the University has implemented \$58 million in reallocations, which have led to program eliminations, mergers, academic restructuring and downsizing of services. *Examples of program cuts since 2000 on back.*

Note on the University's capital campaign:

■ The University of Nebraska's ongoing capital campaign will allow the University to continue to invest in high priorities for Nebraska, such as student financial aid and academic initiatives in agriculture, water, cancer and other areas. Nearly all private donations to the University of Nebraska Foundation are designated for particular purposes and are not available for general spending.

University of Nebraska Peer Tuition Increases (University of Nebraska: 6%)

UNL Peers		UNO Peers	
U. of Illinois Urbana-Champaign	9.5%*	Northern Illinois	9.5%
U. of Colorado-Boulder	9.0%	U. of Colorado-Denver	9.0%
U. of Minnesota-Twin Cities	7.5%	Portland State	8.0%
U. of Kansas	7.0%*	UNC at Charlotte	7.9%
Ohio State	7.0%	U. of Texas-San Antonio	6.4%
U. of Iowa	6.0%	U. of Northern Iowa	6.0%
Iowa State	6.0%	Wichita State	5.0%
Purdue U.	5.0%	U. of Arkansas-Little Rock	3.9%
U. of Missouri-Columbia	0.0%	U. of Missouri-St. Louis	0.0%
Colorado State	N/A	Cleveland State	3.5%
Average	6.3%	Average	5.9%
*Freshmen only.		-	
UNK Peers		UNMC Peers	
U. of Northern Iowa	6.0%	U. of Tennessee Health	
Western Illinois	6.0%	Science Center	10.0%
U. of Wisconsin-Stevens Point	5.5%	U. of Illinois-Chicago	9.5%
Moorhead State	5.3%	Colorado Health Science	
Sam Houston State	5.0%	Center	9.0%
Murray State	4.0%	U. of Minnesota-Twin Cities	7.5%
Central Missouri U.	0.0%	Ohio State	7.0%
U. of Central Arkansas	N/A	U. of Kansas Medical Center	7.0%
Northern Colorado	N/A	U. of Iowa	6.0%
Northern Michigan	N/A	U. of Oklahoma Health	
Average	4.5%	Science Center	5.0%
		U. of Kentucky	3.0%
		Average	7.1%

Examples of NU program eliminations since 2000

- UNL College of Arts & Sciences Nebraska Humanities Center eliminated
- UNL Division of Continuing Studies eliminated and functions reassigned
- West Central Research and Extension Center Diagnostic Laboratory in North Platte closed
- UNK Center for Excellence in Leadership eliminated
- UNK majors in German and German education eliminated

