



BIOGRAPHY: TED CARTER

Ted Carter became the eighth president of the University of Nebraska System on Jan. 1, 2020, following a national search by the Board of Regents.

As president, Carter leads a four-campus university system that enrolls nearly 50,000 students and employs 16,000 faculty and staff on campuses in Lincoln, Omaha and Kearney, plus academic divisions and research and extension centers across the state. He serves as chief spokesman and chief executive officer for the system, which operates on a \$3 billion annual budget and includes a flagship Big Ten institution, a world-renowned academic health sciences center, Division I athletics programs, and preeminent institutes focused on water and agriculture, national security and defense, infectious disease and early childhood education.

Carter brought with him a distinguished record in education, partnerships and military service, having come to Nebraska from the U.S. Naval Academy, his alma mater, where he was the longest continuously-serving superintendent since the Civil War. Under his leadership, the Naval Academy achieved a No. 1 national ranking and new records in student success and diversity. Carter previously was president of the U.S. Naval War College in Newport, R.I. A retired Vice Admiral with 38 years of service, Carter has logged more than 6,300 flying hours and holds the American record for carrier-arrested landings.

In his first year at the University of Nebraska – faced with the unexpected and unprecedented challenges presented by COVID-19 – Carter led with a focus on the land-grant priorities of access and opportunity for students and families. He launched the Nebraska Promise, a financial aid program guaranteeing free tuition for low- and middle-income Nebraskans, and implemented a multi-year budget plan that included a two-year, across-the-board tuition freeze. The result was system-wide growth in enrollment, including record gains among underrepresented students.

Carter oversaw the awarding of a \$92 million federal contract for the university's National Strategic Research Institute, one of only 14 University-Affiliated Research Centers in the country conducting exclusive research for the Department of Defense. During Carter's tenure, the NU System has been ranked among the world's top 100 institutions for earning research patents, the Omaha campus was selected as the home for a new federal counterterrorism research center, the Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources launched a new effort focused on rural vitality, and the medical center opened an education, training and preparedness facility that positions Nebraska as the world leader in the fight against infectious disease.

Carter holds a courtesy faculty appointment in aviation in the College of Public Affairs and Community Service at the University of Nebraska at Omaha. He serves as the chair of the Daugherty Water for Food Global Institute's Board of Directors and is a board member for the Greater Omaha Chamber of Commerce, the Nebraska Chamber of Commerce and Industry and the Naval Aviation Museum Foundation. Carter is also a member of the Board for the American Council on Education (ACE), the Association of Public and Land-Grant Universities' Council of Presidents and the Council on Competitiveness. He is an ex-officio member on the board of the University of Nebraska Foundation, the philanthropic partner of the university system that has a \$1.7 billion endowment.

Carter earned his bachelor's degree in physics and oceanography from the U.S. Naval Academy, where he played hockey and served as team captain. He is a graduate of the Navy Fighter Weapons School (Top Gun) and holds educational credentials from the Navy Nuclear Power School, the U.S. Air Force Air War College, the Naval War College and the Armed Forces Staff College.

Carter's 38-year military career includes logging more than 6,300 flying hours while operating from 19 different aircraft carriers. He flew 125 combat missions in Iraq, Afghanistan, Kuwait, Bosnia and Kosovo. Carter is a Distinguished Fly Cross with combat distinction for valor, and a Bronze Star recipient. He holds the American record for carrier-arrested landings, with over 2,000 mishap-free landings. In 2022, Carter received the U.S. Naval Academy's Distinguished Graduate Award in recognition of his military service and leadership.

The son of an English teacher, Carter was raised in the rural, one-high school town of Burrillville, R.I. He and his wife, Lynda, live in Lincoln and have two adult children, Brittany and Christopher.

**“I AM HUMBLLED TO HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO SERVE
AT OUR UNIVERSITY—A JOB THAT I BELIEVE IS ONE OF
THE BEST IN AMERICAN HIGHER EDUCATION.”**
