



## **Executive Memorandum No. 2**

### **The University of Nebraska Administrative Structure**

The original goal of this land-grant university was, "To afford the inhabitants of this state with the means of acquiring a thorough knowledge of the various branches of literature, science, and the arts." This goal has stood the test of time, inspiring the university's dedication to the education of students, research in a broad range of disciplines, and service to the state's citizens.

The University of Nebraska is the state's only public university. It became the first institution west of the Mississippi River to establish a Graduate School circa 1896. Founded in Lincoln, the university included a medical center in Omaha beginning in 1902.

The University was reorganized under a 1968 act of the Nebraska Legislature. The legislation provided for the addition of the University of Nebraska at Omaha (formerly the municipal University of Omaha) and designated the University of Nebraska-Lincoln and the University of Nebraska Medical Center as separate campuses. In 1991, the University of Nebraska at Kearney (formerly Kearney State College) became a campus of the university. The Nebraska College of Technical Agriculture in Curtis is also part of the University of Nebraska, offering a two-year degree program with a focus on veterinary technology, ag production and business management or horticulture. The university also includes many research, extension, and service facilities statewide.

1. The University of Nebraska is one university. It is governed by a single Board of Regents, and the Board of Regents has appointed a Chief Executive Officer -- the President of the University of Nebraska -- as the single administrative officer responsible to the Board of Regents for the effective functioning of the University of Nebraska. The University conducts its programs primarily on four campuses with certain programs and operational functions assigned to the President/Chief Executive Officer's office.
2. The Chief Administrative Officer for each campus is its Chancellor, with line authority delegated from the President/Chief Executive Officer of the University. The Chancellor/Chief Administrative Officer of each campus is responsible for the conduct of the affairs of that campus consistent with policies established by the Board of Regents and administered through the office of the President/Chief Executive Officer. In turn, each Chancellor/Chief Administrative Officer shall appoint appropriate administrative officers to assist in the conduct of campus affairs, and these campus administrative officers are responsible in a line authority to the Chancellor/Chief Administrative Officer of the campus.

3. The President/Chief Executive Officer of the University is assisted in the administration of the affairs of the University by the four Chief Administrative Officers on the campuses along with the NU Vice President and IANR Vice Chancellor, who, together with the President/Chief Executive Officer, form the President's Council of the University. For purposes of easy reference, the office of President/Chief Executive Officer, including the staff of the President/Chief Executive Officer, shall be identified as "System Administration." Each campus shall be identified as "Campus Administration" with the appropriate campus prefix.
4. The President/Chief Executive Officer of the University is further assisted in the administration of the affairs of the University by the five principal University Administration staff officers -- the Executive Vice President and Provost, the Senior Vice President for Business and Finance and Chief Financial Officer, the Vice President and General Counsel, the Vice President for External Relations, and the Vice President and Chief Information Officer. These senior administrative officers, along with the Corporation Secretary and the President/Chief Executive Officer, form the President's Cabinet of the University.
5. The Chancellors/Chief Administrative Officers, are responsible to the President/Chief Executive Officer and through the President/Chief Executive Officer to the Board of Regents. The Chancellor/Chief Administrative Officer of each campus shall be responsible for providing the leadership for establishing the administrative structure necessary for the effective functioning of their campus. While substantial authority has been delegated to the Chancellors/Chief Administrative Officers, it is important to remember that each Chancellor/Chief Administrative Officer is also a University Vice President, a member of the President/Chief Executive Officer's staff, and that the University of Nebraska is one university. In addition to these general responsibilities, each Chancellor/Chief Administrative Officer shall have the following specific responsibilities:
  - A. To provide creative leadership in developing all the programs under their jurisdiction;
  - B. To seek ways for improving the learning opportunities for students enrolled on their campus;
  - C. To develop all possible techniques for helping faculty in their professional growth and development, and in their service to students;
  - D. To organize their staff in the most effective and economical manner to help achieve campus and University objectives;
  - E. To provide regular evaluation of performance for all employees and, to the extent possible, reward meritorious performance through salary increases and promotions;
  - F. To develop the annual campus operating budget after appropriations have been finalized by the Office of the President/Chief Executive Officer -- subject to University budget guidelines;

- G. To maintain an effective planning program and to develop a system for monitoring the effective implementation of these plans;
- H. To develop and maintain an effective program of liaison with the leadership in the primary community served.

Because of the University-wide nature of the responsibilities of the principal administrative officers of the University, it is expected that the Chancellors/Chief Administrative Officers shall from time to time be requested to represent the President/Chief Executive Officer on state and national committees, commissions, and programs.

- 6. The Executive Vice President and Provost serves as the President/Chief Executive Officer's principal staff officer for academic affairs in the University. In this role the Executive Vice President and Provost is responsible for the following:
  - A. Reviewing and recommending action to the President/Chief Executive Officer and the Board of Regents with respect to all proposed new academic programs;
  - B. Reviewing and recommending personnel actions relating to academic appointments, terminations, promotion, continuous appointment, and salary for approval by the President/Chief Executive Officer and the Board of Regents;
  - C. Providing leadership in coordinating academic programs on the campuses when such coordination promises to improve the effectiveness of the University;
  - D. Monitoring the academic quality of the University;
  - E. Preparing reports on and analyses of academic matters as directed by the Board of Regents or the President/Chief Executive Officer;
  - F. Providing administrative leadership for the University-wide graduate program;
  - G. Coordinating matters in the area of student affairs which have University-wide implications;
  - H. Coordinating applications for grants from outside sources;
  - I. Coordinating the long-range academic planning of the University;
  - J. Provide advice and counsel to the President/Chief Executive Officer, the Chancellors/Chief Administrative Officer, and the campus academic officers on matters which are primarily academic in nature; and
  - K. Develop, in cooperation with the academic officers of the campuses, academic policies for the University as a whole.

The Executive Vice President and Provost shall serve as Chair of the University-wide

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Council of Academic Officers which shall include the chief academic officer of each campus. They shall use this Council in both an advisory and policy role in executing the functions of their office. While the chief academic officers of the campuses shall be administratively responsible to their Chancellors/Chief Administrative Officers, they shall be expected to cooperate fully with the Executive Vice President and Provost in matters that have University-wide implications. In recommendations for appointment of the chief campus academic officers, the Chancellor/Chief Administrative Officer of each campus shall be joined in their recommendations by the Executive Vice President and Provost.

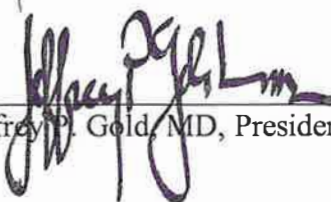
7. The Senior Vice President for Business and Finance and Chief Financial Officer serves as the principal staff officer for the President for all matters which are primarily of a business, finance, or administrative nature. In this role the Senior Vice President for Business and Finance and Chief Financial Officer has responsibility for the following functions:
  - A. The development, implementation, and maintenance of a uniform accounting system for the entire University;
  - B. The development of the biennial University-wide budget request for presentation to the Board of Regents;
  - C. The development of the annual budget for the entire University for presentation to the Board of Regents after the Legislature and Governor have established the University's biennial appropriations;
  - D. The development of uniform personnel policies for the nonacademic employees of the University, including fringe benefits, working conditions, employment practices, grievances, and compensation policies;
  - E. Recommending appropriations requests for new construction, for major renovation and remodeling projects, and for major repairs. These recommendations are to be made only after an analysis of existing available space and its functional condition, current utilization of available space, and determination that the recommended course of action provides the most economical solution to the problem consistent with functional requirements;
  - F. Recommending a final list of architects to the Board of Regents for new construction and major remodeling projects in accordance with established Board procedures;
  - G. The coordination of all business policies and practices of the University with particular concern for achieving savings through consolidated purchasing of high volume items;
  - H. The administration of the University's Facilities, Construction, and Planning team, the Procure to Pay (P2P) team, and the Nebraska Business Information System (NeBIS) team;

- I. Preparing such reports and analyses as may be required of them by the Board of Regents or the President/Chief Executive Officer;
  - J. Coordination, as necessary, with appropriate state government offices in the administration of accounting, budgeting, and computer operations of the University.
8. In meeting these staff responsibilities, the Senior Vice President for Business and Finance and Chief Financial Officer shall establish and chair the University-wide Council of Chief Business Officers and shall seek the advice and assistance of this Council in the conduct of their duties. While the chief campus business officers shall be administratively responsible to their Chancellors/Chief Administrative Officers, it is essential that close and open cooperation characterize the relationship of these officers and the Senior Vice President for Business and Finance and Chief Financial Officer. In order to underscore the necessity of such a cooperative relationship while still protecting the concept of a single line of administrative authority, each Chancellor/Chief Administrative Officer shall appoint their chief campus business officer only with the full and prior concurrence of the Senior Vice President for Business and Finance and Chief Financial Officer. In addition, before recommending the appointment of any person to the position of Controller, the Chancellor/Chief Administrative Officer shall seek and consider the advice of the Senior Vice President for Business and Finance and Chief Financial Officer.
9. The Vice President for External Relations shall serve as the University's chief lobbyist and represent the entire University to the Governor's office, the Legislature, agencies of state government, and to Congress and federal agencies. Specifically, this office shall have responsibility for the following duties:
- A. To represent the position of the University as determined by the Board of Regents or by the President/Chief Executive Officer acting for the Board on all matters coming before the executive or legislative branches of state government, and on all legislative matters of interest to the University with respect to federal agencies or to Congress;
  - B. To coordinate and facilitate engagements with executive and legislative officials, both in state and federal governments, on behalf of the President/Chief Executive Officer and University;
  - C. To assist the President/Chief Executive Officer in developing and coordinating the University's official state and federal public policy agenda;
  - D. To serve as the representative of the President/Chief Executive Officer both internally and externally in the absence of the President unless other officers of the University have been specifically designated.
10. In fulfilling these responsibilities as chief lobbyist for the University, the Vice President for External Relations shall chair both a State Relations Council and Federal Relations Council to include a representative designated by each Chancellor which shall regularly discuss

legislation of interest to the University as a whole or any component of the University. The Vice President for External Relations, and her or his designees, shall be the only employees officially registered to lobby for the University and shall be free to call on campus personnel for counsel and assistance when they deem such counsel and assistance necessary. To assure orderly procedures in maintaining the University's relationships with government officials and to assure a full flow of information, all campus personnel are expected to keep the Vice President for External Relations informed in an expedited manner of all contacts either in-person, oral, virtual, or written -- with the executive or legislative branches of the federal or state government. This is not intended to restrict immediate response to inquiries from these governmental entities but rather to ensure that appropriate persons are informed and involved

11. The Vice President and Chief Information Officer shall serve as the primary staff officer for the President for all matters pertaining to strategy, operations, performance, and direction of Information Technology Services.

Dated this 14<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2026.

  
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Jeffrey P. Gold, MD, President

**Reference:** Revised January 14, 2026  
Revised August 9, 2022  
Edited April 2011  
January 9, 1976