

STAFF SENATE

ADVOCATE. SERVE. ENGAGE.



Message from the President

As we begin a new academic year, I am honored to serve as your Staff Senate President. While this is a time typically marked by energy, optimism and new beginnings, we find ourselves navigating significant uncertainty.

The recent announcement of a 27.5-million-dollar budget reduction has left many of us feeling concerned. These concerns are not only about financial implications but also about how these changes will affect the people and programs we care about.

Despite the challenges ahead, I believe moments like this reveal the strength of our community and our ability to come together with purpose.

Here is what your Staff Senate is doing right now:

We are ensuring your voice is at the table. Staff Senate holds two seats on the Academic Planning Committee (APC), which will guide this budget process. We are committed to advocating for fairness, transparency and recognition of staff as essential to the university's success.

We have already been listening. Over the summer, Staff Senate hosted two Town Halls to hear directly from you. The insights shared during these sessions have been compiled into a Staff Senate Town Hall Feedback Report, which is already informing conversations with campus leadership.

We are advocating for transparency and recognition. We are meeting with NU President Jeffrey Gold and have requested a meeting with Chancellor Bennett and the Executive Leadership Team. We are calling for clear communication about the decision-making process and are pursuing formal recognition of Staff Senate by the NU Board of Regents, bringing us into alignment with Faculty Senates across the system.

We are calling on you. Whether you serve on Senate, attend meetings or share your ideas and concerns, your voice matters. This is a moment to lean in and engage. Together, we can shape a stronger and more inclusive future for all UNL staff.

I also want to take a moment to recognize Vice Chancellor for Business and Finance Mike Zeleny, who will be departing UNL on September 2 to serve as senior vice president, chief financial officer and chief operating officer at Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C.

Read more: <https://go.unl.edu/y70t>

August 2025



Jessie Brophy
Staff Senate
President

What is Staff Senate?

The purpose of the University of Nebraska–Lincoln (UNL) Staff Senate is to be an advisory body on issues, institutional policies, and practices that relate to the staff, to serve as a forum for the exchange of ideas, to promote common interests among the staff, to advocate for staff welfare and development, to suggest revisions and initiatives to improve staff policies, and to participate in the formulation of institutional policy and governance.



Read this online

2025 Staff Awards presented at All-Staff Conference



The University of Nebraska-Lincoln Staff Senate is honored to announce the honorees for the 2025 staff awards. The staff senate recognition committee developed and implemented the staff senate recognition awards and recognized 16 staff with eight different award categories at the All-Staff Conference in July. <https://go.unl.edu/5mzo>

Discover, Connect, and Grow with Fall 2025 Learning Groups

Ready to make meaningful connections, enhance your skills, and explore new perspectives this fall? The #NCLUDE Learning Groups are back with a fantastic lineup of 13 unique opportunities designed to help you build community and foster a greater sense of belonging. <https://go.unl.edu/53ex>



Subscribe to the Staff Senate Newsletter to receive updates from the staff senate and the latest information on happenings at UNL.



August's Development Opportunities Abound

Right on the heels of a highly successful All-Staff Conference, the University of Nebraska-Lincoln Organizational Development and Training Unit is thrilled to continue offering opportunities for professional development.

<https://go.unl.edu/hpdm>

Step Into Wellness: Events, Challenges, and Resources for a Healthier You!

Learn more about the upcoming Employee Wellness and Community Resource Fair; the Robinette Subscription Box Program; the Certified HealthierU Department program and the Fall Semester Step Challenge. <https://go.unl.edu/eaxh>

Free Wellness Coaching for University Employees

University Employees have access to free wellness coaching sessions on behalf of the HealthierU Employee Wellness program. <https://go.unl.edu/yfdx>

New Hypertension Management Program

University employees are invited to register for the Healthy Heart, Healthy Workplace Hypertension Management program from HealthierU. <https://go.unl.edu/3hyg>

Print this newsletter for your office.

Engage with the Staff Senate!

Are you interested in getting involved with UNL's Staff Senate but not sure where to start?

Here are some ways to connect with the Staff Senate:

- Staff Senate Newsletter: Sign up to receive the newsletter to stay informed about Staff Senate activities, opportunities for staff, and other relevant updates.
- Submit an Article for the Staff Senate Newsletter: Do you have a story, event, or other information to share with staff at UNL? Submit an item for the newsletter .
- Participate in Staff Senate Meetings: Did you know you can attend Staff Senate meetings? Find dates and times on the Upcoming Events calendar on the Staff Senate homepage. Meetings are available both in person and virtually. Can't attend? Meeting minutes are shared on the Staff Senate website.
- Serve as a Senator: Each year, the Staff Senate holds elections for open seats. We would love for you to consider serving alongside us!
- Share Your Voice with Senators: Have concerns or ideas? Contact us through the Staff Senate contact page. We want to hear from you!

<https://staffsenate.unl.edu>

