

STAFF SENATE

ADVOCATE. SERVE. ENGAGE.



Message from the President

Welcome to the first Staff Senate newsletter of the academic year. The start of a new semester always brings a sense of renewal and possibility. Campus is alive with energy as students return to classrooms, residence halls, and shared spaces, filling UNL with the spirit and excitement that makes our university so special. This season is not only about students beginning their journey but also about us, as staff, recommitting ourselves to the important work of supporting their success and advancing the mission of UNL.

As your Staff Senate President, I am deeply energized by the year ahead. We have many opportunities to celebrate the incredible contributions of staff, to strengthen our sense of community and to engage in the events and initiatives that make UNL such a vibrant and inspiring place to work. Together, we will continue building connections across campus, ensuring that staff voices are heard and fostering an environment where every member of our university community can thrive.

This is also a critical time for our university community. The [recently announced budget reduction proposal](#) is difficult and understandably creates uncertainty. At this stage, these reductions are recommendations and not final decisions. The Academic Planning Committee (APC) will carefully review the proposals in the coming weeks, and staff have representation in that process through Staff Senate's two voting seats. You can follow the timeline and find details on the [APC website](#) and about the [budget process](#).

Your Staff Senate is working to ensure staff voices are heard and valued during this process. We are actively engaging with campus and system leadership, elevating feedback from staff across UNL, and advocating for transparency, fairness and recognition of staff as essential to the university's success. Here is what we are doing right now:

Proactive Listening

This summer, under the leadership of Jordan Gonzales and other key members of Staff Senate, we hosted two Town Halls to hear directly from staff. The feedback was tremendous and has been compiled into the [Staff Senate Town Hall Feedback Report](#). We encourage all staff to read the report, which is already informing our conversations with university leadership.

Meeting with NU President Gold

We had a productive meeting with President Jeffrey Gold and members of his leadership team to review the Town Hall Feedback Report. The response was incredibly positive, and we are excited to continue the conversation.

Read more: <https://go.unl.edu/sx86>



September 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.



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

Print this newsletter for your office.

Serve as a Senator: Each year, the Staff Senate holds elections for open seats. We would love for you to considering 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!



Your Voice, Our Community: Join the Staff Senate District Meetings

In the midst of a busy semester, it's more important than ever to take a moment to connect with our colleagues and community. <https://go.unl.edu/j9qh>

NSPIRE launches, Fall sessions include Leadership Style, Trust, and Change

A new opportunity for leadership growth is coming to University of Nebraska-Lincoln employees this fall. The [NSPIRE leadership development program](https://go.unl.edu/umrz) is designed to cultivate essential leadership skills for supervisors and managers. <https://go.unl.edu/umrz>



NRICH Sessions Focus on Well-being, Communication, and Leadership

ODT's NRICH professional development sessions provide a range of learning opportunities for faculty and staff. <https://go.unl.edu/29vm>

HealthierU Rest and Reset Classes for UNL Employees

University employees are invited to participate in this new program offering for Fall 2025. Over the course of the semester, HealthierU will host a combination of in-person and virtual restorative class offerings. <https://go.unl.edu/ihcj>

October NRICH and NSPIRE Opportunities

Organizational Development and Training (ODT) is kicking off October with a diverse slate of professional development opportunities designed for all UNL employees. <https://go.unl.edu/bfam>



Introducing NCLUDE Networking

University of Nebraska–Lincoln employees looking to expand their professional network and engage in valuable peer-to-peer learning now have a new, flexible opportunity: [NCLUDE Networking Sessions](https://go.unl.edu/70o5). <https://go.unl.edu/70o5>

Join the 2025 Homecoming Celebration: 'Scarlet City'

Faculty and staff are invited to celebrate Homecoming Week, Sept. 29–Oct. 4, with Scarlet City themed office decorating, a movement challenge, food drive, and more! <https://go.unl.edu/gtcz>

Conflict Resolution Training for Employees

Powerful conflict resolution training being offered to all UNL faculty, staff, and graduate students. <https://go.unl.edu/w2tq>

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:

- 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.