

From the Desk of . . .



Harvey Perlman
Chancellor

In early November, UNL was visited by a team of academics who reviewed our university as part of our 10-year accreditation. We learned the team will recommend full accreditation for the next 10 years. This is good news for UNL, as accreditation is an indicator that we are fulfilling our institutional goals and objectives.

The team was impressed by our commitment to our tripartite mission of teaching and learning, research and creative activity, and outreach and engagement; by the progress we have made over the past 10 years; by our adherence to the accreditation criteria; and by the general environment on campus. It is very

exciting to have a group of distinguished visitors evaluate us so highly.

Since our last accreditation visit in 1996-97, we believe UNL has made progress on a number of fronts. In 2001, UNL developed an internal report card, "Indicators of Institutional Quality," that allows us to measure how we are doing and how we compare to our peers. The 2006 report was recently published, and it confirms our beliefs.

Among the highlights of that report are:

- Our six-year graduation rate now exceeds 63 percent, meaning that within six years of enrolling as first-time students, 63 percent have earned their degrees. In 1999, our six-year graduation rate was 47 percent.

- Our retention rate now exceeds 84 percent, again, a significant improvement since 1999.

- Roughly a third of graduating seniors report having a meaningful research or creative activity experience while at UNL.

- Federal research expenditures have risen by more than 80 percent since 1999, and this past fiscal year, UNL's funded research exceeded \$100 million; total grants for all university missions was nearly \$166 million, more than double the funding of 10 years ago.

- The proportion of students of color among our undergraduate population is increasing, and the percentage of tenured/tenure-track faculty who are female or people of color continues to increase.

- Our average ACT composite for incoming first-year student continues to climb.

The University of Nebraska-Lincoln, driven by the Power of Red, remains committed to the pursuit of excellence without compromise.

Harvey Perlman
Harvey Perlman



Steve Pederson
Athletic Director

Dear Cornhusker fans,

We are grateful that you have taken a break from your holiday weekend to cheer on the Cornhuskers in today's regular-season finale against the Colorado Buffaloes. We hope you enjoy this game as we honor our seniors who have helped lead us to a Big 12 North Division Championship.

Help us welcome our visitors from Colorado, including the coaches and players and their families and fans. Show them the same courtesy you extend every other week during the season and continue the Nebraska tradition of being the "Greatest Fans in College Athletics."

This holiday weekend is a time for thanks across the nation and it is no different for our athletic department at Nebraska. We are thankful to have a beautiful new facility that will help our coaches attract the top student-athletes from around the country. We are thankful to have wonderful fans who support all of our sports like no other program in the country. And most of all we are thankful for the outstanding student-athletes who call Nebraska home and are the key to winning the next Nebraska Championship.

This holiday season we are extremely thankful for the way in which you have supported our team. It means a great deal to everyone here at the University. You are truly a key part of the Power of Red.

We are all so proud of the way Coach Callahan's squad has come together and overcome every obstacle to reach its goal. This is teamwork at its finest.

Enjoy the game and have a safe time today in and around Lincoln.

Go Big Red!

Sincerely,

Steve Pederson
Steve Pederson

