EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The University of Nebraska at Omaha (UNO) and its College of Education, Health, and Human Sciences (CEHHS) seek an experienced, visionary, strategic leader to serve as the next dean of the college, starting in July 2024.

CEHHS is a diverse community of scholars, learners, and staff, offering undergraduate and graduate programs across a dozen disciplines and subdisciplines, ranging from teacher preparation to counseling to biomechanics and kinesiology. Each of the 24 academic programs is committed to developing dedicated practitioners, reflective scholars, and responsible citizens. The college plays a key role in advancing the engaged, metropolitan mission of the campus by leading efforts to meet local and regional workforce development needs for K-12 education and administration and its internationally recognized research programs in public health, kinesiology, and biomechanics. Students learn, train, and research in cutting-edge facilities and benefit from life on a metropolitan campus in the heart of Omaha.

For more than 100 years, UNO has been firmly anchored in its community, forging partnerships with business, government, education, arts, and civic organizations. No fences or barriers separate students from the opportunities the greater Omaha community offers. At the heart of UNO’s metropolitan university mission is the belief and understanding that success at UNO means success for Omaha, and success for Omaha means success for UNO.

The next dean will have the opportunity to build on the college’s success to develop a compelling vision for CEHHS’s future. The Dean will develop and advance a strategic enrollment management strategy, continue to explore new opportunities for preparing CEHHS graduates for professional success, and support and invest in the college’s research enterprise, all while strengthening UNO’s connection to Omaha. The dean will be a champion for student, faculty, and staff success while advocating for the college and all its programs.

The ideal candidate will have either an advanced degree in a related field or a combination of education, scholarly achievement, and/or professional accomplishment meritorious of a faculty appointment with tenure in the college.
ROLE OF THE DEAN

Reporting to the Senior Vice Chancellor, the Dean is the college’s Chief Academic Officer. As such, the Dean is charged with providing innovative and effective leadership for the academic departments and interdisciplinary programs comprising the college in collaboration with department chairs and directors. This includes fostering an environment characterized by shared governance, academic excellence and intellectual development, leading efforts to ensure that academic programming meets the needs of contemporary learners, developing new programs and opportunities in support of enrollment growth and student success in the workforce, and ensuring that student success is prioritized.

The Dean is charged with fostering a collegial, welcoming, and inclusive college environment where faculty, staff, and students from diverse backgrounds and cultures are able to learn and work in a safe and supportive environment. Additionally, the Dean is expected to foster an environment that honors and supports shared governance, encourages transparency in decision-making, and is characterized by communication and collaboration.

The Dean is broadly responsible for providing academic leadership to the college in a time of change. In recent years, there have been significant changes in campus leadership and organizational structure. The college has largely experienced stability during this time, benefitting from continuity in leadership with a long serving (14 years) dean. The Dean is charged with leading UNO’s largest college in efforts to ensure alignment with institutional priorities focused on research, student success, and workforce development including initiatives focused on developing experiential learning opportunities, fostering community engagement and partnerships, and supporting the development of international programs and partnerships.

More specifically, the Dean is responsible for leadership and oversight of the following areas:

» **Student success and degree completion:** The Dean is responsible for ensuring the college operates in a manner consistent with UNO’s student-centered approach by meeting instructional needs across programs and modalities, providing effective academic advising, and fostering a culture of care among faculty and staff focused on supporting students in a holistic manner. The Dean is responsible for monitoring enrollments, fostering enrollment growth, and working collaboratively to support student success as needed.

» **Engagement and representation of the college:** The Dean is responsible for representing the college to both internal and external audiences and is tasked with enhancing the visibility and reputation of the college, its faculty, and its programming. The Dean is also responsible for leading community engagement efforts and fostering engaged teaching, research, and service among faculty.
» **Research development:** The Dean is responsible for leading efforts to support and enhance externally funded research in the college by building on current successes in sponsored research. Key to supporting research is recruitment and retention of high-quality faculty and securing adequate resources, including equipment and space.

» **Academic program vitality and sustainability:** The Dean is responsible for regularly assessing the vitality and sustainability of academic programs in the college using a data-informed approach. The Dean works closely with college faculty to identify and assess opportunities for improvement and growth and incorporate them into planning efforts.

» **Faculty recruitment and retention:** The Dean is responsible for leading efforts to recruit and retain a well-qualified, diverse faculty body by fostering a vibrant and inclusive environment for faculty from diverse intellectual, cultural, and ethnic backgrounds.

» **Academic excellence and faculty development and advancement:** The Dean is responsible for supporting the development and advancement of faculty in the college, supporting faculty research and creative activity, fostering a culture of service, teaching, and administering the college’s reappointment, promotion, and tenure processes.

» **Fiscal management:** The Dean is responsible for the College’s $14 million annual budget, including allocating funding to support key priorities and initiatives, working collaboratively with various departments to understand and manage budget-related matters, and fiscal planning and all aspects of managing college funds.

» **Resource development:** The Dean is responsible for garnering philanthropic support for the college and its constituent departments and programs, and for leading fundraising efforts in support of students, faculty, programming, and key initiatives.

» **Personnel management and decisions:** The Dean is responsible for personnel decisions pertaining to the college’s 34 staff and 105 full-time faculty including oversight of searches and hiring, annual performance assessment, disciplinary matters, and all other personnel matters.

» **Strategic planning:** The Dean is responsible for leading strategic planning efforts in the college in a collaborative manner that engages faculty and staff, and regularly assessing progress toward key initiatives.
LEADERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES AND EXPECTATIONS

The following are important priorities for the next CEHHS Dean:

» Develop, support, and promote faculty, staff, and student research and creative activities.

» Establish a global reputation as an outstanding multidisciplinary academic environment that shapes the future of education, health, and human sciences and improves the quality of life.

» Lead and support collaborative efforts that align with college, campus, and community priorities.

» Recruit, retain, and promote a diverse learning community of engaged citizens.

» In partnership with faculty and staff, foster new and emerging technologies to support teaching, learning, and innovation.

QUALIFICATIONS AND LEADERSHIP COMPETENCIES

The Dean is a tenured faculty member with rank in one of the College’s academic units. The Dean is a member of the Dean’s Council and works in close collaboration with the Senior Vice Chancellor, other deans, campus leaders, and college faculty and staff in advancing UNO’s mission of research, teaching, learning, scholarship, and service. The Dean offers energetic, innovative, and intellectual leadership to the College’s academic community and plays a significant role in the development of academic vision and strategy for the College.

The successful candidate will have the following qualifications and characteristics:

» Demonstrated record as an academic leader with a commitment to academic excellence in teaching, research and creative activity, engaged activities, and global engagement as well as academic credentials that merit an appointment at the rank of Professor in one of the college’s units. Also, a multidisciplinary orientation that facilitates an understanding of issues, opportunities, and challenges in areas outside of one’s own expertise.

» Proven ability to conceive and foster a shared vision, imagine new possibilities for the college, and create the energy and enthusiasm to realize this vision through strategic planning and consensus building.
» Has a proven understanding of large-scale, federally funded research, as evidenced by leading or providing administrative leadership and support to such projects.

» Commitment to and experience in creating a welcoming and inclusive environment that fosters a culture of inclusion, access, and equity.

» Exceptional interpersonal and communication skills including the ability to communicate effectively with both internal and external stakeholders, to build successful relationships within the college, across the campus community, and with community partners. Also, a high level of emotional intelligence and a reputation for integrity and fair-mindedness.

» A demonstrated record of commitment to student success and engagement including a commitment to pedagogical excellence and experiential learning, experience discerning and preparing students for the future, and an authentic personal interest in and excitement for interacting with students.

» An innovative orientation and a record of success, or potential for success, in generating external funding and resources including experience garnering philanthropic support, supporting externally funded research and scholarship, and fostering interdisciplinary partnerships.

» Managerial acumen or successful experience managing the personnel, budget, and operational aspects of a large, complex academic organizational unit including the ability to work with and through a team, good judgment in assessing strengths and areas in need of improvement, and a collaborative approach to problem-solving.

» An appreciation for the value and importance of branding, marketing, and public relations as it relates to the college and its strategic objectives.
COLLEGE STRUCTURE AND POINTS OF PRIDE

The College of Education, Health, and Human Sciences is comprised of six academic departments, three growing research centers, and a robust academic advising and support structure for students.

Academic Departments

CEHHS consists of six highly productive college units that have worked together to grow collective excellence and expertise:

» Department of Biomechanics
» Department of Counseling
» Department of Educational Leadership

» School of Health and Kinesiology
» Department of Special Education and Communication Disorders
» Teacher Education Department

Academic Research Centers

Led by Dr. Nikolaos Stergiou, CEHHS is home to the Center for Research in Human Movement Variability (MOVCENTR). The MOVCENTR strives to generate high-impact and high-quality research in human movement variability and emphasizes the clinical translational nature of its approach. It was established in 2014 and has been awarded more than $20 million in grant funding from the National Health Institute’s Center of Biomedical Research Excellence.

The MOVCENTR includes three Core Service Centers:

» The Machining and Prototyping Core Service Center involves the use of three facilities within UNO’s Biomechanics Research Building - the Machine Shop, Electronics Workshop, and Additive Manufacturing Laboratory. This core can design, prototype, manufacture, repair, maintain, and install a variety of devices and instrumentation.

» The Movement Analysis Core Service Center provides resources, education, advisement, and services related to the analysis of human movement. This core maintains the following laboratories: Aquatic Therapy Lab, CAREN Virtual Reality Lab, Gait Lab, Bioinspired Robotics Lab, GRAIL Virtual Reality Lab, Main Gait Lab, Balance and Strength Lab, Brain Imaging Lab, and Academic Lab.

» The Nonlinear Analysis Core Service Center (NONAN) is a unique resource dedicated to discovering and investigating the rich patterns found in human movement and physiology. NONAN’s mission is to provide researchers with innovative analytic tools that go way beyond looking at averages. The NONAN Core Library is an evolving software suite that shows researchers and industry teams how movement and physiological processes change over time.
Points of Pride

CEHHS has much to celebrate and is proud of its efforts to support students on their academic journey and the work of faculty that exemplifies academic excellence.

» The college is housed in three beautiful buildings with state-of-the-art facilities, including the Biomechanics Research Building, the Health and Kinesiology Building, and Roskens Hall.

» The Department of Biomechanics serves as a beacon of interdisciplinary research. Since its inception in 2016, the department has seen remarkable growth, starting with just 3 faculty members and expanding to 18 today. Over this period, the department has secured over $40M in external funding, with over 60% of its faculty leading major federal research grants. Biomechanics is proud to contribute to a third of UNO’s overhead costs and holds all NIH R01 grants currently awarded to the university.

» Student retention in the college is typically among the highest on the UNO campus, with retention rates consistently well above 90%, semester after semester.

» The Teacher Education Department (TED) has produced the majority of teachers in the Omaha metropolitan community and continues to be recognized nationally for offering quality educator preparation. TED has also received the University of Nebraska 2020 University-wide Departmental Teaching Award, which is one of the NU System’s most prestigious awards.

» CEHHS is one of the most successful colleges in terms of receiving external funding, averaging approximately $8 million per year over the last three years.

» Founded in 1988, the Metropolitan Omaha Educational Consortium (MOEC) is a model collaboration dedicated to public education. MOEC serves as a forum and community for education professionals and is a catalyst for identifying high-priority issues common to member organizations.
» The college includes six different nationally accredited programs across the units, with strong accreditation ratings and related national standings.

» Through a partnership with the Nebraska Department of Education, the Department of Educational Leadership facilitates the college’s Nebraska Education Policy Research Lab, a collaborative team of researchers, educational leaders, policy leaders, and educators conduct rigorous research for the purpose of developing a body of evidence-based policy solutions that can be shared and applied widely within the Nebraska education system.

» Health and Kinesiology and Biomechanics units facilitate the nationally known “Pitching Lab,” where high school, college, and professional baseball pitchers have their pitching movements scientifically analyzed with an emphasis on performance enhancement and injury risk assessment.

» The college runs three clinics, with services to the community, facilitated by faculty and students. These clinics include the Community Counseling Clinic, Speech-Language Clinic, and the Upper Extremity Clinic.

» The Career Advancement and Development for Recruits and Experienced (CADRE) project provides an opportunity for teachers to complete an accelerated master’s program while receiving support from UNO faculty, veteran teachers, and other first-year teachers. CADRE teachers outperform other educators who have taught for the same amount of time by over 30%.

Student Success and Support

The Office of Academic Advising and Field Experiences for the College of Education, Health, and Human Sciences is responsible for academic advising, field experiences, and teacher certification.

» The Academic Advising staff provides service to undergraduate majors in elementary education, middle grades education, secondary education, special education, speech-language pathology, library science, and sign language interpreting. Their goal is to connect current and prospective educators with the resources needed for academic and professional success.

» The Field Experiences staff facilitate opportunities to practice teaching. Through practicum and clinical experiences, they bridge the gap between classroom learning and its application to the management of one’s own classroom.

» The Certification staff provides support to individuals who are ready to be recommended for certification, including initial or advanced certification, added endorsements, or certificate renewals.
CEHHS is dedicated to fostering student success. As evidenced by UNO’s Graduation Survey, an impressive 88% of students expressed high satisfaction levels with the opportunities for meaningful student-faculty interactions. Furthermore, an outstanding 90% of students reported being equally content with the exceptional quality of instruction in their enrolled program.

Half of the undergraduate students from the Department of Biomechanics secure a paying position within six months following their graduation. A significant 67% of these employed graduates find roles in the healthcare, science, and engineering domains, with many working at institutions like Army Research Labs, Nebraska Medicine, and various academic settings. Impressively, over 80% of these graduates believe their current positions align closely with their biomechanics education, and this sentiment is further echoed by their high levels of satisfaction with the education they received at UNO. Research, a cornerstone of the biomechanics program, saw active participation from 62% of the undergraduate students. The majority of them underscored their research opportunities as the pivotal and most enriching facet of their entire UNO experience.

Students enrolled in a variety of nationally accredited healthcare professions in the college engage in a wide range of valuable experiences. For example, the athletic training program in the School of Health and Kinesiology boasts an aggregate pass-rate on the National Certification Examination of 97.5% and 100% job-placement rate over the past 3 years. In addition, in the 2022-23 academic year Athletic Training Students completed 20,670 hours of clinical experiences in a range of healthcare settings including secondary schools, collegiate, professional sport, hospitals, and orthopedic clinics. Furthermore, the Speech Language Pathology Program has a 100% on-time completion rate, 92% Praxis Examination rate, and 100% job placement rate over the past three years.

In addition to student supports housed within CEHHS, there is a broad array of curricular and co-curricular supports available to students across the campus including the Maverick Food Pantry, Counseling and Psychological Services, Accessibility Services Center, Office of Hardship and Resiliency, and UNO’s Care Team, to name a few.
Faculty And Staff

Approximately 105 full-time faculty are housed within the college (i.e., 75% tenure-track and tenured lines, 25% instructional lines). The college is supported by a talented and caring group of 34 staff, who support the college in various ways to ensure a student-centered teaching and learning environment.

College Leadership

Led by the Dean, the college leadership team includes the following:

- Two Associate Deans and one Assistant Dean
- Five Department Chairs and one School Director
- Professional staff supporting business operations, technology needs, and marketing and communications.

ACADEMICS

CEHHS houses a wide variety of academic degree programs, minors and certificates, and interdisciplinary programs of study at both the undergraduate and graduate levels.

Undergraduate Degree Programs

CEHHS offers bachelor’s degrees in a range of areas of study:

- Biomechanics
- Communication Disorders
- Early Childhood Inclusive
- Elementary Education
- Elementary Education – Special Education
- Kinesiology
- Library Science
- Physical Education Training
- Public Health
- Secondary Education
- Secondary Education – Special Education

CEHHS partners with academic units across the campus to offer a range of endorsements. Learn more about the College’s undergraduate program endorsements, concentrations, and teacher certification programs [here](#).
Graduate Degree Programs

CEHHS also offers masters, post-masters, and doctoral graduate programs intended to support educators who want to advance their profession as well as those who want to work toward a research career:

- Athletic Training (MA)
- Biomechanics (MS)
- Biomechanics and Kinesiology (PhD)
- Counseling (MS)
- Educational Administration (EdD)
- Educational Leadership (MS)
- Educational Specialist (EdS)
- Elementary Education (MS)
- Health and Kinesiology (MA, MS)
- Literacy (MS)
- Secondary Education (MS)
- Special Education (MS)
- Speech-Language Pathology (MS)

In 2022-23, the college was home to 1,445 undergraduate majors, 109 minors, and around 50 Bachelor of Multidisciplinary Studies students completing their degrees with concentration areas supported by the college. At the graduate level, the college is home to nearly 700 masters students and about 100 doctoral students. The college generates about 41,000 student credit hours each year, which is about 12.5% of all credit hour production at the university. The college grants approximately 300 baccalaureate degrees and around 270 graduate degrees (250 masters, 20 doctoral) each year.
ABOUT THE UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA AT OMAHA

Who We Are

As both a Metropolitan University of distinction and a Carnegie Doctoral Research Institution, the University of Nebraska at Omaha transforms and improves the quality of life locally, nationally, and globally. UNO is recognized as the premier Metropolitan University throughout the United States and the world.

UNO is fueled by its historical ties to Omaha. It was founded in 1908 by the Presbyterian Theological Seminary of Omaha. As the first municipal university in Omaha, the early founders’ goal was to make higher education accessible and affordable for the city’s residents. In 1968, the campus joined the University of Nebraska system, and today has the unique role of serving as the state’s metropolitan campus.
Accessibility is a top priority in UNO’s mission and vision. Today, the campus is known for its student-centered environment, its community engagement, and its dedication to embracing students from all types of backgrounds. The campus has built strong partnerships with local business, education, government, arts and civic organizations in the city. UNO’s commitment to community engagement has landed UNO on the President’s Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll for seven consecutive years—the highest federal recognition a school can receive for civic engagement. UNO was among the first institutions to receive the Carnegie designation for community engagement.

This honor is but one of many points of pride. Nearly 90 percent of UNO’s 15,000 plus students are from Nebraska, and roughly 60 percent of recent alumni surveyed report graduating with no debt or less than $5,000 in debt. UNO is one of the most competitively priced institutions in the region. While large enough to provide students with global opportunities, UNO thrives on its personal and close-knit campus culture, where students come first and partnerships with the community grow every day.

In addition to program-specific accreditations, UNO is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission (HLC). The University’s HLC accreditation status was last reaffirmed in a 10-year comprehensive accreditation report in 2018. UNO is also a member of the American Association of State Colleges & Universities (AASCU), American Association of Colleges and Universities (AAC&U), Association of Public and Land-Grant Universities (APLU), Coalition of Urban & Metropolitan Universities (CUMU), Engaged Scholarship Consortium (ESC), Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities (HACU), and the Metropolitan Omaha Education Consortium (MOEC), among others.

**Our Students**

Nearly 85% of UNO’s approximately 16,000 students are drawn from the Omaha Metro region. Approximately 40% of UNO students are first generation students and nearly 30% of UNO students are students of color. UNO enrolls both traditional and non-traditional students with around 29% of students attending UNO part-time. UNO also attracts a significant international population, enrolling nearly 800 students from more than 65 countries. UNO has close ties to Offutt Air Force Base, enrolling about 125 active-duty students each year. UNO students are taught by 650 full-time and more than 540 part-time faculty and are supported by 1,300 staff members.

UNO is also home to two major full-tuition financial need-based scholarship programs that make our high-quality undergraduate education as broadly accessible as possible. The Goodrich Scholarship Program was created almost 50 years ago, and of the approximately 230 current student scholars, more than 70% are first-generation, and 65% are students of color. Funded by the Buffett Foundation, the Thompson Learning Community also provides full-ride scholarships to students with financial need. Nearly one (1) in nine (9) (around 1,150) UNO undergraduate students are part of TLC, and like the Goodrich Scholarship Program, many are first-generation (65%), and more than 65% are students of color.
Academic and Campus Resources

UNO offers nationally recognized bachelor’s, master’s, and doctoral degrees that meet the diverse needs of traditional and nontraditional students. UNO’s more than 200 programs are offered through six colleges:

» College of Arts and Sciences
» College of Business Administration
» College of Communication, Fine Arts and Media
» College of Education, Health, and Human Sciences
» College of Information Science & Technology
» College of Public Affairs and Community Service

The Criss Library serves the entire campus and is a hub of innovation housing the Creative Production Lab, Center for Faculty Excellence, and Office of Digital Learning along with traditional library services and supports for students and faculty. Recently renovated, the library is a common campus destination with study areas for students, a coffee and snack shop, a faculty study lounge, and meeting spaces. Additionally, the Division of Innovative and Learning-Centric Initiatives supports the campus in the growth and development of online courses, teaching and learning support, and academic and non-credit programs.

Student achievement and well-being is supported by both academic and cocurricular supports intended to provide holistic support for students both in and outside of the classroom. Academic support and tutoring are available through four teaching-learning centers: Writing Center, Speech Center, Math and Science Learning Center, and the Computer Science Tutoring Lab. Cocurricular supports are provided through the Division of Student Life and Wellbeing, which helps students connect, get help, and take care through offices such as Counseling and Psychological Services, Accessibility Services Center, the Maverick Food Pantry, Health Center, Gender and Sexuality Resource Center, and Multicultural Affairs.
Innovative, Engaged Research

UNO is known for innovative and engaged research. The University is home to the National Counterterrorism Innovation, Technology, and Education Center of Excellence (NCITE), a national leader in counterterrorism research driven by an interdisciplinary team of faculty from Psychology, Political Science, Criminology and Criminal Justice, Interdisciplinary Informatics, and Management.

The Division of Biomechanics houses all research conducted by the Department of Biomechanics, the Center for Research in Human Movement Variability, and associated programs. The Division is an interdisciplinary enterprise that features a collaboration between scientists, engineers, surgeons, and clinicians to advance the understanding of health and disease.

NCITE and biomechanics boast internationally renowned, state-of-the-art facilities that enable groundbreaking research with both scholarly and practical applications that significantly impact people’s lives. Research programs in biomechanics and through NCITE have contributed to the enormous growth in sponsored research funding at UNO, which has reached $35 million, more than doubling in the last few years.

The Office of Research and Creative Activity (ORCA) provides campus-wide support through the Office of Sponsored Programs, Research Compliance, Internal Funding, and Research Development. ORCA distributes around $500,000 in Tobacco Settlement Funds for biomedical research and facilitates UNO faculty access to the Nebraska Research Initiative funding initiatives which provide around $4 million for projects each year across the NU system. External funding at UNO has grown from $15.4 million in 2014 to $42.1 million in 2023.

Facilities

UNO has added 832,000 total square feet of facilities and renovated more than half of its academic space in recent years. These projects also include a state-of-the-art 120,000 SF home for the College of Business Administration, a new building for the unique and nationally renowned Biomechanics program, new student housing, a 60,000 SF Community Engagement Center that supports and expands university-community partnerships, as well as renovations to many other campus buildings. Capital improvements have also been prioritized through the Only in Nebraska campaign being led by the University of Nebraska Foundation and include the renovation and expansion of STEM education facilities as well as human futures-focused space for the Samuel Bak Museum, Fried Holocaust and Genocide Academy, Goldstein Center for Human Rights, and Schwalb Center for Israel and Jewish Studies. UNO has also added a new sports arena and a new baseball and softball complex. UNO now participates in NCAA Division 1 athletics in the Summit League and plays hockey in the National Collegiate Hockey Conference.
OMAHA: A CITY OF OPPORTUNITY

In the 2023 Best States ranking by US News & World Report, Nebraska proudly holds the #4 spot nationally. The state has garnered commendable positions in various categories: #5 in infrastructure, #7 in education, and #10 in the economy. Additionally, Nebraska ranks #16 for both housing affordability and cost of living among all 50 states. Notably, it leads the nation at #1 in labor force participation and stands at #16 for job growth and #11 in long-term fiscal stability.

As the 42nd largest city in the United States, Omaha has a population of nearly 1.1 million within a 50-mile radius and is integral to what UNO is as a university. Livability ranked Omaha, Nebraska at #20 in the best places to live in the US in 2022.

Omaha resides on the past, present, and future treaty homelands of the Omaha [UmoNhoN] and Otoe-Missouria Tribal Nations, and in the region of the Ponca Tribe of Nebraska, the Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska, the Santee Sioux Tribe of Nebraska, and 170+ other tribes. The city truly functions as part of the UNO campus. With an economic impact on the city of more than $605 million through direct, indirect, and charitable services, the relationship between UNO and Omaha offers unlimited opportunities for collaboration.

Located on the eastern border of Nebraska, near the Missouri River, the city of Omaha is a center of creativity, business, and philanthropy. The growing metropolitan population is the fastest-growing region in the state, according to the most recent US census data, led by growing numbers within the Latinx community. UNO and Omaha enjoy a dynamic, fruitful, long-term partnership with a shared goal: changing the lives of students and residents while enriching the global community. The Omaha Chamber of Commerce has made diversity, equity, access, and inclusion a priority in its work, and created the Commitment to Opportunity, Diversity, and Equity (CODE). UNO leaders have served as advisors for CODE and the Office of Academic Affairs and UNO faculty have partnered with CODE to complete an equity and inclusion survey of Omaha area employers.

While it is a thriving metropolitan center, Omaha is quintessentially Midwestern. Residents enjoy the benefit of four seasons and find outdoor activities plentiful year-round. Visitors are welcomed with open arms and authentic Midwestern hospitality.

Internships, Jobs, and Opportunities

Students find internships, careers, and other opportunities in the heart of Nebraska’s largest city. Omaha is home to four Fortune 500 companies including Berkshire Hathaway, Mutual of Omaha, Peter Kiewit, and Union Pacific, as well as five Fortune 1000 companies: TD Ameritrade, West Corporation, Valmont Industries, Green Plains Renewable Energy, and Werner Enterprises. Companies, visionary nonprofits, award-winning arts and culture, and innovative start-ups flourish and attract a range of world-class talent from entrepreneurs to artists.
Culture, Entertainment, and Sporting Events

In recent years, the Omaha riverfront and downtown area have experienced tremendous growth with over two billion dollars in new development. Residents and visitors can take in a concert at the CHI Health Center Omaha or the world-famous Holland Performing Arts Center, catch an art house film at the internationally recognized Film Streams, visit the nationally known Henry Doorly Zoo and Aquarium, stroll the more than 100 acres at the Lauritzen Gardens, or shop and dine to your heart’s content in the Old Market, Midtown Crossing, or Aksarben Village. Take a walk from Nebraska to Iowa – and back again – on the Bob Kerrey Bridge. This landmark offers a memorable view of Omaha’s skyline and is a prominent feature of our newly reinvigorated waterfront.

Signature events hosted in Omaha span a wide array of interests, including the NCAA College World Series (CWS), NCAA Basketball Tournament, U.S. Senior Golf Open, U.S. Olympic Swim Trials (2008, 2012, 2016), U.S. Olympic Curling Trials, U.S. Figure Skating Championships, Big Omaha, Berkshire Hathaway Annual Meetings, and a score of cultural events, such as national movie premieres, concerts, and plays.

Omaha residents enjoy a wide culinary array of dining experiences that range from innovative chef-created cuisine, vegan dining, seafood, sidewalk cafes, a downtown arts and dining district called the Old Market, local breweries and roasters, and ethnic favorites such as Mexican, Italian, French, German, Greek, Indian, and Asian. And, yes, even a few steakhouses.

For more information about living in Omaha, visit the Omaha Chamber.
CAMPUS LEADERSHIP

Chancellor

The University is led by Chancellor Joanne Li, Ph.D., CFA, who assumed her duties as UNO’s sixteenth Chancellor in July 2021. Li previously served as dean of the College of Business at Florida International University, the nation’s fourth-largest public university. She is the first woman of color to serve as UNO Chancellor and the first Asian-American in the history of the University of Nebraska system to hold an executive leadership role. A first-generation college student who went on to graduate summa cum laude, Li is deeply committed to students and the mission of public higher education with a demonstrated record in improving student outcomes, growing enrollment and programs, enhancing diversity and inclusion, fundraising, and building community partnerships. Learn more about Joanne Li and the Chancellor’s Office here.

Senior Vice Chancellor

Ni (Phil) He, Ph.D., is Senior Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and serves as UNO’s chief academic officer. As Senior Vice Chancellor, Dr. He provides leadership for UNO’s six colleges and library and guides academic initiatives within UNO’s strategic plan. Dr. He also has oversight of scholarship and research initiatives, global partnerships and engagement efforts, and UNO’s commitment to excellence across undergraduate, graduate, professional, and online programs. Dr. He is an alumnus of CPACS at UNO, and prior to returning to UNO in January 2023, he served in a variety of academic leadership roles at Northeastern University in Boston including Vice Provost of Faculty Diversity, Vice Provost for Faculty Affairs, Vice Provost for Graduate Education, Associate Vice Provost for Graduate Education, and Associate Dean for the School of Criminology and Criminal Justice. Learn more about Phil He here.
APPLICATION AND NOMINATION PROCESS

Applications

To apply for the Dean of the College of Education, Health, and Human Sciences, submit the following required application materials by January 15, 2024 through the UNO Employment website:

https://unomaha.peopleadmin.com/postings/18617

» Letter of interest that addresses the areas of responsibility listed under Role of the Dean and includes information on the applicant’s relevant experience and expertise and that conveys the applicant’s understanding and support of UNO’s engaged metropolitan mission and CEHHS focus on teaching and research.

» Current CV that includes names and contact information for five (5) professional references; calls will only occur later in the search process and with prior notification to the candidate.

Nominations and Additional Information

For additional information or a confidential discussion about the CEHHS Dean position, please contact Dr. Michelle Trawick, Search Committee Chair and Dean of the College of Business Administration, at 402.554.2596 or via email at mtrawick@unomaha.edu.

To submit nominations or for questions about how to apply, application status, or other technical questions, please contact Dr. Candice Batton, Assistant Vice Chancellor for Faculty Affairs, at 402.554.4452 or via email at cbatton@unomaha.edu.

All inquiries will be kept confidential. Information and update on the search is also available here on the College of Education, Health, and Human Sciences website.

EEO Statement

The University of Nebraska does not discriminate based on race, color, ethnicity, national origin, sex, pregnancy, sexual orientation, gender identity, religion, disability, age, genetic information, veteran status, marital status, and/or political affiliation in its programs, activities, or employment. UNO is a VEVRAA Federal Contractor and an E-Verify employer.