



UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA AT OMAHA

**DEAN  
COLLEGE OF ARTS AND  
SCIENCES**

**Leadership Profile**



## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The University of Nebraska at Omaha (UNO) and its College of Arts and Sciences (CAS) seek a visionary, strategic leader to serve as the next dean of the college, starting in July 2024.

CAS is a diverse community of scholars, learners, and staff. The college offers a range of academic programs and is home to a blend of traditional academic departments in the humanities, social sciences, and natural sciences and also to several interdisciplinary programs that serve the campus. The college plays a key role in meeting general education curriculum needs for students from across the university and in fulfilling the liberal arts mission of a four-year institution.

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 CAS's future. The dean will reinvigorate the college's research enterprise, develop and advance a strategic enrollment management strategy, and prepare CAS graduates for professional success 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 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.

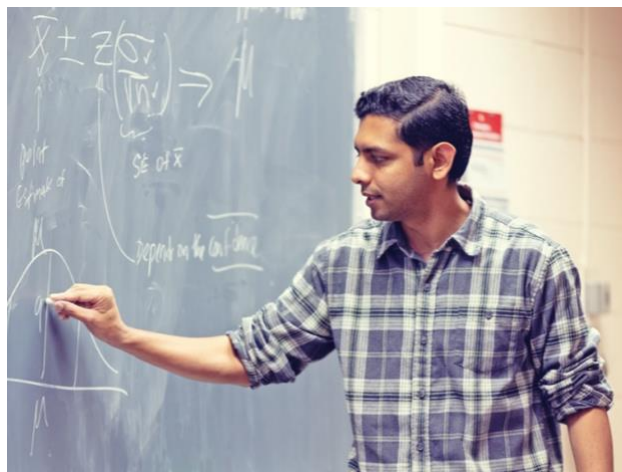
The Dean is broadly responsible for providing academic leadership to the college in a time of change. In recent years, there have been significant changes in campus leadership and organizational structure. The Dean is charged with leading UNO's largest college in efforts to ensure alignment with institutional priorities focused on 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.

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 that is characterized by communication and collaboration.

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.
- » 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 by prioritizing teaching and pedagogical skill development, supporting faculty research and creative activity, encouraging engaged teaching and research, and administering the college's reappointment, promotion, and tenure processes.
- » Fiscal management: The Dean is responsible for the College's \$28 million annual budget including the allocation of 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. The Dean is also responsible for leading efforts to enhance externally funded research in the college by building on current successes in sponsored research, such as those in Biology, Physics, Political Science, and Psychology, for example, and by supporting the development of sponsored research and creative activity programs in other areas.
- » Personnel management and decisions: The Dean is responsible for personnel decisions pertaining to the college's 65 staff and nearly 250 full-time faculty including oversight of searches and hiring, annual performance assessment, disciplinary matters, and all other personnel issues.
- » 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.
- » 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 CAS Dean:

- » In partnership with faculty and campus leadership, refine the college mission and articulate a vision defining areas of excellence that align with the urban metropolitan mission of the campus.
- » Grow revenue from all sources including externally funded research and fundraising to support the college mission and vision.
- » Partner proactively with other colleges in areas of opportunity including interdisciplinary partnerships for academic programming and research that contribute to academic excellence.
- » Attract and retain well-qualified and diverse faculty and staff.

## 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 and campus leaders, and with college faculty and staff in advancing UNO's mission of 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.
- » 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 Arts and Sciences is comprised by 13 academic departments, several interdisciplinary and cultural studies programs, and a robust academic advising and support structure for students. In addition, CAS prides itself on intentional student support, a wide range of experiential learning opportunities, and faculty excellence in teaching and research.

### Academic Departments

CAS consists of several traditional academic departments spanning the natural and physical sciences, social sciences, and humanities:

- » Biology
- » Black Studies
- » Chemistry
- » English
- » Foreign Languages and Literature
- » Geology and Geography
- » History
- » Mathematical and Statistical Sciences
- » Philosophy and Religious Studies
- » Physics
- » Political Science
- » Psychology
- » Sociology and Anthropology

### Interdisciplinary, Cultural, and Gender Studies

CAS is also home to a number of interdisciplinary, cultural, and gender studies programs as well as centers that draw on faculty expertise from within the college and across the campus, providing a rich learning environment and numerous opportunities for engagement and collaborative work.

- » Environmental Sciences
- » Fried Holocaust and Genocide Academy
- » Goldstein Center for Human Rights
- » Latino/Latin American Studies
- » Medical Humanities
- » Native American Studies
- » Neuroscience
- » Schwalb Center for Israel and Jewish Studies
- » Women's and Gender Studies

## Points of Pride

CAS 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.

- » A partnership between CAS and the Maverick Advising Center, the Exploratory Studies program serves approximately 500-600 students each year, who are “at-promise” students coming to UNO without a declared academic major or plan of study.
- » CAS played a pivotal role in bringing the Samuel Bak Museum: The Learning Center to the UNO campus. The [Samuel Bak Museum](#) offers opportunities to faculty, staff, students, and the broader community to engage with Bak’s art on human rights, genocide, and the Holocaust in ways that heighten civic responsibility and enhance inclusivity and cultural awareness.
- » CAS leads the campus in experiential learning opportunities offering more service-learning classes than any other college, celebrating innovative study away programs (e.g., Winter Ecology at Yellowstone National Park), engaging in field work (e.g., first ever archaeological dig at Moses Merrill Mission site), and mentoring award-winning undergraduate student researchers (e.g., 2023 Barry Goldwater Scholarship recipient, Abby Swoboda).
- » The Quantitative Reasoning Initiative launched in 2021 and is geared toward making math and quantitative literacy accessible to UNO students. Housed in the Department of Mathematical and Statistical Sciences, the program serves 4,000-5,000 students each academic year and both quantitative and qualitative data indicate that the QR program is reducing DFW rates and maintaining mathematical rigor while simultaneously improving students’ experiences.
- » CAS is home to the [Health Careers Resource Center](#) (HCRC), which provides advising and support to approximately 2,500 UNO students interested in the health professions by assisting students with career exploration, extracurricular activity and volunteer opportunities, obtaining patient experience as well as study skills and preparing for tests. The center has a proven record of success with placements in nursing, pharmacy, dental and medical school programs increasing dramatically since HCRC’s 2015 creation.
- » In the last five years, CAS external research funding has more than doubled with 2022-23 being a highwater mark over the last five years. Sponsored research and creative activity in the college occurs across the natural sciences, social sciences, and humanities and ranges, for example, from the interdisciplinary [Tell All the Truth](#) project supported by the Mellon Foundation to federally funded basic and applied research in biology, chemistry, math, physics, political science, and psychology.





## Student Support

CAS is committed to supporting students on their academic journey from the point of admission through graduation. The college offers personalized academic advising by a team of trained professionals, serves as the starting point for students who have not yet settled on a major through the Exploratory Studies program, and provides academic support and tutoring in the areas of writing, math, and science.

- » Arts and Sciences Academic Advising Center
- » Exploratory Studies program
- » Writing Center
- » Math and Science Learning Center

In addition to student supports housed within CAS, there is a broad array of curricular and cocurricular supports available to students across the campus including, for example, 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

Nearly 250 full-time faculty are housed within the college (i.e., 70% tenure-track and tenured lines, 27% instructional lines). CAS is the largest college at UNO in terms of departments and faculty. The college is supported by a talented and caring group of 65 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:

- » Senior Associate Dean of Social Sciences, Graduate Programs, and Distance Education
- » Associate Dean of Natural Sciences and Research
- » Associate Dean of Humanities, Undergraduate Programs, and General Education
- » Assistant Dean of Administration
- » Assistant Dean of Student Success
- » Board of Chairs (consisting of 14 department chairs and 6 program directors)

[College of Arts and Sciences Organizational Chart](#)

## ACADEMICS

CAS 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

CAS offers [bachelor's degrees](#) in a range of areas of study:

- » Bioinformatics
- » Biology
- » Molecular and Biomedical Biology
- » Black Studies
- » Chemistry
- » Economics
- » English
- » Environmental Sciences
- » Foreign Languages and Literature
- » General Science
- » Geography
- » Geology
- » History
- » Interdisciplinary Studies
- » Latino/Latin American Studies
- » Mathematical and Statistical Sciences
- » Medical Humanities
- » Neuroscience
- » Philosophy
- » Physics
- » Political Science
- » Psychology
- » Religious Studies
- » Sociology and Anthropology
- » Women's and Gender Studies

Additional areas of study with minors include ancient Mediterranean studies, Chicano/Latino studies, ethics, holocaust and genocide studies, human rights studies, Islamic studies, leadership and public policy, LGBTQ/sexuality studies, medieval/renaissance studies, Native American studies, Spanish for health sciences, and sustainability.

Preprofessional programs are available for pre-health programs and pre-law. Learn more about undergraduate programming [here](#).

## Graduate Degree Programs

CAS also has several [graduate programs](#) offering masters degrees and a doctorate in Psychology:

- » Biology
- » Critical and Creative Thinking
- » English
- » Foreign Languages
- » Geography
- » History
- » Mathematics
- » Political Science
- » Psychology
- » Sociology

Graduate minors are also available in ancient Mediterranean studies, Black studies, medieval and renaissance studies, Native American studies, and religious studies. Graduate certificates are also offered by several departments including English (i.e., advanced writing, literature and culture, technical writing, teaching English to speakers of other languages), Geology and Geography (i.e., geographic information science), Mathematical and Statistical Sciences (i.e., secondary mathematics specialist), Political Science (i.e., government, global information operations, intelligence and national security), and Psychology (i.e., applied behavior analysis, human resources and training). Learn more about graduate programming [here](#).

The college is home to 4,600 undergraduate majors, 2,300 minors, and generates in excess of 140,000 student credit hours each year, which is just over 40% of all credit hour production at the university. The college grants over 650 baccalaureate degrees and around 115 graduate degrees (100 masters, 15 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, and 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. UNO is regularly ranked among the top ten public institutions in the nation for military friendliness by Military Times magazine. 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 both 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. UNO is also home to cutting edge research programs in biomechanics. 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.

## Facilities

UNO has added 832,000 total square feet of facilities and renovated more than half of its academic space in recent years including two of the three buildings that house CAS faculty and staff. These projects also include a state-of-the-art 120,000 SF home for the College of Business Administration, a new building for the 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

As the 42<sup>nd</sup> 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. It 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 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 Arts and Sciences, submit the following required application materials by September 5, 2023 through the UNO Employment website:

<https://unomaha.peopleadmin.com/postings/17796>.

- » 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.
- » 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 A&S Dean position, please contact Dr. Michael Hilt, Search Committee Chair and Dean of the College of Communication, Fine Arts and Media, at 402.554.4855 or via email at [mhilt@unomaha.edu](mailto:mhilt@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](mailto:cbatton@unomaha.edu).

All inquiries will be kept confidential. Information and update on the search is also available [here](#) on the College of Arts and 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.