

# “The Maverick Minute”

## Jabin Moore

### **Episode Description:**

Chancellor Jeffrey P. Gold, M.D., chats with newly elected student body president Jabin Moore.

### **Transcript:**

Hello, I'm Jeff Gold. Thank you so much for joining us today on this very special Maverick Minute. Our guest today is Mr. Jabin Moore. And, Jabin was recently elected president of our student government. And of course that makes you our student regent for the year. Congratulations and thanks so much for giving us a few minutes of your time today.

Thank you so much. I'm super honored to be here.

Well, I'm glad you are and I'm really honored to have an opportunity to work with you. You know I'm sure... I'm curious and I'm sure members of the audience are going to be curious as well. Why would you want to do this? You know this is really a tumultuous time in the history of higher education. It's a great time in the history of UNO as we continue on our upward journey. But you know, you must have had a magic moment when you woke up and said you know today I'm gonna try to do this. And obviously you had to participate in an election and go through all the campaigning and whatever. And, you're successful and congratulations, but why you and why now?

Yeah so, it didn't just happen in one moment. It started my freshman year when I first got involved in the freshman leadership counsel. And, continuing to work my way up into student government and continuing to look for leadership opportunities. And being granted those opportunities. And reaching my last year and having the opportunity to pursue the president and regent position. It was just kind of like... You've come this far in your career so far and so why not look for the next thing that you're...

So, it seemed like a natural next step to you in some regards.

Yeah.

And so, as you think about your next meeting coming up, in the not so distant future, just a couple weeks from now, I would imagine, do you have any thoughts going into that? Do you have some things that you might want to accomplish this year as the student regent as the president of our student government?

Yeah so, our original initiatives of course they're going to remain the same. They're just going to be changed a little bit. But the main thing is reassuring people that you know even though you've gone through a very unprecedented time we'll come out of it and we'll... We're not going back to normal but we're creating a new normal. And so, I think that's the main thing is reassuring people. The main thing that we will be focusing on is making sure that students can still be engaged no matter how it might be. It might not be a on campus in person but...

Hopefully, it will be though.

Well yeah, of course. But however we may navigate that experience in making sure that incoming students have the same experience that we've had in the past. And that you're still able to be engaged... And feel like they are a part of the campus community so.

You know Jabin, I'm really please to hear that because I think that the changes that we have gone through with this covid-19 pandemic are going to create a platform of change that has really been unprecedented. Just like the medical conditions that have been unprecedented, the spread of the disease has pretty much been unprecedented, at least since a hundred years ago, so are the opportunities. There are so many lessons that can be learned. But the engagement of our students at this time is going to be absolutely key because it's the student voices, with our faculty and our staff, and the community members with our alumni. You know there are a lot of different voices that form the chorus that provide the feedback, that provide the beautiful music that makes our future positive. But the student voice is particularly important to us and a having you be the leader of that student voice is gonna be key. So what are you hearing from you fellow students? You know, I'm sure that they're feeling greatly stressed and concerned about their futures individually, their futures as a student, their families issues, what

types of things are you hearing these days?

So we know that students are gonna have a lot of financial barriers coming back to campus. And the thing that I'm going to be focusing on is inclusion and equity. I think a lot of students hear those words and feel like that's kind of an exclusive word, pertaining to only a certain groups. But it's really pertaining to everyone. Though I think students are really gonna be worried about how they're gonna come back to campus and how they're gonna manage their finances. Whether that's buying a parking pass or worried about tickets and things like that. And so like , how we're going to...

You've got to make tickets go away, right. That's the plan.

Yeah right. Exactly, that's the plan. And so...

Or at least forgiveness.

Right. Right. So, I think that's going to be one of the main things that I'll focus on because that's a main pain point for students. And so, making sure that we have equitable opportunities to purchase a parking pass, and then also to just manage the whole parking situation.

Well parking is certainly something that is of concern, but as you may know we just recently announced five new scholarship programs in addition to the Nebraska Promise program.

I was super excited about that.

And they are just incredible for what it's going to mean for the first generation UNO students. Who as you well know, over half of our students are first generation students. This is going to mean incredible things to their access and the affordability of their education.

Right.

Well Jabin, I want you to know that we're in a partnership and that we are going to do this together and the student voice is going to be front and center in all of the decision

making that we are going to have. I want to take this moment and congratulate you again, to thank you for your willingness to serve, and I look forward to our first board of regents meeting together.

Yes, thank you so much. I look forward to working with you as well.

Thanks again. And thank you for joining us today on this Maverick Minute.