1-14-2003

Academic Senate Notes

John Owens

University of Nebraska - Lincoln, jowens2@unl.edu

Follow this and additional works at: http://digitalcommons.unl.edu/owenspeech

Part of the Agriculture Commons

http://digitalcommons.unl.edu/owenspeech/72
IANR

Principal Components:

- College of Agriculture & Natural Resources
  - Dean Darrell Nelson
    - Duty FY 2002 - Faculty in ARQ
      - Obtained $31.1 million + grant + contract funding
      - 49.8% of all UNL research grant dollars

- Research + Extension - Education Components of the College of Human Resources + Family Sciences

C. THE AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH DIVISION - DR. DARRELL NELSON

- Duty FY 2002 - Faculty in ARQ
  - Obtained $31.1 million + grant + contract funding
  - 49.8% of all UNL research grant dollars

D. THE COOPERATIVE EXTENSION DIVISION - CED

- Dean Elbert Dickey
  - "Cooperative "?? - a three-way partnership
    - State of Neb. - UNL
    - Federal Govt. - USDA
    - Counties

- Extension - The most successful "out-of-the-classroom" educational enterprise ever developed

- 93 Nebraska Counties - 83 UNL Extension Offices

- Extension - The front door to the UNL
  • Nebraska's front door to US
1) **The Land-Grant University**

a) **Justin Smith Morrill - Strafford, VT.**

- Congerwoman, Then Senator.
- Born Just 11 years after George Washington Died.
- Died the Last Week of 1866.
- The Land Grant College Act 2 July 1862
- Civil War
- Abraham Lincoln

b) **The Key Words**: at least

   one college where the leading object shall be, without excluding other scientific and classical studies, and including military tactics to teach such branches of learning as are related to agriculture and the mechanic arts, in such manner as the legislatures of the States may respectively prescribe, in order to promote the liberal and practical education of the industrial classes in the several pursuits and professions in life.

  (f) 1862
  - Morrill Act

  (g) 1864
  - D.C. Allen

  1864
  - Land Grant

  1869
  - Land Grant

  1869
  - Land Grant

  1869
  - Land Grant

  1869
  - Land Grant

  1869
  - Land Grant

  (h) **The First Time, On Any Continent, That The Practical & The Liberal Were Blended.**

  On The Same Campus.

  Morrill had created "An Invitation to Make Inventions!"

  **d) Nebraska - Established The University Of Nebraska 1869 - On The L.G.U.**
- County Extension Educators - Centers
- State Extension Specialists - Academic depts
- R.E. Centers

E. The Conservation & Survey Division
- School of Natural Resource Science
- The Hardin Center

F. The Nebraska State Forest Service

The Nebraska State Wide Arboretum
Jim Coberthy

2.) Strategic Planning
- 1998 - Plan
- Listening Sessions Across N.E.
  - Citizens
  - State Holden
  - Regents
  - Elected Officials

3)
Talking points/ideas for the Faculty Senate:

- The land mission, and the vision to which it calls us.

- The importance of extension- best out-of-classroom education ever devised and the misperceptions people have of extension (that Norman Rockwell image).
  - How many people with extension appointments in room today?
  - Extension as the front door to the university- and the state's front door to us (in tune with what Nebraska is thinking and saying)

- The IANR vision:

  IANR will be the premier provider of educational, research and outreach programs essential for shaping Nebraska's future as a leader in the 21st century in the areas of food, agriculture and agribusiness systems, natural resources and human resources. IANR is dedicated to providing the highest quality programs that are ecologically sound, economically viable, socially responsible and scientifically appropriate.

From Darrell Nelson's report to ABN:

- During fiscal year 2002, faculty in the Agricultural Research Division obtained $37.1 million in grant and contract funds- 49.8 percent of all UNL research grant dollars.
During fiscal 2002, our ARD faculty published 396 journal articles, books and book chapters, advised 114 M.S. and Ph.D. graduates, released 11 new plant varieties and germplasms, and obtained 5 patents.

Some examples of research Darrell listed—also could take along "Points of Pride" to distribute:

*Methane emissions are the second most serious gas causing global warming. About 17 percent of methane emitted each year arise from livestock and 15 percent of the digestible energy in cattle feed is lost as methane. An ARD research team has discovered four classes of chemical compounds that block methane formation in artificial rumens. The most promising compounds will be tested in cattle.

*Nutritionists have developed a tasty deep-fried carrot chip that contains large amounts of vitamin A. Vitamin A deficiency is a leading cause of blindness among children in developing countries. The carrot chips can supply the vitamin A needs of children when consumed in moderate amounts.

*Purple Majesty, a mutant pearl millet, topped the floral class in All-
American Selection trials and received the organization Gold Medal for exceptional performance. The variety will be on the market this year.

Ideas about the importance of agriculture in Nebraska, which all faculty senate members may not be familiar with:

*One in four Nebraskans depends upon agriculture for employment— that from the 2002 Nebraska Agriculture Fact Card, a cooperative effort of the Nebraska Bankers Association and the Nebraska Department of Agriculture. That underscores the importance of agriculture to Nebraska, and the importance of the work conducted in the Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources.

*One in four people depend upon agriculture for employment. To say nothing of those Nebraskans depending on us to continually help provide a safe, abundant, affordable food supply. And to help sustain viable communities and families. And to help provide a healthy environment with safe and clean soil, water, and air, not only for us in Nebraska today, but for future generations.

*We are about the essentials of life. Food water. A healthy environment. People.

*What are the issues of tomorrow, as the world population continues to grow? How will we feed them? Will there be enough clean water to drink? What about
the air and soil? We're already there.

*For us, agriculture is everything from the farm gate to the consumer's plate.

*If someone declares agriculture is of declining importance in Nebraska, need to remember:

- 25 percent of Nebraska's population depends on agriculture for employment. One in four.

- Only a misguided or short-sighted nation takes lightly those resources necessary to feed its citizens, should it one day find food imports held hostage either through war, terrorism, or economic boycott. One American farmer or rancher produces enough food for 129 people—95 in the U.S. and 34 abroad. As percentage of the population their numbers may be small, but these are very productive people.

- Take a drive from the westernmost edge of Lincoln and head west, out through the Platte River Valley, out past Chimney Rock, all the way to the Wyoming border. What do you see? Agriculture. Miles and miles and miles of it. 96 percent of Nebraska's total land area is the 46.4 million acres that comprise Nebraska's farms and ranches. Nearly 24,000 miles of rivers and streams add to our state's bountiful natural resources.
Sensitivity to the state as we move through budget cuts:

*Sensitivity to the state is a good thing. We need to remember many people are dealing with difficult times. It's not all about us, and others who are struggling economically may see our protests about cuts at the university as whining, because they're having to tighten belts and they think we should, too. Also, some of the cuts we have been forced to make in the Institute have been very, very painful, both to us and to the constituents in the areas where they occurred. We need to remember those people we don't see on campus everyday, who pay the taxes that support us, when we frame our own views of how devastating these cuts have been. While some areas so far may appear unscathed, in the university as a whole, and certainly within IANR, there are good programs gone only because we no longer can afford to support them.

*People's comments about “deadwood” at the university. People don't understand how a university works, or they don't care. Feeling they can be gone from their own jobs if they're not productive, they see no reason for privilege” for others. Especially, perhaps, if they feel those “others” make a good deal more than they do.

*The perception that cuts are occurring outside of Lincoln instead of at the Lincoln campuses – and the Lincoln campus community doesn't care about the hurt that is
happening at locations in the state. A sense of abandonment.

*It is not in the best interest of either the state or the university if people feel a disconnect from their state university. When you look at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln it is very clear how much this state, with its small population, has valued its state land grant university and the education it provides. From our constituents we also hear loudly of the importance of our research that contributes to the economy and quality of life of the state, and the extension education that helps people put those research results to use in their lives.