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University of Nebraska/Kimmel Education and Research Center Groundbreaking

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**University of Nebraska/Kimmel Education and Research
Center Groundbreaking
January 25, 2005
Nebraska City
John C. Owens
NU Vice President and IANR Harlan Vice Chancellor**

It's really exciting to be here this afternoon as we officially celebrate "breaking ground" for the University of Nebraska/Kimmel Education and Research Center. We in the Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln are so pleased to be "part" of this celebration. We look forward to all the good work that will be accomplished here to benefit Nebraska.

We are "excited" to see the center "finished" by late summer, excited to see the first - and the following! - educational programs "held" in the new classroom that will be "here." We are excited for the office space, and for the viticulture and specialty-forest crop laboratories our faculty and staff will use for ongoing studies. This can only strengthen our work on behalf of

Nebraska.

We look forward with great anticipation to the discoveries and educational programs that will occur here – discoveries and education that are part of our land-grant university mission and contribute to Nebraska and the citizens of our great state.

Our land-grant university product is knowledge. We discover knowledge through research. Once discovered, we share that knowledge with the world. This is what land-grant universities do best. We provide solid, research-based knowledge people can use to make their own reasoned, well-informed choices and decisions.

We transfer that knowledge in our classrooms and in our teaching laboratories, along with learning skills and living skills that help people apply knowledge and build on it in both their professional and personal lives.

We also transfer that knowledge to Nebraskans through our statewide extension-education programs. I consider Cooperative Extension the best out-of-classroom ^{the formal} educational opportunity ever –

yet devised, and Cooperative Extension is one of the key components of the land-grant university mission.

I'm proud to say land-grant universities have a strong record of providing value to ^{the} various states and our nation, whether through scientific discovery or the education of well-trained leaders so vital to our nation's future. I'm even prouder to say that tradition is especially strong in Nebraska, and we intend to keep it so.

As your land-grant university, we know the university belongs to you. We know the importance of working-closely with the citizens of our state, of listening to what constituents tell-us are the current and emerging needs for which they seek our assistance. We know it is our responsibility to answer the question, what have you done for me lately?"

Centers such as this one help us meet those needs and have those conversations. They help us take the resources, riches, and technologies of the university to Nebraskans across our state.

REGENT Jim McClurg -

In the Institute, we see ourselves as "partners" with Nebraska. Partnerships are absolutely necessary so we all, "working together", can help our state grow and prosper. Certainly "the partnership" we see here today is a wonderful example of that.

When the "late" Mr. and Mrs. Kimmel "established" the Richard P. and Laurine Kimmel "Charitable-Foundation", it was with a "farsighted-vision" of how they might continue their commitment to their community, this region, and their state by "enhancing" the quality of life here through education, arts, agriculture, humanities, and human services. We are so very, very pleased to be "part" of helping to carry out this vision.

Thank you.

SOFL -

Justin Smith Morrill

STAFFORD, Vermont