

GO PERS!

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UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA KEARNEY[™]

Campus Budget Forum

Dr. Neal Schnoor, Chancellor

December 9, 2025

POWER *of the* **HERD** 

UNK Priorities in Budget Reduction Process

Collaborate and Innovate to Protect:

- Resolving \$4.5M Structural Deficit – Uncertainty and Stress

Protect:

- Mission as a Comprehensive University
- Transformative Learning & Student Success and Experience
- Meeting Education and Workforce Needs for Nebraska and Beyond
- Increase Access and Grow Enrollment: Residential and Online
- Commitment to Shared Governance, Collaboration, Innovation
 - SVCAA, Deans, Chairs, Committees, Affected Units, Individuals
 - Faculty Advisory Committee & Budget Advisory Committee



Factors Contributing to Structural Budget Deficit

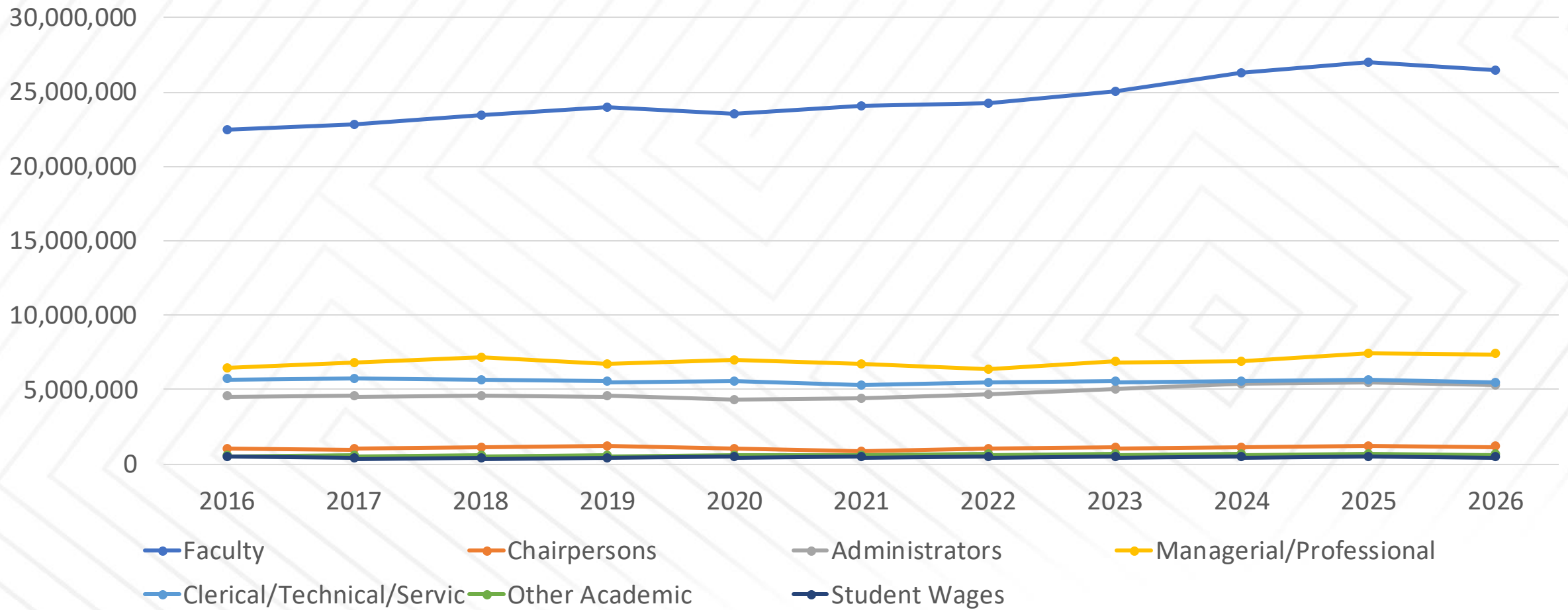
- Effects of Tuition & Appropriations the Last Ten Years:
 - NU increased tuition roughly half CPI rate (- \$59M annually)
 - Legislative appropriations have lagged CPI (- \$250M annually)
- Inflationary increase on goods, services, food, travel, etc. continue
- Since 2023 Health Insurance has risen 37.8% (\$3.3M) – UNK covers 79%
- 10-Year decline in Enrollment (16%) and Credit-hour Production (15.4%)
- Rising Remissions + Regents Scholarship change to (32+ ACT)
- Faculty salary increase (\$1.85M) over current biennium

CONTEXT: UNK's Budgeted Expenditures

Category	2025-26	%
Instruction/Research/Academic Support	\$ 65,191,316	38%
Student Services and Financial Support	\$ 47,475,905	28%
Independent Operations/Auxiliaries	\$ 21,598,516	13%
Institutional Administration	\$ 14,017,331	8%
Physical Plant Operations	\$ 11,103,154	7%
Other Expenditures	\$ 8,551,322	5%
Public Service	\$ 2,113,337	1%
Total Budgeted Expenditures	\$ 170,050,881	100%

CONTEXT: State-Aided (State Funds + Tuition)

UNK Personnel Budget (State-Aided)



Timeline/Process

- July 1 Began complete fiscal **review**
- July 23 **Informed** campus of need to resolve \$4.5M structural deficit
- Aug. 11 **Notified** UNKEA & Faculty Senate of RIF and requested FAC representative
- Aug.-Sept. Chancellor, SVCAA/Deans/Chairs & VCBF/Unit Leaders developed **initial concepts**
- Oct.-Nov. **FAC** focus on academic/instruction & **BAC** focus outside academic/instruction
- Nov. 26 Final **FAC/BAC recommendations** emailed to Chancellor (also presented verbally)
- Dec. 9 Chancellor presents **draft recommendations** & emails with FAC and BAC reports

Proposed Degree Elimination

- Family Science, Bachelor of Science (27 majors)
- Higher Education Student Affairs, Master of Science in Education (8 candidates)
- Modern Languages, Bachelor of Arts, German Emphasis (1 major)
- Music Comprehensive, Bachelor of Music, Music Business Emphasis (3 majors)
- Modern Languages 7-12 Teaching Endorsement, Bachelor of Arts in Education – German Emphasis (0 majors)

UNK will teach out all courses required for all majors/candidates to complete their programs. Chairs will develop a detailed plan for degree completion and meet with each individual student to discuss timely completion options. Faculty that teach within the plans will be retained for one year. Thereafter, other qualified faculty or adjuncts will be hired to teach all necessary courses.

Align Instructional Staffing with Enrollment

Voluntary Separation Incentive (9)

\$1,089,180

- 2 - Communication
- 1 - Art and Design
- 1 - Cybersecurity
- 1 - Teacher Education
- 2 - Marketing
- 1 - Counseling and School Psychology
- 1 - English

Reduction in Force (5)

\$617,627

- 2 - Family Science
- 2 - Music
- 1 - History

Open and Captured Lines (7)

\$709,784

- 2 - Family Science
- 1 - Biology
- 1 - Chemistry
- 1 - Communication
- 1 - English
- 1 - History

Sub-Total \$2,416,591

Non-Academic Reductions

Strategy

	Estimated Savings
Open Staff Lines (7) and Part-time Custodial line (1)	\$559,993
Operating Fund Rebalance (5%)	\$400,000
Student Remissions Reduce/Fundraise	\$400,000
Athletics, Kearney Health and Kearney Law Opportunities Programs	
Graduate Assistants (20)	\$300,000
Summer Salary Budget (underutilized)	\$200,000
Athletics Operations	\$200,000
Chancellor: VC Enrollment/Marketing restructure, Office Associate (1)	\$153,983
Vacate Student Affairs Building & Thomas Hall (avoids costly repairs)	\$85,047
Office for Intercultural Engagement and Leadership Restructure (1)	\$66,630
Museum of Nebraska Art MOU support (beginning FY28)	\$35,649
College of Business & Technology - Marketing and Institutional Engagement	\$18,737
	Sub-Total: \$2,420,039
	Total \$4,836,630

Opportunities for Feedback

Dec. 11

Chancellor, Senior Vice Chancellor Academic Affairs, Vice Chancellor Business and Finance available for feedback, Antelope Room, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Dec. 17

Final day to provide feedback via chancellor@unk.edu

Dec. 22

Chancellor emails final recommendations to campus and begins Board of Regents approval processes

go.unk.edu/budget-process

