

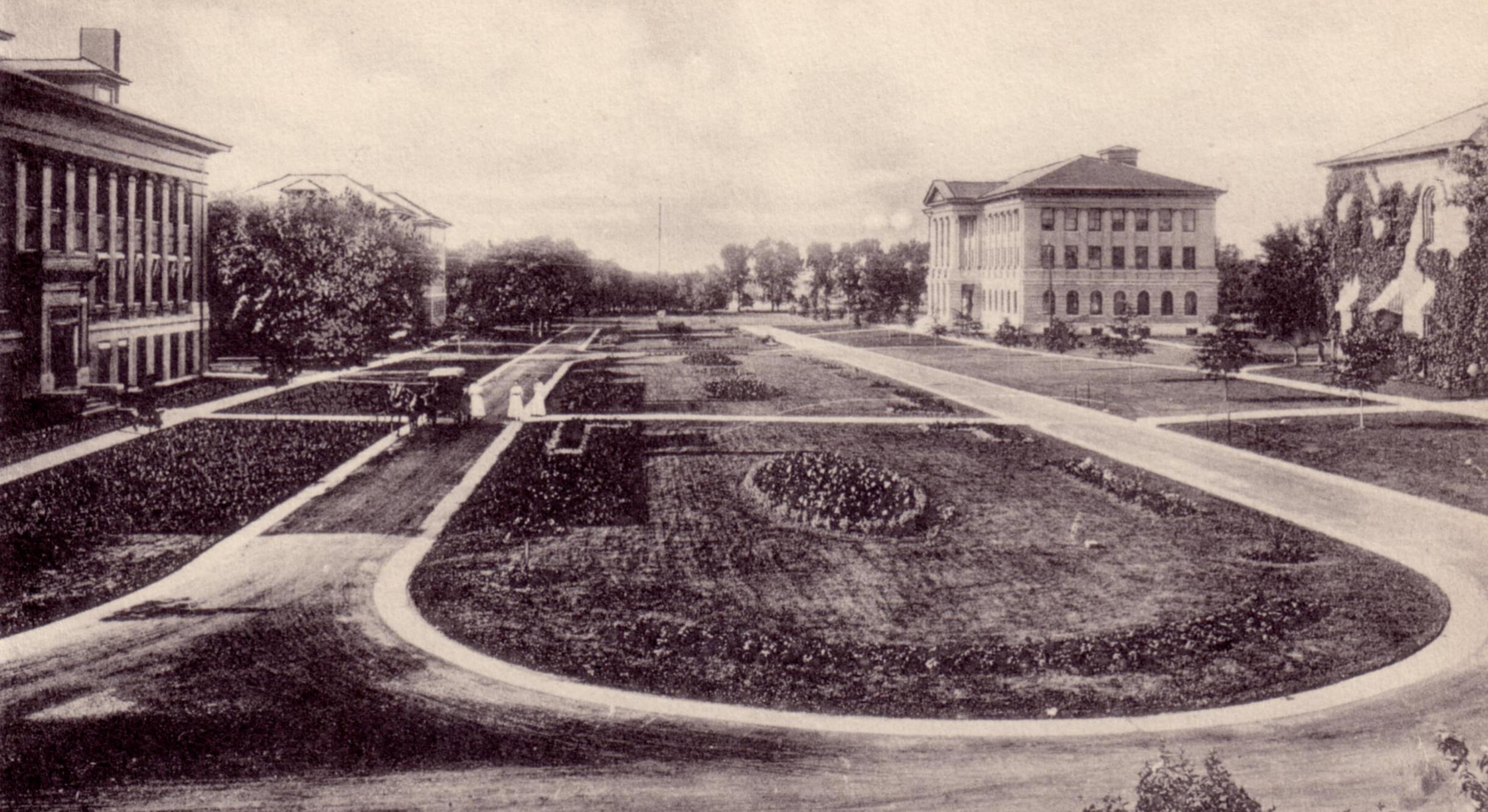
# *All-Hands Meeting*

*Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources*



03 OCT 2023

***IN OUR GRIT, OUR GLORY™***



HOME ECONOMICS HALL

ST. PAUL UNIVERSITY BUILDING





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**CASNR**

**150**

**IANR**

**50**

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**Since our last meeting...**

**REPORT**



## 2023 Highlights:

## 2023 Highlights

- Hosted multiple groups of Senators, Representatives, state and federal agency leaders, USDA Undersecretaries and others on campus to showcase IANR students, staff, and faculty.
- Conducted a statewide listening tour with stakeholders.
- Hosted Beth Ford, CEO of Land O' Lakes, to provide a Heuermann Lecture at the Water for Food Conference.
- Hosted the ABN summer meeting highlighting Northeast Nebraska Education Compact and CASNR educational pathway programs
- Welcomed one of the largest classes of freshmen and transfer students in CASNR history

All while conducting our summer field days, welcoming our new chancellor, and advancing IANR's amazing momentum in research, teaching and Extension.

- *And more!*





# Our people





## Tenured and promoted



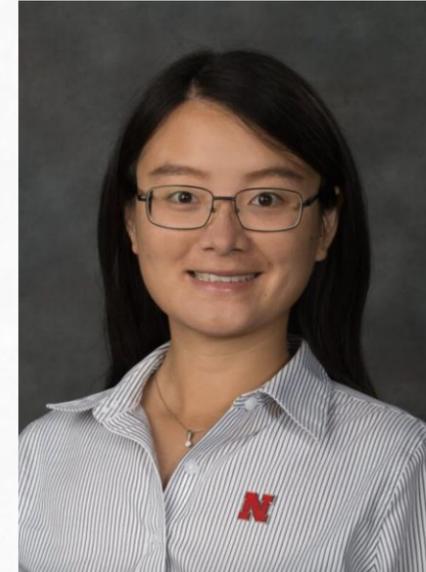
**Andrea Basche**



**Jinliang Yang**



**Xin Qiao**



**Yeyin Shi**



**Ana Maria Velez  
Arango**



**Kaustav Majumder**



**Jessica Corman**



**Mark Svoboda**



**Jiujiu Yu**



**Karina Schoengold**

## Tenured and promoted



**Nathan Connor**



**Lindsay Hastings**



**Patricio Grassini**



**Amit Jhala**



**Dipak Santra**



**Dirac Twidwell**



**Carlos Urrea**



**Yufeng Ge**



**Joe Luck**



**Amy Schmidt**





## Tenured and promoted



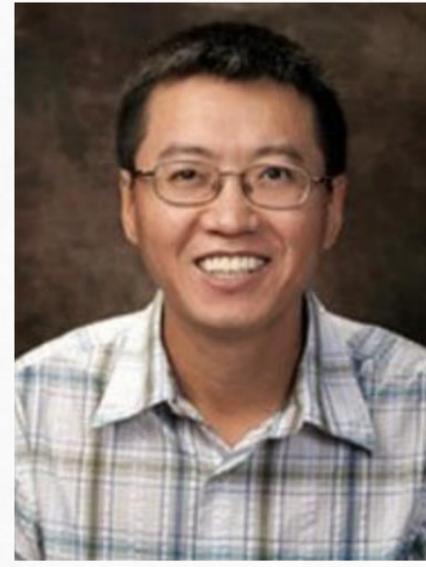
**Tomas Helikar**



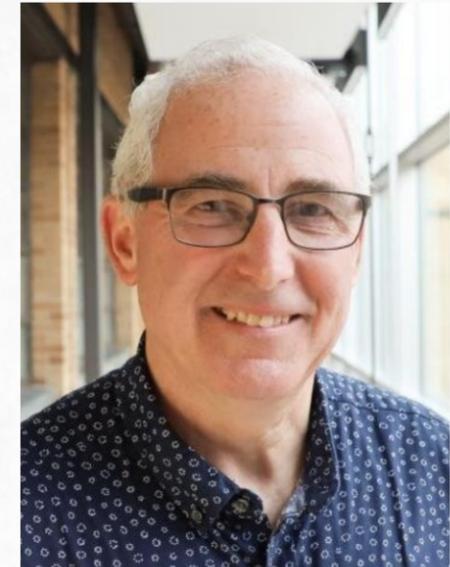
**Troy Anderson**



**Julie Peterson**



**Yanbin Yin**



**Stacy Adams**



**Sophie Alvarez**



**Michael Naldrett**



**Erin Sayer**



**Bradley Goetsch**

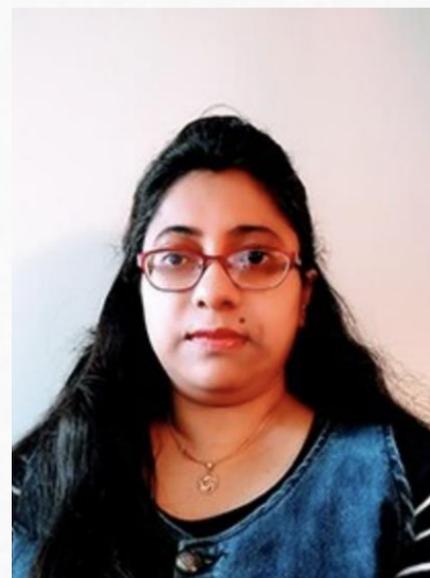


**Jean Ann Fischer**

## Tenured and promoted



**Kyle Broderick**



**Sruti Das Choudhury**



**Ben Beckman**



**Audra Losey**



**Beth Nacke**



**Kathy Burr**



**Kerry Elsen**



**Brett Kreifels**



**Sandra Frerichs**





## New faculty



**Shaonpius Mondal**



**Edward Deehan**



**Crystal Rhine**



**Jordan Wicks**



**Tianjing Zhao**



**Horahenage Dixon-  
Vimalajeewa**



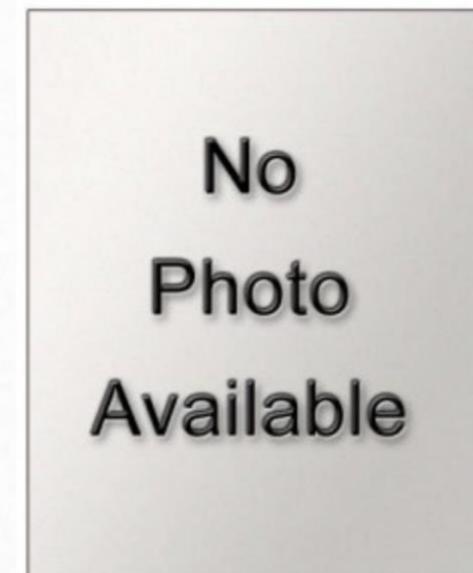
**Sanjay Chaudhuri**



**Dirk Charlson**



**Bo Garcia**



**Robert Wilson**



## New faculty



**Eric Hunt**



**Saet-Byul Kim**



**Tatsuya Yamada**



**Alakananda Mitra**



**Shannon Sand**



**Kiyoul Park**



**Ivo Zution Goncalves**



**John Nelson**



**Stephanie Bell**



**Elizabeth Dunn**



## New faculty



**Nawaraj Shrestha**



**Greta Kafsur**



**Ian Peterson**



**Travis Prochaska**



**Jenna Gilbert**



**Ritika Lamichhane**



**Michael Agron**



## New leaders



**Deb VanOverbeke**  
Animal Science  
Department Head



**Larkin Powell**  
School of Natural  
Resources Director



**Mark Stone**  
BSE Department Head



**Wes Peterson**  
Interim Ag Econ  
Department Head



**Kate Brooks**  
Interim Ag Econ  
Associate Dept. Head



**Ruben Behnke**  
Nebraska Mesonet  
Director



**Nicole LeFore**  
DWFI Assistant  
Director



**Julie Peterson**  
WCREEC Associate  
Director



**Cheyenne Gerlach**  
Yeutter Institute  
Assistant Director



## Retirements

Gentry Lewis  
Lance Meinke  
Jeffrey Bergman  
Kempton Horken  
Roy Cole  
Martha Rowe  
Sylvana Airan  
Tianjing Zhao  
Richard Woollen  
Fred Urdiales  
Randy Markwardt  
Allen Dutcher  
Jennifer Nixon  
Thomas Garvin  
Jill Gifford  
Sandra Benson  
Ginger Mills  
Allison Miller  
Michael Zoubek

Bruce Brodersen  
Michael Uldrich  
Allan Vyhnalek  
Rebecca Lamphiear  
Gary Hein  
Rex Nielsen  
Donna Bode  
Gary Yuen  
Emily Levine  
Gary Lesoing  
Tommi Jones  
Linda Coe  
Katherine Ellis  
Deborah Weitzenkamp  
Rebecca Richardson-Carlson  
Kathleen Cue  
Archie Clutter  
Ron Yoder  
Jennifer Schrodt

Hoa Nguyen  
Marko Djukic  
Robert Hurlbut  
Michael McCaugherty  
Daniel Duncan  
Maria Osorio  
James Ocker  
Patrick Carlin  
Joni Piccolo  
Craig Potter  
Richard Wahl  
Ana Domant  
Donald Buresh Sr.  
Chung Van  
Lidia Leija  
Lavergne Chramosta  
Sharon Devor  
Patrick Jay Goracke

# Distinguished faculty and award winners



## 2023 honorees:

**Rebecca Roston**, Ralph and Alice Raikes Chair in Plant Sciences

**Sathish Kumar Natarajan**, Dinsdale Family Faculty Award

**Bryon Chaves**, Dinsdale Family Faculty Award

**Xin Qiao**, Omtvedt Innovation Award for Extension

**Derek Heeren**, Omtvedt Innovation Award for Teaching

**Tomas Helikar**, Omtvedt Innovation Award for Research

**The SENSE Fertigation Team**, Omtvedt Innovation Award for Team.

## External awards recipients 2022-23

**Andrea Basche**

**Andreia Bianchini**

**Humberto Blanco**

**Cheryl Burkhardt-Kriesel**

**Bertrand Clarke**

**Katelyn Coburn**

**Nathan Conner**

**Dipti Dev**

**Roch Gaussoin**

**Lindsay Hastings**

**Holly Hatton-Bowers**

**Gary Hein**

**Terry Hejny**

**Amit Jhala**

**Shawn Kaskie**

**Oleh Khalimonchuk**

**John Lindquist**

**Joe Louis**

**Joe Luck** (with graduate student co-collaborators)

**Kristin Malek**

**Martha Mamo**

**L.J. McElravy**

**Amy Napoli, Jaci Foged, Sarah Roberts, Lee Sherry, Jackie Steffen, LaDonna Werth, Becky Schuerman** (with Leanne Manning, Karen Wedding, Tiffany Messer)  
**Charles Chioma Nwaizu**

**Katie Pekarek, Carla McCullough, Troy Gilmore**

**Julie Peterson**

**Mark Riley**

**Daran Rudnick** (with external co-collaborators)

**Amy Millmier Schmidt and Rick Koelsch** (with graduate student and external co-collaborators)

**Jason Tuller**

**Mehmet Can Vuran, Amit Jhala, Xin Qiao** (with external co-collaborators)

**Becky Wachs**

**Rich Wilson**

**Yiqi Yang**



# Leadership transitions



**Ron Yoder**



**Larry Van Tassell**



**David Jones**



**John Carroll**



**Rick Rasby**



**Bruce Brodersen**



**Martha Durr**



## Upcoming leadership transitions



**Bertrand Clarke**

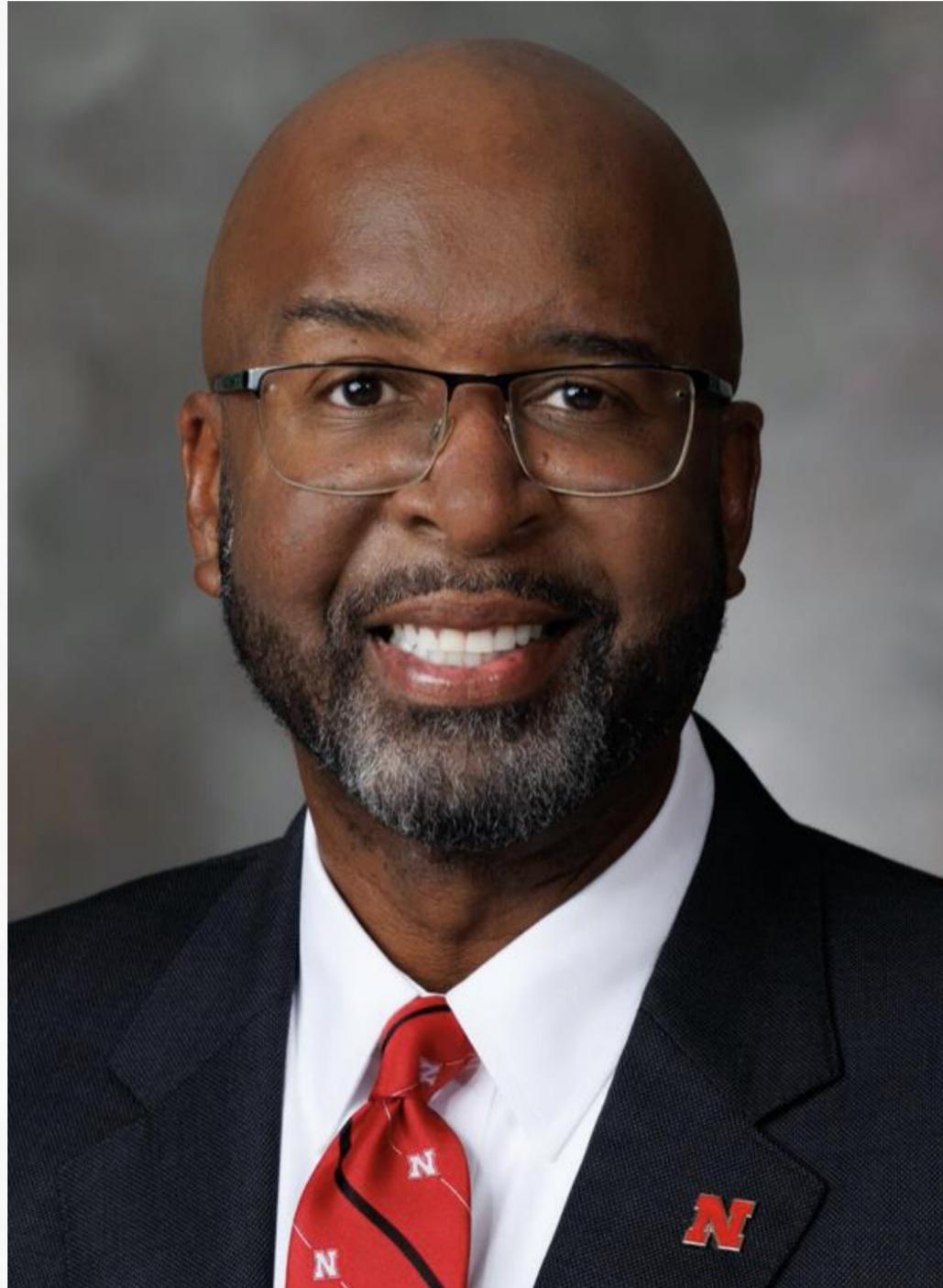


**Curtis Weller**



**Congratulations!**

UNL Chancellor



**UNL Chancellor  
Rodney Bennett**







## NU President



### Timeline:

**Aug. 22:** Pres. Carter announces he has accepted a position as President at The Ohio State University.

**Aug. 25:** NU Board of Regents holds special meeting to determine next steps

**Sept. 6:** Search committee nominations due

**Dec. 31:** Pres. Carter's last day



# Our strategic direction



**N**

**CELEBRATION OF**

**INNOVATION**

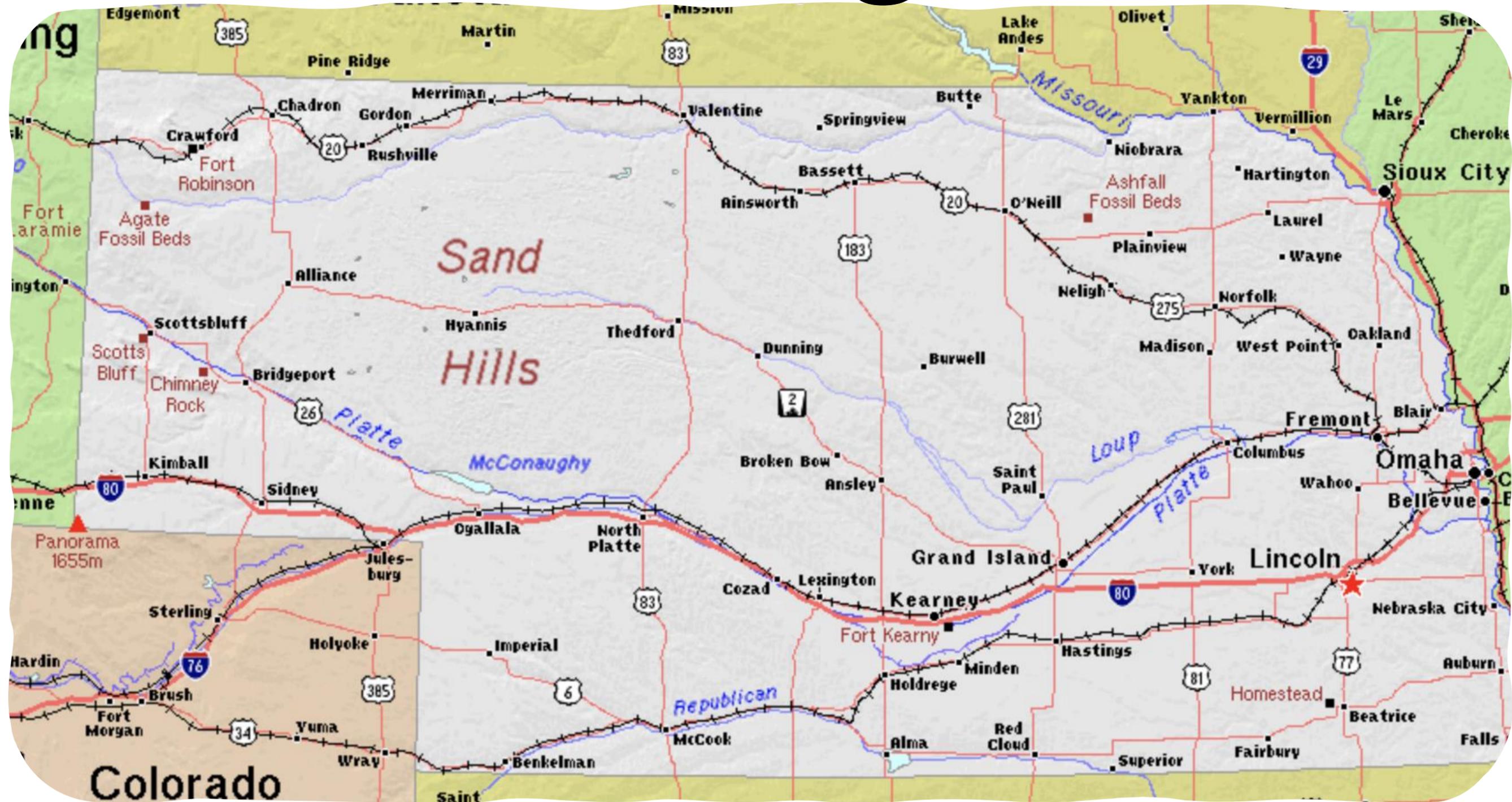
**CASNR**

**150**

**IANR**

**50**

# IANR Listening Tour 2023



Lincoln-Nebraska City-Beatrice-Clay Center-North Platte-Ogallala-Scottsbluff-Whitman-St. Paul-Lincoln



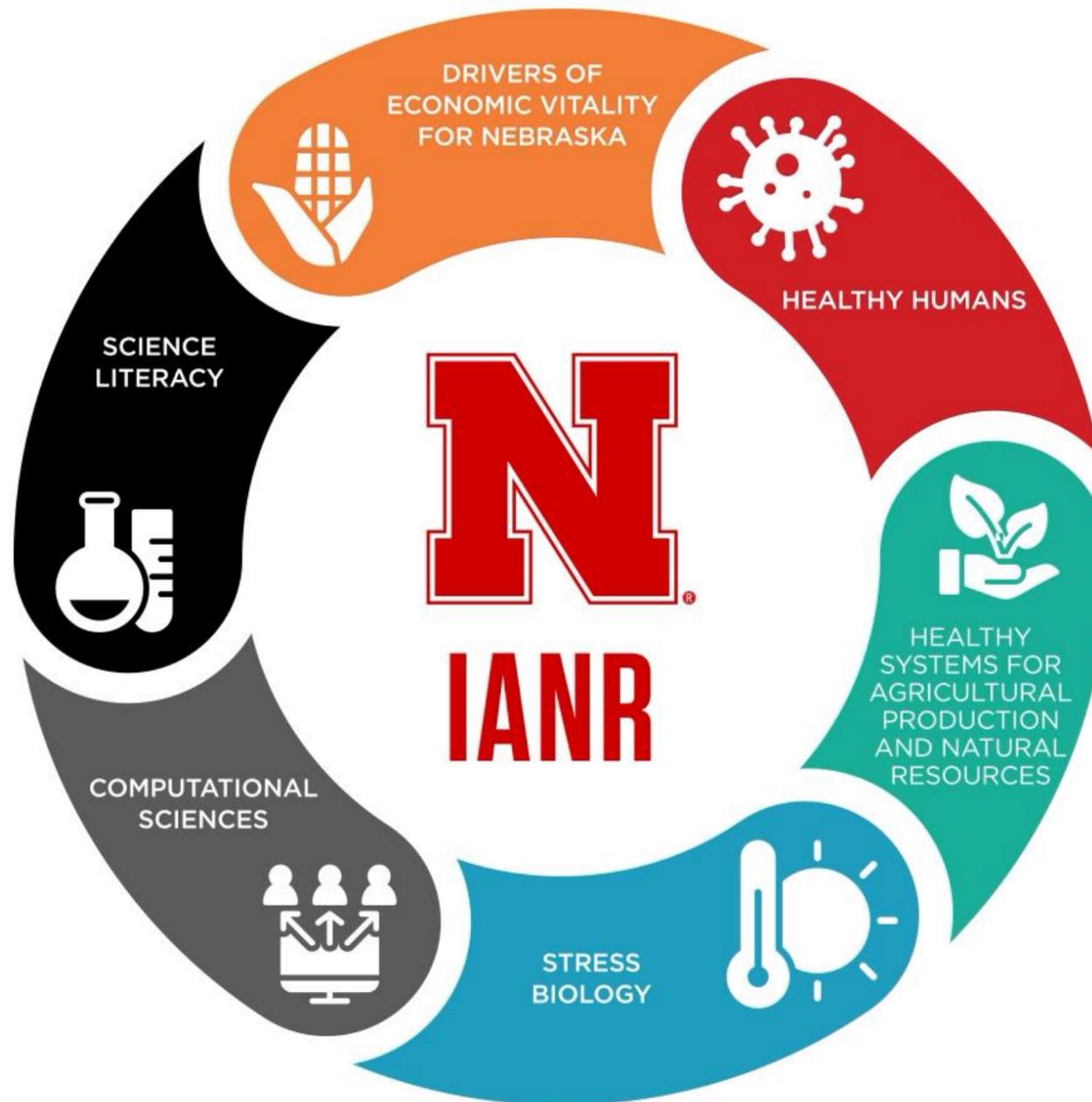


## Some key takeaways:

- Everything we do needs a human—or humans—to make it happen
- Relationships are central to what we do
- We need to leverage IANR strengths and increase visibility/impact in urban areas
- We need to identify what makes IANR distinct and different—and how those differences make a difference for our state and its people.
- We must strike a balance between being aspirational and being realistic/practical
- There are significant and serious challenges facing the state and IANR is uniquely positioned to help Nebraska and its people manage them:
  - Soil and water quality
  - Climate change and weather extremes
  - Rural community vitality
  - Workforce development
  - Thriving children
  - Helping Nebraska crop and livestock producers continually improve their management practices, profitability and efficient use of resources.
- What's keeping IANR from achieving its potential impact?



# Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources



## Next Steps

- **Surveys shared last week with IANR leaders and ABN membership**
- **Discussing with ABN leadership tomorrow**
- **Assembling internal working group**
- **Will work with external consultants, working group and leadership to articulate plan**
- **Distill to 3-5 page document**
- **Share early 2024**





# Budget





*“Higher education as a whole is facing significant headwinds in the years ahead, and we are not immune at UNL. Budgets are expected to be challenging for the foreseeable future, with additional budget reductions anticipated in the coming biennium for the NU system’s fiscal year 2024 and 2025 budgets.”*

— Chancellor Green, April 2023

# Green approves \$10.8 million in cuts across UNL; vacant positions eliminated

Chris Dunker Jun 6, 2023 17



LINCOLN  
JOURNAL STAR



## Update on IANR Budget

### Permanent Reductions

(\$2.5M) 2017/18  
(\$10.1M) 2021/22/23  
(\$2.8M) 2024  
**(\$15.4M)**

## **The university faces an estimated \$58 million shortfall by the end of the 2024-25 fiscal year**

### **Short-term measures:**

- A hiring freeze on all non-faculty positions.
- A temporary 4% across-the-board rescission on all departmental operating and supply budgets.

### **Long-term five-point vision:**

- 1) A reinvigorated focus on student recruitment
- 2) A renewed commitment to raising the University of Nebraska's academic profile
- 3) A more proactive process for reviewing the university's range of academic programs
- 4) New strategies for communication and transparency around budget planning
- 5) A focus on operational excellence





# Federal relations







Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources

**IANR NEWS**

## USDA Official Visits University to Discuss \$25M Grant for Rural Prosperity Nebraska



[Russell Shaffer](#) | May 24, 2023

# Nebraska Examiner

GOVERNMENT & POLITICS

ENVIRONMENT & AGRICULTURE

LABOR & GROWTH

SOCIAL SERVICES

EDUCATION

HOUSING

EDUCATION

ELECTION 2024

GOVERNMENT & POLITICS

HEALTH

LABOR & GROWTH

## Nebraska delegation hears from farmers, ranchers, researchers on the next farm bill

BY: [AARON SANDERFORD](#) - JUNE 19, 2023 8:41 PM



***Why does it matter?***

**Press**

June 22, 2023

## **Fischer says \$25M has been secured for ag research center at Innovation Campus**

WASHINGTON, D.C. – U.S. Senator Deb Fischer (R-Neb.), a member of the Senate Appropriations Committee, announced that she secured \$25,000,000 for the construction of a new Agricultural Research Service (ARS) facility at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln (UNL) in the Fiscal Year 2024 (FY24) Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act. Sen. Fischer also secured funding to support both the National Drought Mitigation Center (NDMC) at UNL and the National Ag Data Cooperative that is led by UNL.

The bill, which must still be voted upon by the Senate and House, was advanced today by the Senate Appropriations Committee by a bipartisan vote of 28-0 as a first key step.

*“Nebraska is becoming a world-renowned leader in agricultural research. I’m proud to have pushed for these critical projects, which will cement our state’s position as a hub for ag innovation and support family farmers and ranchers. I will continue to use my position on the Appropriations Committee to champion high-impact investments that empower producers and aid rural communities,”* said Sen. Fischer.

## Budget and Timeline Update for USDA ARS National Center

### Secured (in hand) Congressional Appropriations

FY2021 Omnibus - \$11.2M (Fortenberry) for Phases 1 + 2 design appropriated

FY2022 Omnibus - \$20M (Fortenberry) for construction appropriated for Phase 1

FY2023 Omnibus - \$0

### Actively In Play Congressional Appropriations

FY2024 Senate Appropriations Bill - \$25M (Fischer) for construction Phases 1 + 2

FY2024 House Appropriations Bill - \$3M (Flood) for construction Phases 1 +2

### Anticipated future Congressional Appropriations

*FY2025 - \$25M (Fischer/Flood) for construction Phase 2*

*FY2026 - \$25M (Fischer/Flood) for construction Phase 2*

*FY2027 - \$25M (Fischer/Flood) for construction Phase 2*

*FY2028 - \$25M (Fischer/Flood) for construction Phase 2*

### Construction Timeline

- **Site Preparation Begins Fall 2023/Winter 2024**
- **\$2.5M to \$2.8M from NIC + UNL**
  
- **Construction of Phase 1 Begins Summer/Fall 2024**
- **\$20M to \$28M in secured appropriated funds**
- **Occupancy Summer/Fall 2026.**
  
- *Planning for Phase 2 finalized in 2029*
- *Construction on Phase 2 begins 2029/2030 after all Phase 2 appropriated funds secured (~\$120M - \$130M)*
- *Occupancy 2032*



# USDA ARS National Center for Resilient and Regenerative Precision Agriculture & Nebraska Ag-Tech Innovation Accelerator



Nebraska Ag-Tech  
Innovation  
Accelerator

## Two Proposed New ARS Research Units with 19 New Scientists (SYs)

### Existing

#### **Agroecosystem Management Research Unit – 1 new scientist**

- Agronomist

#### **Wheat, Sorghum and Forage Research Unit – 3 new scientists**

- Forage Geneticist, Bioinformatics Biologist, Wheat & Barley Pests

### NEW

#### **Water, Climate, & Resilience Research Unit – 5 new scientists**

- Hydrologist, Soil Ecologist, Micrometeorologist, Landscape Ecologist, & Research Social Scientist

#### **Precision Production Research Unit – 10 new scientists**

- Ag Engineer, Precision Animal Management, Plant Physiologist, Digital Rangeland Ecologist, Entomologist, Computational Biologists/Ag Engineer, Agronomist, Precision Irrigation Specialist, Soil Physicist, & Economist



## Leaders and agencies are supporting our statewide work

- **\$25M for the Heartland Regional Food Business Center**
- **\$10M for the NFS and Statewide Arboretum**
- **\$4M for bioenergy research** (on top of \$12.8M last year)
- **\$6M to partners including the High Plains Regional Climate Center for climate adaptation planning and action**
- **\$1M for the National Ag Producer's Data Cooperative** (on top of \$2M previously appropriated)
- **\$1M to ARD and ARS for data solutions for climate smart and resilient agriculture** (with continued funding through FY28)

*And more in the pipeline... TBA*



## **Annual faculty reporting**

*Activity insights to be phased out this fall.*

### **New process will include:**

- Two-page summary of goals and accomplishments
- Impact statement
- Narrative statement of other contributions





# On the horizon





November 14-15, 2023





The poster features a dark grey background on the left with white text, and a photograph of a brick building with a large red 'N' on the right. The text on the poster reads: 'N AG RESEARCH', 'Save the Date', 'AG RESEARCH DIVISION ANNUAL MEETING', 'FRIDAY, DECEMBER 1', '9:00 AM - 4:00 PM', 'EAST CAMPUS UNION', and 'GREAT PLAINS ROOM'. The photograph shows a brick tower with a large red 'N' logo, surrounded by green trees and a flower bed with yellow and orange flowers under a clear blue sky. A thin white line runs diagonally across the bottom of the poster.



# Save the Date

AG RESEARCH DIVISION  
ANNUAL MEETING

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 1

9:00 AM - 4:00 PM  
EAST CAMPUS UNION  
GREAT PLAINS ROOM



# Beef Innovation Workshop

12-13 OCT 2023

Nebraska East Union

[beefinnovation.unl.edu](http://beefinnovation.unl.edu)





## Government shutdown averted after Senate passes bill with just hours to spare

Updated September 30, 2023 at 9:53 p.m. EDT | Published September 30, 2023 at 9:35 a.m. EDT

Just hours before a potential government shutdown, Republicans and Democrats in the Senate passed [a roughly 45-day continuing resolution](#) with disaster relief funds, an extension of a federal flood insurance program and FAA reauthorization — but [no Ukraine aid](#). Saturday's passage in the Senate ended a weeks-long House debate over government funding that Friday night appeared to be headed toward a shutdown. The Senate eventually ditched its own stopgap bill to pass a House version that was introduced Saturday morning.

*The Washington Post*  
*Democracy Dies in Darkness*



*“The strength of the team is each individual member. The strength of each member is the team.”*

**— Phil Jackson**



**N**  
NEBRASKA EAST UNION

**N**  
GO  
BIG  
RED

HUSKERMANIA  
NEBRASKA EAST UNION