

Lincoln, Nebraska  
April 19, 2024

The Board of Regents of the University of Nebraska met on April 19, 2024, at 9:00 a.m. in the Boardroom at Varner Hall, 3835 Holdrege Street, Lincoln, Nebraska, in a publicly convened session, the same being open to the public and having been preceded by advanced publicized notice, a copy of which is attached to the minutes of this meeting as Attachment 1 (page 297).

In compliance with the provisions of Neb. Rev. Stat. § 84-1411, printed notice of this meeting was sent to each member of the Board and was posted in the first-floor lobby of Varner Hall. In addition, copies of such notice were sent to the Lincoln Journal Star, Omaha World-Herald, The Daily Nebraskan, the Gateway, the Antelope, the Kearney Hub, and the Lincoln office of the Associated Press on April 12, 2024.

Regents present:

Timothy Clare (joined at 10:30 a.m.)  
Paul Kenney, Vice Chair  
Robert Schafer, Chair  
Jim Scheer  
Jack Stark  
Barbara Weitz  
Kathy Wilmot  
Temo Molina, University of Nebraska at Kearney  
Paul Pechous, University of Nebraska-Lincoln  
Katie Schultis, University of Nebraska Medical Center  
Hakim Lotoro, University of Nebraska at Omaha

Regents absent:

University officials present:

Christopher J. Kabourek, Interim President  
Jeffrey P. Gold, Executive Vice President and Provost; and  
Chancellor, University of Nebraska Medical Center  
Philip J. Bakken, Corporation Secretary  
Rodney D. Bennett, Chancellor, University of Nebraska-Lincoln  
Joanne Li, Chancellor, University of Nebraska at Omaha  
Douglas A. Kristensen, Chancellor, University of Nebraska at Kearney  
Michael J. Boehm, Vice President for Agriculture and Natural Resources  
Stacia L. Palser, Vice President and General Counsel

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

**II. ROLL CALL**

The Board convened at 9:01 a.m. Attendance is indicated above.

Chair Schafer announced the location of the Open Meetings Act in the Boardroom.

**III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES AND RATIFICATION OF ACTIONS TAKEN ON MARCH 20, 2024**

Motion Moved by Scheer and seconded by Weitz to approve the minutes and ratify the actions of the meeting on March 20, 2024.

Action Student Opinion: Voting Aye: Molina, Pechous, Schultis, and Lotoro. Voting Aye: Kenney, Schafer, Scheer, Stark, Weitz, and Wilmot. Motion carried.

**IV. PRESENTATIONS**

None.

**V. KUDOS**

**Regent Molina presented a KUDOS award to Shawn Lienemann**, Workstation Support Specialist at the University of Nebraska at Kearney.

**Regent Pechous presented a KUDOS award to Mindy Liebelt**, Outreach Specialist for the Center on Children, Families, and the Law at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

**Regent Schultis presented a KUDOS award to Amber Hawk**, Admissions and Recruitment Director in the College of Pharmacy at the University of Nebraska Medical Center.

**Regent Lotoro presented a KUDOS award to Jason Jones**, Building Services Manager for the Weitz Community Engagement Center at the University of Nebraska at Omaha.

**VI. RESOLUTIONS**

Regent Wilmot presented the following resolution:

**WHEREAS**, Temo Molina has served with distinction as a member of the Board of Regents and President of the Associated Students of the University of Nebraska at Kearney; and,

**WHEREAS**,



**WHEREAS**, through thoughtful and effective leadership, Regent Pechous has represented his 24,000 fellow Huskers to the best of his ability;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Regents expresses sincere member of the Board and wishes him well in all future endeavors.

Regent Stark presented the following resolution:

**WHEREAS**, Katie Schultis has served as a member of the Board of Regents and President of the University of Nebraska Medical Center Student Senate during the 2023-2024 term; and,

**WHEREAS**, Regent Schultis represented herself, her institution, and her fellow students with dignity and integrity during Board meetings and events, and has served as a vocal and unwavering advocate for students throughout UNMC and the University system; and,

**WHEREAS**, during her time as a student at UNMC, Regent Schultis has held multiple campus leadership roles beyond Student Body President/Regent while balancing the demands of medical school, including serving as a public advocate for the University in person and on multiple media platforms; and,

**WHEREAS**, Regent Schultis spearheaded a renaissance of school spirit at UNMC, leading initiatives to create an official UNMC mascot (Go Labs!) and school fight song; and,

**WHEREAS**, the UNMC Student Senate, under her leadership, hosted several college-specific town halls, including the first town hall with the College of Allied Health Professions, to identify common student issues, that the senate worked and continues to work with administration to address; and,

**WHEREAS**, the UNMC Student Senate, under her leadership, hosted more than 20 student events to foster interdisciplinary interactions and community, and helped fund 22 student organization initiatives and events through BOSS (Benefiting Organizations through Student Senate) proposals; and,

**WHEREAS**, Regent Schultis is herself a shining example of the talent that can be mined matriculated to the University of Nebraska at Kearney, and then to UNMC through its Kearney Health Opportunities Program or KHOP; she has presented to our Board on rural healthcare and on rural health education tracks; and,

**WHEREAS**, Regent Schlutis served on the Presidential Search Advisory Committee,

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Regents expresses its



**WHEREAS**, UNK has experienced significant additional facility upgrades under

Plambeck Early Childhood Center, athletics investments, the STEM education building, student union and dining facilities, the library, and many more; and,

**WHEREAS**, Chancellor Kristensen has made it a priority from Day 1 to build strong relationships across UNK and the broader Kearney community and is a well-known and respected leader among students, faculty, staff, and community members alike; and,

**WHEREAS**,

when it comes to the mission and values of the University of Nebraska, having sent both his daughters to the University for a combined five degrees including degrees from every campus in the University system; and,

**WHEREAS**, both the University of Nebraska and the State of Nebraska have benefited greatly from the leadership, service, and commitment of Chancellor Kristensen and his family;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Regents extends its deepest gratitude to Chancellor Kristensen for a lifetime of devoted public service to the State of Nebraska and wishes him, Terri, and their family all the best in their next chapter.

Regent Schafer presented the following resolution:

**WHEREAS**, Phil Bakken has served the University of Nebraska for nearly a decade, starting as industry relations coordinator at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln and now as chief of staff and corporation secretary in the Office of the President; and,

**WHEREAS**, Phil possesses a work ethic, a relentless willpower to get things done, and standards of integrity that are virtually unmatched; and,

**WHEREAS**,

intricate understanding of organizational structures, his photographic memory, and his keen ability to use facts and data to drive decisions and change at the highest levels of the University, have been instrumental in the successful tenures of multiple Presidents; and,

**WHEREAS**, Phil has been a behind-the-scenes but essential player behind almost every

credit or recognition but using his singular gifts as both a tactician and visionary to move the University to a higher level of efficiency, excellence, and competitiveness; and,

**WHEREAS**,

his Varner Hall colleagues have benefited from his extensive skills not only as an executive but also as a handyman, office interior designer, bargain furniture shopper, IT speci  
and,

**WHEREAS**,

prove that it can, in fact, be done; and,

**WHEREAS**, Phil will leave a lasting impact on the University of Nebraska, benefiting students, faculty, staff, and the institution for many years to come;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Regents expresses its deepest gratitude to Phil Bakken for his selfless service to the University of Nebraska, the

- Motion Moved by Weitz and seconded by Scheer to approve items XI-A-1 through XI-A-5.
- XI-A-1 Approval to establish the Bachelor of Science (BS) in Media Studies Comprehensive to be administered by the Department of Communication in the College of Arts and Sciences at UNK.
- XI-A-2 Approval to transition the Bachelor of Arts (BA) and the Bachelor of Science (BS) in Journalism to the proposed BS in Media Studies Comprehensive at UNK.
- XI-A-3 Approval to transition the Bachelor of Arts (BA) and the Bachelor of Science (BS) in Advertising and Public Relations to the proposed BS in Media Studies Comprehensive at UNK.
- XI-A-4 Approval to transition the Bachelor of Arts (BA) and the Bachelor of Science (BS) in Sports Communications to the proposed BS in Media Studies Comprehensive at UNK.
- XI-A-5 Approval to transition the Bachelor of Arts (BA) and the Bachelor of Science (BS) in Multimedia to the proposed BS in Media Studies Comprehensive at UNK.
- Action Student Opinion: Voting Aye: Schultis, Lotoro, Molina, and Pechous. Voting Aye: Schafer, Scheer, Stark, Weitz, Wilmot, Clare, and Kenney. Motion carried.
- Motion Moved by Clare and seconded by Wilmot to approve item XI-A-6.
- XI-A-6 Approval to transition the Doctor of Juridical Sciences (JSD) in Space Law in the College of Law at UNL.
- Action Student Opinion: Voting Aye: Lotoro, Molina, Pechous, and Schultis. Voting Aye: Scheer, Stark, Weitz, Wilmot, Clare, Kenney, and Schafer. Motion carried.
- Motion Moved by Kenney and seconded by Stark to approve items XI-A-7 through XI-A-8.
- XI-A-7 Approval to transition the Bachelor of Science (BS) in Applied Climate Science to the Climate Science option within the BS in Environmental Studies offered by the School of Natural Resources in the College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources at UNL.
- XI-A-8 Approval to transition the Bachelor of Science (BS) in Water Science to the Water Science option within the BS in Environmental Studies offered by the School of Natural Resources in the College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural resources at UNL.
- Action Student Opinion: Voting Aye: Molina, Pechous, Schultis, and Lotoro. Voting Aye: Stark, Weitz, Wilmot, Clare, Kenney, Schafer, and Scheer. Motion carried.
- Motion Moved by Scheer and seconded by Clare to approve item XI-A-9.
- XI-A-9 Approval to transition the Master of Science (MS) in Veterinary Science to a specialization within the MS in Applied Science offered by the College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources at UNL.
- Action Student Opinion: Voting Aye: Pechous, Schultis, Lotoro, and Molina. Voting Aye: Weitz, Wilmot, Clare, Kenney, Schafer, Scheer, and Stark. Motion carried.





Action Student Opinion: Voting Aye: Pechous, Schultis, Lotoro, and Molina. Voting Aye: Schafer, Scheer, Stark, Weitz, Wilmot, Clare, and Kenney. Motion carried.

**B. BUSINESS AND FINANCE**

Motion Moved by Clare and seconded by Scheer to approve item XI-B-1.

XI-B-1 Authorization of Phase 2 Design Services from HDR for the Memorial Stadium Renovation Project.

Action Student Opinion: Voting Aye: Schultis, Lotoro, Molina, and Pechous. Voting Aye: Schafer, Scheer, Stark, Weitz, Wilmot, Clare, and Kenney. Motion carried.

Motion Moved by Kenney and seconded by Clare to approve item XI-B-2.

XI-B-2 Approval to permit alcohol sales at Haymarket Park for University events.

Action Student Opinion: Voting Aye: Lotoro, Molina, Pechous, and Schultis. Voting Aye: Scheer, Stark, Clare, Kenney, and Schafer. Voting Nay: Weitz and Wilmot. Motion carried.

Motion Moved by Clare and seconded by Wilmot to approve item XI-B-3.

XI-B-3

Action Student Opinion: Voting Aye: Molina, Pechous, Schlutis, and Lotoro. Voting Aye: Stark, Weitz, Wilmot, Clare, Kenney, Schafer, and Scheer. Motion carried.

Motion Moved by Kenney and seconded by Scheer to approve item XI-B-4.

XI-B-4 Approval of budget increase and acceptance of private donation for the Architecture Complex Phase 2 Renovation at UNL.

Action Student Opinion: Voting Aye: Pechous, Schultis, Lotoro, and Molina. Voting Aye: Weitz, Wilmot, Clare, Kenney, Schafer, Scheer, and Stark. Motion carried.

Motion Moved by Clare and seconded by Lotoro to approve item XI-B-5.

XI-B-5

at UNL.

Action Student Opinion: Voting Aye: Schultis, Lotoro, Molina, and Pechous. Voting Aye: Wilmot, Clare, Kenney, Schafer, Scheer, Stark, and Weitz. Motion carried.

Motion Moved by Stark and seconded by Wilmot to approve item XI-B-6.

XI-B-6 Approval of the amended and restated Interlocal Cooperation Agreement with Sarpy County for the Forensic Psychiatry Fellowship at UNMC.

Action Student Opinion: Voting Aye: Lotoro, Molina, Pechous, and Schultis. Voting Aye: Clare, Kenney, Schafer, Scheer, Stark, Weitz, and Wilmot. Motion carried.

- Motion Moved by Lotoro and seconded by Scheer to approve item XI-B-7.
- XI-B-7 Approval of first amendment to the Interlocal Cooperation Agreement with the City of Omaha relating to Project Health.
- Action Student Opinion: Voting Aye: Molina, Pechous, Schultis, and Lotoro. Voting Aye: Kenney, Schafer, Scheer, Stark, Weitz, Wilmot, and Clare. Motion carried.
- Motion Moved by Scheer and seconded by Pechous to approve item XI-B-8.
- XI-B-8 Approval of ground lease with Koelbel & Co. and GreenSlate for development of a parking garage at UNMC.
- Action Student Opinion: Voting Aye: Pechous, Schultis, Lotoro, and Molina. Voting Aye: Schafer, Scheer, Stark, Weitz, Wilmot, Clare, and Kenney. Motion carried.
- Motion Moved by Stark and seconded by Schultis to approve item XI-B-9.
- XI-B-9 Approval of funding allocation for project planning phase of Project Health.
- Action Student Opinion: Voting Aye: Schultis, Lotoro, Molina, and Pechous. Voting Aye: Schafer, Scheer, Stark, Weitz, Wilmot, Clare, and Kenney. Motion carried.
- Motion Moved by Scheer and seconded by Stark to approve item XI-B-10.
- XI-B-10 Approval of standard Guaranteed Maximum Price (GMP) contract for the Campus Operations and Research Excellence (CORE) Building at UNMC.
- Action Student Opinion: Voting Aye: Lotoro, Molina, Pechous, and Schultis. Voting Aye: Scheer, Stark, Weitz, Wilmot, Clare, Kenney, and Schafer. Motion carried.
- Motion Moved by Schultis and seconded by Scheer to approve item XI-B-11.
- XI-B-11 Approval of Program Statement for the Residence Hall project at UNMC.
- Action Student Opinion: Voting Aye: Molina, Pechous, Schultis, and Lotoro. Voting Aye: Stark, Weitz, Wilmot, Clare, Kenney, Schafer, and Scheer. Motion carried.
- Motion Moved by Stark and seconded by Kenney to approve item XI-B-12.
- XI-B-12 and waiver of the restriction on naming in honor of a current University employee as set forth in Regents Policy 6.2.7(4)(b).
- Action Student Opinion: Voting Aye: Pechous, Schultis, Lotoro, and Molina. Voting Aye: Weitz, Wilmot, Clare, Kenney, Schafer, Scheer, and Stark. Motion carried.

### **C. REPORTS**

- XI-C-1 Report on renaming the UNO Center for Afghanistan Studies to the UNO Center for Afghanistan and Regional Studies in the International Programs Department.

- XI-C-2 Report on renaming the Master of Science (MS) in Genetics, Cell Biology, and Anatomy to the MS in Molecular Genetics and Cell Biology at UNMC.
- XI-C-3 Report on renaming the Master of Science (MS) in Pathology and Microbiology to the MS in Immunology, Pathology, and Infectious Diseases at UNMC.
- XI-C-4 Report on dissolution of the joint Juris Doctorate (JD)-Master of Public Health (MPH) offering at UNL and UNMC.
- XI-C-5 Quarterly Personnel Report for October, November, and December 2023.
- XI-C-6
- XI-C-7 Report on Bids and Contracts.
- XI-C-8 Report on Gifts, Grants, Contracts, and Bequests.
- XI-C-9 Quarterly Report on Capital Construction.
- XI-C-10 Semi-Annual Report on Licenses.
- XI-C-11 Report on Lease Guarantee for National Strategic Research Institute (NSRI) Maryland Facility.

Chair Schafer accepted the reports on behalf of the Board.

The Board recessed at 12:12 p.m. and reconvened the open meeting at 12:28 p.m.

## **XII. CLOSED SESSION**

Motion Moved by Wilmot and seconded by Weitz that the Board go into closed session as authorized by Neb. Rev. Stat. § 84-1410 of the Revised Statutes of Nebraska for the protection of the public interest, and to prevent needless injury to the reputation of persons who have not requested a public hearing, for the purpose of holding a discussion limited to the following subjects:

of the University of Nebraska; and

Action Student Opinion: Voting Aye: Schultis, Lotoro, Molina, and Pechous. Voting Aye: Wilmot, Clare, Kenney, Schafer, Scheer, Stark, and Weitz. Motion carried.

Chair Schafer declared that the closed session would be strictly limited to a discussion of:

of the University of Nebraska; and

The Board went into closed session at 12:30 p.m. and reconvened the open meeting at 12:58 p.m.

**XIII. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned by Chair Schafer at 12:58 p.m.

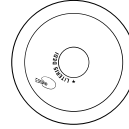
Respectfully submitted,

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Philip J. Bakken  
Corporation Secretary

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Robert M. Schafer  
Chair of the Board



**NOTICE OF MEETING**

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Regents of the University of Nebraska will meet in a publicly convened session on Friday, April 19, 2024 at 9:00 a.m. in the Boardroom at Varner Hall, 3835 Holdrege Street, Lincoln, Nebraska.

An agenda of subjects to be considered at said meeting, kept on a continually current basis is available for inspection in the Office of the Corporation Secretary of the Board of Regents at Varner Hall, 3835 Holdrege Street, Lincoln, Nebraska and at <https://nebraska.edu/regents/agendas-minutes>.