Dear Global Nebraska Community:

Looking back on 2019 and the University of Nebraska-Lincoln’s 150th year, we have much to be thankful for and much to look forward to. It’s amazing to think back to 1869 and imagine what our founders envisioned at the university’s inception. I believe they would be tremendously proud of the global campus we have become today, with partnerships around the world and more than 3,000 international students and scholars who call Nebraska home. These Huskers represent over 130 countries, adding a wealth of diversity, perspective and learning to our campus, and an indelible impact on our community and world.

At Nebraska, we value diversity, hard work, and partnership with those around us. In 2019, we built on our close partnership with the State of Nebraska to expand UNL’s global reach and impact. We joined Governor Ricketts’ trade delegations to visit Husker alumni all over the world and tell the story of UNL’s role in building international partnerships that benefit our state. We’ve also highlighted the positive economic impacts our international students have on Nebraska. In 2019, international students contributed more than $41 billion to the U.S. economy, and more than $177 million to the Nebraska economy. These figures are significant, but they are only part of the story of how international students and our global engagement positively impacts our state and world.

I hope this inaugural annual report will clearly demonstrate the tremendous reach and impact that UNL’s global engagement has on our state, nation, and world. From our faculty who partner internationally with their counterparts to enrich the lives of children in developing nations; to young leaders from around the world who come to Nebraska for leadership training from our experts; to UNL researchers conducting transformative studies on issues of water, climate and food security—the University of Nebraska-Lincoln is positively influencing the world while remaining true to our mission of education, research and engagement.

In the 2019 N150 State of the University address, Chancellor Ronnie Green charged us to expand our work as a world-leading, 21st Century, land-grant university. As we reflect upon our successes in 2019 and prepare to address current global issues, I am confident we are well on our way and look forward to what we can accomplish going forward.

Josh Davis, J.D.
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