

Office of the President
June 13, 2025

Members, Board of Trustees:

APPOINTMENT OF THE DEAN OF THE COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

Recommendation: that the Board of Trustees approve the appointment of Nick Pace as dean of the College of Education, effective July 1, 2025.

Background: Dr. Pace served as the interim dean and a professor in the University of Nebraska-Lincoln's (UNL) College of Education and Human Sciences (CEHS), a role he held since first being named acting dean in October 2023.

As interim dean of CEHS at UNL, Pace helped grow the college's undergraduate and graduate enrollment for the first time in eight years. He restructured the college's communication efforts, centering them on telling its community's stories that connected with students and the wider university.

His listening tour of CEHS departments, centers and programs helped him establish a baseline level of the needs and priorities of the college. Based on this listening tour, Pace created a dashboard for progress on meeting those needs and priorities, helping address faculty, staff and student needs to support success.

As a researcher, Pace's work focuses primarily on principalship, but his other scholarly interests include school administrator wellness and how school leaders seek to grow and improve their leadership practice. He has also taught courses related to education leadership and has extensive experience with curriculum development and enhancement.

Prior to being named acting dean of CEHS, Pace was professor and department chair in the Department of Educational Administration at UNL, roles he held since 2017. He earned his bachelor's degree in sociology from the University of Northern Iowa (UNI), his master's degree in educational leadership from Drake University and his doctorate in educational leadership from UNI.

Pace also played basketball at UNI as a student-athlete and later coached at the high school and college levels.

Action taken: ☒ Approved ☐ Disapproved ☐ Other _____