



**GROWING B1G POTENTIAL CONFERENCE**  
**FEBRUARY 27, 2014**

# **EXPLORING PARTNERSHIPS BETWEEN ADVISERS AND LEARNING COMMUNITIES**



## **LEARNING COMMUNITIES STAFF:**

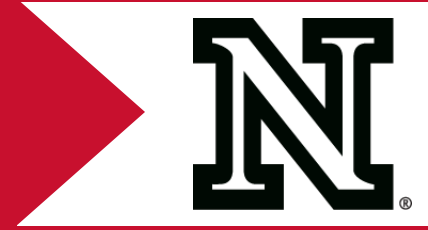
Tamy Burnett  
Jordan Black

## **ADVISER PANELISTS:**

Bede Bolin  
Michael Carlson  
Jaci Gustafson  
Kelly Payne



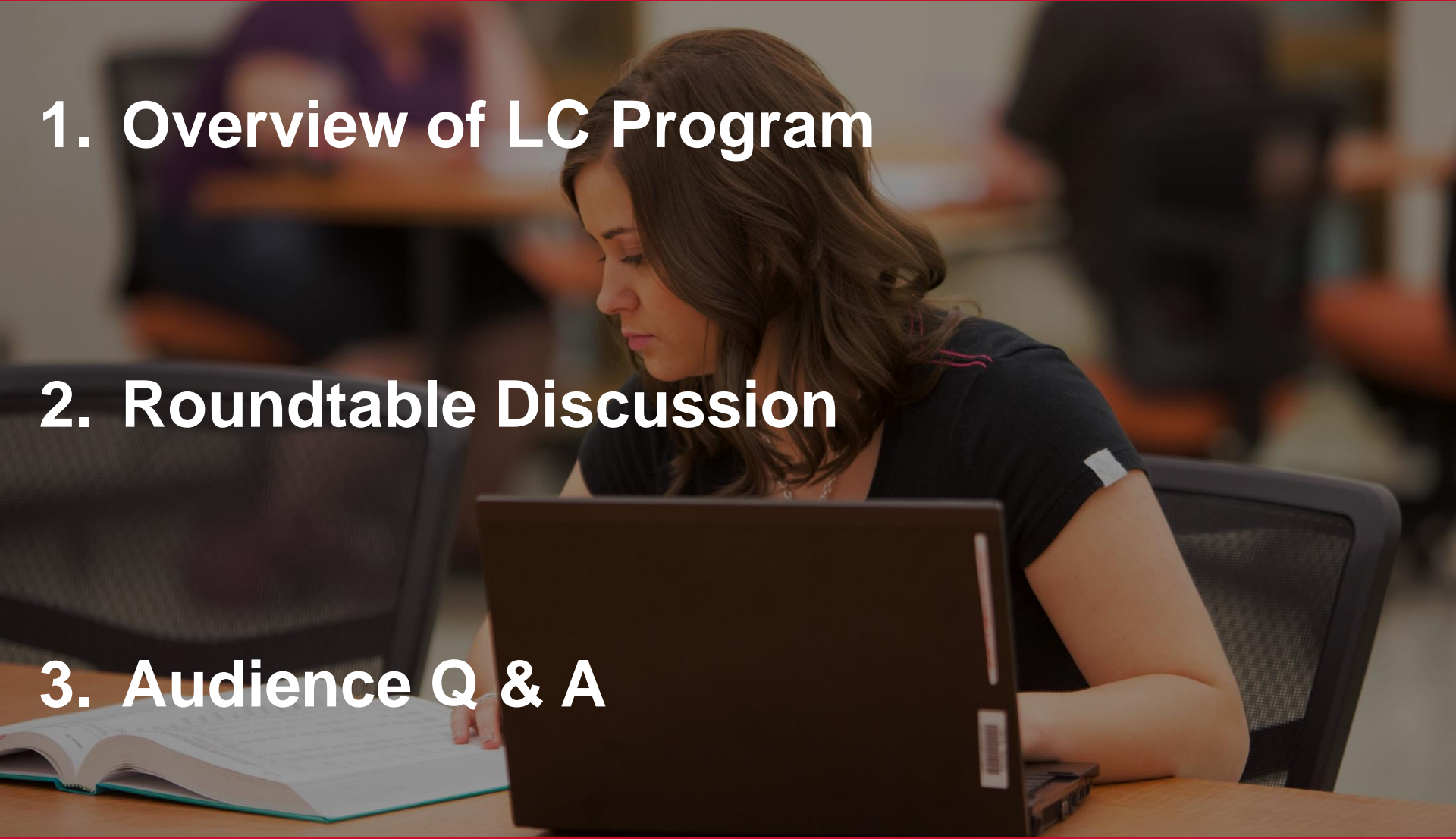
# TODAY'S SESSION



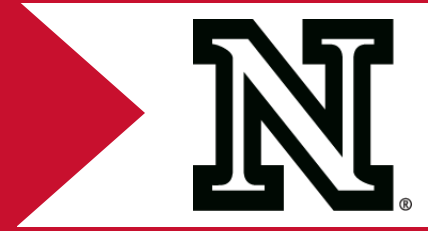
**1. Overview of LC Program**

**2. Roundtable Discussion**

**3. Audience Q & A**



# WHAT ARE FIRST-YEAR LEARNING COMMUNITIES?

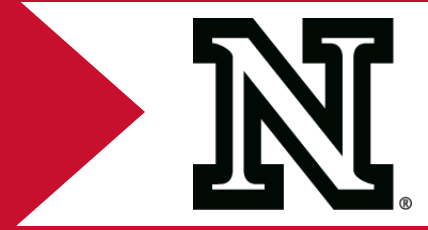


**Learning Communities are groups of first-year students who share a similar academic interest.**

- Major
- Career Path
- Lifestyle



# WHAT EXPERIENCES DO LC STUDENTS SHARE?

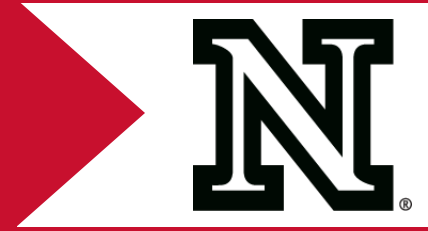


## Students in a Learning Community:

- Live together in a residence hall
- Learn together in shared classes
- Connect with faculty/staff, other students, and career exploration opportunities through exclusive events.



# LIVE

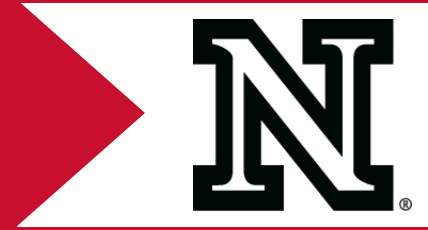


LCs live:

- In traditional residence halls
- In suite-style residence halls
- On City campus
- On East campus



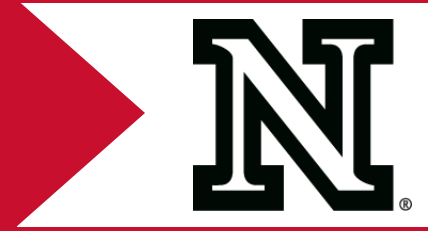
# LEARN



Students in a LC are co-enrolled in 2-3 courses in the fall, and 1-2 in the spring, related to the LC's shared interest.

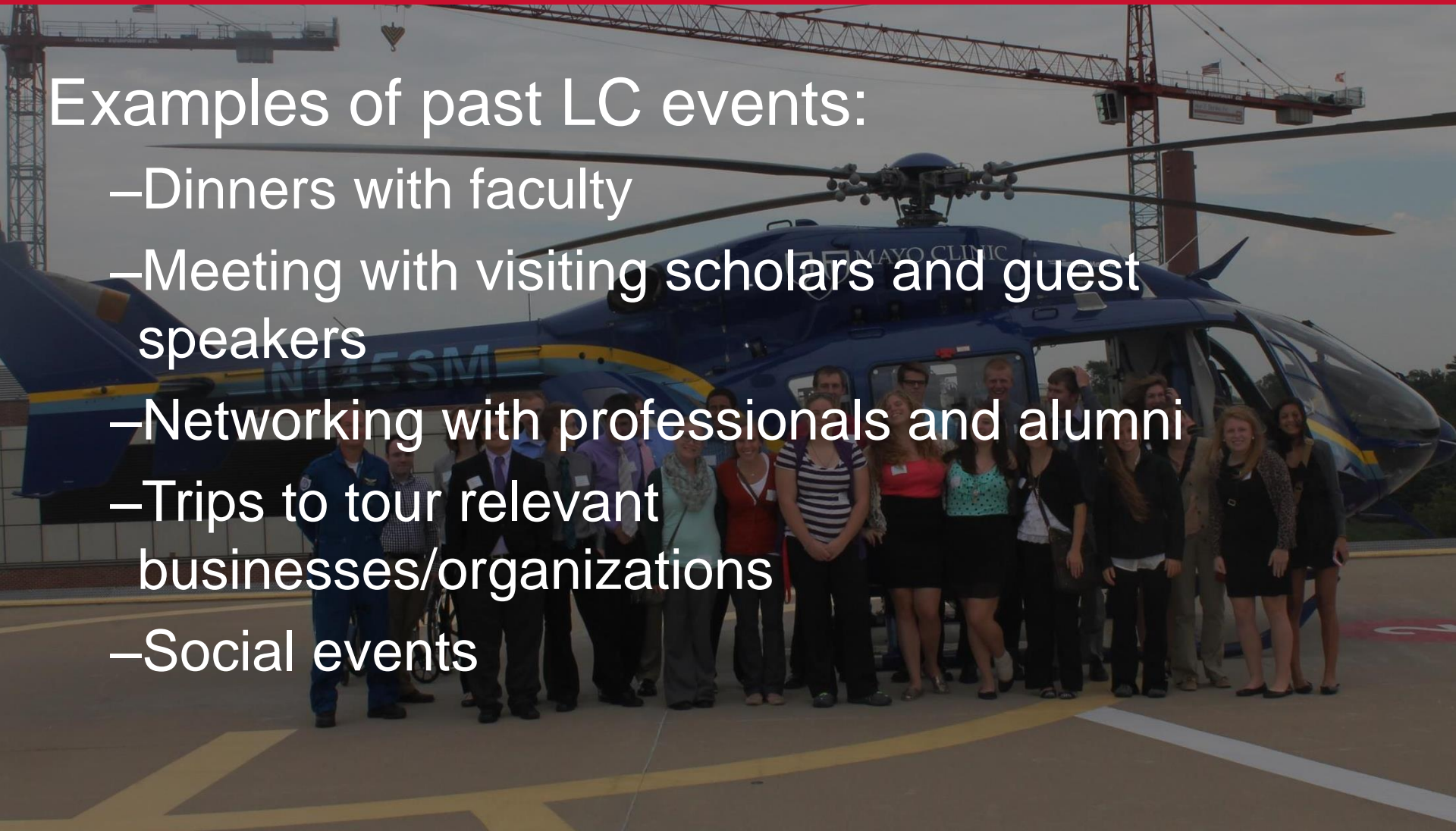
- Intro to the area of study
- Gen ed
- LC seminars

# CONNECT

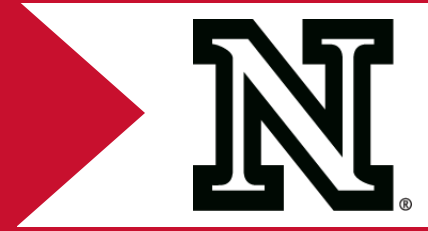


Examples of past LC events:

- Dinners with faculty
- Meeting with visiting scholars and guest speakers
- Networking with professionals and alumni
- Trips to tour relevant businesses/organizations
- Social events



# FACULTY/STAFF SPONSORS



Each LC has at least one faculty or staff sponsor.

—Many LCs have a sponsor team.

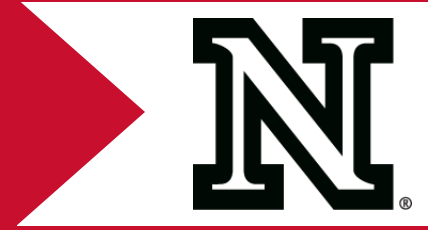
—Sponsors lead 3 co-curricular events each semester.

—Sometimes sponsors teach a co-enrolled course and/or a LC seminar.





# UPPERCLASS PEER MENTORS



Each LC has at least one upperclass peer mentor.

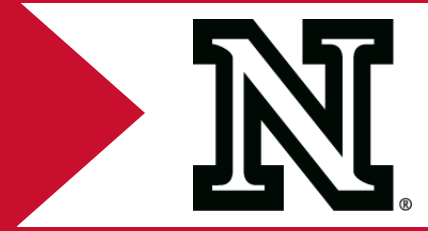
- Lives with students

- Provides academic and social mentoring

- Leads 3 co-curricular activities per semester

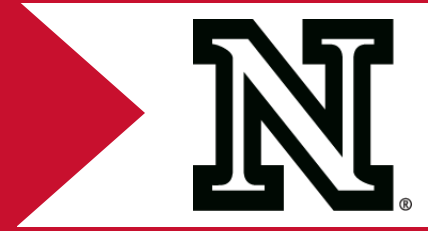


# WHY JOIN?



- Students who participate in a LC at UNL are more likely to:**
- **Be academically successful, and:**
    - **Have a higher first semester GPA**
    - **Graduate on time**
  - **Experience high satisfaction with their college experience**

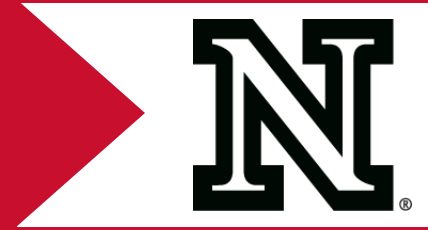
# WHY JOIN?



“I met 90% of my closest friends in my learning community. I wouldn't trade it for anything. I'd definitely encourage new students to get involved with a learning community.”

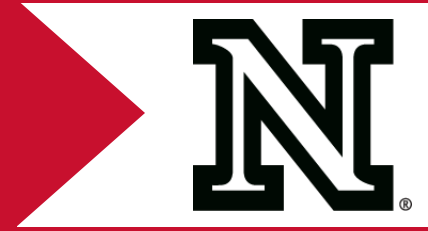


# WHY JOIN?



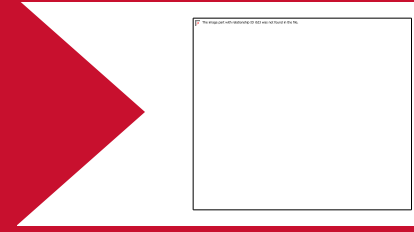
**“Joining a learning community was the single best decision I made as a freshman in college. I felt more at ease in my classes, I loved my res hall life, and if I needed help with anything I knew I had a floor full of people who had my back.”**

# How JOIN?



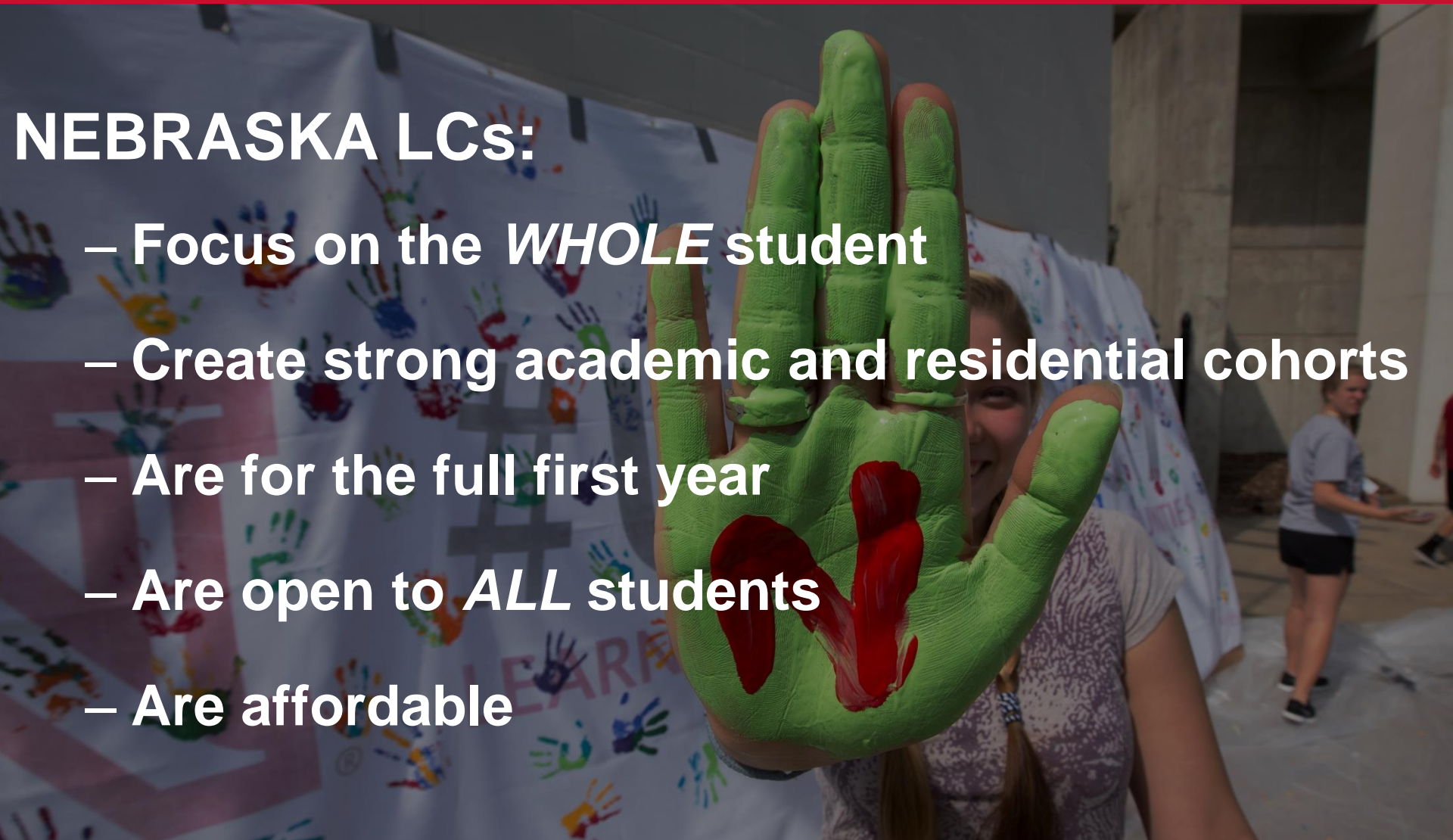
- Students “apply” via the Housing Contract.**
- Housing Contracts available late Jan and once ED is paid.
  - LC deadline is April 1.
  - LCs filled on a first-come; first-served basis.

# PEER COMPARISONS



## NEBRASKA LCs:

- Focus on the *WHOLE* student
- Create strong academic and residential cohorts
- Are for the full first year
- Are open to *ALL* students
- Are affordable

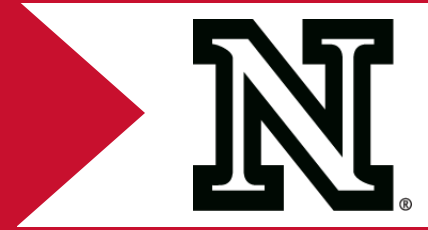


# LCS

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**ARTS & SCIENCES**  
**Biological Sciences, Brain Power,**  
**Pre-Law, CSCE,**  
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**EXPLORE CENTER**

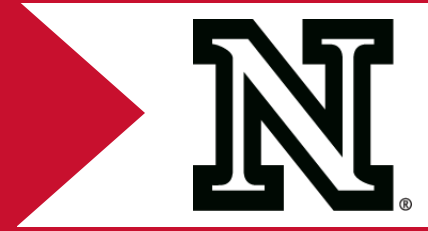
**Exploring Dentistry\*, Exploring Medicine,**  
**Exploring Nursing\*, University Exploration**

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**Under the Microscope (Fors)**

**FINE & PERFORMING ARTS**

**Art & Design\***

**Beyond the Practice Room (Music)**

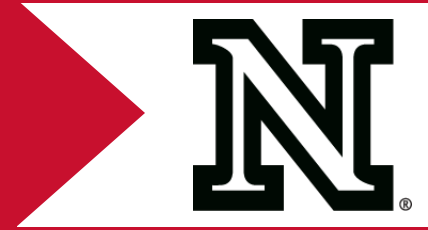


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**Engineering a Green World\***

**CEHS**  
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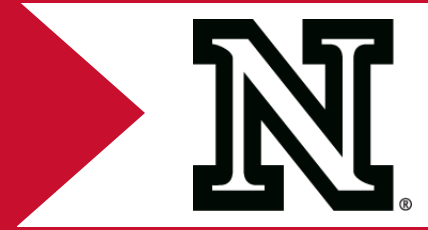
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**ARCHITECTURE**  
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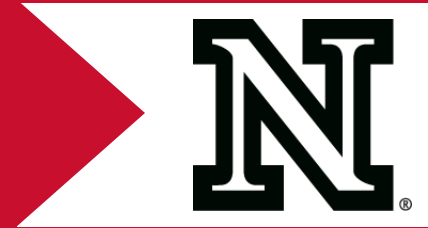
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## INTERDISCIPLINARY INTERESTS

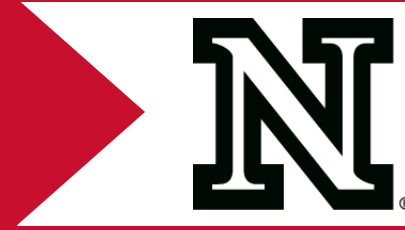
### Branch Out: Joint ROTC

### Melvin Jones Scholars

### EcoLeaders\*



# TRANSFER LC



– Live in Knoll Residence Center with other Transfer Students

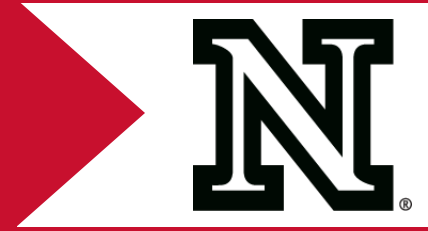
– Learn in *Transfer Advantage*

- 6-week orientation course

– Connect w/ Transfer Peer Mentors, Social Events like beginning of year cook-out

**MAY 1 DEADLINE**

# ROUNDTABLE



**Bede Bolin**

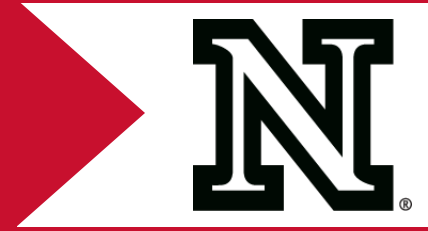
**Mike Carlson**

**Jaci Gustafson**

**Kelly Payne**



# AUDIENCE Q & A



THANK YOU