A Great Place to Be

The University of Nebraska Medical Center is one of four campuses of the University of Nebraska: the University of Nebraska Medical Center (UNMC), the University of Nebraska-Lincoln (UNL), the University of Nebraska at Omaha (UNO) and the University of Nebraska at Kearney (UNK). An 12 member Board of Regents ensures that the University meets its goals of quality instruction, research, and public service for the citizens of the state.

UNMC, initially known as Omaha Medical College, was established in 1881 as the first medical college in Nebraska. It became affiliated with the University of Nebraska in 1902, and in 1913, the first building was constructed on its Omaha campus. Today, in addition to the main campus in Omaha, the College of Nursing has campuses in Lincoln, Kearney, and Scottsbluff, and the College of Dentistry is located in Lincoln making UNMC’s campus 500 miles wide. UNMC is accredited by the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools.

Nationally Recognized Leader

UNMC is a nationally recognized leader in research, academics, and patient care. In the 2005 fiscal year, UNMC researchers received $72.5 million in new research awards, representing a 7 percent increase in funding from the previous fiscal year. UNMC’s research funding from external sources has resulted in the creation of more than 2,400 highly skilled jobs in the state. Despite its recognition as a leader in academics, UNMC’s tuition costs consistently rank among the lowest in its peer group.

Through basic, clinical and translational research, UNMC investigators have pioneered important breakthroughs. In July 2003, UNMC marked the 3,000th bone marrow transplant and the 20th anniversary of the start of its stem cell transplant program. In 2000, 229 liver, kidney, small bowel and pancreas transplants were performed. About 60 percent of the transplant patients were from outside Nebraska. Also in 2000, UNMC became the eighth medical center in the United States to use robotic surgical equipment which reduces surgical trauma, reduces hospital stays, and speeds up rehabilitation and recovery.

One of a kind

UNMC’s Eppley Cancer Center is the only National Cancer Institute-designated Cancer Center in a five state region. The 10 level, $77 million Durham Research Center, which was funded almost entirely by private support, opened in 2003. The Durham Research Center houses UNMC’s top researchers, who are conducting studies on cancer, cardiovascular diseases, genetics, innovative biomedical technologies, neurosciences, stem cell transplantation, and nanomedicine.

Bright Future

To further academic excellence, UNMC will construct a state-of-the-art educational facility scheduled for groundbreaking prior to the end of 2005. The Center for Health Science Education will replace obsolete facilities with technologically equipped classrooms and class laboratories, including clinical simulation rooms, small-group instruction rooms, amphitheaters and a campus events center. In addition, pending approval from the Board of Regents, a second Research Center of Excellence, consisting of 10 levels and 242,000 square feet, is scheduled for the beginning of construction as early as January 2006, with a tentative completion date of October 2007.

UNMC and The Nebraska Medical Center – two distinct entities

The Nebraska Medical Center (comprised of the former Clarkson Hospital and University Hospital) and UNMC are two separate entities with a collaborative vision to become a world renowned academic health sciences center. UNMC and The Nebraska Medical Center share an academic partnership, with a common goal to provide patients with the highest quality, cost effective care. In addition, both are committed to community outreach, and to providing expanded opportunities for UNMC to educate health professionals and conduct world-class research.