

Optional Talking Points:

- **Why eliminating EAS is not justified based on workforce demand.**
 - The demand for Earth and Atmospheric Sciences graduates in Nebraska and across the country is strong and growing (Bureau of Labor Statistics projects continued growth in jobs related to climate science, environmental consulting, and geosciences).
 - EAS graduates fill essential roles in the National Weather Service, environmental consulting, water and energy sectors, and climate resilience planning.
 - Nebraska's economy depends on weather-sensitive industries (agriculture, energy, water management), all of which require training that EAS provides.
- **Why eliminating EAS works against UNL's goal of being readmitted to the AAU.**
 - EAS faculty regularly secure federal research grants from agencies like NSF, NOAA, and NASA
 - Eliminating EAS would reduce UNL's federal research portfolio, weakening one of the most heavily weighted AAU metrics.
 - Eliminating EAS would narrow UNL's disciplinary breadth, which AAU values.
 - EAS research and outreach directly supports public safety, climate resilience, and STEM education - these align with AAU's mission to promote strong academic research and scholarship that serves the public good.
- **Do you have an extraordinary experience to speak to in any of the following areas? (These are from UNL's Strategic Plan: https://nebraska.edu/-/media/projects/unca/gold-strategic-plan/strategic-plan_foundational-pillars-and-strategic-priorities_jan-2025.pdf)**
 - **Teaching and Learning** (e.g., hands-on or experiential learning, interdisciplinary education, outreach)
 - **Research and Creative Activity** (e.g., impactful research that supports public safety, agriculture, and the environment)
 - **Partnerships and Engagement** (e.g., important collaborations with government agencies or the public)
 - **Culture and Environment** (e.g., EAS fosters a close-knit, "home away from home" community where students are mentored and supported)
 - **Stewardship and Effectiveness** (e.g., public engagement like Dinosaurs & Disasters and public seminars extend the University's reach far beyond

campus, and workforce development - EAS grads fill critical roles that directly benefit Nebraska's economy and public safety!