

## **Dean's Advisory Board**

### **Meeting Notes**

July 29, 2025 | Zoom

*Attendees: Kristin Fasbender, Tari Haro, Paula Lavigne, Shari Veil, Haley Hamel, Matt Hansen, Angel Jennings, Tia Newcomer, LaSharah Bunting, Juan Perez, Josh Planos, Courtney Rodgers, Emily Duskow, Ronald Ng, Dakarai Aarons, Jenna Johnson, Juanita Page*

Dean Shari Veil opened the meeting by highlighting several recent achievements in the College of Journalism and Mass Communications. The college earned two national Society of Professional Journalists awards in breaking news and depth reporting and placed 11th overall in the Hearst Journalism Awards—a continued step forward from previous years. Veil also shared that the college's latest depth report, which investigates Nebraska's prison system, has been published and widely shared by regional news outlets through a partnership with the NPR Midwest Newsroom.

In another major accomplishment, the college has been named the recipient of the 2025 AEJMC Diversity and Equity Award, recognizing its ongoing commitment to fostering inclusive excellence. Veil also announced that the college has exceeded its \$14.7 million fundraising goal two years ahead of schedule. Recent gifts supporting rural journalism internships, the renovation of 90.3 KRNU, a pilot Nebraska Documenters program, and expanded student employment helped push the campaign over the top.

The committee then discussed the current budget and political environment at the university.

Committee members who missed the meeting may schedule a follow-up with Dean Veil by contacting Nicole Blackstock at [nblackstock2@unl.edu](mailto:nblackstock2@unl.edu).