

# Massengale expects growth despite recent program cuts

By Michael Hooper  
Senior Reporter

Despite the loss of some of UNL's academic programs because of budget cuts over the past few years, UNL Chancellor Martin Massengale said this year he will look at the best ways to use UNL's resources to increase the quality of education.

This year decisions will emphasize UNL programs for students rather than fiscal facilities, Massengale said.

The 1986-87 school year "is one of revitalization and renewal of the core of the university," Massengale said, "... because we've gone through a period of budgetary reductions over the past few years."

"We'll be striving for more support that hopefully will allow UNL to restore the vision it had of historic greatness," he said.

### Replanning

Much replanning needs to be done, Massengale said. In order to do this, UNL will take advantage of the results of the 10-year accreditation visit by the North Central (accrediting) Association.

"We're going to make that self-study (based on the accreditation visit)... a major planning thrust for UNL," Massengale said. "It will be a point of departure for strategic planning for the campus."

Ten task forces, each made up of 12 to 15 members of the UNL staff, faculty, administration and student body have been studying undergraduate and graduate education, research, libraries, computing, student life and fiscal support, Massengale said. After the self-study is finished this year, Massengale will appoint a strategic planning force to follow up on what has been learned.

### High priority areas

Massengale said UNL resources need to be placed in "high priority areas." At least five programs in the College of

Arts and Sciences were eliminated over the summer "because of savings and relatively low demand in enrollment," Massengale said. The UNL Board of Regents decided in 1985 to eliminate the programs, Massengale said.

Massengale said the self-evaluation and accreditation study are more for replanning and reemphasizing certain areas of the university, than for looking at other programs that may have to be eliminated.

Massengale said he would like to see UNL students more actively involved in the academic process. More students could get involved in research programs with professors, he said.

### Academic advising

Massengale said he would like to see academic advising strengthened at UNL. Students need to see it as part of the learning process.

"Perhaps, sometimes faculty haven't seen (advising) as part of their responsibility, but I think it is," he said.

Some professors are better at advising than others, he said. "There could be some specialization in advising, just like teaching courses," Massengale said.

He said he will try to strengthen research at UNL. Since UNL is the only major comprehensive research institution in the state, "we will be striving for more external funding and continue to emphasize basic and applied research,"



Massengale

he said.

UNL will try to attract more qualified international students, Massengale said.

"The cultural component makes the university more cosmopolitan by having people of different backgrounds and cultures," he said.

"I think 1986-87 will be an exciting and challenging year," Massengale said. "We have a quality faculty and student body."

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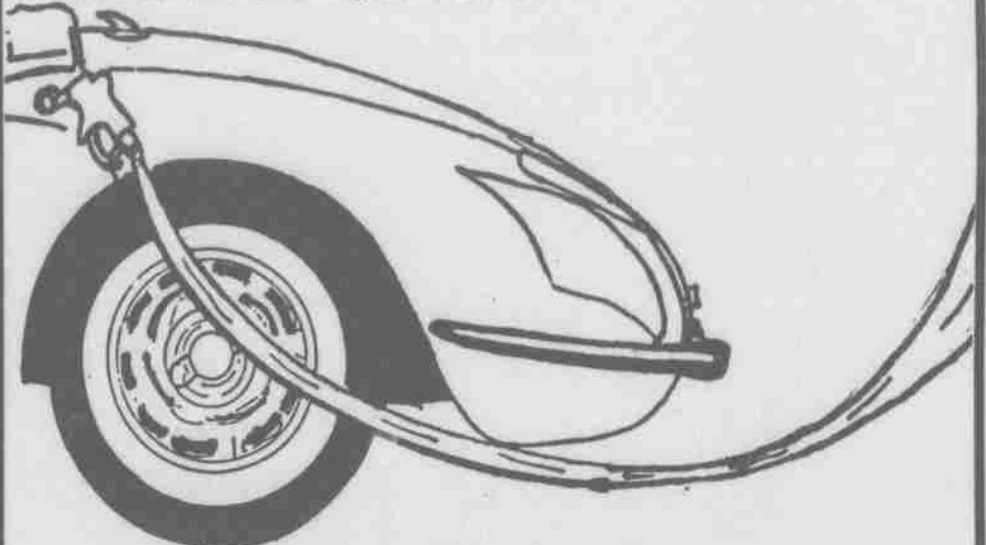
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