

Education is not the filling of a pail, but the lighting of a fire – Thank you

From [REDACTED]
Date Mon 9/15/2025 1:18 PM
To Susan VanderPlas <susan.vanderplas@unl.edu>

Dear Dr. VanderPlas,

The proposed plan to eliminate a standalone Department of Statistics at UNL is, quite frankly, outrageous. I truly hope it does not go into effect, and if, God forbid, it does, I sincerely hope your position will not jeopardized.

Your work makes a tremendous difference, not only in advancing statistics but also introduces students to concepts that are really eye-opening and transformative.

I'm very grateful I had the chance to meet you and take your classes. Without exaggeration, your teaching has probably had the greatest impact on my graduate education, and will stay with me throughout my career.

Please know that your impact is recognized and very much appreciated, regardless of how the administration proceeds with these plans. Hopefully, budget issues are only temporary and will be resolved quickly. I wish you all the best, and I know that the finest among us always find their way forward no matter the circumstances, and you are undoubtedly one of them.

Thank you!

Best Regards,



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