

Greetings

Welcome to the March edition of the CSC Leadership Report. I can't believe we are halfway through the Spring semester! Updates from each of the functional areas of the campus are provided below to assist you in staying up to date on all that is happening at CSC.

Strategic Plan Update

The 2030 CSC Strategic Plan: "Empowering Students, Inspiring Growth, Strengthening Communities" has been completed and approved by CSC Leadership. Information on the plan, including the four established priorities and the aligned strategies and performance indicators, can be found at csc.edu/strategic-planning/. The College's mission, vision, and values have also been updated and can be accessed from the same website. Thank you to the members of the Strategic Plan Task Force for their efforts and contributions.

Enrollment Management

The Admissions Office has been busy the last few weeks and has a busy schedule ahead. Along with President Kupper and alumni from across the state, the Admissions Counselors hosted Future Eagle Nights in Chadron, Rapid City, Scottsbluff, North Platte, Cheyenne, Kearney, Norfolk, and Valentine. These events brought accepted 2026 students and their families together for dinner and to meet our President and proud alumni. More than 80% of the students who attended a Future Eagle Night have confirmed they will be attending CSC this fall. Next week we will host two more Future Eagle Nights in Lincoln and Omaha, as well as attending the Nebraska State FFA College and Career Expo.

On Friday, March 27, CSC will host its final Eagle Experience Day of the year. Thirty-one students and 35 parents are registered to visit campus. These events have been successful this year. For comparison, Enrollment Management hosted six Eagle Experience Days with 69 students attending in 2025. If all the students show up next Friday, the five events in 2026 will have hosted 169 prospective students. This, along with a 2.7% increase in first-time freshmen applications for admissions, gives us a great chance to bring in a freshmen class with more than 300 students.

Finally, the first SOAR (Student Orientation And Registration) event for the Fall 2026 semester will be Friday, April 24. Registration for SOAR opened two weeks ago and 69 students have registered. This will be an exciting day for students to sign up for classes, select housing, and meet other incoming students. Support across campus is always helpful to move all these students through the registration process, so please watch for emails from Admissions requesting your help.



Academic Affairs

School of Liberal Arts

One of our two new reduced credit hour bachelor's degree programs, the Bachelor of Arts in Applied Justice Studies, anticipates a site visit by HLC during early Fall 2026. The program has received support from the Nebraska Department of Corrections, Nebraska State Troopers, and the Police Chiefs Association of Nebraska. Further, CSC has confirmed with the University of Nebraska Law School, Creighton University, University of Nebraska Omaha's Criminology and Criminal Justice Department, and the University of New Haven's College of Criminal Justice and Forensic Sciences that the program will meet their admission standards.

Food Pantry

In the Fall 2025 semester, the CSC Food Pantry served 449 students and provided more than 372 bags of food. In addition, the Food Pantry supported students during breaks with meal kits and sponsored meals.

According to CSC's most recent ACHA/NCHA survey in Spring 2025, 50% of the students who responded to the survey were food insecure. College students nationwide continue to face food insecurity at high rates. Recent national surveys estimate that about 40-45% of students report food insecurity.

Faculty and staff have a powerful influence on student awareness and comfort in accessing support services and normalizing the usage of the Food Pantry helps reduce stigma and ensures students know help is available without judgement. You can help by mentioning the Food Pantry during your classes, referring students to the pantry, and encouraging student groups to volunteer or donate.

The Food Pantry is open three days a week and is available to all students with no eligibility requirements. Students can visit the Food Pantry as many times as needed, but they do need to fill out a short survey each time. The Food Pantry has a mix of shelf stable items and fresh and frozen produce.

The Food Pantry is available Mondays from 3 to 6 p.m.; Tuesdays from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.; and Wednesdays from 8 a.m. to noon. If students need to access the Food Pantry outside these hours, they can email foodpantry@csc.edu.

For more information about the Food Pantry, you can visit csc.edu/foodpantry or our basic needs support page at csc.edu/basicneeds.



School of Business Math & Science

RHOP Success

Thanks to the efforts of several faculty and staff, 25 high school students have accepted RHOP positions for Fall 2026, compared to last year's 19.

Faculty in the News

Dr. Matthew Brust, a Professor of Biology, was interviewed by the Nebraska Public Radio for his finding of a century-old, cold-weather grasshopper species.

Dr. Ruizhu Dai, an Assistant Professor in the Business Academy, presented at the 2026 Academy of Human Resource Development Conference on Feb. 12-13.

The Pre-Vet Club students and faculty adviser Dr. Matthew Brust had a successful visit to the College of Veterinary Medicine at Kansas State University on Feb. 20.

Upcoming Events

The Health Professions Showcase will be Wednesday, March 25.

Professional Studies and Applied Science

One of CSC's two reduced credit hour bachelor's degree programs, the Bachelor of Arts in Applied Education, is also anticipating an HLC site visit in the upcoming fall semester. The program has significant support throughout the state of Nebraska. The Nebraska Department of Education has shared its support, as well as the following school districts: Chadron Public Schools, Bennington Public Schools, Dundy County Stratton Public Schools, Grand Island Public Schools, Wayne Community Schools, Loup City Public Schools, Paxton Consolidated Schools, and Gothenburg Public Schools.

Programs in the News

Counselor Education successfully met all standards of the Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs (CACREP) accreditation based on progress reports to address an initial citation. The program is accredited through March 31, 2032.

Social Work successfully met all standards of the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE) accreditation based on progress reports to address an initial citation. The program is accredited through October 2030.

The Education program and the Nebraska State College System Office are working to finalize an agreement with Millard Public Schools to support teacher development and certification through CSC's Master of Arts in Teaching (MAT) program through a unique grow-your-own model which is the first of its kind for Nebraska.



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Faculty in the News

Dr. Tony Perlinski received the 2025 Nebraska Range and Conservation Endowment on behalf of the Nebraska Cattlemen Research and Education Foundation in February.

Student Success

This spring, the Office of Academic Success has collaborated with Strive/TRiO, the START Office, and Career Services to offer workshops for students on building an academic plan, note-taking and study skills, speed interviews with alumni, and resume and cover letter writing. More than 50 students have attended these workshops, and more opportunities remain focused on leadership, internships, and strengthening goals and gratitude.

As of Feb. 24, 70 cases have been referred/opened in Eagles 360 for the spring 2026 term for students who have struggled academically. Seventy-five percent of the closed cases in Eagles 360 have been closed for a positive resolution.

The Teaching, Learning, and Professional Education Center (TLPEC)

The TLPEC is working on some exciting plans to develop professional development opportunities based on feedback provided by Faculty Senate. Stay tuned for more information about how, when, and where these opportunities will be made available.

Open Faculty Positions

CSC is currently hiring the following faculty positions. If you know a qualified individual who would be a good fit at CSC, please encourage them to review the opportunities at csc.edu/hr/job-opportunities/.

- Accounting, Tenure track faculty (2026-2027)
- Counselor Education, Tenure track faculty (2026-2027)
- Mathematics, Tenure track faculty (2026-2027)
- English, Tenure track faculty (2026-2027)
- History, Tenure track faculty (2026-2027)
- Music (Director of Bands and Brass Studies), Tenure track faculty (2026-2027)
- Music Industry, non-tenure track faculty (2026-2027)
- Psychology, Tenure track faculty (2026-2027)

Athletics

Both the men's and women's wrestling squads had successful seasons. The men's wrestling team finished in third place at regionals and qualified four wrestlers (CSC's most since 2009) for the NCAA national championships in mid-March. Three of the Eagles' four wrestlers at nationals earned All-



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America status. They are Mason Villwok at 197 pounds, Keegan Gelhausen at 184, and Quade Smith at 125. The other national qualifier was Eli Reese.

The women's wrestling team sent three wrestlers to the first-ever NCAA Women's Wrestling Championships in early March and competed well but were eliminated from contention for All-America honors on the opening day. The three women who qualified are Brianna Vollendroff, Piper Cadden, and Esther Peters.

In indoor track and field, the Eagles swept the triple jump gold medals at the RMAC Championships with Chadron native Chayton Bynes winning the men's event while Camila Salvucci won the women's event. Bynes ended his indoor season as an All-American after earning third place at the indoor national championships.

Men's and women's basketball concluded their seasons on February 28, honoring three seniors apiece. Both programs had a graduating senior score a career high in points on Senior Day (McKenzi Petersen and Zach Smith with 24).

The softball season is underway with its season now and will host multiple doubleheaders later in March and April.

Administration and Finance

The leadership team spent last Wednesday and Thursday in a retreat focused on identifying the team's strengths and developing department objectives aligned with CSC's Strategic Plan. During the retreat, the team learned about their individual strengths, explored ways to better leverage individual and collective strengths, and discussed strategies for improving communication based on those strengths. The leadership team also made significant progress in developing our department objectives and look forward to finalizing our plan in the coming weeks.

Accounting and Business Office

The Accounting and Business Office spent Friday afternoon participating in leadership training from Continuum. The team also discussed takeaways from the Administration and Finance leadership retreat. In addition, some staff shared quick tricks and tips for using Outlook, Teams, and Adobe.

Student Accounts/Business Office is operating as usual. The student payment due date for the second eight-week session is April 1. We are also busy preparing the Summer 2026 term set-up. Tuition calculations will be completed by April 15.

Inventory

Small asset inventory sheets have been distributed to buildings and departments. Hailey and Rachel are working on tagging items and accounting for all buildings included in this year's physical



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inventory rotation. We are also organizing and compiling surplus inventory to list items on the Surplus website and are awaiting approval to develop a CSC Surplus Facebook Marketplace page.

Budget

As of January 31, tuition revenues were 94.48% of the tuition budget, and expenses were 62.76% of the budget. Tuition remissions were 26.17% of our tuition revenue. The enrollment decline of approximately 9% has had a significant impact on our financial planning, and as a result this will be a particularly challenging year.

As communicated previously and given these constraints, all departments must prioritize their spending strictly on essential activities. Every decision must be made with fiscal responsibility in mind.

As part of the efforts to respond effectively to this enrollment decline, Academic Affairs has been working diligently to align course offerings with current student demand. The goal is to ensure that students remain on track for graduation. This work is ongoing, and adjustments will continue as enrollment trends and student needs are monitored.

The Administration and Finance Office recognizes the months ahead may involve difficult conversations and decisions. We appreciate your continued commitment, flexibility, and collaboration as we navigate this together.

Dental Services

As you may be aware, there have been some challenges accessing in-network dental services in Chadron. CSC Human Resources has been working with NSCS and Blue Cross Blue Shield EHA to help identify in-network dental provider options in the local area. They have tentatively identified and scheduled an in-network remote dentist to come to CSC in early May to help meet this need. Additional details about appointment scheduling will be shared as soon as the dates and location for this service are finalized.

Math Science COIL

The electrical work communicated in the last Leadership Report was completed in December, but additional electrical work was identified. Once the electrical work is complete, drainage work around the south side of the building can be finished. The weather and contractor availability will determine whether the drainage work can be completed before spring.

West Court and Brooks Hall asbestos abatement

Asbestos abatement is complete at West Court. CSC is working with the Nebraska State Patrol to utilize this facility for SWAT training later this spring. We are working to secure bids on the demolition and will attempt to demolish this facility once the SWAT training is complete. The Nebraska State Patrol will coordinate with our Justice Studies faculty to allow students to observe parts of the training. This demolition is funded through facility fees.



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For Brooks Hall, the College has contracted with a vendor for abatement specification design and abatement monitoring. CSC bid the abatement out and received several competitive bids and is in the process of contracting with the winning bidder. Once the contract is in place, a timeline will be finalized, and the abatement will be completed. We have decided to wait to bid out demolition in the winter months next year when construction crews are not as busy. This project is funded through contingency maintenance funds.

Deaeration tank replacement in the Sheaman Heating Plant

TSP finalized the design for the tank replacement, however with the boiler replacement project requiring alternate options we've paused this project to ensure the alternate boiler(s) don't need a different deaeration tank design. We are hopeful the deaeration tank can be moved so that it will not require the Heating Plant's roof to be removed and replaced. Once the boiler design is complete, we can start working on the deaeration tank design/specifications and location again. The project is funded by the 309 Task Force for Building Renewal.

Boiler #3 replacement and Boiler #4 repair in the Sheman Heating Plant

CSC contracted with Rasmussen Mechanical to purchase two natural gas fired boilers. The lead time for those boilers is months, so TSP and Rasmussen are working on the additional design details, demolition plans for the two wood fired boilers, etc. while we wait for the boilers to be manufactured. The new design will include a large overhead door being installed so we do not have to remove and replace a portion of the Heating Plant roof. Once a project timeline is available, we will communicate it in the next update. The project is funded by the 309 Task Force for Building Renewal.

Backyard project

The Backyard project kicked off with Lee Davies Architecture at the end of last April. Lee Davies completed schematic design and is working on design development. We are hopeful the design development and construction documents can be completed in time to bid the project out this spring, so that the project can be completed this summer, but we haven't received a complete construction specification document needed to bid the project out. This project was requested by the Student Senate and is being funded with student activity fees.

Utility tunnel repair along Main Street

The utility tunnel running north and south along the west side of Main Street requires repair. There is a degraded section of this tunnel running in front of the Sandoz Center which requires a sidewalk closure. We submitted an emergency funding request with the 309 Task Force for Building Renewal, and we are optimistic they will provide funding for this repair. Contingent on bids received and contractor availability we are hopeful the project can be completed this summer.



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King Library and Nelson Physical Activity Center

A windstorm in 2022 caused roof damage to both the King Library and the Nelson Physical Activity Center. While temporary repairs were made, permanent fixes are still needed. CSC submitted both projects for funding through the 309 Task Force for Building Renewal, and they have asked us to request the design allocation this spring so that we can start working on design as soon as this summer and early fall. We hope to bid the project out next fall or early winter, and the work completed by next spring or summer.

Sandoz/Work Hall Parking Lot

CSC has started discussions with an architecture and engineering firm on the redesign and update of the Sandoz/Work Hall parking lot. We are waiting for a proposal from the design firm to determine the cost and whether this project can be started early next fiscal year. This project will be funded through contingency maintenance and CSC parking lot funds.

Edna Work Window Replacement

CSC received a proposal from an architect and engineering firm on the Edna Work window replacement project design. We are in the process of reviewing the proposal and will work on contract negotiations once the proposal has been fully reviewed. We hope to bid for this project by late next fall or early winter so that it can be completed next spring and summer. This project will be funded through contingency maintenance funds.

Softball Complex Updates

CSC has requested a proposal from an architect and engineering firm for the design of this project. Once we receive the proposal, CSC will negotiate a contract if the price allows us to do so. This project will be funded through the Sports Facility Cash Funds allocated to CSC by the NSCS Board of Trustees for this project.

Work order process

As a reminder, for non-emergency facility issues, trained individuals with Facility One access (requestors) should submit work orders as needed. Each building has two to three designated requestors. For emergency facility issues during regular business hours, please call 308-432-6225 first, then submit a work order.

For after-hours or weekend emergencies, call the Sheaman Heating Plant at 308-432-6226. A physical facilities employee will contact the appropriate personnel to address the issue. A follow-up work order may be submitted if needed.

The following list of emergency issues is not all-inclusive: **Electrical:** power outages, exposed or damaged wiring, elevator entrapment. **Plumbing:** leaking or bursting pipes, sewage backup. **HVAC:** loss of heating or cooling, gas leaks. **Grounds:** flooding, fallen trees blocking access



Work Order Data

Please see below for work order data completed on campus from October 1 to December 30, 2025.

Category	Work orders submitted	Work orders open	Work orders closed	Work orders on hold	Avg. days to complete
Carpentry	179	16	191	7	9.39
Electrical	235	9	237	2	6.07
HVAC	144	37	138	2	23.6
Painting	16	8	18	3	44.94
Custodial	78	6	77	0	6.45
Grounds	109	7	119	4	10.86
Plumbing	88	3	85	1	1.72
TOTAL	849	86 (8.8%)	865 (88.8%)	23 (2.4%)	

Carpentry: There are 3.5 full-time equivalent Repair/Maintenance personnel who are carpenters. They work on a variety of items like door and window repairs, lock repairs, keys, flooring repairs, furniture repairs, etc. There are four unassigned work orders that fall under the carpentry category.

Electrical: There is currently one FTE Master Electrician who works with the campus electrical needs. This individual works on a variety of items like installing light fixtures, identifying electrical needs for equipment, and reviewing construction electrical plans to ensure compliance with campus electrical standards. There is one unassigned work order that falls under the electrical category.

HVAC: There are two FTE Repair/Maintenance personnel who work on the campus HVAC systems. These individuals work on a variety of items like boilers, chillers, HVAC control system, fan coils for heating and cooling, and pump repairs.

Painting: There is one FTE Repair/Maintenance personnel who paints offices, residence hall rooms, meeting rooms, as well as hangs window blinds on campus. There are 29 unassigned work orders with painting needs, so while the open work order number appears low at eight, it is actually 37 once the unassigned are assigned to the painting category in the system.

Plumbing: There is one FTE Repair/Maintenance personnel who works with campus plumbing needs. This individual works on a variety of items like replacing toilets, faucets, water fountains, and fixing water pipe leaks.

Custodial: There are 27 FTE Custodian personnel. Each Custodian is assigned to a particular building or buildings. The category in the table above is for things like changing a light bulb or repairing a carpet cleaner or vacuum. These items are in addition to the Custodians' cleaning duties.



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Grounds: There are five FTE Repair/Maintenance personnel who work on the campus grounds. This category is for things like moving office furniture and installing parking signs. There are two unassigned work orders that fall under the grounds category.

Other Maintenance/Facility Updates

Several projects are ongoing. Please read below for further information.

- Rasmussen Mechanical installed the Work Hall and Work Wing steam hot water heat station this summer; however, some steam reduction and relief valves still need to be installed. We are contracted with TSP, and the work will be completed as soon as practical. This work requires coordination to shut off hot water to the building so it will likely take place after graduation and before summer camps start.
- We are working through challenges at Beebe Stadium related to pigeons infiltrating the open area under the press box and above the concession stand and restroom area.
- Recent windstorms caused damage to the roof and flashing at Burkhiser, as well as roof damage at the NPAC and Old Admin. Roofing contractors have been contacted, and CSC maintenance staff have completed temporary remediation efforts while we await the contractors' completion of the more extensive repairs.

Student Affairs

Student Affairs continues to support student well-being, engagement, and campus experience through a range of initiatives this spring. Those initiatives include mental health training, housing processes, campus events, awareness programming, recreational opportunities, safety training, and health services.

Beginning with training, Mental Health First Aid (MHFA) is scheduled for April 29 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the Student Center Ballroom. Attendees should RSVP by emailing [Chelsea Turner](#).

Within Housing and Residence Life, room renewal for current residents opened in late January, and current on-campus residents are renewing their rooms at a higher rate compared to last year. New room selection opens based on seniority, beginning with graduate and senior students on March 20. Selection periods continue with juniors on March 26, sophomores on April 1, and current freshmen on April 8. Also, in Housing and Residence Life, Resident Advisor (RA) interviews will take place later this month.

Intramural sports recently concluded three activities that had good participation. Bowling had nine teams, and basketball and pickleball each had 11 teams. Registration for volleyball will be through the end of this week.

As may be expected, the Nurse has seen more students at start of the spring semester. In December, the Nurse saw 44 students and referred 25 to the Chadron Clinic. In January, 91 students



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were seen and 39 were referred to the clinic. In February, the Nurse saw 146 students and 59 were referred to the clinic.

As a reminder, building managers and campus leaders may request I Love U Guys and other security training by contacting Mark Hunt at 308-432-6037.

April will be a busy time on campus and there are numerous events planned for Spring Daze, as well as awareness efforts in regard to mental health and sexual assault. A proclamation and lighting of C-Hill will be on April 4 at 5 p.m. beginning at Beebe Stadium. Denim Day is April 29, and you are encouraged to wear denim in observance of the day.

Tentative events for Spring Daze include:

- Big Event: April 11 at 8 a.m., beginning at the Chicoine Center
- Breakfast for Dinner, April 13 from 6 to 8 p.m., The Hub
- Nearly Naked Mile: April 13 at 7 p.m., Student Center
- RLA pickleball tournament: April 14 from 3 to 6 p.m., War Memorial Park Tennis Courts
- Roller Rink: April 14 from 5 to 9 p.m., Armstrong Gymnasium
- Backyard Bash: April 15 from 4 to 7 p.m., Backyard of the Residence Hall Complex
- Bash the Cruiser, April 15 at 4 p.m., Lindeken Clock Tower
- Slip n' Slide Wiffle Ball: April 16 at 4 p.m., Backyard of the Residence Hall Complex
- Art dedication, April 17 at 10:30 a.m., COIL
- Movie Night + Food Trucks: April 17 at 7 p.m., Kline Amphitheatre
- International Food Tasting Party: April 18 at 6 p.m., Student Center Ballroom
- NOCS Alumni Dance: April 18 at 7 p.m., Chadron Arts Center

College Relations

As a reminder, College Relations will host two more Graves Lecture Series this spring. The next presentation is by CSC alum and attorney, Conor P. Casey on Thursday. On April 23, Art Professor Mary Donahue will present "Art?! Get Out! Both presentations begin at 6 p.m. at the Mari Sandoz High Plains Heritage Center Chicoine Atrium. The first presentation of the spring semester was hosted by Justin Haag, a regional editor with Nebraskaland Magazine.

In other items, College Relations encourages you to review the following information:

- If you haven't already, and you're interested in upgrading your license plates to showcase CSC pride, please complete the [specialty license plate](#) application.
- Employees may update information displayed on their directory pages using the Update Your Directory Information form, which is [available online](#).
- CSC's Brand Book is available for designers, vendors, and campus partners to apply CSC's visual and messaging standards consistently. If you have any questions about branding or



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how to apply the standards, please reach out to [College Relations](#). Please also feel free to download [brand assets online](#).

- Please be sure to continue using the [CSC Digest](#) to promote your campus event or announcement. This is the best way to ensure your messages reach the entire campus audience.
- If you have an interesting story lead to share or a promotional suggestion, please email [Alex Helmbrecht](#) and he will invite you to attend an upcoming staff meeting.
- Finally, if you need to order copy paper, reams of colored paper or card stock, and envelopes, please use [the online form](#). A work order will be generated from this request to notify Maintenance for delivery.

Information Technology

Tuesday marked the two-month anniversary of the data center water disaster. The extraordinary effort demonstrated during the immediate response and throughout the past two months has been tremendous. Thank you all for your efforts to keep the campus operating during those first weeks, for supporting the IT staff in so many thoughtful ways, and for continued understanding as IT manages change through the coming months. We now move forward with a focus on improving the physical environment, strengthening the IT infrastructure, and adjusting processes and services to gain efficiency.

The data center recovery effort continues with:

- A full assessment of the IT physical environment to include room and perimeter water sources and remediation, protection mechanisms, heating and cooling options, power provisioning, and sensor selection.
- Close monitoring of network resources.
- Server hardware is fully received, and permanent replacement of the virtual server environment is ready to commence, with virtual machine migrations to follow.
- Backup processes are fully restored with cloud hosted backups back on schedule.
- Physical file server migration is nearing completion with shares permanently moved to SharePoint.

Other updates include, network devices providing wireless and wired connections in the King Library and Work Hall and Wing were replaced in December. This upgrade included the implementation of Cisco cloud managed wireless controller initiating the shift from on premise managed hardware. Planning is underway to upgrade the remaining campus buildings.

The security camera system is being replaced this spring. The new server will increase video storage capacity and accommodate future door access migration from the current application.



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Grant funded software projects continue to progress.

- Courshedog Scheduling was completed in January.
- Courshedog Curriculum project began in January.
- Courshedog Catalog is scheduled to begin soon.
- Courshedog Events start date is pending.
- Stellic Degree Audit for graduate students is live with undergraduate implementation in progress and targeted for go-live in June.
- Stellic Registration, Care and Explore Transfer Credit modules are currently in progress.
- Reengage Nebraska/Inside Track implementation is in progress and scheduled for May completion.

Conclusion

As we close out the Spring semester, let's continue to ensure that our students have the support and resources they need to finish successfully. The Big Event is scheduled for April 11, so I invite you all to participate as we give back to the Chadron community. And Commencement is just around the corner, which will be a celebration for us all! Soar Eagles!