

at all. The funding, underfunding problems at Kearney are going to be here. Senator Lynch, yesterday, stood up and talked about how bad he thought it was at some of the other institutions, that they didn't...they only taught just a couple classes. Well, at Kearney, most all of them are teaching double loads, twice what they should. They have serious overcrowding problems. They have serious underfunding problems. In their peer studies that Kearney has done, they're at the bottom and at the bottom by a long, long way. The University of Nebraska said, well, we'll take care of you but you're not in the system yet to do that. And what's going to happen is that Kearney is going to go another year and fall further and further behind and we will never will catch up to do that. I have some handouts that we're going to be handing out. But we've done a study that talks about funding per student. And Kearney spent just...or has spent on them just a little over \$2,300 per student. If you take all the community colleges, all the state colleges, all the university system, the other institutions, they're all above Kearney. Kearney needs \$3 million a year or in the biennium just to tie for last place, just to tie for last. What we're asking for here is \$250,000 this year and that same \$250,000 for next year as a supplemental. Now the Appropriations Committee has looked at Kearney and I think that Senator Moore will stand up and tell you that Kearney has probably the greatest needs of any higher education institution in the state, tremendous serious underfunding problems. It's not the issue. The key is how do you address that and what are you going to do? So they've proposed, well, we'll catch up with some of that, we've got tuition increases. Everybody else gets a 5 percent tuition increase this year, Kearney has twice that. Kearney is going to have a 10 percent this year, a 10 percent next year tuition increase. Normally, you wouldn't think that's too bad a deal perhaps but the problem is that the ratio between what the student pays for their education and what the state pays for these educations at Kearney is already out of whack. The students are paying somewhere around 35 percent of their own education and that is fast approaching 40 percent of their own education. And the normal or what you try to strive for is only about 25 percent. The students already are bearing proportionately a lot more. Kearney's funding problems won't be solved in one year. We don't ask that. We'd love to have that occur. We'd love to have that \$3 million just to tie for last place. But that's not going to happen. That's not a reality. This \$250,000 is an additional money. The Appropriations Committee is in a tough spot. Senator Bernard-Stevens, Senator