“Students thrive due to college partnerships”
By Ron Rosati, NCTA Dean

Our mission in educating college students relies on many factors. Among some of the most important are personal relationships founded upon mutual understanding, trust and respect.

The Nebraska College of Technical Agriculture is blessed to have a strong base of community support. Thank you, readers, for helping our students and campus to be the best we can be. We are proud to be in Curtis!

Our NCTA students, the college community, alumni, faculty and staff have often heard me refer to the importance of “public-private” partnerships. This is not just a buzzword phrase.

I refer to the NCTA Mission Statement, renewed and redefined earlier this year and approved by the University of Nebraska Board of Regents in June.

NCTA Mission Statement:
The Nebraska College of Technical Agriculture is devoted to a statewide mission of preparing students for successful careers in agriculture, veterinary technology, food and related industries. The college provides open access to innovative technical education resulting in associate degrees, certificates, diplomas and other credentials.

Were it not for partners who are mentors or employers, fund scholarships, lend information, pledge and give financial support, share in intellectual and academic exchanges, expend personal energies, donate supplies and equipment, and share many other uncited resources, NCTA would not succeed in its mission. Thank you!

This week NCTA advances in furthering its programming and academic goals to expand collaborations and partnerships in private industry and post-secondary education.

For example, we continue to work with Reinke Manufacturing, Inc., at Deshler on the irrigation technician training program. Donations of supplies and equipment help our students on livestock judging, rodeo and ranch horse teams. Support through gifts or supplies to classrooms, instructor teaching materials and campus events all make a difference. Our alumni partners even help with behind-the-scenes recruiting efforts.

Visitors to the campus this week include ag partners from the Nebraska Leadership Education Action Development (LEAD) program, and Accelerate Nebraska, a new program targeting public-private partnerships behind the leadership of Speaker of the Nebraska Legislature State Sen. Greg Adams of York. I will share more on that venture in the future.

When you shop for produce at the NCTA Horticulture Club’s booth each Saturday at the Farmers Market in the Curtis City Park, you are helping our students learn retail skills and raise funds for their national contest trip.

As our partners, I value your suggestions and concerns. If you have any questions or input, I welcome hearing from you. Call me at 367-5200, or stop by my office at 26 Ag Hall. Thank you.