

be it. I'll withdraw my amendments and I'll explain to my people that I'm sorry, it's more than you wanted to cut, but that's the best we can do. But at least it's a recognition that we have a higher priority for education, that its role is important to this state and thus, we have given it some of a break, instead of a 3 percent, a 2 percent cut and that's still not insignificant. A 2 percent cut is a major cut. It's a lot of money you're talking about, millions of dollars, on top of cuts we imposed last May and so we're not being easy on them, we're not giving them lots of money to play with. In fact, they are hurting right now and you know it. The Medical Center has tried to close some colleges. The University of Nebraska-Lincoln doesn't know where to turn to in terms of some of these cuts and UN-O is no different. They are all suffering. It is not as though they are having an easy time and so even with 2 percent this will not be something to relish, but at the same time it's better than 3 and it's a recognition of their important role, and hopefully in the future we can do better. And so I ask you, please to support the 2 percent committee cut. It's a reasonable compromise. It's less than I hoped for, but certainly better than what could be the case.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Scofield, then Senator DeCamp.

(Applause from balcony.)

SPEAKER NICHOL: Ladies and gentlemen in the balcony, we do not allow any demonstration of any kind so, while we appreciate that you appreciate what has been said, please hold it in the future. Thank you. Senator Scofield, please.

SENATOR SCOFIELD: Mr. Speaker and members, I rise in support of the committee amendments, and just in response briefly to Senator Schmit's concerns about the "overworked faculty", I would agree that our faculty is, in fact, in many cases asked to perform almost superhuman tasks. We want people to do a good job of teaching. We expect them to do research in order to advance in their professions and we ask them to do service to their communities, and, in fact, right now a number of us have been encouraging faculty to get out and do even more service. So I would suggest to you that that job isn't all that easy and there are some opportunities to do consulting if you happen to be in the right field, but some of the absolutely basic courses that