Dear Honorees and Attendees,

The University of Nebraska at Omaha is proud to acknowledge our amazing students across all of the academic disciplines. Today’s Honors Convocation highlights excellence, campus leadership, and volunteerism. Now in our second century, UNO students continue to set high expectations for themselves and exceed their own goals time and time again.

The biographies found in this program highlight individuals, but our students are supported by family, friends, and faculty who help make that excellence possible. We also applaud those who do so much for our honorees.

This ceremony is a recognition and celebration of both intellectual vigor and good, hard work. The accomplishments of the men and women at today’s convocation set a high standard for our university and our community. Congratulations to one and all.

John E. Christensen
Chancellor
CEREMONY

INTRODUCTION
Laura Grams
Vice President of UNO Faculty Senate

MASTER OF CEREMONIES
B.J. Reed
Senior Vice Chancellor
for Academic and Student Affairs

WELCOME
John E. Christensen
Chancellor

AWARDS
Helen Hansen Outstanding Graduate Students
Presented by Deborah Smith-Howell
Associate Vice Chancellor, Academic Affairs
and Dean of Graduate Studies

Undergraduate Major Honorees
Presented by college deans

Deans’ Awards
Presented by college deans

SENIOR VICE CHANCELLOR
AWARDS
Outstanding Undergraduate Students
Presented by B.J. Reed
Senior Vice Chancellor, Academic and Student Affairs

OUTSTANDING SERVICE LEARNING
Presented by B.J. Reed
Senior Vice Chancellor, Academic and Student Affairs

OUTSTANDING STUDENT ATHLETES
Presented by Trev Alberts
Vice Chancellor, Athletic Leadership and Management

RECEPTION
Refreshments served immediately following the ceremony in the Milo Bail Student Center Ballroom
Scholarships are awarded to graduate students who have completed at least 18 hours of graduate work, demonstrated excellence in performance, and have been admitted for candidacy with a grade point average of 3.75 or above.

**OLIVER BONHAM-CARTER**
Information Technology

Oliver Bonham-Carter is an accomplished bioinformatics doctoral student who is highly skilled as an analytical researcher. His research focus is to determine and predict some of the conditions for post-translational modifications on protein as a result of environmental stress. He has published 11 articles, most recently a paper titled, “A text mining application for linking functionally stressed-proteins to their post-translational modifications,” which he presented at the 2015 IEEE International Conference in Washington, D.C.

**CRAIG HUGHES**
Sociology

Craig Hughes is an outstanding masters student whose research interests include design anthropology, material culture, human-centered design, action research, discourse and power, visual semiotics, and ethnography in industry. He values the input of social science perspectives and research in his own work as the founder of his interdisciplinary design lab, Studio Polymath. In addition to his classroom work and research, he also is a Sociology Graduate Student Liaison between faculty and students.
UNDERGRADUATE MAJOR HONOREES

Honorees selected by departments in which they are majoring must have a minimum cumulative grade point average of 3.33. They are chosen on the basis of academic achievement in addition to their contributions to the university and the community.

COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

Carolanne Albers
Biology

Sapphire Andersen
English (Language Studies)

Peter Andersen
Chemistry

Alexander Babb
Geology

Alexandra Bauer
International Studies

Shelby Dean
English (British, Irish, Anglophone Literature)

Shelby Dechow
Biotechnology and Foreign Languages & Literature (German)

Jeffrey Ehresman
Neuroscience

Crystal Foster
History

Jenee Gataivasa
Women’s and Gender Studies

Benjamin Hayworth
Philosophy

Anthony Hughes
Political Science

Daniel Martin
Latino/Latin American Studies and Spanish

Calihan Price
English (Creative Nonfiction)

Emily Royer
Sociology

Thomas Ryan
Geography

Madison Schoenbeck
Psychology

Ella Sherman
English (American Literature)

Katelyn Wanek
Mathematics

COLLEGE OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

Alexandra Abdouch
Human Resource Management

Pallav Bajracharya
Innovation and Entrepreneurship

Morgan Birkel
Accounting

Brock Castinado
Supply Chain Management

Carson Cederberg
Management

Ashley Eisert
Marketing

Jacob Hayden
Investment Science and Portfolio Management

Justin Korth
Business Finance

Miles Russell
Economics

Britany Seda
Real Estate and Land Use Economics

Kendra Samuelson
Banking and Financial Markets

Chase Stuhr
Management

COLLEGE OF COMMUNICATION, FINE ARTS AND MEDIA

Matthew Barros
Broadcasting

Emily Berry
Music Education (Woodwind)

Helen Creger
Music Performance (Keyboard)

Alice Fanari
Speech Communication

Brianna Harwood
Creative Writing

Michael Judah
Theatre

Megan Kreigler
Studio Art (3-D Arts)

Stephanie Shattuck
Theatre (Design and Technical)

Molly Shirazi
Studio Art (K-12)

Grace Short
Art History

Susan Thorne-Bond
Music Performance (Jazz)
UNDERGRADUATE MAJOR HONOREES CONTINUED

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

Alissa Anderson  
Elementary Education

Diane Banderas  
Physical Education

Robert Barber  
Athletic Training and Exercise Science

Jennifer Brady  
Public Health

Kelly Maher  
Recreation and Leisure Studies

Marin Maycock  
Secondary Education

Natalie McGovern  
Elementary Education/Special Education

Kelsey Phipps  
Speech-Language Pathology

Jaymie Schroeder  
Secondary Education

COLLEGE OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS AND COMMUNITY SERVICE

Eric Connor  
Criminology & Criminal Justice  
(Lincoln Campus)

Ryan Dalton  
Aviation (Air Transport Administration)

Jenna DeWilde  
Criminology & Criminal Justice

Rafael Gutierrez  
Goodrich Program

Lisa Hild  
Gerontology

James Rashilla  
Emergency Management

Natalie Shanahan  
Social Work

Nicole Straavaldson  
Aviation (Professional Flight)

UNL COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING

Cassandra Brumbaugh  
Construction Management

Austin Diver  
Electronics Engineering

Margaret Findall  
Architectural Engineering

Kurtis Moeller  
Construction Engineering

Andrew Peterson  
Computer Engineering

Derek Schriner  
Civil Engineering

COLLEGE OF INFORMATION SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

Sam Church  
IT Innovation

Joseph Eley  
Computer Science

Leonora Gerlock  
Information Assurance

Keegan Mahoney  
Management Information Systems

Emily Pachunka  
Bioinformatics

Joseph McGuire  
Healthcare Administration

COLLEGE OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS AND COMMUNITY SERVICE DIVISION OF CONTINUING STUDIES

Elisabeth Chappell  
English

Candice Grell  
Sociology

Melissa Gries-Partridge  
Biology

Sheri Lash  
Political Science

Matthew Lemaire  
Geography

Keegan Mahoney  
Healthcare Administration

Rachelle McPhillips  
Library Science

Miguel Ortiz  
Criminology & Criminal Justice

Erin Reents  
Behavioral Health

Nathan Saltzgaber  
Spanish

Amanda Stevens  
General Studies
DEANS’ AWARDS

Award recipients reflect a combination of outstanding scholastic achievement and leadership on campus and in the community. They are selected from the Undergraduate Major Honorees.

SHELBY DECHOW
College of Arts and Sciences

Shelby Dechow will graduate in May 2016 with a Bachelor of Science in Biotechnology and a Bachelor of Arts in Foreign Language and Literature (German).

MORGAN BIRKEL
College of Business Administration

Morgan Birkel, a December 2015 graduate, holds a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration with concentrations in Accounting, Finance, and Banking and a minor in Spanish.

MEGAN KREIGLER
College of Communication, Fine Arts and Media

Megan Kreigler will graduate in May 2016 with a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Studio Art with minors in Art History and Marketing.

KELSEY PHIPPS
College of Education

Kelsey Phipps will graduate in May 2016 with a Bachelor of Science in Speech-Language Pathology.

DEREK SCHRINER
College of Engineering (UNL)

Derek Schriner will graduate in May 2016 with a Bachelor of Science. He is majoring in Civil Engineering and minoring in Mathematics.

EMILY PACHUNKA
College of Information Science & Technology

Emily Pachunka is a Bioinformatics major. She will graduate with a Bachelor of Science in May 2016.

JENNA DEWILDE
College of Public Affairs and Community Service

Jenna DeWilde will graduate in May 2016 with a Bachelor of Science in Criminology and Criminal Justice.

MORGAN BIRKEL
College of Information Science & Technology

Morgan Birkel, a December 2015 graduate, holds a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration with concentrations in Accounting, Finance, and Banking and a minor in Spanish.

MEGAN KREIGLER
College of Communication, Fine Arts and Media

Megan Kreigler will graduate in May 2016 with a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Studio Art with minors in Art History and Marketing.

KELSEY PHIPPS
College of Education

Kelsey Phipps will graduate in May 2016 with a Bachelor of Science in Speech-Language Pathology.

DEREK SCHRINER
College of Engineering (UNL)

Derek Schriner will graduate in May 2016 with a Bachelor of Science. He is majoring in Civil Engineering and minoring in Mathematics.

EMILY PACHUNKA
College of Information Science & Technology

Emily Pachunka is a Bioinformatics major. She will graduate with a Bachelor of Science in May 2016.

JENNA DEWILDE
College of Public Affairs and Community Service

Jenna DeWilde will graduate in May 2016 with a Bachelor of Science in Criminology and Criminal Justice.

JOSEPH MCGUIRE
College of Public Affairs and Community Service
Division of Continuing Studies

Joseph McGuire will graduate in August 2016. He will hold a Bachelor of General Studies with a Health Administration concentration and Medical Humanities and Sociology minors.
SENIOR VICE CHANCELLOR OUTSTANDING UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT AWARDS

This award is given based on a combination of outstanding scholastic achievement and demonstrated leadership on campus and in the community. The recipients are selected by the Senior Vice Chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs from the Dean’s Award recipients.

JORDAN KOCH
College of Education

Jordan Koch graduated in December 2015 with a Bachelor of Science in Education. She graduated with highest honors and acted as the undergraduate speaker at Commencement. She has been involved with Student Government, was a 2014-2015 UNO Student Regent, a National Residence Hall Honorary, a member of the Maverick Village Residence Hall Council, and a student worker on campus.

JENNA DEWILDE
College of Public Affairs and Community Service

Jenna DeWilde will receive a Bachelor of Science in Criminology and Criminal Justice in May 2016. Jenna is an ROTC cadet, Wing Commander, UNO Writing Center employee, and a member of the UNO Honors Program. She had the honor of leading the Pledge of Allegiance at President Obama’s visit to UNO in January 2016.

EMILY PACHUNKA
College of Information Science & Technology

Emily Pachunka is a Bioinformatics major. She will graduate with a Bachelor of Science in May 2016. Emily is currently the President of the Honors Student Association and the President of the Maverick Club for Bioinformatics. She is also a mentee in the Women in IT Mentoring Program.

SENIOR VICE CHANCELLOR OUTSTANDING LEADERSHIP AWARD

The Senior Vice Chancellor’s Award for Outstanding Leadership recognizes an undergraduate student who has demonstrated exemplary leadership through campus organizations and community volunteer work, in addition to scholarly achievement.

JORDAN KOCH
College of Education

Jordan Koch graduated in December 2015 with a Bachelor of Science in Education. She graduated with highest honors and acted as the undergraduate speaker at Commencement. She has been involved with Student Government, was a 2014-2015 UNO Student Regent, a National Residence Hall Honorary, a member of the Maverick Village Residence Hall Council, and a student worker on campus.
OUTSTANDING SERVICE LEARNING AWARDS

This award is presented to students who have made outstanding contributions to the community as a part of their academic study.

**CARLY CONRAD**
College of Public Affairs and Community Service

Carly Conrad will graduate in May 2016 with a Bachelor of Science in Social Work. Carly is a leader on campus, active in community service, and is Treasurer of the Student Social Work Organization.

**YVONNE MILLER**
College of Public Affairs and Community Service

Yvonne Miller is majoring in Social Work. She will receive a Bachelor of Science in May 2016. Her involvement includes community service and a membership in Phi Alpha Honor Society.

Conrad and Miller worked together to plan and execute an on-campus screening of the documentary “Sober Indian/Dangerous Indian” to bring attention to the social injustices in Whiteclay, Nebraska. The screening was a huge success with 250 attendees.

**KATIE KESTI**
College of Arts and Sciences

Katie Kesti will graduate in May 2017 with a Bachelor of Science in Neuroscience. She is a member of the UNO Women’s Golf team, and known for going above and beyond to reach her goals. Katie is a frequent volunteer and a National Honor Society member.

OUTSTANDING STUDENT ATHLETE AWARDS

Honorees are selected on the basis of academic and athletic achievement in addition to their contributions to the university and community.

**CLAYTON TAYLOR**
College of Information Science & Technology

Clayton Taylor will graduate in May 2016. He is an Information Technology Innovation major with a Management Information Systems minor. He is an infielder for the Maverick Baseball team, a member of the Summit League’s Academic Honor Roll, Distinguished Scholars List and Commissioner’s List of Academic Excellence, as well as an honoree of the UNO’s Chancellor’s and Dean’s Lists.
University of Nebraska at Omaha Administration
John E. Christensen, Ph.D., Chancellor
B.J. Reed, Ph.D., Senior Vice Chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs
Bill Canley, M.B.A., Vice Chancellor for Business and Finance

The Colleges
David Boocker, Ph.D., Dean, College of Arts and Sciences
Nancy A. Edick, Ed.D., Dean, College of Education
Louis Pol, Ph.D., Dean, College of Business Administration
John Bartie, Ph.D., Dean, College of Public Affairs and Community Service
Hesham Ali, Ph.D., Dean, College of Information Science & Technology
Gail F. Baker, Ph.D., Dean, College of Communication, Fine Arts and Media
Deborah Smith-Howell, Ph.D., Associate Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs; Dean, Graduate Studies
David Richards, M.A., M.I.S., Dean, Criss Library

University of Nebraska-Lincoln Academic Programs
Timothy Wei, Ph.D., Dean, College of Engineering

University of Nebraska Board of Regents
Timothy Clare, J.D.
Robert Schafer, J.D.
Howard Hawks, M.B.A.
Kent Schroeder, J.D.
Jim Pillen, D.V.M.
Bob Phares
Bob Whitehouse, M.S.
Hal Daub, J.D.

Student Regents
University of Nebraska at Omaha, Brock Lewis
University of Nebraska at Kearney, Evan Calhoun
University of Nebraska-Lincoln, Thein Chau
University of Nebraska Medical Center, Andrew Shaw

University of Nebraska Administration
Hank M. Bounds, Ph.D., President
Susan M. Fritz, Ph.D., Executive Vice President and Provost
David E. Lechner, C.P.A., C.G.M.A., Senior Vice President for Business and Finance
Joel Pedersen, J.D., Vice President and General Counsel
Jackie Ostrowicki, M.A., Assistant Vice President for University Affairs and Director of Marketing and Strategic Communication

Special thanks to:
Faculty Marshals: Paul Landow, Ph.D. and Robert Blair, Ph.D.
Reader: Jonathan Benjamin-Alvarado, Ph.D.

The University of Nebraska at Omaha will be taking pictures at this event for use in advertising and other promotional materials, whether in print, electronic, or other media.

UNO is an AA/EEO/ADA institution. For questions, accommodations or assistance please call/contact Charlotte Russell, ADA/504 Coordinator (phone: 402.554.3490 or TTY 402.554.2978) or Anne Heimann, Director, Accessibilty Services Center (phone: 402.554.2872).

The University of Nebraska at Omaha shall not discriminate based upon age, race, ethnicity, color, national origin, gender-identity, sex, pregnancy, disability, sexual orientation, genetic information, veteran’s status, marital status, religion, or political affiliation.

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