

Happenings

SUMMER 2014



2013-2014 CADRE

*Celebrating 25 Years of the
Metropolitan Omaha Educational Consortium*

Message from the Dean

Hello College of Education Alumni and Friends:

This issue celebrates the Metropolitan Omaha Educational Consortium (MOEC), an organization that has had tremendous impact on teachers and administrators in our community for the past 25 years. The MOEC stories in this edition are very meaningful to me personally. I was a teacher in our community when then Dean, Richard Flynn and Teacher Education Chair, John Langan contacted me about leading one of MOEC's first collaboratives, the CADRE Project. I hope you enjoy reading the story of what has become of this innovative and visionary concept, because CADRE has proven to be very successful. The success has been accounted for in many ways, but the greatest measurement is the people, and you get to meet many of them in this issue.

During my tenure here at UNO, I also served as Executive Director of MOEC, partnering with superintendents and other school leaders in our community to collaborate on high priority challenges and opportunities. It has been an honor to have witnessed and been apart of the tremendous support MOEC provides for our community.

We also want to take a moment to thank our supporters and donors who help make our visions a reality. Without their generous contributions, we would not be able to make the impact in our community or inspire our brightest students to achieve their dreams through scholarships and service learning opportunities. I hope you enjoy reading our story that highlights the generosity of Jack and Marilyn MacAllister. For over 20 years they have been supporting our students, and the MacAllister scholarship alumni number over 150. Now that's an investment that's making an impact!

It was an honor to celebrate the graduation of 255 of our students this May and I am proud to say that with the strong partnerships and collaborations we have with all of you, there has never been a better time to be a Maverick. Enjoy reading about what is "Happening" and thank you for your continued support!

Nancy Edick, Ed.D.
Lois G. Roskens Dean
College of Education



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Lois G. Roskens Dean

UNIVERSITY OF
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UNO CADRE Participants:
Dr. Vicki Lentfer; Kelly Gomez-Johnson; Chris Wilcoxon; Dr. Nancy Edick; Dr. Kathy Peterson; Dr. Kay Keiser; Char Riewer; Jennifer Lemke

Celebrating MOEC's Achievement and Community Collaboration

For the last 25 years, the Metropolitan Omaha Educational Consortium (MOEC) has been uniting K-12 educators from school districts across the metropolitan Omaha/Council Bluffs area to improve educator quality. In a partnership with UNO's College of Education, MOEC has led signature programs that guide educators as they navigate the challenges of instructional practice. Under the direction of its Executive Steering Committee and with the help of various task forces, MOEC has developed and implemented over 60 projects, initiatives, and has 4 signature programs (Mentor Project, Teacher Academy Project, National Board for Professional Teaching Standards Cohort, and Career Advancement & Development of Recruits and Experienced Teachers).

What began as a 7 member organization in 1988, has since grown to include 12 school districts, 2 educational service units, the University of Nebraska at Omaha's College of Education and Office of Academic and Student Affairs, UNO faculty members, thousands of PK-12 and UNO students, teachers, administrators, and other certified personnel. Dedicated to ensuring the quality of public education, MOEC serves as a forum and community for education professionals in the areas of teaching, research and service. Through this collaboration, MOEC identifies high-priority educational issues that member organizations face—utilizing MOEC's task forces to implement solutions for improving metropolitan area public schools.

This year, 2 of MOEC's signature programs celebrate monumental anniversaries—Career Advancement and Development for Recruits and Experienced Teachers (CADRE) has been providing support for teachers throughout the last 20 years and in the last 15 years, the Teacher Academy Project (TAP) has been preparing industry professionals for careers in secondary education. ■

MOEC COMMUNITY PARTNERS:

Bellevue Public Schools
Bennington Public Schools
Council Bluffs Community School District
Douglas County West Community Schools
Educational Service Unit #3
Educational Service Unit #19
Elkhorn Public Schools
Gretna Public Schools
Millard Public Schools
Omaha Public Schools
Papillion-La Vista Public Schools
Ralston Public Schools
Springfield Platteview Community Schools
UNO College of Education
UNO Office of Academic & Student Affairs
Westside Community Schools



Ackerman Elementary



Bennington School District



Collegeview Elementary



Kiewit Middle School



Fire Ridge Elementary



Springfield Elementary



Russell Middle School

Teacher Academy Project Greet 15-Year Milestone

Since 2000, the Teacher Academy Project (TAP) has provided an accelerated route to secondary teacher education certification. Over 200 educators in the Omaha metropolitan area have received certification through TAP. The Program is designed for individuals who have earned an undergraduate degree and have decided to become an educator.

TAP targets participants who are looking to teach in high-demand areas. Applicants come from a wide variety of backgrounds including business, engineering, math, journalism and science. MOEC school districts interview and select candidates who will participate in the 12-month program.

During their time in TAP, participants are immersed in the culture of secondary education through internships and clinical experience at the same school. The TAP Coordinator and a professional in their content area provide guidance as mentors; helping candidates bridge connections between teaching theory and classroom practice. ■

CADRE: Supporting Educators for Academic Successes

20 years, 620 participating educators and 140,500 PK-12 students later, the Career Advancement and Development for Recruits and Experienced Teachers (CADRE) has gained national recognition for transforming the landscape for beginning and experienced teachers looking to earn a graduate degree.

Still serving as fully licensed teachers in classrooms throughout the MOEC districts, CADRE participants have the opportunity to earn a master's degree through a purposeful sequence of coursework that aligns with the stages of teacher development. This parallel learning and teaching experience immerses the CADRE Teachers in

instructional support, best practices research, and ongoing reflection.

The success of the CADRE experience is visible through MOEC's collaboration with UNO's graduate studies, district-provided mentors, and a cohort of first-year teachers. While each of these components is important, the intense mentoring support provided is a key factor in achieving a positive impact. The district-provided "master teacher mentors" work as CADRE Associates and are involved in classroom support roles ranging from induction to instructional coaching. In addition, the CADRE Associates serve in district-designated roles and support university-related work.

Together, they work to positively impact the CADRE Teacher's learning environment and instruction, further improving student achievement. The CADRE Associate also models and facilitates reflective practice, responsible citizenship and a dedication to the practice of teaching, which in turn, helps the CADRE Teacher embody the qualities of teachers who positively "make a difference" in the lives of students. The result of this project is a strong, focused community of educators that ensures professional excellence in the classrooms of today and in the future. ■



Millard North High School



Neihardt Elementary



Springville Elementary



Mockingbird Elementary



2013-2014 CADRE TEACHERS



Upchurch Elementary



Ralston High School

MOEC by the Numbers

CADRE Distinguished Teachers and Associates

In it's 20 years, CADRE has guided educators on their path to education success in classrooms around the metro-area. We are proud to share a few of their key professional achievements.

NAME	YEAR AS CADRE TEACHER	CADRE EXPERIENCE DISTRICT/SCHOOL	CAREER HIGHLIGHTS SINCE THAT TIME
Chris (Hendricksen) Wilcoxon	1999-2000	Millard Public Schools Neihardt Elementary	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Elementary Teacher - Millard Reading Teacher - Millard CADRE Associate - Millard 2 years Coordinator of Field Experiences/ Clinical Practice - UNO Entering doctoral program at UNO
Melissa (Missy) (McCarty) Jabens	1999-2000	Omaha Public Schools Norris Middle School - Special Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Special Education Teacher - Papillion-La Vista EdAd Endorsement from UNO Career Academy Administrator - Papillion-La Vista
LaTasha Muhammad	1999-2000	OPS Hartman Elementary	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CADRE Associate - 2.5 years Instructional Facilitator Currently at TAC
Scott Sturgeon	2001-2002	Omaha Public Schools	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Principal Central Park Elementary
Josh Allen	2002-2003	Papillion La Vista	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Manages technology & social media for NETA Recently, NETA Board Member Served as Instructional Technology Facilitator in Papillion-La Vista



Spring Ridge Elementary



Westmont Elementary



Meadows Elementary

1,130
mentors trained to support metro-Omaha educators

2 educational service units

CADRE
620 teachers participated to instruct approximately 156,000 PK-12 students

226 schools

64 full-time UNO faculty

TAP
223 candidates prepared for teaching in high demand subject areas

13,713
cooperating school personnel

NBPTS
increased the number of National Board Certified Teachers in Nebraska by 30%

156,000
PK-12 students in metro-area schools

2,297
participating UNO students

12 school districts

2014 May Commencement

There is a certain joyful spirit that surrounds a college commencement. It is a special time on campus to watch the hustle of graduates' parents and friends as they seek to find the best seat to view the ceremonies with bouquets of flowers for their special graduate clutched in their hands, and the program listing the graduate names under their arms. It may mean they are pleased there will be no more tuition and book expenses, but most of all there seems to be a deep pride in the accomplishment of their son, daughter, other relative, or friend.

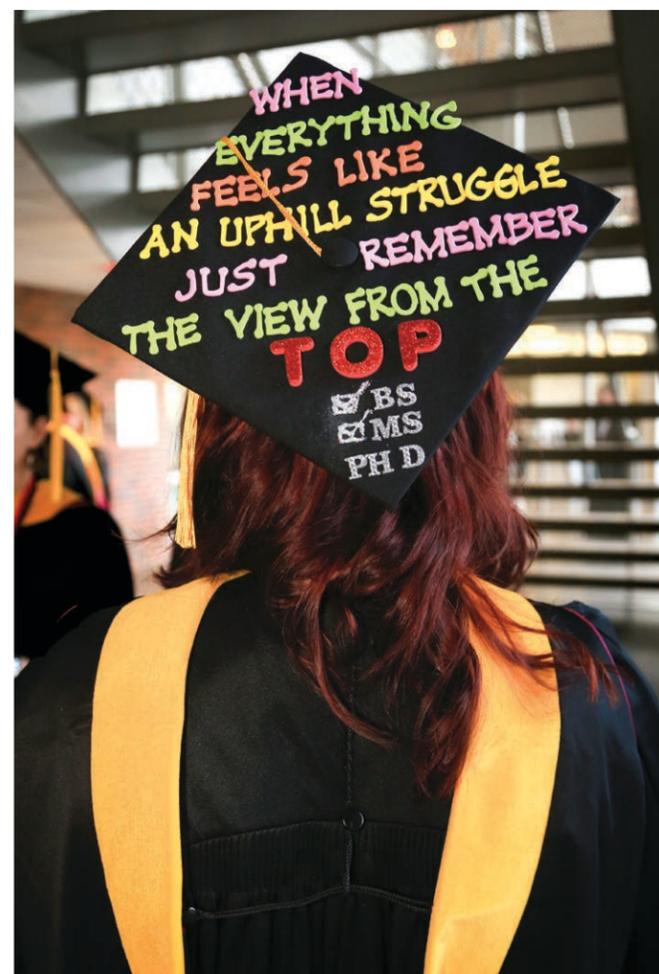
Over eighty College of Education graduates participated in the Conferral Ceremony on Friday evening, May 9, that preceded the moment when the graduate would walk across the stage and receive their diploma cover as their name was read. The Conferral Ceremony is the time when the Chancellor officially confers the degrees upon those who have completed the degree requirements.

From the College of Education, 229 graduates participated in the May 14, 2014, Commencement Ceremonies. There were a total of 255 undergraduate and graduate degree recipients. An additional three doctoral graduates were hooded at Friday's Conferral of Degrees Ceremony.

Cold and rainy weather for the second year in a row resulted in an early decision to move the ceremonies to the Fieldhouse from the Pep Bowl lawn. The move required our ceremonies to be joined with the College of Communication, Fine Arts, and Media. The combined ceremony moved smoothly from the marshals leading the processional to the last graduate to walk down the aisle during the recessional.

Ms. Carissa Seretta and Ms. Samantha Tienken represented COE as the undergraduate and graduate student speakers. Ms. Danielle Hoechner and Ms. Samantha Spenner served as student marshals. Faculty marshals were Dr. Kay Keiser and Dr. Jason Coleman. Drs. Melanie McGrath, Neal Topp, and Peter Smith and Professor Josie Metal-Corbin served as Faculty Ushers. ■

From top right, clockwise: COE faculty marshal Dr. Kay Keiser leads in students with CFAM faculty marshal, Doug Patterson; Sister Rosemary Arrah receives her master's degree; COE student with decorated mortar board; and graduate students preparing to receive diplomas.

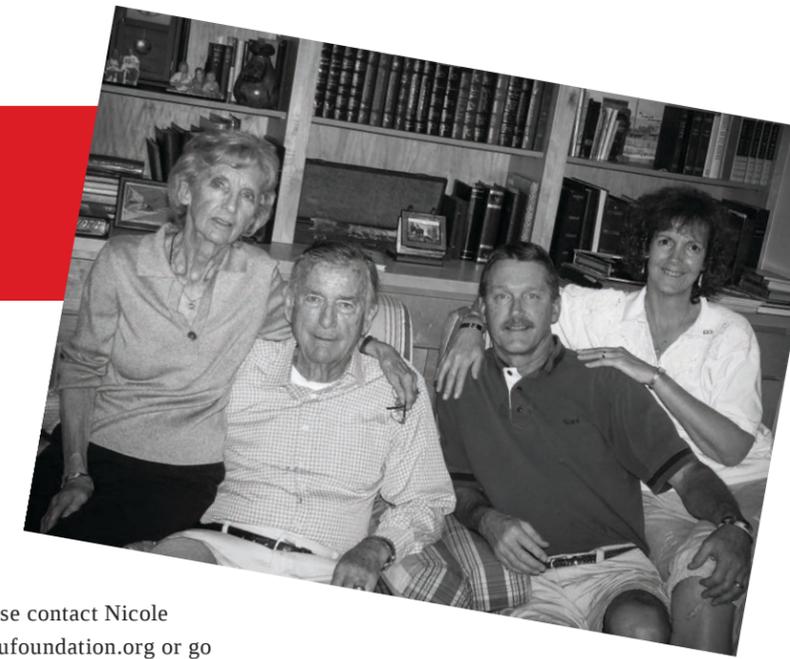


Thank You

Over 20 years ago, Jack and Marilyn MacAllister chose to do something incredible. They started what is now known as the Assets in Education Scholarship Program for students enrolled in UNO's College of Education. Throughout the decades, the Program has awarded over \$650,000 in scholarships and more than 150 undergraduate and graduate students majoring in education have benefitted from their immense generosity. Their scholarship program continues to make education possible for some that otherwise may not be able to pursue their dream of educating tomorrow's youth.

The Program recognizes that the College of Education's efforts are instrumental in guiding teacher candidates to ensure they are ready to meet and overcome the challenges in today's classrooms. Scholarship recipients, known as Assets Scholars, enjoy the support of the program, as well as opportunities to give back to their communities by volunteering and serving as role models for their students. Numerous Asset Scholars have found successful careers as educators; more than 20 former Scholars are now in leadership positions at the building or district level in the Omaha Public Schools.

The MacAllister family: Jack, Marilyn, son Jim and daughter-in-law Kathy. Not pictured is daughter Sue.



The College of Education is grateful to the entire MacAllister Family for their vision, years of giving and endowment of the Assets in Education Scholarship Program. We are truly overwhelmed by your generosity and continuation of this incredible program. Undoubtedly, the past, present and future of the Assets in Education Scholarship Program is inspiring to all.

If you would like to contribute to the Assets in Education fund, please contact Nicole Massara, Development Director, at 402-502-4105 or at nmassara@nufoundation.org or go online to <https://nufoundation.org> and search "Assets in Education Scholarship Program."

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Distinguished Alumni Luncheon



This year's Distinguished Alumni:

Dr. Andrew Rikli, Dr. Jacqueline Huscroft-D'Angelo, Dr. Dwayne Chism, Dr. Nancy Edick, Lois G. Roskens Dean, Dr. Robert Buresh, and Ms. Norma Morehouse

Recognizing Our Alumni

A good estimation of quality for an educational institution are the various rankings published in journals and magazines each year. The rankings are based on many different factors and systems of selection. But, we believe it's beyond the numbers—it is the measure of our graduates' outstanding achievements that help demonstrate the College of Education's level of excellence and dedication to quality educators and educational leaders in the community. Their achievements most often come in their chosen career path; but the outstanding graduate is likely to have also served their various communities in some sort of a leadership role.

On March 16, 2014, 5 individuals were honored at the annual Hollie Bethel Distinguished Alumni Luncheon held at UNO's Thompson Alumni Center. Candidates were nominated by the departments in which they earned their degrees and included a leader of a Metropolitan Omaha area school district; a professor from a university in Georgia; a counselor in a community college; an elementary principal; and a research professor in Texas. Faculty in each department was challenged to identify an alumnus who they felt represented excellence and achievement following graduation.

In addition to our annual awards, we had a special Award of Distinction to give. **Dr. Ronald Burmood** was honored for his several years of service to the College of Education, assisting in roles from Special Projects Coordinator and Executive Director of

the UNO Chapter of PDK, Assistant Director and Executive Director of the Metropolitan Omaha Educational Consortium (MOEC), and Assistant Dean. Dr. Burmood began his career as a Science and Business teacher in DeWitt, Nebraska Public Schools; moving to Omaha Public Schools in 1965. He quickly rose from his position as a Science Teacher at Bryan Junior High School to Director of Guidance (1966-68), to Assistant Principal (Omaha South High School, 1969-76), to Coordinator of Student Services (OPS, 1976-86), and finally as Director of Student Services (OPS, 1986-95). Dr. Burmood remains a champion for students and an advocate for public education. He has provided extraordinary service to the college, the campus and the community.

Dr. Andrew Rikli was chosen to receive the Distinguished Service Award. Dr. Rikli has just completed his first year as Superintendent of the Papillion-LaVista Public Schools. He previously was an Assistant Superintendent of the Westside Community Schools where he served in several roles before his assignment as an assistant superintendent. He is also an active member of the University of Nebraska at Omaha Alumni Association Board of Directors and served as the 2013-2014 Chairman of the Board. Dr. Rikli was one of a select number of young people nationally to be selected as an Emerging Leader by Phi Delta Kappa International. He has published several articles and has given many national presentations. Dr. Rikli, nominated by the Educational Leadership Department, earned both his Master of Science degree and his Doctor of Education degree from that department.

Dr. Robert Buresh received the Distinguished Professional Service Award. Dr. Buresh is an Associate Professor in the Department of Exercise Science and Sport Management at Kennesaw State University in Kennesaw, Georgia. He previously worked professionally at Nebraska Wesleyan University and was a part-time instructor at UNO in the School of Health, Physical Education and Recreation. His career in professional education followed a technical career in television. Dr. Buresh has authored several journal articles, presented his work at conferences, and continues to gather funding for his research projects—especially in the area of exercise and diabetes. He earned both his Bachelor of Science and his Master of Science degrees from UNO. He was nominated by the School of Health, Physical Education and Recreation.

Ms. Norma Morehouse received the Distinguished Professional Achievement Award. Morehouse is an Academic/English as a Second Language Counselor at Metropolitan Community College (MCC). She has spent most of the 23 year career at MCC serving a poor and under-privileged population with special needs. Ms. Morehouse has also been active in the Nebraska College Counseling Association (NCCA). She worked on the effort to gain a national charter for the Nebraska College Counseling Association (NCCA) and became the first president of that association in 1994. Her Master of Arts degree was earned in the Counseling Department.

see ALUMNI pg 14



Dr. Andrew Rikli and family



Ms. Norma Morehouse with former Counseling Department Chair, Dr. Paul Barnes



Dr. Dwayne Chism and family

continued ALUMNI pg 13

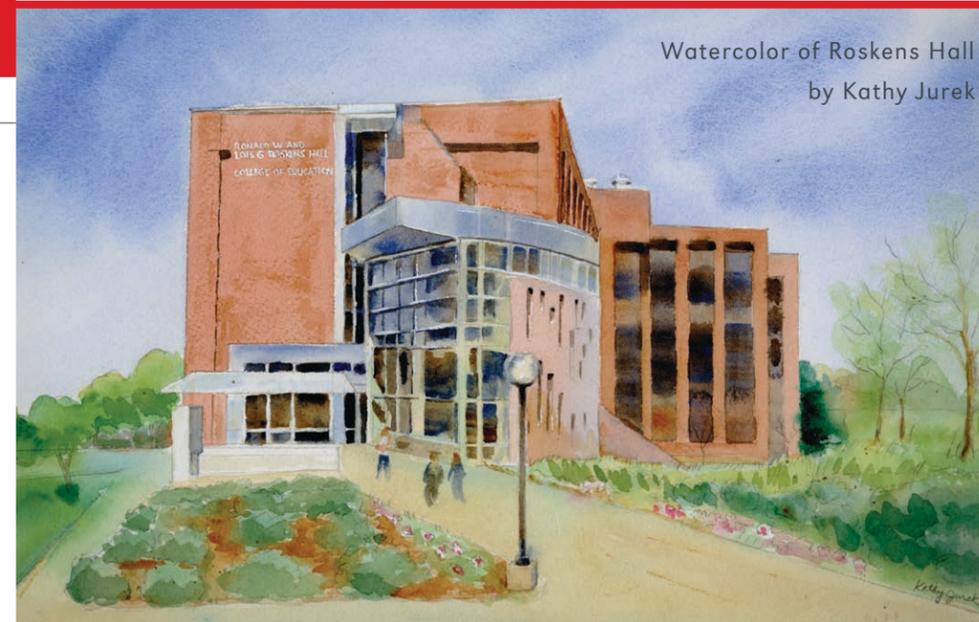
Dr. Dwayne Chism received the Distinguished Promising Professional Award. Dr. Chism has been the principal at Belleaire Elementary School in the Bellevue Public Schools. He previously was an elementary teacher at Indian Hill Elementary School in the Omaha Public Schools. He will assume a new position with the Omaha Public Schools this fall as an Executive Director of Support and Supervision. Dr. Chism received all of his degrees from the College of Education. His Bachelor of Science degree in Elementary Education; his Master of Science degree in Educational Administration and Supervision; and his Doctor of Education degree in Educational Administration and Supervision. Dr. Chism was nominated by the Teacher Education Department.

Dr. Jacqueline Huscroft-D'Angelo received the Distinguished Promising Professional Award. Dr. Huscroft-D'Angelo is a research faculty member at the ANSERS Institute in the College of Education at Texas Christian University in Fort Worth, Texas. She previously had served as a research assistant at the University of Oregon and the Center for Child and Family Well-Being, University of Nebraska Lincoln/Boys Town. Her research involves technology and mathematics interventions for students with disabilities. She has authored several publications in professional journals. Dr. Huscroft-D'Angelo was nominated by the Special Education and Communications Disorders Department.

The college has now recognized 151 alumni since the luncheon began in September of 1988. The honorees have made a significant impact in many venues in Education and the Health and Physical Education professions. ■



Dr. Jacqueline Huscroft-D'Angelo with her sister



Outstanding Teacher Award 2014

Dr. Kay Keiser, Associate Professor and Chair of the Educational Leadership Department, is the 2014 recipient of the UNO Alumni Outstanding Teaching Award. Dr. Keiser has a long history with the College of Education, earning a Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education (1980, summa cum laude), a Master's of Science in Reading (1983), and a Doctor of Education in Educational Administration (2005).

Kay's 25-year career as a teacher and leader in the Omaha Public Schools was highlighted by being awarded the Omaha World Herald Outstanding Teacher of the Year, the Nebraska Association for the Gifted Extra Mile Award, and one of the original group of teachers to receive the Alice Buffett Outstanding Teacher Award.

Kay returned to UNO in 2005 as a faculty member in Educational Leadership. She was pleased to have many of her former colleagues and students in her graduate classes. She feels education is about the intertwining of teaching, leading, and learning. As one student stated, "Educators understand the importance of relationship in helping their students reach their potential. Dr. Keiser does not preach this—she practices this, as is evident through the amount of time she dedicates to helping each and every student as they pursue their career and personal goals."

This fall, Dr. Keiser will lead the movement of the masters/endorsement in Educational Leadership programs to an educator-friendly hybrid format with increased opportunities for fieldwork and applied learning from practicing professionals. She is also proud of the doctoral program which continues to support and challenge area school leaders. As a dissertation chair, she will hood her 20th doctor this December. Dr. Keiser advises in both the building administrator and teacher leadership concentrations, and she invites educators to explore adding leadership to their area of expertise.

When not at UNO, Kay is well known for playing the harp at area events, including the Omaha Playhouse. She also paints Ukrainian Easter eggs, and travels the United States with her parents and family—who were also great teachers. ■

35 Years of Service to the University

Professor Thomas Lorsbach retired at the end of the Fall Semester, 2013. Dr. Lorsbach began his tenure in the College of Education in the Fall of 1979 after earning his Doctor of Philosophy degree from the University of Missouri Columbia. He had previously earned his Master of Arts degree from the University of St. Louis, and his Bachelor of Science degree from St. Louis University.

Dr. Lorsbach's academic focus was the area of learning disabilities. He focused on teaching, advising, and research in this area. Dr. Lorsbach also served as the Graduate Program Chair in the Department of Special Education and Communication Disorders. He is a lifetime runner, and he and another retired faculty member were recently featured in an Omaha World Herald article regarding a fitness program in the School of Health, Physical Education and Recreation. ■

Did You Know?



National Water Dance Project: On April 12, 2014, the **Moving Company** and musicians from Ensemble 768 did a performance highlighting the topic of drought on Omaha's Bob Kerrey Pedestrian Bridge. The National Water Dance was an opportunity for performance artists to collaborate on forming a nationwide movement choir. It aimed to inform and inspire participants and audience members to conserve and protect water resources. Participants from all over the country performed at the same time—connected through live, online streaming video.

- In March 2014, Teacher Education faculty member **Dr. Rebecca Pasco** served as a panelist for **Digital Citizenship: A Discussion of Online Ethics in Academia**. The discussion was sponsored by UNO's Center for Faculty Development to inform others on best practices for higher education in digital technologies. Topics covered were: Digital Boundaries; How to Protect the Intellectual Property of Students' Work Through Online Submission; Whether Student Identification Photos should be Included on Faculty Blackboard Accounts; Digital Tattoos; and How Faculty and Students are Representing Themselves in the Digital World.
- Lead by TED faculty member, **Dr. Saundra Shillingstad** and UNO's Center for Faculty Development sponsored a workshop for teaching methods in higher education. The workshop navigated faculty members through best practices on teaching to strengths, the challenges

- of teaching, the characteristics of effective teachers, and how to differentiate instructional practice.
- New for the upcoming academic year is a **hybrid Master of Science in Elementary Education** with an emphasis in 21st Century Literacies program is tailored specifically for Iowa educators. Lead by **Dr. Rebecca Pasco** and **Dr. Kathy Danielson**, students study content based on Iowa education mandates and regulations. The hybrid, distance-friendly course is a 9-semester program with 3 meetings per semester and includes the opportunity to attend 6 professional conferences. For more information contact either Dr. Pasco (rpasco@unomaha.edu) or Dr. Danielson (kdanielson@unomaha.edu).
- This April, **Dr. Phil Nordness**, **Dr. David Conway**, and **Dr. Kris Swain**, Department of Special Education and Communication Disorders were able to travel to Siauliai University in Lithuania to participate in their

research conference, **Social Welfare: An Interdisciplinary Approach**. With a total of 145 participants at the conference, 5 countries were represented: Lithuania, England, Russia, Ukraine, and the United States. Dr. Phil Nordness presented his collaborative work with Dr. Renata Geleziniene on Strengths-Based Assessment and Dr. Kris Swain presented on the Teacher Training project in Nicaragua that she has been working on in collaboration with Dr. Julie Delkamiller, Dr. Beth Leader-Janssen and Dr. Mitzi Ritzman. The group attended a reception to celebrate 20 years for the department of Social Welfare and Disability Studies after the conference and was entertained by the Siauliai University Lithuanian Folk Singing group. Their biggest takeaway was the opportunities available for future research collaboration. Be on the lookout for their upcoming projects!

- Celebrating its 20th Anniversary this year is the **Counseling Department's** accreditation by CACREP. To celebrate the milestone, the Counseling Department hosted a College of Education Maverick Men's Basketball tailgate and game in February 2014. The UNO Counseling Master's program is the only one in Nebraska that offers CACREP accredited programs in both Clinical Mental Health and School Counseling. Since 1993, the Department has undergone three CACREP re-accreditation cycles and is currently preparing for its 2016 re-accreditation. CACREP is an independent agency and the accrediting arm of the American Counseling Association.

UNO's Classen/Leahy Run/Walk: COE Academia Nuts Largest Team!

On April 26, the colleagues and friends from the College of Education banded together to form the largest team at the annual Classen/Leahy Run and Walk through Stinson Park on the Aksarben campus. For their success, the team was rewarded with a pizza party. COE faculty members, **Abby Bjornsen** and **Sheri Devaney** also won medals for swift time in their distance groups.



Meet COE's Advising Partners:

With the addition of four new advising partners this spring, the Office of Student Services took this time as an opportunity to restructure how advising services handles each program area. Meet the Advising Partners and their respective advising specialties:



Dr. Gerry Huber
Secondary Education, Secondary Special Education, Added Endorsements and 15-hour Renewals



Lindsey Marr
Athletic Training, Exercise Science, Recreation Leisure Studies and Public Health



Huai-Mai Furman
Elementary Education and Elementary Special Education



Katie Larson
Pre-Elementary Education, Library, Sign Language Interpreting and Pre-Elementary Special Education



Hanna Solberg
Pre-Secondary Education, Speech-Language Pathology and Pre-Secondary Special Education

continued DID YOU KNOW pg 17

- The College of Education wants to congratulate its Alumni who were named **2014 Buffett Outstanding Teachers**. They were:
 - **Brad Armstrong**
Columbian Elementary
 - **Jay Beyer**
Wilson Focus School
 - **Jane Colling**
Central High School
 - **Jennifer Kawecki**
Burke High School
 - **Brenda Larsen**
Marrs Middle School
 - **Shari McWilliams**
Benson West Elementary
 - **Angela Page**
integrated learning program
 - **Melissa Peterson**
South High School
 - **Karolyn Roby**
Adams Elementary.
- Governor Dave Heineman recognized **Jonathan Scherling**, Special Education and Communications Disorders Department faculty member, with the title of Nebraska Admiral, for his continued efforts in NeAD Advocacy. This is Nebraska's highest honor of recognition for exemplary service to the state.
- **ALL THAT JAZZ: A Family Engagement Program for Young Children and Their Families.** **Dr. Ashley Vaughns**, Teacher Education Department, and her Family-Centered Partnerships course at UNO in partnership with Love's Jazz and Arts Center offered a program for young children, ages 4-8, and their families to introduce them to the wonderful world of jazz through hands-on literacy and arts-based activities. The event was hosted on two evenings in January and February 2014.

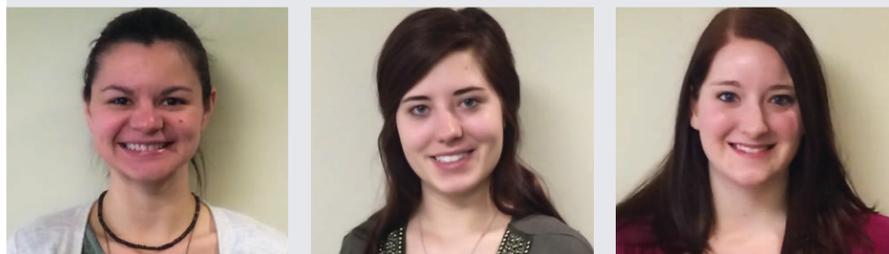
- Teacher Education faculty member **Phyllis Adcock** sponsored the ASCD Book Bash this Spring and collected a grand total of 1,704 books. The goal was to collect 500 new and gently used books for PK-12 to Omaha Nation School Library in Macy, Nebraska. With the surplus in books, the group was also able to send 600 to Cameroon, Africa (with the help of **Sister Rosemary**).

Roskens Hall and **UNO** were home to the young ladies from **Girls, Inc.** for six weeks this summer for Eureka, a summer camp designed to promote STEM education. STEM education stands for Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics. Themes for the camp included working with CEENBoTs, an introduction to programming and coding, financial literacy, physics, chemistry, engineering and math games. During their final week, the girls launched a high-altitude balloon from the Pep Bowl which rose 96,000 feet into the atmosphere (the furthest distance yet from UNO and Girls Inc.).



Student Peer Advisers

Joining the Office of Student Services team this spring is **Lacey Calloway**, **Brenna Wragge** and **Brianna Hendrickson**. The peer advisers assist with recruitment, retention and new and transfer student orientations, among other COE student events and opportunities.



Brenna Wragge is also the recipient of the 2014 NSEA Retired Scholarship; only three students in the state of Nebraska were awarded this honor. The scholarship is awarded annually on the basis of SEAN membership, academic excellence, essay submissions and faculty recommendations.

Where in the World is COE?

#UNOglobalengagement

As part of the University's strategic priority of global engagement, our faculty have made strides in expanding relationships with universities across the globe this year.



FINLAND: Dr. Phil Nordness, Special Education & Communication Disorders (SECD)

GREECE: Dr. Nick Stergiou, Biomechanics Research Building (BRB)

IRELAND: Dr. Nick Stergiou, BRB

LITHUANIA: Dr. David Conway & Dr. Kristine Swain, SECD

NICARAGUA: SECD Team

SOUTH KOREA: Dean Nancy Edick & Dr. Debora Wisneski, Teacher Education (TED)

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, FLORIDA: Dr. Nick Stergiou, BRB

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We have great news to share with you! Become our fan on Facebook to stay connected to the College! www.facebook.com/unocoe



Happenings

in this issue

pg 3 | MOEC Anniversary For the last 25 years, the Metropolitan Omaha Educational Consortium (MOEC) has been uniting K-12 educators from school districts across the metropolitan Omaha/Council Bluffs area to improve educator quality.

pg 9 | Commencement Highlights It is a special time on campus to witness the hustle of Commencement Ceremonies. This Spring, the College of Education celebrated in UNO's Fieldhouse, honoring two-hundred twenty-five undergraduate and graduate students and hooded three doctoral graduates at Friday's Conferral of Degrees Ceremony.

pg 12 | Recognizing Our Alumni We believe measuring our graduate's achievements goes beyond statistics and numbers—it is their outstanding endeavors that help demonstrate the College of Education's level of excellence and dedication to quality educators and educational leaders in the community.

pg 19 | Global Engagement As part of the University's strategic priority of global engagement, our faculty have made strides in expanding relationships with universities across the globe this year.