



SPECIAL EDUCATION AND COMMUNICATION DISORDERS MONTHLY EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

*Lisa Epp, Ed.D.
Instructor of Special Education*

Dr. Epp is a special education instructor and a career ladder advisor. She has been a full-time faculty member since 2018!

What led you to choose a career in special education?

I knew from a very young age that I wanted to be a teacher. My first full-time job out of high school was at Dr. J.P. Lord School where I worked as a paraprofessional with students who had multiple disabilities. That year I decided I wanted to pursue my degree in special education. I spent 19 years as a special education teacher before coming to UNO where I am able to continue to share my passion for this profession.

What was the best vacation you ever took and why?

The best vacation I can recall was this past summer. My husband, two children and I set out for Kentucky and made a bunch of stops along the way. It was a fun, spontaneous trip with no real agenda. We got to stop in cities we had never explored and found unique places to visit. It was so much fun.



On a day off, I like to:

I like to get caught up on all the things that need to get done. I can't sit down and relax until the house is clean and the laundry is done! Once things are in order, I love to read or catch up on the latest Netflix series.

What's the worst gift you've ever received, what did you do about it?

I don't believe any gift I have received would be considered a "bad" gift. I have received a few interesting "gifts" from students when I taught in middle school. I still have some pottery a student gave me years ago that only a teacher could love.



What causes are you most passionate about?

I have always been passionate about advocating for individuals who are excluded for one reason or another. Most recently, I have been advocating for individuals who have experienced trauma in their childhood as well as those who are struggling in adulthood with mental illness related to childhood trauma or other adversity.