



**THE COLLEGE OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS
AND COMMUNITY SERVICE**

**2011 Alumni Awards
for Excellence in Public Service
and
2011 Hubert Locke Award
for Distinguished Service**

**Tuesday, April 12, 2011
William H. Thompson Alumni Center**

A Message from Dean B. J. Reed:

The individuals we honor today have distinguished themselves through their professional service and community stewardship. In their daily deeds and life-long accomplishments, each of these individuals define the very best of public service: integrity, volunteerism, leadership, and professionalism. They are a credit to their fields of study, profession, families, and communities, and our world is a better place because of these individuals. Please join me in congratulating them.

A special thanks to the UNO Alumni Association for underwriting
a portion of this event

Program

Opening Remarks

B. J. Reed, Dean
College of Public Affairs and Community Service

Welcome from the UNO Alumni Association

Lee Denker, President and CEO

Recognition of Special Guests

B. J. Reed

Luncheon

Presentation of 2011 Alumni Awards

Gina Toman, Assistant Dean, Division of Continuing Studies
Theresa Barron-McKeagney, Director, School of Social Work
John Bartle, Director, School of Public Administration
Scott Tarry, Director, Aviation Institute
Candice Batton, Director, School of Criminology & Criminal
Justice
Imafedia Okhamafe, Chair, Goodrich Scholarship Program
Julie Masters, Chair, Department of Gerontology

Presentation of the 2011 Hubert Locke Award for Distinguished Service

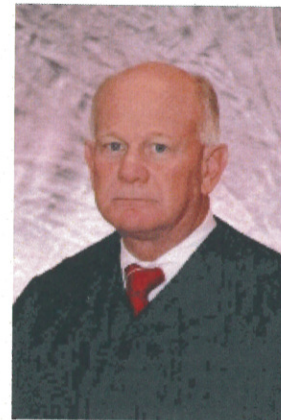
B. J. Reed

**College of Public Affairs and Community Service (CPACS)
Alumni Awards for Excellence in Public Service
2011 Recipients**



Ghafar Abdul Azimi was born in Afghanistan. He and his family escaped from Afghanistan to Pakistan around 1981-82 because of the Russian invasion of Afghanistan which began in 1979. His family stayed in Pakistan for 18 months and then migrated to the United States in 1983. Not knowing any English, Azimi was placed in an ESL program to learn the English language. He attended Dundee Elementary, Lewis and Clark Junior High, and graduated from Burke High School in 1992. A student in the **Goodrich Scholarship Program**, he graduated in 1997 with a bachelor of science degree in biology. After graduation Azimi opened several businesses, one of which is Five Star Delivery Inc., a courier service at Omaha Eppley Airfield. Currently, Azimi teaches introductory science courses at Metropolitan Community College part time, works for U.S. Airways part time, and operates a variety of different businesses in and outside Omaha.

Andy Bradley received his **master of public administration** degree from UNO in 1996. Currently, he is the executive vice president for Goodwill Industries, serving eastern Nebraska and southwest Iowa, where he has worked for 22 years. Bradley has been active in numerous church and civic organizations. He is currently president of the UNO Public Administration Graduate Organization (PAGO) and chairs the program committee for the Kiwanis Club of Omaha, Inc., which meets on the UNO campus. Bradley is the former president of the club, and still serves in leadership roles with Kiwanis at the district level (Nebraska – Iowa). He helped start the local Aktion Club, a service organization sponsored by Kiwanis for persons with disabilities, and chaired the grants committee for the club for several years. An Omaha native, Bradley graduated from Creighton Prep. His undergraduate degree is in journalism from the University of St. Thomas in St. Paul. His two children also majored in journalism. Andy's wife of 32 years, Jenny, teaches at Holy Name School.



John A. Colborn graduated from the University of Nebraska at Omaha with a **bachelor of science in criminal justice degree** in 1976. He also graduated in 1978 with a J.D. degree from the University of Nebraska College of Law. Judge Colborn is currently employed as the district court judge for the Third Judicial District in Lancaster County. He has also worked as the chief deputy Lancaster County attorney from 1991-2000 and deputy Lancaster County attorney from 1979-1991. Judge Colborn has served on many professional organizations and committees including the Nebraska Judicial Branch Education Advisory Committee, Nebraska District Court Judges Education Committee chair, Nebraska Judicial Ethics Committee chair, Nebraska Supreme Court Technology Committee and current chair of the E-filing Subcommittee,

Nebraska Supreme Court Committee on Criminal Practice and Procedure, House of Delegates - Nebraska State Bar Association, Nebraska County Attorneys Association president, Robert Van Pelt American Inns of Court president, board of directors and executive committee of Legal Services of Southeast Nebraska, as well as a current member of the Inns of Court executive committee. Colborn and his wife of 32 years, Ann, have two daughters, Jennifer and Lindsay, and four grandchildren.

Maggie Kalkowski earned her **master of social work degree** from UNO. Previously, she earned a bachelor of arts degree in psychology and sociology at Washington University in St. Louis. A native of Omaha, Kalkowski is the director of the International Center of the Heartland and Refugee Services with Lutheran Family Services. In her 20 years experience working with social service agencies in the Omaha area, she has concentrated her efforts on minority populations and youth at risk. Kalkowski is a Licensed Mental Health Practitioner and Certified Master Social Worker. She and her staff provide culturally competent case management, advocate for clients, educate the community about new populations and partner with agencies to leverage scarce resources. Kalkowski regularly volunteers for her children's schools. She and her husband, Kevin O'Connell, have four children: Claire, Bridget, Sean and Liam O'Connell.





Jennifer McIntyre is a earned a **bachelor of general studies degree with a concentration in aviation studies** from UNO in 1998. She was raised in Grand Island, Nebraska where she discovered her love of flight. While attending UNO, she completed her private pilot license along with instrument, commercial, flight instructor, and instrument instructor ratings. After graduation from UNO, she taught flying lessons at Eppley Airfield in Omaha. In February of 2003 she moved to Rockford, Illinois where she flew a King Air 200 for Rubloff Aviation and also worked as a flight attendant on their Gulfstream. This gave her the opportunity to experience different aspects of charter and corporate aviation. In July of 2003 she moved back to Omaha

and became the pilot and aircraft manager for Peak Productions and Carson Wealth Management. She flew and managed their TBM700 as well as handled all travel arrangements for both companies. In 2005 Jennifer completed her Airline Transport Pilot rating and began flying charter in the Diamond and Beechjet 400 for Jetlinx Aviation. In 2007 she began working for Werner Enterprises where she is currently a captain on both the Falcon 50 and Falcon 900 jets. In addition, she is a part-time simulator instructor at the UNO Aviation Institute. When Jennifer is not flying for Werner or instructing at UNO, she enjoys spending time with her husband and 7 month old baby girl.

Shayna Ray graduated from UNO with a **bachelor of science in criminal justice degree** as well as a **master in public administration degree**. She worked for the Nebraska Department of Corrections as a guard and caseworker, and then became a police officer. Ray has been employed for 17 years for the Omaha Police Department and has worked in the uniform patrol bureau and in investigative units as an officer, sergeant, and now a lieutenant. She was the first female lieutenant in the homicide unit and she is currently the first female lieutenant of the gang, firearms, and fugitive units. She also oversees three federal task forces. She is currently serves on several boards and committees in the community and is on the executive board of the Omaha Police Officer's Association. She met her husband Matt Ray, on a UNO Criminal Justice trip to England. They have three children.



Crystal Rhoades graduated from Omaha's Central High School, and received bachelor of science degrees in both psychology and political science as a student in the **UNO Goodrich Scholarship Program**. She later completed a master of science degree in political science from UNO. Crystal is the assistant executive director for the Neighborhood Center. She serves on a number of community committees including the South Omaha Redevelopment Project, South Omaha Neighborhood Alliance, Building Bright Futures Advisory Board, Leavenworth District Redevelopment Project, Omaha Community Action Group, Omaha Healthy Kids Alliance Housing Committee, the Mayor's South Omaha Committee, and Clean Solutions Omaha Saddle Creek Advisory Committee. Crystal was also elected to the

Metro Community College Board of Governors where she has worked to improve state aid, and created and implemented policy to protect taxpayer funds by ensuring overall responsible contracting practices.

Chris Rodgers was born and raised in East St. Louis, Illinois and arrived in Omaha in August of 1987 by way of a basketball scholarship from Creighton University. Rodgers was part of the Bluejays' 1989 and 1991 Missouri Valley Conference championship teams and NCCA tournament qualifying teams. Rodgers graduated from Creighton with a bachelor of arts degree in journalism and a master of business administration degree in 1999. Rodgers earned a **master of public administration** degree from UNO in 2002. Sworn into office Jan. 4, 2005, and re-elected to a second term in November of 2008. Rodgers is a past chairman of the Douglas County Board of Commissioners and currently serves as chairman of its Child and Youth Services



Committee and co-chair of the Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council. In addition, he is a member of the Douglas County Board of Health and the appointed county commissioner representative on the Nebraska Juvenile Justice Coalition. He formerly served as an assistant to Omaha Mayor Mike Fahey and was an elected member of the Metropolitan Community College Board of Governors. In addition to his public service positions, Rodgers works as a senior community service associate at UNO as the director of the Transformation Project, a privately funded, pilot recidivism initiative. He also is a workforce development consultant for the Avenue Scholars Foundation. In the summer of 2010, Rodgers was elected second vice president of the National Association of Counties (NACo). Rodgers is married to the former Ms. Sharlon Baldwin. They have two sons, Ellis and Evan.



Colleen Visty Schinker received a **bachelor of general studies degree** from UNO in 1991. Currently the Information Technology (IT) Director for Business Services Management at HDR Inc., Schinker is a board member and past president of the Omaha chapter of the Association of Information Technology Professionals (AITP), which promotes enrichment of the local IT community through monthly educational opportunities and an annual scholarship program. She is a Certified Information Systems Auditor, and is a longtime volunteer with charitable and instructional organizations including Junior Achievement and the Girl Scouts Spirit of Nebraska Council. She and her husband, Nick, have two children: Veronica, 16, and Jared, 11.

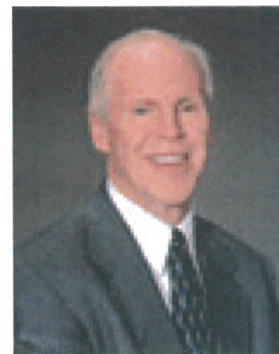
Donna Washburn received a bachelor of science degree from the University of Nebraska- Lincoln in human development & the family (now family and consumer science) and earned an **undergraduate certificate in gerontology** from UNO in 1990. She joined Aging Partners, formerly the Lincoln Area Agency on Aging, in 1993 as a case manager, and for the past 14 years has coordinated the ElderCare Connection program. The program serves caregivers from all over the country who have parents in the Aging Partners area, and family caregivers residing in those eight counties who have loved ones anywhere in the United States. More than 500 registered family caregivers receive ongoing case work assistance and counseling services. Counseling referrals, and additional minimal requests from families members come from the intake specialists at Aging Partners who receive between 100-180 calls daily. Washburn is a member of the Nebraska Respite Network Coalition Advisory Board, Answers4Families.org Advisory Board, and National Family Caregiver Association. Washburn and her husband, Dennis, have two children, four grandsons and 1 great grand daughter.



2011 Hubert Locke Distinguished Service Award

This award was established in 2002 to honor an individual who has demonstrated exemplary commitment to the ideals of public service through their professional activities, community service, and philanthropy. Dr. Hubert Locke served as the first permanent dean of the College of Public Affairs and Community Service from 1972 to 1976. After leaving UNO, Dr. Locke joined the faculty of the University of Washington where he served as dean of the UW Graduate School of Public Affairs. Dr. Locke's distinguished record of public and community service represent the highest ideals of CPACS. We are proud to recognize individuals who follow in his footsteps.

Robert P. Houston earned both a **bachelor of science in criminal justice degree** and a **master of science in criminal justice degree** from UNO. A former part-time instructor in the School of Criminology and Criminal Justice, Houston was appointed as Director of the Nebraska Department of Corrections by Governor Dave Heineman in March of 2005. Immediately preceding this appointment, he was director of the Douglas County Department of Corrections. He started his state corrections career in 1974 as a counselor at the Nebraska State Penitentiary. In the years that followed, he held progressively more responsible positions throughout the agency to include unit manager, unit administrator, associate superintendent at the Omaha Correctional Center,



deputy warden at the penitentiary, warden at three institutions (Omaha Correctional Center, Lincoln Correctional Center, and Nebraska Correctional Youth Facility) and assistant director for programs and community services.

Mr. Houston's community service is extensive, as he serves on many boards, commissions, and committees including the Jail Standards Board, the Nebraska Crime Commission, the Community Corrections Council, the Capitol Facilities Planning Committee, and the Interstate Compact for Adult Offender Supervision. He is the co-founder and member of the Omaha's Metropolitan Chief's Association, board president of the UNO/UNL Criminal Justice Education Fund within the University of Nebraska Foundation, and past president of the United State's Deputy Warden's Association and the Nebraska Correctional Association. He served as an auditor for the American Correctional Association (ACA) and as a consultant for the National Institute of Corrections (NIC).

Congratulations to our 2011 CPACS Faculty Award Winners!

Previous Recipients of the CPACS Alumni Award

Reema Abou-Nasr	Susan Hale	Jamesena Moore
Scot L. Adams	Glenda Hallberg	Michael Nolan
Karen Authier	Jason Hansen	Steve Novotny
Ricardo Ariza	Terri S. Harder	Ann O'Connor
Carlos Barrientos	Mel Harrington	Robert Olson
Ron Bartee	Morgan Hecht	Penny Parker
Connie Benjamin	Zenola Hilliard	Frank Peak
Monica Blizek	Anne Hindery Camp	Jason Pratt
James R. Blue	Robert Houston	Janice Price
Carole Boye	Gwen Howard	Joséphine Ramos
Edna Brooks Pittman	Ginny Hronek	Jolene Roberts
Scott Carlson	Julie Kalkowski	Gabe Romero
Thomas Casady	Kim Kern	Douglas Russell
Deborah Circo	Pat Kern	Scott Sasse
Toba Cohen-Dunning	Gene Klein	Paul Sather
Teresa Coleman Hunter	Michael Köhler	Michelle Schindler
Allen Curtis	Connie Kudlacek	Arlis Smidt
Robert Dahlquist	Rod Kush	Tijuana Smith-Secret
Aldona Doyle	Patricia Lamberty	Paul Strawhecker
Roger Donlon	David Landis	Carolyn Stitt
Timothy Dunning	Paul Landow	Erin Sullivan
Joe Edmonson	Mike Lempke	Susan Tast
Blake Edwards	Mary Lopez	Michael Turner
Janine Emmons	Rebecca Lutte	Donna Tubach Davis
Viv Ewing	Jun Ma	Maria Vazquez
John W. Ewing, Jr.	Marcos Mora	Scott E. Vlasak
John Fiene	Mark Martinez	William Wakefield
Ellen Freeman-Wakefield	Steven Martin	Harriette Washington
Mark Foxall	Tim Mathern	Thomas H. Warren Sr.
Christine Gillette	Michael McLarney	Barbara Weitz
Phil Green	Stephen McCoy	General Johnnie Wilson
Cindy Gonzalez		Sara Woods
Amy Haddad		Peter Young
Senator Chuck Hagel		Mary Zeleny

Previous Recipients of the Hubert Locke Distinguished Service Award

Elaine Spire	Al Goodwin
Nancy Thompson	John Scott
Mary Heng-Braun	Rhonda A. Hawks
Terry Haney	Mayor Mike Fahey
Don Waggoner	

Angela Eikenberry

School of Public Administration

Winner of the 2011 Alumni Outstanding Teaching Award

Dr. Lyn Holley

School of Public Administration

2011 Strategic Planning Award

(along with the UNO Department of Gerontology, the UNO Chapter of Sigma Phi Omega, and the UNO Department of Athletics, and Desert Ministries)