

# *Alumni Awards Celebration*



Success is...knowing your purpose in life, growing to reach your maximum potential, and sowing seeds that benefit others.

*~ John C. Maxwell*



UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA AT OMAHA  
**COLLEGE OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS  
AND COMMUNITY SERVICE**

# Program of Events

Opening Remarks.....6:15 PM

John Bartle, Dean, College of Public Affairs & Community Service

Lee Denker, President & CEO, UNO Alumni Association

Presentation of Alumni Awards.....6:20 PM

Scott Vlasek, Director, Aviation Institute

Imafedia Okhamafe, Chair, Goodrich Scholarship Program

Ethel Williams, Director, School of Public Administration

Julie Masters, Chair, Department of Gerontology

Candice Batton, Director, School of Criminology & Criminal Justice

Gina Toman, Assistant Dean, Division of Continuing Studies

Amanda Randall, Director, Grace Abbott School of Social Work

Presentation of Hubert Locke Award.....6:45 PM

John Bartle, Dean, College of Public Affairs & Community Service

Closing Remarks.....6:55 PM



# 2014 CPACS

## Alumni Award Recipients

### **ABOUT THE CPACS ALUMNI AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN PUBLIC SERVICE**

The university and community leaders established the College of Public Affairs and Community Service (CPACS) to ensure the university was responsive to the critical societal needs and concerns of our community and state. Critical to the mission of the new college was the provision of educational and training programs of the highest caliber that would prepare students for careers and leadership in the public service.

The individuals honored with the alumni award for excellence in public service demonstrate, through both their daily deeds and greatest achievements, the finest attributes of public and community service: integrity, stewardship, volunteerism, leadership, and a commitment to social justice and human dignity. They are a credit to their professions, their families, and our college. We congratulate them for this and all their achievements.

### **ABOUT THE 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 from 1982 to 1987. 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.

# Aviation Institute



## Jason Terreri

*Director of New Business Development  
Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International  
Airport*

Jason Terreri serves as the Director of New Business Development at the Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport, where he leads market research, air service development, innovation and new business development activities. Terreri is an airport professional with experience involving airport operations and management, as well as airport planning, design, and construction.

Terreri has worked in nearly every sector of the aviation industry. He began his career as a commercial pilot and flight instructor, prior to transitioning into airport consulting, where he focused on airport construction and capital development projects. Following his work in the private sector, Mr. Terreri's public service career has involved him in every aspect of the airport environment, including planning, operations, and commercial development, where he has consistently performed in supervisory and technical capacities. He has led diverse project teams in both the public and private sectors, displaying a successful track record of project management and execution. Recently, Terreri was recognized by Airport Business Magazine as a "Top 40 under Forty" aviation business professional.

Terreri holds a bachelor's degree in airport management with flight from the Florida Institute of Technology, and holds a Master of Public Administration degree with a concentration in aviation from the University of Nebraska at Omaha. He earned his Accredited Airport Executive (A.A.E.) designation in 2009.

# Goodrich Scholarship Program

## Brad Costanzo

*Senior Director of Finance*

*ConAgra Foods*



Brad Costanzo graduated from the University of Nebraska at Omaha with a B.S. in accounting in 1995. He went on to work for the public accounting firm Arthur Andersen, LLP, and later with Deloitte, LLP, where he spent a total of six years in the audit and assurance function. Following his work in public accounting, Costanzo went to work for ConAgra Foods, where he is currently a Senior Director of Finance.

Costanzo is actively involved in the community. He has performed various duties for the Habitat for Humanity, the Food Bank of the Heartland, and the Salvation Army. He was a member of and served as President of the Exchange Club of Omaha, whose primary mission is the prevention of child abuse. Costanzo has also devoted time to mentoring college students, primarily in the field of accounting. Currently, he is a member of the UNO Accounting Advisory Board, and is the Director for NEUSA Wrestling District 7. He is active in youth sports, and enjoys volunteering his time to coach wrestling, flag football, basketball, and soccer. Costanzo lives in Omaha with his wife, Cherie, and their four children, Gabriel, Isabella, Dominic, and Giovanni.

# School of Public Administration



## Kristin Williams

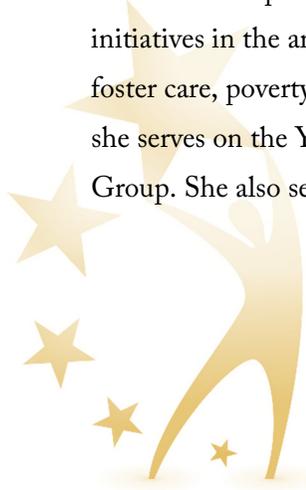
*Director of Community Initiatives*

*The Sherwood Foundation*

Kristin Williams spent the past 22 years as a public servant and nonprofit manager, with roles including Communications Assistant to former Nebraska Governor Ben Nelson, Legislative Aide to Senator Elaine Stuhr, Public Information Officer for the Nebraska Health and Human Services System, and Communications and Marketing Director for the Nebraska Hospital Association.

After receiving dual master's degrees in social work and public administration from UNO in 2002, Williams spent several years managing workforce development programs for women, before becoming the Director of Development and Marketing for the YWCA Omaha. Williams joined The Sherwood Foundation in September 2006, where she has developed a diverse portfolio focusing primarily on child welfare, family economic well-being, and social and racial justice.

Williams is responsible for facilitating the establishment of numerous statewide and community change initiatives in the areas of budget and tax policy, after school programs, older youth transitioning from foster care, poverty alleviation, mental and behavioral health, and neighborhood revitalization. Nationally, she serves on the Youth in Transition Funders Network, and is co-Chair of the Foster Care Work Group. She also serves on several area nonprofit boards and advisory committees.



# School of Public Administration

## Patrick Wheeler

*Senior Chemical and Radiation Specialist*

*University of Nebraska at Omaha*



As UNO's Senior Chemical and Radiation Specialist, Patrick Wheeler is charged with oversight responsibility for hazardous materials/waste, radiation safety, and sustainability efforts. He became the University of Nebraska at Omaha's first Chemical Safety Specialist in November of 1995, establishing a program for laboratory safety and hazardous materials oversight. In 2000, he assumed duties as UNO's Radiation Safety Officer, initiating organized campus sustainability efforts in 2005.

Wheeler is actively involved in sustainability efforts throughout the campus and community. He has served on the Board of Directors for the Green Omaha Coalition, as co-Chair of the Green Design and Construction Council, on Environment Omaha's Resource Conservation Advisory Committee, and as a member of the City of Omaha's Comprehensive Energy Management Plan Focus Group. Wheeler has also served on the Board of Advisors for the Omaha Community Center for Sustainability for the past seven years.

Wheeler is a Ph.D. student in UNL's unified engineering program, with a specialization in construction. He earned a Master of Public Administration degree from UNO in 2001, and is a member of Pi Alpha Alpha. He also holds a B.S. in liberal arts, with specializations in sociology and nuclear technology, from Regents College.

Wheeler has over 30 years of experience involving nuclear power, nuclear weapons, and hazardous materials management. His interests in sustainability, energy policy, transportation energy, and public health have led him to help others learn about, and formulate solutions to, the complex problems we face today. His Ph.D. research focuses on the health impacts of our built environment.

# Department of Gerontology



## Sr. Marie Micheletto

*Sister of Mercy of the Americas*

Sr. Marie Micheletto is a Sister of Mercy of the Americas. She received her graduate certificate in gerontology from the University of Nebraska at Omaha in 1994. She holds degrees from the College of Saint Mary and the University of Northern Colorado. She also completed a two-year family therapy training program at the Menninger School of Psychiatry and Health Sciences. Micheletto is a National Certified Professional Counselor and member of the National Board of Certified Counselors, Nebraska Counseling Association, and Who's Who in Human Services.

As a psychotherapist and consultant, Sr. Micheletto provides individual, marital, and pre-marital counseling. Additionally, she is sought after for her expertise on counseling issues, and provides seminars on personal and professional growth and development, life cycle transitions, stress management, assertiveness training, wellness, and holistic health and lifestyles. As a counselor, she has come to appreciate the challenges faced by people at the end of life. Her work in implementing the "No One Dies Alone" program for Alegent Health is an ongoing example of her caring for others.



# School of Criminology & Criminal Justice

## Chris Gibson, Ph.D.

*Associate Professor*

*University of Florida*



Dr. Chris Gibson earned his Ph.D. from the School of Criminology and Criminal Justice at the University of Nebraska at Omaha. He is a research foundation professor and associate professor in the Department of Sociology and Criminology & Law at the University of Florida. He also holds a courtesy faculty appointment in the Criminal Justice Center, Levin College of Law at the University of Florida.

Dr. Gibson was named a 2009 W.E.B Du Bois Fellow, National Institute of Justice, and was the 2013 recipient of the Tory Caeti Award from the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences. As part of a statewide nomination process, he was selected by *Florida Trend* magazine as one of 40 people under 40 who have made remarkable career achievements. Having published over 95 scholarly works, his research takes an interdisciplinary approach to examining how individual characteristics and environmental circumstances interactively and uniquely influence antisocial behavior and personal victimization at a given time and across the life-course.

According to three recent publications on research productivity and impact, Dr. Gibson was ranked as one of the most prolific young criminologists in the United States. His book with Marv Krohn, *Handbook of Life-Course Criminology: Emerging Trends and Directions for Future Research*, was published in 2013 by Springer-Verlag, and represents the holistic approach that drives his research.

# School of Criminology & Criminal Justice



## Tara Stingley

*Partner*

*Cline Williams Wright Johnson & Oldfather, LLP*

Tara Stingley graduated in 2002 from the University of Nebraska at Omaha with a B.S. in criminal justice (summa cum laude), and in 2005 from the University of Nebraska College of Law (with high distinction). Following law school, she completed a two-year judicial clerkship with the Honorable William Jay Riley, U.S. Circuit Chief Judge for the Eighth Circuit Court of Appeals. Currently, Stingley is a partner with the law firm Cline Williams Wright Johnson & Oldfather, LLP, where she specializes in employment law and commercial litigation. As a partner of Cline Williams, she serves as Chair of the firm's Labor and Employment Section, Vice-Chair of Recruiting, as a Client Relations Committee member, and as a Diversity Committee member. She also assists in coordinating the firm's Women's Initiative Program, which is dedicated to mentoring female attorneys and fostering strong relationships with female clients and community leaders.

Throughout her legal career, Stingley has been a member of the Nebraska State Bar Association and the Omaha Bar Association. She serves on the Board of Directors for the Food Bank for the Heartland, the Community Health Charities of Nebraska, and the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation, and is a member of the University of Nebraska College of Law Young Alumni Council and the University of Nebraska President's Advisory Council. She currently chairs Strike Out Hunger, a food-and-fundraising drive for Food Bank for the Heartland. Stingley is a past graduate of Leadership Omaha Class 33 and the Nebraska State Bar Association Leadership Academy Class, 2010. She lives in Omaha with her husband, Travis, and their twin sons, Emmett and Jack.

# Division of Continuing Studies

## Billy McGuigan

*Chief Executive Officer*

*Rave Productions*



Billy McGuigan is the creator of three internationally touring shows: *Rave On!*, *Yesterday and Today*, and *Rock Legends*. He has been touring the U.S. for seven years, and toured Canada this past year. McGuigan's shows have sold out countless performances, and have broken box office and attendance records in six theaters across the country. His career highlights have included playing with Buddy Holly's lead guitarist and Grammy Award winner Tommy Allsup, as well as Rock-a-Billy hall of famer and writer of *Oh, Boy!* and *Rave On*, Sonny West.

McGuigan has received countless awards for his work, including the Spotlight Award for Best Actor in a Musical. He was nominated for an Arizoni Award in the category "Best Actor in a Lead Role – Musical," and won an Omaha Entertainment and Arts Award for *Yesterday and Today*. Most recently, he was a recipient of the Midland Business Journals 40 under 40 Award, which recognizes young entrepreneurs in the Omaha area.

# Division of Continuing Studies



## Mary Ann Borgeson

*Commissioner*

*Douglas County, NE*

Commissioner Mary Ann Borgeson is a lifelong Douglas County resident. She attended the Immanuel School of Radiology and received her Bachelors of General Studies degree from UNO. Commissioner Borgeson was first elected in 1994. She became the first female to chair the Douglas County Board in 1997, and has held a leadership position on the Board throughout 13 of her 19 years of service. She currently chairs the Douglas County Board of Commissioners, the Douglas County Human Resources Committee, the Government Awareness Committee, and the Region 6 Governing Board.

Commissioner Borgeson sits on the Board of Directors for the Nebraska Association of Counties (NACO), and chairs the NACO Health and Human Services Committee. She also serves on the Board of Directors for the National Association of Counties, and chairs the Cyber-Security Task Force. She is Vice-Chair of the Health Services Committee, and a member of the Healthy Counties Advisory Board. Commissioner Borgeson is a four-time recipient of the Nebraska Association of Counties President's Award for Leadership in Health and Human Services and Juvenile Issues. She was also awarded the Hope Medical Outreach Champions Award and Domestic Violence Coordinating Council Outstanding Leadership Award. She serves on numerous community boards, including the College World Series, Aksarben Future Trust, Partnerships In Aging (PIA), R.E.S.P.E.C.T., the Nebraska Safety Center Task Force, DVCC, Heartland 2050, and the I-80 Corridor Commission. She and her husband, Bob, have four children and two grandchildren.

# Division of Continuing Studies

## Jennifer Schrodt

*Assistant to the Director*

*University of Nebraska Online Worldwide*



Jennifer Schrodt is a graduate of the University of Nebraska at Omaha, Division of Continuing Studies. She earned her Bachelor of General Studies degree with emphases in education, psychology, and sociology while raising three children. Continuing her education, she earned a Master of Arts in management, with an emphasis in leadership, from Doane College.

Over the past 28 years, Schrodt has dedicated herself to education. Her undeniable passion is for students. Being a non-traditional, distance education student, she was afforded the opportunity to be a part of the university-wide online learning initiative at its conception. She is skilled in business management, coaching, and team development.

As the Assistant to the Director of University of Nebraska Online Worldwide, Schrodt is able to help create and foster opportunities for students to pursue their goals and dreams through starting or completing their educations.

# Grace Abbott School of Social Work



## Mary Bahney

*Adjunct Professor*

*Grace Abbott School of Social Work*

Mary Bahney’s career achievements and contributions exemplify her lifelong passion for social work and helping others. Growing up in Missouri, Bahney says she knew from the 5<sup>th</sup> grade on that she wanted to pursue social work. She attended Morningside College in Sioux City, Iowa, graduating with majors in sociology and psychology and a minor in social work, at a time when a bachelor’s degree in social work was not yet offered.

From 1970-74, Bahney was a caseworker for Douglas County Social Services, serving as an intake and child protective services worker. Her focus turned to motherhood in 1974, when she and her husband, Dale, started a family—but she never lost her passion for social work. In 1992, Bahney rekindled her dream, and was accepted to the University of Nebraska at Omaha School of Social Work, earning a Master of Social Work degree in 1994 at the age of 47. Beginning in 1995, she worked for the FAMILY Program at Area Education Agency 13 in Council Bluffs, and in the fall of 1996 she began her employment with Millard Public Schools, where she staffed the district’s Early Childhood Family Resource Center, provided social work services to the district’s preschool programs for at-risk children. It was during this period that she earned her certification as a Master Social Worker and became a licensed mental health practitioner, enabling her to achieve her lifelong goal of being a licensed social worker.

Bahney continues to champion and promote her field as an educator and an active member of a number of professional organizations. Bahney is also a member of the School Social Work Association of Nebraska, where she co-chairs the Legislative Committee. Further, she is on the Program Committee of the Metropolitan Child Advocacy Coalition, is a member of the Coalition for Children’s Mental Health, and is Membership Chair for the Nebraska Human Services Association. She also serves as Secretary and sits on the Board of Directors for HELP Adult Services. Bahney says she feels proud and fortunate to be able to continue to advocate for her profession.

# Hubert Locke Award

## James B. Milliken

*President*

*University of Nebraska*



James B. Milliken, the first Nebraskan and first University of Nebraska graduate to become president of the university, has served in his current role for nearly a decade. During that time, enrollment has risen, research activity has expanded, private fundraising has reached record levels, and the university has achieved continued success in expanding affordable access to high-quality education for students in Nebraska and beyond.

Milliken graduated Phi Beta Kappa from NU, and is a graduate of the New York University School of Law. He practiced law in New York, served in Washington, D.C. as a legislative assistant to Congresswoman Virginia Smith, and served as Senior Vice President at the University of North Carolina before becoming President of the University of Nebraska. Milliken currently serves on the Board of Directors of the American Council on Education and the Association of Public and Land-Grant Universities (APLU), and is past Chair of the APLU Commission on Innovation, Competitiveness and Economic Prosperity. He is active in a number of state organizations, including the Greater Omaha Chamber of Commerce, Nebraska State Chamber of Commerce, Nebraska Advanced Manufacturing Coalition, and Nebraska Military Support Coalition. Milliken also is a co-Chair of the state's P-16 Initiative.

Following a highly successful tenure at NU, Milliken is leaving at the end of April to become chancellor of the City University of New York.

# Past Award Recipients

## Aviation Institute

Turner	Michael D.	2004
Lempke	Mike	2005
Spencer	Keri	2007
McCoy	Stephen	2008
Lutte	Rebecca	2009
Vlasek	Scott	2010
McIntyre	Jennifer	2011
Dwyer	Kailey	2012
O'Neil	Patrick	2013

## School of Criminology & Criminal Justice

Edmonson	Joe	1989
Casady	Thomas	2002
Houston	Bob	2002
Hronek	Ginny	2003
Olson	Robert	2003
Curtis	Allen	2004
Warren	Thomas	2004
Novotny	Steven S.	2005
Pratt	Jason "Tye"	2005
Harder	Terri S.	2006
Bartee	Ron	2007
Kush	Rod	2007
Wakefield	Bill	2007
Carlson	Scott A	2008

# School of Criminology & Criminal Justice

## *Continued*

Schindler	Michelle	2008
Foxall	Mark	2009
Tast	Susan R.	2009
Circo	Deb	2010
Sasse	Scott	2010
Ray	Shayna Louise	2011
Colborn	John A.	2011
Butera	Mike	2012
Wright-Kreisel	Betsy	2012
Rowoldt	Stephen W.	2013
Schmaderer	Todd R.	2013

## Division of Continuing Studies

McLarney	Michael	2005
Hagel	Chuck	2006
Dahlquist	Robert	2007
Fiene	John	2008
Peak	Frank	2008
Edwards	Blake	2009
Wilson	Johnnie	2009
Donlon	Roger	2010
Visty-Schinker	Colleen	2011
Jeanette	Joe	2012
Payne	Eva	2012
Carroll	Jen	2013

# Department of Gerontology

Roberts	Jolene	2002
Martin	Steven S.	2003
Gillette	Christine	2004
Hallberg	Glenda	2005
Benjamin	Connie	2006
Kudlacek	Connie	2007
Price	Janice	2008
Adams	Scot L.	2009
Smidt	Arlis	2010
Washburn	Donna	2011
Kotok	Shane	2012
Foster	Betty G.	2013

# Goodrich Scholarship Program

Kohler	Michael	1989
Smith-Secret	Tijuana	1989
Gonzalez	Cindy	1989
Martinez	Mark	2002
Nabulsi	Reema Abou-Nasr	2002
Hilliard	Zenola	2003
Ramos	Josephine	2003
Doyle	Aldona	2004
Mora	Marcos	2004
Bradley	Larry P.	2005
Zeleny	Mary	2005
Barrientos	Carlos	2006
Russell	Doug	2006
Washington	Harriette	2007
Hansen	Jason L.	2008
Romero	Gabe	2008

# Goodrich Scholarship Program

## *Continued*

Ewing	Vivienne	2009
Emmons	Janine	2009
Ariza	Ricardo	2010
Hunter	Teresa	2010
Azimi	Ghafar Abdul	2011
Rhoades	Crystal	2011
Vargas	Bart	2012
Robinson	Dr. Cynthia L.	2013

# School of Public Administration

Landis	Senator David	1989
Haddad	Dr. Amy	1989
Nolan	Michael	1989
Dunning	Tim	2002
Pittman	Edna Brooks	2002
Stitt	Carolyn	2002
Ladow	Dr. Paul	2003
Lopez	Mary	2003
Freeman-Wakefield	Ellen	2004
Hindery Camp	Anne	2005
O'Connor	Ann	2006
Lamberty	Judge Patricia	2007
Young	Peter C.	2007
Strawhecker	Paul J.	2008
Ma	Jun	2009
Woods	Sara	2009
Ewing Jr.	John	2010
Green	Phil	2010

# School of Public Administration

## *Continued*

Bradley	Andy	2011
Rodgers	Christopher	2011
Festersen	Pete	2012
Bailie	Joy LaChelle	2012
Anderson	Chris	2013
Harris	Julie	2013

# Grace Abbott School of Social Work

Authier	Karen	1989
Boye	Carole	1989
Tubach Davis	Donna	1989
Kalkowski	Julie	2002
Mathern	Tim	2002
Parker	Penny	2002
Stitt	Carolyn K	2002
Blue	James R	2003
Harrington	Mel	2003
Keen Hecht	Morgan	2004
Klein	Gene	2004
Blizek	Monica	2005
Kerns	Pat and Kim	2006
Cohen-Dunning	Toba	2007
Howard	Senator Gwen	2007
Sullivan	Erin	2007
Grimes Moore	Jamesena	2008
Sather	Paul	2008
Weitz	Barbara	2008
Hale	Susan	2009
Vasquez	Maria	2010

# Grace Abbott School of Social Work

## *Continued*

Kalkowski	Maggie	2011
Dierkhising	Judy	2012
Bird	Heather	2013

## Hubert Locke Award

Spire	Elaine	2002
Thompson	Nancy	2003
Heng-Braun	Mary	2004
Haney	Terry	2005
Goodwin	Al	2006
Scott	John	2007
Hawks	Rhonda	2008
Fahey	Mike	2009
Waggoner	Don	2010
Houston	Bob	2011
Hinton	Dave	2012
Martin	Steve	2013

# The College of Public Affairs & Community Service

## Making a Profound Difference

They have an impact across all walks of life, from brightly-lit board rooms to the dark despair of back alleys. The first to roll up their sleeves and the last to leave when the job is done, they are social workers, public administrators, public and non-profit executives, criminologists and law enforcement personnel, pilots and airport administrators, gerontologists, researchers, medical professionals and officials at all levels of government.

They are the alumni, faculty, administrators and staff of the University of Nebraska at Omaha College of Public Affairs and Community Service. And, like the college itself, they are the agents of change.

## Change - for the better.

### Impressive Rankings

In the Public Affairs rankings of the most recent edition of the U.S. News publication "America's Best Graduate Schools," UNO's College of Public Affairs and Community Service is 33<sup>rd</sup> nationally and tied for 23<sup>rd</sup> place among public institutions. "Public Administration, for example, ranks among such institutions as Harvard, the University of California-Berkeley, the University of Texas, and Princeton," says CPACS Dean John Bartle, Ph.D. "I think that's a pretty good indication of where we stand among our peers."



Home to nationally-ranked programs and a score of award winning faculty recognized as experts in their fields, the College of Public Affairs and Community Service (CPACS) is making its presence known as a source of high quality education, valuable outreach and significant research.

"Our programs are nationally recognized for their academic excellence, research contributions and caliber of their alumni," says CPACS Dean John Bartle, Ph.D. "We are justifiably proud of what we have accomplished, and what we offer to those interested in pursuing excellence in public service."

With an enrollment that averages over 3,000 students in undergraduate, master's and doctoral programs, CPACS (pronounced see-packs) consists of nine academic and outreach programs: the School of Criminology and Criminal Justice, the School of Social Work, the School of Public Administration, which includes Urban Studies and the Aviation Institute; the Department of Gerontology; the Division of Continuing Studies; the Goodrich Scholarship Program; the Center for Public Affairs Research and the William Brennan Institute for Labor Studies.

"Each of these units has earned regional and national reputations for excellence," Bartle says. "Criminal Justice, Social Work, Public Administration, and Aviation are among the top programs of their kind in the nation."

# An Exceptional Roster

## The Division of Continuing Studies

which joined the college in 2003, is the source of the Bachelor of General Studies degree. It is one of the nation's oldest baccalaureate degree programs designed especially for adults and the only one of its kind in the University of Nebraska system.

## The School of Public Administration

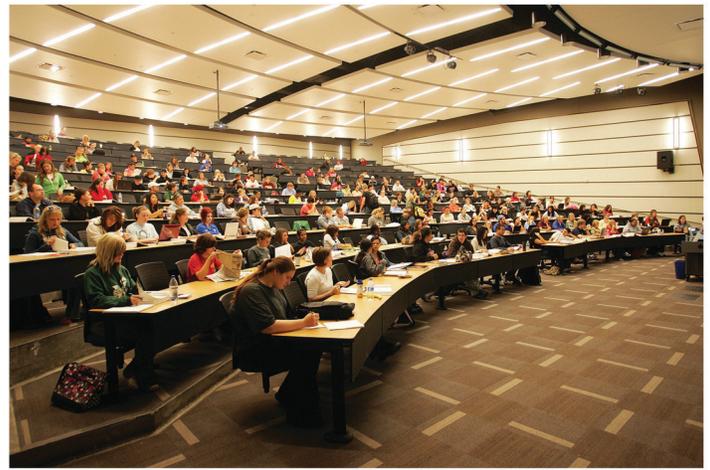
is ranked by U.S. News and World Report as one of the top 25 public management programs in the nation. It and the School of Criminology and Criminal Justice were the first two freestanding doctoral programs at UNO. In addition, the Masters of Public Administration (M.P.A.) Degree was one of the first accredited graduate public administration programs in the United States. Now the MPA enrolls over 200 students and is offered on two campus locations and online.

**The Aviation Institute**, a distinctive unit within the School of Public Administration, was recently ranked as the top aviation program in the nation. It offers bachelor's degrees in Air Transport Administration and Professional Flight. It also is home to the award-winning UNO Flight Team. In addition, the NASA Nebraska Space Grant Consortium promotes aerospace-related research, fellowship and scholarship funding, public service programs; and NASA's Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (EPSCoR).

**The School of Criminology and Criminal Justice** has a national reputation for the quality of its faculty research endeavors on policing practices, juvenile delinquency, and criminal justice trends. Its peers continually rank it among the finest such programs in the United States. The School is also home to the Consortium for Crime and Justice Research and the Juvenile Justice Institute.

**The Department of Gerontology** is among the most influential of its kind in the country and offers undergraduate and graduate certificate programs, as well as a master of arts in social gerontology and a cooperative doctoral program.

**The Goodrich Scholarship Program**, established in 1972, offers full scholarships to economically disadvantaged students of diverse backgrounds, providing them the structure and curriculum necessary to develop successful writing and studying skills.



**The Grace Abbott School of Social Work** is also ranked as one of the best graduate programs of its kind by U.S. News and World Report and leads the university in service-learning opportunities.

**The Center for Public Affairs Research** and its State Data Center utilize U.S. Census data to track trends, provide assistance to faculty research endeavors, and assist community agencies in programs research and evaluation.

**The William Brennan Institute for Labor Studies** works statewide to foster creative and critical thinking among labor leaders, potential leaders, union members, state associations and others by providing relevant information, seminars, workshops and training in the skills needed in an evolving economy and workplace.