

College of Public Affairs and Community Service

Alumni Awards Celebration

April 19, 2016

Empowering Future Leaders,
Fostering Inclusive Collaboration and
Creating Innovative Solutions



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

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Vision

The College of Public Affairs and Community Service will continue to be nationally recognized college of inspirational teaching, innovative research and transformative service striving to create an equitable and just society.

Reception Begins5:30 PM

Opening Remarks.....6:15 PM

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

Lee Denker, President and CEO, UNO Alumni Association

Presentation of Alumni Awards6:20 PM

Scott Tarry, Director, Aviation Institute

Imafedia Okhamafe, Chair, Goodrich Scholarship Program

Ethel Williams, Director, School of Public Administration

Regina Toman, Assistant Dean and Director of Division of Continuing Studies

Julie Masters, Chair, Department of Gerontology

Vince Webb, Interim Director, School of Criminology and Criminal Justice

Amanda Randall, Director, Grace Abbott School of Social Work

Presentation of Hubert Locke Award.....6:50 PM

Closing Remarks7:00 PM

Reception Ends7:30 PM

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 daily deeds and greater 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

Major Jon Grossrhode



Major Jon Grossrhode is a 2002 graduate of the University of Nebraska Omaha where he received a Bachelor of General Studies with a major in Aviation. He earned a commission in the U.S. Air Force through UNO's Air Force ROTC program. Following

graduation from UNO, Jon attended Air Force Undergraduate Pilot Training and earned his wings in March of 2004.

He attended Air Force Pilot Instructor Training. His first Air Force assignment was Instructor Pilot in the T-1A stationed at Vance Air Force Base in Enid, Oklahoma. In 2007, Jon was transferred to Offutt Air Force Base in Nebraska where he flew the OC-135 Open Skies and the WC-135 Constant Phoenix. Both of these aircraft are used to enforce treaties between multiple nations.

In 2012, Jon was selectively hired to fly the E-4B. The E-4B is a militarized version of the Boeing 747-200 which serves as the National Airborne Operations Center (NAOC) and is a key component of the National Military Command System for the President, the Secretary of Defense, and the Joint Chiefs of Staff. Additionally, the E-4B provides outside the continental United States (OCONUS) travel support for the Secretary of Defense and his staff.

Jon has flown 3 U.S. Secretaries of Defense--Leon Panetta, Chuck Hagel, and Ashton Carter. Most recently, he was Assistant Director of Operations, 55th Operations Support Squadron where he oversaw Airfield Management, Air Traffic Control, Aircrew, Flight Equipment and Weather services at Offutt AFB. He is a senior pilot with more than 4,200 hours.

Goodrich Scholarship Program

Shonna Dorsey, MS



Shonna Dorsey is a co-founder and the Managing Director for Interface: the Web School. Shonna was born and raised in Omaha, Nebraska and attended Omaha Public Schools. She graduated from North High School in 1997; she is an alumnus of the University of Nebraska-Omaha where she earned both Bachelor and Master of Science degrees in Management Information Systems (MIS).

Her career includes training facilitation, project management and application development. Shonna is a volunteer web developer and friend to many kindergarten-first grade students at Nelson Mandela Elementary, which she provides as a service to the community.

Shonna is a member of the Heartland 2050 Executive Committee through the Metropolitan Area Planning Agency, a board member for the University of Nebraska Omaha Alumni Association, Council Member for the President's Advisory Council (University of Nebraska), Board Member for Delivering Infinite Bookshelves for Kids, Board Member for City Sprouts, Youth Council member for Heartland Workforce Solutions, Community Council Member for Nebraska Department of Education's Department of Postsecondary Career Schools and member of the Greater Omaha Workforce Development Board through Heartland Workforce Solutions.

Shonna is one of ten Omahans selected for the 2015 Ten Outstanding Young Omahans award through the Omaha Jaycees, the 2015 recipient of the Tech Community Builder of the Year award through AIM, a Leadership Omaha graduate (class 37), a 2014 recipient of the 40 Under 40 Award through the Midlands Business Journal. As a professional who is passionate about education, Shonna is excited to extend support to the region's tech talent development and retention efforts through Interface: the Web School.

School of Public Administration

Kenny D. McMorris, MPA, CHCEF



Kenny McMorris is an accomplished professional with many years of experience in management and healthcare administration. Valued for his team management, leadership, and excellent problem solving skills, he has extensive expertise in business operations, policy and procedures, strategic planning, clinical administration, report drafting and review, training and development, fundraising and grant writing.

Currently Kenny is the Chief Executive Officer of Charles Drew Health Center, Inc. where he coordinates business and clinical operations for the health center that includes 130 employees, 11,000 patients, and 40,000 outpatient visits. Under his leadership the center has expanded to increase service locations from 4 sites to 12 sites including primary care, dental, and behavioral health services. Previously, Kenny served as Executive Director of the 100 Black Men of Omaha and Director of Marketing and Development for the Urban League of Nebraska.

Kenny is a Fellow of the American College of Health Care Executives, Community Health Centers Executives and member of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity Inc. He is also currently on the Board of Directors of the Heartland 2050, Omaha Health Kids Alliance, March of Dimes, Midlands Mentoring Partnership, UNMC Chancellor's Board of Councilors, UNMC College of Public Health Advisory Counsel and Empowerment Network Leadership Team. His wife Makayla is a Senior Account Executive for KETV. They are the proud parents of two young children.

School of Public Administration

Beth Morrisette, MPA/MSW



Beth Morrisette has worked in the nonprofit sector over 15 years. In 2010 she received her dual degree for Masters of Social Work and Masters of Public Administration from the University of Nebraska Omaha. Since 2013, Morrisette has served on the United Way of the Midlands Community Impact Cabinet, is a member of the Women’s Fund Circles and a recipient of the 2015 Ten Outstanding Young Omahans (TOYO) Award. Beth wrote a monthly column in the Council Bluffs Daily Nonpareil called “Speaking about the Unspoken” in 2015.

Recently, Morrisette departed from her position as Executive Director of the Mental Health and Substance Abuse Network. The Network is a collective impact organization that works with community partners to build a comprehensive continuum of care for individuals and families across the entire life span with mental health and substance abuse needs. In 2013 the Network’s project, “Alternatives to Incarceration” received the National Associations of Counties (NACo) Achievement Award. This project included over 70 stakeholders from 28 different agencies and government departments and led to the start of the Mental Health Court in the Fourth Judicial District in Iowa.

Beth will continue to help create impact within the community by providing consulting and strategic planning services. She was elected to Westside Community School’s Board of Education (WCS BOE) in May 2014 and currently serves as the board treasurer and serves as the WCS BOE representative on the Learning Community Council. Morrisette and her husband are parents to a fantastic 12 year old son and are former foster parents. They were privileged to have developed a strong relationship with a foster daughter and her biological family.

Division of Continuing Studies

James F. Bard, Jr.



Jim dropped out of high school in Baltimore, Maryland at age 16 and enlisted in the US Air Force at 17 in 1954. After several years in the service he realized that to improve his worth he had to improve his education. He began taking night classes. In 1968 Jim received an Associate of Arts degree in Engineering, Math and Science from Yuba College California. That fall he was accepted into the Air Force's Bootstrap Program and admitted to UNO; graduating in 1969 with a Bachelor of General Studies Degree. He majored in Business and Economics. Upon graduation Jim was selected to attend Officer Training School.

After commissioning Jim was assigned to Washington, DC in the Air Force Office of Special Investigations as a Management Analyst, then to Germany as the Chief of Management and Budget in a tactical fighter wing (TFW), and then to Georgia in another TFW as Chief of Management and Budget; with a short stint as Base Comptroller prior to retirement from active duty in 1980. Among his awards and decorations Jim is most proud of the Air Force Commendation Medal and two Meritorious Service Medals.

The following year, Jim went back to work for the Air Force as a civilian in the Air Force Plant Representative Office, Westinghouse Defense and Electronics Division, Baltimore, Maryland. He earned his Certification as a Professional Logistician by taking courses with the Air Force Institute of Technology. Wanting another challenge, Jim took a position with the Baltimore District of the US Army Corps of Engineers as their Information Systems Planner. He finally retired on December 31, 1999. Jim was elected Secretary, 91st Strategic Reconnaissance Wing Association in 2002 and is still serving. He co-authored "We Served With Honor - Memoirs of the Men Who Served the 91st Strategic Reconnaissance Wing" – published by McDowell Publications (2009) and Helion & Company Ltd., England (2013).

Jim and his wife Ruth live in Westminster, Maryland. They have seven children and step-children, six grandkids and two great-granddaughters.

Division of Continuing Studies

Karine Sokpoh, J.D.



Originally from Togo in West Africa, Karine Sokpoh earned a Bachelor's Degree in Business Management from the University of Lomé, before receiving her Bachelor of General Studies in Communications with a minor in Women's Studies from the University of Nebraska Omaha in 2004. In 2008, she received her

Juris Doctor Magna Cum Laude from Creighton University School of Law with a Certificate of Concentration on International Law.

While at Creighton, Karine served as a member of the Moot Court Board and received the Cali Award for Excellence in Business Associations. She was admitted to practice in Iowa and Nebraska in 2008 and 2009. She began her legal career at Koley Jessen and in 2010, the Nebraska State Bar Association awarded her the Outstanding Young Lawyer Award for her exemplary contributions to the state bar and community.

In 2011, Karine opened her own firm Sokpoh Law Group in Omaha. She represents individuals, businesses in various immigration, family law and corporate matters and also represents children and families involved in the juvenile court system. She is very active in the community and is the Vice-President of African Love International non-profit that provides scholarships to African students in the United States and promotes education in Africa by building libraries and providing backpacks to students. She is also a member of the Nebraska State Bar Association's House of Delegates, the Girls Inc. Girlfriends Board and was a past president of the Midlands Bar Association. Karine and her husband Dominique are the proud parents of nine year old Dominika.

Department of Gerontology

Janet L. Miller, MS



Janet earned both a Master's degree in Sociology in 1992 and a Master's certification in Gerontology from the University of Nebraska Omaha in 2013. Janet believes that her coursework in Gerontology has helped her both professionally and personally.

She served for over 2 years as the Director of Partnerships in Caregiving and as the Grandparent Resource Center Coordinator. She is a trainer in Respite Education and Support Tools (REST) training and Powerful Tools for Caregivers courses. Her primary area of work is with the Respite Resource Center, assisting caregivers in accessing short term caregiving relief or respite.

Janet became interested in Gerontology around 2011 when her mother was diagnosed with lung cancer. The Millers have a 39 year old daughter, Jennifer, who has Down syndrome and has recently been diagnosed with early onset Alzheimer's disease. During her coursework in Gerontology Janet focused on the aging process for persons with intellectual and other developmental disabilities. Janet and her husband Tom reside in a fantastic senior living community called Elmwood Tower and enjoy living with such vibrant and interesting individuals.

Department of Gerontology

Dee Aguilar, Ph.D.



Dr. Aguilar is the Coordinator of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI), a national program focused on educational opportunities for adults 50 years and older. Under Dr. Aguilar's direction, OLLI at UNL offers more than 1,400 members a variety of courses, special events, and travel year-round. She has been with OLLI since 2005.

Dr. Aguilar has developed and delivered post-secondary, continuing education, and older adult educational programs for various organizations, including aging services, public recreation, and educational institutions. She has gained insights from over 30 years of experience in the field of aging at regional and national conferences, including the National Senior Service Corp Training Conference, the Osher National Conference, and Aging with a Passion Conference at UNO. Dr. Aguilar earned her bachelor's and master's degrees in recreation and leisure services at Central Missouri University in Warrensburg and her Ph.D. in Gerontology from UNL.

She and her husband, Tom, live in Lincoln. She enjoys spending time with her mother, who was a constant encouragement during her doctoral program, and traveling to visit her two daughters and their families in Kansas and Illinois.

Lifelong learning is a passion and practice for Dee. Brian Tracey summarizes her belief in this quote "Commit yourself to lifelong learning. The most valuable asset you'll ever have is your mind and what you put into it."

The Grace Abbott School of Social Work

Diane Hendricks, LCSW



Diane Hendricks has over 30 years of health care intra-professional team experience in a variety of settings serving adults. She currently serves as a clinical social worker at Nebraska Medicine Division of Geriatrics and Gerontology and is contracted to the Alzheimer's Association as a Care

Consultant Level II including meeting the needs of Younger Onset Dementia and their families as a Level II/III Educator. She completed 8 years as an Adjunct Professor at the University of Nebraska Omaha in CPACS teaching the Hospice Course.

Her past experience as a social work/recreation consultant for a large Long Term Care corporation for over 14 years and as a Hospice Social Worker for 13 years has allowed her to gain an understanding of the complexity of older adults and how psychosocial issues impact the individual and the family. Diane has supervised 15 social work practicum students since 1993 and has been successful in recruiting, hiring and training social workers in 26 Nebraska LTC facilities from 1982-1993. She was appointed by former Governor Ben Nelson in 1990 to serve on the Nebraska Alzheimer's Task Force. Diane is a founding board member of Ted E. Bear Hollow.

She has presented nationally and internationally on a variety of subjects including; Grief, Adult Bereavement, Obtaining a Dignified Dementia Diagnosis, End of Life Care, Communications, Needs of the Younger Onset Dementia Individual, Neuropsychiatric Disorders and Dementia, Family Dynamics in Face of a Health Crisis, and Interdisciplinary Team Approach in Transitional Care and Translation of the REACH-Out (Resources to Enhance Alzheimer's Care Partner's Health and Other Useful Treatment) in Primary Care. Diane recently co-authored a publication funded by the Reynolds Grant- "AGS Training Internal Medicine Residents in the Scope or Practice of Social Workers." Diane was appointed to the NE State Bar Association-Physician Order Life Sustaining Treatment.

School of Criminology & Criminal Justice

Col. Steven L. Andraschko



Steven L. Andraschko has served as the Chairman, Army Clemency and Parole Board since October 2011. He is responsible for the oversight and conduct of Army Clemency and Parole Board hearings for Soldiers confined in Department of Defense Corrections System facilities and those transferred to the Federal Bureau of Prisons for incarceration, as well as Soldiers on parole or mandatory supervised release. Steven

served as a Military Police Officer in the U.S. Army for over 29 years, retiring as a Colonel in 2005.

He commanded the 704th Military Police Battalion and Fort Lewis Regional Correctional Facility, and served as the Commandant, United States Disciplinary Barracks. He also served as the Director, U.S. Army's Command & General Staff College.

Steve holds a bachelor's degree in Sociology from South Dakota State University and a master's degree in Criminal Justice from the University of Nebraska Omaha. He is a graduate of the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College, and the U.S. Air War College. Steve was elected to serve a four year term as a Commissioner on the American Correctional Association's Commission on Accreditation of Corrections in January 2013.

Hubert Locke Award

Barbara Weitz



Barbara Weitz is a retired social worker. She taught for fifteen years at the Grace Abbott School of Social Work. Her years at UNO were enriched by her work with her colleagues and, especially, their collaborations in the use of engaged scholarship through service learning. The importance of the university and community working on the complex issues of the day in a mutually beneficial way drove her family's foundation to invest in the UNO Community Engagement Center. Her proudest professional moments were receiving the Alumni Teaching Award for CPACS and

the UNO Order of the Tower.

Barbara and her husband, Wally, have three children and six grandchildren. She received her BA from Carleton College, an MPA from New York University, an MSW from University of Nebraska at Omaha, and is ABD in social welfare from Case Western. She has served on numerous boards including Avenue Scholars, Bright Futures, Urban League, University of Nebraska Foundation, Nebraska Children and Families Foundation, and the Women's Fund of Omaha.

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Past Recipients of CPACS Distinguished Alumni Awards

THE 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
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
Costanzo	Brad	2014
Skinner	Elizabeth	2015

THE 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	Dr. Scot L.	2009
Smidt	Arlis	2010
Washburn	Donna	2011
Kotok	Shane	2012
Foster	Betty G.	2013
Micheletto	Sr. Marie	2014
Huber	Dr. Lesa	2015

THE AVIATION INSTITUTE

Turner	Michael	2004
Lempke	Mike	2005
Spencer	Ken	2007
McCoy	Stephen	2008
Lutte	Rebecca	2009
Vlasek	Scott	2010
McIntyre	Jennifer	2011
Dwyer	Kailey	2012
O'Neil	Patrick	2013
Terreri	Jason	2014
Runana	Lawrence	2015

THE SCHOOL OF CRIMINOLOGY & CRIMINAL JUSTICE

Edmondson	Joe	1989
Casady	Thomas	2002
Houston	Bob	2002
Hronek	Ginney	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
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
Gibson	Dr. Chris	2014
Stingley	Tara	2014
Ryan	Dr. Roxanne	2015
Goering	David	2015

THE 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
Landow	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
Bradley	Andy	2011
Rodgers	Christopher	2011
Festersen	Pete	2012
Bailie	Joy LaChelle	2012
Anderson	Chris	2013
Harris	Julie	2013
Williams	Kristin	2014
Anderson	Dr. Debra	2015
Mangiamelli	Joseph	2015

THE 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
McGuigan	Billy	2014
Borgeson	Mary Ann	2014
Schrodt	Jennifer	2014
Ressegieu	Karen	2015
Ressegieu	Jim	2015

THE GRACE ABBOTT SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK

Authier	Karen	1989
Boye	Carol	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	Barb	2008
Hale	Susan	2009
Vazquez	Maria	2010
Kalkowski	Maggie	2011
Dierkhising	Judy	2012
Bird	Heather	2013
Bahney	Mary	2014
Simon	Elizabeth	2015

THE 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
Waggonner	Don	2010
Houston	Bob	2011
Hinton	Dave	2012
Martin	Steve	2013
Milliken	James B.	2014
Warren	Thomas H. Sr.	2015

The College of Public Affairs and Community Service

Making a Profound Difference

In 2015, enrollment in CPACS grew by 10.5% to the highest level in the history of the College. We plan to double enrollments from 2008 to 2020, and we are more than half the way to the goal. U.S. News and World Report (March 2016) ranks several CPACS programs in the top tiers amongst national programs:



- In the category of Public Administration, CPACS is ranked #25 which places the program in the top 10 percent of all public affairs programs in the country.
- Emergency Management in the School of Public Administration is ranked #1 in quality and #7 in affordability. The Bachelor's in Emergency Management has grown to more than 100 majors and minors. Plans are underway to offer a certificate in Tribal Emergency Management to all North American Tribes.
- Public Finance and Budgeting in the School of Public Administration is ranked # 6.

- Information and Technology Management in the School of Public Administration is ranked # 6.
- Nonprofit Management in the School of Public Administration is ranked #12.
- City Management and Urban Policy in the School of Public Administration is ranked #15.
- Public Management in the School of Public Administration is ranked #19.
- Five faculty in the School of Public Administration are fellows of the National Academy of Public Administration, a Congressionally-chartered group of scholars and distinguished practitioners. Two graduates of the MPA program were named as Presidential Management Fellows in 2015.
- The Nebraska Municipal Clerk Institute celebrated its 40th anniversary in March and in May will host the International Institute of Municipal Clerks conference.
- The Aviation Institute celebrated its 25th anniversary in November 2015 with a dinner attended by many of the founders of the program.
- The flight team, the Flying Mavs, earned their eighth consecutive trip to the National Intercollegiate Flying Association tournament after placing third at the regional competition.
- The School of Criminology and Criminal Justice is ranked #18 for online master's programs and #17 for best graduate program in the country.
- The School of Criminology and Criminal Justice (SCCJ) faculty were awarded funding from a wide variety of federal agencies such as: National Institute of Justice, National Science Foundation, National Institute on Drug Abuse, National Consortium for the Study of Terrorism and Responses to Terrorism. Local agencies and foundation funding SCCJ research include: Sherwood Foundation, Nebraska Department of Correctional Services, and the Nebraska Crime Commission.
- The First Responders Foundation endowed a permanent memorial scholarship to honor Officer Kerrie Orozco who was killed in the line of

duty. The scholarship will be awarded to a student in the School of Criminology and Criminal Justice.

- The Nebraska Center for Justice Research was awarded \$230,000 from the Sherwood Foundation for an evaluation of Operation Youth Success, a comprehensive, coordinated, community-wide approach to juvenile services that seeks to reduce youth involvement in the criminal justice system in Douglas County.
- The Juvenile Justice Institute was allocated \$210,000 by the Nebraska Legislature this year to evaluate all juvenile justice programs that receive community-based aid. We anticipate receiving regular funding in the future for this applied research.
- The Bachelors of General Studies is ranked #17 nationally among online bachelor's programs.
- The Bachelors of General Studies (BGS) contributes to UNO's #1 ranking as a military-friendly university. A new concentration in the BGS in Public Policy was added. Twelve areas of concentration are now available fully online.
- The Grace Abbott School of Social Work is ranked #91 amongst 700 nationally accredited programs.
- The College received a very large donation to establish an endowed Community Chair in Social Work in Early Childhood. A senior scholar in the Grace Abbott School of Social Work will join the GASSW in fall 2016.
- A college-wide scholarship, the Captain Laura Marie Larson Scholarship, was established in honor of Larson, a firefighter with the Omaha Fire Department who died in the line of duty.
- The Bachelors of Science in Gerontology was created in October 2014. A new professorship was established- The Dr. Chuck Powell Professorship of Gerontology.
- The Goodrich Scholarship Program retained 96% of its students from freshman to sophomore year, the highest in history. Retention over six years is 59.4%. Over two-thirds of Goodrich students are first generation and more than half are students of color.

- The Center for Public Affairs Research (CPAR) continues to receive funding from the Nebraska Legislature for the State Policy Initiative, which provides the Legislature data and briefings on public policy issues affecting Nebraska. CPAR received funding for two transportation projects: the first project is for three years- \$1 million grant for rural transit funded by the Nebraska Department of Roads, and the second is a \$200,000 grant from the Federal Highway Administration for the Fast Forward Electronic Media project. More good news is on the way regarding federal funding for transportation in rural areas of the state in a collaborative effort with the University of Nebraska Kearney.
- Tefere Gebre, the Executive Vice President of the AFL-CIO keynoted the William Brennan Institute for Labor Studies' "Promoting the General Welfare" conference in April 2015.
- The NASA/Nebraska Space Grant program is one of fifteen programs to receive a NASA EPSCoR research grant (\$750,000 for three years) and one of the five programs to be awarded a launch opportunity for the deployment on the International Space Station.
- Other activities (NASA/Space Grant) included a trip for student members of the Society of Women Engineers to visit Boeing and Blue Origin (Jeff Bezos's private space flight company) in Seattle, support for a team of students to develop and deliver a rocket payload, and STEM training for 2,419 students and 227 teachers through our Summer of Innovation project.

The School of Public Administration

The School of Public Administration prides itself on offering award-winning, nationally ranked programs both on campus and online. Our programs are well-oiled machines, with new and innovative approaches to modern issues. We pride ourselves on the productivity of our faculty and staff that shines through in our students.

This year alone, Dr. Chris Reed has been honored and named again as a Fellow in the Rural Futures Institute, Dr. Angela Eikenberry has been named as the 2016 recipient of the UNO Award for Distinguished Research or Creative Activity (ADROCA), and Dr. Robert Blair received the Outstanding Teaching Award and was elected as an Honorary Member in the International City Manager's Association for distinguished public service.

Additionally, as a result of the leadership of Ellen Freeman-Wakefield in the Nebraska Municipal Clerk School and Academy, the International Institute of Municipal Clerks' Annual Conference will be held in Omaha in May. Our MPA graduates are also making an impact in Omaha and beyond, with Ann O'Connor serving as the President of Roncalli Catholic High School and Dr. Deniz Zeynep Leuenberger's recent appointment as chief of staff for the president of Bridgewater State University.

We are thrilled by the stellar accomplishments of the School this year. We look forward to many more high-achieving years ahead!

- The Emergency Services Program is co-hosting the nationally recognized William (Bill) Averett Anderson Fund (BAF) Workshop in Omaha in April.
- The Nonprofit Management Undergraduate Minor was approved.
- The Nonprofit Leadership Alliance recently applied for and received office space in the Community Engagement Center.
- The Supervisory Leadership Certification Program is a new offering within the School's Professional Programs.
- The Emergency Services Program has grown to over 100 majors, and over 65 minors currently pursuing the bachelor's degree.
- Dr. Tara Bryan is making waves with capacity building with the Omaha Community Foundation.
- The Urban Thinkers Campus was held at UNO in November, in partnership with the CPACS, School of Public Administration and Dr. Bob Blair.

The Aviation Institute and NASA Nebraska Space Grant and EPSCoR Office

The Aviation Institute celebrated its 25th Anniversary in November. Alumni, students, faculty, and staff joined friends of the Institute from around campus and the community for a dinner at the Scott Conference Center. Dr. Richard Swayze, Assistant Administrator for Policy, International Affairs, and Environment at the Federal Aviation Administration, and alum of the School of Public Administration's Ph.D. program, spoke about the challenges and opportunities in aviation in the coming decades. Institute students have participated in a number of important extracurricular events, including the Women in Aviation, Inc. national conference, and the National Intercollegiate Flying Association regional and national competitions. Two Institute students have been recognized nationally. Christian Barry was awarded the International Society of Transport Aircraft Trading Scholarship and Joel Montoya was awarded the American Airlines Veteran Employee Resource Group Scholarship.

The NASA Nebraska Space Grant and EPSCoR Office continues to connect students and faculty from around Nebraska with NASA Research Centers and Mission Directorates. The NASA Office received over \$1.5 million in funding. Space Grant funds are used to support student internships, research projects, and student teams who compete in NASA technology challenges. EPSCoR funds are used to support faculty research on topics ranging from advanced lasers to crystallography for cancer research and the development of neutron voltaic materials for power generation in deep space travel. One of Nebraska's NASA EPSCoR experimental projects is slated for launch to the International Space Station later this year.

The Department of Gerontology

The department completed its search for a faculty member for the biology of aging position with the hire of Dr. Janelle Beadle. This position is funded through the University of Nebraska's Program of Excellence. In addition to Dr. Beadle, the department also hired Dr. Narissa Scales as an instructor. The department continues its pursuit of transitioning the cooperative doctoral degree with UNL to a free standing Ph.D. in Gerontology at UNO.

The Center for Public Affairs Research

In 2015, the Center for Public Affairs Research (CPAR) continued to receive funding from the Nebraska Legislature for the State Policy Initiative, which provides data and briefings on public policy issues affecting Nebraska. CPAR also received funding from the Federal Highway Administration for Fast Forward electronic media project and continued work on a 3-year grant from the Nebraska Department of Roads focusing on rural transit in Nebraska. During the past 3 years, funding from these sources has totaled \$1.3 million. CPAR leads the Nebraska State Data Center program and had record attendance at its annual data user's conference in August, with 230 attendees in person and 31 for the simultaneous web cast.

The William Brennan Institute of Labor Studies

In 2015, The Brennan Labor Institute has been invited to present nationally and internationally to union and non-union audiences. The Institute is comprised of two staff and one administrative support person. Since July 2015 to the present, the Institute has:

- Taught 7 contracted courses for labor organizations for 216 participants.
- Held one open enrollment class for 20 union members from around the state.
- Presented to both union and non-union audiences- 21 presentations to 1,410 participants.
- In April, the Institute will host the 17th Annual Promoting the General Welfare Conference and the President of the National Education Association, our nation's largest labor union; Lily Eskelsen García will keynote the conference.
- Upcoming presentations in 2016; presentation to the professional fire fighters in Saskatchewan Canada and to another audience of young trade unionists in Pasco, Washington.
- The Institute is developing a Workers' Rights Manual for Nebraska high schoolers. When completed, we will present the document to local public school systems to help inform students of the rights and safeguards that presently exist in the employment relationship, and how to enforce those rights if they are violated.

The Grace Abbott School of Social Work

The Grace Abbott School of Social Work has received an endowed Community Chair position in collaboration with the Buffett Early Childhood Institute; the faculty member search is currently underway. The School is expanding the MSW program in fall 2016 to include a weekend cohort of students currently employed in the child welfare system through DHHS, Project Harmony and Nebraska Families Collaborative to continue employment and work towards the MSW degree on the Omaha campus. The students are funded through a private donor and the newly established federal Title IV-E funding, and are committed to the field of child welfare following graduation. The weekend format will also be extended to the off campus MSW program in Kearney to allow students employed on a full time basis to participate in the MSW program. Five BSSW students will also receive Title IV-E tuition assistance.

The Division of Continuing Studies The Bachelor of General Studies

In January 2016, U. S. News and World Report ranked UNO's online Bachelor of General Studies (BGS) Degree 17th in the nation among best online bachelor's programs. In determining its rankings, U. S. News and World Report assessed the degree program on four general categories: student engagement; faculty credentials and training; student services and technology; and peer reputation. The BGS Degree contributes to UNO's #1 national ranking as a military-friendly university.

Enrollment in the BGS Degree increased by 4.6% in fall 2015, bringing the total number of BGS students to 1309. In June 2015, the Division of Continuing Studies (DCS) launched the "Transformative Teaching and Learning Initiative," a comprehensive, online professional development program for DCS and UNO adjunct faculty. In fall 2015, a new area of concentration in Public Policy Studies was added to the degree program.

The Goodrich Scholarship Program

The nationally recognized and award-winning Goodrich Scholarship Program continues its standard of excellence with extraordinary retention rates (96%), innovative community engagement (Futures Fair, Goodrich Rural Initiatives, Goodrich Study Abroad Initiative), and award-winning Goodrich alums (TOYO!) and Goodrich student-scholars (Amber Johnson and Antonio Campbell). In addition, the hiring of former UC-Santa Barbara faculty member Dr. Daniel Wuebben (whose current research involves electric transmission networks and the rhetoric of electricity in American culture) has enhanced the already dynamic Goodrich faculty.

- Latest Retention Rate: 96% (65/68 Students)
- Latest Graduation Rate: 61% (2009 Cohort 39/64 within 6 YRS)
- Community Engagement:
- March 15, 2016 Futures Fair with P4K: 250 middle school students from Marrs, Norris, Monroe, McMillan and Lewis and Clark middle schools
- 2016 Rural Initiative: Elmwood, NE (fourth year of Goodrich Rural Initiatives <http://www.unomaha.edu/college-of-public-affairs-and-community-service/goodrich-scholarship-program/community-engagement/rural-initiatives.php>)
- Study Abroad Award: Amber Johnson (U.S. Department of State, Gilman Scholarship Recipient)
- Civic Award: Antonio Campbell 2016 Newman Civic Fellow
- Leadership: UNO Student Body Vice President Elect Emily Bradley and Jimmy Nguyen elected as Dodge Campus Housing Student Senator
- TOYO (Ten Outstanding Young Omahans) Awards: Alums Shonna Dorsey and Roger Garcia
- Faculty: Dr. Dan Wuebben (new hire); Dr. Todd Richardson, tenured as Associate Professor (effective fall 2016)

School of Criminology and Criminal Justice

The School of Criminology and Criminal Justice (SCCJ) prides itself on delivering high quality undergraduate and graduate programs that emphasize the role of social scientific discovery in informing criminal justice policy and practice.

SCCJ faculty are increasingly called on to address criminal justice-related issues at the national level. For example, Dr. Benjamin Steiner was commissioned by the National Institute of Justice (NIJ) to write two white papers designed to provide a synthesis of research on a topic, identify limitations of the current empirical research, and make recommendations for future research. The first white paper focused on the predictors and consequences of institutional violence, while the second focused on the relationship between inmate misconduct, institutional violence, and administrative segregation. Dr. Steiner was also invited by the NIJ Director to be part of NIJ's topical working group pertaining to the use of administrative segregation in prisons and jails. Steiner presented findings from the second white paper to this group in Washington, DC in October 2015.

Dr. Pete Simi continues his work on a series of federally funded projects that examine a range of issues related to violent extremism as well as strategies designed to counter this type of violence. Much of this research is conducted as part of Dr. Simi's role in the Center for Collaboration Science where he serves as Director of Radicalization and Violent Groups Research.

The SCCJ continues to experience robust enrollments. The Lincoln program continues to see strong enrollment figures, with the number of minors doubling in the last year. In May 2015, the SCCJ graduated the largest class in the history of the Lincoln program. The School will award its first Certificate of Managing Adult and Juvenile Populations this spring. The online MS program continues to grow and was ranked 18th by U. S. News and World Report among all criminal justice online graduate programs. The Bachelors program is now fully available online. Faculty from Lincoln were involved in the Interdisciplinary Conference on Human Trafficking held on campus this past fall. UNL student interns have been placed in some 35 federal, state, and local criminal justice agencies.

Faculty members Joe Schwartz, Bennie Shobe and Diane Dannelly were recognized by the UNL Parents Association for their contributions to students, and Michael Walker has been in high demand recently, being invited to give lectures on his ethnographic research at Rutgers, University of Minnesota, and the University of

Wisconsin. The SCCJ searched for a new permanent Director to replace Dr. Candice Batton who is now an Assistant Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs.

Dr. Gaylene Armstrong was named as the Director effective July 1, 2016. Dr. Armstrong is a nationally recognized researcher in the area of corrections. She received her Ph.D. in Criminology from the University of Maryland. She has held faculty and administrative positions at Arizona State University, Southern Illinois University and Sam Houston State University.

The Nebraska Center for Justice Research (NCJR) and the Juvenile Justice Institute (JJI) continue to serve as fundamental resources to the state in providing research, evaluation, technical assistance, and training on juvenile justice and criminal justice issues to the Legislature, agencies, and practitioners across the state. Funding sources include federal grants, local grants, local contracts, and contributions from private funders. NCJR is leading projects such as the development of new classification and re-classification tools at the Department of Corrections, continued analysis of the impact of Colorado's marijuana legalization on Nebraska's law enforcement agencies and jails, and numerous evaluation projects aimed at improving outcomes for Douglas County families and youth enmeshed in the juvenile justice system and child welfare system.

The Juvenile Justice Institute is leading the implementation and evaluation of an innovative new statewide data system that will track youth served and youth outcomes from state dollars targeted at reducing delinquency and youth violence. This system will promote agency accountability and a structure for increasing the development and use of evidence-based practices to improve outcomes for youth. Together, NCJR and JJI are leading the 3-year strategic planning process for the Justice Assistance Grant (Byrne) funds for the state. Both research units increased their research capacity substantially and have tripled the number of researchers on staff this fiscal year.

Dean's Office

In September 2015, Dr. Bartle convened the CPACS Dean's Advisory Committee. These outstanding professionals represent diverse backgrounds that align with the units in CPACS. Their roles include advisement to the Dean on various issues that impact the college currently and in the future.

The Dean's office continues to financially support the "Urban Research Grants" in 2015-2016. This year, ten applicants were awarded the grant, and include subject areas such as; Nebraska's Local Finance Picture, Sentencing Unsuccessful Drug Court Participants, Pilot Study: Runaway Survey, Increasing Program Evaluation Capacity, Public Perceptions of Urban Infrastructure, Social Media for Emergency Management, Study of Food Policy Networks in Omaha, Viral Videos of Police Use of Force, Assessing Methamphetamine Use among Refugee Youth in Omaha and Juvenile Reentry Mentoring Program. All of the recipients are either engaged with CPACS students and/or community partners in their urban research grant.

In 2013 to the present, Dean Bartle asked for leadership in the college regarding diversity and inclusion initiatives. This group (CPACS Diversity Committee) composed of faculty and staff identify and support efforts that lead toward a more inclusive and diverse college. The goals include the following:

- Create a learning environment in CPACS organized around the values of equity, inclusion, and diversity
- Diversify the CPACS faculty
- Diversify CPACS students and staff

In 2014-2016, several important achievements occurred with regard to inclusion and diversity for faculty and staff:

- August 2014 Dr. Michael Walker joined the School of Criminology and Criminal Justice as a tenure track faculty member
- August 2015 Mr. Liam Heerten-Rodriguez, doctoral candidate at UNL joined The Grace Abbott School of Social Work utilizing the Special Faculty Development Program
- August 2015 Dr. DeeDee Bennett joined the School of Public Administration as a tenure track faculty member
- August 2015 Dr. Lissette Aliaga-Linares joined CPAR (half-time)
- August 2015 Ed Zendejas joined the School of Public Administration-Tribal Emergency Management Program

- January 2016 Dr. Narissa Scales joined the Department of Gerontology as an instructor
- January 2016 Jack Murrel joined the CPACS Tech Center
- January 2016 Dr. Keyonna King joined the STEPs program directed by Dr. Jeanette Harder (GASSW)

CPACS has sponsored several guest speakers who have presented on diverse topical areas important to the mission and vision of the college:

- February 2015-Children of the Civil Rights, Director Julia Clifford and Ayanna Ajuma-an original ‘sit-inner.’ Sponsored by CPACS Dean’s Office, The Grace Abbott School of Social Work, The Thompson Learning Center, UNO Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee, and UNO Student Government.
- March 2015-Martin Davidson-author of Leveraging Difference: The End of Diversity as We know It. Sponsored by the CPACS Dean’s Office, CPACS Diversity Committee, The NU President’s Office, Senior Vice Chancellor Reed, College(s) of Business, Communication, Fine Arts and Media, Arts and Sciences, Information, Science and Technology and Creighton Law School.
- September 2015- CPACS Dean’s Office and the School of Criminology and Criminal Justice hosted two scholars (doctorate) in a research symposium. This idea began with the CPACS Diversity Committee to support CPACS units diversity and inclusion efforts.
- September 2015-Ameena Matthews-Pause for Peace-Anti-Violence Organization Presented in the CPACS Collaborating Commons. She was in Omaha for a presentation for the Nebraska Center for Justice Research. CPACS partnered with the NCJR and Academic Affairs Diversity and Inclusion Committee.
- December 2015- Yusef Salaam- Central Park Five. Black Men United, a community organization asked CPACS to partner with them to host Mr. Salaam along with the CPACS Diversity Committee, the Grace Abbott School of Social Work, the Nebraska Center for Justice Research, Senior Vice Chancellor Office and the Office of Multicultural Affairs.
- February 2016- Edgar Barends was invited by the Nebraska Center for Justice Research, the Department of Gerontology and the CPACS Dean’s Office to present his Academy Award nominated best documentary short subject “Prison Terminal: The Last Days of Private Jack Hall.”
- March 2016-The School of Public Administration, the Grace Abbott School of Social Work, the CPACS Dean’s Office and the Omaha Schools Foundation sponsored a dual degree student, Ruey Dei’s (MSW/MPA) presentation regarding his journey from South Sudan to UNO.



UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA AT OMAHA
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