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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 Begins6:30 pm

Opening Remarks.....7:00 pm

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

Lee Denker, President and CEO, UNO Alumni Association

Presentation of Alumni Awards7:15 pm

Imafedia Okhamafe, Chair, Goodrich Scholarship Program

Christine Billings, Director of Division of Continuing Studies

Craig Maher, Director, School of Public Administration

Gaylene Armstrong, Director, School of Criminology and Criminal Justice

Julie Masters, Chair, Department of Gerontology

Scott Tarry, Director, Aviation Institute

Amanda Randall, Director, Grace Abbott School of Social Work

Presentation of Hubert Locke Award.....8:00 pm

Closing Remarks8:15 pm

Reception Ends.....8:30 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

Dr. Hubert Locke served as the first permanent dean of the College of Public Affairs and Community Service from 1972 to 1976. In 2002, the college established an award to honor an individual who has demonstrated exemplary commitment to the ideals of public service through their professional activities, community service, and philanthropy.

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. His distinguished record of public and community service represent the highest ideals of CPACS. We are proud to recognize individuals who emulate his accomplishments.



Aviation Institute

Michaela Lucas



Michaela Lucas is Associate Director of the NASA Space Grant and EPSCor Programs for Nebraska. This program funds students and faculty to engage in NASA-related projects such as university robotics competitions, rocket and space station payload development, high altitude ballooning, and more. Michaela developed the Nebraska Space Ambassador program in 2013. This elite group of Nebraska educators offers training to increase the STEM skills of other teachers. She collaborates with the *Astronauts Memorial Foundation* in hosting a premier educator conference at NASA Kennedy Space Center each summer.

Previously, she served as a full-time Instructor of Aviation and Senior Research Associate at the University of Nebraska at Omaha, where she taught Aviation Safety, Diversity in Aviation, Introduction to Aviation and Aerospace, and other courses. She served as director for a national aviation policy seminar for university students in Washington, D.C. Michaela continues to teach as an aviation adjunct instructor for UNO.

Michaela is dedicated to inspiring young women toward careers in aviation and aerospace. She has been attending the annual conference since 1993, and sponsoring students to attend since 1995. Michaela has served as Faculty Advisor for the UNO Women in Aviation Chapter since its inception in 2000. The Chapter received the UNO Outstanding Student Organization Award in 2006, and Michaela received the UNO Outstanding Advisor Award in 2005 and 2013.

School of Public Administration

Deniz Leuenberger



Dr. Deniz Zeynep Leuenberger is the Chief of Staff and Vice President for Planning and Strategy at Bridgewater State University. She is a proud graduate of the PhD and MPA programs at UNO and credits her professional success largely to the support and mentorship of the faculty of the UNO School of Public Administration. She and her husband Derek are parents to two daughters, Kelsey and Jocelyn, and live in Massachusetts.

Deniz was a Professor of Political Science/Public Administration at BSU and a Chair and Professor at Presidio Graduate School in San Francisco. She served as the Coordinator of the Master of Public Administration Program and the Faculty Director of the Institute for Policy Analysis and Regional Engagement. She is former Coordinator for the Center for Sustainability and is the past Director of the Institute for Regional Engagement.

She is co-author of “Sustainable Development for Public Administration” with Dr. John R. Bartle and published a number of book chapters on sustainability and public finance. She has published articles on sustainable development, strategic planning, and caring labor in ***Administrative Theory and Praxis, Public Works and Management Policy, State and Local Government Review, and Water Policy***. Deniz has over 25 years of experience working with non-profit organizations and government agencies. She specializes in sustainable development, finance and budgeting, strategic planning, design thinking, and leadership development.

School of Public Administration

Karisa Vasek



Karisa Vasek is the Coordinator of Grants and Stakeholder Outreach for the Omaha Public Power District (OPPD). Karisa is responsible for OPPD's grant strategy that includes finding grant funding, writing grant applications, and managing funded programs. Karisa has been involved in applications with numerous funding agencies on the state, federal, local and nonprofit sectors including the Environmental Protection Agency, National Science Foundation, Department of Agriculture, Department of Energy, Department of Education, Department of Commerce, Department of Justice, Department of Homeland Security, American Public Power Association, and Solar Electric Power Association.

Additionally, Karisa supports the District's stakeholder outreach efforts and engages the public in OPPD business matters involving transmission and distribution projects, environmental issues, and other areas. Karisa holds a Bachelor's degree in Geography and a Master of Public Administration (MPA) degree, and Aviation Administration Minor, from the University of Nebraska at Omaha (UNO). She proudly supports the Public Administration program by serving as a member of the MPA Advisory Board and she met with the MPA reaccreditation site team in January.

She is a long-serving Board Member on the Grant Professionals Association (GPA) Nebraska Chapter. She is also a member of the International Association for Public Participation (IAP2) that seeks to promote and improve the practice of public participation. Karisa spends her free time with husband Scott and daughter Izabella supporting UNO athletic events. The Vasek family are avid supporters of volleyball, hockey, swimming and diving, basketball, soccer, and tennis.

School of Criminology & Criminal Justice

Darci Tierney



Lt. Darci Tierney began her career as an Omaha Police Officer 25 years ago. She started her career in Uniform Patrol and spent several years in Internal Affairs. She is the commander of the Public Information Office for the last 11 years.

In her current role, she oversees public/media relations, social media, and the Omaha Police Department Crime Stoppers Program. She is married to David Tierney, who recently retired as a Conservation Officer with the Iowa Department of Natural Resources. They have a 17- year old daughter and 19- year old son. She is an active member of the First Responders Foundation, the Omaha Police Foundation and serves as a Certified Gallup Strengths Coach.

She is retiring in April 2019, but is planning to continue her passion of coaching first responders in the Metro Area.

Division of Continuing Studies

Marian Standeven



Marian Standeven, a native of Omaha, Nebraska, is currently the Vice President for Mission Integration at College of Saint Mary (CSM). In her work, she ensures the understanding and application of the mission in all facets of the CSM community. Marian leads the Leadership Formation programming for staff and faculty leaders and the Board Formation series. She oversees the Inclusive Campus strategic direction and the office of Multicultural Initiatives. At CSM, she chairs the Institutional Sustainability Committee and serves on the Service Learning Advisory Council.

Marian started her professional career as a registered nurse before moving into the field of mission integration, in which she has worked over 30 years. Prior to her work at College of Saint Mary, she directed the departments of mission integration, ethics, pastoral services and language access (interpreters and translators) at CHI Health, a 13-hospital system in Nebraska and Iowa. Marian is committed to the development of mission-focused organizations and particularly to the charism of mercy. While in the healthcare field, she served on the boards of directors for Hope Medical Outreach Coalition and One World Community Health Center.

Marian earned a Bachelor of General Studies from the University of Nebraska at Omaha in 1981 and a master's degree in counseling psychology from Loyola College in Baltimore, Maryland in 1985.

Department of Gerontology

Bede A. Bolin



Bede A. Bolin, LTC(R) is a 30-year veteran of the U.S. Army. He taught at the Army's Command and General Staff College for 5 years. Bede was the Professor of Military Science at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln for 4 years. He taught and was the Director of Freshman Programs in the College of Business Administration at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln for 7 years.

He currently is a faculty member in the Department of Gerontology, University of Nebraska Omaha. He is a graduate of the Army's Command and General Staff College, Sonoma State University, Kansas State University and University of Nebraska-Omaha.

He has been married to his beautiful wife Jeanne, for 40 years. He has three children, Bede, Jr, a graduate of the United States Air Force Academy and Major in the U.S. Air Force, a daughter Joanna, a graduate of Missouri State University, and his youngest son, Andrew, a graduate of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. Bede and Jeanne have nine grandchildren.

Department of Gerontology
Kimmie M. Fox



Kimmie Fox was born and raised in Omaha, Nebraska. She attended the University of Nebraska at Lincoln, completing a Bachelor's of Science in Biology. She received a dual Masters' in Social Gerontology and Legal Studies from the University of Nebraska Omaha -College of Public Affairs and Community Service and the Nebraska College of Law, respectively.

Through the Gerontology Department, Kimmie interned for AARP Nebraska and the Nebraska Office of Public Guardian, while in undergraduate and graduate school. During the 2016-2017 school year, she worked as an adjunct professor at the University of Nebraska at Omaha, teaching Introduction to Gerontology.

Kimmie took a year of service as an AmeriCorps VISTA, working with the Nebraska State Unit on Aging as a resource developer for senior populations. Currently, Kimmie is a Capital Associate and Associate Guardian with the Nebraska Office of Public Guardians.

The Grace Abbott School of Social Work

Maha N. Younes



Dr. Maha Younes immigrated to the United States at the age of 17. She earned her baccalaureate degree with a double major in social work and psychology, a Masters of Educational Psychology, Masters of Social Work, and a Ph.D. in Adult and Community Education. Maha practiced as a Licensed Clinical Social Worker and a Licensed Mental Health Practitioner where she served survivors of sexual abuse and assault, domestic violence, and individuals struggling with eating disorders and other mental health issues.

These experiences provided the foundation for an empowerment-driven teaching and leadership approach that she practiced since joining the University of Nebraska at Kearney in 1991. With more than twenty years in the practice arena, twenty-eight years of teaching experience as a university professor, and fifteen years of service as the Chair of the Social Work Department at UNK, she considers herself beyond blessed. In 2005, Maha received the Fulbright-Hays Scholar Award to Thailand and Myanmar and organized successful international experiences to thirteen countries to cultivate global engagement among students. Maha is a recipient of UNK's Leland Holdt/Security Mutual Life Insurance Company Distinguished Faculty Award, and the Nebraska Social Worker of the Year.

Maha is a nationally and internationally known scholar with vast arrays of publications and presentations. She is relentless in advancing statewide partnerships to professionalize the child welfare workforce, and in advocating for rural access to graduate social work education to address the shortage of behavioral health workforce beyond Lincoln and Omaha. She spearheaded legislative and intercampus efforts that resulted in the offering of the University of Nebraska at Omaha Masters of Social Work program in Central and Western Nebraska.

Goodrich Scholarship Program

Destynie Sewell



Destynie Sewell, J.D., MBA, and Assistant Professor of Business Law and Ethics (UNO College of Business) states that her dedication to giving back is motivated by all she's ever known – God, family, and service. Growing up, Sewell's mother would sometimes work three jobs to support the two of them. The women in her family were always committed to community and public service, and mother and grandmother worked in the community support field.

Destynie was motivated by the lessons she learned in childhood to pursue her education at UNO. She earned her BS in Business Administration with concentrations in Banking, Finance, and Investment Science/Portfolio Management and simultaneously received a BA from the College of Arts and Sciences, majoring in French. She earned her MBA in 2007. She received her Juris Doctor from Creighton University in 2011. She worked with the U.S. Department of Veteran Affairs prior to starting her career with UNO.

She is a member of the La Vista Civil Service Commission, serves as an ethics guest speaker for local organizations and engaged with her church. Destynie credits several mentors as instrumental to her success (Dean Pol and Dr. Okhamafe to name just two of the many). Destynie is committed to continuing the trend of inspiration and support she received from her mentors. She has seen many success stories but one in particular stands out—one of her students wrote her a thank you note at the end of the semester. The student, a minority, thanked Destynie for providing minority representation at the college. He said he never had an African American professor in the College of Business. Destynie hopes her presence will change the perspective of who a college professor is. She supported students in the Goodrich Pre-Law Society and in 2016, played a major role in helping the society to win the *Nebraska Bar Association's Diversity Award*. Destynie says she is proud to encourage diversity in the field of law, which is starving for minorities and faces a particular lack of minority representation in Nebraska.

Hubert Locke Distinguished Service Award



BJ Reed
Senior Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs
University of Nebraska at Omaha

Dr. Reed has been on the faculty of the University of Nebraska at Omaha since 1982 and served as Chairman of the Department of Public Administration from 1985 to 2000 and as Dean of the College of Public Affairs Community Service 2000 to 2011.

He also served as Executive Associate to the Chancellor from 2006-2012. In 2011, he became Interim Senior Vice Chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs at UNO and appointed permanently in February of 2012.

He has published in numerous journals including *Public Administration Review*, *The American Review of Public Administration*, the *International Journal of Public Administration*, *Public Productivity and Management Review*, and *Public Budgeting and Finance* among others. He is also the author of several books on diverse topics including economic development, strategic planning, budgeting, financial administration and intergovernmental management.

Reed served as President of the Association of Chief Academic Officers (ACAO) in 2017-2018 and now serves as Past President. Reed also previously served as President of the National Council of the National Association of Schools of Public Affairs and Administration (NASPAA) in 2003-2004 and was chair of the Council on Peer Review and Accreditation for the NASPAA and Co-Chair of its Data Task Force Committee.

He served as a member of the National Council of Pi Alpha Alpha, the public administration honor society and as Chair of NASPAA's Social Equity Committee. Reed participated as Co-Chair of the Mayor Fahey's Police-Fire Study Commission and Chaired the City of Omaha's Charter Commission. Reed is a Fellow of the National Academy of Public Administration since 2005 and recently completed a six-year term as member of the Board where he served as its Secretary and a member of its Executive Committee.

His community service includes Board of Directors of the Love Jazz Arts Center, Live Well Omaha (where he served as Chair for four years) and the Omaha Community Partnership where he served as Chair for three years. He has been a member of the training coordination board for Omaha Neighborhood Builders. He is also Past President of The Dundee Memorial Park Neighborhood Association and served on the 30th Anniversary Committee of Leadership Omaha and on the Board of the Midlands Latino Community Development Corporation.

Honors & Awards

David Scott Professorship

Elmer B. Staats Career Public Service Award of the National Association of Schools of Public Affairs and Administration

Advancing Public Service Award from the Nebraska Chapter of the American Society of Public Administration

Mayor of Omaha's Partnership Award

Young Alumni and Alumni Achievement Award from Fort Hays State University

Chancellor's Medal from UNO

CPACS Distinguished Alumni Awards

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
Grossrhode	John	2016
Hansen	Troy	2017
Vidlak	Jay	2018
Vanis	Jason	2018

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
Miller	Janet L	2016
Aguilar	Dee	2016
Sebastian	Julie	2017
Juanes	Silvester	2017
Launderville	DD	2018
Dickel	Charles Timothy	2018

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
Dorsey	Shonna	2016
Gonzalez	Greg	2017
Romero	Troy	2018

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
Bard, Jr.	James F	2016

Sokpoh	Karine	2016
Kempkes	Karen	2017
Roberts	Gayle	2017
Novak	Victoria	2018

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
Andraschko	Steven L	2016
Nelson	Michael	2017
Retzlaff	Kim	2018
Luft Lohaus	Sheryl	2018

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
McMorris	Kenny	2016
Morrisette	Beth	2016
Meyer	Kyle	2017
Cohen-Dunning	Toba	2017
Berglund	Jamie	2018
Liwaru	Sharif	2018

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
Hendricks	Diane	2016
Hoesing	Stephanie	2017
Thomas	Lori	2018

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
Milliken	James B.	2014
Warren	Thomas H. Sr.	2015
Weitz	Barbara	2016
Christensen	John E.	2017
Ewing	John W. & Viv	2018

Making a Profound Difference



School of Public Administration

As the School continues to grow and evolve, it has experienced retirements, expansion, and new faces. The new director, Craig Maher is very am excited about opportunities to help shape the future of the School with the best set of faculty and staff. Future decisions will be based on how best to retain the School's strong academic reputation and efforts to engage our communities at the local, state, national, and international levels.

The MPA retained its high rankings as a program (28th) and within its concentrations, particularly public budgeting and finance (6th), Nonprofit Management (11th), Local Government Management (15th), according to the U.S. News and World Report Best Graduate School Rankings 2019. In Professional Programs, Ellen Freeman-Wakefield- president-elect of the National Certified Public Manager Consortium will serve as president in 2019. Former school director, Ethel Williams, received the Distinguished Service Award for her many contributions to the program.

The PhD Program graduated three students and all will be teaching at universities this fall, including Bowling Green State University (Abhishek Bhati, Ph.D.), the University of Alabama (Sungho Park, Ph.D.) and Wichita State University (Junghack Kim, Ph.D.). Anthony Starke (PhD alum), was recently awarded one of six graduate fellowships from University of Nebraska President Hank Bounds. Anthony also accepted a tenure-track Assistant Professor position at the CU Denver School of Public Affairs. One of the program's recent

graduates, former CPACS Student Government Senator, Hameidah Alsafwani now works in the Omaha Mayor's Office and is a new MPA student.

The Master of Urban Studies Program graduated one of its largest classes in May and, in partnership with the Nebraska City Managers Association, planned the third annual UNO alumni reception in Baltimore. Emergency Management and Disaster Science continues to impress- Hans Louis-Charles, recently took on the role of director of the program.

Department of Gerontology

The Department of Gerontology continues to excel through the efforts of its faculty and staff. Dr. Janelle Beadle is the recipient of an IDEa CTR Scholar award in excess of \$300,000. The funding will support the study of issues that affect caregiver compassion fatigue. Her Age, Brain and Emotion (ABE) Lab is expanding with undergraduate and graduate students wanting to learn more about cutting-edge aging research.

Dr. Julie Boron's leadership as doctoral program chair is making a difference in the quality and quantity of students pursuing the PhD in gerontology. Additionally, Dr. Boron is also a recipient of grant funding through her research with the Food for Health Initiative along with other projects.

Dr. Lyn Holley has established a positive relationship with faculty from Poland in providing instruction to students in both countries about aging issues. Dr. Chris Kelly is president of Faculty Senate and serves the faculty on campus with dignity and insight.

Programmatically, the Bachelor of Science in gerontology will also be available online, effective fall 2019. In addition to on-campus, the minor in gerontology is now available online to undergraduate and graduate students.

The Department of Gerontology has been very busy with grant activity, presentations and board activity:

(Grant funding)

Dr. Janelle Beadle, IDEa CTR Scholar Grant, National Institutes of Health and NASA Space Mini-Grant (with colleagues);

Dr. Julie Boron, et al, Food for Health, University of Nebraska Collaboration Institute; Systems Science University of Nebraska Collaboration Institute (with colleagues); IDEa CTR Pilot Grant (with colleagues)

Dr. Lyn Holley and Dr. Chris Kelly, University of Nebraska Global Curriculum Development Grant

Dr. Lyn Holley, on-going funding for teaching initiatives including: UNO Thompson Learning Community, Service Learning Academy* and Building Bright Futures Service Learning*.

* Indirect Funding for Activities.

(Gerontology Students)

Angie Helseth, GRACA, under the direction of Dr. Julie Boron

Christine Embury, GRACA, under the direction of Dr. Janelle Beadle

(Presentations at conferences attended by faculty and students)

- ❖ Alzheimer's Association International Conference
- ❖ Annual Meeting of the Nebraska Academy of Sciences, Aeronautics & Space Science Section
- ❖ Association for Gerontology in Higher Education
- ❖ Biennial Cognitive Aging Conference
- ❖ Gerontological Society of America
- ❖ IDeA CTR Annual Conference
- ❖ Nebraska Hospice and Palliative Care Annual Conference
- ❖ Nebraska Health Care Association Fall Conference
- ❖ Society for Cognitive Neuroscience
- ❖ Southern Gerontological Society
- ❖ UNO Student Research and Creativity Fair
- ❖

(Board and Advisory Council Membership)

-Dementia Friendly Nebraska

-Eastern Nebraska Office on Aging Advisory Councils (Agency and Senior Companion Program)

-Elder Rights Coalition

-Florence Home Assisted Living

-Home Instead Center for Successful Aging

-Older Adult Mental Health Coalition

-OPS –Native American Achievement Council

Spielbound

-State of Nebraska Office of Public Guardian

-Westside School CAPS Health Services Committee

Center for Public Affairs Research

The Center for Public Affairs Research established in 1963, joined CPACS in the 1970s. In 2018, long-time director, Jerry Deichert retired after almost 20 years of leadership; and Josie Schafer became the 12th director as CPAR celebrated its 55th year of serving the State of Nebraska and its 30th year as lead for the Nebraska State Data Center Program.

Before his retirement, Deichert established the Jerry and Patricia Deichert Staff Award. CPAR staff member, Melanie Kiper received the inaugural award presented in May. Longtime staff member R.K. Piper also retired after many years with CPAR as Research Associate.

CPAR continues its State Policy Initiative with the Nebraska Legislature's Planning Committee; work with the Nebraska Department of Transportation focusing on rural transit in Nebraska; a collaboration with the Dean's Office to coordinate the CPACS Inquiry Award Program; and to offer the Certificate in Fundraising Management.

Under the leadership of Schafer, CPAR has initiated a series of infographics and interactive dashboards exploring local and statewide demographics and is expanding its reach with additional projects, collaborations, and contracts to fulfill its current mission to provide and support the collection and dissemination of public affairs knowledge locally, nationally, and globally.

Division of Continuing Studies

The U.S. News & World Report once again ranked the Bachelor of Multidisciplinary Studies (BMS) degree as a top ranked program. UNO ranked #49 out of nearly 400 in the 2019 Best Online Programs category. The program engaged in an academic program review process in February, a continuous improvement practice that occurs every 5-7 years. The two-day site visit engaged colleagues from across campus as well as current and former DCS students.

In addition to its continuing contribution to UNO's national ranking as a military-friendly university, the DCS-led military test center at Offutt AFB again ranked in the Top 25 National Military Test Centers; an accolade it has received since its inception in 2007. Additional points of pride this past academic year include 19 students inducted into the Alpha Sigma Lambda honor society in November during Nontraditional Student Week. Eleven students will be honored with the UNO Undergraduate Major Award during Honors

Convocation in April. In spring 2019, the Division also experienced a 4% increase in student enrollment from the previous year.

In October 2018, the Division of Continuing Studies welcomed April Paschall back to their team as the Assistant Director of Academic Affairs. April previously worked in DCS from 2002-2013. She comes most recently from Doane University and will lead the academic function of the division, including academic program development and assessment, online and off-campus DCS course offerings, and adjunct faculty engagement and support.

Grace Abbott School of Social Work

The Grace Abbott School of Social Work is excited to announce the launch of our fully online MSW program, beginning in August 2019. This program will meet the needs of students unable to attend classes on the Omaha campus and the hybrid weekend and online off campus program offered in Kearney. The online program will also serve military and dependent families pursuing the Master in Social Work degree.

GASSW has developed a strong professional development and continuing education program in the past year, offering over 30 conferences and workshops in Omaha and Kearney, with future offerings in Norfolk.

Dr. Debora Ortega, director of the Latino Center at the University of Denver will be the featured speaker at the Gandhi Social Justice Conference on March 8, 2019, with a panel discussion led by Barbara Weitz, member of the Nebraska Board of Regents and retired faculty member in GASSW.

Aviation Institute and NASA Nebraska Space Grant and EPSCoR Office

The Aviation Institute continues to grow its nationally recognized undergraduate program, which set records for the number of majors in the last two years. Our flight program added a new full-time faculty member, Eric Taylor, who joined the Institute after a distinguished career in the U.S. Navy. Taylor is a graduate of the US Naval Academy.

The Institute's new Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) program is also officially off the ground. Another new full-time faculty member, Dr. Victor Huang from Purdue University leads the UAS program.

The Institute's competitive flight team won its regional competition in the fall and heads to nationals again, where it hopes to improve on a program-

best eighth place national finish last year. Finally, the Aviation Institute is looking forward to one of its largest graduating classes this year, which means you will soon see even more Mavericks when you travel across the nation and around the world.

The NASA Space Grant and EPSCoR programs received over \$1.5 million dollars in funding. Michaela Lucas- Associate Director was elected to the Board of Directors of Women in Aviation International.

Goodrich Scholarship Program

Nationally recognized and award-winning Goodrich Scholarship Program keeps advancing its standard of excellence.

Latest retention and graduation rates

Goodrich has a 2017/2018 100% (60/60) student retention rate and a 6-year 75% (50/67) graduation rate (2013 cohort); this graduation number could increase by one in May 2019.

Recent honors and awards given to current students and graduates of the program include

Five Undergraduate Major of the Year Award Winners

Five FUSE Awardees

Nicole Partusch, Hannah Gill: National/International Fulbright award-winning Goodrich student-scholars

Amber Johnson: Chinese Government Scholarship to study at Qingdao University

Clarice Dombeck: Nene Field Ambassador Scholarship to study in Senegal, US Department of State Gilman Awardee

Amy Dinh: International Student Exchange Program Scholarship Recipient

Cameron Brown: India Immersion Experience Grant

Antonio Campbell: 2018, Senior Vice Chancellor's Outstanding Undergraduate Award

Henamari Ybay: UNO Outstanding Student Organization Leadership Award, (GO! President)

Community Engagement Includes

Futures Fair with P4K: 250 middle school students from Marrs, Norris,

Monroe, McMillan and Lewis and Clark middle schools

Rural Initiatives

Student Leadership includes

- Chéamera Gaines Liwaru: UNO National Council of Negro Women President
- Jackie Lira: Association of Latino American Students President
- Hannah Vankat: Public Health Honor Society President
- Aya Yousuf: UNO Student Government College of Arts & Sciences Senator

Several award-winning Goodrich alums

- Bart Vargas: Omaha Entertainment and Arts Awards, Best 3-D Artist
- Destynie Sewell: CPACS Alumni Award for Excellence in Public Service
- Angel Starks: UNO Young Alumni Achievement Award, Greater Omaha Young Professionals Summit Chair
- Luis Lopez: 2018 Greater Omaha Chamber, Change Maker

Goodrich faculty

Todd Richardson: Alumni (CPACS) Teaching Award 2019 (through the UNO Alumni Association)

Goodrich faculty published research that included several invited or peer-reviewed articles in national or international journals and refereed or invited presentations at national or international conferences.

William Brennan Institute of Labor Studies

The William Brennan Institute for Labor Studies is continuing with its mission to provide the knowledge and skills required for Nebraska union leaders and members to be successful advocates for protecting and expanding meaningful democracy within Nebraska. Those programs include open enrollment classes for union members, contracted classes for individual unions and other labor organizations, as well as invited presentations at labor functions.

The Institute is also continuing to contract with labor organizations outside of Nebraska to share insights for helping union organizations outside of Nebraska. The number of opportunities to speak to the public about organized labor's role in humanizing the modern employment relationship continues to grow. Additionally, the Institute is entering a second year of collaborating with Metropolitan Community College and the Nebraska Center for Workforce Development and Education in the task of workforce preparedness.

As part of that charge, the Institute developed non-credit curricula for Metro's Department of Continuing Education in the areas of Labor History, Labor Economics, Labor and Political Engagement, and Understanding Collective Bargaining. The Institute is also helping with getting recruits from the Nebraska Center for Workforce Development and Education ready to teach the newly developed curricula.

School of Criminology and Criminal Justice

The School of Criminology and Criminal Justice (SCCJ) prides itself on delivering high quality education that emphasizes the critical role of science in informing criminal justice policy and practices. Our faculty members are actively engaged in research with our criminal justice agency and community partners in the Greater Nebraska area and across the U. S. Our goal is to be an innovative leader in providing a high quality, 21st century criminology and criminal justice education through research excellence and community engagement. This vision focuses on enhancing the learning opportunities available through the SCCJ while maintaining our position as a valuable and accessible resource for our community partners.

Retaining our prominent role as a well-respected leader among criminology and criminal justice programs is critically important and reliant upon the fantastic successes of our SCCJ alumni. Our reputation helps open additional doors for our students as they take their first steps as the next generation of criminal justice professionals. Our ongoing emphasis on delivering high quality education at the bachelors, masters and doctoral level has resulted in significant recognition as one of the most affordable programs, and one of best programs in the country. Opportunities for learning both inside and beyond the classroom are outstanding thanks to our broad network of partners. We are particularly proud of the U.S. News and World Report rankings that listed our online master's program 3rd in the country. Our bachelor's program received high accolades as well. Currently, we educate almost 900 undergraduate majors on the Omaha and Lincoln campuses, and over 100 graduate students in Omaha.

Striving for continued advancement, the SCCJ is engaging in important initiative to launch our first of four *Signature Areas of Excellence* focusing on Youth and Adult Victimization. Building upon our existing program strengths and community partnerships, we will broaden our student learning

opportunities in this area through new coursework, bolster our capacity for engaged research through the addition of two new faculty beginning fall 2018 and enhance our position as a resource to the greater Omaha community and beyond.

This year, we continue to experience growth among our faculty and students. The SCCJ was fortunate to add a new faculty member Dr. Justin Nix who is a nationally recognized expert in policing research. Students will have an increased opportunity to learn from and work with this rising star. We were also fortunate to receive a number of accolades achieved by students, alumni and faculty. This include a federally funded grant won by Dr. Ben Steiner and Dr. Joe Schwartz totaling almost \$900,000. Graduate students will also have the opportunity to participate in this important research. The National Institute of Justice funded these faculty members for a study that will better inform the field regarding the specific physiological reactions to stress among corrections professionals as we seek solutions to better prepare and protect our criminal justice workforce.

We deeply value the strong relationships with our alumni with SCCJ, many of whom are leading tremendously successful criminal justice careers including those that we honor tonight. These alumni remain engaged with our current students and faculty as representatives of their agency, as guest lecturers, by attending at our professional development events, as a participant in our fall golf tournament fundraising event, and attending our spring SCCJ Awards Luncheon. We are truly grateful for the strong support of our alumni base!

The Juvenile Justice Institute (JJI) was established in 2002. The main task of the Institute is to conduct research that will inform and promote best practices and policy for youth involved in our juvenile systems.

To accomplish this, JJI provides technical assistance and completes policy and program evaluations for state and local agencies, as well as private organizations. JJI also collaborates with policymakers, practitioners, criminal justice faculty to explore the most effective, practical juvenile justice strategies, and programs. The Institute encourages the development of future criminal justice professionals by providing students with unique educational and applied research opportunities.

CPACS Dean's Office

Several faculty members, research associates, and doctoral students received The “Inquiry Awards” (formerly called “Urban Research Awards”) in fall 2018. Please see the CPACS website for the full listing of all the awards since 2014. Following are the 2018-2019 recipients:

Inter-local Collaboration and Local Government

Principal Investigator: Dr. Carol Ebdon, School of Public Administration;
Co-Investigators: Dr. Sungho Park, University of Alabama; Dr. Craig Maher, School of Public Administration

Domestic Violence among Refugee Women in Nebraska: An Investigation and Response to the Local Needs

Principal Investigator: Dr. Jieru Bai, Grace Abbott School of Social Work
Co-Investigator: Betty Kola, Buoyant Family Services Counseling and Consulting

The Midlands LGBT Needs Assessment: Wave II

Principal Investigator: Liam Heerten-Rodriguez, PhD Candidate, MSW-Grace Abbott School of Social Work
Co-Investigators: Drs. Jay Irwin, Sofia Jawed-Wessel, MPH, Aja Kneip Pelster, MPH & Jason Coleman, MSPH

Exploring National Child Welfare Data for Nebraska Level Community Impact

Principal Investigator: Dr. Aaron Banman, Grace Abbott School of Social Work
Co-investigator: Nebraska Families and Children Foundation-Dr. Catherine Brown (UNO) and Clair Hoff, MPA-Assistant Vice President of Program Evaluation for Connected Youth Initiative

Contextual Influences of Neighborhood Disadvantage on Physical and Mental Health: An Examination of Genetic Susceptibility and Resilience in a Nationally Representative Study

Principal Investigator: Dr. Joseph Schwartz, School of Criminology and Criminal Justice

Co-investigator: Bradon A. Valgardson, M.A., Doctoral Student

Examining Context, Case Processes, and Outcomes of Incidents of Sexual Misconduct Reported to Title IX Coordinators at Nebraska Institutions of Higher Education

Principal Investigator: Dr. Tara Richards, School of Criminology and Criminal Justice

Co-investigator: Taylor Claxton, Doctoral Student

The Role of Specialty Courts in Addressing Human Trafficking Cases: A Policy Evaluation

Principal Investigator: Dr. Teresa C. Kulig, School of Criminology and Criminal Justice

The CPACS Diversity Committee composed of faculty, staff and students identify and support efforts that lead to a more inclusive and diverse culture within the 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

CPACS students led the charge this year by hosting events:

January 2019-“The Common Goal-Dialogue between Community Members of the Afro Identity”- Goodrich Scholars from Dr. Dan Wuebben’s course attended the event with invited panelists.

November 2018- “Decolonizing Higher Education for Native Americans in the 21st Century” – invited panelists discussed film clips with audience members regarding Native American issues and history.

April 2019-Cultural Affirmation Event- “Remember, Renew and Reinforce our Collective Strengths” including Office of Multicultural Affairs, Student Government, Student Affiliation Groups.

In 2018-2019, the college welcomed:

School of Public Administration, Aviation Institute - Chenyu (Victor) Huang (Faculty) and Eric Taylor (Faculty)

NASA Office - Amelia Tangeman (Grants Specialist)

Emergency Services Program - Nicole Allen (Student Services Associate)

School of Criminology and Criminal Justice - Dr. Mark Foxall (Faculty), Dr. Tara Richards (Faculty), Dr. Teresa Kulig (Faculty), Katelynn Towne (Research Coordinator)

Dr. Michael Campagna (Research Associate), Yves Bemba (Advisor), Sarah Nelson (Lincoln Office Assistant), Marcus Woodman (Lincoln Office Associate)

Division of Continuing Studies – Christine Billings (Director), April Paschall (Assistant Director Academic Affairs)

Grace Abbott School of Social Work – Liam Heerten-Rodriguez (Faculty), Lequisha Sims (Faculty Development), Natalie Floreani (Advisor)

Center for Public Affairs Research - Josie Schafer (Director), Chethan Miriyala – (Web Application Developer)

CPACS Tech Center - Jim Gustafson (Technical Assistant)

**Empowering Future Leaders,
Fostering Inclusive Collaboration and
Creating Innovative Solutions**

