



COLLEGE OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS & COMMUNITY SERVICE

ANNUAL REPORT: 2015 – 2016

The College of Public Affairs and Community Service (CPACS) was created in 1973 to ensure the university was responsive to the critical social needs of our community and state. The College was given the mission not only to provide educational programs of the highest caliber to prepare students for leadership in the public service, but also to reach out to the community to help solve public problems.

The College has become a national leader among similar colleges, with nine programs ranked in the top 25 in the nation. Our faculty ranks are among the finest in their disciplines. Faculty, staff, and students are integral to the community and the state because of our applied research, service learning, and community partnerships. We take our duty seriously to help address social needs and craft solutions to local, state and, national problems.

Table of Contents

School of Criminology and Criminal Justice.....	1
School of Public Administration.....	4
NASA Nebraska Space Grant & EPSCoR.....	6
Aviation Institute.....	7
Grace Abbott School of Social Work	8
Department of Gerontology.....	12
Division of Continuing Studies.....	16
Goodrich Scholarship Program.....	19
Center for Public Affairs Research.....	21
William Brennan Labor Studies Institute.....	24

SCHOOL OF CRIMINOLOGY & CRIMINAL JUSTICE

The 2015-16 academic year was a year of transition within the School of Criminology and Criminal Justice (SCCJ). Candice Batton, long-time director of the school, accepted new responsibilities as the Assistant Vice Chancellor of Academic and Student Affairs. Dr. Vincent Webb, a former SCCJ director, was employed on a part-time interim basis to provide leadership for the School and headed a search committee for a new permanent director. Dr. Gaylene Armstrong will take over as the permanent Director effective July 1, 2016. Dr. Armstrong holds a Ph.D. in Criminology from the University of Maryland and has a distinguished career as scholar, educator, and in university, community and professional service. She brings with her a wealth of experience, as she has previously held faculty and administrative positions at Arizona State University, Southern Illinois University, and Sam Houston State University.

MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

- Student enrollment in the School continues to increase. In the 2015-16 school year, the School served 850 undergraduate students, 68 master's students, 13 master's students seeking a dual degree in social work and criminal justice, and 27 doctoral students. These numbers represent an 8.4% increase in enrollment.
- The School continues to successfully serve undergraduate students seeking criminology and criminal justice degrees on two campuses (University of Nebraska Omaha and University of Nebraska Lincoln). The Lincoln program continues to see strong enrollment figures, with the number of students minoring in criminology and criminal justice doubling in the last year. Additionally, the CRCJ graduating class of May, 2015 was the largest in the history of the Lincoln program.
- Both the bachelor of science degree and the master of science degree can now be completed entirely online, providing for a wider audience of students.
- The online master of science program continues to grow and was ranked 18th by *U.S. News and World Report* among all criminal justice online graduate programs.
- The doctoral program is also internationally recognized and continues to be highly ranked by *U.S. News and World Report*.
- The School awarded its first Certificate of Managing Adult and Juvenile Populations in May. This certificate program, which can be completed entirely online, was created specifically to meet the needs of the State of Nebraska probation system.
- The School successfully hired three new faculty members that will begin the next academic year.
- Associate Professor 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, D.C. in October, 2015.

- Associate Professor Dr. Pete Simi has written a series of federally funded reports on 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.
- Assistant Professor Dr. Michael Walker has been in high demand as a guest lecturer, recently being invited to speak on his ethnographic research at Rutgers University, University of Minnesota, and the University of Wisconsin.
- Undergraduate students from Dr. Dennis Hoffman's Race, Ethnicity, and Criminal Justice class are participating in a P-16 service learning project in the spring semester. In this project, UNO students are collaborating with youth and professionals involved in the juvenile justice system. Through a series of interactions and ethnographic interviews, students are exploring perceptions of fairness among juvenile justice professionals. When the project is finished, the students will present research memos to the Douglas County Disproportionate Minority Contact Committee at a public meeting to be held in the CPACS Commons. The purpose of these reports are to provide useful data and insight to help reduce racial and ethnic disparities in the system. Doctoral students from Dr. Hoffman's Teaching Criminal Justice class are directing the undergraduates in the writing of the research memos.

SCHOLARLY PRODUCTIVITY:

Over the last year, SCCJ faculty have been actively engaged in traditional scholarly research as well as more applied collaborative research efforts with local and federal agencies. Our faculty have authored and/or co-authored 50 journal articles, 12 book chapters and two technical reports.

RESEARCH UNITS:

The School of Criminology and Criminal Justice houses two research units - the Nebraska Center for Justice Research (NCJR) and the Juvenile Justice Institute (JJI). Both the NCJR and the 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 and child welfare system.

The Juvenile Justice Institute is leading the implementation and evaluation of a new statewide data system that will track youth served and outcomes from state programs 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 funds for the state. Both research units increased their research capacity substantially and have tripled the number of researchers on staff this fiscal year.

HONORS, AWARDS AND RECOGNITION:

- Dr. John Crank was honored with the Award for Distinguished Research or Creative Activity in 2015. This award recognizes preeminent achievement in research by faculty members of the University of Nebraska Omaha.
- Faculty member Dr. Joe Schwartz, adjunct faculty member Bennie Shobe, and staff member Diane Dannelly were recognized by the UNL Parents Association for their contributions to students.
- Doctoral student Steven Windisch was awarded funding from the National Consortium for the Study of Terrorism and the Responses to Terrorism (START) for his project *Priming Events and Cognitive Shifts: The Process of Accepting Extremist Beliefs*.
- 2015 Graduate Student Organization Faculty Mentor of the Year Award was presented to Dr. Pete Simi.
- 2015 Staff Excellence Award was presented to Barbara Homer.
- 2015 Outstanding Graduate Student Award was presented to Trisha Rhodes.
- 2015 Outstanding Undergraduate Student Awards were presented to Grant Purcell and Jesse Sladky.
- 2015 CPACS Outstanding Alumni Award was presented to David Goering (Lincoln graduate).
- 2015 CPACS Outstanding Alumni Award was presented to Roxann Ryan (Omaha graduate).
- A total of 28 undergraduates were inducted into Alpha Phi Sigma, the national criminology/criminal justice honor society.

STUDENT SCHOLARSHIPS:

A total of 14 students majoring in criminology and criminal justice were awarded scholarship dollars to aid in the cost of their education. An additional four students were awarded monies to assist them in attending the School's annual London Study Abroad program. A new scholarship, the Deputy Chief Monroe Coleman Scholarship, was awarded for the first time this year. Funding for this scholarship was provided by the Black Police Officers Association of Omaha.

SCHOOL OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

The School of Public Administration is a national leader in public service education and the home of top-ten ranked academic programs with rigorous accreditation standards. We provide a range of academic degrees and professional certifications; we generate significant research that impacts government, industry and nonprofit organizations; and we engage students and faculty directly with relevant professional communities. The School is on the frontier of creating and transmitting knowledge. *Our goal is to be the best in the nation at what we do.*

NEW RANKINGS:

- The most significant accomplishment of this year was the 2017 *US News and World Report* rankings. The School of Public Administration is ranked in the top 25 best Public Affairs programs in the nation.
- #6 Public Finance and Budgeting
- #12 Nonprofit Management
- #15 City Management and Urban Policy
- #19 Public Management Administration
- #25 Master in Public Administration

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT PROGRAM:

- Dr. DeeDee Bennett joined the program as an assistant professor in August 2015.
- Lyndsey Rice was named UNO Employee of the Month.
- The first PhD student with an Emergency Management concentration will start this fall.
- The Tribal Management and the Emergency Services concentration and minor were approved.

MPA PROGRAM:

- The MPA program hosted 30 SPA alumni to help evaluate the Spring 2016 capstone projects by MPA students.
- Twenty-one students graduated in May.
- We restructured to better meet the needs of our students.

URBAN STUDIES PROGRAM:

- Dr. Robert Blair and Jerry Deichert received the Rural Futures Initiative Grant.
- In November the Urban Studies program and the SPA hosted the Urban Thinkers Campus, a program of the United Nations.
- Four students graduated in May.

PHD PROGRAM:

- Four PhD students graduated in May.

- Jim Harrold was chosen to speak at commencement.
- The largest cohort ever of PhD students will start this fall.

PROFESSIONAL PROGRAMS:

- Over 1,000 will be attending the International Institute of Municipal Clerks Conference in Omaha this May.
- Dr. Mary Hamilton was elected Chair of the National Certified Public Manager Consortium.
- The Nebraska Municipal Clerk School and Academy held a mini-session in March with nearly 75 participants.
- The Nebraska chapter of the American Society for Public Administration presented these awards:
 - State Senator Tanya Cook, Outstanding Elected Official
 - Dan Berlowitz, Bellevue City Administrator, Outstanding Public Administrator
 - Teela, Mickles, Founder and CEO of Compassion in Action, Outstanding Nonprofit Administrator

SCHOLARLY PUBLICATIONS:

- Faculty produced 49 publications this academic year.

GRANTS AND CONTRACTS:

- The total amount of grants received this academic year by faculty members was **\$1,315,239**.

AWARDS:

- Dr. Angela Eikenberry received the 2016 Award for Distinguished Research or Creative Activity.
- Dr. Carol Ebdon received Best Presentation on Local Government Transformation in Lithuania.
- Dr. Craig Maher was selected as a Fellow for the Center for Great Plains Studies.

ONGOING RESEARCH:

- Dr. Chris Reed continues research with the NU Daugherty Water for Food Institute.
- Dr. Bryce Hoflund and PhD student, Megan McGuffey received an Urban Research Grant for food policy study.
- The Global Digital Governance Lab partnered with Huazhong University in China.

EVENTS:

- The Bill Anderson Fund (BAF) Workshop was held at UNO April 15-16, 2016.
- Tribal Management and Emergency Services will host the Language Preservation Conference in Summer 2016.

SERVICE TO THE STATE:

- The Nebraska State and Local Government Finance Lab was created.
- Dr. Craig Maher presented to the Nebraska Legislative Planning Committee on school finance.

COMMUNITY SERVICE:

- SPA faculty and staff devoted **1,800+** hours to community engagement efforts this year.

NASA NEBRASKA SPACE GRANT & EPSCoR

NASA NEBRASKA SPACE GRANT CONSORTIUM:

The National Space Grant College and Fellowship program enters its 25th year as a national network of more than 1000 colleges, universities, and other affiliates. We work to expand opportunities and interest in aeronautics and space projects by supporting science and engineering education, research, and public outreach. The Space Grant funds fellowships for students pursuing careers in science, technology, and engineering fields, as well as students exploring faculty and student research projects, and curriculum enhancement. The grant is administered in partnership with ten other higher education institutions across the state.

HIGHLIGHTS:

- Hosted a section of the Nebraska Academy of Sciences.
- Awarded funding from NASA's Science Mission Directorate.
- Supporting the payload integration of an experiment manifested for the SpaceX launch in November, 2016.
- Funding seven interns this summer at Ames Research Center.
- Piloting space science camp opportunities for students living in small, rural communities.
- Dr. Scott Tarry oversees several NASA grants, totaling over \$1 million annually.

AVIATION INSTITUTE

The Aviation Institute is a nationally recognized leader in developing tomorrow's aviation professionals. Awarded the prestigious Loening Trophy in 2012, the Aviation Institute continues to lead collegiate aviation in ways that measurably enhances the lives of our students and others we serve through our instructional, research, and service programs.

The Bachelor of Science in Aviation, Air Transport Administration concentration is accredited through the Aviation Accreditation Board International. We have community partnerships with: Alfonza Davis Middle School, Omaha Burke High School, Mid-America Council, Nebraska Business Aviation Association, and national partnerships with Envoy Air, ExpressJet Airlines, and the University Aviation Association.

HIGHLIGHTS:

- Celebrated our 25th Anniversary.
- Enrollments up 10.9% over Spring 2015.
- Hired Lowell "Skip" Bailey as Flight Coordinator.
- Students attended Women in Aviation International conference in Nashville and the University Aviation Association Policy Seminar in Washington, DC.
- Students awarded national scholarships for American Airlines and International Society of Transport Aircraft Trading.
- UNO Flight Team competed extremely well in the Regional competition and will go to National Competition at Ohio State University in May.
- The Aviation Institute will host the 2016 University Aviation Association conference in October.
- Scott Vlassek serves on the UNO Alumni Association Board of Directors.

GRACE ABBOTT SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK

- A Community Chair Professorship was awarded in collaboration with the Buffett Institute for Early Childhood Education and endowed by the Weitz Family Foundation.
- A new MSW cohort program was developed at the request of community child welfare agencies for professionals of the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), Nebraska Families Collaboration (NFC) and Project Harmony. DHHS employees will be funded by federal Title IV-E funds, with five students in the Omaha cohort and five in the off-campus program located at University Nebraska Kearney; ten students are funded through a private donor. All students will contract to repay the tuition stipend by continued service in the child welfare system following graduation with an MSW degree. The program was developed and will be overseen by a committee of administrators from Project Harmony, DHHS and NFC and GASSW administration. The cohort program will be offered with online and weekend courses to allow the students to continue full time employment beginning in August 2016.
- Title IV-E funds will be used to pay tuition assistance for five BSW students, to be selected in August 2016. This will be the first use of IV-E funds for social work education in Nebraska.
- Dr. Kerry Beldin was awarded the Alumni Outstanding Teaching Award for CPACS.
- Dianne Hendricks MSW was awarded the CPACS Alumni Award from GASSW.
- Barbara Weitz was awarded the Herbert Locke award, the highest award from CPACS.
- BSW students Natalie Shanahan, Carly Conrad and Yvonne Miller were student honors awardees.
- GASSW formally affiliated with Behavioral Health Education Center of Nebraska (BHECN) to increase the behavioral health provider workforce in Nebraska with social work as a targeted program.
- PhD candidate Cecilie Revheim-Rafaelsen from the University of Adgar, Norway was hosted by GASSW from April 11-29, 2016; she attended the Project Harmony Speaking of Children Conference, met with faculty and community agency staff in child welfare, and met with Dr. Maha Younes of the UNK Department of Social Work. She was hosted by Project Harmony for ten full days of training and overview of the Nebraska child welfare system, in addition to Project Everlast and UNO's Support and Training for the Evaluation of Programs (STEPS) and Service Learning Academy.

2015-16 SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED:

GASSW awarded \$15,300 in scholarship funds to 11 BSSW students and \$16,900 to nine MSW students, totaling \$32,200 for 2015-16. The average scholarship amount for an undergraduate student was \$1,390 and for a graduate student, \$1,877. Criteria for scholarship eligibility are considered based upon credit hours completed, GPA, financial need, students' future plans, and bilingual abilities. Scholarships are awarded and publically acknowledged at an afternoon reception held at the Thompson Alumni Center.

Enrollment AY 2015-16	
BSSW	
Current Students	83
Graduating	29
Admitted Fall 2016	45
MSW at UNK	
Current Students	42
Graduating	15
Admitted Fall 2016	28
MSW at UNO	
Current Students	220
Graduating	61
Admitted Fall 2016	133

Practicum AY 2015-16	
Fall 2015	
Practicum Students	111
Total Practicum Hours	30,464
Spring 2016	
Practicum Students	87
Total Practicum Hours	24,320
Summer 2016	
Practicum Students	75
Total Practicum Hours	24,576
Total for AY 2015-16	
Practicum Students	273
Total Practicum Hours	79,360

FACULTY AND STAFF:

- Graduate assistants Clair Rynearson and graduate assistant Michael Steingas worked for us in 2015-16.
- Dr. Karen Rolf and Dr. Nancy Kelley Gillespie were on faculty development leave.
- Liam Heerten-Rodriguez joined the faculty in August 2015.
- Academic advisor Kaleigh Rogers is leaving in May 2016, and Andrew Aleman became the MSW advisor in April 2016.
- Dr. Keyonna King joined STEPS as a program evaluator.

Faculty Service and Research Activities	
Department Service	62
University Service	30
Professional Service	27
Public Service	53
Presentations	15
Intellectual Contributions	18

FACULTY RESEARCH INCLUDING FUNDED GRANTS AND CONTRACTS FROM:

- In the second year of 3-year grant of \$1.3 million funded by the Health Resources and Service Administration, U.S. HHS.

- Heartland Family Service (evaluator for U.S., Administration of Children, Youth and Families, Children's Bureau, Discretionary Grant)
- Nebraska Families Collaborative (evaluator for U.S., Administration of Children, Youth and Families, Children's Bureau, Discretionary Grant)
- Service learning development grant
- Avenue Scholars Foundation
- Nebraska Court Appointed Special Advocates Association (CASA)
- Nebraska Children's Home Society
- Greater Omaha Attendance and Learning Services (GOALS) Center
- Phoenix Academy
- United Way of the Midlands / Financial Success Program
- Children's Scholarship Fund
- Region 6 Behavioral Health
- Urban Research grant
- Omaha Community Foundation
- UNO/OPS Summer Works program
- Professional Transgender Resource Network grant for GenderWorks conference
- Behavioral Health Education Center of Nebraska Select Training Program

EDITORIAL BOARDS AND COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIPS:

- Association of Social Work Boards
- Foundation for Consumer Education and Research in Regulatory Practice
- Editorial Board Member and Reviewer, *The Gerontologist*
- National Association of Social Workers – Iowa
- Human Service Advisory Council
- American Foundation for Suicide Prevention
- Metro Area Local Outreach to Suicide Survivors Team
- Association for Gerontology in Higher Education (AGHE)
- International Society for Quality of Life Studies (ISQOL)
- Association for Gerontological Education in Social Work (AGE-SW)
- National Association of Social Workers (NASW)
- Gerontological Society of America (GSA)
- Council on Social Work Education (CSWE)
- Society for Social Work Research (SSWR)
- National Alliance for the Mentally Ill (NAMI)-Nebraska
- Advisory Council, Behavioral Health Education Center of Nebraska
- Health Equipment Loan Program Adult Services
- Nebraska Family Support Network

UNO SERVICE:

- University of Nebraska at Omaha Faculty Senate.
- Workload Balance Work Group.
- Graduate Research and Creative Activity Committee (GRACA), Office of Research and Creative Activity.
- University Wide Departmental Teaching Award committee chair.
- A newly released documentary was shown on campus to highlight awareness of the plight of Native Americans in/near Whiteclay Nebraska: "Sober Indian | Dangerous Indian" The filmmaker, John Maisch, met with classes and hosted a panel discussion after the film showing.
- Successful Service Learning Strategies; Faculty development workshop sponsored by the Service Learning Academy.
- University of Nicaragua at Leon; we continue to help deliver their MSW program.
- More than 80 faculty and students attended Nebraska Legislative Day in March 2016.
- Twenty-five new members joined the Phi Alpha Honor Society.

DEPARTMENT OF GERONTOLOGY

KEY HIGHLIGHTS:

The Department welcomed two new faculty members:

- Dr. Janelle Beadle, Assistant Professor.
- Dr. Narissa Scales, RD, Instructor.

RESEARCH:

Faculty authored nine journal articles, book chapters and technical reports on the following topics:

- *Older adults training needs and preferences for everyday technologies.*
- *Alcohol and Cognition.*
- *The Aging Personality and Self: Diversity and Health Issues.*
- *Cognitive aging and cognitive training.*
- *Measuring resilience in two generations: Psychometric properties of available instruments.*
- *Buddies Forever: A preliminary evaluation for Vetter Health Services.*
- *Delivery of Public Programs and Services for the Elderly.*
- *Preparing Corrections Staff for the Future: Results of a two-day training on aging inmates.*
- *Suicidal thoughts and emotion competence.*

CONFERENCE PAPERS/PRESENTATIONS INCLUDED:

- *Gender, BMI, and Cognition Relationships in the Seattle Longitudinal Study.*
- *Couples Cognition: Association of Individual and Spousal Characteristics from the Seattle Longitudinal Study.*
- *Social and Behavioral Factors Associated with Alcohol Consumption in Middle-aged and Older Adults.*
- *Individual Characteristics Associated with Emotional Complexity.*
- *In Memory of Colin Hayes: The Benefit of a Death Plan for Students.*
- *Improving quality of life for persons with dementia: Developing a model for competency-based training for formal and informal caregivers.*
- *How do gerontologists anticipate aging and experience aging?*
- *Assisted living: State training requirements for direct care workers.*
- *Community Engaged Scholarship and Service Learning in RPT: Models for the Process of Institutional Change.*
- *Pilot for using faculty development to advance structuring the scholarship of engagement into RPT processes.*

- *From Salute to Embrace: Leveraging Existing Support to Enhance CES Reach, Diversity, and Impact.*
- *Staffing a Multidisciplinary Gerontology Program for Success: Adding a Biologist.*

STUDENTS:

Program growth continues at both the undergraduate and graduate level.

- We have 128 undergraduate minors at UNO and UNL.
- We have 77 undergraduate and graduate certificate students and 15 students pursuing the PhD specialization in Gerontology.
- We have 40 students in the Masters in Social Gerontology, a 47% increase.
- We publicized our programs at the American Society on Aging Conference in Washington, DC, the Home Instead convention and Leading Age of Nebraska.
- Advisors have been actively involved at recruiting events in Omaha, Lincoln and throughout Nebraska.
- We were part of a week-long program on career planning at Westside High School in 2016.

AWARDS:

- Dr. Julie Boron received an award for UNMC's Center for Biomedical Research Excellence.
- Dr. Janelle Beadle was named the Vada Kinman Oldfield Scholar in Alzheimer's disease.
- Dr. Janelle Beadle is the recipient of a National Science Foundation grant to attend the 10th annual summer neuroscience workshop.
- Dr. Janelle Beadle received the 2016 Instructional Facility Grant with Dr. Jeff French, Department of Psychology.
- Lisa Hild was the recipient of our departmental award at the Student Honors Program.
- Lyn Holley continued her work as a Service Learning Fellow.
- Dr. Dee Aguilar and Janet Miller received the 2016 Gerontology Alumni Award.

INTERGENERATIONAL SERVICE LEARNING COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS:

- Blackburn Alternative High School
- Adams Park Senior Center
- Intercultural Senior Center
- OPS Native Indigenous Cultural Excellence Program at Liberty Elementary School
- Nebraska Urban Indian Health Coalition
- Ralston Middle School Character in Action After School Program
- Juan Diego Community Center
- Lewis and Clark Middle School GIVE After School Program
- AARP Omaha Information Center
- OPS Mandarin Language Program
- Omaha Chinese Community Association

COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS IN NEBRASKA:

- American Association of Retired Persons
- Aging Legislative Coalition
- Aging Partners

- AseraCare Hospice Foundation Board
- Community 360 Board of Directors
- Elder Rights Coalition
- Eastern Nebraska Office on Aging Advisory Council
- Florence Home – Board of Directors
- Home Instead Center for Successful Aging Advisory Council
- Nebraska State Unit on Aging
- Nebraska Transportation Coalition
- Office of Public Guardian
- Partnerships in Caregiving
- Tabitha Health Care
- Vetter Health Services
- Westside High School Center for Advanced Professional Studies

UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA SYSTEM PARTNERSHIPS:

- UNO Program in Biomechanics
- UNMC Department of Geriatrics, Department of Psychiatry and College of Nursing
- UNL College of Law and Department of Interior

SERVICE TO THE PROFESSION:

- Editorial Boards: *Journals of Gerontology: Series B, Psychological Sciences, Current Psychology, and Journal of Applied Gerontology.*
- Treasurer, Southern Gerontological Society.
- Accreditation Task Force Committee, Association for Gerontology in Higher Education.

COMMUNITY PRESENTATIONS:

- Aging Today: Western Nebraska.
- Intergenerational Shifts: Looking at aging in a different way--a series on the demographic changes in Nebraska and beyond. Osher Lifelong Learning Institute, Lincoln, NE.
- The Obvious and Not so Obvious Benefits of Caregiving, Northeast Nebraska Respite, North Platte, NE.
- Train your Brain for a Healthier and Happier Life, Aging Partners, Lincoln, NE.
- Resiliency for Elders: Omaha Public Library – Sorensen Branch.
- The Future Self: Physicians Mutual and Westside Center for Advanced Professional Studies.
- An update on direct care workforce in the United States. Omaha Kiwanis Club.
- Assisted living administrator training. Nebraska Health Care Association, Lincoln, NE.
- Elder abuse. Eastern Nebraska Office on Aging, Omaha, NE.
- Direct care workforce issues in Nebraska. Nebraska State Aging Task Force, Lincoln, NE.
- Training for Associate Public Guardians in Nebraska. Nebraska State Office of Public Guardian, Lincoln, NE.

- Stress management and work-life balance, Eastern Nebraska Office on Aging, Omaha, NE.
- Resiliency in the Lives of Elders: A model for thriving. Aging Partners Thrive Festival, Lincoln, NE.
- Dealing with the Stressors and Guilt of Caregiving. Lincoln Caregiver Coalition, Lincoln, NE.
- The Grace and Value of End of Life Planning, EngAge Wellness, Omaha, NE.

COMMUNITY EVENTS:

- Dr. Chuck Powell Memorial Lecture Series: Jane Miller, Gallup Corporation
- CEO Roundtable Event, September 2015
- Aging with Passion and Purpose, October 2015 – featuring Libby Sartain and Glenn Van Eckeran, Vetter Health Services
- Begin with the End in Mind – March and April, 2016

SIGMA PHI OMEGA HONORARY SOCIETY:

- Be a Santa to a Senior: The sixth year of partnering with Home Instead Senior Care in obtaining holiday gifts for home-bound elders.
- Athletes and Elders: The sixth year of coordinating with UNO Athletics, Community 360 and area assisted living facilities in connecting student athletes with elders.
- Intergenerational Poetry Contest Winners Reception and Poetry Slam.

DIVISION OF CONTINUING STUDIES

UNO's online Bachelor of General Studies (BGS) degree is nationally ranked by *U.S. News & World Report's* 2015 Edition of Best Online Education Programs.

BACHELOR OF GENERAL STUDIES (BGS) DEGREE:

- The BGS degree is ranked #15 in the nation for military and veteran students by *U. S. News & World Report* (2016) and 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 total enrollment to 1309.
- During the 2015 calendar year, 330 students graduated with a BGS degree.
- A new Area of Concentration in Public Policy Studies was established in the BGS degree.
- During the 2015 calendar year, 4366 academic advising appointments were held in the Division of Continuing Studies (DCS).
- The process of changing the names of the BGS degree and DCS was successfully completed at the college level and continues at the university level. The proposed new names are:
 - Bachelor of Multidisciplinary Studies (BMS) degree
 - Division of Multidisciplinary Studies (DMS)

BGS STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS:

- Initiation for *Alpha Sigma Lambda*, the National Honor Society for Continuing Education and Lifelong Learning, was held on Friday, November 6, 2015 during National Nontraditional Students Week. Twenty-eight students were initiated into the UNO/DCS Eta Beta Chapter. Vanessa Hatfield-Reeker, UNO Senior Transfer Admissions Counselor, was inducted as an Honorary Member.
- Eleven BGS degree students were recognized at the 2016 UNO Student Honors Convocation and the DCS Outstanding Students Awards Luncheon. BGS student, Joseph McGuire, received the CPACS Dean's Award for the Division of Continuing Studies.
- Dean's List Fall 2015: 130 BGS Students
- Chancellor's List Fall 2015: 30 BGS Students
- The DCS Ambassadors student group successfully completed its second year of existence. Advised by several DCS staff members, the Ambassadors assisted with recruitment and outreach events; participated in community service events; assisted with DCS and UNO programs; participated in leadership development activities; and provided feedback about the UNO and DCS experience. The DCS Ambassadors Graduation Banquet was held in April 2016 to recognize and thank the graduating students. Members for the 2016-17 academic year have been selected and this third group of Ambassadors is off to a strong and solid start.
- During *National Nontraditional Students Week*, DCS honored the hard work and accomplishments of adult students at UNO with academic support programs, daily refreshments, prizes, and student

recognition. BGS student winners of a drawing had the opportunity to enjoy lunch with Chancellor Christensen and Senior Vice Chancellor Reed.

- James F. Bard, Jr. (Bootstrapper) and Karine Sokpoh each received the 2016 DCS Distinguished Alumni Award.

DIVISION OF CONTINUING STUDIES (DCS) STAFF ACHIEVEMENTS:

- The UNO/DCS Offutt AFB Office, part of the Base Education entity, relocated to a new office space and building on base.
- The DCS Studies Offutt Office administered 1,140 CLEP and DSST exams in 2015.
- DCS placed second in UNO's 2015 Annual Homecoming Office Decorating Contest.
 - As a result of DCS-sponsored courses (online, at Offutt AFB, and off-campus) offered to all UNO students during the 2015 calendar year, 21,294 student credit hours were produced. Total UNO enrollment in DCS-sponsored online courses during 2016 equaled 6254.
- DCS led campus-wide efforts to organize and co-sponsor UNO's second Etiquette Dinner presented by nationally known etiquette expert and modern manners authority, Diane Gottsman.
- DCS began the process of digitizing student files and their contents. Eventually, all files will be electronic.
- The DCS advising team developed an electronic worksheet to replace the hard (paper) copy of a student's BGS program of study.
- The "Transformative Teaching and Learning Initiative," a professional development program created by Dr. Jaci Lindburg for DCS adjuncts, will be available to all UNO adjuncts at the campus/university level.
- Dr. Gina Toman received the 2016 Chancellor's Commission on the Status of Women (CCSW) Outstanding Achievement Award.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT / STAFF UPDATES:

- During the 2015-16 academic year, DCS participated in professional development opportunities (conferences, webinars, meetings, etc.) offered by the following organizations:
 - Council of College and Military Educators (CCME)
 - National Academic Advising Association (NACADA)
 - University Professional and Continuing Education Association (UPCEA)
 - National Association of Student Personnel Administrators (NASPA)
 - College Student Educators International (ACPA)
 - National Institute for the Study of Transfer Students (NISTS)
 - Omaha Young Professional (YP) Summit
 - UNO Nebraska Business Development Center (NBDC)
 - National Orientation Directors Association (NODA)
 - National Conference on Students in Transition
 - Career Track Fred Pryor Seminars
 - Journal of Career Development
 - University of Nebraska Lincoln | Women in Educational Leadership Conference (WELC)

- Joe McGuire, Abhinay Bijjala, and Ella Powell were hired as DCS Student Employees. Joe and Ella are BGS students.
- Emily LaPorte was hired as Staff Assistant/Test Administrator at the UNO/DCS Offutt Office.
- Amy Johnson was promoted to Program Coordinator.

RECRUITMENT AND OUTREACH:

- DCS participated in numerous recruitment and outreach events to promote the BGS degree and UNO. The following events were co-sponsored by various UNO departments:
 - Bellevue Riverfest
 - Spring into Action
 - Midtown Crossing | End of Summer Concert Series
 - Bellevue Earth Day
 - Bellevue Veterans Day Parade
 - Oregon Trail Days
 - Downtown Farmers Market
 - Aksarben Farmers Market
 - Cinco de Mayo in South Omaha
 - UNO Dual Enrollment Events
 - Metropolitan Community College (MCC) Week
 - Company Education Fairs (Ameristar, Nebraska Furniture Mart)
 - Society of Human Resource Management (SHRM) Conference
 - Aksarben Farmers Market

GOODRICH SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

ACADEMICS, COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT, AND LEADERSHIP:

- The sixth year graduation rate for 2009 cohort was 61% compared to 44% for UNO.
- Our 2014-15 freshman/sophomore retention rate was 96% compared to 77% for UNO.
- Spring 2015 semester:
 - Dean's List: 123 Goodrich students
 - Chancellor's List: 33 Goodrich students
- Fall 2015 semester:
 - Dean's List: 120 Goodrich students
 - Chancellor's List: 22 Goodrich students
- One student was awarded the US Department of State Gilman International Scholarship.
- Antonio Campbell was awarded the 2016 National Newman Civic Fellow.
- Three students were awarded a Fund for Undergraduate Scholarly Experiences (FUSE) grant.
- One student was accepted into UNMC's Summer Medical and Dental Education Program (SMDEP).
- Two major undergraduate Honorees:
 - SCCJ major Rafael Gutierrez via Goodrich
 - Physics/Philosophy major Benjamin Hayworth via Philosophy
- Twenty-eight Goodrich students graduated with a 3.5 or higher cumulative GPA.

COLLABORATING WITH PARTNERSHIP FOR KIDS (P4K):

- Fourth Annual Futures Fair with p4k, where we engaged approximately 200 8th graders from various middle schools including Lewis and Clark, Marrs, Monroe, Norris and McMillan.

92% of the students served by Partnership 4 Kids programs qualify for free and reduced lunch, an indicator that their families are living at or below the federal poverty line.

The average median household income of the students served by p4k is \$33,593. This is 63% of the median household income for Omaha.

The racial composition of p4k students is mixed, African American and Hispanic compose the majority of students:

African American	49%
Hispanic	27%
Caucasian	12%
Other	12%

STUDENT ACTIVITIES:

- Four Goodrich students participated in a pilot internship program with Boys Town.
- Five students were provided stipends through the Stephenson-Harrington internship.

- One student served as a UNO Global Diplomat.
- Goodrich Rural Nebraska Service Learning Initiative with Faculty-Led Learning will be held this May in Elmwood, NE.
- Goodrich sponsored a Study Abroad in Costa Rica with Faculty-Led Learning by Troy Romero.
- Goodrich (active) alumni connections:
 - 2016 Sophomore Awards Luncheon keynoter: Shonna Dorsey.
 - GoodrichNet Alumni Speakers included: Bobby Loud, Jermaine Ballard, and Hannah Gill.
 - Our alumni contributors continue to grow.
- Goodrich Organization (GO!) Outreach included: Adopt-A-Family for Big Brothers and Big Sisters of the Midlands, Big Brothers and Big Sisters Bowl-A-Thon, Mav Food Pantry, and Mentor Program.
- StrengthsFinder Initiative began using assessment tool.

2015-16 STUDENT GOVERNMENT LEADERSHIP:

2015	Emily	Bradley	College of Arts & Sciences Senator/Sustainability Committee Chair
2015	Lyle	Kwiatkowski	UNO Ambassador Recruitment Coordinator
2015	Tyler	English	College of Business Senator/Campus Improvement Committee
2015	An	Nguyen	College of Education Senator/Sustainability Committee
2015	Alexandria	Hilliard	CPACS Senator/Campus Improvement Committee
2015	Emily	Bradley	Arts & Sciences Senator
2016	Emily	Bradley	UNO Student Body Vice President
2016	Andrea	Hardesty	Freshman Leadership Council
2016	Jamaih	Tyndall	GO! President
2016	Chéamera	Gaines Liwaru	Freshman Leadership Council
2016	Jimmy	Nguyen	Dodge Campus Housing Student Senator
2016	Jimmy	Nguyen	Freshman Leadership Council

FACULTY PRODUCTIVITY:

- Scholarly contributions included two grants (one external and one internal), four peer-reviewed publications, eight peer-reviewed national or regional conference presentations, and one academic honor, in addition to their pedagogy and community engagement output.

GREAT STAFF:

- Gratitude to our staff because without their daily dedication our everyday student-centered operations would be far less effective and less efficient.

CENTER FOR PUBLIC AFFAIRS RESEARCH

The Center for Public Affairs Research (CPAR) is the lead agency for the Nebraska State Data Center (NSDC) program. In recognition of its "outstanding contributions" to the national State Data Center network, the Nebraska State Data Center was awarded the 2016 Gustafson Award.

NEW EMPLOYEES:

Dr. Lissette Aliaga-Linares (Joint appointment with Department of Sociology).

Aaron Mack, Erin Skoog, and Sharath Boppudi (working on transit grants). We are renting space at the Innovation Campus in Lincoln.

STATE DATA CENTER PROGRAM:

- Managed the NSDC program consisting of a network of 23 state and local agencies throughout the state.
- facebook.com/unocpar--We post most days and have 380 likes, but posts often reach several hundred additional people with our work and insight.
- Prepared special reports, data tables, and power point presentations using the 2010 Census, American Community Survey, intercensal estimates and other sources and placed them on CPAR's website. (<http://www.unomaha.edu/cpar/>)
- CPAR's homepage had 1,879 page views between April 14, 2015, and April 13, 2016.
- Sponsored the 26th Annual Data Users Conference. For the fifth consecutive year we used Adobe Connect. We had 235 in-person and 30 web participants from throughout Nebraska and the U.S. The 27th Annual Data Users Conference is scheduled for Wednesday, August 17th in the CPACS Building. Mark your calendars and plan to attend.
- Worked on numerous Census-related projects including:
 - Analyzed increases in Black/African American educational attainment over time.
- Worked with state media including numerous other newspapers and with radio and TV stations on demographic information from the census and other sources. Made 20+ data-related presentations throughout the state with more than 800 contacts.
- Presented to numerous classes within CPACS and UNO on using Census and other data.
- Responded to approximately 400 information requests from throughout the state and nation, although mostly from the Omaha area. Many of these requests are from the offices of Nebraska state legislators. CPACS Diversity Initiative

CPAR was established in 1963 as the Center for Urban Studies. Its initial mission was to address urban problems and information needs. During the past year, we worked with CPACS, other UNO faculty and staff and community organizations that have similar interests in the issues of diversity and social problems. With funding provided by the CPACS Dean's Office, we administered and helped select 10 Urban Research grants for CPACS faculty and staff, many working with community partners.

APPLIED RESEARCH:

- **Nebraska Legislature's Planning Committee**

- *Nebraska Legislature's Planning Committee 2015 Report: Database* (with Public Administration and Dean's Office for the sixth year).
- *Nebraska Legislature's Planning Committee 2015 Report: Policy Briefs* (with CPACS and other NU faculty)
- *Selected Characteristics for Nebraska Legislative Districts from the 2010-2014 American Community Survey*
- *Selected Characteristics for Nebraska Counties from the 2010-2014 American Community Survey*
- *Nebraska Legislative District Quick Facts*
- *Selected Characteristics for Census Tracts in Douglas, Sarpy, Lancaster and Hall Counties, Nebraska, from the 2010-2014 American Community Survey*
- *Provided information to Aging Nebraskans Task Force and Intergenerational Task Force on Poverty Task Force*

- Completed Population Projections by Gender and Age to 2050 for all 93 Nebraska counties.
- Completed the 2016 update of the Nebraska Energy Burden Study.
- Funded research with other CPACS, UNO, and NU faculty
 - Nebraska Rural Transit NU Development and Support Grant
 - Rural Futures Institute, Catalyzing the Role of Micropolitan America in the Future of Rural America
 - Health Resources and Service Administration, Project Network

- Other funded research: US Department of Transportation, Fast Forward Electronic Media

- **Proposals submitted with other CPACS, UNO, and NU faculty**

- Evaluation of Basic Youth Education Program in Rural India (not funded)
- Development of a Community Power-Structure Model and Database in Omaha (under review)

CPAR PUBLICATION ARCHIVE:

The CPAR publication archive is available at <http://digitalcommons.unomaha.edu/cpar>. All publications have either been uploaded or have been submitted for inclusion. We have a total of 589 documents currently available; receiving 6,225 downloads between May 2015 and April 2016.

Materials from Annual Data Users Conference for the past six years are at <http://digitalcommons.unomaha.edu/datausers>. There are 57 documents included in this collection; receiving 127 downloads between May 2015 and April 2016.

SURVEY RESEARCH:

- CPAR staff provided technical assistance and advice on conducting surveys to CPACS and UNO faculty and students, nonprofit, and government agencies.

CPACS SUPPORT:

- Coordinated the Certificate in Fundraising Management. The 2015-2016 session was the 16th year CPAR has offered the program. All 12 classes offered this year were sold out (18 participants) and had waiting lists. There were 81 unique participants, most taking multiple courses. Five participants received the Certificate in Fall 2015 and six participants are expected to receive the Certificate in Spring 2016. Almost 200 people have earned the certificate since it began in 1994.
- CPACS Web Asset Technical Support:
 - Manage Certificate in Fundraising Management websites.
 - Manage four non-CPAR websites (CPACS, WBILS, Bibliophiles, Omaha Poets Place).
 - Administer user accounts and troubleshoot issues in CMS.
 - Conduct CMS training for new users (seven sessions held during past year).
 - Manage CPACS News Center and CPACS Facebook.
 - Moderate NASPAA list serve.
- Planning Committee, Aging with Passion & Purpose Conference.

CONSORTIUM FOR ORGANIZATIONAL RESEARCH AND EVALUATION (CORE):

Completed:

- Strategic Action Plan for Lancaster County, Nebraska Board.
- Omaha Public Library, 2-year evaluation of Community Engagement: Creating a Culture of Collaboration funded by the Institute for Museum and Library Services (IMLS).
- Nebraska Urban Indian Health Coalition: Year-4 Evaluation: Community Substance-Abuse Survey and Capacity-Building Assessment.
- Sixth year of Nebraska Urban Indian Health Coalition: Evaluation of Methamphetamine and Suicide Prevention Program.

In Progress:

- Nebraska Urban Indian Health Coalition: Evaluation Alcohol, Tobacco and Other Drug-Abuse Prevention and Treatment Program (ATOD) Year-5, an evaluation of a continuing substance-abuse prevention.
- The Impacts of Gun and Neighborhood Violence on Public Health: Views of Victims and Witnesses (A Multi-Media Documentary Program).
- Native American Drug Free Communities.

WILLIAM BRENNAN LABOR STUDIES INSTITUTE

During the last year, the Brennan Institute has begun to create a labor law resource guide that we hope will be used in high schools across the state. Approximately 90 percent of high school students will eventually become employees: people who sell their intelligence, experience, and strength to employers to earn a living. Unfortunately for the most part, a comprehensive picture of the labor laws that create employee rights and safeguards is largely missing from the K-12 curriculum. If people are not aware of their rights, if they don't know the history of how they were established, if they don't know how to assert their rights when they are violated, those rights can be lost with little outcry. This labor law guide is an attempt to fill the void.

The April 2016 edition of our Promoting the General Welfare conference featured Lily Eskelsen Garcia's keynote. Lily is the President of the nation's largest labor union, the National Education Association. Her presentation laid out why public education is a public good. Other presenters spoke about racial and social justice, the importance of adequately funding all levels of government, and the importance of building coalitions and alliances to raise levels of social and economic well-being in our state and nation.

We contacted several UNO academic departments highlighting the opportunities available to faculty who may want to have presentations on the role that labor unions played and continue to play in helping everyday wage earners gain a meaningful say in jointly determining their future quality of life. As the year progressed, more and more opportunities presented themselves, and we hope the requests continue to grow.

COURSE OFFERINGS, PRESENTATIONS AND PARTICIPANT SUMMARY:

CONTRACTED CLASSES	
Number of Courses	13
Number of Participants	453
INVITED PRESENTATIONS	
Number of Presentations	31
Number of Participants	1,740
OPEN	
Number of Courses	2
Number of Participants	100
GRAND TOTAL	
Number of Courses	46
Number of Participants	2,293

EDUCATIONAL PRESENTATIONS:

Unions Served

- American Association of University Professors (AAUP) UNO Chapter
- American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME) Local 2991
- Bakery, Confectionery, Tobacco Workers and Grain Millers International Union (BCTGM) Local 50G
- Boilermakers Local 83
- Bricklayers Local 16
- International Association of Fire Fighters District 7
- International Association of Fire Fighters-Affiliate Leadership Training Seminar (ALTS)
- International Association of Machinists (IAMAW) Local 31
- International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW) Local 22
- International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW) 763
- International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW) 1579
- International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW) 1521
- International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW) 265
- International Brotherhood of Teamsters (IBT) Local 554
- Lincoln Central Labor Union
- Nebraska Association of Public Employees & American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (NAPE/AFSCME) Local 61
- National Association of Letter Carriers (NALC) Local 8
- Nebraska State NALC
- Nebraska State Education Association
- Omaha Federation of Labor (OFL)
- Steamfitters & Plumbers Local 464
- Sheet Metal (SMART) Local 3
- Sheet Metal (SMART) Local 305
- Sheet Metal (SMART) Local 337
- Transport Workers Union 222
- Transport Workers Union 223
- United Association (UA) Local 16

GENERAL PUBLIC:

- Aviation Institute at UNO
- Creighton University Social Work Program
- Nebraska State Democratic Party
- Goodrich Scholarship Program at UNO
- Grace Abbot School of Social Work at UNO
- Heartland Workers Center
- International Studies at UNO
- Nebraska Alliance for Retired Americans
- Nebraska LEAD Fellowship Program
- New Leaders Council
- United Way of Lincoln, NE