Beginning this month the Newsletter returns to Project Achieve. Some of you may be wondering why this matters. The answer is simple; this is not just another way to send your announcements.

Going forward, we are going to be reaching out to you, our students, to have you contribute. We want to hear about your views, experiences, accomplishments, and your stories.
As Director of Project Achieve-Trio Student Support Services (SSS) Program for the last 10 months, I am happy and proud of the impact Project Achieve has had at UNO. This year saw challenges, as any do. Yet amid challenges, we also celebrated remarkable attendance at our Project Achieve events.

A few examples of our workshops included Connecting with a Career, Graduate Studies, and Time Management. In addition, we had cultural events for our PA students, which included Dreamgirls and Shen Yun, and fun events such as arts and crafts and sports activities. Our program provided an opportunity for eight of our students to take part in the First-Generation Student Leadership Conference in Miami, Florida. We also ended our year with celebrating our student’s accomplishments in the Honors Luncheon and celebrated with students and their families at the End of the Semester Bash. And I am happy to share that we received positive feedback for our events from our Project Achieve students.

Because of our Project Achieve students and staff, I could not be more proud or excited about the future of this program. I look forward to 2023–2024!

Sincerely,
Project Achieve Director

Emane Ahmed and Bernadette Ambatobe have been selected to participate in the Summer Health Professions Education Program (SHPEP) at the University of Nebraska Medical Center. This program allows students to explore their interests in a selected health profession, develop health care skills, get clinical exposure, and plan their academic journeys. Congratulations Emane and Bernadette!

Mrs. Johnson still has space in her English Composition II class for Fall 2023. The class will meet on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays from 11:00 – 11:50 am in the Arts and Sciences Hall. The course is listed under ENG 116:031 on MavLink. Please let her know if you have any questions.
NEW OFFICE ASSOCIATE

On April 22nd Bob Heitert started as the new office associate for Project Achieve. Besides running the computer lab and greeting students, he is also the one that will be making the newsletter. Below is a brief blurb about him.

"I am happy to be joining this wonderful team as they are gearing up to start the 30th year of this program. To all of you students that are graduating, I am sorry I did not get the time to get to know you better.

A little about me. I have worked in office and customer support jobs for over the last decade. I have a wonderful girlfriend and enjoy reading fiction and playing video games. Please stop in and say hi as I am usually at my desk."

OUR END OF THE SEMESTER BASH

BY BOB HEITERT

We had a blast hosting our End of the Semester Bash for our Project Achieve students and guests. We had 45 students and 44 guests show up, making it one of the biggest turnouts in this program's recent history.

Besides the food and drinks, we had games of corn hole, giant Connect 4, and giant Jenga.

We want to thank all that turned out and everyone that worked so hard in making this a great sendoff for the academic year.
Students from Project Achieve have reactivated the UNO Student Chapter of Habitat for Humanity. The purpose of this organization is to educate for, advocate for, and participate in advancing affordable housing in Omaha and surrounding communities. The group has successfully completed their first volunteer opportunity job site under the guidance of Katherine Salas Rojo, Loni Mickles, and Chris Holmes. Students took part in the Habitat for Humanity-Omaha volunteer event on Saturday, April 29, 2023. They were given a demonstration by Habitat for Humanity of how to install the subfloor on the first level of a house.

One of the participants, Loni, had this to say about the experience, “It was really fun. I was able to learn the structure of building the house, more then just painting. I learned the process of building a house!”

Katherine is thrilled to continue working with Habitat for Humanity as the president of the Student Chapter Habitat for Humanity and to guide the student organization to additional projects for the Academic Year 2023-2024. Please contact Katherine Salas Rojo at ksalas-rojo@unomaha.edu if you're interested in joining the Student Chapter of Habitat for Humanity.
UNO Faculty and staff, community members, and peers joined us for the Honors Luncheon held on April 19, 2023, in the Milo Bail Student Center. Our keynote speaker and Project Achieve alum, Anayeli Martinez Real, gave a powerful message to the audience.

The Project Achieve students were acknowledged for their achievements in academics, student leadership, and volunteering service. In addition, our December graduates were recognized and the candidates for graduation in May and August were given their chords.