

Fall 2016

UNI Today, v99n2 [v100n2], Fall 2016

University of Northern Iowa Alumni Association

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Recommended Citation

University of Northern Iowa Alumni Association, "UNI Today, v99n2 [v100n2], Fall 2016" (2016). *UNI Today*. 7.

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University of Northern Iowa

UNI

TODAY

FALL 2016



YOUR PLACE IN POLITICS



YOUR VOTE MATTERS.

How you use that vote is up to you.



Hello Panthers,

"Purple for Life!" We hear it, see it and say it often. Do you know if you're living up to this phrase? Here are some easy ways to check:

1. Does everyone you encounter know you're a Panther? Wearing Panther gear, a pennant in your office, your water bottle at the gym leave no question where your loyalties lie!
2. Do you constantly encourage high school-age students to check out the great programs at UNI? Have you submitted a few student referral forms to our admission's office? (uni.edu/admissions/studentreferral)
3. Do your social media feeds include the University of Northern Iowa, Alumni Association, your area UNI Alumni Club, UNI Athletics and several others?
4. Have you volunteered, mentored a student, visited campus and donated to the UNI Foundation?
5. Have we seen you at one of over 80 events across the country this past year?

If you answered "Yes" to any of the above questions, you are living Purple for Life. The UNI family is just that, a family. We work to support each other in every way possible.

That is why our Alumni Relations team has been hard at work making sure we are supporting you! We are planning events across the country, developing new clubs in Cedar Rapids, Kansas City, and Council Bluffs & Omaha this coming year, hosting weekly career webinars, organizing reunions and many other activities to bring UNI to you! If you have suggestions for ways we can better support you—send them my way at leslie.prideaux@uni.edu.

Purple for Life!

Leslie Prideaux
Director, Alumni Relations
President, University of Northern Iowa
Alumni Association

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Volume 99, No. 2 | Fall 2016

University of Northern Iowa Today is published during the fall, winter and spring by the UNI Alumni Association and the Office of University Relations. UNI Today is distributed to members of the Alumni Association and select benefactors of the University of Northern Iowa. Suggestions and contributions for articles are welcome. Email unitoday@uni.edu or call 319-273-2355. The University of Northern Iowa is an equal opportunity educator and employer with a comprehensive plan for affirmative action.



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University of Northern Iowa
Alumni Association

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UNI *Alumni*
Association
University of Northern Iowa

YOUR PLACE

It's almost November.
You're afraid to turn on
the television for fear of
what commercials await.
Your phone is plagued
with calls from unknown
numbers. Even a knock at
the door sends you into
hiding until your doorstep
has been vacated.

**It must be
election season.**

**NOVEMBER 8
2016**



It can be difficult to elude the all-consuming hoopla surrounding a presidential election, especially when you live in Iowa, where the caucus is a focal point for candidates campaigning to sit behind that imposing desk in the Oval Office.

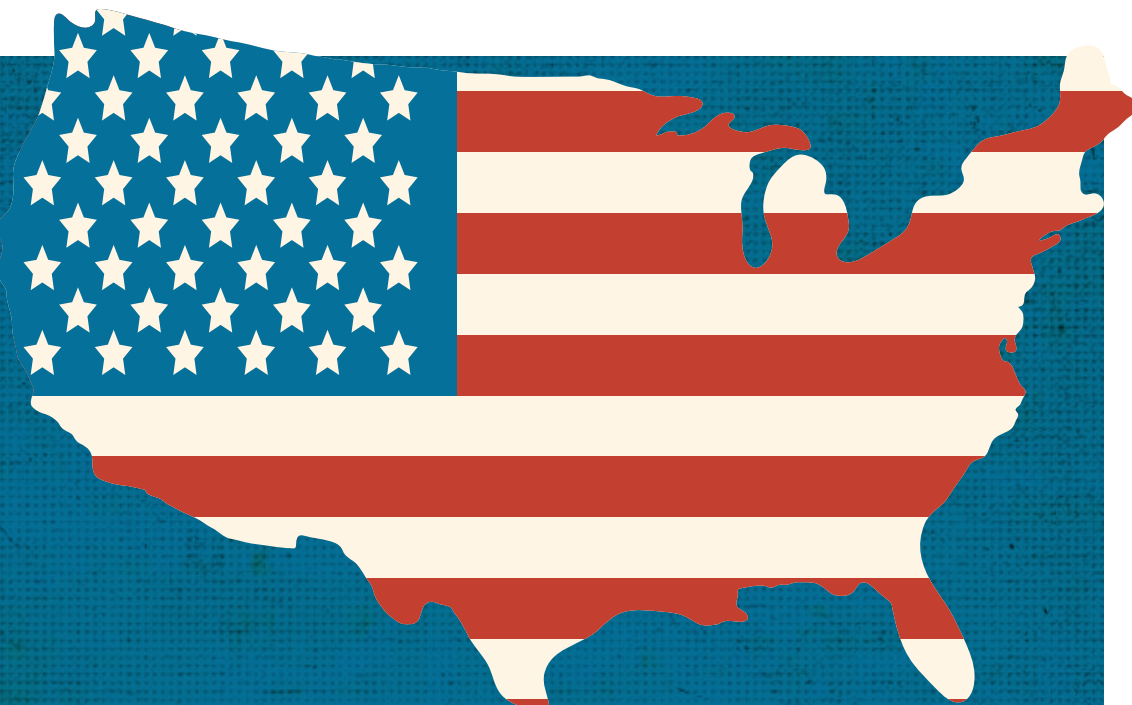
Now that the caucuses are over and the two leading candidates have emerged, the unenviable task of picking one or the other falls to the country's registered voters.

And if you've been following the election, then you know that Hillary Clinton and Donald Trump – the Democratic and Republican nominees, respectively – have been two of the most polarizing presidential candidates in history. Both have garnered historically low favorability ratings, leaving more than a few voters debating whether or not to cast a vote at all come November.

“All of the news surrounding this election cycle is so negative, you hope that it doesn't discourage [people] from voting,”

said Chris Larimer, an associate professor of political science at UNI. “We know that when people are negative about politics or when it gets to the point where the atmosphere around it sort of encourages apathy, then people are less likely to participate, and that is not what you want.”

IN POLITICS




Voters in smaller states like Iowa, which has six electoral votes, have a tendency to dismiss the value of their own vote. But swing states like Iowa are important battlegrounds for presidential candidates, especially when a state like California with 55 electoral votes is not competitive, according to Donna Hoffman, department head and associate professor of political science at UNI.

“In an environment in which presidential elections are won on very small margins in the Electoral College, six or seven electoral votes really matter,” said Hoffman. She and Larimer recently collaborated on a book chapter

in “Presidential Swing States: Why Only Ten Matter,” covering the swing state nature of Iowa.

But even for those who understand that every vote matters, how does one make the right choice in an election that has been heavy on rhetoric and short on substance? According to Hoffman, voters just need to do their homework.

“Ideally, as a political scientist, from a good government perspective, what would we like to have happen? We’d like to have citizens do their due diligence. Investigate the candidates. Investigate their positions, and weigh their own positions accordingly.”



Regardless of whom you decide to vote for or how you come to that decision, one thing is clear:

Your vote matters. How you use that vote is up to you.

And remember: It’ll all be over in November.

A Partnership AND a Pledge



Each spring a life-changing event is held on campus that brings tears to the eyes of many participants and audience members. The event is the U.S. Citizenship Ceremony that welcomes dozens of individuals into the land of the free and the home of the brave.

For many, the path to citizenship includes enrolling in a course offered by Hawkeye Community College in Waterloo taught by UNI professors. In a small-group setting, students learn about the discovery of America, the founding fathers, Constitutional amendments, civil rights – basically, U.S. government and history up to the present.

The idea for the course was born in 2014 when Richard Featherstone, UNI's former interim associate dean of the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences, contacted Hawkeye's Laura Hidlebaugh about the possibility of offering a course for people who had applied for U.S. citizenship or who planned to apply within the year. As Hawkeye's English language learning and family literacy coordinator, Hidlebaugh agreed that the idea for the course was worth pursuing and welcomed the partnership opportunity.

The first citizenship course was offered during the 2014 fall semester and was taught by Featherstone, UNI history professor Emily Machen and Lt. Col. Glen Keith, head of UNI's Department of Military Science/Army ROTC.

"I love my country, and I love civics and history," said Keith. "Anytime I can get people to pursue citizenship, that's great."

The two-hour class is offered each Friday at Hawkeye's Metro Center in downtown Waterloo. There are usually 17 to 20 students per class,

Can You Pass with Flying Colors?

An important part of the application process for becoming a U.S. citizen is passing a civics test. During their interview with a U.S. immigration officer, applicants are asked 10 questions out of a possible 100, and they must answer at least six correctly. Here's a sampling of what may be asked. How would you fare?

1. The idea of self-government is in the first three words of the Constitution. What are these words?
 - a. Life, Liberty, Happiness
 - b. Be it Resolved
 - c. We the People
 - d. Make no law
2. What is the economic system in the United States?
 - a. Capitalist
 - b. Socialist
 - c. Communist
 - d. Barter
3. During the Cold War, what was the main concern of the United States?
 - a. Unemployment
 - b. Communism
 - c. Hunger
 - d. National Parks
4. How many amendments does the Constitution have?
 - a. 25
 - b. 26
 - c. 27
 - d. 28
5. Who is the current chief justice of the United States?
 - a. Clarence Thomas
 - b. Ruth Bader Ginsburg
 - c. William Rehnquist
 - d. John G. Roberts, Jr.

Answers: 1 - c, 2 - a, 3 - b, 4 - c, 5 - d.

primarily the new wave of refugees from Burma and Congo. There are also a few students from Bosnia, Mexico and South America.

Citizenship applicants aren't required to take the course, yet it gives them confidence to move forward in the naturalization process, learn English and become better prepared for the citizenship test. The test has 100 questions, 10 of which are chosen by a U.S. immigration officer at U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services in Des Moines who interviews and tests each student.

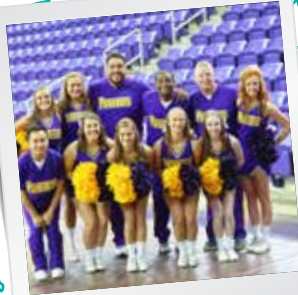
"Many of the students come from turmoil situations," said Keith.

"There is a desire in them to become U.S. citizens because they want to make a better life for their children, and they're willing to do what it takes."

Citizenship applicants must pass the interview section by answering at least six of the 10 questions correctly. They also must demonstrate their proficiency in writing and reading aloud in English.

"The first thing students want to do when they become U.S. citizens is vote, to exercise their responsibilities," said Keith. "Most of them have lived in areas that are in turmoil, so voting is something they're excited to take part in.

"The citizenship course is a great partnership that brings together UNI and Hawkeye expertise," continued Keith. "What better way to help people who have a huge desire to become U.S. citizens."



📍 UNI, CEDAR FALLS, IOWA



📍 Norway



📍 CUBA



📍 GALAPAGOS ISLANDS



Explore. Learn. Share.



📍 ROME, ITALY



📍 SHANGHAI, CHINA



📍 HOUT BAY, SOUTH AFRICA



📍 AUSTRALIA

The world is an open door, and college students are standing on the threshold.

Never before have there been more international opportunities for college students; potential employers see international experience as a qualification in hiring college graduates. Not only is studying abroad beneficial to one's resume, traveling broadens the mind, grows compassion and allows the person to see the world through a new lens.

UNI's Study Abroad Center and Capstone courses offer a variety of ways to see the world. Check out some of the places UNI students, faculty and staff visited during the summer.



The Education That Keeps On Giving

Joel Waggoner, B.A. '08, didn't want to go to UNI.

But if not for an eleventh-hour change of heart, Waggoner would be without the education that has led him to a life and career he only ever dreamed was possible.

As a high school senior who grew up in the Cedar Valley, the idea of spending another four or five years in his hometown did not appeal to Waggoner. He was eager to spread his wings, and Luther College was where he was going to do that.

But it was not to be.

"Something in me knew that I wanted to have the best possible music education if I was going to ever be competitive in a place like New York City," Waggoner said. "Luther was a good school, but I knew the faculty at UNI and how world class they were."

And how is he feeling about that decision all these years later?

"I ended up spending the best five years of my life in the last place I expected to."

Since graduating from UNI, Waggoner has spent much of his adult life in New York City, where he earned his master's degree in musical theatre writing from New York University. His last four years have been spent working as the director of music for the Pace University Musical Theater Bachelor of Fine Arts program, but he has also collected the titles of composer, lyricist, vocal coach and violinist.

One of his proudest achievements is without a doubt "Presto Change-O," a full-production

musical that was commissioned by the Barrington Stage Company. Waggoner first began writing "Presto Change-O" in March of 2014 with his collaborator, Eric Price, but the pair endured two more years of readings and rewrites before their musical finally saw the stage.

"Presto Change-O" is the first musical I've written that has gotten a full production," Waggoner said. "Getting a full production of a musical is not easy and can take up to 7-10 years sometimes. I'm fully aware that something like this may never come around again, so I have been pinching myself most of the time."

Even though more than a thousand miles separate Waggoner from Cedar Falls, he credits his education at UNI with driving much of his current success.

"I am so grateful for the experiences that I was able to have at UNI," Waggoner said. "I received a multi-dimensional education at UNI. I am digging back into my college education every single day. My education from UNI is the gift that keeps on giving."

"Presto Change-O" completed its initial run on June 11, but Waggoner is hopeful that he'll be able to secure a larger and more commercial production. He'll be stepping away from his position at Pace University this fall with the self-imposed challenge to continue to make a name for himself as a freelance writer and performer.

His friends at UNI wait with anticipation to see what he accomplishes next. **UNI**



Battling Zika

ALL IN A
DAY'S WORK



“

I have found a fascinating career that I love to talk about. This is truly my dream job!”

The phone on Susann Ahrabi-Fard's desk is silent. It's a welcome break for her and other epidemiologists responding to the Zika virus epidemic that started in Brazil and is spreading rapidly.

Taking advantage of the few quiet moments, Ahrabi-Fard heats up the frozen lunch she threw in her bag that morning. But lunch will have to wait. A local health department is calling to report a case of meningitis in a high school student, and the community is panicking.

Ahrabi-Fard, B.S. '91, M.S. '96, is a communicable disease epidemiologist for the Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS). During her 18 years at DHS, Ahrabi-Fard has served as the invasive bacteria surveillance coordinator (sepsis and meningitis) and is part of the specialized team that conducts surveillance, investigations and outbreak response for more than 70 reportable conditions in Wisconsin. She is also part of the on-call staff that provides 24-hour coverage for public health emergencies. A typical call may come from an emergency department seeking guidance for rabies testing and prophylaxis because a patient was bit by a bat or stray dog.

Ahrabi-Fard has worked on investigations she never thought she would see: the only outbreak of monkeypox outside of Africa, spread by infected prairie dogs through an unregulated exotic pet trade industry; the analysis of hundreds of specimens submitted for anthrax testing after five deaths caused by the intentional contamination of mail following 9/11. More recently, she was involved in a yearlong monitoring system of 250-plus returning travelers from Ebola-affected countries.

Zika virus is the newest emerging disease her department is responding to. It is spread primarily through the bite of an infected *Aedes* species mosquito, but also from infected males through sexual contact. The virus can pass from a pregnant woman to her fetus and cause severe fetal brain defects such as microcephaly.

Ahrabi-Fard was well prepared for her work with communicable diseases. After graduating from UNI, she was selected as an Emerging Infectious Disease Laboratory Fellow with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). During her 18-month fellowship between the CDC and the Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene (WSLH), she trained in virology, tuberculosis, sexually transmitted diseases and the laboratory technique called pulsed-field gel electrophoresis.

Post-fellowship, she was hired by her current employer, which works hand in hand with the WSLH and CDC to conduct surveillance, outbreak investigations and disease response.

"I have found a fascinating career that I love to talk about," she said. "This is truly my dream job!" **UNI**



QUALITY

OVER

QUANTITY

IN THE NFL DRAFT

Every April, more than 250 college football players are selected in the NFL Draft, affording each of them the opportunity to take their talents to the next level. Premier college football programs like Alabama, Ohio State and USC tend to dominate the proceedings year in and year out, with rosters chock full of pro prospects primed to make an immediate impact in the NFL.

THEN THERE IS UNI.

UNI is not Alabama, Ohio State or USC. High school seniors don't commit to play football for UNI with the expectation that they'll be headed to the NFL in three or four years. But that doesn't mean they won't have that opportunity.

Since 1966, 19 UNI football players have been drafted to the NFL. On top of that, 22 former Panthers have been signed as undrafted free agents. Currently, there are seven active UNI Panthers in the NFL.

Not bad for a football program operating out of a small college town in Iowa.

Cornerback Deiondre' Hall is the Panthers' most recent export to the NFL, having been drafted by the Chicago Bears in the fourth round of April's 2016 NFL Draft.

In 2015, the Arizona Cardinals drafted running back David Johnson in the third round of the NFL Draft. Johnson proceeded to have a spectacular rookie season, becoming the first player in NFL history to score a rushing touchdown, receiving touchdown and kickoff-return touchdown in his first two games.



DEIONDRE' HALL

Tight end Austin Howard, defensive tackle James Jones, center Brad Meester and linebacker Bryce Paup are among the former Panther football players who have had standout careers after being drafted to the NFL.

Howard has developed into an offensive guard and secured a spot as the right guard for the Oakland Raiders. Jones never missed a single game in his 10-year career with four different teams. Meester started at left guard and center for the Jacksonville Jaguars over the course of a 14-year career. Paup was a four-time Pro Bowl selection as a member of the Green Bay Packers and the Buffalo Bills.

Super Bowl-winning quarterback Kurt Warner, arguably the most famous Panther to play in the NFL, went undrafted in the 1994 NFL Draft. It wasn't until 1998 that he signed with the St. Louis Rams and began his decade-long career in the NFL.

While larger and more prominent college football programs will no doubt continue to outpace UNI in terms of quantity of players drafted, there is no questioning the quality of the players that the Panthers are sending to the NFL. **UNI**



DAVID JOHNSON



Additional Greek-Letter Options

Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. ([ΩΨΦ](#)), one of the nine traditionally African-American Greek organizations within the National Pan-Hellenic Council, was initially founded at UNI in 1975; the group reestablished a membership base on campus in spring 2016.

Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc. ([ΚΑΨ](#)) and Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. ([ΔΣΘ](#)), historically African-American groups, and Sigma Lambda Gamma ([ΣΛΓ](#)), a historically Latina-based sorority, have interest groups on campus that are also seeking members this fall.

[ΩΨΦ](#) [ΚΑΨ](#) [ΔΣΘ](#) [ΣΛΓ](#)

Home away from HOME

Take a walk across campus and you'll see an increasing number of students proudly wearing T-shirts sporting such letters as K for Kappa, Γ for Gamma and Δ for Delta. This fall, additional Greek letters will be seen as Alpha Sigma Tau (ΑΣΤ) sorority and Pi Lambda Phi (ΠΛΦ) fraternity join UNI's Fraternity & Sorority Life (FSL) community.

"Over the past four to five years, our chapters have doubled in size to around 80 members," said Steffoni Schmidt, program coordinator of community service and Greek life. "The community has been talking about expanding for a few years. We wanted to make sure the community was strong before adding new chapters."

ΑΣΤ had a three-year presence on campus before becoming inactive in 1971. Schmidt said the sorority's return provides an opportunity for women to affiliate with a group if they have not yet found their home within UNI's current sororities.

Purchasing or leasing a chapter house is not a concern for the sorority's national office at this time. Instead, Schmidt said discussion is underway with UNI's Department of Residence about the possibility of members living together on the same residence hall floor.

Starting and building a new chapter takes a special kind of student. "The women who will be recruited have to have an entrepreneurial spirit," said Schmidt.

"They have to be strong leaders, ready learners and committed to getting a new group up to speed and healthy in a concentrated timeframe."

Men with an entrepreneurial spirit are also being sought for membership in UNI's newest fraternity, Pi Lambda Phi (also known as Pilam, pronounced Pie-lamb). The fraternity does not yet have a chapter house, but just like the women of ΑΣΤ,

the Pilams may have the opportunity to live together on a residence hall floor.

"We were looking for the right fit, the right fraternity, right now," said Gabe Gravert, president of UNI's Interfraternity Council. "The Elimination of Prejudice is Pilam's philanthropic focus, which makes the fraternity a good fit for UNI because of the university's focus on diversity."

"Within Fraternity & Sorority Life at UNI, students can find a home away from home and have a greater chance for leadership and service opportunities," said Schmidt. "The new chapters will offer students even greater opportunities to do so."



Birthday Gift

HONORS PROFESSOR'S HERO



What is the perfect birthday gift for a mother who reached a milestone birthday of 90?

A mother who quit school at age 13 to raise her siblings, who earned her high school diploma at age 36 and went on to develop a successful career traveling internationally? A mother who epitomizes determination with her never-give-up attitude?

Rex Karsten, UNI professor of management information systems (MIS), found the answer as he was preparing an annual report of his activities as the Nationwide Mutual Insurance Company Professor. It occurred to him that he could pay it forward. He said, "My mom has always been my hero. She never gives up and she passed that trait on to me. That is why I wanted to honor her in a way that would also encourage young women to pursue a career in a field that they wouldn't typically enter."

Rex's wife, Laurie, suggested he pay it forward with a scholarship. The inaugural Ethel M. Karsten MIS Scholarship was awarded to Roni Storjohann. Storjohann is a senior from Maysville, Iowa, majoring in management information systems. "I am honored to receive this scholarship," said Storjohann. "Professor Karsten introduced me to MIS. I thank him

for that and for helping me seek new opportunities and always being there to answer questions."

Katie Hillyer, director of the UNIBusiness Professional Readiness Program, served on the scholarship selection committee. She said, "The selection committee was impressed with Roni's resume and clear interest in pursuing a career in MIS. She excelled as a student and leader during her time at Scott Community College and has shown promise of continuing on that trajectory during her time at UNI."

This past summer, Storjohann held an internship position with Alcoa ATI's Information Systems Department in Bettendorf. For the 2016-17 academic year, Storjohann secured an internship with UNI's Department of Institutional Research as a student analyst. She said she is excited to use the skills she has learned in the classroom in both of these positions.

That's exactly what Professor Karsten had in mind. "Historically, women have been underrepresented in technology-related majors, so I hope this is one small way to ensure more consider this major." He is also looking forward to introducing Storjohann to his mother at the annual Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon.



Enhancing
the way we

LEARN

UNI has a distinguished history of providing academic opportunities through innovative outreach efforts. In 1913, the university established study centers to serve teachers on a statewide basis – the first initiative of its kind in the country. While delivery methods have changed, the commitment to provide lowans access to high-quality educational opportunities that fall outside traditional campus offerings has remained a core part of our mission.

The Office of Continuing and Distance Education provides leadership and support in delivering high-quality, nontraditional academic offerings that increase access to educational opportunities. Degree programs and courses are offered in a variety of formats, including online, off-campus and blended delivery. Through these efforts, UNI connects with residents in more than 500 Iowa cities and towns and generates in excess of 14,000 enrollments annually.

distance.uni.edu



**Barb
SCHWAMMAN**

(Superintendency ASC '13)

"Being a busy school principal and a mom and wife, it was important to find a program that fit my busy lifestyle, yet still gave me the quality experiences to be able to accept and be successful as a school superintendent."



**Lucas
PTACEK**

(Principalship MAE '08,
Superintendency ASC '15)

"I enjoy the relationships I'm able to build with other colleagues from around the state. I've met some great colleagues that help me be a more knowledgeable and passionate administrator. The convenience is fantastic! Being face to face through Adobe Connect does not lessen the experience, but enhances the way we can learn together."



**Amber
BOYD**

(Principalship ASC '10, EDD '14)

"The faculty was absolutely amazing! When they tell you they are invested in your success, no truer words have ever been spoken. I also appreciated the very practical application of the content. It was relevant and timely. The faculty always encouraged you to reflect, adjust and reflect more."



HOMECOMING 2016 UNMASK YOUR SPIRIT

SEPT. 25 – OCT. 1, 2016

Unmask Your Spirit during UNI's 2016 Homecoming week, Sunday, Sept. 25, through Saturday, Oct. 1. Celebrate your Panther Pride by meeting your friends and celebrating together!

Find the full schedule and additional details at
uni.edu/homecoming.



EXPERIENCE THE RESIDENCE HALLS!

These residence halls will be open from 1 to 2 p.m., Saturday, Oct. 1.

THE SCHEDULE

SUNDAY, SEPT. 25
UNI Soccer vs. Viterbo University – 1 p.m., Waterloo

MONDAY, SEPT. 26
2016 Homecoming Kickoff – 5:30 p.m., Lawther Field

TUESDAY, SEPT. 27
Royalty Competition – 8 p.m., Maucker Union Ballroom

WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 28
Amazing Race – 5:30 p.m., Commons
Panther Street: Let the Good Times Roll – 7 to 10 p.m., Maucker Union

THURSDAY, SEPT. 29
Comedian Eric O'Shea – 8 p.m., Gallagher Bluedorn

FRIDAY, SEPT. 30
Alumni Reception – 5:30 to 7 p.m., Campanile Plaza – Register online at uni.edu/homecoming
UNI Volleyball vs. Missouri State – 7 p.m., McLeod Center
Pep Rally – following the volleyball match, McLeod Center
Campaniling and Cocoa and Kisses – midnight, Campanile Plaza and Rod Library

SATURDAY, OCT. 1
Homecoming Parade – 11 a.m., UNI campus
All-Alumni Tailgate – 12:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., West of the UNI-Dome (in partnership with the Hy-Vee Fan Zone)
UNI Football vs. Southern Illinois – 4 p.m., UNI-Dome
UNI Volleyball vs. Wichita State – 7 p.m., McLeod Center



Bender
Campbell

Dancer
Hagemann

Noehren
Panther Village

Rider
Shull

**The Rialto and Piazza dining centers will also offer discounted lunch.
Adults \$8 – Kids (5-11 years) \$6 – Under 5 free

GREETINGS FROM **UNI!**



On June 30, I started my position as director of Admissions at UNI. From the moment I arrived on campus, I was welcomed in such a warm and supportive way. This is the same feeling our new students experience when they arrive on campus.

I am looking forward to my first year at UNI and am proud to lead a team of outstanding individuals in the Office of Admissions. We have put many new initiatives in place to ensure that more and more qualified students know what we are about. We have seen an increase in the number of visitors, and we are on pace to surpass last year's new incoming freshmen total. We are busy planning for the 2016-17 recruitment cycle and have already communicated with a large number of high school juniors and have seen the number of "class of 2017" inquiries increase over previous years. It is an exciting time to be a Panther!

There are a lot of things to be proud of heading into this recruitment season. UNI has once again been ranked as the No. 2 Regional University in the Midwest by U.S. News & World Report's "America's Best Colleges." UNI was also rated one of the 50 safest colleges in the U.S., according to a study done by Newsweek Daily Beast.

Our Panther Open House events have kicked off for 2016-17 and we are seeing a large number of visitors to campus. Open house and daily campus visit attendance is on track to surpass previous totals. You can follow these events through social media and see the positive feedback your institution receives from the next class of outstanding students. Feel free to add your own memories to share with prospective students as well.

In closing, many alumni ask me how they can help with recruitment efforts. The easiest way is to simply showcase your UNI Pride. Keep spreading the word regarding everything that happens on a daily basis throughout campus and the community. If you know of a student that is in the process of their college search, encourage them to sign up for a campus visit and apply early. We have tours Monday through Friday, on select Saturdays and open house events.

Go Panthers!

Kara Hadley-Shakya | UNI Director of Admissions

FALL PANTHER OPEN HOUSES

Friday, Oct. 7

(College of Education emphasis)

Friday, Oct. 28

(College of Business
Administration emphasis)

Saturday, Nov. 5

(Multicultural emphasis)

Friday, Oct. 14

(Arts and Sciences emphasis)

Saturday, Oct. 29

Friday, Nov. 11

Friday, Oct 21

Friday, Nov. 4

Friday, Nov. 18

To register, visit **uni.edu/admissions/visit**.



UNI Foundation Scholarship Campaign Reaches Goal Early

The UNI Foundation's Focus on Students Scholarship Initiative campaign exceeded its goal of \$40 million. In just three years and five months of a five-year campaign, \$41,293,158 was raised! The initiative was launched to increase the number of endowed scholarships for current and future students and to help ensure that qualified students are not prohibited from enrolling in or graduating from UNI due to financial hardships.

The entire campus community owes a debt of gratitude to the donors who helped us exceed our fundraising goal. Without their generous contributions and their commitment to supporting the students of UNI, this would not have been possible.

\$41,293,158

RAISED IN JUST 3 YEARS & 5
MONTHS OF A 5-YEAR CAMPAIGN!



TINY HOUSE OFFERS **HUGE** OPPORTUNITY

If you've ever flipped the television to HGTV, chances are you've at least caught a glimpse of "Tiny House, Big Living," the network's reality television show about the unique real estate trend that is sweeping the nation.

For people wanting to downsize their square footage, mortgage payment and environmental footprint, tiny houses have become the popular solution.

For Scott Greenhalgh, an assistant professor of technology at UNI, the tiny house had an entirely different appeal altogether. For him, it represented an innovative and educational project for 14 technology and engineering education students. And thus began the design and construction of UNI's very first tiny house.

"I was a little uncertain that the project may demand too much from the students," said Greenhalgh, considering the scope of the project. "But I believe it allowed them to come together and work as a team on a project."



“My hope for students in the program is for them to feel they are challenged in new and different ways to discover capabilities they did not know they had.”

The tiny house covers 148 square feet and is composed largely of recycled materials. The technology and engineering students worked alongside interior design students for six hours a week in one semester to maximize the small space, design solutions to put multiple functions for each space and improve the efficiency of the home.

Now that the tiny house has been completed, the plan is to sell the home to a group that will use it to address homelessness in the Cedar Valley.



New faces ON CAMPUS

JIM WOHLPART

Interim President

While Jim Wohlpart isn't necessarily a new face to UNI, he is new to the interim president position. Before moving into this role, Wohlpart was UNI's provost and executive vice president for academic affairs. He came to UNI in 2015 from Florida Gulf Coast University where he was the dean of Undergraduate Studies and a professor of English. Wohlpart replaces Bill Ruud, who left UNI to be president at Marietta College in Marietta, Ohio.

"I am honored to be selected as the interim president of the University of Northern Iowa and want to thank President Ruud for his leadership over the past three years,"

said Wohlpart. "The university has a great deal of momentum right now with strong support from the Board of Regents, the Legislature, the governor and community partners. I am eager to work with faculty and staff to continue that momentum and elevate the great work we do with preparing students for academic and professional success and for meaningful engagement with their communities."





GWENNE BERRY

Chief Diversity Officer

Gwenne Berry also isn't new to UNI. Before fulfilling the role of UNI's first chief diversity officer, she was the associate director of compliance and equity management.

"I know it sounds clichéd, but the first thing I'm going to do is listen," said Berry. "I need to hear from students, faculty, staff and our community. I need to hear from alums and parents. I need to know where we're succeeding and where we need some work."

"The University of Northern Iowa could – and should – be a leader when it comes to diversity and inclusion. We have allies on our campus, in our community and among our alums. I'm excited about engaging all of those constituents in making sure the university gets it right."



GAËTANE JEAN-MARIE

Dean of the College of Education

Gaëtane Jean-Marie was named dean of the College of Education at the beginning of the spring semester and assumed her new duties on June 30. Before coming to UNI she was a professor and chair of the Department of Educational Leadership, Evaluation and Organizational Development at the University of Louisville in Kentucky.

"Liking UNI meant saying yes to living in the cold. But, I was drawn to the vision and momentum of the university and College of Education during my campus visit," said Jean-Marie. "When I went home to Kentucky, I couldn't stop talking about UNI. I was really excited about the work that was underway and the vision by administration and others. The momentum was energizing, and I wanted to be a part of that so I can make a contribution."



HUNTER FLESCH

Northern Iowa Student
Government President



AVERY JOHNSON

Northern Iowa Student
Government Vice President

Every year, UNI's student body elects a new Northern Iowa Student Government (NISG). The 2016-17 president is Hunter Flesch, a junior majoring in elementary education and middle level education, and the vice president is Avery Johnson, a junior majoring in English.

Both students will work closely with other NISG officials, UNI administrators, students, faculty and staff to promote and advocate for activities that are in the best interest of the student body.

Class Notes

Class Notes are compiled from information sent in personally by alumni or submitted via news release to the Alumni Association office. If you would like to share your news, go to unialum.org/submit-class-notes.

Send address changes and Class Notes submissions to info@unialum.org, unialum.org or by mail to University of Northern Iowa Today, UNI Alumni Association, 1012 W. 23rd St., Cedar Falls, IA 50614-0284.

1950s

'50 Glenn Tucker, 2-yr Cert., BA '52, Lake Park, GA, attended the Golden Reunion last fall and would welcome contact from former classmates!

'52 James Ferguson, BA, Eugene, OR, has been retired for 27 years and volunteers for music education in conjunction with a barbershop chorus. He is in good health and sings most of the time – life is good!

'56 Paul Yap, BA, MA '64, North Las Vegas, NV, has enjoyed retirement for the last 25 years. He lives with his wife, Sallie, and spoiled dog, Furbi.

1960s

'60 Larry Cox, BA, MA '76, Mc Gregor, IA, retired from school administration in 1999 but continues to drive a school bus for MFL MarMac.

'64 Larry Markley, BA, MA '67, Fort Worth, TX, established the Larry Markley Scholarship Award upon his retirement from Texas Christian University. The annual award supports a TCU student who has contributed strong leadership to the growth and development

of student activities at TCU. Larry retired as the TCU union director in 2009.

'67 John Smith, BA, MA '73, Lake Dallas, TX, is directing his own big band called the Pecos River Brass Big Band. The band performs jazz standards, as well as new and innovative arrangements, including some by Smith himself.

'69 Rich James, BA, Bettendorf, IA, retired 10/31/2014 after 37 years as a financial advisor. He was a middle school mathematics teacher and coach the first eight years after graduation. Rich and his wife, Dee, BA '69, continue to reside in Bettendorf while they transition to Frisco, CO.

1970s

'71 Gerard Huber, BA, Dallas, TX, was a visiting scholar/visiting artist at The American Academy in Rome in Feb. 2014 and Nov./Dec. 2015. He was also a finalist for The Hunting Art Prize, which is the largest award competition in painting and drawing in the U.S.

'75 Linda (Abramowicz) Dauksas, BA, Burr Ridge, IL, is an associate professor of education at Elmhurst College. She also serves as the director of the Early Childhood and Special Education programs. Her research centers on preparing teacher candidates to work in high-needs settings.

'75 Dave Destival, BA, Jefferson, IA, received the 2015-16 Teacher of Excellence award from the Iowa Industrial Technology Education Association.

'76 Denise (Drew) Reit, BA, Spencer, IA, retired from the Spencer Community Schools after 40 years of teaching middle school general music.

'79 Thomas Riter, BA, Yankton, SD, celebrated 35 years in radio. He is still serving as the associate farm news director at WNAX radio.

1980s

'80 Sue (Weiss) Green, BA, Cedar Falls, IA, was honored by the Iowa Urban Tree Council as their

2015 Outstanding Volunteer for involving Holmes Jr. High students in planting more than 150 trees the past 15 years.

'82 Stuart Smith, BA, Aurora, CO, was named the waterfowl winner of the 2016 Ducks Unlimited photo contest.

'83 Randy Atkinson, BM, MM '89, Cedar Rapids, IA, retired in June 2016 after 33 years of teaching instrumental music in Iowa. He taught in Ottumwa, Linn-Mar and Taft Middle School in Cedar Rapids.

'83 Chris Riley, BA, Yuma, AZ, is now general counsel for Gowan Company, LLC. Gowan makes and sells crop protection products around the world.

'87 Steve Peters, BA, Minneapolis, MN, is the minister of music at Peace Lutheran Church in Plymouth, MN, serving as organist, director of celebration singers.

'89 Brett Baker, BA, Fulton, MD, was appointed the deputy inspector general for audit with the U.S. Department of Defense Inspector General.

'89 Edwin Derr, BA, Springfield, MO, received the 2016 Staff Community Engagement Award from Drury University. The award is part of the President's Awards of Excellence for Community Engagement.

'89 Bill Harper, BA, Muscatine, IA, was promoted to chief financial officer and was elected vice president of Stanley Consultants, a global consulting engineering firm.

1990s

'92 Jason Follett, BA, Ankeny, IA, is an academic advisor II with the software engineering program at Iowa State University. Previously he served as school services specialist for the U.S. Army Reserve Family Program's Child, Youth and School Services.

'92 Becky (Butzlaff) Riemenschneider, BA, MA '95, State Center, IA, celebrated 20 years with AEA 267.

'92 **Robert Riemenschneider, BA**, State Center, IA, has been with Dupont since Oct. 2013 and last fall was promoted to maintenance tech III. He works at the cellulosic ethanol facility in Nevada.

'92 **Katherine Snell, MA**, Montgomery, IL, was named by the Des Moines Business Record as one of the 2016 40 Under 40 honorees.

'94 **Michelle Kaufmann, BA**, Omaha, NE, is a relationship manager in Wealth Management with First National Bank of Omaha.

'96 **Kelly (Hill) Nielsen, BA**, Dubuque, IA, was appointed advisor of Region 4 by the Toastmasters International Board of Directors. There are only 14 regional advisors worldwide. In this roll she will support, coach and guide her district leaders.

'96 **Richard Stanley, MBA**, Nashville, IN, was named counsel with Taft Stettinius & Hollister LLP. His practice includes patent prosecution and litigation in the mechanical and electrical arts.

'99 **Brooke (Brill) Fischels, BA**, Ottumwa, IA, was the 2015 recipient of the Dr. Robert E. and Phyllis M. Yager Exemplary Teaching Recognition Award.

'99 **Matt Schmaltz, BA**, West Des Moines, IA, was named market president for Storm Lake-based Central Bank's seven locations in Greater Des Moines.

KEEP YOUR PANTHER PRIDE ALIVE!



Go to **unialum.org/uni-links**.
Show your Panther Pride wherever
you go and help support the UNI
Alumni Association with every
purchase you make, at no
extra cost to you.



UNI's Family Weekend is Oct. 21-23

Many fun activities are planned for you and your family during UNI's 2016 Family Weekend! Visit **uni.edu/familyweekend** for a full list of events and additional details.



summer SNAP SHOTS



2000s

'00 Ann Elkins, BA, Minneapolis, MN, was promoted to vice president with Wingnut Advertising.

'00 Gina (Hird) Swanson, BA, West Des Moines, IA, received the Rookie of the Year award from the Des Moines Area Association of Realtors. She is currently a realtor with Century 21 Signature Real Estate.

'00 Shannon (Rudolph) Umthum, BA, UNK '07, MA '07, West Des Moines, IA, was named by the Des Moines Business Record as one of the 2016 40 Under 40 honorees.

'01 Ben Buenzow, BA, Ankeny, IA, was named by the Des Moines Business Record as one of the 2016 40 Under 40 honorees.

'02 Scott Hinze, BA, Chester, IL, graduated from Des Moines University in 2006 and completed a general surgery residency in Columbus, OH. He now serves as general surgeon and chief of staff at Memorial Hospital and Red Bud Regional Hospital in southern Illinois.

'03 John Pantazis, BA, Dieterich, IL, is vice president, general counsel and secretary for Hearland Dental. He and his wife have three children, ages 8, 5 and 15 months.

'05 Michael Kleinwolterink, BA, Yale, IA, was named the overall winner of the 2016 Ducks Unlimited photo contest.

'05 Ryan Lensing, BA, MA '10, West Des Moines, IA, received a 2016 I.O.W.A. STEM Teacher Award.

'06 Jennifer Laughlin Stevenson, BA, Cedar Falls, IA, received the 2016 Cedar Valley Tourism Award for Attraction of the Year for her business Hick's Place, which is an outdoor activities center.

'09 Sunni Swarbrick, BA, Des Moines, IA, was named by the Des Moines Business Record as one of the 2016 40 Under 40 honorees.

2010s

'11 Joshua Lastine, BA, Sherman Oaks, CA, is an associate attorney at Reder & Feig LLP where he represents Amazon Studios television as an outside production counsel for their original programming. He also liaisons with the firm's entertainment financier clientele to bring new projects to their attention.

'11 Luke Steimel, BA, Urbandale, IA, was promoted to accounting supervisor with March & McLennan Companies.

'12 Tom Kedley, BA, Osceola, IA, was elected mayor of Osceola.

'13 Jordan Leckband, BM, Newton, IA, is the 6-12 grade director of vocal music at Nodaway Valley in Greenfield. He also teaches the High School Women's Chorus, High School Men's Chorus, 7/8 Choir, 6th Grade Choir, and the Advanced Music Studies class.

'15 Morgan Thias, BA, Clermont, IA, is the communications and outreach coordinator at Upper Iowa University.

Marriages

'84 Skip Beckham, BA, married Vagner Silva on 5/23/2016.

'98 Anastasia (Lee) Lefler, BA, married Bill Lefler May 2016.

'06 Jesse Hach, BS, married Lindsay (Guenther) Hach, BA '11, on 11/21/2015.

'06 Tim Konzen, BA, MACC '08, married Tara (Hildenbrand) Konzen on 6/21/2014.

'10 Ben White, BA, married Megan (McCallister) White on 3/5/2016.

'11 Luke Steimel, BA, married Stevie (Halupnick) Steimel, BA '11, on 5/17/2014.

'13 Jordan Leckband, BM, married Meghan (Vosberg) Leckband on 8/8/2015.

Births

'00 Cory Hart, BA, and Melissa (Lowary) Hart, Ankeny, IA. Daughter Harper Grace Hart was born on 12/23/2015.

'05 Lyndsey (Stephenson) Buhrman, BA, and Tim Buhrman, Granger, IA. Daughter Dyllan Harper Buhrman born on 12/2/2015.

'06 Tim Konzen, BA, MACC '08, and Tara (Hildenbrand) Konzen, San Antonio, TX. Son Henry was born on 3/28/2016.

'11 Luke Steimel, BA, and Stevie (Halupnick) Steimel, BA '11, Urbandale, IA. Son Isaiah William Steimel born on 9/11/2015.

Deaths

'41 Donald Stout, BA, died 3/1/2015 in Cedar Rapids, IA.

'47 Laurabelle (Murphy) Brewer, BA, died 3/4/2016 in Charleston, AR.

'52 John Beach, BA, died 3/24/2016 in San Clemente, CA.

'54 Jim Wachenheim, BA, died 1/1/2016 in Libertyville, IL.

'63 Gary Shoemaker, BA, MA '69, died 12/26/2015 in Springfield, MO.

'66 Earl Corrigan, BA, died 4/1/2016 in Scottsdale, AZ.



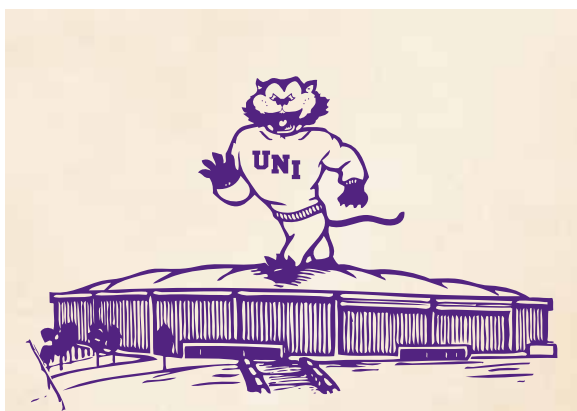
UPDATE YOUR CONTACT INFORMATION!

We don't want to lose touch! Remember to update your contact information using the form on the Alumni Association website @ unialum.org.



Once a Panther,
always a
PANTHER.

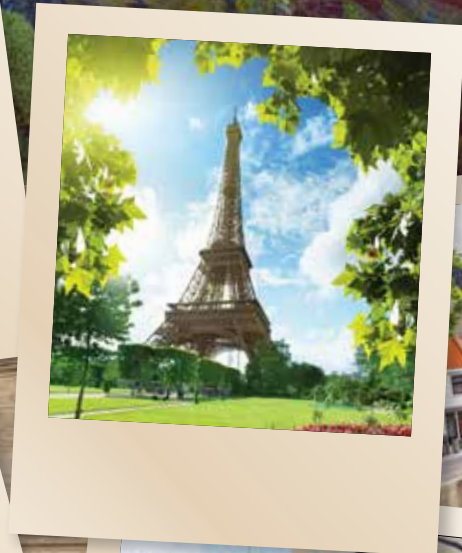




If you recognize anyone in these photos or can tell us what year they were taken, contact Christy Daniels in Alumni Relations at christina.danielsen@uni.edu or by calling **888-UNI-ALUM**.

UNI HOMECOMING THROWBACK

Adventure Awaits!



You asked; we listened!

From exotic ports of call to majestic natural wonders, the UNI Alumni Association has expanded our travel options. So pack your bags – and your Panther spirit – and head off to a new adventure!

NEW YEAR'S IN ITALY | Dec. 27, 2016 – Jan. 4, 2017

Relish the romance and allure of Italy along with ancient sights throughout Rome and Florence to ring in 2017. The Panther Marching Band will be performing on New Year's Day in Rome. Show that UNI Pride by wearing your purple in support of the band members. This trip does not travel with the band but will have an opportunity to watch them perform.

BAJA & THE RIVIERA | Jan. 7-17, 2017

Set sail aboard Oceania Cruises' Regatta to experience the glittering resort towns and pristine beaches of the Baja Peninsula and the Mexican Riviera. From Los Angeles, sail to the picturesque, sun-kissed ports of Topolobampos, La Paz, Puerto Vallarta, Cabo San Lucas and San Diego.

THE STARS OF WESTERN CUBA | Jan. 14-21, 2017

Experience the best of western Cuba—from the bayside charms of Cienfuegos to the faded colonial grandeur of Havana. Step aboard the beautifully designed mega yacht Variety Voyager and discover the country's magnificent, must-see cities and hidden gems on this once-in-a-lifetime cruise.

IRISH GOLD – ST. PATRICK'S DAY IN IRELAND

March 12-19, 2017

Celebrate St. Patrick's Day in Ireland! This private escorted tour will take in all the highlights of the Emerald Isle . . . Dublin, Blarney Castle, Cliffs of Moher, Ring of Kerry, Waterford, etc. Deluxe accommodations, most meals and sightseeing by luxury coach. Happy St. Patrick's Day!

PALMS IN PARADISE | April 24-May 10, 2017

Admire the pristine natural wonders, spirited cultures and grand colonial architecture of Florida, Colombia, Costa Rica, Nicaragua, Guatemala and Mexico while sailing aboard Oceania Cruises' Regatta.

MEDITERRANEAN MASTERPIECE | May 10-21, 2017

From multicolored towns cascading toward glittering seas to timeless cities awash with perfectly preserved monuments, experience classic sights in Italy, France, Monaco and Spain on the perfect luxury cruise aboard Oceania Cruises' Marina.

REGAL ROUTES OF NORTHERN EUROPE | Aug. 12-23, 2017

Embark on an odyssey to northern Europe, where beautiful medieval buildings edge tranquil canals and cobbled lanes lead to regal monuments. From London to Copenhagen, sail to enchanting ports in France, Belgium, the Netherlands, Germany, Norway and Sweden aboard Oceania Cruises' Marina.

BALTIC & SCANDINAVIAN TREASURES | Aug. 17-28, 2017

The treasures of the Baltic and Scandinavia are revealed on this magical voyage aboard Oceania Cruises' Marina. Discover medieval towns, onion-domed cathedrals and stunning harbors as you cruise from Denmark to Germany, Lithuania, Latvia, Finland, Russia, Estonia and Sweden.

GREAT PACIFIC NORTHWEST | Sept. 17-25, 2017

Discover the timeless majesty of the Columbia and Snake rivers as you immerse yourself in the natural grandeur of the Pacific Northwest. From Portland to Clarkston, cruise to charming towns and historic sites aboard the elegant American Empress, stopping at Astoria, The Dalles, Stevenson and Sacajawea State Park.

THE ENCHANTING RHINE | Sept. 23-30, 2017

Experience the magic of the Rhine. Begin in the legendary city of Amsterdam, with its myriad canals and distinctive architecture. Visit the majestic Gothic cathedral in Cologne, the German university town of Heidelberg and medieval Strasbourg. Relax onboard your AMA Waterways cruise and marvel at the stunning Rhine gorge, lined with ruins of medieval castles and fortresses.

CAPITALS & COASTLINES OF CANADA

& NEW ENGLAND | Sept. 30 – Oct. 10, 2017

Experience the glorious autumn foliage along North America's East Coast aboard Oceania Cruises' Insignia. Savor stunning landscapes and visit historic sites from Montreal to New York, stopping in Quebec City, Saguenay, Sydney, Halifax, Saint John, Bar Harbor, Boston and Newport.

IMAGES OF INDOCHINA & ANGKOR WAT | Oct. 8-21, 2017

Immerse yourself in the romance and hospitality of Southeast Asia with expert local guides and luxury hotels. This small journey, limited to 18 guests, will take you to Hanoi, Ha Long Bay, Hoi An, Danang, Ho Chi Minh City, Angkor Wat and Bangkok. Delve into the history, culture and cuisine of this fascinating part of the world.

MEDIEVAL MASTERPIECE | Nov. 5-14, 2017

Incredible medieval monuments and spellbinding scenery intertwine on this Mediterranean voyage aboard Oceania Cruises' Riviera. From magical Venice to legendary Rome, discover beautiful cities and landscapes with interludes in Italy, Croatia, Montenegro, Greece and Malta.

For trip details, visit

unialum.org/alumni-travel.

ALUMNI CLUBS

in a city near you!

Stay connected, engaged and enriched no matter how many miles separate you from Cedar Falls. Getting involved in an alumni club is a great way to connect with your fellow alumni and the greater Panther community in your area. Please contact Leslie Prideaux at leslie.prideaux@uni.edu if you are interested in volunteering for any of the clubs!



Central Iowa Alumni Club

unialum.org/central-iowa-alumni-club

UNI Central Iowa Alumni Club

Des Moines Area Alumni

Upcoming Events:

Panthers After Work

September 1, 2016 | 5-7 p.m.
Okoboji Grill in Johnston

Big Four Classic Pre-Game

December 17, 2016 | Time TBA
Community Choice Credit Union Convention Center
Check unialum.org/central-iowa-alumni-club for more information for both events.



Denver Alumni Club

unialum.org/denver-alumni-club

UNI Denver Alumni Club

UNI Network-Denver Area

Upcoming Events:

Panthers After Work

September 15, 2016 | 5:30 p.m.

Check unialum.org/events/panthers-after-work-paw-denver-1 for more information.

Corridor Alumni Club

Upcoming Events:

Corridor Club Kickoff

October 2016, more details to come!
Check unialum.org/alumni-clubs for more information.

Council Bluffs/Omaha Alumni Club

Upcoming Events:

Council Bluffs/Omaha Club Kickoff

December 8, 2016, more details to come!
Check unialum.org/alumni-clubs for more information.





Chicago Alumni Club

unialum.org/chicago-alumni-club



UNI Chicago Alumni Club



UNI Network-Chicago Area

www.meetup.com/UNIAlumni/

Upcoming Events:

UNI vs. ISU Game watch at the Piggery

September 3, 2016 | 6 p.m.

Check unialum.org/chicago-alumni-club for more information.



Twin Cities Alumni Club

unialum.org/twin-cities-alumni-club



UNI Twin Cities



UNI Network-Twin Cities Area

Upcoming Events:

Twin Cities Alumni Club Night at Excelsior Brewing Company

September 20, 2016 | 6-8 p.m.

Register today at unialum.org/events/twin-cities-alumni-club-night-excelsior-brewing-company.

Kansas City Alumni Club

This club is just getting started! Interested in being a part of the leadership team? Email Leslie Prideaux at leslie.prideaux@uni.edu.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

SEPTEMBER

1 – PANTHERS AFTER WORK, JOHNSTON, IA

3 – UNI VS. ISU GAME WATCH AT THE PIGGERY, CHICAGO, IL

9-10 – GOLDEN GRADUATE SOCIETY REUNION, UNI

15 – PANTHERS AFTER WORK, DENVER, CO

20 – ALUMNI NIGHT AT EXCELSIOR BREWING, TWIN CITIES, MN

26 – ALUMNI RECEPTION, DUBUQUE

30 – ALUMNI HOMECOMING RECEPTION, UNI

OCTOBER

1 – HOMECOMING PARADE, TAILGATE AND MORE! CHECK OUT UNI.EDU/HOMECOMING

TBD – CORRIDOR CLUB KICKOFF

DECEMBER

8 – COUNCIL BLUFFS/OMAHA CLUB KICKOFF

17 – BIG FOUR CLASSIC, DES MOINES, IA

For more events and details, visit unialum.org.





2016 HOME COMING SEPT. 25 – OCT. 1, 2016



304 Commons
Cedar Falls, Iowa 50614-0284

Is this person no longer at this address?
Let us know so we can keep them in touch
with their classmates and peers!
Email info@unialum.org
or call 888-UNI ALUM.

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