Women in the Workplace

Women are continuing to break down barriers both in the state of Iowa and beyond, and these proud Panther women are no exception.

Building More Than a Strong Team

"It’s one thing to be great as a football team on the field, but it’s another thing to be great as a team off the field."

Panther Polaroids

Spot a Panther? You never know where one might show up!
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Hello Panthers,

I have a horrible, embarrassing confession. I am not a UNI graduate.

There, I said it. You might ask, “How in the world can you be the president of the UNI Alumni Association and NOT be a grad!? And, why tell us now?”

I have had numerous conversations with alumni and friends. Oftentimes they ask, “What year did you graduate?” I then explain that I went to a different university. I get one of two reactions. One of shock and a good ribbing for where I went. Or, they say, “You’re a Panther now!” Both reactions are fine by me, but I prefer the latter reaction—because it’s true. I am a Panther now.

Here’s the thing, I was born and raised in Waterloo. When I was 18, there was nothing you could have said that would have kept me in the area. I wanted to get out and live in a different city, meet new people and be on my own. I had the misinformed idea that it wasn’t possible to do this if I went to UNI since it was 10 minutes away from my parents. Knowing what I do now, I could just kick myself! I missed out on an unbelievable collegiate experience. But, you know what? I don’t know if I would have realized how special UNI is if I had been a student here. I think I might have taken it all for granted. Don’t get me wrong, I love my alma mater and had a great experience there, but it was a different experience than what I would have had at UNI.

Administrators, faculty and staff have a passion to work at our greatest capacity in order to make each and every student succeed. Egos are checked at the door. Everyone from our coaches to deans to the president come to work every day with an altruistic mentality. Each person matters. Our alumni are caring, passionate, appreciative and kind. That is UNI.

My family is all purple and gold. My kids have memorized the fight song. We’ve attended countless games, shows and other events. Oftentimes, we take bike rides or walk on our beautiful campus because we love it and feel at home. UNI is so much more than my employer—it is central to my life. I love this university more than I can describe. That is how I serve as the president of the UNI Alumni Association. UNI is my home. UNI has my heart. Thank you for letting me be a part of the family.

I hope to see many of you at the UNI vs. Iowa State game on Sept. 2. Go Panthers!
UNI and Iowa State will open the 2017 football season at 7 p.m., Saturday, Sept. 2, at Jack Trice Stadium in Ames. Join us for a UNI Tailgate before the game!

GO PANTHERS!
The first governor of Iowa, Robert Lucas, took office Aug. 15, 1838.

Almost 180 years—and more than 40 different governors—later, the first female governor of Iowa, Kim Reynolds, was sworn in May 24, 2017.

Women are continuing to break down barriers both in the state of Iowa and beyond, and the female students, faculty, staff and alumni of UNI are no exception. We turn the spotlight towards these Panthers as they redefine what it means to be a woman and break new ground in fields and careers that have often been dominated by the opposite sex.

These Panther women are showing their Panther Power.

Did you know?

57% OF WOMEN PARTICIPATE IN THE LABOR FORCE

Source: United States Department of Labor

WOMEN REPRESENT ALMOST HALF OF THE TOTAL WORKFORCE (47%)

Source: United States Department of Labor

ON AVERAGE, WOMEN MAKE $0.78 FOR EVERY DOLLAR THAT A MAN EARNED

Source: U.S. Census Bureau. Based on 2013 median annual earnings of workers 15 years and older who worked full-time and year-round, including the self-employed.
Cementing A Place In History

Before she became the first woman to graduate from UNI with a bachelor’s degree in construction management, Lori Tiefenthaler, B.S. ‘87, was a female undergraduate student taking classes dominated by male peers.

But this was nothing new for Lori, having grown up in the industry through her family’s ready-mixed concrete and sand and gravel business. Her mom had wanted her to be a nurse, but as a teenager she was running loaders, driving ready-mix trucks and performing office work.

Thirty years after graduating from UNI, Lori is still a trailblazer in the cement and concrete industry as the senior director of marketing for Lehigh Hanson, Inc. She also serves as the chairperson of the American Concrete Pavement Association’s Board of Directors, and is the first woman to be appointed to the position in the association’s 54-year history.

In addition to the hands-on experience she has cultivated since childhood, Lori credits her classes at UNI with helping to open doors throughout her career path.

“One of the things that was valuable was taking a lot of business classes,” Lori said. “I had to take multiple accounting, marketing, economics and business law classes. It has given me more opportunities than just experience in construction.”

Now, she is focused on opening doors for the next generation and plans to use her platform as the first female chairperson of the association to promote that message.

"We must focus on attracting and retaining young professionals to the concrete pavement industry," Lori said. "[We need to] reach out and instill some concrete pavement passion in engineers, students, project managers and staff, or policy makers."

This includes programs geared toward finding interns in trade associations and identifying young leaders to help shape the future of concrete-pavement.

More than anything, Lori seeks to open young people’s minds to the wide range of opportunities that are available to them in the construction industry.

"Take a look into the construction industry. We’re diversifying and there’s a lot of [new] technology. I was fortunate that I came up from a hard working construction family, and I’ve had opportunities in my career to move up because of hard work."
Dozens of women were honored at the 2016 Women of Innovation Awards, but a Panther stood out among them. Sarah Diesburg, ’04, an assistant professor of computer science at UNI, received the Technology Association of Iowa (TAI) Women of Innovation Award in the Academic Innovation and Leadership category.

For Sarah, the award represents an important signpost in her personal push to see more women working in her specific area of study.

In addition to receiving two internal grants from the UNI Center for Educational Transformation (CET), she has also been awarded a two-year designation of the UNI CET Fellowship. Did we also mention Sarah was honored with the National Center for Women and Information Technology (NCWIT) EngageCSEdu Engagement Excellence Award for excellence in engagement practices for students, especially women and underrepresented minorities in computer science?

In other words, Sarah Diesburg is not a name you’ll be hearing any less in the future.

[The award] means that the work we are doing here at UNI to increase the participation of women in computer science is getting noticed. It also serves as an energizer to keep me working at this high level in my research, classes and service activities for our students.”

The awards are intended to recognize outstanding leadership in the fields of science, technology, engineering and math (STEM), across a wide range of professions, including teachers, technologists, researchers, executives, entrepreneurs and students.

Sarah has taught computer science at UNI since 2013, and her research interests revolve around security and privacy issues in operating systems, electronic storage and methods to improve and optimize the communication pathways in the operating system between the application and storage layers.
Across campus, Bingqing “Bing” Liang, assistant professor of geography, is also making a name for herself in a department where she is the lone female instructor.

Bing received her undergraduate degree in China before immigrating to the United States, where she earned both her master’s and her Ph.D. from Indiana State University. She spent the next three years working at universities in Illinois and Pennsylvania before being hired at UNI, where she has been teaching for the last six years.

When asked what initially drew her to the field of geography, Bing didn’t mince words. “I’m a very boring person,” she said, before admitting that her general interest in math, science and engineering—and lack of experience in arts and music—is what led her to geography.

It is not lost on Bing that she is surrounded by male colleagues in the geography department. She even notes the irony of being the lone female instructor in a department housed on campus within the Innovative Teaching and Technology Center (ITTC), which was actually a women’s gymnasium at one point before being converted to an office space.

Even in her classes, Bing is surprised when she has more than one or two female students.

“I don’t have a clear answer,” Bing said, when asked why males tend to dominate geography and other science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) fields. “Because I don’t know if there is something from society’s expectations that has to do with it.”

With more women like Sarah and Bing, those expectations may soon be changing.

"I like to be a student, I want to study all the time. Even when people say geography is not a very popular major, to me it’s not such a big deal. To me, it’s more like an opportunity to allow me to move to the next level of education, the next level of learning.”
Xavia Publius, M.A. ’15, didn’t choose Women and Gender Studies (WGS).

“It chose me,” she said.

Xavia, who up until this spring has been an adjunct professor at UNI, applied to several music programs when she was applying for graduate school but found no takers. It then occurred to her that her interests had more to do with gender than music, so she began applying to WGS master’s programs, which is how she ended up at UNI.

In her third semester, Xavia was a teaching assistant for a special LGBTQ Studies section of Introduction to WGS when the instructor left UNI, and she was then hired as an adjunct professor for the special section the following spring.

My parents have said from the beginning that I was destined to be a teacher. It just took me longer to realize they were right.

In addition to being a teacher, Xavia also happens to be a transgender woman.

If that makes you uncomfortable, imagine for a moment what life has been like for Xavia. As a child, she knew she didn’t want to be a man, but everyone told her she was a boy. Every fiber of her being was telling her one thing, but the people around her were telling her another.

It wasn’t until her sophomore year of college that Xavia felt comfortable enough to come out to her friends and family and identify as a transgender woman, but even then she struggled in part due to her own “internalized transphobia.”

“When I first started using a different name and pronouns, I rarely corrected people when they misgendered me,” said Xavia. “Because in my mind I didn’t have the right to ask them to treat me with a basic form of respect.”

With very few trans or gender-nonconforming people in her college
undergraduate program, there was no shortage of challenges for Xavia, but her family has provided a strong support system. She also credits UNI and the trans community in the Cedar Valley for helping her feel comfortable and accepted as a transgender woman.

As she pursues a Ph.D. at the University of Alberta in Canada, Xavia brings with her nothing but fond memories from her experiences as an instructor at UNI.

"I'm thankful I had the opportunity to give my students the tools to pursue their education with attention to the ways that sex, gender, sexuality and romance operate in our society," said Xavia. "I hope they are inspired to continue engaging with the field and to claim their education, and that they at least have a better understanding of the trans community moving forward."
It was the night of Sept. 11, 2009—a date that Nelson can recall now, eight years later, without a moment’s hesitation—and it was a fateful night perhaps 22 years in the making.

For 22 years, Nelson had been an alcoholic. That night, a drunken argument between Nelson and his then-girlfriend had become loud enough that a neighbor called the police. The police arrived to find Nelson leaning up against his car in the driveway, and after he had admitted to driving that night, he was arrested for OWI. He would spend the night in jail.

But as he sat in the back of that police car, Nelson had had enough. “I was sick and tired of being sick and tired,” he said. “I was sick and tired of living the life I had been living. Sick and tired of having endless relationships. Sick and tired of never finishing anything in my life.”

“I wanted something different.”

So after he was released the following morning, Nelson spent the next 19 days living in his mother’s basement, where he endured cold sweats, night terrors, loss of bodily functions, lack of appetite, nausea and vomiting as he attempted to rid his body of this addiction.

Finally, on the 19th day, he mustered what little strength he had left to crawl up the stairs to his mother’s kitchen and said to her, “I need help. I can’t do this.”

The turn of events that followed that desperate plea for help would change his life forever.

Nelson—who works as the food supervisor in UNI’s bakery, Fresh Beginnings, has been sober now for going on eight years—recalls that he first started drinking after enlisting in the Navy as an 18-year-old and being stationed in Memphis, Tennessee.

“I remember how [drinking alcohol] made me feel,” he said. “And I thought, ‘Wow, this is the stuff. This is the stuff that’s been missing out of my life, and now I feel complete.’ And that feeling alone kept me drunk for a lot of years.”
Not long after he started, Nelson began drinking in excess, often drinking until he was flat broke or being thrown out of the bar at 2 a.m. He never believed he had a drinking problem, and even swore off drinking "every day for years" when he would wake up hungover in the morning.

It wasn’t until his attorney urged him to seek treatment at the Horizons chemical dependency center in Waterloo, following his arrest, that Nelson began to turn his life around.

"When that door closed behind me, for the first time in my life that I can remember, I felt safe from myself, because I knew that I wasn’t going to get drunk that night," Nelson said.

Nelson spent three weeks as inpatient and two more weeks as an outpatient at Horizons. Of the 22 other patients who were admitted with Nelson at the time, he is the only one still sober. Knowing that, he now volunteers once a month at Horizons, spending one-on-one time with the patients in hopes of connecting with at least one of them and helping them overcome the odds.

While recovering, Nelson was also without a driver’s license, and found himself forced to use his brother’s bicycle to get around. He initially refused to ride it, fearing public ridicule, but eventually relented. However, his maiden voyage was less than promising.

"It was like one mile and I thought I was going to drop dead in the driveway."

But he kept at it, and was riding up to about seven miles after a month. It was then that Nelson had the thought of completing a triathlon that consisted of a 500-meter swim, followed by 15 miles on a bike and then a 5K run across the finish line.

At the time, Nelson saw it as an opportunity to impress his ex-girlfriend and win her back. But once he crossed the finish line of that first triathlon, it became something else entirely.

"Any time I had told somebody that I was going to do something, I usually never finished that something," said Nelson. "So I remember thinking to myself, 'Oh my God, I just completed something that I didn't start yesterday or the day before.' This was several months of planning and working and training. And I remember thinking, 'I did this. I did a triathlon.'"

Two years later, in the span of 13 hours, 48 minutes and 28 seconds, Nelson swam 2.4 miles, biked another 112 miles and then ran a marathon.

In Houston, Texas, he had completed his first full Ironman Triathlon.

"When I crossed that finish line, that's as close as I'll ever be to a rock star," said Nelson.

He has been training for his fifth full Ironman Competition, which will take place on Sept. 10, almost eight years, to the day, after that night he sat in the back of a police car.

Nelson has lost 50 pounds since he first started training for triathlons. Two years ago, he earned a degree in alternative energy from Hawkeye Community College. He is now married to a nurse he met from Horizons, and has also become a grandfather.
"The life that I live today is so fulfilling that I wouldn’t want to wreck it by getting drunk."

"I love to be able to say that my granddaughter has never known her grandpa to drink, and I hope that she never does," Nelson said.

Nelson credits the extraordinary support system he has at home and at work—including the manager he has had at UNI for the last 10 years, who supported his rehabilitation efforts when he first entered treatment—for helping him maintain a sober lifestyle.

"This is the life that I have today all because I’m sober," Nelson said. "The life that I live today is so fulfilling that I wouldn’t want to wreck it by getting drunk."

"I make the choice [not to drink] every day when I wake up, and it’s an easier choice today than it was nearly eight years ago."
Natalia Martin Martin, M.A.E. ’17, has been a graduate student at UNI for the last two years.

Yet up until spring Commencement, she hadn’t stepped one foot on campus. In fact, as an enrollee in the university’s online elementary education master’s program, Natalia submitted most of her assignments while traveling in Spain, Argentina, Brazil and Mexico, or from her home in Washington, D.C. where she lives with her boyfriend, Scott Lantz, B.A. ‘99.

It was Scott who originally suggested UNI when Natalia first expressed interest in pursuing a graduate degree and began looking at online programs.

“Learning that UNI is committed to international teaching and well-respected in international teaching environments” was one of the reasons she settled on UNI, according to Natalia. She also added that the flexibility of the program suited her lifestyle, as she and Scott, who works for an airline, are frequently traveling abroad.

Together, the couple have lived in the United States, Mexico, Germany, Costa Rica, Panama and the United Arab Emirates, and visited over a dozen different countries.
Born and raised in Spain, Natalia has used her travels to gain a new perspective on life.

“Living in places very different from my hometown in Spain [has] allowed me to fully immerse myself and appreciate these new places – from the people, to the language, to the cuisine, to the weather,” Natalia said, in describing what she has gleaned from her experiences. “Interacting with local people has enabled me to experience and appreciate differing cultures in a way that wouldn’t have been possible from simply reading a book or watching a movie.

“It only takes some traveling to somewhere where people don’t have the same freedoms and/or privileges we have back home to appreciate how fortunate we are.”

With her diploma in hand, Natalia is now teaching sixth grade at an international school in Panama City, Panama, where she plans to put her UNI education to good use.

“I look forward to bringing to the classroom all the knowledge I gained from UNI’s master’s program,” Natalia said. “In fact, UNI’s approach to instruction is very similar to the approach that most international schools around the world take in the sense of exposing students to learning experiences that require them to research topics, make connections between subject areas and apply the learning to real-world situations.”
BUILDING MORE THAN A STRONG TEAM
"It’s one thing to be great as a football team on the field, but it’s another thing to be great as a team off the field."
— Jacob Appleman, UNI junior offensive lineman.

The incoming juniors on UNI’s football team selected a community project to complete as a team during summer 2017. Thanks to a grant, Waterloo Leisure Services and Thrivent Financial, the team collected enough funds to build a playground in Highland Park in Waterloo.

“We wanted to use our platform as student-athletes to give back to the community that supports us,” said Appleman.

Nice job, Panthers! #unifight
PANTHER POLAROIDS

You never know where you might spot a Panther!

Want your UNI photo to appear in our new Panther Polaroids section? Use the hashtag #PurpleforLife when posting to your social media pages, or email photos to us at unitoday@uni.edu.
1. UNI alumna Sandy Stevens makes an appearance in the 2016 film "American Wrestler: The Wizard" as a wrestling state finals announcer. She is pictured with co-star Jon Voight at a premiere event.

2. Congratulations to UNI professor Andy Anderson and his cousin, John Anderson, for being the first Iowans to summit the North Face of Mount Everest — the tallest mountain in the world!

3. In spring 2017, UNI traveled to seven towns in five days for the Panther Caravan. Panther fans and community members heard from UNI coaches and other special guests and were able to connect with Panthers in a family friendly atmosphere complete with activities and great food!

4. UNI volleyball took a trip to Nicaragua this spring to sightsee, play some matches against international teams and participate in volunteer activities.


6. Andy, ’13, and Emily (Eichler), ’13, Smith enjoy the Cedar Rapids Kernels game July 21 with the Cedar Rapids-Iowa City Corridor Alumni Club. President Nook threw out the first pitch at the game.

7. Ambassador Nancy Powell, ’70, received the 2017 Lifetime Contributions to American Diplomacy Award from the American Foreign Service Association in June. The award honors those who have made extraordinary contributions to diplomacy and the diplomatic profession. Powell, a five-time ambassador, retired in 2014 after 37.5 years in the Foreign Service.
Kathy Calvin, CEO & President of the United Nations Foundation, once said, “Giving is not just about making a donation. It is about making a difference.”

O. Jay and Patricia, M.A. ’86, Tomson certainly embody that quote. The Center for Violence Prevention (CVP) is just one of the many benefactors of the Tomsons’ generosity. The mission of the CVP is to build capacity among community and PreK-16 stakeholders for sustainable prevention work in an effort to create safer homes, schools and communities across Iowa. O. Jay and Pat were asked to assist in making an academic connection between College of Social and Behavioral Sciences students and the CVP. Their gift enables the center to provide meaningful and impactful internship opportunities to CSBS students while continuing to meet the increasing needs of its mission.

“The Tomson Internship Scholarship Award is a wonderful example of investments that leaders like Pat and O. Jay are willing to make in order to realize and cultivate the next generation of advocates and leaders who will make a positive difference in Iowa’s communities,” said Alan Heisterkamp, Ed.D., director, Center for Violence Prevention.

"Giving is not just about making a donation. It is about making a difference."
“My M.A. degree from UNI in counseling created a strong awareness of the need for violence prevention and the role the university can play through the education of its students,” said Pat.

Pat graduated from UNI with her master’s in counseling in 1986 after the couple’s three daughters, Kristin Tomson Schultz (’80 B.A.), Martha Tomson Rodamaker (’84 B.A.) and Sara Tomson Hooper were raised. Upon graduation, Pat established a private practice and served as executive director of Parents United, an international organization dedicated to breaking the family cycle of child sexual abuse by providing group therapy for each family member.

It was Pat’s extensive work and activism in the field of domestic and sexual violence that lead to a gift to enhance CSBS and the Center for Violence Prevention’s work.

“We would like our gift to make a difference, to assist UNI students studying in behavioral sciences to have the opportunity to make a positive impact on family and community life here in the state of Iowa,” said O. Jay.

Student scholarship recipients completed internship experiences with local, long-standing organizations who serve youth and families: Riverview Center, Cedar Valley Friends of the Family, Family and Children’s Council of Black Hawk County and the Center for Violence Prevention at UNI. UNI interns received high marks from their host-site supervisors.

“Meeting with these students and advisors was very impressive for both of us. We look forward to offering continued support,” said O. Jay. UNI
The Panthers Awaken during UNI’s 2017 Homecoming week, Sunday, Oct. 1, through Saturday, Oct. 7. Show your Panther Pride by meeting your friends and celebrating together!

THE SCHEDULE:

**Monday, Oct. 2**
2017 Homecoming Kickoff
5:30 p.m., Lawther Field

**Tuesday, Oct. 3**
Outdoor movie (TBD)

**Friday, Oct. 6**
Welcome Back Bash
5 to 7 p.m., Alumni Plaza South of the Campanile
(rain site: Rod Library)
Register at unialum.org

Pep Rally
7:30 p.m., West Gym

Campaniling
Midnight, Campanile Plaza and Rod Library

**Saturday, Oct. 7**
Wright Hall Open House
9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. with a brief ceremony at 10 a.m.

Homecoming Parade
*Presented by University Book & Supply*
11 a.m., 23rd and College-Streets

Lunch at Piazza and Rialto Dining Centers
11:30 a.m. to 1:15 p.m., Alumni enjoy a discounted price: $8.50 for adults and $7 for youth ages 5-11

Lawther Hall Open House
Noon to 2 p.m.

All-Alumni Tailgate
*In partnership with Hy-Vee Fan Zone*
12:30 to 3:30 p.m., west of the UNI-Dome

UNI Football vs. Western Illinois
4 p.m., UNI-Dome
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Find the full schedule and additional details at [homecoming.uni.edu](http://homecoming.uni.edu)
To accommodate the changing needs of students, Lawther Hall was remodeled and modernized and is now open for upperclass students (sophomores+). The renovations, which began in May 2015, presented an opportunity to expand UNI’s housing inventory to include additional options for returning students who desire accommodations beyond a double room in a traditional residence hall. The new layout now includes single and double rooms, suite-style housing, semi-private restrooms, inclusive housing options and more community space all in a fully air-conditioned hall.

Come see the newly remodeled Lawther Hall during Homecoming week — noon to 2 p.m., Saturday, Oct. 7.

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Swimming & Diving Ranks No. 2 in GPA

For the first time in the 95-year history of the College Swimming & Diving Coaches Association of America (CSCAA) more than 700 teams have received Scholar All-America recognition. Included among the teams was the University of Northern Iowa’s swimming & diving team.

The UNI swimming & diving squad tallied a cumulative grade point average of 3.71 for the 2016-17 season, which ranks No. 2 in the nation. Brown University holds down the No. 1 spot with a 3.77 cumulative GPA.
Wright Hall Centenary: A Celebration of the Building and the Man

Wright Hall, home to UNI’s Department of Mathematics, turns 100 years old this year. There will be a celebration of Wright Hall and David Sands Wright, the first teacher of mathematics when the Iowa State Normal School was founded and the man the building was renamed after in 1957, at 10 a.m., Saturday, Oct. 7, in Wright Hall, Room 009 (during Homecoming). The building will be open, with some open house activities, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. that day.

During the fall semester, there will be a display of objects used in mathematics education from the time of David Sands Wright to the present in Wright Hall, and Rod Library will display some artifacts from its archives, which are related to David Sands Wright. There will also be several lectures during the fall semester in departments associated with Wright Hall or David Sands Wright on how their discipline has changed from the time of David Sands Wright and the opening of the vocational building to the present.

UNI Family Weekend is just around the corner

UNI’s Family Weekend is Oct. 20-22. Many fun activities are planned for you and your family during UNI’s 2017 Family Weekend! Visit familyweekend.uni.edu for a full list of events and additional details.

Discover UNI

Do you know someone who is ready to start their college journey? Tell them UNI is the place to discover where they belong. Check out our fall Panther Open Houses or visit admissions.uni.edu for more information.

FALL PANTHER OPEN HOUSE DATES

- Friday, October 6
  College of Education and Teacher Education Day
- Friday, October 13
  College of Humanities, Arts and Sciences and College of Social and Behavioral Sciences Day
- Friday, October 20
- Friday, October 27
  UNI Business Day
- Friday, November 3
- Saturday, November 4
  Emphasis on Multicultural Student Recruitment
- Friday, November 10
- Friday, November 17

SPRING PANTHER OPEN HOUSE DATES

- Friday, March 30
- Monday, April 2
- Saturday, April 7
- Friday, April 13
1960s
'65 Terry Wiley, BA. Maricopa, AZ, served as a faculty member in the University of Wisconsin-Madison’s department of communication sciences and disorders for 31 years, serving as department chair for four years. He also spent some time as faculty at Arizona State before retiring in 2008.

'68 Edward McMahon, BA. Clinton, retired in 2014 after 42 years as band director at Central DeWitt High School and St. Joseph K-8 school. He also retired in 2016 from the Clinton Symphony Orchestra after 29 years.

1970s
'70 Pat Geadelmann, BA. Cedar Falls, was ordained on 1/22/2017 and is serving as associate pastor of care and visitation at First Presbyterian Church in Waterloo.

'73 John Conley, BA. Davenport, retired from the Davenport Community School District after 44 years of teaching science and fifth grade.

'73 Laura (Noehl) Schmitz, BA. Ionia, retired in June 2017 after teaching third grade for 44 years at Immaculate Conception School in Charles City.

'77 Mike Bayles, BA. Davenport, wrote a novel, "Breakfast at the Good Hope Home," which is a literary collage telling the story of a son visiting his father in a nursing home.

1980s
'81 Vada (Walton) Elliott, BA, Dysart, retired from Union Community Schools on 5/31/2017 after teaching talented and gifted and English language arts for 36 years.

'86 Bruce Tuthill, BA. Mason City, is in his 29th year of teaching, including 19 at his alma mater of Northwood-Kensett Community School District. He teaches grades 5 and 6 special education and grades 7-12 art.

'87 Lisa Pfifner Eaton, BM. Oregon, IL, received the Outstanding Music Educator of the Year award by the Rockford Symphony Orchestra in March 2016.

'88 Patrick Murphy, BA. Northport, AL, earned his 1,000th win in women’s collegiate softball on 3/28/2017. He is currently the head softball coach at the University of Alabama.

1990s
'90 Col. Carol Olson, BA. Alexandria, VA, is the executive assistant to the foreign policy adviser to the chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff. She previously served as assistant director, operational logistics, in the joint staff logistics directorate. Both Carol and her boss, Ambassador Richard Norland, call Iowa home and display a large picture of the USS Iowa in their office at the Pentagon.

'94 Dana (Happel) Cooley, BA. Saint Louis, MO, was named principal with the holding company of Edward Jones, The Jones Financial Companies, LLLP. She is currently the director of sourcing with the financial division of Edward Jones.

'94 Jeffrey Weekley, BA. Marina, CA, retired after 20 years in federal service with the Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey, CA. In March 2017 was awarded the California Education Network Initiative Corporation Innovation Award in Network Research for the Wide Area Visualization Environment (WAVE), the world’s largest walk-in virtual reality environment.

'95 Erik Skovgard, BA. Reinbeck, is president and CEO of Lincoln Savings Bank, which recently received the inaugural SBDC Champion Award. The award recognizes business partners who go above and beyond to support small businesses.

'98 Sarah Barber, BM. Broomfield, CO, joined the voice faculty of Metropolitan State University of Denver, CO.

'98 Ethan Campbell, BA. Keller, TX, was nominated for the Newell National Athletic Trainer of the Year award, which recognizes athletic trainers for the service and leadership they provide local athletic communities.

'99 Brian Ross, BA. Shorewood, MN, was promoted to senior vice president and chief financial officer of MTS Systems Corporation in Eden Prairie, MN.
The UNI Alumni Association (UNIAA) has partnered with University Book & Supply to offer a special alumni collection. A portion of these sales will go to the UNIAA to enhance programs and services for alumni and students. Items will be added periodically, so check back often!

ALUMNI MERCHANDISE PROGRAM

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panthersupply.com/alumni.asp

2000s

’01 Michael Gernes, BA, Falcon Heights, MN, has worked at Fantasy Flight Games in the Twin Cities since 2012. He has produced several tabletop games and worked with some major licenses, including Star Wars.

’01 Marc Reifenrath, BA, Parkersburg, was named to the Cedar Valley Junior Achievement Hall of Fame.

’01 Jake Youngkent, BA, MA ’15, Cedar Falls, was named principal of Lou Henry Elementary School in Waterloo.

’04 Benjamin Klemme, BM, Davenport, was named music director by the Vermont Youth Orchestra Association.

’05 Andy Steffen, BA, Cedar Falls, is the owner of Appraisal Pros, Inc., a residential appraisal firm, and is a realtor with Berkshire Hathaway Home Services One Realty Centre.

’06 Laura (Rutt) Jordan, BA, Ames, joined Sigler Companies as a web designer in May 2017.

’07 Katie (Schorsch) Stevenson, BA, Ankeny, earned her masters of communication leadership degree from Drake University in 2014 and is currently the director of annual and special gifts at Des Moines University.

’07 Tanner Varner, BA, Urbandale, is a linebacker for the Qingdao Clippers, a professional arena football team in the new China Arena Football League.

’08 Dan Black, BM, Red Oak, is a member of the Iowa Fine Arts Standards Adoption Team, which was convened by the Iowa Department of Education.

’08 Seth Stevenson, BA, Ankeny, was promoted to director of digital marketing at Des Moines University.

’13 Spencer Elliott, BA, Dysart, graduated with a doctorate in physical therapy from Clarke University and will be a physical therapist at Des Moines Orthopaedic Surgeons in September.

’13 Janae (Holtkamp) Guay, BA, Cedar Falls, is assistant controller at CPM Acquisitions.

’13 Ellie Henson, BM, San Antonio, TX, has taught in Iowa and Colorado. She is now the head band director at Highlands High School in San Antonio, TX, and a trombonist in the San Antonio Brass Band.

’13 Shanna Karls, MS, Monticello, WI, graduated with a doctorate in physical therapy from the University of Wisconsin-Madison and became a physical therapist at Des Moines Orthopaedic Surgeons in July.

2010s

’10 Brent Troy, BA, Chicago, IL, is vice president and regional director with Oak Ridge Investments.

’11 Aaron Hynds, BA, Bowling Green, OH, is the sound production coordinator at the University of Nebraska at Kearney.

’13 Tyler Campbell, BA, Muscatine, was promoted to account executive at LS2group, a Des Moines-based public relations and communications firm.

’13 Spencer Elliott, BA, Dysart, graduated with a doctorate in physical therapy from Clarke University and will be a physical therapist at Des Moines Orthopaedic Surgeons in September.

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’13 Shanna Karls, MS, Monticello, WI, graduated with a doctorate in physical therapy from the University of Wisconsin-Madison and became a physical therapist at Des Moines Orthopaedic Surgeons in July.
'17 Steph Jackson, BA, Naperville, IL, is a staffing manager with Robert Half in Chicago, IL.

'14 Collin Nelson, BA, Des Moines, was named the 2017 Emerging Citizen of the Year by the West Des Moines Chamber.

'14 Jon Snell, BA, New York, NY, recently completed his master’s degree at the Manhattan School of Music, where he was the sole recipient of the William H. Borden Award for Outstanding Achievement in Jazz.

'15 Ryan Randall, BA, Normal, IL, made a career move to continue working for Learfield at Redbird Sports Properties.

'16 Eric Sikkema, BA, BA '16, Cedar Falls, is a financial adviser with Northwestern Mutual.

'16 Mitchell Beckman, BA, Chattanooga, TN, is a sales consultant with Pella Corporation.

'16 Chloe Sadler, BA, Spring, TX, is teaching business information management to grades 10-12 at Nimitz High School in Houston, TX, and was recently selected as the MVP Rookie Teacher.

'14 Jason Babor, BA, married Kristine (Horras) Babor, BA '08, in July 2015.


Marriages

'03 Jason Babor, BA, married Kristine (Horras) Babor, BA '08, in July 2015.


Births

'95 Marc Mitchell, BA, and Maryanne Jankovic, Redondo Beach, CA, daughter born 1/23/2017.

'07 Katie (Schorsch) Stevenson, BA, and Seth Stevenson, BA '08, Ankeny, son Bennett Wayne Stevenson born 10/03/2016.

Deaths

'48 Warren Smith, BA, died 1/8/2017 in New York, NY.

'50 DeLores (Twist) Edwards, 2-yr Cert., died 2/11/2016 in Johnson City, TN.

'51 Charles Edwards, BA, MA '57, died 3/6/2017 in Johnson City, TN.

'59 John Heying, BA, MA '66, died 4/24/2016 in Bella Vista, AR.

'66 Vern Balk, BA, died 1/1/2016 in Ankeny.

'67 Patrick Corcoran, BA, died 5/1/2017 in Des Moines.

'68 Judith (Plambeck) Papesh, BA, died 4/19/2017 in Des Moines.

'70 Tom Barbatti, BA, MA '72, died 10/19/2016 in Cedar Falls.

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

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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.
The University of Northern Iowa Department of Athletics inducted five individuals and the 1977-78 Panther wrestling team into its 2017 Athletics Hall of Fame.

This year’s Hall of Fame includes: **Mike Furrey, B.A. ’99**, football; **Jacqui Kalin, B.A. ’13**, women’s basketball; **Bre Payton, B.A. ’11**, volleyball; **Ben Boothby, B.A. ’11**, received the Merlin Taylor Academic Hall of Fame Award; **Jim Sullivan**, sports writer for the Waterloo-Cedar Falls Courier, received the Dr. Jitu D. Kothari Meritorious Service Award; and the **1977-78 Panther wrestling team**.

Financial advisers remind us to manage our money, but what about our careers? Creating a career plan and managing your career will provide the resources you need to not only enjoy life but enjoy your retirement years. That’s where we want to help. We’ve lined up the nation’s top career authors to give you the knowledge you need to transition into any stage of your career—from student to retirement!

For more information on each webinar and to register, go to [Alumnicareerservices.Org/Uni/Events.Aspx#Tabs1](http://Alumnicareerservices.Org/Uni/Events.Aspx#Tabs1).

**Free webinars!**

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*Offerings are subject to change*
Explore new territory.
Rediscover favorite destinations.

POLAND, EAST GERMANY & WORLD WAR II
June 5 - 7, 2018
Journey through Poland and Germany, exploring the tormented, often tragic, history of the region, and discover some of its highlights as well. Visit the remnants of the Jewish Ghetto, concentration camps, the Oskar Schindler Factory, Checkpoint Charlie, the Brandenburg Gate and Nuremberg. See the restored architecture, and feel the impact of history.

GAEIC EXPLORATION
June 17 - 28, 2018
Experience the wonders of Gaelic culture as you sail through Ireland and the British Isles. Discover Ireland’s cosmopolitan heart in Dublin and Belfast, delve into its rich history from Waterford to Galway, and explore the natural bounty of Glengarriff and Holyhead.

BREATHTAKING BORDEAUX
July 16 - 24, 2018
On this luxury cruise around the Bordeaux region, you’ll have the opportunity to not only taste some of the world’s greatest wines, but also explore the underground catacombs in Saint-Émilion, tour the Château de Roquetaillade in Cadillac and much more in our unforgettable, all-inclusive Enrich experiences.

15-DAY YUKON & TRIPLE DENALI CRUISE TOUR
July - Aug. 2018 TBD
Begin an adventure with a three-night stay in Denali National Park. Dredge for gold at the historic Gold Dredge 8 in Fairbanks. A short flight will land travelers in Dawson City, Yukon, where an adventure on a paddle-wheel cruise awaits. Follow the trail of the Klondike gold stampers before jumping on a Holland American cruise ship to visit ice-studded fjords and the Alaskan port of Ketchikan.

For trip details, visit unialum.org/alumni-travel.
Stand in awe of massive glaciers and all-enveloping scenery as you cruise up the Alaskan coast. Explore Alaska’s breathtaking natural beauty, unique native culture, famous gold fields and more on this 10-day trip starting and ending in Seattle.

Discover the unique personality of northern Europe as you set sail across the Baltic Sea from Copenhagen to Stockholm on the luxurious Marina. Laze on the unforgettable beaches of the Baltic States in Klaipeda, Riga and Tallinn; explore the cosmopolitan flair of Helsinki and Berlin; and embrace a two-night stay in St. Petersburg, Russia’s window to the West.

Explore ancient cities, alluring beaches and culture straight from the Old World as you set sail across the Mediterranean Sea aboard the luxurious Marina. Bask in the glamour of the French and Italian Rivieras, explore the lives of legendary artists from Dali to Picasso, and marvel at the architecture of some of Spain’s most historic port cities.

Enjoy seven nights aboard the AmaPrima as you journey along the Rhine. Embark in Switzerland and wind along through Germany, France and the Netherlands, exploring vineyards, historic castles and picturesque hamlets. Visit local the idyllic Christmas markets scattered throughout the Rhine Valley.
If you recognize anyone in these photos or can tell us what year they were taken, contact Sarah Parsons at sarah.parsons@uni.edu or by calling 888-UNI ALUM.
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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

SEPTEMBER
1 — Omaha-Council Bluffs Alumni Club Storm Chasers Event, Omaha, NE
2 — UNI at ISU Football Game and Tailgating
14 — Quad Cities Alumni Reception, Quad Cities
18 — Kansas City Alumni Club Event with Coach Jacobson, Kansas City, MO
26 — Twin Cities Alumni Club night at Excelsior Brewing, Excelsior, MN
28 — Cedar Rapids-Iowa City Corridor Alumni Club Reception, Cedar Rapids

OCTOBER
6-7 — Golden Graduate Reunion - Class of 1967
7 — Homecoming (See Homecoming spread for complete list of activities)

NOVEMBER
3-5 — School of Music Horn Choir Reunion
10 — UNI at North Carolina Pregame Event
17 — Distinguished Awards Celebration

DECEMBER
16 — Big Four Classic Pregame Event, Des Moines

For more events and details, visit unialum.org.
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.