Greetings from the chair!

Bill Waack has served as editor of the newsletter for several years. He is now retiring from that position and deserves our thanks for an excellent job well done. All of us thank you, Bill.

This is the first newsletter to be edited by Bruce Rogers. Please provide your cooperation by giving him ideas about the content of the newsletter and brief articles about your activities.

The Program Committee, consisting of Roger Hanson (Chair), Bob Hardman and Jerry Stockdale, has arranged a series of programs for our monthly meetings this year. The programs have been varied and very interesting, but the committee is happy to receive suggestions for future programs. We need to thank them, as well.

Judy Harrington has made the arrangements for the Annual Meeting to be held on May 1, 2010, in the lobby of the Gallagher-Bluedorn Performing Arts Center. The speaker will be the Executive Vice-President and Provost Gloria Gibson. Thank you, Judy, for all of your work. It should be an interesting program and I urge all of you to attend.

Dean Talbott

50 Years Ago

An examination of the events at UNI 50 years ago indicates that history does indeed seem to repeat itself. In the “Centennial History of the UNI,” Vol II (by William Lang and Daryl Pendergraft, 1995), we read that, “after 1960, Iowa fell rapidly behind other [nearby] states in the rate of state support. In comparison with the other 10 states in the upper Midwest, Iowa ranked at the very bottom in the funds appropriated for capital improvements for the state-supported colleges and universities. The three institutions of higher education paid salaries considerably below the average for the eleven states for which the Board of Regents made its comparisons.” (p 323) Half a century ago, it was stated, “The need for a tuition increase results directly from the Governor’s no tax increase’ policy.” (p 330) Those sentences sound very familiar to the statement issued this spring of 2010 by the Board of Regents that there was to be a tuition increase, and the statement by the Governor that taxes would not be increased. On a more positive note, 50 years ago, the number of student aid scholarships had doubled during the 10 years preceding 1960.

University of Northern Iowa Business and Community Services and John Pappajohn Entrepreneurial Center provide valuable assistance to Iowan entrepreneurs

UNI Business and Community Services

The Business and Community Services (BCS) division houses a host of programs that emphasize hands-on assistance to advance business, community and entrepreneurial development. Serving clients in each of Iowa’s 99 counties, BCS is able to capitalize on the intellectual capacity and practical experiences of the University to better meet Iowa’s economic development needs. We are also able to bring these needs back to our university community—the faculty, staff and students—all of which play critical roles in providing practical assistance. Specific focus areas for UNI include: community and economic development; market research; environmental research and service; metal casting; biobased lubricants; executive development; new Iowans; intellectual property; and entrepreneurship.

UNI John Pappajohn Entrepreneurial Center

In 1996, John Pappajohn, president of Equity Dynamics, Inc., established five entrepreneurial centers in Iowa. Although each center defines its own mission and serves the state in a manner consistent with its particular strengths, each center has the same ultimate purpose: to enhance the effectiveness of Iowa’s entrepreneurs. The John Pappajohn Entrepreneurial Center (JPEC) at the University of Northern Iowa is a division of Business and Community Services, which is included in the College of Business Administration. The JPEC offers programs focusing on entrepreneurship education, technology transfer, and capital investment for small businesses. conferences, symposia, and workshops; business plan competitions; equity funds; and a student entrepreneurs’ organization.
Albert R. Gilgen (2001)
Since I retired in 2001, I have been working on a book concerned with persistent and recent issues besetting American psychology. I finally realize that I have bitten off more than I can chew and I spend a lot of time spinning my wheels. Three main obstacles stand in the way of the manuscript’s completion: first, I can not clearly identify the audience for whom I am writing; second, the discipline continues to fragment and become less clearly defined; and third, the ever-accelerating torrent of relevant information via the internet makes the project almost unmanageable. This at a time when my attention span is narrowing and my memory is weakening. Nonetheless, hope springs eternal and I plan to gain traction again soon. I enjoy the challenge and even if a book doesn’t result, the effort will have been worth it. One thing I know for sure is that many issues beset psychology.

Leland Thomson (1992)
Retirement is wonderful! I enjoy playing the trombone in the UNI New Horizons Band and the El Kahir Shriner Band. Both groups practice weekly and perform many times throughout the year. I swim and exercise five times a week at the River Plaza Athletic Club. Taking care of my house, yard and garden consumes my extra time. UNI is only six minutes driving time with a wide variety of music, drama and athletic events. Fun!

George F. Day (1994)
Clara and I went to my 60th college class reunion in New Hampshire in June. We also visited my son and family in Boston and toured the area. In February, to honor the 299th birthday of Abraham Lincoln, I printed a little book of my grandfather’s reminiscences of seeing Lincoln three times. One of those times he met the president-to-be and carried his suitcase. Later, he served in the Union Army during the Civil War. We have a beautiful new granddaughter, Sofia Carmen Park. Luckily, she lives just five minutes away.

Jack Jennett (1999)
I can’t believe that Hans Isakson and the faculty want to cut funds for sports. This is like telling the students they can’t teach and also coach and be athletic trainers. The number of athletes is large and they all must be good students in order to be able to participate. I have taught many former athletes that contribute to UNI: Mark Messersmith, to name one, whose name is on the outdoor track and Stan Sheriff raised funds to get the UNI Dome built. Are you now starting to cut sports? Go Panthers! Go UNIEA! [Jack was a track coach at UNI from 1962 to 1976.]

Virginia Hash (1999)
Virginia is now living in Florida. She sent us a newspaper clipping describing her role in tutoring. Here are excerpts: “Soon after learning that an estimated 14 percent of Clay County’s 180,000 residents couldn’t read above the first-grade level, Virginia Hash joined the all-volunteer county Literacy Coalition. That was 10 years ago, and the retired UNI professor has been on a mission ever since. Florida Senators Jeff Atwater and Steve Wise presented Hash with a Senate Spirit of Service Award in July of 2009. She dedicated more than 1,200 hours of her time last year alone.”

Continued from page 1
These programs include: a certificate in entrepreneurship; a student business incubator; academic and non-academic entrepreneurship courses including a summer program; small business assistance; conferences, symposia, and workshops; business plan competitions; equity funds; and a student entrepreneurs’ organization.

The Certificate in Entrepreneurship is designed to engage students in active participation in the development of entrepreneurial enterprises. Students do this through a combination of traditional course work specifically directed to entrepreneurial ventures and participation in an enterprise experience through the development of a business plan for a new venture and an experiential project.

The Student Business Incubator is a private-philanthropy and Small Business Administration-funded program of the JPEC designed to inspire and educate UNI students interested in entrepreneurship and small business. The incubator is an educational learning lab for student business owners to explore ideas with the assistance of the JPEC and other professionals. The incubator has ten fully equipped professional suites for student businesses and a comprehensive small business education and counseling program.
UNI hosts first-ever international physical education forum in the U.S.

Recognizing that childhood obesity is no longer just a problem in the U.S., the University of Northern Iowa organized the first-ever in the U.S. international health and physical education global forum. According to Ming-Kai Chin, UNI professor of physical education, research studies from the International Obesity Task Force have shown an estimated 155 million school-age children and adolescents worldwide show symptoms of obesity and being overweight. Among those, 30 to 45 million children and adolescents ages 5-17 are obese.

More than 70 educators, health professionals, administrators and policy makers from 30 countries, representing 64 universities, institutions, organizations and schools will attend the Global Forum for 2010 Physical Education (GoFPEP 2010) on May 13 and 14. The forum, "Revitalizing Health and Physical Education Through Technology," will focus on reform in health and physical education programs for K-12 students.

The majority of the forum will be held in Grundy Center, Iowa, home of UNI's Polar Electro Masters program, and will include field trips to Cedar Falls and Waterloo. Forum sponsors included HotSports Training System, Polar Electro and Environmental Lubricants Manufacturing Inc. (ELM). The forum was endorsed by 14 local and international professional physical education, physical activity, exercise science and health organizations.

Dalai Lama to make historic visit to UNI
May 18, 2010

The 14th Dalai Lama of Tibet will visit the University of Northern Iowa Tuesday, May 18, to share his views on the important of education in an increasingly global society.

"UNI is honored to host the Dalai Lama, who has received awards from around the world that recognize his messages of peace, non-violence, inter-religious understanding, and universal responsibility and compassion," said UNI President Benjamin Allen. "At UNI, we take great pride in providing quality education and preparing future educators. The Dalai Lama imparts a message to the world that stresses the importance of learning, and the role education plays in developing socially responsible citizens. This is a great opportunity to provide inspiration and cultivate new thoughts and ideas at UNI."

More information about the day of the Dalai Lama's visit and associated events will follow in the fall. For more information about the Dalai Lama, who received the Nobel Peace Prize in 1989, visit www.dalailama.com.
2010 UNI Emeritus Luncheon

Be certain to mark your calendars for the Twenty First UNI Emeritus Luncheon, Saturday, May 1st. We are returning to the beautiful lobby of the Gallagher-Bluedorn Performing Arts Center. The ample parking lot immediately north of the Center has both handicap-accessible and other parking. Ignore the meters! Additional parking is available further north in the Gilchrist lot or in the lots across University Avenue, just south of the Center.

After a delicious buffet luncheon, we are delighted to introduce you to Gloria J. Gibson, who was named UNI’s Executive Vice President & Provost on July 1, 2009. Her informative and stimulating presentation is titled Reflecting on the Past and Envisioning the Future at the University of Northern Iowa. Look for the reservation and other details elsewhere in the Newsletter.

Judith Harrington, Luncheon Chair

Necrology

“As you remember the love, as you mourn the loss, may you also celebrate the life.”

UNI Faculty

Dr. Jerry Duea
(College of Education)

Dr. Theodore Hovet
(College of Humanities and Fine Arts)

Faculty Spouses

Audrey Freitag (Arnold)
Helen Wiederanders (Don)

Saying farewell to 2,825 years of service and history

Early retirement package fosters new beginnings for long-time UNI employees

by Rebecca Schultz

This spring the University of Northern Iowa offered an Early Retirement Incentive Program to its long-time faculty and staff members to help deal with continued declines in state funding.

After careful consideration of many personal and professional outcomes, 117 university employees chose to participate in the program and said goodbye to UNI this fall.

With those 117 employees go 2,825 years of history and service to the university. Individuals’ years of service range from six to 44. All will be missed.

Congratulations!

to the UNI Men’s basketball team for the program’s first-ever Sweet Sixteen appearance in the NCAA basketball tournament!

Photo Courtesy of David Ulrich, Oklahoma City