

## A Message from the UNIEA Chair David Duncan

Greeting to all emeritus members of the UNI community. I hope that your lives in retirement are as rewarding as those described in the many updates in this issue contributed by UNIEA members.

If you are living locally, I especially want to invite you to attend the UNIEA monthly luncheons, normally held on the first Wednesday of the month at the Clarion Inn in Cedar Falls. If any of you are not receiving the monthly electronic announcements of these meetings, please contact me at david.duncan@uni.edu and I will add you to our mailing list.

These monthly meetings include programs in which UNIEA members, current UNI faculty and community leaders discuss issues and activities. In the past two years these programs have included the following:

- the poetry of James Hearst set to music;
- the art and science of soap bubbles;
- historical and cultural perspectives on music from the Christmas season;
- several programs on Russia, involving history, personal travels and ancestral roots of members;
- Iowa Public Radio;
- contrasting Arab cultures;
- the United Way;
- discussions led by President Ben Allen, Provost Gloria Gibson, College of Education Dean Dwight Watson and Mayor Jon Crews;
- retirement alternatives in the Cedar Valley;
- the CFU fiber optics network;
- a presentation by State Auditor David Vaudt;
- the UNI Museums;
- experiences of UNI students who studied in Spain on Eller Scholarships;
- trails and other recreational opportunities in the Cedar Valley;
- the Cedar Falls Library;
- several discussions on trends and outlooks for the university;
- a tour of the President's House, with an overview by Pat Allen.

Many more such programs are on tap for this coming year; please join us!

## Merge and Emerge

By Joel Haack  
Dean, College of Humanities, Arts and Sciences

In January of 2010, I was named dean of the College of Humanities and Fine Arts (CHFA), adding this position to my other assignment as dean of the College of Natural Sciences (CNS), with the charge of facilitating a newly proposed merger of CHFA with CNS by July 1, 2011. Because the two colleges provided the vast majority of UNI's liberal arts core courses, the time was right to bring the colleges together with the goal of developing new, integrated programs to serve the needs of UNI students and the state. UNI Provost Gloria Gibson has stated it well, "At the heart of the merger is the belief that from two colleges can emerge a strong, innovative and creative unit."

We now have emerged.

The new college, the College of Humanities, Arts and Sciences (CHAS), now enrolls one third of UNI's students in its majors and programs. The faculty teaches 40 percent of the student credit hours of the entire institution. The opportunity to create a new college is a rare opportunity in academia; this is the first change in the college structure at UNI since 1989 and it is clear that CHAS will be a very strong entity.

This past year was filled with change, but was full of positive moments. The enrollment at UNI was up in 2010-11 for the fourth straight year. Within our college, enrollment reached the highest level, at least in the past five years. Our faculty and staff remain convinced of the critical need to educate a greater number of citizens with a sound liberal arts background, so we are delighted by the challenge presented by this increased enrollment. Faculty and students continue to work together to benefit students' learning and the cultural, social and economic development of the state. And in short, the College of Humanities, Arts and Sciences is successfully participating in the mission of the University of Northern Iowa, and you can be proud to be one of our emeriti and friends.

The University of Northern Iowa has always sought to teach, nourish and foster the growth of its students. As part of this evolving and ongoing effort, we have embarked on a new beginning, one that focuses our strengths and sharpens our goals. We are excited about the opportunities that this merger has created for our students and staff and we look positively to our future.

## Feedback From Members

### **Myrtle Albrecht for James Albrecht (1990)**

I am writing on behalf of my husband, Dr. James E. Albrecht. He had a stroke in 1999 and lived at home until August of 2010. He is now residing at the Windsor Nursing and Rehabilitation Center. His health is quite good except for the disabilities caused by the stroke.

### **Jim Becker (1999)**

Greetings from sunny Arizona. Jeannine and I have enjoyed our time living in the spot where “we don’t scoop sunshine.” While living here in Fountain Hills, I have been actively volunteering. I work as a tour guide at the Frank Lloyd Wright School of Architecture in Scottsdale and recently have started working at the Mayo Clinic as a volunteer. I find both very rewarding. In addition I continue to write a daily travel blog for SeniorCitizenJournal.com and keep my 15 language websites current at [www.uni.edu/becker](http://www.uni.edu/becker). My “Best Spanish Websites” page is now pushing four million page visits and is number one with both Google and Yahoo. Yahoo!

### **Hugh L Beykirch (1999)**

It is hard to believe that I have been retired from UNI for almost 13 years and have lived in Green Valley, Ariz., longer than eight. For people who never wanted to live in the South, Lynne and I have acclimated well to the Southwest. It felt even better when hearing and reading about the dreadful Winter of 2010-2011 in northerly and easterly directions. Our involvements in the community, church and the arts have kept us pretty busy; my fourth career in the world of abstract art has been an enjoyable and productive ride. I have been invited to exhibit at the University of Arizona last year and will participate for a fourth time in March in the Open-Studio Tours of the Tubac Center of the Arts. I am on the net with Ostyn-Newman.com. Whenever the travel bug bites us, we let the wind take us where it chooses to go. Never a dull moment! I finally have succeeded in stopping the 5 a.m. wake-up calls from UNI, telling us about cancellations of classes due to inclement weather.

Fall 2011, we spent several months in Florida after the death of my sister-in-law. During a visit to Sarasota, we had a most enjoyable visit with John and Elaine Kamerick. After almost 49 years of marriage, we have become the proud adoptive parents of “Chico,” a 101-pound, lovable golden doodle. It feels great to be finally home.

### **Myra Boots (1995)**

Life in retirement holds many surprises, both great and small, good and bad. Ray and I are continuing to travel, dine with friends, play bridge and golf, and generally enjoy life. However, health problems have slowed us down a bit. In January 2011 I had aortic valve replacement and three by-passes done at the Mayo Clinic. Recovery was rapid and I am doing very well right now. Ray struggles with his two new knees and two carpal tunnel operations (not all at once!) but still is ready to go each morning, seeking a new adventure. UNI sports events, the performances at the GBPAC, and volunteering for a variety of organizations and causes fill our days and nights. We are ready for 2012 and the years that follow, always giving thanks for the blessing of living close to UNI and being a part of the Cedar Valley experience.

### **Lynn Brant (2007)**

Retirement is great. Writing, traveling, archery (which I took up at age 68 and am able to hit the target most of the time) and visiting keep me busy. I’ve published a couple of papers about diatoms since retiring, and the other day I learned that a new species has been named in my honor. WOW! I am planning a trip to Belgium this summer to attend an international diatom meeting.

### **Jim Chadney (2005)**

After 31 years at UNI, I retired in 1999 as the Interim Dean of the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences and began a new career as Dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences at Western Oregon University, moving near our sons and grandchildren. After six rewarding years, I again retired and

Bobbi and I began an active life of travel and, at least for me, golf. Since then, we have visited Australia, Belize, England, France, Greece, Honduras, Italy, Mexico, Morocco, New Zealand, Scotland, Spain and Turkey. Life is good and we would welcome visits from our UNI friends.

### **Bruce Chidester (1999)**

Karen and I are continuing to enjoy retirement although we are directing our attentions to different activities. Karen has been working at an up-scale boutique in Branson now for the past two years and is able to fill her closet with work related items. She has always enjoyed the opportunity to wear the latest fashions. My fishing has slowed down now that I have learned everything I need to know about catching fish in my backyard on Table Rock Lake. My interest in the past two years has been directed to my Branson Trumpet Ensemble of which I am the leader, performer, composer and arranger. We continue to perform concerts in the Branson area. I have two very active Blogs on the Internet ([thetrumpetblog.com](http://thetrumpetblog.com) and [trumpetensemblemusic.com](http://trumpetensemblemusic.com)) which keep me very busy. This year alone we have had over 62,000 visits to our sites and have sent trumpet arrangements to many countries around the world. This week we sent a trumpet quartet arrangement of Tijuana Taxi to Athens, Greece. Our family continues to be the light of our lives and visiting with our kids and our grandchildren is always a pleasure.

### **Albert Gilgen (2001)**

It’s been a rough time for me. Carol died of a stroke on December 14—her birthday—and I am basically trying to survive. Fortunately, my daughter, Beth, and my son, Jim, both of whom live in town, as well as my son, Bert—who visits frequently from Austin, Texas—are helping me cope with the fog of denial that still besets me. Carol and I were married over 57 years, so we were very close. I appreciate the time we had together and hope to be sustained by my memories of the many good times we shared.

## More Feedback

### Fred Hallberg (1998)

Lorraine and Fred Hallberg have abandoned their old Civil War era house in Janesville, and moved in November 2010 to a brand new retirement condominium in Waverly, Iowa. The condominium development is called “Eisenach Village” (after the German “Sister City” of Waverly), and is located north of the Bartel’s retirement complex and west of the “W” (the Wartburg health and fitness center). Our new address is 1206 Bach Drive, Waverly, IA, 50677. Our new phone is 596-4011. Our email address is unchanged at UNI. I had a hard time making the move because I had become rooted at the old place during my 43-year residence there. I had collected many books and toys over the years and found it hard to part with them. I had developed several furry and feathered friends along the banks of the Cedar River, and I miss them. Lorraine had a much easier time with the move. She enjoys the ambiance of the brand new condo, even though we have both found the physical challenges of moving to be exhausting. There are still some cardboard boxes we have not yet unpacked.

### Roger Hanson (1997)

I was involved in a recently published book: Chapter 12 “Bowed Strings” by Thomas D. Rossing and Roger J. Hanson, in the book “The Science of String Instruments,” edited by Thomas D. Rossing, published by Springer, 2010. In the summer and fall of 2011 I was adviser for Amber Zingler’s undergraduate physics student experimental research project on the inharmonicity of piano strings.

### Dave & Vivian Jackson (2002)

We continue to be involved with People to People International as members of their Citizen Ambassador Program. In October 2010, we visited Brazil on a cultural and educational exchange with a group of educators from throughout the U.S., Canada and the U.S. Virgin Islands. Our itinerary took us to the cities of Sao Paulo and Rio de Janeiro where we held meetings with Brazilian

educators, community agency personnel and government officials. We visited public and private elementary and secondary schools, and state-operated higher education institutions—one being the prestigious School of Education at Sao Paulo University. This institution is leading Brazil’s efforts to transform its educational system to meet the challenges of an emerging world economic power.

### Jim Kelly (2010)

I started my first full year of retirement wondering what to do. After 45 years in education, the last 40 at UNI, I moved from a structured lifestyle to one that offered a lot of extra time on my hands. A project that I had wanted to do for some time has now come to fruition. I put together a team of 18 authors to assist in writing a brief history of UNI athletics. Like myself, most of the authors are retired, while several are still active faculty members. Each individual selected a sport to research and write. Some chapters are now finished and in layout. Other chapters are still being edited and refined. Everyone is working on a gratis basis with underwriting printing cost a part of the overall project so all profits, once published, can be given to the Panther Scholarship Club. I’m hoping for the book to be finished in time for the upcoming Rally in the Valley.

### Marilou Kratzenstein (2002)

My most interesting experience this year was being part of a volunteer team that spent two weeks carrying out basic building projects in mountainous Mayan villages in Guatemala, where villagers spoke Quiché, not Spanish. We assembled and installed wood-burning efficiency stoves with ventilation systems for 30 families that had none. To protect my precious musician’s hands, I wore leather-padded weight-lifting gloves with a second pair of leather gloves over them. It was hard work, but rewarding. Helping in this way provided a total change of scene from my usual life in San Diego.

### Kent Macomber (2000)

I retired from the Physics Department in the spring of 2000. Subsequently, Carol and I spent a few years looking around the West for a place to live, ultimately choosing northeastern New Mexico. In October 2006, we took possession of a house about six miles south of Las Vegas, NM. The house, a one-story structure of about 2,000 square feet, is located on about 11 acres of pine forest on a ridge in the highlands between the western edge of the Great Plains and the Sangre de Cristo mountains, an extension of the Rocky Mountains. To the northwest some distance are mountains as high as 13,000 to 14,000 feet, but our elevation here is about 6,600 feet. To the west and about an hour away is Santa Fe, the state capital and a major national art center. It bills itself as “The City Different,” which is not undeserved. Though we are, technically, living in a subdivision, it is better described as a rural area with an average lot size of about 5 acres. Thus, we have to deal with rural problems: managing a 14,000-gallon rainwater catchment system that has replaced our failed well; being mindful of wildfires, usually caused by lightning; being aware of wildlife such as coyotes and elk and the occasional bear or mountain lion; and being sensitive to Hispanic culture, some of it dating back to about 1500. All in all, it is an interesting and beautiful—if rather primitive—place with an excellent four-season climate.

### E. Russell TePaske (1989)

Even prior to retirement, I had decided to travel outside the U.S. at least once each year in “third world” countries. With the help of “Lonely Planet” guidebooks, I plan my own itineraries, staying where traveling locals stay, eating what they eat, shopping where they shop, and being transported as they are transported. I’ve been to over 50 countries. My biological interests in ecology and agriculture have been and are matched by human interests in politics and religion—there’s always something of interest. I have no agenda for future travel except an additional trip to India and perhaps more revisits to countries experiencing the “Arab Spring.”





## More Feedback

### UNIEA LEADERSHIP

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#### Leland Thomson (1992)

Most of the year involved attending music and athletic events at UNI. Quality programs and excellent parking make these things wonderful! I also play trombone in the Iowa Military Veterans Band (Des Moines), El Kahir Band (Cedar Rapids) and the New Horizons Band (Cedar Falls). These are fun activities with great people. Part of the summer was spent battling cancer. Excellent surgeons at the Mayo Clinic were successful in handling this awful problem. I'm feeling great again and swim daily at the River Plaza Athletic Club in Waterloo.

#### Carl and Wanda Wehner (1992)

We have lived in the south campus of the Western Home since April of 2005. We really enjoy living here. I have two raised beds for gardening and also do a lot of container gardening. I also have time to plant and care for flowers around the Cedar Falls Mennonite Church. In November I completed five years on dialysis. I seem to tolerate dialysis very well and am thankful for that. Wanda continues to quilt with a group at the First Methodist Church once a week and also at home almost every day. The Methodist quilters donate projects for the United Methodist Ingathering auction in November and for foster children. Wanda donates quilt projects to the Ingathering auction and to the Mennonite Relief Sale in the spring.

#### Joe Wells (2002)

My wife, Kay, and I are living in Silver City, New Mexico, with The Gila National Forest in our backyard. We hike and ride horses in the backcountry with our German shepherd rescue dog, Becca, as well as teach swing at a local dance studio. I published my first novel last year with Wheatmark, Tucson, Arizona. "Here Comes Petrowski, but Where Is Riff?" was published under the pseudonym Monte Schae to separate popular work from research and textbook publications, and is based upon the stories of gay panelists who spoke in my human sexuality classes. A second novel is in process.

#### Robley Wilson (2000)

This was a stock-taking year for us. We figured out that since my retirement in 2000, Susan has published three novels, and I've published a book of poems, two novels and two short-story collections—the second, "Who Will Hear Your Secrets?", available this month. Can't wait for the years to come!



# UNI *Honors Program*

By Jessica Moon  
 Director, University Honors Program

The University Honors Program is an academic organization that strives to enhance the collegiate experience of UNI's high-ability students. The program offers specialized sections of liberal arts core courses which fulfill both university and honors requirements. Honors courses are characterized by small class sizes with an emphasis on active learning and student participation. Students can also choose from upper-level seminars developed specifically for the program and can earn honors credit through approved study abroad experiences or independent studies. Challenging classroom experiences, interaction with faculty and a sense of community among motivated students are a few benefits of honors involvement.

Entrance criteria for first-years students are an ACT composite of 27 or higher and high school class rank in the top 10%; current or transfer students may apply with a GPA of 3.30 or better and a professor's recommendation. Students receive recognition through the notation of individual honors courses on transcripts and the designation of *University Honors* or *University Honors with Distinction* for those who fulfill the appropriate requirements prior to graduation.

Completion of an undergraduate thesis is the final step towards earning a University Honors designation. The thesis gives honors students an opportunity to explore a scholarly area of interest with the guidance of a faculty member. It is intended to serve as the culmination of the honors experience. Past thesis topics include:

- *Myth and Reality of Prom: A Qualitative Examination of the American High School Prom Experience*
- *Who Should Own the Air? A Closer Look at Smoking Bans*
- *Implications of Physical Attractiveness on Time Allocations from Salesperson to Customer*
- *Playing Like a Girl: An Analysis of the Role of Gender in Trumpet Performance*

Outside of class, honors students are involved in a wide spectrum of activities across campus including music ensembles, student government, athletics, academic societies and faith-based groups. There are currently 450 students enrolled in the Honors Program, working toward a variety of majors across UNI's four undergraduate colleges.

## ***Educate, Serve and Lead***

By Dr. Dwight C. Watson  
 Dean, College of Education

Recently I had an opportunity to speak to the emeriti faculty at their monthly gathering. I was asked to share the vision of the College of Education. As the new dean, I came to the University of Northern Iowa predicated on the legacy of its teacher preparation program. My goal as the dean is to assist the college in reclaiming the premier status and to once again be the beacon teacher education program.

In order to fulfill this goal we must honor our past to launch our future. I have spent the first six months understanding the context and the complexity of the college. I believe that in order to understand the context, I must have high contact with the people; therefore, I have been talking with emeriti faculty, alumni, community people, legislators and a host of other people who are vested in the college's legacy and the future.

Now that we know our goal is to become a premier Pre-K through 12 teacher education program, we must begin planning the strategic direction. I have been working with my leadership team—which consists of the department heads and the director of the School of Health, Physical Education and Leisure Services—to craft the college's strategic plan. A broad swipe of our goals indicates that we will focus on educating, serving and leading our pre-professionals in order for them to educate, serve and lead the next generation.

As we venture on this transformational journey, we will need the voices of our emeriti to keep us tethered and focused on reclaiming our legacy. I value your opinions and your advice. I learned from my family leaders that when you are in the presence of wisdom, you sit and listen. I do respect the wisdom of our emeriti and I will listen.



## 2012 UNI Emeritus Luncheon

Be certain to mark your calendars for the 23rd UNI Emeritus Luncheon, Saturday, April 14. We are excited to have been invited to hold our event at UNI's Russell Hall, enjoying its new Graham Hall facility. We will have the convenience of a served lunch. Adequate parking will be available along Minnesota Street, the road that runs in front of and just north of Russell Hall.

After our luncheon, John Vallentine, Professor of Music Education and Director of UNI's School of Music, will visit with us about "The UNI Campanile and Carillon: Our Memories Still Ring..."

Look for the reservation and other details elsewhere in the newsletter.

Judith Harrington, Luncheon Chair

## *Thank You to Emeritus Faculty*

By Diane Curtis  
Director of Planned Giving, UNI Foundation

When I first started working at the UNI Foundation I was given a book titled "A Century of Leadership and Service" Volumes I and II. If I was going to represent UNI to our alumni across the United States, I needed to understand and appreciate those events and people that shaped UNI. I started reading and found myself stepping back into time.

Although the stories gave me intellectual knowledge, it was not until I met with you, the retired faculty, and started asking questions about your teaching days at UNI that the stories came alive. I asked you about different events mentioned in the book and you told me about it from your perspective. Your eyes sparkled as you explained what it was like to teach in the 50's, 60's, 70's or 80's.

It was evident that you enjoyed teaching, being involved in campus life, and especially spending time with your students. You have supported UNI first by giving of your time, your knowledge and your loving spirit to your students. After retirement, you have continued to show your support by your many generous gifts to the UNI Foundation. Whether an annual monetary gift or a provision for UNI in your will, you understand the importance of giving back—and for that the UNI Foundation and I thank you.

## Necrology

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

## UNI Faculty

Wendell Alford  
(Library)

Mary Blanford  
(CBA/Management)

R. Forrest Conklin  
(CHFA/Communications)

Norris Durham  
(CSBS/Anthropology, Criminology)

Ivan Eland  
(ED/Curriculum & Instruction)

Adolfo M Franco  
(CHFA/Modern Languages)

Verner Jensen  
(CNS/Physics)

Valdon L Johnson  
(CHFA/English Language & Literature)

Juergen Koppensteiner  
(CHFA/Modern Languages)

Robert Kramer  
(CSBS/Sociology)

Bonnie H. Litwiller  
(CNS/Mathematics)

Eugenia G. Parisho  
(Ed/Teaching, Elem Ed PLS)

Andre G. Walther  
(CHFA/Modern Languages)

Nixon A Wilson  
(CNS/Biology)

## Faculty Spouses

Carol Gilgen (Al)

Monabelle McKinley Hake (Herbert)

Jean Lund (Harold Wohl)

E. Doreen "Dee" Maucker (Bill)