

A Message from the UNIEA Chair Ervin Dennis

Was it REAL or was it PERCEIVED? As a professor in the UNI Department of Industrial Technology for 25 years, I never really felt comfortable attending, and sometimes participating in, either college or university-wide faculty meetings. It always seemed to me that there was a level of competition between and among faculty of various campus-wide academic areas. Sometimes, it didn't appear to me that there was a "spirit of cooperation" among faculty of the many disciplines represented at the University of Northern Iowa.

I did attend and sometimes participated in the annual and semi-annual meetings of my particular college because I thought it was the right thing to do as a university faculty member. A number of my colleagues never or seldom attended either college or university wide faculty meetings. This didn't seem to make a difference when it came time for recommendations and decisions relating to promotions, tenure, and salary increases. That fact concerned me a great deal, but it didn't change my habit and sense of responsibility for attending these academic related meetings (no I'm not bragging, just attempting to make a point).

After retiring and being awarded emeritus faculty status in 1998, I began attending the monthly meetings of the UNI Emeritus Association. At first, I was a little skeptical of these meetings because I was worried about being accepted into

a very learned and confident group of retired professors. I reflected on where I came from and the long pathway to where I had arrived at that point in my life-long educational career.

As it has been and continues, I found the UNI-EA group of retired professors and P&S personnel to be very friendly and accepting of me as a person who studied, practiced, and taught in the discipline of industrial technology. Yes, I realized that they too (each of you reading this Newsletter), had been involved in the three critical responsibilities of a university professor: teaching-research-service. We all were in it together while being busy with our university duties with the ultimate goal of teaching and assisting students to become better educated and contributing citizens of our country and beyond. Competition was now gone - "out the window" - we were now involved in socializing, enjoying each other's company over a luncheon meal, and learning new information from our monthly program presenters. How refreshing - what a wonderful way to continue involvement in education - and, what better way to spend an hour or so each month with university colleagues who have devoted their professional energies for the same reasons as mine.

Please join us for our monthly emeritus luncheon at 11:45 am on the first Wednesday of the month at the Cedar Falls Clarion Inn.



A Message from the President of UNI

Dear Emeriti,

UNI has experienced numerous successes throughout the past several months. Here are just a few that I am particularly proud to highlight.

In January, UNI received the 2015 Community Engagement Classification from The Carnegie Foundation. Only 361 colleges and universities in the nation hold this elective classification. The application process involved data collection and documentation of our excellent alignment among campus mission, culture, leadership, resources and practices that support community engagement. Community engagement is a critical component of the core fabric of the university, so we are especially proud of this achievement.

This news follows the December announcement that UNI was named to the President's National Community Service Honor Roll for the sixth year. UNI is one of just a handful of schools to be named to the honor roll in three different areas: general community service, economic opportunity and education.

And the accolades continue! For the third consecutive year, Kiplinger's Personal Finance has ranked UNI in the top 100 "Best Values in Public Colleges." The ranking cites four-year schools that combine outstanding education with economic value. UNI's high four-year graduation rate, low average student debt at graduation, abundant financial aid, low tuition and overall great value certainly played a part in the university being chosen.

Speaking of financial aid, UNI students are receiving nearly \$20 million in scholarship money this academic year. Because of your continued generosity to the university's fundraising campaigns, UNI graduates owe less money than students who graduate from any other four-year public institution in the state.

The university is helping students interested in the health care field achieve their education and career goals through a recently signed agreement with Allen College in Waterloo. This agreement affords qualified UNI students the opportunity to complete a baccalaureate degree at UNI while also earning a Bachelor of Science in Nursing at Allen. Up to 20 UNI students per year can enroll in an accelerated 15- or 16-month BSN program. This agreement also offers successful applicants the opportunity to receive early admission to the Master of Science in Nursing program at Allen. Graduates with health-related degrees continue to be in demand, and UNI is proud that we can give them a strong start.

If you have not been on campus lately, I encourage you to do so. As you can tell, I'm always thrilled to talk about our outstanding institution and to welcome faculty who have played such an important role in UNI's success.

Go Panthers!

Bill Ruud
President

Emeritus Feedback

Greg Stefanich

It is a pleasure to be among the emeritus faculty of UNI, and I welcome the opportunity to become a member of the group. I vividly recall our drive from Bozeman to Cedar Falls, arriving on July 31, 1976. What a blur are the past 39 years. Where have they gone? I have a wealth of pleasant memories of students, travels, special events, and always waking up eager to spend another day at UNI. Gerry and I are lacking in specific future plans, though we appreciate the gifts we have been given, and hope to enjoy life, family and opportunities.

Joan Duea

I have a student trainer at UNI's Wellness Center and twice this fall I have told her to have a nice weekend and she reminds me it is only Tuesday! Retired? Yes! Well – almost. I like to volunteer. For

continuing connections with UNI, I help with the Price Lab School website, serve UNIEA by co-chairing our luncheon program committee and am past president of UNI Connections (Faculty Dames). Then I felt like it was time to give back to the hospital so I serve as President of Sartori's Friends (Auxiliary) and am on their Foundation Board. There is PEO (Past President), Tuesday Club (incoming Vice President), and board meetings with the United Methodist Women. I did leave all these community groups this fall and traveled to Lugano, Switzerland to visit my younger daughter and family. Life is good!

Warren Picklum

I am a former member of the Biology Department (1957-87), in the botany, plant anatomy/morphology, developmental

morphology of seeds, embryo development area. Replying to feedback request to receive the forthcoming UNIEA News. Now 93, no Alzheimer's symptoms though memory comes and goes--the difference?

Virginia Hash

Still enjoying living in Florida and avoiding the snow and cold of Iowa. Still volunteering about 25/30 hours a week: elementary school, church, library and community groups. Still finding time to read, work crossword puzzles and attend many fine performances at our Center for the Arts, e.g., Ethel Merman's Broadway, Guys and Dolls, Russian National Ballet, etc. Still trying to find the 25th hour. Still aging.

More Feedback

Fred Hallberg

Lorraine and I have settled comfortably into our retirement condo at "Eisenach Village," north of Bartels' Retirement Community on the NW end of Waverly, Iowa. It is a zero-maintenance facility governed by a board with members from Wartburg College and Bartels. We have access to a number of activities and events at Wartburg, including a non-graded "Keep On Learning" series of courses. UNI has a similar program (which I believe was copied, at least in part, from Wartburg's). Lorraine and I are on the committee which picks the courses and helps find the faculty to teach them. We have had Hal Wohl on history, Scott Cawelti on film, and Dmitri Vorobiev on music, all from UNI. So I often feel like I am back on the UNI campus again.

There is also a weekly meeting on the Wartburg campus on Friday afternoons rather grandly called the "Wartburg Philosophical and Literary Society." Participants can buy beer or wine and a presenter gives a paper or some other presentation of academic interest, which is then discussed. I typically give one paper a year. I have defended nuclear power as a readily available carbon-free energy source. I have also worked out some solutions to problems in the theory of knowledge which I had never worked out while teaching at UNI. And I have tried to work out resolutions of the problems of mortality which I had never even addressed while teaching classes. I enjoy these get-togethers very much, and I find they have a very different ambiance from what I experienced at UNI. I am unsure as to whether it is a feature of German Lutheran culture, but my cohorts there seem unable to really get into a philosophical discussion unless they have a glass of beer in hand. Whatever the reason, I find it a pleasant and relaxing way to end the week's trials on a Friday afternoon.

Tom Romanin

First, thanks to the Emeritus Association for keeping us in touch. After 37 years in Cedar Falls, my wife Julia and I have moved to Lenexa, Kan. to be closer to family. Another plus is that I have taken up woodworking again and the Kansas City

Woodworking Guild provides me access to excellent space, equipment and training. Cultural opportunities abound but we still miss the intimacy and associations we had with the wcsymphony and programs provided by the UNI School of Music and Theater Department. We have plenty of guest space so if you are in the area or passing through give us a call.

Al Gilgen

I continue to miss Carol, my wife, who died in 2011, but enjoy the company of my sons, Jim and Bert, my daughter, Beth, and grandkids, all of whom live close by. My health is OK but I do feel depressed sometimes. All the best to my colleagues and give me a call sometime.

Donna Thompson

I took a train trip with a friend across Canada from Vancouver, BC to Toronto. Still sing in the Nazareth senior choir. Have a weekly bible study with a blind woman. Work with Habitat for Humanity one day per week. Am helping to put their tools in a logical order. Work with the American Red Cross weekly to welcome individuals who donate blood in their Black Hawk office. Learned to drive one of their trucks. Took a class to work with their Disaster Services. I am trying to sort through all the papers I saved over the years. I am still working with the American Society for Testing and Materials on Standards for playground safety. Occasionally I read a book. I attend the women's volleyball, and men's and women's basketball games. Go Panthers.

Germana Nijim

On December 31 I was asleep by 10:30 p.m., and 2015 started without me. I started the new year rested and serene. I am soon to become a grandmamma for the fourth time. When I asked Sharif if we were going to have a boy or a girl, he replied: "We are having a BABY!" And so it is. It is a forthcoming surprise that makes us dream. My annual trip to Palestine, the Occupied Territories, was as dismal as ever. Every year the situation is worse than the year before. I came home thinking I never would want to go back. It is too painful. But I have thought this before, and I

was wrong then. I may be wrong again. If the Ebola subsides and dies out, there is a trip to South Africa I want to make. South Africa has been spared so far. Let's hope all of Africa will soon be free of this deadly disease. All in all, life is good in South Bend. My sons are doing well. That makes me happy.

John Page

John Page lives with his wife, Mary Lou, in Green Valley, Ariz., in a continuing care facility named La Posada. They both have reached the age of 91 in good health. Their apartment is small but comfortable and his art hangs on the walls. John uses the iPad for his new art work. Both are members of the La Posada Singers and use the indoor swimming pool. There is a putting green on the 100-acre campus and John can often be seen there. A La Posada bus takes them to Tucson for concerts and art shows.

Myra R. Boots

Events of the past year have changed our lives considerably. Ray, my husband and supportive companion through all my activities at UNI, suffered a severe stroke on January 17, 2014. He is now a right hemiplegic and I am his caretaker 24/7. Thus, my volunteering and active participation in UNI and Cedar Falls community activities have been severely curtailed. Our time is now spent in making daily living activities as easy as possible for Ray, trips to doctors, and an occasional night out at a restaurant. Some very good friends meet in our home once a month for wine tasting, good food and great conversation, and others come for meals about twice a month. We are very grateful for those who are willing to spend time in our home with Ray and me. Life is different from our very active days of involvement with UNI, but we are still together in our own home and for that we feel blessed. We wish you all the very best in your retirement and here's for good health all along the way.

Ervin Dennis

My wife (LaVada) and I did something different in 2014 – we turned a carport into an enclosed garage for our son who lives in Helena, Mon. We started the project in late May into June for two and a half weeks. Our son had a concrete floor poured in his carport and considerable concrete work on the outside as well. We then returned in October for another three weeks to continue our work. We plan to complete our task this coming May and June. Mileage is 1,275 miles one way, but we enjoy the drive each time. These two pictures show the transformation of a carport with a new concrete floor to an enclosed garage with some trim work left to do.



Dhirendra Vajpeyi

The Brag sheer from a not very retired person... I retired last May (2014) but have kept myself very busy -- more than I should. Since then (a) I have agreed to be a series editor (no money involved) for Lexington Publisher, Maryland on "Globalization and its Cost to Emerging Markets." I will be editing and soliciting manuscripts on the topic; (b) I will continue to serve as a member on the Fulbright Scholarship selection committee (India); and (c) I was re-elected as a chair of the Research Committee on Technology and development at the World Congress, International Political Science Association (IPSA), held in Montreal, Canada, (July 19-22, 2014) and in that capacity am co-sponsoring two international seminars with Australian Council in India and

Osmania University, Hyderabad, India on issues related to sustainable development, water resources management and global income inequality (February 15 and March 6, 2015). That is all.

Lynn Brant

Travel can be very rewarding, but one need not go beyond the backyard to visit foreign worlds. At the end of the past growing season I went to my compost pile with shovel in hand and a glass jar. In my study I could watch this lively community of sow bugs, centipedes, millipedes, snails, pseudoscorpions, and more. This is a world close at hand that few visit. So among all my other travels, I visit the land of sow bugs as I stare into my jar of compost.

Glenn Nelson

I hope this finds you and yours doing well and enjoying a wonderful start to 2015. Adjustment to retirement has been interesting. Not missed at all: attending meetings, writing compliance reports, and filing accountability statements, Missed greatly: thoughtful discussions with colleagues, interaction with students, and meaningful routine. At day's end, it's hard to believe that doing two loads of laundry has somehow stoked the fires of the boilers of the Ship of Progress.

Betty DeBerg

I love my new life in retirement. After "resting up" for the first several months after I retired in January, 2014, I got busy volunteering at the NE Iowa Food Bank, picking mid-century modern items for the Miss Wonderful shop downtown, and getting my house ready for sale. I lived my entire Cedar Falls life in the "Finegan house" (the house in the Timberledge neighborhood designed by Don Finegan, who taught in UNI's Department of Art for many years), and would move it to Sioux Falls, South Dakota, with me in April if I could. I am moving to Sioux Falls where all three of my sisters live, but will miss much about Cedar Falls when I do.

Jim Kelly

After the release of "Tutors to Panthers," it was abundantly clear that any one of UNI sports was capable of its own story. As a result, I chose to write the history of basketball. With a late 1890s beginning, the history of basketball at UNI is rich with its own reflective stories. As of this memo, I'm wrapping up the Jim Witham era. Release date is at least another year from now and maybe longer, but now in my research, I located the oldest living ball player in Del Mully who played for Hon Nordly in 1941-43. Del has given me a snippet of what it was like to play the game for Hon.

David Buch

A-R Editions published my editions of the Liedersammlung für Kinder und Kinderfreunde (Vienna 1791) and Franz Xaver Süßmayr's opera Der Spiegel von Arkadien (Vienna 1794). In August and September I presented opera workshops at Lyric Opera of Chicago for Mozart's Don Giovanni and Weinberg's The Passenger. In September and October I presented ten pre-opera lectures at Lyric Opera for Mozart's Don Giovanni. On February 12, 2015 I gave the pre-concert lecture at the Illinois Holocaust Museum in Skokie, Ill. On March 1, 2015 I gave the pre-concert lecture "Music in Exile" at the Spertus Institute in Chicago. On March 3, 2015 I was on a panel discussion at the Arts Club of Chicago on Weinberg's The Passenger sponsored by Lyric Opera.

Financial Aid

By Joyce Morrow
Director of Financial Aid and Scholarships

The Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships at the University of Northern Iowa helps students succeed by helping them and their families manage the cost of their college education. With a staff of 14 along with 30 student employees, the office annually awards more than \$112 million in financial aid to over 10,000 students and their parents, processes over 19,000 financial aid transactions with the U.S. Department of Education, and provides financial literacy training to the student body. 87% of our students receive aid with the average aid accepted being \$10,673.

From the national level, legislation has caused increased complexity for students and significant new administrative burdens. Recent regulation limits how many years a student may receive subsidized loans to 150% of the published length of the student's academic program. The details of particular grant and loan programs change from year-to-year. Reports required by the state and federal governments continue to expand. Most prominently, expectations have grown that financial aid offices ensure students are fully educated about financial decisions they make relative to taking out loans to finance their education.

The three most significant current endeavors of the office are:

- The Federal Teacher Education Assistance for College and Higher Education (TEACH) Grant is a program designed for students planning to teach in a high-need field in a low-income school, and provides up to \$4,000 per year for four years as an undergraduate student and two years as a graduate student. Some of the high-need fields of study being pursued are Math, Sciences, Foreign Languages, TESOL, Technology

Education, and Special Education. At the national level, UNI is the #4 public university in administering the TEACH Grant.

- Financial literacy efforts such as our “Live Like a Student” initiative have been developed. The concept is to live like a student now, so you don’t have to later in life. “Live Like a Student” programming provides students with a broad knowledge base concerning their personal finances and assists them in making responsible decisions regarding money, helping them to live within their means, and foster a better understanding of how actions today will affect their financial future.

- Private loan counseling, a comprehensive form of counseling resulting in a decrease in borrowing from \$15.3 million in 2007-08 to \$3.7 million today (76% decrease).

Due to these efforts, UNI has countered a national trend and seen the average loan debt of graduates decline by 10% over the past four years.

By 2015-2016 there will be a new college rating system the U.S. Department of Education will put into place, which may affect aid programs we offer. A few bills have been introduced to Congress, such as the FAST (Financial Aid Simplification and Transparency) Act with the objective to reduce aid application complexities and simplify all aid programs. We look forward to the success of this type of legislation.

Students attending UNI come from all across the socioeconomic spectrum. The Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships strives to fairly assist all of them with aid to support them in their academic endeavors. Our annual report provides additional details on our programs, services, and staff, and is available online at www.uni.edu/finaid (see the link at the bottom of the page in the footer). Feel free to contact Director Joyce Morrow at 319-273-2701 with questions, and please give to the UNI Foundation, earmarking your funds for scholarships!



Computer Science at UNI

By Eugene Wallingford

Department Head and Associate Professor, Computer Science

One of the UNI's Computer Science department hallmarks in recent years has been engaging young people with the joys and opportunities in computing. Next month, Profs. Ben Schafer and Philip East will lead small groups of UNI students into classrooms in every Cedar Falls public school to teach students a little programming. This will be the fourth such visit in the last two years, building on awareness created by the national Hour of Code. It is part of a longer trend at UNI that includes annual CS4HS workshops for local teachers and summer camps for young people to experience topics ranging from robotics to what it means to live in today's on-line world.

Another goal of the departments is making CS majors more accessible and attractive to underrepresented groups. Under the leadership of Prof. Sarah Diesburg, last fall a group of UNI women attended the Grace Hopper Celebration, the world's largest gathering of women technologists. Upon their return, these students launched a new Women in Computing group to support and encourage young women on the path to careers in computing.

These opportunities extend areas in which UNI has long been involved, such as the Midwest Instruction and Computing Symposium, where faculty share professional advances with colleagues and students participate in robotics and programming contests. In a similar vein, just last week three teams of UNI students competed at the National Cyber Defense competition in Ames. These are a few of the outstanding learning experiences that help UNI grads prepare for productive IT careers in the state and beyond.

The CS faculty is also undergoing change. Two years ago, Prof. Sarah Diesburg joined the faculty in our systems area, where she does research on the secure deletion of files -- a most important topic in today's networked digital world. She is a 2004 alumna of the department. Prof. Kevin O'Kane retired the same year. He was the department's first head and worked for many years afterwards in the information science area. The department's second head, Prof. John McCormick, has announced his retirement after a long career in software engineering education. The department is used to change, which is a constant in computing, and looks forward to its role at UNI as the university itself undergoes historic changes.



College of Social and Behavioral Sciences

By Brenda Bass

Dean and Professor, College of Social and Behavioral Sciences

I am delighted to share with you some of the recent successes for my college. The past year in the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences has seen connections and collaborations abound across the work being done by faculty, students, alumni, and community partners. These efforts include a strong interdisciplinary thread and vital partnerships with community agencies, organizations, and businesses.

One particular initiative in CSBS is to enhance our already-robust role in community engagement and experiential learning. The Social and Behavioral Representatives (SABRs) group, formed with the intent of using current students to engage and recruit new ones, has expanded to include more outreach to the community. Their work is helping elevate one of the long-held priorities of the college, which is to be the most socially engaged of the UNI campus.

In 2013, CSBS started an annual tradition of inviting our emeritus faculty to campus for a discussion with the Dean, to stay connected and continue to gain insights from their valuable perspective of the university and their range of expertise. These discussions the past two years have been lively and helpful! Though we have said ‘best wishes’ to a handful of recent retirees in 2014, we know that it is not ‘good bye’ since we will remain in touch.

We have also been reminded how our present is closely connected to our past. One of our former CSBS deans, Aaron Podolefsky, passed away in August 2013 and a celebration of his life was held on campus with his family in November 2013. Dr. Podolefsky paved the way for many of our current successes in CSBS, and we recently completed the process of naming “The Aaron Podolefsky Dean’s Conference Room” (Sabin Hall 315) in his memory.

Additionally, CSBS has increased efforts to connect with alumni. This past year, Nate Clapham (our CSBS development director) and I have met with alumni in Iowa, Arkansas, California, Illinois, Indiana, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Oregon, Texas, Washington, and Washington, D.C. We also hosted numerous alumni on campus for a variety of events, including the annual Distinguished Alumni Day. In each of our meetings, we hear the fondness these alumni have for the professors who positively impacted their student experience. We thank you for your role in that.

Thank you for your continued support for UNI, and please don’t hesitate to contact me with questions.



New Emeriti 2014

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|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Dr. Duane Bartak | Mr. Dennis Lindner |
| Ms. Patricia M Beck | Dr. Gene Lutz |
| Dr. Mingshui Cai | Ms. Luann McAdams |
| Dr. Phyllis Carlin | Mr. Morris Mikkelsen |
| Mr. C. David Christensen | Mr. Tom Petersen |
| Dr. Cynthia M. Coulter | Dr. Douglas T. Pine |
| Dr. Betty Deberg | Dr. David Rachor |
| Dr. David Else | Dr. Basil J. Reppas |
| Dr. Mohammed F. Fahmy | Dr. Michael S. Spencer |
| Ms. Kathleen Green | Dr. Gregory P. Stefanich |
| Mr. Ron Hall | Dr. Donna J Thompson |
| Dr. Lou Honary | Dr. Dharendra K Vajpeyi |
| Dr. Susan Hudson | Dr. James C. Walters |
| Dr. Thomas Keefe | |



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UNIEA LEADERSHIP

Officers

Chair: Ervin Dennis (2017)
 Vice Chair: Thomas H. Thompson (2015)
 Past Chair: David Duncan
 Program Committee Co-Chairs: Joan Duea and
 Judy Finkelstein
 Editor, UNI News: David Duncan
 UNIEA Web Master: Walter Beck
 Chair, UNIEA Spring Luncheon: Judith Harrington
 UNIEA Secretary: Virginia Thulstrup

Advisory Council

(Term ends at end of year indicated)

Judith Harrington (2015) John Cross (2017)
 Joan Duea (2016) Al Gilgen (2017)
 Jim Larue (2016)

Many thanks to Dr. David R. Duncan for serving as chair of the UNI-Emeritus Association for the past two years. With his leadership, UNI-Emeriti enjoyed excellent monthly meetings involving active fellowship, good food, and fine programming.

Necrology 2014-2015

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

Deceased Emeritus

Mr. Saul Diamond (Joan) 06/12/2014	Ms. Martha Holvik 07/10/2014	Dr. Howard Vanderbeek 8/22/2014
Dr. Carolyn Shields 10/14/14	Dr. Dan McDonald 11/15/2014	Dr. Ralph M Goodman (Harriet) 12/14/2014
Dr. Augusta Schurrer 01/01/2015	Mr. Glen Henry (Karen) 02/27/2015	

Deceased Emeritus Spouses

Edna Hamilton (E.W. Alex) 09/14/2014	Jean Kimball (Jack) 11/18/2014	Gladys Wagner (Guy) 11/11/2014
Ms. Wanda Hieber (Douglas) 11/19/2010	Donna M Knutson (Howard) 11/18/2014	Dorothy Wendt (Don) 05/10/2014
Catherine E Morin (Robert) 05/13/2014	Diane Thompson (Thomas) 01/10/2015	