

2020

Annual Report 2019-2020

College of Public Affairs and Community Service, University of Nebraska at Omaha

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College of Public Affairs and Community Service, University of Nebraska at Omaha, "Annual Report 2019-2020" (2020). *Dean's Office*. 4.

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COLLEGE OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS
AND COMMUNITY SERVICE



CREATING INNOVATIVE
SOLUTIONS

[ANNUAL REPORT 2019-2020]



WELCOME FROM THE DEAN



John Bartle, Ph.D.
CPACS Dean

CPACS is the only college of public affairs in Nebraska. No other institution provides the linkage between the talent of higher education and dynamic public and nonprofit organizations. The professions we serve – public, nonprofit, and some private – benefit not only from our talented graduates, but also from the applied courses that engage students in crafting solutions to the challenges our partners face. And we have four research institutes that work on contracts and grants with community partners to address specific problems they face. In turn, we benefit from being able to attract students and faculty who want the opportunities to be fully engaged in the community.

Our work forms a strong, dynamic ever-changing web that wraps around the community. Whether it is providing the Legislature long-term policy options, bringing to light the scourge of modern day slavery of human trafficking, or helping a nonprofit evaluate and improve a program, we walk with our community partners towards the goal of a community that is safer, more resilient and more just.

Annual Report Layout + Design Contributors
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CPACS IMPACT

7

DEGREE PROGRAMS RANKED IN THE TOP 30 IN THE NATION

U.S. NEWS & WORLD REPORT

1/4

UNO WAS 1 OF 4 UNIVERSITIES CHOSEN FOR SOUTHWEST AIRLINES NEW CAREER PROGRAM, DESTINATION 225°

98

percent

GOODRICH PROGRAM COHORT RETENTION RATE IN 2018

CPACS BY THE NUMBERS

SPRING 2020 DEPARTMENT ENROLLED MAJOR COUNTS



– approximately 10 students

Total Students = 3,130

SCHOOL OF CRIMINOLOGY AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE

CRIMINOLOGY.UNOMAHA.EDU



HONORS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

- Director of the School of Criminology and Criminal Justice, Gaylene Armstrong is the Terrorism Prevention Research Theme lead for the National Counterterrorism Innovation, Technology and Education Center of Excellence, a \$36.5 million, 10-year grant awarded from the Department of Homeland Security.
- Dr. Justin Nix was named as an NIJ Law Enforcement Advancing Data and Science (LEADS) Academics, one of only four people in the U.S.
- Katie Hansen was selected as the UNO Advisor of the Year.
- Yves Bemba was selected as a trainer to lead discussion on Microaggressions in the Workplace on the UNO campus.
- Geri Murphy was elected to serve on the UNO Staff Advisory Council.

GRANTS AND CONTRACTS

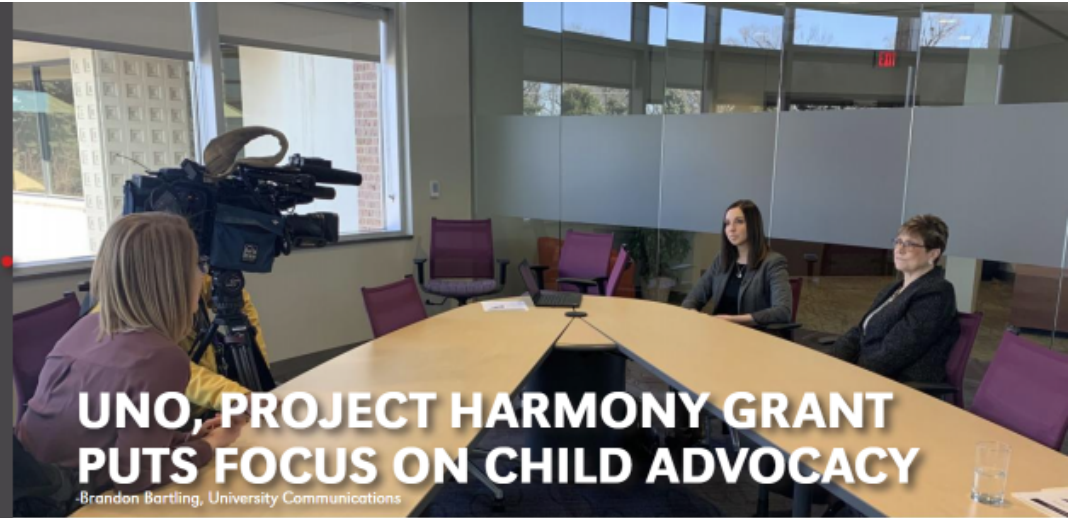
A record four grants were received from the National Institute of Justice this year totaling \$992,475:

- Drs. Tara Richards, Justin Nix and Emily Wright (\$657,885) for the Douglas County Sexual Assault Action Research Project.
- Drs. Tara Richards, Emily Wright and Justin Nix (\$169,264) for A Descriptive Analysis of Missing and Murdered Native Women and Children in Nebraska, Barriers to Reporting and Investigation, and Recommendations for Improving Access to Justice.
- Drs. Teresa Kulig, Emily Wright and Ryan Spohn (\$142,534) for a collaborative project with Project Harmony titled Expanding the Knowledge Base about Child Advocacy Centers.
- Dr. Tara Richards (\$22,792) an NIJ pass through from University of Maryland, Baltimore County for Co-Located Supportive Services to Reduce Recidivism in Batterer Intervention.



COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP

The School of Criminology and Criminal Justice has partnered with Nebraska State Probation to develop a Select Internship Program which will offer a stipend to students in participating UNO SCCJ Internship Program. Select students at both the bachelors and master's level, who meet specific criteria will be chosen for the pilot program in development between UNO SCCJ and Nebraska State Probation. This program will be a win-win for both the student and this potential employer. We know students who complete internships have an advantage of the critical knowledge of the position and role and the prospective employer gains insight into the candidate skills and competency.



UNO, PROJECT HARMONY GRANT PUTS FOCUS ON CHILD ADVOCACY

Brandon Bartling, University Communications

A new Omaha effort could help child advocacy centers across the nation improve child abuse investigations, reduce distress to children, and increase prosecutions.

The University of Nebraska at Omaha (UNO) has partnered with Project Harmony – one of the nation's largest child advocacy centers – to examine the implementation, processes, and evaluability of core services. The two-year project began in January and is funded by a roughly \$566,000 grant from the National Institute of Justice.

Teresa Kulig, Ph.D., Assistant Professor in the School of Criminology and Criminal Justice, is the lead investigator on the grant. She said the goal of the collaboration is to examine Project Harmony's core services - to obtain a baseline read on the feasibility of evaluating those services.

"The number of child advocacy centers has grown significantly over the last three decades and speaking generally, we just don't know scientifically which of their services are most important to achieving results for victimized children, families, and prosecutors," Kulig said. "This collaboration is an important first step that could help us lay the foundation for future outcome evaluation efforts."

She further noted that this project would not be possible without the efforts of the team involved, including Emily Wright, Ph.D. (Professor, School of Criminology and Criminal Justice at UNO), Ryan Spohn, Ph.D. (Director, Nebraska Center for Justice Research at UNO), Debra Anderson, Ph.D. (Deputy Director, Project Harmony), and the Data/Research Team at Project Harmony.

"Our ability to come together for a project of this magnitude

really speaks to the trust that community partners like Project Harmony place in the faculty and staff in the School and in the Center at UNO," she said.

The evaluation focuses on five core services within Project Harmony:

Forensic interviews: structured developmentally-appropriate conversations about a possible event a child may have witnessed or experienced.

Advocacy: support and referral assistance to a child and caregiver throughout investigation and prosecution of a case. Medical care: care and examination for signs of child abuse and neglect.

Mental health services: therapy that includes crisis counseling as an initial response to trauma.

Multidisciplinary teams: teams that work with law enforcement, social workers, and others to share information, plan treatment, and identify service/resource needs.

Gene Klein, Executive Director at Project Harmony, said the evaluation will help Project Harmony improve its impact and also benefit other child advocacy centers across the country.

Project Harmony is honored to have been selected with UNO by the National Institute of Justice for this important evaluation. We believe the results will tremendously influence the benefits of using a child advocacy center model to serve children and families impacted by child abuse and neglect.

The new collaboration is a continuation of a strong relationship between Project Harmony and UNO. For example, UNO theatre

faculty and students have helped develop a revolving stage for use in training. Project Harmony is also a partner on the Child Welfare Cohort, a collaboration with UNO's Grace Abbott School of Social Work that helps employees earn degrees while continuing to work full time.

This project was supported by Award No. 2019-V3-GX-0007 awarded by the National Institute of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice. The opinions, findings, and conclusions or recommendations expressed in this publication/program/exhibition are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect those of the Department of Justice.

JUVENILE JUSTICE INSTITUTE

The Juvenile Justice Institute (JJI) evaluates programs across the state of Nebraska. In the past fiscal year, we have provided technical assistance to 218 programs from Omaha to Scottsbluff. This contract is entitled "Evidence-based Nebraska," and is crucial to improving services in Nebraska.

Preparing Students for the Workforce

The JJI also leads a service-learning initiative course that has a reputation for preparing young people for careers in the field of juvenile justice. The Juvenile Reentry course allows students to have real life experience in the field by matching students to youth committed to a Nebraska Youth Rehabilitation Center, and other facilities across Nebraska.

Since 2012, over 200 students have participated in this service-learning course. In addition, there are now three additional universities participating in this service-learning initiative (all schools of the University of Nebraska campuses, plus Wesleyan and Doane Universities).

JJI Evaluations

The JJI has helped multiple communities across Nebraska learn how to take evaluation and research and translate it into practice. We also help programs with data collection through the Juvenile Case Management System (JCMS), which we use to track youth to see how effective programs are at preventing youth from recidivating. The JJI has published multiple reports, briefs, and evaluations about the efficacy of programs to provide youth with the support and skills they need to grow.

The full text for all of our reports is available at jjinebraska.org/reports.

NEBRASKA CENTER FOR JUSTICE RESEARCH



7 FACULTY PUBLICATIONS



\$1.5 MILLION IN GRANTS

This year, in addition to the Nebraska Center for Justice Research (NCJR) producing seven publications, the unit also secured four major grants, totaling over \$1.5 million:

- 2020 – 2021: A Descriptive Analysis of Missing and Murdered Native Women and Children in Nebraska, Barriers to Reporting and Investigation, and Recommendations for Improving Access to Justice
 - NCJR Faculty: Emily Wright
 - Principal Investigator: Tara Richards
 - Funding Agency: National Institute of Justice, Tribal-Researcher Capacity Building Grant
 - Amount Awarded: \$169,255

- 2020-2023: Douglas County, Nebraska Sexual Assault Research Project
 - NCJR Faculty: Emily Wright
 - Principal Investigator: Tara Richards
 - Funding Agency: National Institute of Justice
 - Amount Awarded: \$657,908

- 2020-2022: Expanding the Knowledge Base about Child Advocacy Centers
 - NCJR Faculty: Emily Wright, Ryan Spohn
 - Principal Investigator: Teresa Kulig
 - Funding Agency: National Institute of Justice
 - Amount Awarded: \$566,259

- 2019-2023: Reducing Violence and Recidivism through VRP Aftercare and CBI Open Groups
 - NCJR Faculty: Ryan Spohn, Michael Campagna (research partners)
 - Principal Investigator: Jennifer Miller
 - Funding Agency: Bureau of Justice Assistance
 - Amount Awarded to UNO: \$159,997

Community Partners

- Project Harmony
- Douglas County Juvenile Assessment Center
- Nebraska Department of Correctional Services
- Nebraska State Patrol
- Nebraska Division of Parole Supervision
- Nebraska Commission on Indian Affairs
- Boys Town
- Douglas County Department of Corrections

UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA FOUNDATION

NUFOUNDATION.ORG

BRYCE HOFUND, PH.D. AWARDED PRESTIGIOUS ENDOWED CHAIR POSITION

The University of Nebraska Foundation and UNO's College of Public Affairs and Community Service (CPACS) are pleased to recognize the awarding of the Blue Cross Blue Shield of Nebraska Chair of Health Care Administration and Policy to Dr. A. Bryce Hofund, Associate Professor in the UNO School of Public Administration (SPA).

Through Blue Cross Blue Shield of Nebraska's generous contribution, starting in 2012, the position allows for increased opportunities in the areas of food and health in teaching, research, and service. UNO's partnership with Blue Cross Blue Shield of Nebraska offers the potential to build on and strengthen research collaborations university-wide and with the public, private, and nonprofit sector individuals and organizations working on issues related to food and health.



The funds will enhance the ability of the School of Public Administration to build on its training opportunities for future health professionals and future academic researchers through its exceptional MPA and Ph.D. programs. In addition to teaching and training professionals and researchers, the CPACS mission calls for it to actively engage with the community. The funds will allow for new research in food and health that can impact vulnerable and underserved populations in the community in a positive way.

"I am excited about the opportunities that this Chair offers for teaching, research, and service," said Hofund. "Through the connection with Blue Cross Blue Shield of Nebraska, students will have opportunities to engage in real-life research projects that will have an impact on the overall health of our community."

The School of Public Administration offers degrees at the undergraduate, graduate, and doctoral levels in Omaha, and online.

Hofund's five-year appointment began Sept. 1, 2019.

CPACS SUPPORT BREAKDOWN



DIVISION OF CONTINUING STUDIES

DCS.UNOMAHA.EDU

OUR STUDENTS



49.5% female 50.5% male



49.3% self-identify as first generation college students



1,543 unduplicated student head count enrolled AY'18-19

18-65+

age range of students enrolled in the BMS degree program



24.1% DCS student population are military affiliated



NOTABLE ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- The Division of Continuing Studies (DCS) opened the DCS CoLab: a dedicated student space with work surfaces, comfortable furniture, and computer work stations for students.
- 56 students were inducted into the Alpha Sigma Lambda Honor Society in November, 2019 during Nontraditional Student Week.
- We welcomed new members to the DCS team:
 - Academic advisor, Kerry Fina
 - Academic advisor, Keely Odell
 - Staff assistant/test administrator, Jennifer Wharton
 - Assistant Director, DCS at Offutt AFB, Sara Karnowski
- Completed first full year of assigned academic advising, resulting in enhanced relationship building with our students and a slight increase in enrollment.
- Christine Billings, April Paschall, and Katie Sup Rezac presented at the 2019 Association of Continuing Higher Education conference in Denver, CO.

GRADUATES PER SEMESTER

SPRING 2019
137

SUMMER 2019
68

FALL 2019
102



CUM GPA FOR SPRING 2020 ENROLLED

CUM GPA 2.54 | 68 students with a 4.0 and 475 at 3.0+ (43.5%)

CUM GPA FOR FALL 2019 GRADS

102 students | 3.055 with more than half earning a 3.0 or higher



HONORS AND AWARDS

UNO Honors Convocation Student Names:

- Judge Hiciano (Concentration: Computer Science)
- Justine Barton (Concentration: Gerontology)
- Lisa Lentz (Concentration: Psychology, General Administration)
- Tamba Benjamin (Concentration: General Administration)
- April Shaw (Concentration: Library Science)

DCS Staff Recognitions:

- Jessica Swisher – Chair of the Professional Development Committee, Executive Council of the UNO Academic Advising Council
- Nellie Beyan-Olabige – Advisor for the month
- Katie Sup Rezac – Joined Staff Advisory Council
- Mindy Hunke – Joined Staff Advisory Council

OUR LOCATIONS

Dodge Street Campus

Offutt AFB Education Center

Offutt AFB Testing Center

DCS GRADUATING CPACS STUDENT SPOTLIGHT: JUSTINE BARTON

Justine Barton

Deans' Award

College of Public Affairs and Community Service
Division of Continuing Studies

Bachelor of Multidisciplinary Studies
Concentration in Gerontology

Nebraska
UNO



The UNO College of Public Affairs and Community Service (CPACS), is thrilled to announce the recipient of the 2020 Division of Continuing Studies Dean's Award: Justine Barton.

Barton is graduating with a Bachelor of Multidisciplinary Studies with a concentration and certificate in Gerontology. Justine lives in Elgin, Illinois, and completed her UNO coursework entirely online. She is graduating with an impressive GPA of 3.95 while holding membership in the Alpha Sigma Lambda Honor Society.

Barton has an outstanding history of serving, leading, and advocating for those with memory loss, which she describes as her "passion and purpose

in life." In her current position as the Senior Memory Care Director at North Shore Place in Northbrook, Illinois, Justine leads the operations of a 44-bed memory care assisted living facility. She has founded two memory cafés in Elgin, Illinois, and Wauwatosa, Wisconsin, and successfully led a grassroots initiative which resulted in Elgin being recognized as a Dementia Friendly Community.

As impressive as Barton's accomplishments are, the road she has traveled to get here has been daunting, making her accomplishments all the more impressive. As a young child, she faced personal tragedy and her grandmother stepped in as her main source of support and care and still is to this day. Justine is the first in her family to graduate from college, and she expressed that she wanted to complete this degree to make her grandmother proud. Her grandmother is not the only one who is proud of her. She is a mother of four young children who also share that pride.

Kudos to you and this prestigious honor, Justine. We are so proud to call you a member of the UNO CPACS family!

DEPARTMENT OF GERONTOLOGY

GERO.UNOMAHA.EDU



AWARDS AND HONORS

- Dr. Chris Kelly promoted to professor and Bede Bolin to Lecturer
- Graduate Research and Creative Activity (GRACA) awards to MA student Kennedy Gustin, and PhD students Judith Kim and Sarah Hubner
- Jenni Dsouza – Undergraduate Major Award
- Hayley Fouche, Undergraduate Best Poster Presentation: "Do social networks impact perceived loneliness in caregivers to older adults with chronic conditions?"



NEW FACULTY FELLOWS

Dr. Lyn Holley – Fellow, Academy of Gerontology in Higher Education
Dr. Julie Blaskewicz Boron – Fellow, Gerontological Society of America
Dr. Chris Kelly – Victor Marshall Fellow, Southern Gerontological Society



GRANTS

- Dr. Janelle Beadle, \$764,565 from the National Institutes of General Medical Sciences of the National Institutes of Health. Project Leader for a three-year research project called, "The Impact of Aging on the Neural and Behavioral Bases of Empathy" [P20 GM130447].
- Dr. Julie Blaskewicz Boron, \$99,414 from the UNO-UNMC Sciences, Engineering and Medicine Collaborative Grant with co-PIs Jenna Yentes and Dawn Venema: Resiliency, Reserve and Fatigability: Insights into Fall Risk
- \$73,000 from Great Plains IDEa-CTR Pilot Grant with co-PIs Karsten Koehler, Cary Savage and Jeff Stevens: Age-Related Differences in Food Choices and Appetite Regulation in the Context of Exercise
- Drs. Julie Blaskewicz Boron, Janelle Beadle and Julie Masters – BIG Idea campus-wide funding for a collaborative grant with Business, Informatics and Gerontology

NEW TEAM MEMBERS

- Heather Ford – Advisor
- Amy Hanson – Instructor
- Mark Kazor – Moved to Instructor
- Kara Negley – Office Associate



SYSTEMWIDE COLLABORATION

Aging Research Retreat held with faculty from all four campuses to explore ways to collaborate on aging issues as part of the planning and collaboration grants initiative.



COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

- OMA – a collaboration between Rose Blumkin Jewish Home and the Department of Gerontology
- Ongoing advisory committee memberships and leadership with the Eastern Nebraska Office on Aging, Office of Public Guardian, Elder Rights Coalition, Florence Home



2020 ALUMNI AWARD RECIPIENTS

Marcia Adler, PhD – Instructor – Health and Kinesiology (pictured above)
Her focus is on health and aging. Dr. Adler maintains the Athletes and Elders program along with other community relationships to ensure students are able to see the value of supporting elders in health-related programming.

Esther Okampka, CSW – Services Coordinator, ENOA (pictured below)

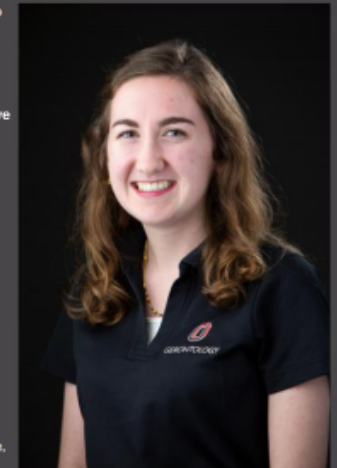
In the midst of COVID-19, Esther maintains close contact with her clients to ensure they receive the support and services they need to remain in their homes.



GERONTOLOGY STUDENT SPOTLIGHT: JENNIFER DSOUZA

As a Regent Scholar, Jennifer's achievements throughout her academic career have been exceptional. She has consistently received recognition for her accomplishments as an on-going recipient of both the Dean's List and Chancellor's List during her time at UNO. Her commitment to giving her all to the educational opportunities she has received at UNO is clear.

In addition to her service to our department, Jennifer has been an active member of the UNO community. She has held leadership positions with UNO Signature Service Days and as a Program Manager for the Student Service and Leadership Collaborative. She also led



the Pregnant on Campus Initiative of UNO's Maverick Students for Life. Beyond the campus, Jennifer was an intern with No More Empty Pots, a non-profit organization committed to self-sufficiency, food security and economic resilience of communities, both urban and rural, through action and advocacy. In this capacity she arranged an Entrepreneurial Speaker Series, organized graduation ceremonies and assisted with surveys and evaluation of programs. She also served as a mentor for two years at the Nelson Mandela Elementary School with the "Be Ready" Morning program. A reflection of her appreciation of preparing students for the future.

Jenny plans to take her passion for working with the aging population with her after graduation. Her experience in the areas of life enrichment and support makes her an ideal candidate for one of the many communities throughout the Omaha area.

GOODRICH SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

GOODRICH.UNOMAHA.EDU

THE HOME OF RESILIENT STUDENT SUCCESS

Locally and Nationally Recognized for Academic Achievement, Community Engagement, and Leadership Development

Since 1972, the Goodrich Scholarship Program has enabled more than 1,900 students to complete a first-class education at the University of Nebraska Omaha (UNO). You know many of our alums today as doctors, educators, engineers, artists, and elected officials. What they are and always will be is Goodrich. Once a Goodricher, always a Goodricher.

SPRING 2019 STUDENTS ON HONORS LISTS

CHANCELLOR'S
33

DEAN'S LIST
122

AVERAGE GPA
3.36

FALL 2019 STUDENTS ON HONORS LISTS

CHANCELLOR'S
46

DEAN'S LIST
137

AVERAGE GPA
3.36

FACULTY CONTRIBUTIONS



1 co-authored book

- Dr. Troy Angelo Romero has been promoted to (full) professor (effective August 2020).
- Goodrich will have a new tenure-track Assistant Professor of English, Dr. Stevie Seibert Desjarlais (currently an assistant professor at the United States Military Academy at West Point).
- Dr. Todd Richardson appointed to the James R. Schumacher Chair of Ethics (effective September 1, 2020).



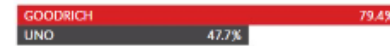
7 scholarly articles or creative works in mostly peer-reviewed periodicals, and several regional or national academic conferences



FRESHMAN/SOPHOMORE RETENTION RATE



6-YR GRAD RATE FOR 2014 COHORT



860 Applicants for 2020



Goodrich Students Served in 25+ Leadership Roles on Campus

GOODRICH STUDENT NAMED NEWMAN CIVIC FELLOW BY CAMPUS COMPACT

UNO's Chancellor, Dr. Jeffrey Gold, writes: Lizbeth Perez Hernandez is a leader in service to her community. Ms. Perez Hernandez, a junior at the University of Nebraska Omaha, is



an outstanding campus and community leader who is fully committed to addressing barriers faced by refugee, migrant, and diverse students by serving as a tutor, mentor, and liaison to higher education. Ms. Perez Hernandez has been an active community volunteer since moving to the United States

from Mexico at the age of 14. Time and time again, she has stepped up to lead efforts on and off campus focused on empowering those around her while addressing the needs of some of our most vulnerable populations as they adjust to a new country and culture. A thoughtful leader, Ms. Perez Hernandez is always seeking opportunities to engage others, on and off campus so that together they can build a better community for all. Ms. Perez Hernandez has left a lasting mark on our campus and community and plans to continue this work into the future.

2019-2020 UNIVERSITY STUDENT LEADERSHIP

- Secretary, Association of Latino American Students
- Resident Assistants
- Vice President, Circle K Club
- Vice President, Mavericks Athletic Training Students
- International Student Buddy Program Vice-President
- Student Government Senators
- Secretary, National Council of Negro Women
- Secretary/Treasurer, Zeta Phi Beta
- Mentor, Strive Mentoring Program for Refugees
- Secretary, Association of Latino Professionals for America
- Representative, Karen Student Association
- Vice President, Kappa Delta Pi Honor Society
- Youth Advisory Board Member NE Children & Family Foundation
- Freshman Leadership Council
- President Carter's Strategic Planning Team
- Vice President Muslim Student Association, Mentor International Student Buddy Program & SE Asian Leaders
- Vice President, Zeta Tau Alpha
- Vice President, Pre-Pharmacy Club
- Creative Director Maverick PR
- President UNO College Democrats
- President, Association of Latino American Students
- Fundraising Chair Lambda Theta Nu
- Recruitment Chair for Latinos in STEM
- Campus Activities Director, Alpha Xi Delta
- President, Phi Alpha Honor Society (Social Work)
- Student Government Election Commissioner
- Enlisted in Army National Guard, Playing Oboe in the 43rd Army Band
- Co-Director/Choreographer Musical Theatre Ensemble, Choreographer Peter and the Starcatcher 2020
- Mentor, YSEALI
- Ending Year 2019-2020 as UNO Student Body President

SCHOOL OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

SPA.UNOMAHA.EDU

NATIONAL RANKINGS

#25

AMONG OTHER
ACCREDITED
MASTER OF PUBLIC
ADMINISTRATION
PROGRAMS

PUBLIC FINANCE AND BUDGETING	#4
LOCAL GOVERNMENT	#8
NONPROFIT MANAGEMENT	#11
PUBLIC MANAGEMENT	#35



NEW FACULTY HIRES

- Dr. Barbara Gomez-Aguinaga, Assistant Professor, Public Policy
- Dr. Danbee Lee, Assistant Professor, Local Government
- Dr. Namkyung Oh, Associate Professor and Chair for the Emergency Management and Disaster Science Program

SPECIAL FACULTY DEVELOPMENT HIRES

- Theodore Johnson - Aviation
- Carol Redwing - EMDS

FACULTY, STAFF + STUDENT ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Njoki Mwarumba and team were awarded \$499,121 for a two-year study funded by the Canadian Institutes of Health Research
- Ed and Jordan Zendejas were asked to participate in and present at the Tribal Colleges & University Perspectives in Emergency Management Education focus group and subsequent report, put on by FEMA Higher Ed, in Green Bay, Wisconsin this past August
- Jodi Benenson - TOYO Award recipient
- Yu-Che Chen - Isaacson Professorship Award Recipient
- Bryce Hoffund - Blue Cross Blue Shield Endowed Professor
- Trang Hoang - NASPAA dissertation award
- Alyssa Spartz - CPACS Dean's Award
- Morgan Vogel - University of Nebraska Presidential Fellowship
- Jason Melton and Michelle Zych, Alumni Award recipients
- Dell Gines - 2020 Black Achievers Award, Greater Kansas City

NOTABLE SPA ALUMNI

- Manne Cook, MSUS, was awarded the 2019 Recipient, Young Urbanist Award in December
- Dr. Anthony Starke, PhD, was awarded ASPA Inaugural Best Dissertation Award for "Examining the Impact of Policy Narratives on Policy Design: An Interpretivist Analysis of Bureaucrats' Narratives, U.S. Welfare Reform, and the Social Construction of Welfare Recipients"
- Sarah Sjolie, MPA, was awarded as one of the Ten Outstanding Young Omahans (TOYO)



CPACS OUTSTANDING ALUMNI AWARD RECIPIENTS

- Jason Melton
- Michelle Zych

MASTER OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

- Enrollment: 220 MPA and certificate
- Cumulative GPA: 3.83

MAY 2020
GRADUATES

MPA

54

CERTIFICATE

10



MASTER OF SCIENCE IN URBAN STUDIES

- Fall 2019 had 15 actively enrolled MSUS students with an average GPA of 3.82. One student graduated with the MSUS in December 2019.
- Spring 2020 had 14 actively enrolled MSUS students. One student is projected to graduate.

DOCTORAL PROGRAM IN PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

- 3 doctoral students will graduate this year
- 37 students are currently enrolled in the PhD program

SPA PROFESSIONAL PROGRAMS

Nebraska Certified Public Manager (CPM) Program

- 11 students graduated in December 2019.
- 2020 we have twelve participating in the program, eight, from Sarpy County and three from the community.
- Ellen Freeman-Wakefield served as the President of the National Certified Public Manager® Consortium in 2019.

Nebraska Municipal Clerk's Institute and Academy

- Eight clerks received their Certified Municipal Clerk designation last year.
- Ellen Freeman-Wakefield facilitated Diversity and Inclusion training at the IIMC Annual Conference.
- Ellen Freeman-Wakefield serves on the IIMC Education Advisory Board.

Emerging Nonprofit Leadership Certificate

- The Emerging Nonprofit Leadership Certificate contracted with Education Quest Foundation in Lincoln to provide the training to 18 of their employees. Then in September we started our third cohort and graduated nine in March.

COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

- **Women and Public Policy Week:** Collaboration with the Nebraska Legislature for Women and Public Policy Week for the Women's Policy Forum on March 2.
- **Omaha Community Foundation:** For a decade, the Omaha Community Foundation has partnered with SPA to evaluate their Nonprofit Capacity Building Program. Since 2013, Dr. Tara Kalar Bryan, has been the Program Evaluator for this program. This partnership supports one graduate assistantship a year. This year, Drs. Bryan and Nuri Heckler will be evaluating the Foundation's new capacity building program focused on nonprofit capacity building, leadership, and racial equity.





UNO SENIOR HELPS RESTORE FLOOD-RAVAGED FAIRGROUNDS

-Brandon Bartling, University Communications

Alyssa Spartz is a fifth-year senior at UNO, double-majoring in Emergency Management and Psychology with concentrations in Public Health and Nonprofit Management and a minor in Sociology.

Communities like Arlington were tasked with cleaning up what floodwaters left behind after swollen rivers submerged a massive chunk of eastern Nebraska.

The Washington County Fairgrounds in Arlington are located only about half a mile from the Elkhorn River, which experienced record flooding in March 2019. As a result, fairground buildings, 4-H club offices and facilities, food stands, and arenas were left under about four feet of water and sewage.

Alyssa Spartz is a fifth-year senior at the University of Nebraska at Omaha (UNO) double-majoring in Emergency Management and Psychology with concentrations in Public Health and

Nonprofit Management and a minor in Sociology.

When the University of Nebraska put out a call searching for students to assist in flood recovery efforts, Spartz didn't hesitate.

"When I first heard about the flood serviceship program, I was interested in it from an emergency management major perspective, but also because I wanted the chance to help out local Nebraska communities after the flooding," she said.

The Honors Program student has joined fair workers and other volunteers in power-washing, sanding, and painting the fairgrounds to have the facilities in top-notch shape by the time the Washington County Fair kicks off on Friday, July 26.

"It's been hot and hard labor, but definitely something that I would do again."

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT & DISASTER SCIENCE

EMGT.UNOMAHA.EDU

The UNO Emergency Management and Disaster Science program develops skills in preventing, planning and preparing for, responding to, and recovering from large scale natural or man-made disasters and public events that require inter-agency and/or inter-jurisdictional involvement. The program also offers three undergraduate minors: Emergency Management, Fire Service Management and Tribal Management and Emergency Services. A certificate in Tribal Management and Emergency Services is also available.

#8

ACCORDING TO AFFORDABLE SCHOOLS: 20 BEST AFFORDABLE ONLINE BACHELOR'S EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT DEGREE PROGRAMS

MAY 2020 GRADUATES

EMGT
19

ENROLLMENT NUMBERS

- Enrollment: 165 students
- Cumulative GPA: 3.20
- Students held 22 internships at local community partners such as: UNMC and UNO Emergency Management, Henry Doorly Zoo, OPPD, and Omaha Fire Department



notes of the response efforts.

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT: LEXY HINDT

Lexy Hindt is a recent graduate of the Emergency Management and Disaster Science program at UNO. Upon graduating, Hindt landed a job with the Nebraska Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) as the Hazard Mitigation Planning Specialist. Since then, she has been promoted to Deputy State Hazard Mitigation Officer for the State of Nebraska.

Hindt always knew she wanted to go into a profession that helps others. She comes from a long line of responders in her family. At an early age, she learned to put others before herself. This became especially true in Hindt's senior year of high school when surrounding towns near Sheldon, Iowa, were impacted by flooding. "I was so ready to volunteer and help them recover," says Hindt. She worked with the local emergency management agency and took

When asked about advice for current and future emergency management students, Hindt emphasized that "emergency management is stressful, but rewarding, and a lot of fun." She also advises students to ask questions saying, "to be effective in emergency management, you need to be able to see the whole picture."

The EMDS Program is proud of Hindt's success and the work she is doing with her Emergency Management degree!



ACHIEVEMENTS

- Dr. Victor Huang led a student team to a 1st Place finish in the 2019 Airport Cooperative Research Program (ACRP) University Design Competition for Addressing Airport Needs, which was sponsored by the Transportation Research Board (TRB) of the National Academies of Science.
- Dr. Rebecca Lutte's work on behalf of Women in Aviation International was featured in numerous news outlets, including NPR, CNN, and Forbes.
- The Aviation Institute was one of four university aviation programs in the US invited to partner with Southwest Airlines on the Destination 225 Pilot Pathway Program.
- Mr. Scott Vlassek and Mr. Skip Bailey led the UNO Flight Team to a 3rd Place finish at Regionals hosted, which were hosted by UNO, and earned its 10th straight bid to the National Intercollegiate Flying Association Nationals.
- The Aviation Institute continued its impressive growth in the number of declared majors and student credit hours while also improving learning outcomes and increasing graduation rates.



MAJOR FACULTY, STAFF + STUDENT HONORS

- Dr. Victor Huang was awarded a Provisional Patent for his invention: Intelligent Runway Status Indication System
- Scott Vlassek named National President of Alpha Eta Rho
- Sydney Due, a student in Professional Flight, was awarded the Anne Bridge Baddour Scholarship at the international conference of Women in Aviation
- Nicole Lund, a student in Professional Flight, was awarded numerous national awards, including the I Hart Flying Scholarship, the University Aviation Association (UAA) Paul Whelan Scholarship, the GlobalAir.com Calvin L Carrithers Scholarship, and the Ladies Love Taildraggers 2019 Scholarship
- Dr. Victor Huang was awarded a Collaboration Initiative Planning Grant as well as a NASA EPSCoR grant to support his research
- Dr. Rebecca Lutte and Dr. Scott Tarry were invited to present their work on improving teaching and learning in capstone research projects at the Annual Meeting of the Aviation Accreditation Board International in San Juan, Puerto Rico



COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

- Unmanned Aircraft Systems faculty and students worked to support the Douglas/Omaha Technology Commission, OmahaDroneServices, LLC. and Watkins Concrete Block Company, Inc. with drone technology and services.
- UNO Professional Flight students conduct their flight training with Advanced Air at the Council Bluffs Airport and Oracle Aviation at the Millard Airport.
- Jet Linx Aviation, a national leader in private jet management, was the title sponsor of the 2019 Jet Linx Aviation Institute Golf Classic, which raised over \$54,000 for scholarships and student support.
- 31 local and national aviation companies and agencies participated in the 2019 Aviation EXPO and Career Fair which was attended by over 180 UNO students and over 30 high school students from Omaha Burke High School and Grand Island High School.
- 34 area high school students participated in the Aviation Institute's Aviation Explorer Program which included visits to numerous industry and government partners, including Eppley Airfield Operations, Delta Air Lines, FAA TRACON, and Oracle Aviation.

LUTTE NAMED TO FAA WOMEN IN AVIATION ADVISORY BOARD

Becky Lutte, PhD, associate professor within the Aviation Institute at UNO, is among 30 industry professionals and experts named by U.S. Secretary of Transportation Elaine L. Chao to the newly formed Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Women in Aviation Advisory Board (WIAAB).



The board was established by the FAA in October 2019 to develop strategies and recommendations to encourage women and girls to enter the field of aviation.

Lutte was chosen from a pool of nearly 200 applicants to join the board alongside aviation professionals and executives from major airlines and aerospace companies, nonprofit organizations within the aviation industry, aviation and engineering business associations, the U.S. Air Force Auxiliary, Civil Air Patrol, aviation trade schools, and other institutions of higher education.

John Bartle, PhD, Dean of the College of Public Affairs and Community Service, said her selection speaks to her experience and leadership in the field. "Becky Lutte has established herself as a national leader in the issues affecting women in the aviation industry," he said. "While it is an honor for her to be named to this board, I have no doubt that her service to our nation will be greater. This Board is poised to open the industry up to women and transform it forever."

UNO Aviation Institute Director Scott Tarry, PhD, said the honor was well-earned. "Becky Lutte has long been recognized for her leadership and advocacy for expanding the number of women working at all levels of the aviation industry. It is truly remarkable, yet not entirely surprising, that she would be called upon to be a voice for women in the industry at the national level. All of us at UNO's Aviation Institute are proud to have one of our own working side-by-side with many of the top women in aviation today."

"Women are underrepresented in many fields in aviation, with the greatest gaps in operations areas such as pilots and maintenance technicians," she said. "While there has been some improvement, the overall numbers have remained relatively stagnant and we can do better. We can build on the existing programs and efforts and explore new ways of looking at outreach and recruitment of women to share the exciting opportunities for women in aviation."

200

SPRING 2020 ENROLLMENT



NOTABLE ALUMNA

Julia Jones was our most recent nominee for the Aviation Institute's CPACS Distinguished Alumni Award. A 2002 graduate of the University of Nebraska at Omaha Aviation Institute, Mrs. Jones earned a Bachelor's Degree in Public Administration with an emphasis in Aviation Administration. She obtained her pilots license in 2000 while also working as a customer service representative at a local Fixed Base Operator (FBO) in Omaha, NE. Additionally, she worked with the NASA Nebraska Space Grant program eventually going on to work for another FBO in the state.

In 2007, Mrs. Jones relocated to the Washington DC area where she continued her career in aviation management with the Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association (AOPA) in Frederick, MD. While at AOPA, she leveraged her experience in program management and fundraising to help grow the AOPA Foundation Annual Donor Program by 45 percent.



Sydney Due, UNO AI Student

Sydney won the Anne Bridge Baddour scholarship at the 2020 Women in Aviation International Annual Conference.



UNO TAPPED BY JET LINX + SOUTHWEST FOR PILOT PATHWAYS PROGRAM

-Sam Petto, University Communications

UNO one of just four schools selected for new Destination 225° university pathways.

On Thursday, Aug. 1, Southwest Airlines launched a new career program in partnership with Jet Linx Aviation and the University of Nebraska at Omaha (UNO), along with three other universities and five industry partners.

The Destination 225° program provides pathways for students in collegiate aviation programs to become competitively qualified candidates for future Southwest First Officer positions. On a compass, 225° is the southwest directional heading, and Destination 225° was developed to lead aspiring pilots to Southwest Airlines.

The pathway will put participating UNO Aviation Institute students on a career pathway that begins at Jet Linx or any of

the other Destination 225° partners, including CAE, Bell Murray Aviation, US Aviation, XOJET Aviation and Swift Air. University partners include UNO, Arizona State University, Southeastern Oklahoma State University and University of Oklahoma.

Future aviators who apply, interview, and are selected for the Destination 225° program will receive a Southwest mentor during their years of training, be invited to Southwest for training activities and events, and ultimately apply for selection as a Southwest Airlines First Officer. Participants will go through comprehensive training and a continuous evaluation process that will allow them to meet or potentially exceed Southwest's competitive hiring qualifications while preparing to be safe and efficient pilots who fly "the Southwest Way." There is no cost to apply to the program; however, candidates advancing through the selection process will be responsible for all costs incurred for their respective training programs.

"Destination 225° will allow us to develop world-class pilots who are ready to fly "The Southwest Way," said Alan Kasher, Southwest's Vice President of Flight Operations.

"This comprehensive pilot development mission is designed to make becoming a Southwest Pilot an attainable goal for passionate, qualified individuals."

"Students in our professional flight program are already benefiting from the increased demand for pilots, but Destination 225° and this exciting partnership offers a unique opportunity for our students," said UNO Aviation Institute Director Scott Tarry. "Maverick aviators accepted into Destination 225° will be on course to work with the nation's premier aviation companies as they train to become professional pilots and begin the pursuit of a career in aviation. We're excited to be a part of this program and can't wait to see our students take full advantage of this fantastic opportunity."

The UNO Aviation Institute offers students flight instruction and education in areas such as air traffic control, airport management, airline operations, aviation safety and security, as well as a new program in unmanned aircraft systems.

Through classroom instruction, numerous extracurricular activities, simulation, and flight hours, students develop the skills they need to be successful in the aviation industry. UNO's competitive student aviation team, the Flying Mavs, is one of the most successful in the country, with recent top 10 finishes in the National Intercollegiate Flying Association's annual Safety and Flight Evaluation Conference competition. Maverick students also won the Transportation Research Board's Airport Cooperative Research Program (ACRP) design competition for airport innovation.

NASA SPACE GRANT + EPSCOR

NESPACERANT.ORG

In FY19, the NASA Nebraska Space Grant Consortium awarded 66 fellowships and internships to 30 females and 36 males, 20 of whom are underrepresented minorities. Fellowships were awarded at each of our 11 academic affiliates across the State of Nebraska, with 12 being awarded to UNO students. Of the 66 awards, 5 were NASA internships and 2 were aerospace industry internships.

UNO faculty received 4 of the 16 awarded NASA Established Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (EPSCoR) Mini-Grants, 7 of the 21 Higher Education Mini-Grants, 1 Informal Education Mini-Grant, and 3 Teacher Training Mini-Grants. CPACS faculty member, Rebecca Lutte was the recipient of one of these mini-grants to develop a Women in the Aviation Workforce Report with a goal of determining a baseline number of women in a variety of fields in the aerospace industry to allow for the identification of areas in the industry that are underrepresented.

Two new academic courses at UNO were also supported: a Physics course focused on adapting NASA curricular materials to support new Nebraska standards in Physics Education, and a Science Methods and Design class in Teacher Education focusing on the design and experimentation of high-altitude ballooning.

Diversity continues to be a priority for the NASA Nebraska Space Grant. Our target for underrepresented students was 16.7% and we achieved 19.0% underrepresented direct participants. Our target for female participants was 40% and we achieved 47.0% female direct participants.

The Nebraska Space Grant supported more than 24 teacher training workshops to disseminate aerospace education content and curriculum across the state. These were primarily delivered by members of the Nebraska Space Ambassadors. We engaged 4,329 students throughout all of our programs, with our informal education programs reaching over 88 K-12 teachers, 86 informal educators, and 998 parents and members of the public at large.

GRACE ABBOTT SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK

SOCIALWORK.UNOMAHA.EDU



ONLINE MASTER OF SOCIAL WORK (MSW) PROGRAM

In the Spring 2019 semester, the Grace Abbott School of Social Work (GASSW) began the admissions process for the online Master of Social Work (MSW) program which began in Fall 2019. Twenty-two students were admitted to the program, along with two University of Nebraska at Kearney (UNK) students merged into the cohort. The program began with strictly MSW foundation students in Fall 2019 and will start admitting advanced students in the coming semesters. Students in the online MSW program have started practicum placements in Colorado Springs, Des Moines, and Arkansas in several areas such as foster care, running trauma and social skills groups, and women's empowerment. Admissions applications for the upcoming academic year have exceeded expectations with online MSW applications making up 22% of total MSW applications.



HAIL AND FAREWELL

- Jieru Bai, Kristina Faimon, Valerie Lutz, and Karen Rolf left GASSW in 2019
- Deb Circo and Lisa Smith joined GASSW as faculty members in 2019
- Brian Meintz joined GASSW as the Office Administrator in 2019
- Amanda Johnson (Fouts), GASSW Graduate Assistant 2017-2019, graduated with her MSW/MSCRCJ in December 2019
- Sueretta Fry joined GASSW as Graduate Assistant to the Program Chair in January 2020
- Yadiria Hernandez left GASSW in March 2020
- Shelby Connett, GASSW Student Worker/Graduate Assistant 2017-2020, graduated with her MSW in May 2020
- Amanda Duffy Randall retired in June of 2020

PRACTICUM REPORT

The Grace Abbott School of Social Work practicum office has had another busy year with a total of 247 students earning over 126,000 practicum hours in Fall 2019 and Spring 2020.

Fall 2019

- 139 students in practicum (39 BSSW, 82 UNO MSW, 18 UNK MSW)
- 96 agencies in Omaha, Lincoln, outstate Nebraska, and Iowa

Spring 2020

- 108 students in practicum (23 Bachelor of Social Work, 63 UNO MSW, 13 UNK MSW, 9 Online MSW)
- 76 agencies in Omaha, Lincoln, outstate Nebraska, and Iowa

GASSW had its largest practicum fair ever in Spring 2020 with 64 agencies, 108 representatives, and 150 students in attendance.

400+

**SOCIAL WORK + MENTAL
HEALTH PROFESSIONALS
ATTENDED WORKSHOPS
ACROSS THE STATE**



**FACILITATED
50+
WORKSHOPS**

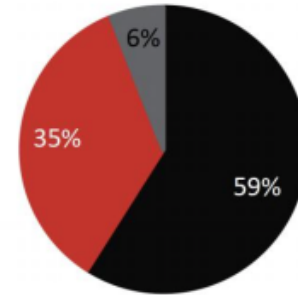


**OFFERED 150+
CONTINUING
EDUCATION
UNITS**

STEPs (Support and Training for the Evaluation of Programs)

STEPs is a university-based program evaluation center in the Grace Abbott School of Social Work, with offices in the Barbara Weitz Community Engagement Center. Founded in 2013 by current Project Director and GASSW Professor Dr. Jeanette Harder, STEPs employs graduate students, staff, faculty, and alumni to lead and conduct evaluation projects. STEPs' mission is to promote evidence-informed decision making through research and evaluation. Using a collaborative, utilization-focused approach, STEPs supports social service programs and policies that transform and improve lives. Learn more about STEPs at steps.unomaha.edu.

STEPs partnered with 17 programs in 2019 to provide program evaluation and needs assessments. Eight of these partnerships have continued into 2020.



6
Professional
development
workshops
presented to **127**
participants.

■ Nonprofit ■ County & State Government ■ University-Based Initiatives

STUDENT SPOTLIGHTS



Shelby Connett enrolled in the 2018-2019 advanced research sequence courses and engaged with the Spouse Abuse Sexual Assault (SASA) Crisis Center in Hastings, NE. Shelby's quantitative and qualitative research assessed the effectiveness of protection orders in SASA's legal advocacy program. Shelby went on to present her results at the UNO Research and Creative Activity Fair and the UNO Service Learning Showcase. Her work was also published on UNO Digital Commons.



Rachel Lubischer joined STEPs in June 2018 and serves as a Senior Graduate Research Assistant. In this role, Rachel participates in collaborative, utilization-focused research and evaluations for local nonprofit and state organizations. A few of her accomplishments include:

- Significant contributions and leadership on statewide assessments for Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services (NDHHS) Drug Overdose Prevention through quantitative data collection and analysis, and reporting.
- Significant contributions in evaluating nonprofit organizations such as Coalition on Human Trafficking and Children's Scholarship Fund.
- Co-authored five state-level research/evaluation reports published on UNO Digital Commons.
- Partnered on offering professional development workshops presented to community organizations on research/evaluation topics. Presented on building the capacity of new evaluators at the national conference of the American Evaluation Association in November 2019.

SOCIAL WORK STUDENT, PROFESSOR EARN FULBRIGHT AWARDS

-Charley Steed, University Communications

A student and faculty member from UNO's Grace Abbott School of Social Work have been named recipients of prestigious Fulbright awards that will allow them to pursue their passions for helping others and build a shared, global focus on health and wellness.

Dalton Meister, a junior social work major, and Peter Szto, Ph.D., a professor of social work, were awarded funding to conduct international research with ties to China. Despite COVID-19 putting a hold on international travel for the immediate future, both are looking forward to the opportunities and resources that come with being a Fulbright Scholar.

"With faculty like Peter, whose work has brought new dimensions to global social work to expand our understanding of mental health, and students like Dalton, who take every opportunity to enhance their undergraduate experience, it is clear why such a well-known, global organization like the Fulbright Program would select these two excellent representatives of UNO's social work program," Amanda Randall, Ph.D., professor and director of the Grace Abbott School of Social Work, said.

Dalton Meister (pictured on left) Meister, who has minors in medical humanities; human rights studies; holocaust and genocide studies; and international studies, as well as serving as a senator for UNO Student Government, earned one of the first Canada-Mitacs Globalink Research Internships for his Fulbright.

The award supports researchers from British Columbia who are developing a resource map of schools and locations in Hong Kong that provide social work education and support. It's a cause that spoke to Meister personally.



"As a student at UNO, I've had the opportunity to participate in a wonderful social work program that takes students abroad to China and using photography as a means for social change," he explained. "Having previous experiences with Hong Kong, I thought [this project] would be a wonderful way to reconnect with those experiences."

Meister credits his faculty mentors in the Grace Abbott School of Social Work and the Office of National Scholarships and Fellowships with his success in achieving the scholarship.

"For each and every part of my education and my scholarship, they've mentored me, they've guided me and I wouldn't be the person I am today or have as rich of an education as I've had without all their guidance."

It is precisely because of the global impacts of illnesses like COVID-19 that he knows a global perspective of social work is key.

While his specific project is currently on hold due to restrictions tied to the pandemic, Meister said that he still plans to collaborate with faculty on the project in some way and hopefully pursue the project in earnest next summer.



Peter Szto (pictured on right) Szto was recently named the recipient of a Fulbright Distinguished Chair in the Social Sciences. The award will take him to China to develop a social work curriculum a focused on an indigenous-based mental health.

While the exact schedule of his time in China is on hold due to COVID-19, Szto will spend approximately 10 months in a country in need of mental health support.

"The central government understands that social work is a strategic solution to address citizens' mental health needs," he said. "What's missing is a model of care and curriculum to train a mental health work force."

Szto, who himself is the son of Chinese immigrants, has spent much of his academic career focused on social welfare development in China, including mass internal migrations from rural to urban spaces and the stigma around mental illness.

"The topic of mental health is pretty much cloaked in stigma and taboo, and thus, under-developed from a service delivery and educational

perspective," he said. "An indigenous approach is appropriate to avoid problems associated with Western imperialism or colonialism."

Szto said that being chosen as a recipient for a Fulbright award is a "deep honor" and that he hopes "to make a significant contribution to China in terms of social work education and mental health."

The Fulbright Program is the flagship international educational exchange program sponsored by the U.S. government and is designed to increase mutual understanding between the people of the United States and the people of other countries.

Recipients of Fulbright grants are selected on the basis of academic or professional achievement, as well as demonstrated leadership potential in their fields. The program operates in over 160 countries worldwide. Since its inception in 1946, the Fulbright Program has provided more than 380,000 participants—chosen for their academic merit and leadership potential—with the opportunity to exchange ideas and contribute to finding solutions to shared international concerns.

The Fulbright U.S. Student Program is administered at UNO through the Office of National Fellowships and Scholarships. Email unoonsf@unomaha.edu to express interest in learning more about such opportunities.

For more information about the Fulbright Program, visit <http://eca.state.gov/fulbright>.

FACULTY RECOGNITION

Jeanette Harder has been working extensively on education surrounding child welfare with Plain communities, namely Amish and Old Order Mennonite.

She co-authored and published a book along with Allen Hoover in November of 2019 titled *For the Sake of the Child: Love, Safety, and Abuse in our Plain Communities*. To date, more than 5,000 copies have been sold. It is being translated into German for distribution to Old Colony Mennonites in Mexico and Central America. Harder, alongside GASSW faculty Sandy Cook-Fong and others in the field, has spent much time with these communities gathering data, presenting information, providing trainings, and publishing articles.



CENTER FOR PUBLIC AFFAIRS RESEARCH

CPAR.UNOMAHA.EDU

WILLIAM BRENNAN INSTITUTE FOR LABOR STUDIES

LABORSTUDIES.UNOMAHA.EDU



New grant of \$620,700 from Olsson and Nebraska Department of Transportation to evaluate and plan for enhanced transportation choices in Nebraska.

The grant brings a new member to CPAR, Bill Bivin, Statewide Mobility Manager.



CPAR continues to find new ways to #ShareTheData, including the new governing.unomaha.edu hosting national data interactives, new Nebraska demographics dashboards and close to 1,000 data based social media posts.

Close to 40 data based presentations in the community, including, eight made at the request of the Planning Committee of the Nebraska State Legislature and an invited presentation for the Nebraska Board of Regents.



Development of a 2020 Census website and many outreach materials and initiatives, including, a student competition, numerous media citations, and host of the Nebraska 2020 Census summit.



Largest ever Data Users Conference with over 300 in attendance. Our other professional development program, the Certificate in Fundraising Management had 81 registrations with 42 participants.

CPACS' William Brennan Institute for Labor Studies has, since its inception in 1980, been the premier resource for "all things union" in the State of Nebraska.

In 1980, a new public service outreach program was established at the University of Nebraska at Omaha. The William Brennan Institute for Labor Studies was created with a statewide mission "to foster critical and creative thinking among labor leaders, potential leaders, and interested members by providing relevant information and training in the skills necessary for success in today's economy and workplace."



The Institute acts as a bridge extending the resources of the university to the broader Nebraska community thereby making its resources more readily available to Nebraskans and their labor organizations.

The Institute's primary audience is the women and men of Nebraska's labor movement. Over time, a secondary audience emerged. As a result the Institute also does programming aimed at educating Nebraskans about the role organized labor did to create an economy where the American Dream is available to those, who work hard and play by the rules.

To accomplish its mandate, the Institute provides university-quality programs of teaching, research, and community service for labor organizations at the local, state, regional, and national levels, as well as educational offerings to expand public awareness about why organized labor exists, what it exists to accomplish, and what tools it uses to put the American Dream within reach of everyday wage earners. Classes and other educational offerings take place off- and on-campus.

The Institute is a member of the United Association for Labor Education (UALE), and is one of about 20 such university-based labor education programs around the country. To become a member of UALE, each university-based program must have its own budget, a full time director, and a Labor Advisory Committee (LAC).

The purpose of the LAC is to assist in the formulation and evaluation of broad program policy. More specifically, the members' duty is to interpret the educational needs of the labor movement; review and evaluate programs and proposals for projects; promote the Institute's programming within the labor community; help with the public's understanding of organized labor; and support labor education within the University System.

WHAT WILL THE FUTURE HOLD FOR THE INSTITUTE AND OTHER PUBLIC OUTREACH PROGRAMS?

The Institute has partnered with the relatively new Nebraska Center for Workforce Development & Education (NCWDE), to get programming to "new" audiences like high school students and previously incarcerated people to learn about what careers are available to them in the building and construction trades. Additionally the NCWDE has begun to record labor education programming digitally. Currently there are two programs that are in their "beta" versions and more recordings are being planned. Stay tuned!



PRESENTATION RECAP

Total Presentations: 35
Invited Presentations: 21
Contract Classes: 13
Open Enrollment: 1

Grand Total: 1,819 participants



Dean – John Bartle, Ph.D.

Associate Dean – Theresa Barron-McKeagney, Ph.D.

College of Public Affairs and Community Service

University of Nebraska at Omaha

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