2015

UNO Advantage Book

University Communications

University of Nebraska at Omaha

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For 107 years, UNO has served as this state’s point of access for excellence in higher education.

Our equation for distinction is quite simple: hire extraordinary faculty and staff; offer a broad range of relevant and unique programs; enroll committed and passionate undergraduate and graduate students; build state-of-the-art learning, teaching and living spaces; offer the most competitively priced tuition in the region; infuse engagement, creativity, diversity and community into the culture; leverage the opportunities of a great city; and build a network of more than 116,000 alumni across the globe.

Okay, not so simple. Yet, that is the Maverick way.

We put this book together to share the value of UNO with students, parents, alumni, businesses, and community partners. We want everyone to get to “Know the O” and see how our momentum is building.

Our value is a direct result of our unwavering dedication to our mission: deliver excellence in academics; commit fully to students; and remain locally and globally engaged.

We call this the UNO advantage.

John E. Christensen
CHANCELLOR
KNOW THE O :: THE UNO ADVANTAGE

WARREN BUFFETT, PAST INSTRUCTOR AT THE UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA AT OMAHA (FORMERLY OMAHA UNIVERSITY)

Price is what you pay, value is what you get.

WARREN BUFFETT VISITS STUDENTS, FACULTY, AND STAFF AT UNO’S MAMMEL HALL DURING BERKSHIRE HATHAWAY’S ANNUAL MEETING.
KNOW THE O: THE UNO VALUE STORY

The University of Nebraska at Omaha (UNO) is a premier metropolitan university that combines the resources of a doctoral research institution with a thriving community in the heart of Omaha.

With a global reach and vision, UNO is large enough to provide opportunities students seek, yet personal enough to include the mentorship they need to achieve academic excellence, creativity, and engaged learning at competitive tuition rates.

UNO is committed to and engaged with the city surrounding it, allowing students unique hands-on opportunities, internships, service learning, applied research, and other collaborative activities that enhance time in the classroom.

This is the “O” we want you to know – forward thinking, student centered, and devoted to the city we call home.
OMAHA & UNO: PARTNERS FOR MORE THAN A CENTURY

UNO is located in the heart of Omaha, Nebraska, its roads winding through city parks and thriving neighborhoods, creating an extraordinary connection that few universities have achieved.

The city itself has truly become a part of the UNO campus. With a population of more than 1.2 million people within a 50-mile radius, UNO both offers and receives unlimited opportunities for collaboration.

The shared goal of Omaha and UNO has always been to empower students and residents, while enriching the global community. Our dynamic and rewarding partnership will no doubt flourish and grow for another 100 years.

UNO is NEBRASKA’S METROPOLITAN UNIVERSITY.

A Metropolitan University, defined in its simplest terms, is an institution that accepts all of higher education’s traditional values in teaching, research, and service, but takes upon itself the additional responsibility of providing engaged leadership within the metropolitan region by using its human and financial resources as partners to improve the region’s quality of life.

Adapted from Paige E. Mulholland

PLACE MATTERS

OMAHA RANKINGS

1. The Top 10 Best American Cities to Work in Tech in 2015
   SmartAsset - September 2015

2. Best Cities to Start a New Business
   Forbes - June 2015

3. The 15 Best U.S. Cities for Millennial College Students
   OnlineCollegeGuide - March 2016

4. Best Cities to Live in 2015
   NerdWallet.com - January 2015

5. Best Cities for Young Entrepreneurs
   Networked - Nov 2014

6. 2015's 30 Best Cities to Start a Career
   WorkHub - May 2015

7. Best Big Cities (Best in the Midwest)
   Time.com/money - August 2015

8. Most Recession Proof City
   Brookings Institute

INTERNSHIPS, PRACTICA & CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Omaha offers many career opportunities in a variety of fields including:

- Government
- Small Business
- Non-profit
- Education
- Technology
- News

CULTURE, ENTERTAINMENT & SIGNATURE EVENTS

- NCAA Men's College World Series
- NCAA Men's Basketball “March Madness” Tournament (2015)
- U.S. Olympic Swim Trials (returning in 2016)
- U.S. Senior Golf Open (2016)
- U.S. Figure Skating Championships (2016)
- Big Omaha
- Berkshire Hathaway Annual Meeting
- River City Rodeo & Stock Show
- Omaha Film Festival
- National Movie Premieres
- Concerts, Plays, & Museums
- Restaurants & Shopping

...and much more
ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

UNO’s six colleges are dedicated to providing rigorous undergraduate and graduate academic programs taught by faculty who are national and international experts in their fields. All of UNO’s colleges offer unique opportunities in research and hands-on experiences that are critical to gaining an edge in a competitive global marketplace.

Arts and Sciences
Business Administration
Communication, Fine Arts and Media
Education
Information Science & Technology
Public Affairs and Community Service
UNO’S ACADEMIC PRIORITIES

STEM
Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics

EARLY CHILDHOOD/CHILD WELFARE

SUSTAINABILITY

DOCTORAL/RESEARCH

GLOBAL ENGAGEMENT
Mavericks comprise the entire UNO student body, including:

- 12,488 undergraduate students
- 3,038 graduate students
- 6,124 first-generation students
- 1,479 military and veteran students
- 2,061 international students
- 7,537 enrolled in at least one online course
OUR WORLD-CLASS FACULTY

UNO students learn from distinguished faculty drawn from the world’s leading universities. Faculty are fully invested in students and their success, providing a personalized higher education experience.

17:1 undergraduate student-to-faculty ratio

13:1 graduate school student-to-faculty ratio
UNO is proud to have the most diverse collegiate student body in the region.

Over half of all minority students in the University of Nebraska system attend UNO. That is our role in our city, state, and region: to serve as a point of access for excellence in higher education.

All learners who have done the hard work of preparation are welcome, no matter age, race, ethnicity, socio-economic status or country of origin.
KNOW THE O :: THE UNO ADVANTAGE

POINTS OF ACCESS

UNO has tailored classes to be accessible in a variety of ways. Our goal is to offer excellence through flexibility to meet the various needs of students.

ON CAMPUS

UNO has grown to include three campuses in the heart of Omaha. Students find a comprehensive array of programs and classes offered in the traditional weekday time frame, as well as in the evenings and on weekends.

TRANSFER

Key partnerships and agreements have been established between UNO and regional community colleges, so students can work towards their bachelor’s degree without starting over.

ONLINE

UNO offers hybrids of on campus and online classes for students who are unable to come to campus to complete their entire class schedule.

For those who seek a degree through distance education, UNO offers nationally recognized bachelor’s and master’s degrees in a wide variety of fields.

ADULT DEGREE COMPLETION

Adult learners wanting to advance their careers by completing a bachelor’s or master’s program can earn their degree or professional certification on campus and online.
STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES

UNO has specifically designed programs and services to support students academically, socially, and physically to enhance time in and out of the classroom.

Criss Library  Disability Services  Counseling Services  Writing Center
Math-Science Learning Center  Student Activities  Honors Program
Learning Communities  Military and Veteran Services  Speech Center
Campus Testing Services  Academic and Career Development Center
Health Services  Campus Recreation  Wellness Center  Multicultural Affairs
Gender and Sexuality Resource Center  Civic and Social Responsibility
MILITARY & VETERAN STUDENTS

UNO is dedicated to serving those who served our country. We work to support UNO’s military community and their families by providing active duty and veteran students with resources and services developed to help them succeed—whether it’s on campus, online, or overseas.

UNO has a long tradition of focusing on military-affiliated students from having one of the oldest Air Force Reserve Officer Trainings Corps detachments in the country to our involvement in the Bootstrapper program in the 1950s. Today, we are continuing to build partnerships with local employers to make sure we can help find jobs for our veterans when they graduate.

OFFICE OF MILITARY & VETERAN SERVICES

» Process all veterans’ benefits
» Offer advice regarding veterans’ benefits
» Tuition assistance for active duty and Guard/Reserve students
» Faculty advisors to the Veteran Student Organization
» Ensure a smooth administration of benefits and education

#1 Four-year institution for Military Friendliness (Military Times, 2014-2015)

#1 CBA: Best business school in the country for veterans (Military Times, 2014-2015)

Listed on the Military Friendly Schools list in 2014 and 2015.

Military Friendly Schools is a veteran-owned business that identifies the top 20% of schools nationwide that deliver what they consider to be the best experience for military students.
STUDENT BODY GROWTH & RETENTION

LARGEST INCOMING CLASS IN UNO HISTORY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Growth</th>
<th>Retention</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8.6%</td>
<td>77.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.2%</td>
<td>10.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2%</td>
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</tbody>
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- Increased enrollment of entire student body: 2%
- Increased enrollment of first year students: 8.6%
- Increased enrollment of transfer students: 8.2%
- Increased enrollment of new graduate students: 10.1%

Percentage of first-year students that return for their sophomore year at UNO.
MOST COMPETITIVE TUITION RATES IN THE REGION

- UNO has the lowest tuition and fees of 10 Eastern Nebraska four-year institutions.
- The Metropolitan Advantage Program (MAP) provides tuition and fee pricing for residents of 11 Western Iowa counties that are lower than or competitive with four-year institutions in Iowa.
- The Midwest Student Exchange Program (MSEP) provides reduced out-of-state tuition for residents and students of Illinois, Indiana, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, North Dakota, and Wisconsin.
- Approximately 60% of recent alumni surveyed reported graduating with $5,000 or less in debt.
EXTRAORDINARY COMMUNITY SUPPORT

The community’s support of UNO is simply incredible and helps create greater opportunities for UNO students. Through the Campaign for Nebraska, donors contributed unprecedented support providing unlimited possibilities for UNO, now and well into the future.

THROUGH THE CAMPAIGN:

$232.8 million was raised for UNO*

12,109 donors made gifts to benefit UNO

659 funds were established to support UNO students, faculty, programs, and facilities growth


*CAMPAIGN TOTAL INCLUDES FUNDS COMMITTED THROUGH A FUNDRAISING PARTNERSHIP WITH HERITAGE SERVICES FOR THE BAXTER ARENA AND THE REDEVELOPMENT OF THE PETER KIEWIT INSTITUTE.
NATIONAL LEADER IN COMMUNITY SERVICE & ENGAGEMENT

In 2014, UNO received the national Economic Opportunity award from the President’s Higher Education Honor Roll. More than 800 colleges and universities applied, and it is the highest honor a university or college can receive by the U.S. government for its commitment to volunteering, service learning, and civic engagement. On top of this award, every year since 2005, UNO has been named to the President’s Higher Education Honor Roll.

UNO has achieved the prestigious elective classification for “Community Engagement” by the Carnegie Foundation for excellence in collaboration with the Omaha metro area for the second time. This classification places UNO among the top universities in the nation for service learning, community service, and civic engagement initiatives.
The Barbara Weitz Community Engagement Center (Weitz CEC), the first facility of its kind in the United States, opened in April 2014 to partner UNO resources with community needs.

The Weitz CEC is a unique space that serves to strengthen UNO’s existing outreach efforts and foster future opportunities for partnerships between UNO students, faculty, staff, and nonprofit or governmental organizations.

For 107 years, UNO has been dedicated to engagement and education within the Omaha metropolitan community. The Weitz CEC adds a new venue from which our metropolitan university tradition can continue.

The Weitz CEC delivers more effective engagement opportunities to UNO students, faculty, and staff.

**AREAS OF FOCUS**

- Signature Outreach Programs
- University & Community Partners
- Scholarship of Engagement
- Community & Campus Related Events

**CONNECTING CAMPUS & COMMUNITY**
KNOW THE O :: THE UNO ADVANTAGE

CUTTING EDGE FACILITIES FOR TEACHING, LEARNING, ENGAGEMENT, LIVING, AND ATHLETICS

NEWEST BUILDINGS
Baxter Arena
Barbara Weitz Community Engagement Center
Biomechanics Research Building
Mammel Hall
Elkhorn River Research Station
Kaneko-UNO Library

MAJOR RENOVATIONS
Criss Library
College of Public Affairs and Community Service
Roskens Hall
Health, Physical Education and Recreation (HPER)

Peter Kiewit Institute (IS&T)
Barn at Glacier Creek
Milo Bail Student Center
Welcome Center
Kayser Hall

RESIDENCE HALLS
Maverick Village
University Village
Scott Court
Scott Hall
Scott Village

2015
2016

UNO PREPARES TO OPEN BAXTER ARENA IN OCTOBER 2015.
EMERGING RESEARCH

UNO conducts globally relevant research that reflects the metropolitan mission of the university.

- The Carnegie Foundation has classified UNO as a Doctoral Research University for our specialized doctoral programs and comprehensive range of master’s degrees and certificates.

- In Fall 2014, UNO was designated as home for the first Center for Research in Human Movement Variability thanks to a $10.1 million research grant from the National Institutes of Health. This is the largest research grant in UNO history.

- UNO receives millions of research dollars from national funding agencies including the U.S. Department of Defense, National Science Foundation, National Institutes of Health, and NASA.

- The Office of Research and Creative Activity (ORCA) is dedicated to supporting faculty and student scholarly activity.
The 2014-15 UNO Mavericks hockey team made history by making it to the NCAA Men's Frozen Four.

Division I Athletics

UNO’s student-athletes are successfully competing at the highest level in collegiate sports in Division I athletics, holding membership in two athletic conferences:

» National Collegiate Hockey Conference

» Summit League

The profile of UNO Athletics is on the rise.

» The 7,500-seat Baxter Arena opened on campus in October 2015. This arena houses men’s hockey, men’s and women’s basketball, and volleyball, in addition to numerous community events.

» UNO’s soccer pitch (field added in 2014) received the prestigious FIFA recommended 2-Star certification, the highest synthetic turf rating from FIFA making it the highest rated collegiate pitch in the country.
The UNO Alumni Association is dedicated to serving UNO and its alumni, and celebrated its 100th anniversary in 2013.

Every UNO student automatically becomes a member of the UNO Alumni Association upon graduating from the university. Alumni can take part in the award-winning Young Alumni Academy to stay connected to UNO soon after graduating.

The worldwide UNO Alumni network includes more than 116,000 graduates, including a former U.S. Secretary of Defense, American Ambassadors, CEOs of major companies, teachers, police officers, social workers, soldiers, accountants, artists, scientists, engineers, and thousands of others striving to make our world a better place.

The network of UNO alumni is world-wide.

Once a Maverick, always a Maverick.

VIEW PLACES WHERE THE "O" HAS BEEN OR SUBMIT YOUR OWN: SHOWTHEO.COM
TRADITION

Where does momentum begin? For us, it was the determination to tell our story—and once we started telling our story, people started to see the successes UNO students have achieved.

And that success is inspiring. It inspires our faculty to find new and creative ways to teach our students. It allows our students to remain independent thinkers who will find unlimited opportunities before them.

The Maverick Monument, (shown at right) was a gift from the Alumni Association on the occasion of their 100th anniversary, and stands in front of the Health, Physical Education, and Recreation Building. This eight-foot high bronze bull statue doesn’t just represent the university’s mascot—it symbolizes the determination, pride, and success of our students, graduates, and the community.

Go Mavs!