

Winter 12-2022

## The CPACS Collective December 2022

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

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Winter Issue | December 2022



# The CPACS Collective

Your best source of news, the latest happenings, and exciting collaborations happening in the UNO College of Public Affairs and Community Service.



## The College of Public Affairs and Community Service: 50 Years Strong

I hope this finds you and your family healthy and happy.

The big news from the university is the launching of the Foundation's campaign, "Only in Nebraska." You will see more about it below, but I want to tell you about CPACS' part of it. Consistent with the campaign, our focus is on *student access and success*, specifically undergraduate scholarships, doctoral fellowships, internships, and service learning opportunities. We also are asking for help to complete the renovation of our building to accommodate the Juvenile Justice Institute, expand space for the Center for Public Affairs Research, and consolidate the Emergency Management and Tribal Management and Emergency Services programs. The second item is *academic excellence*, where we will create endowed chairs in Criminology and Criminal Justice and the Goodrich Scholarship Program and elevate Public Administration's Digital Governance and Analytics Lab and Social Work's Support and Training for the Evaluation of Programs into university centers. Third, we will conduct transformative research on the nexus of business, informatics, and gerontology; support research on the needs of vulnerable populations displaced by war, climate change, crime, and human exploitation; and launch a think tank on Nebraska policy. I urge you to consider supporting one or more of these initiatives. As always, contact me for more information at: [jbartle@unomaha.edu](mailto:jbartle@unomaha.edu)

In other news:

- We concluded our 50th anniversary celebration with a fun event at the men's basketball game (UNO won 79-72 over Idaho!) followed by a reception.
- The Aviation Institute signed a career pathway program with United Airlines, the second with a major airline (Southwest Airlines is the other).
- The Flight Team took second at their regional competition and will advance to the national competition in May.
- The Grace Abbott School of Social Work has launched the Training and Supervision Academy which provides professional development towards licensure for mental health practitioners, and other areas of social work.

**John R. Bartle, Ph.D.**  
Dean, College of Public Affairs and Community Service

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## CPACS News



## **UNO Puts Focus on Students, Social Mobility, and Workforce Development as Part of University of Nebraska's "Only in Nebraska" Campaign**

A historic effort is underway to encourage at least 150,000 benefactors to give \$3 billion to support University of Nebraska students, faculty, academic programs, and research to address the needs of the state.



## **UNO Partnership with United Airlines to Provide Career Pathways to the Flight Deck**

The University of Nebraska at Omaha and United Airlines announced a new partnership to provide career pathways for aviators through Aviate, United's industry-leading pilot career development program.



## **CPACS Helps You Fast Track Your Master's Degree**

The College of Public Affairs and Community Service's new Fast Track programs in criminology and criminal justice as well as urban studies, provide an opportunity to decide if graduate school is right for you.



### **The Omaha Flying Mavs Soar into Regional Competition**

The flight team, The Flying Mavs, earned their 14th consecutive bid to the National Intercollegiate Flying Association National Safety and Flight Evaluation Conference (SAFECON) by placing 2nd in the Region 6 SAFECON held October 17–22, 2022, in Salina, Kansas.



### **Training and Supervision Academy Supports Social Workers Throughout Their Careers**

The Grace Abbot School of Social Work has offered professional development opportunities for decades. In 2018, after completing a community needs assessment, GASSW recognized a growing need for workforce development and ways to bridge the gap for graduating social work students as they work toward community practice.



### **UNO Division of Continuing Studies Receives 2022 Malcolm Knowles Award**

The Division of Continuing Studies received the 2022 Malcolm Knowles Award for Outstanding Adult Education Program Leadership.

## CPACS Staffing Update



**Tessa Barney,**  
**Director of Development,**

After ten years with the University of Nebraska Foundation, Tessa has accepted a position with the Omaha Community Foundation as a Senior Philanthropic Advisor. Her last day was November 30. "Tessa has been a wonderful colleague and friend – one that will be dearly missed by everyone she has worked with over the last ten years," said Sue Kutschkau, Interim Vice President Advancement, UNO. Good luck Tessa!

**Melanie Kiper,**

## Community Service Specialist

Melanie has been with UNO and specifically CPACS for 33 years, most recently as a community service specialist in the Dean's office. She will be retiring on February 28. Her retirement plans include a biking trip across the United States with her husband. She will be driving the van that she has been working on turning into their home on wheels for the expedition. Congratulations Melanie!

## Debbie Vihstadt Communications Specialist

Debbie joins the CPACS team in the Dean's office as a communications specialist. She comes from Countryside Community Church where she worked seven years as the church's communications coordinator. Debbie is a graduate of UNO and is excited to be back on campus. She also has a son attending UNO.

Welcome back to UNO, Debbie!



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