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Homecoming is a wonderful time to celebrate Upper Iowa’s traditions with our students. It is when the next generation of Peacocks make their own cherished memories and become aware of all the reasons to be grateful to the alumni who blazed a trail before them. We hope you’ll help us continue Homecoming traditions by joining us in October!”

William R. Duffy II, Ed.D., Ed.S. President

Students (l-r) Gianna Lombardo, Willy Comacho, Brilee Hoemann and Deion Jones, pictured here with Dr. Duffy and his wife, Sharon, were some of the students who attended the President’s Ball on Friday, October 1. A recap of the Ball can be found on page 11.
INSIDE HIGHLIGHTS

Homecoming 2021 Recap - Page 10
'Fields' of Dreams - Page 12
Gold Medal Career Path - Page 6

FEATURES

5 Alumna brings “The Visual Element” to Fayette
6 Alumna’s path is gold medal worthy
10 Homecoming ’21 Recap
12 A ball, a glove and the game of life
14 Alumnus advocates for amputees through the greatest game

DEPARTMENTS

2 News Briefs
4 Faculty and Staff Notes
17 Athletics Wrap-Up
21 Class Notes
24 In Memoriam
25 Donor Report 2021

Front cover: Haiti Olympic swim coach and Upper Iowa University alumna Stacey Blitsch ’98 is pictured alongside the 2020 Olympic pool in Tokyo, Japan.

The Bridge is an official publication of Upper Iowa University — Mesa, Arizona; New London, Connecticut; Rockford, Illinois; Cedar Rapids, Des Moines, Fayette, Quad Cities and Waterloo, Iowa; Fort Leavenworth and Fort Riley, Kansas; Alexandria, Baton Rouge, DeRidder, Fort Polk and New Orleans, Louisiana; Meridian, Mississippi; Fort Sill, Oklahoma; Fort Hood-Killeen, Texas; Blackhawk-Janesville, Elkhorn, Madison, Milwaukee, Prairie du Chien and Wausau, Wisconsin.

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Upper Iowa University honors outstanding faculty and staff

Upper Iowa University Outstanding Faculty and Staff Service Award 2020–21 recipients were senior director of academic success Amy Tucker, assistant professor of nursing Sheila Crook-Lockwood and head athletic director Matt Rueckert. All recipients were nominated by their peers for embodying the core values of UIU: integrity, excellence, accessibility, respect and stewardship.

NiCole Dennler, assistant professor of communication, was among those who nominated Tucker, saying, “Amy has made a point to make sure each and every one of our students are succeeding. She is also an amazing person to work with on multiple projects. I cannot say enough how I appreciate the ability to chat when I am unsure about a situation of any kind on campus.

“Amy is the best cheerleader for our students,” she added. “She believes in each and every one of them. It shows in everything she does. You can tell she is genuine to her very core. A person that I not only believe is a great UIU colleague, but a true asset to UIU.”

While nominating Crook-Lockwood, assistant professor of communication Jennifer Stoffel stated, “Sheila has been serving in elected faculty leadership roles at Upper Iowa University during difficult times and has grappled with how to best represent her stakeholders and interact as a liaison.”

Stoffel, who also nominated Tucker, later continued, “Sheila has always been a great advocate for student accessibility and inclusion and has always been a great champion for making faculty meetings, etc., even more accessible for people to participate. In addition, Sheila is always open to listening, which makes her accessible in even an additional format. I always appreciate her openness to considering alternative points of view and seeking understanding prior to recommending actions or solutions.”

Becki Wissmiller, director of the UIU master of business administration program, nominated Rueckert, saying, “In a year with so much uncertainty, Matt did his due diligence to keep not just our student athletes safe, but our student population. He went above and beyond in service to the institution in a time when many were scared and nervous about what could happen.

“Matt is a true leader for a variety of student organizations and our entire athletic department full of teams made up of many individuals, I think Matt has handled himself extremely well and his entire staff have been extremely helpful under stressful situations as we all learned together what our protocols and testing procedures were going to be.”

Also, in nominating Rueckert, head baseball coach Jeremy Ische wrote, “I think Matt Rueckert has done an outstanding job in his position as head athletic trainer, and I do not believe I’ve told him ‘thank you’ enough during the course of this past year. Given the pandemic and trying to operate an athletic department full of teams made up of many individuals, I think Matt has handled himself extremely well and his entire staff have been extremely helpful under stressful situations as we all learned together what our protocols and testing procedures were going to be.”

Resident assistants welcome Peacocks back to Campus

Upper Iowa University announced in August its resident assistants (RAs) for 2021-22. The RA program is a University-sponsored leadership opportunity that aims to enhance the educational experience of student leaders while helping other students adjust to on-campus living and enriching the UIU experience. In addition to providing supervision and responding to complaints, reports, requests and emergencies, RAs ensure that students benefit from a traditional college environment while attending UIU.

“RAs work to provide the best college campus experience possible, serving as a friend and mentor to all other Peacocks,” residence area coordinator Caitlin Schauer said.

“The entire RA staff is eager to see that all students benefit from UIU’s mission to inspire success and empower lives, all while living within a safe and enjoyable residential environment. Upper Iowa University is joining the COVID-19 College Vaccine Challenge and we are encouraging students to be vaccinated as we return to in-person classes.”

“As we welcome the students back to Campus, the RAs and entire Student Life team are looking forward to working with all Peacocks to make this an exceptional school year,” added residence area coordinator Carson Parker. “The RAs are valuable resources throughout the residence halls and across Campus to help each and every resident reach their full potential and enjoy their time here at Upper Iowa University. We encourage students to reach out to any RA staff member for assistance throughout the school year.”

Additional information about each of the 2021-22 RAs can be viewed on Bridge Online at https://wp.me/p4W6Tg-1Tb.
Officer Academy, he served as the Iowa director for recruiting and administered the recruitment Hospital & Clinics in Knoxville, Iowa. A retired Air Force veteran, Sims also achieved the rank of rural health clinic and hospice.

Iowa Homeless Youth Centers and the Morris Scholarship Fund.

Boards of Accountancy, National State Auditors Association, Better Business Bureau of Iowa, Commission. He has also provided leadership as the chair of the National Association of State Schools Audit Committee and the Iowa Supreme Court Client Security and Attorney Disciplinary including the CPA Examination Review Board, Young Women’s Resource Center, Des Moines Public.

Vaudt has served on the boards of numerous professional associations and civic organizations, including the CPA Examination Review Board, Young Women’s Resource Center, Des Moines Public Schools Audit Committee and the Iowa Supreme Court Client Security and Attorney Disciplinary Commission. He has also provided leadership as the chair of the National Association of State Boards of Accountancy, National State Auditors Association, Better Business Bureau of Iowa, Iowa Homeless Youth Centers and the Morris Scholarship Fund.

David Vaudt currently serves as president of Vaudt Consulting LLC in Norwalk, Connecticut. Graduating summa cum laude while earning a bachelor’s degree in accounting at UIU, the CPA began his career with the professional audit, tax and advisory firm KPMG. Vaudt served as an audit partner until his retirement in 2001, at which time he sought elective office as Iowa’s auditor of state. Vaudt was elected auditor of state three times before resigning his position in 2013 upon his appointment as chairman of the Governmental Accounting Standards Board in Norwalk. Shortly after his seven-year term ended in June 2020, he was elected to the Board of Directors of Wellmark Blue Cross and Blue Shield. In 2021, he was appointed to the AICPA Board of Examiners.

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A critical access hospital chief executive officer, Sims is currently employed with Good Shepherd Health Care System in Hermiston, Oregon. With over 700 employees and 80 providers, Good Shepherd meets the medical needs of its communities with services not often seen in rural facilities, including a Level III trauma center, medical/surgical, OB/GYN, critical care, rural health clinic and hospice.

Sims was previously employed at Lucas County Health Center in Chariton, Iowa, and Knoxville Hospital & Clinics in Knoxville, Iowa. A retired Air Force veteran, Sims also achieved the rank of master sergeant during his 20 years of service. A distinguished graduate of the Noncommissioned Officer Academy, he served as the Iowa director for recruiting and administered the recruitment of physicians, nurses and allied health professionals. Sims is a recipient of the Air Force Career Counselor of the Year and Air Force Manager of the Year awards.

In addition to previous service on the Upper Iowa University Alumni Association, Sims’s professional and civic affiliations include the American College of Healthcare Executives, Medical Group Management Association, Iowa Hospital Association Council on Representation and Advocacy and Iowa Hospital Association Political Action Committee. He also previously served in officer roles with the Iowa Rural Health Telemedicine Program, Iowa Hospital Education and Research Foundation, Lucas County Economic Development Corporation, Chariton Economic Vitality Committee, Chariton Area Chamber of Commerce/Main Street and Chariton Rotary Club.

LaVerne McCoy, a retired City of Milwaukee, Wisconsin, police officer and United States Air Force reservist, graduated cum laude at UIU with a bachelor’s degree in public administration. She is especially proud of her alma mater’s educational support of the nation’s military family.

Upon graduating from the Milwaukee Police Academy, McCoy would serve the city’s residents for 25 years. After being assigned to patrol duties, she was named as a community service officer. In addition to recruiting new officers, McCoy worked with the public to prevent and solve neighborhood crimes, and provided personal safety and crime prevention presentations to business owners and residents of the community. Prior to her retirement, she was promoted to sergeant and supervised the day-to-day operations of patrol officers. McCoy also served in the Air Force for 28 years. Achieving the rank of chief master sergeant, she performed her duties and responsibilities with the 440th Military Base in Wisconsin and later at Pope Air Force Base in North Carolina.

A supporter of local church food drives, Salvation Army and Goodwill, McCoy has served as past president of the League of Martins, a Girl Scout leader and the second vice president of the 24th Street School.

Additional members of the UIU Board of Trustees are Scott R. Lebin, chairman; Peter Clemens, vice chair; Richard Andres, treasurer; John R. Falb, secretary and members Nancy Betz, Mary Cheddie, Bill Cook, Josem D. Diaz, Steve Harms, Angie Joseph, Dr. Margaret B. Lawson, Roger Mangan, Dennis Murdock, Mike Prochaska, Lowell Tiedt and Neil Wilkinson.

Upper Iowa University has announced that alums, and longtime friends of the University, David Vaudt ’76, Brian Sims ’08, ’10, and LaVerne McCoy ’98 were recently elected to the UIU Board of Trustees.

UIU announces newly elected Board of Trustees

UIU announces the opening of Naval Air Station (NAS) – Meridian

Upper Iowa University, an award-winning, military-friendly university founded in 1857 with multiple education locations at military installations, is now offering courses at the U.S. Naval Air Station (NAS) in Meridian, Mississippi. Students can earn a Bachelor of Science degree with a major in business administration with either an accounting or supply chain management emphasis. A Master of Business Administration degree with an emphasis in accounting is also available.

“['We’re extremely proud and excited to partner with Naval Air Station Meridian and the United States Navy to offer classes at our newest course location beginning in August,’ UIU President Dr. William R. Duffy II said. “This is the seventh UIU center or course location that supports our nation’s service men and women, veterans, Department of Defense civilians, contractors and the total military family.”

“['I am excited for this opportunity to establish and develop a university center that brings new academic resources to supplement our area and serve the Meridian community with a variety of academic programs,’ Dr. Elizabeth Harmon Threatt, UIU-NAS Meridian center director, added. “As a native of Meridian, I immediately recognized the impact and opportunity that the Upper Iowa University center could have on my hometown community and the residents of our city. Also, being married to a long-term member of the Mississippi Air National Guard, I was especially impressed with how UIU provides such unique, affordable and accessible educational opportunities for military members and their families.”

The “Peacock Spirit” was displayed during UIU’s NAS Meridian Center open house Wednesday, July 28. All NAS Meridian personnel and their families were invited to the event. To view the full news release, visit https://wp.me/p4W6Tg-1NQ.
Adjunct professor Dr. Greg Beatty won a short story contest, sponsored by Exisle Academy, for his story, “They Both Won the Bet.”

Dr. Scott Figdore, professor of science and herbarium curator, has completed the first phase of a comprehensive archival updating project involving Upper Iowa University’s C.C. Parker Herbarium. Figdore collaborated with Dr. Tom Lammers, retired plant taxonomist at the University of Wisconsin — Oshkosh, to update and record annotation information for 513 herbarium specimens. The specimens were originally collected by Dr. Charles Coleman Parker (first resident physician of the town of Fayette and longtime member of the UIU Board of Trustees) from 1860 to 1876 and by Dr. Bruce Fink (lichenologist and UIU instructor) from 1892–1896. High-resolution digital scans of all specimens were completed, and these images are now archived in the international JSTOR Global Plants repository. The photograph (left) shows the image of a rare orchid specimen collected by Dr. Parker.

Figdore, Dr. Jennifer Stoffel, professor of biology, Dr. Paul Skrade, associate professor of biology, and Joshua Crosbie ’20, post-baccalaureate land management coordinator, were awarded a contract from the Iowa Department of Natural Resources (DNR) to complete a co-educational project involving seed production from prairie plant species of interest to the DNR. The award is an annual contract for services that can be renewed for an additional two years. The photograph shows students in this fall’s general botany lab collecting seed heads of a species of vervain from UIU’s first prairie seed production plot.

As previously announced, associate professor of psychology Dr. Melinda Heinz has received a Fulbright U.S. Scholar Program award to Ireland. Beginning this month, Heinz will conduct research exploring how men’s sheds promote meaning and purpose in older adulthood. Heinz will also teach a seminar on aging at the Limerick Institute of Technology and host several community discussions exploring how men’s sheds promote meaning and purpose in older adulthood. Heinz will also teach a seminar on aging at the Limerick Institute of Technology and host several community discussions exploring how men’s sheds promote meaning and purpose in older adulthood. Heinz will also teach a seminar on aging at the Limerick Institute of Technology and host several community discussions exploring how men’s sheds promote meaning and purpose in older adulthood. Heinz will also teach a seminar on aging at the Limerick Institute of Technology and host several community discussions exploring how men’s sheds promote meaning and purpose in older adulthood. Heinz will also teach a seminar on aging at the Limerick Institute of Technology and host several community discussions exploring how men’s sheds promote meaning and purpose in older adulthood. Heinz will also teach a seminar on aging at the Limerick Institute of Technology and host several community discussions exploring how men’s sheds promote meaning and purpose in older adulthood. Heinz will also teach a seminar on aging at the Limerick Institute of Technology and host several community discussions exploring how men’s sheds promote meaning and purpose in older adulthood.

Upper Iowa University professor of education Dr. Gina Kuker (right) and preservice educator Bret Corlett of McGregor, Iowa, attended the Iowa Council for Social Studies Conference in October in West Des Moines. Under the theme of “A Whole New World,” they received resources, information and strategies to further engage their students.

Kuker also received a grant to attend the Global Education Symposium in Boston, Massachusetts, in November 2021. The goal of the professional development was to make study abroad more diverse, equitable and inclusive.

Master of Education program director Dr. Susan Massey and her research colleagues recently published the chapter “Leading for transformation: The decisions of new coaches matter” in the edited book “Case Studies in Leadership and Adult Development: Applying Theoretical Perspectives to Real World Challenges.” In addition, they published an article in The Learning Professional titled “3 Challenges New Coaches Face — and How to Overcome Them.”

Assistant Dean of Academic Affairs, Dr. Meghan Mettler served on an online panel discussion titled “Godzilla: A Pioneer of Global Pop Culture” in August.

In November, School of Arts and Sciences Dean Elissa Wenthe and assistant professor of art Laura Gleissner opened their two-person exhibition, “Naturally Synthetic,” at The Shircliff Gallery of Art at Vincennes University in Vincennes, Indiana. The exhibition features three-dimensional work by Wenthe, two-dimensional work by Gleissner and a 40-foot collaborative piece.

Tonne, human services major from Jesup, Iowa, in volunteering at the November 24 “Friendsgiving” for K-12 students at the Volga City Opera House. The free event was hosted by the Volga City Public Library. UIU student volunteer Nichole White, an elementary education major from Elkader, Iowa, is not pictured.

‘Hallelujah Heart’ of UIU’s first Black student beats on
Since first enrolling at Upper Iowa University, Amanda Pasket has pursued her passion for art and design. Graduating with a bachelor’s degree in graphic design in 2009, the DeKalb, Illinois, native explored various opportunities in the career field before deciding to open her own business in 2018.

Pasket initially operated her graphic design/marketing firm, The Visual Element, from her Elgin, Iowa, home before moving its expanding services to downtown Fayette in June 2021. In addition to financial incentives at the local and federal level and the culture of the small college campus community, the Fayette location also allowed her to remain more easily connected to her alma mater.

Speaking from the heart, Pasket reminisced about her UIU education and favorite class, 3-D Foundations. She spoke of how she enjoyed addressing the different mediums, no matter if they were implementing two- or three-dimensional subjects in the class. She also appreciated the strong encouragement of the faculty, who had real-world experience, to freely express her creativity immediately as a freshman.

Similar to her education, the UIU alumna strives to create an intellectually stimulating environment for both her employees and customers, where all ideas are welcome.

“'I hope to create a culture of entrepreneurship in the community,' Pasket said. ‘One where innovation is natural and there are no mistakes — just learning opportunities, or if you’re like the late Bob Ross, ‘happy little accidents.' I believe I can achieve this through helping others in the business world reach their full potential.'

Pasket’s staff includes director of operations Josh Hennessee and designer Haylie Smith, who is currently double majoring in graphic design and marketing at UIU. The Visual Element also integrates the assistance of leadership coach Lisa Leuck and web designer Devin Green.

From the moment a customer steps through the door of The Visual Element, they are able to observe samples of the professional handiwork created by the talented team. However, graphic design is far from the only service that the staff provides. Organizational development, communications, advertising, branding and other essential marketing packages are also available.

Marketing plans vary slightly based on what service a customer is looking for. If the customer simply wants a new logo, talk may focus on how the company is currently structured. Meanwhile, a company desiring a whole new brand may venture more in the direction of ideology and its future outlook.

“The process of creating a logo is very distinct,” noted Pasket. “Generally speaking, I start by inquiring about any symbols, colors and values associated with the company. Each step in the process may take multiple attempts with designing and redesigning the logo, before meeting with the customer for final approval.”

Pasket also tells of how interpretation plays an influential role not only in the success of The Visual Element, but also in a community.

“That is the art of the design of an organization,” Pasket explained. “It is a place where art and design collaborate to produce tested and proven results. We aren’t afraid to take on projects or ideas that we have never done or have never seen done before. That is the exciting part. We create the world around us — why not make it the most accessible, high-reaching, all-inclusive world we can?”

Alumnus Amanda Pasket, owner of The Visual Element, reviews a project with staff member Haylie Smith of McGregor, Iowa, who is currently double-majoring in graphic design and marketing at UIU. 

From the moment a customer steps through the door of The Visual Element in downtown Fayette they are able to observe samples of the professional handiwork created by Amanda Pasket ’09 and her talented team.
Growing up in rural northeast Iowa, Upper Iowa University alumna Stacey Blitsch ’98 never imagined the global experiences she would enjoy in life. A double major in athletic training and fitness/recreation, the Oelwein, Iowa, native served as a lifeguard, swim instructor and physical trainer, before traveling to Hollywood and becoming a roller derby icon and Hollywood actor on both the large and small screens. Most recently, her career path came full circle when she was named Haiti’s Olympic swim coach.

A volleyball player and cross-country runner, Blitsch chose to attend UIU due to the small class sizes and to pursue her interest in sports and athletic training. Growing up, Blitsch also had a passion for swimming. While her high school didn’t have a swim team, Blitsch found another way to get to the local pool every summer day; becoming a lifeguard and swim instructor at the age of 16. She continued this employment while enrolled at UIU and was eventually named the Oelwein Aquatics Center manager.

“One of the first choices I made as an adult was choosing to attend Upper Iowa University,” Blitsch said. “It turned out to be one of the best decisions I’ve made in my life. My UIU experience allowed me to grow as a person, while learning to respect the many cultures around the world.”

During her time at Fayette Campus, Blitsch credited a number of UIU courses and social and extracurricular activities for playing an essential part in introducing her to new horizons. The Homecoming Queen especially enjoyed her time as a work-study employee in the athletic department and with her E.Y.E. sisters.

“The athletic department and training staff were a tight-knit community that helped everyone progress and succeed,” she added. “I really enjoyed the hands-on practice and course training in the training room and fitness center. My work study experience allowed me direct access to the playing fields, pool, gym and fitness center, where I learned more about athletics, and specifically, training techniques.”

Blitsch is also greatly appreciative of the positive influence her athletic training professor Don Bishop and advisor Bill Prochaska had on her life. Bishop taught many of the classes that set Blitsch on her career path, while Prochaska helped find Blitsch a Florida internship that catapulted her into the world of sports and fitness.

From left: Former UIU Homecoming Queen Stacey Blitsch and her mom, Diann; Malibu Stacey Blitsch; HBO Doom Patrol stage; The “Bod Squad” (l-r) Cindy Zimmerman, Jaime Conerac and Stacey Blitsch on The Tonight Show with Jay Leno.
From Hollywood lights to the Olympic rings

Blitsch roller-skated her way into the Hollywood spotlight as “Malibu Stacey” on The Nashville Network’s (TNN) Roller Jam from 1998 to 2000. As part of the weekly roller derby show, Blitsch’s alter ego was a confident, athletic “California girl,” who competed alongside two of her California Quakes teammates as “The Bod Squad.”

This experience led to Blitsch’s involvement in a number of additional media and production opportunities, including appearances on television’s King of Queens and The Tonight Show with Jay Leno; the “Charlies Angels” movie franchise; a six-page article in Sports Illustrated; and listed as one of TV Guide’s “16 Sexiest Stars on TV.” She also worked behind the television camera in such roles as production assistant with the MTV Video Music Awards, Nickelodeon Kids Choice Awards and the Food Network’s Cupcake Wars.

Of course, her UIU education also provided Blitsch various career opportunities as a physical trainer and instructor. In 2005, she opened Star Sport and Fitness, a personal training company for competitive swimmers. The ongoing motivation to help swimmers improve their skills, techniques and racing style would lead Blitsch to the 2020 Olympics in Tokyo. She never envisioned standing poolside as an Olympic swim coach, but the opportunity came about after visiting Haiti in 2018.

“In the ’80s my Aunt Sally used to travel to Haiti, where she helped develop the Wings of Hope orphanage,” Blitsch said. “When I later visited Haiti, I visited the orphanage and was inspired by my aunt to give back to the Haitian community.”
While staying at a coastal resort, Blitsch swam daily in the Caribbean Sea and started to research the Haiti swim program to see if there was an opportunity to help teach the sport. Eventually she was put in contact with Naomy Grand Pierre, who was the first female Olympic swimmer for Haiti. Together they worked on marketing and sponsorship ideas to help the team, and Blitsch soon became involved with the Fédération Haïtienne des Sports Aquatiques (FHSA). She learned that the team was looking for a female coach with a flexible schedule and who could travel internationally with the swimmers.

“I was most interested in getting involved and sharing my coaching and sports performance education and experience with the youth of Haiti,” Blitsch said. “My family taught me to give back to others and inspired me to further explore the Haitian culture. I was super excited to be a part of the team and give back to a culture that my family always held close to their hearts.”

When Blitsch started working with the team, the FHSA was a newly formed aquatics association with only one other coach on staff. In addition, there are few swim coaches at any level in Haiti and only one 50-meter pool, which has not been functional in 30 years.

Despite the lack of coaching, state-of-the-art facilities and financial assistance that many athletic programs in other countries receive, Blitsch was able to lead two Haiti swim team members to the Tokyo Olympics this past summer.

Emile Grand Pierre competed in the 100-meter breast stroke, where she won her heat and set a new Haitian national record with a time of 1:14.82. Unfortunately, swimmer Davidson Vincent had to be quarantined after coming in contact with an individual who tested positive for COVID-19 on the flight to Japan. This allowed him only a few days to train at Tokyo before his race in the 100-meter butterfly. Under the circumstances, Blitsch especially praised him for his effort and time of 54.81.

“The biggest takeaway for the Haitian swim team was our exposure on a global scale. The lack of winning medals was inconsequential compared to the opportunity to compete with unity and respect alongside other athletes from around the world,” Blitsch said. “The lack of winning medals was inconsequential compared to the opportunity to compete with unity and respect alongside other athletes from around the world. I was most proud of how the athletes remained focused and composed while in Tokyo. Both swimmers represented Haiti with pride and dedication. They were responsible, coachable and committed to represent Haiti and shed a positive light on a country which has been through such hard times.”

Blitsch noted that while the international exposure of the Olympic team has been slowly influencing more Haitians to try swimming, only 2 percent of the Haiti population knows how to swim, and drowning remains one of the leading causes of death in the country.

“We are beginning to develop coaching certification clinics and lifesaving/lifeguard programs in Haiti as other facets of our mission,” Blitsch said. “There is a lot of work to do, and I am here to help promote the benefits of swimming for sport and survival. I am sincerely thankful and appreciative for a UIU educational experience that has helped me contribute to the success of the FHSA and our aquatic sports teams.”
Alumni recognized during Peacocks United 202ONE

Five Upper Iowa University graduates were specially honored during the annual Alumni Awards and Honor Class Brunch as part of the University’s “Peacocks United 202ONE” Homecoming celebration September 27–October 3. The following alumni were recognized for their accomplishments either professionally, as an emerging alum or through service to the University, community or country.

**Service to Country Award—Dietrich Denali Cerna, SFC, US Army (Retired), Class of 2011—Grand Prairie, Texas**

Dietrich Denali Cerna joined the U.S. Army in December 1993. He attained the rank of sergeant first class and was a leader in multiple facets all through his career in the Army. Cerna retired after over 20 years of honorable military service, which included numerous deployments and overseas tours. He was deployed to Kosovo and Iraq twice in America’s effort to counter terrorism. His overseas tours included Alaska, Germany and Korea. Cerna’s many awards and decorations include the Meritorious Service Medal (2), Commendation Medal (6), Achievement Medal (5), Army Good Conduct Medal (6), National Defense Service Medal (2), Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal and Kosovo Campaign Medal.

**Service to Community Award—Jon Miller Class of 1975—Pella, Iowa**

While attending UIU, Jon Miller was a founding member of the Acacia fraternity. His dedication to the organization continued long after graduation, assisting with its 45-year reunion, including a corresponding golf event, brunch, tailgate and dinner. Similarly, he has provided a lifetime of service to his local churches, youth programs, and other community organizations and events. A Knights of Columbus member, he has planted tulips for the Pella Tulip festival, umpired baseball and softball games, coached Little League, organized an AAU girls’ basketball program, organized two Mar-Mac all-school reunions, and volunteered at the local Hospice Comfort House and Principal Charity Classic. In 2011, Miller retired after a long career as a business manager/school board secretary for the Mar-Mac (Marquette/McGregor), Carlisle, Independence and Pella, Iowa, school districts.

**Service to University Award—Marcia Andrews Class of 1973—Fayette, Iowa**

As co-founder of UIU’s E.Y.E. social organization, Marcia Andrews helped to establish the group as a freshman in 1969. Over five decades later, she continues to dedicate a tremendous amount of time and effort to keep the legacy of E.Y.E. alive at UIU. Andrews is normally the point person for annual E.Y.E. reunions and leads the effort to celebrate the organization’s other milestone anniversaries. In 2019, she helped reconnect nearly 200 UIU alumni by organizing E.Y.E.’s 50-year reunion. Her dedication to UIU and E.Y.E. is about more than simply sending letters and invitations. For example, when Graff Hall was razed at Fayette Campus, Andrews filled the trunk of her car with bricks to deliver to as many E.Y.E. members as she could so they would always have a piece of UIU with them. At reunions, she organizes elaborate trivia games on the subject of E.Y.E. and UIU women. The end result has been cementing countless lifelong friendships and an endless passion for UIU.

**Emerging Alumni Award—Hadeel Osman Class of 2014—Khartoum, Sudan**

An active student while attending UIU, Hadeel Osman is credited for always being a deeply passionate, motivated and creative individual. As the founder of DAVU Studio, she was most recently listed among the 2020 Forbes Africa 30 Under 30. Osman is a creative director, mentor, stylist and designer who has worked on several projects with clients in Dubai, Kenya, Singapore, Egypt, Zimbabwe and Sudan to enhance their visual branding strategies. Detail-oriented and solutions-driven, she is an advocate for change and development in Sudan and across Africa, and is heavily involved in the pursuit of evolving the local and regional contemporary fashion scene into a fully functioning industry. An ambassador for the Slow Fashion Movement, country coordinator of Fashion Revolution Sudan and board member of the Union of Concerned Researchers in Fashion, Osman has taken a stand against the negative impacts of industrial fashion practices, while embracing a more holistic and decolonized approach to making, wearing and restoring garments.

**Professional Accomplishment Award—David Stevens Class of 1977—McKinney, Texas**

David Stevens has been a longtime contributor to the information technology industry. Between 1993 and 1997, Stevens served a University of Iowa adjunct professor of business policy. He has since held key IT leadership roles with nationally and globally recognized companies including Alliant Energy, Hewlett-Packard (formerly EDS) and Fujitsu America, where he currently holds the head position of governance and assurance. Throughout his business career, Stevens has helped transition and transform the IT services and systems of customers including NASA, US Military Health System, Navy–Marine Corps, Kraft, and the U.S. Food and Drug Administration and Department of Homeland Security.

Alumni award nominations may be made at uiu.edu/alumni-awards.

Serving as grand marshal caps off Peacock experiences for alumnus

Dennis Murdock ’68 has collected over 50 years of Peacock memories since attending and graduating from his alma mater, but being named the 2021 Upper Iowa University Homecoming Grand Marshal provided a special feather in his cap.

After earning a bachelor’s degree in accounting at UIU, Murdock compiled over 45 years of experience in the electric utility industry at Central Iowa Power Cooperative (CIPCO) before retiring as its chief executive in 2017. With responsibilities in accounting, finance, contracts and power supply, he worked with community leaders across the CIPCO service territory that stretched from the Mississippi River on the eastern border of Iowa nearly to Missouri and Nebraska on the southwestern border.

A Marion, Iowa, resident, Murdock has a long list of affiliations, including member of the board of managers of Iowa Community Development, LC; member of the board of directors and chairman of CMA Ventures; member of the board of directors and chairman of the Iowa Area Development Group; Chair of the Iowa Area Development Group Community Foundation; member of the board of directors of Hawkeye Insurance Association; member of the Iowa Association of Electric Cooperatives Health Care Plan Board of Directors; member of the board of directors and chairman of Capital Management Associates; member of the board of directors of Iowa Association of Business and Industry and past member of its Executive Committee; member of the ACES Board of Managers; and past UIU Board of Trustees chairman.

“It has been a tremendous privilege to serve as a Board of Trustee at my alma mater, and being asked to serve as this year’s grand marshal caps off all of my Peacock experiences,” said Murdock, who has served on the BOT since 2005. “I continue to reap the benefits of my UIU education, and the successes I have enjoyed throughout my life were made possible due to my ongoing relationship with this great university.”

Dennis and his wife, Marlene, established the Dennis and Marlene Murdock Leadership Scholarship and Dennis and Marlene Murdock Adult Learner Scholarship funds in 2018. The endowed Leadership scholarship is awarded to a rising junior or senior student pursuing an advanced degree at UIU’s Fayette Campus. Recipients are nominated by a staff or faculty member in recognition of leadership attributes demonstrated by service to UIU clubs and organizations, Student Government Association, residence life, tutoring and/or other extracurricular campus involvement.

Meanwhile, the Adult Learner endowed scholarship fund is awarded to adult learners at UIU’s center locations. Recipients are nominated by a staff or faculty member in recognition of their ability to overcome obstacles in pursuit of an education and selected by a small committee of staff and faculty who primarily serve adult learners.

As a UIU student, alum and Peacock supporter, Dennis Murdock has implemented a vision that helps ensure that traditional students, adult learners and the entire community will be exhibiting Feathers Up for generations to come. A tip of the hat to the University’s 2021 Grand Marshal.
A future Peacock, Jace Hartzell, enjoys himself at the President’s Ball with his dance partner and mom, Jill Hartzell. Alumni, faculty, staff, friends of UIU and many sponsors enjoyed the full night of festivities.

Bobbi Lebin ’65, Nancy Betz ’89 and LaVerne McCoy ’98 (l-r) attended the Alumni Awards & Honor Class Brunch on Saturday, October 2, 2021. During the event, alumni award recipients were recognized, the class of 1970 redo reunion took place, and classmates from 1971 received their 50-year golden medallions.

Many students participated in the Blue Pride Tie Dye project on Friday.

Homecoming Queen Charisma Herr of Saint Paul, Minnesota, and King Lucas Duax of Dubuque, Iowa, pose for a quick photo during activities.

Pete and one of his many pals enjoy the festivities.
President’s Ball Recap
The Ninth Annual President’s Fundraising Ball, held Friday, October 1, 2021, was another smashing success! Its theme, “Onward & Upward,” showcased the many ways UIU has endured challenges since it was first established, but has always persevered. Thanks to nearly 300 guests and 45 generous sponsors, an impressive $165,000 was raised to support the Forever UIU Fund, the University’s endowment.

To view all photos throughout Homecoming weekend, visit UIU.EDU/HOMECOMING2021.
A ball, a glove, and the game of life

"Love is the most important thing in the world, but baseball is pretty good, too." - Yogi Berra

When former Upper Iowa University baseball coach Mark Danker first entered the MLB Field of Dreams stadium in August 2021 he joined approximately 8,000 other baseball fans in basking in the remarkably surreal moment. Who would have ever thought that the New York Yankees and Chicago White Sox would play an official MLB game amidst corn fields in rural Dyersville, Iowa? But for Danker, the experience was much more than seeing the game or even the prospect of returning to the set of the Hollywood movie he had played a role in over 30 years before. It was the culmination of a life dedicated to the game of baseball.

From playing catch with his father, and later with his own sons, to playing Little League, high school, college, town, and even semi-professional baseball in Australia; from coaching at various levels to his “ghostly” character in the “Field of Dreams” movie; Danker has always traveled where his baseball glove would take him.

“I guess baseball is the one thing in my life that I could never get enough of,” Danker said. “The thrill of competition, collecting baseball cards, copying the batting stance or pitching style of big leaguers, listening to Cardinal games on KMOX St. Louis radio, it all was a part of my life when I was young. Baseball has provided me an endless line of friendships and memories. As kids, we played all the sports in the backyards and driveways of our neighborhood. My best friends and closest neighbors were especially into baseball and whiffle ball. My dad was a baseball player and he’d catch while I practiced pitching. He’d come home from work and I’d meet him with the gloves. He’d never say no, but he would often joke that he wouldn’t have any trouble hitting off of me and I’d respond by telling him that I wouldn’t have any trouble knocking him on his...”

The Marengo, Iowa native’s playing career included the community’s Little and Pony leagues, Iowa Valley High School, Waldorf College and Iowa State University. After his college graduation, he played in Australia for Queensland in the Australian Claxton Shield competition and with the Western Districts Baseball Club in the Greater Brisbane Baseball League, as well as town baseball for Red Top in the Iowa Valley League. Hired in January 1990, Danker spent 27 seasons in a UIU uniform, including the last 17 as the head baseball coach. Compiling a UIU record of 358 wins, he was named Coach Mark Danker and the 2008 Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference Coach of the Year.

As part of the tryout, the players hit, threw, and fielded. When done, they were told the players selected would be contacted by phone. Shortly after returning home, Danker received a call from Riedel asking him to report to the movie site. At the time, Danker was working his first “real” job with Amana Refrigeration. When he asked if he could take time off for the filming of the movie as it corresponded with the plant’s summer shutdown period, Danker was told he could not.

“So, I quit my job to be a 1920s era baseball player,” Danker laughed. “My dad wasn’t too happy with me. He was a baseball guy but wanted me to quit digging into his wallet.”

Following a week of practice in Dubuque, the newly cast ghost players arrived at the now famous Dyersville farm. Instantly, they were awestruck by the beauty of the newly created ball diamond. Overwhelmed with inspiration, they rapidly put the field to use. Almost as quickly, they were politely reminded by members of the film crew that they were on a Hollywood movie set and not a baseball field.

For me, baseball is life. It teaches you how to deal with adversity on a daily basis, then you get up and try again the next day.”

Mark Danker

For over a month, the ghost players worked shifts of 12-or-more hours. Between scenes, they spent most of their time playing cards or throwing horseshoes. At night, they would sit on the porch of the farmhouse or lounge near the ball diamond. On one memorable occasion, Danker, dressed in New York Yankees catching gear, served as the “eyeline” for the actors playing the Kinsella family. During the scene there was some equipment problems, and when the actors were asked to stay close by, Danker and Costner sat alone on the porch and talked.

If you build it, he will come

Danker’s brush with Hollywood stardom began after being told in 1988 of an advertisement for baseball players to be cast in a movie titled “Shoeless Joe” (renamed “Field of Dreams” shortly before its release). Danker soon found himself joining Red Top teammates Curt McWilliams and Mike Goad in hauling their gear to the audition in Dubuque, Iowa. The tryouts for the now movie classic mirrored those of real pro baseball teams. Former longtime University of Southern California head coach Rod Dedeaux and assistant coach Don Buford worked alongside Iowa casting director Sue Riedel in helping select 15 of the film’s iconic ghost players from over 100 people who auditioned.
Danker admits that although he felt honored to be in a movie with the likes of Costner, Madigan, Burt Lancaster and James Earl Jones, he never thought it would inspire so many people and sustain such popularity for over three decades.

“There was a moment during the filming that another ghost player got the script from an actor and read it,” said Danker, now a development officer in UIU’s advancement office. “The player later came up to me and said, ‘Dank, this is going to be a great movie.’ My God, he was so right.”

Another Field of Dreams
Approximately a decade ago, Danker was told of the desire to build additional diamonds and allow people of all ages to play ball at the main “Field of Dreams” film site. When MLB announced in August 2019 that it was going to build a stadium and play an official game there, Danker came to realize how big the dreams had become. At the same time, the lifelong baseball fan was aware of the difficulty he could encounter in getting himself one of the only 8,000 available tickets.

After a one-year delay due to the coronavirus, the Chicago White Sox and New York Yankees would finally face off against each other in a field that would be designed similarly to Chicago’s original Comiskey Park. To get tickets, Iowa residents registered for a lottery and if notified would be awarded the opportunity to purchase up to two tickets.

Understandably, Danker was extremely disappointed when he did not win the lottery. But then came a surprising phone call from his longtime friend, and UIU Associate Athletic Director for Sports Medicine Services, Matt Rueckert a week before the game. A nephew of Matt and his wife, Kelly, had won a chance to purchase two tickets but the nephew was not going to be able to attend. (Ironically, Matt also has an Iowa/Hollywood connection. He served as the athletic trainer in the film “The Final Season,” which was based on the true story of Norway High School’s final baseball season before its consolidation with Benton Community High School in Van Horne.)

“God bless Kelly,” said Danker. “She told Matt that she needed to make sure I had a ticket and was able to go with him. I had returned to the Field of Dreams many of times since the film with UIU baseball teams. Our coaching staffs thought it would be good karma and something the kids would never forget if we visited there after games we played in eastern Iowa. When I arrived at the Field of Dreams game this time it was even more amazing.”

Similar to the mystical entrance of the ghost players in the movie, those attending the baseball game followed a pathway through the cornfield from the parking lot to the stadium. The right field wall even featured windows showing the cornfield outside the stadium.

In addition to the smiles that seemed to fill the faces of everyone in attendance, Danker will never forget walking onto the field and talking with Mike Goad and other former ghost players. In addition, he cherished the opportunity to attend the game alongside Rueckert and reminisce with others like Sue Riedel, retired Red Top manager Fritz Kinzenbaw and his son Mickey, who played baseball for Danker at UIU.

“Since my childhood, if I was asked where I would go if I could travel anywhere in time, I’d say that my wish would be to go back and see Babe Ruth play,” Danker said. “My desire during the entire ‘Field of Dreams’ experience was to be one of those 1920s baseball players. Hollywood and MLB had made the place so beautiful and, I guess somewhat selfishly, I know I’m forever linked to one of Iowa’s greatest treasures.”

Everyone who attended the game or watched it on television, will long remember the perfect setting and Hollywood-like ending. White Sox shortstop Tim Anderson hit a walk-off homerun to clinch the 9-8 victory. For Danker, it was also about the game of baseball itself, and the people who made an impact on his life because of it.

“I didn't care who won the game,” Danker said. “Baseball has such a rich history that when you walk into a stadium you need to look around, talk with people, smell the grass, appreciate the setting, soak it all in. Personally, I think that the overwhelming feeling at the Field of Dreams stadium was that of remembering my dad, ‘Iowa pride,’ and what the sport means to so many people. For me, baseball is life. It teaches you how to deal with adversity on a daily basis, then you get up and try again the next day.”
From his own tragic experience, Peacock alumnus Steve Husome ’96 has set out to prove that disabilities don’t define people, but rather, people define disabilities. A near-fatal motorcycle accident hasn’t stopped the Cedar Falls man from playing his favorite sport and sharing his joy for life. After suffering a mini-stroke and having his right leg amputated due to the extent of his injuries, Husome turned to adaptive golf to satisfy his desire to play and now helps other people with disabilities experience the game he loves.

In explaining his long list of injuries from the 2014 accident, Husome said, “I suffered a mild stroke from a torn carotid artery. Several weeks into my recovery the doctors discovered I also had a brain bleed in the upper left lobe of my brain. I am convinced that the only reason I survived was because I was wearing a helmet, the fast actions of my riding partners — and someone in heaven was watching over me.”

Once extracted from the wreckage, it was also discovered the marketing graduate’s right leg had multiple compound fractures to the knee, tibia, fibula, ankle, foot, and toes. After several surgeries to try and repair the damage, he ultimately made the decision to have the leg amputated below the knee.

In addition to the injuries to his right leg, Husome’s left knee was dislocated so severely, the four ligaments that hold the joint together were torn away from the bone, along with permanent nerve damage to the leg. His right elbow was shattered and repaired with rods, screws, and pins.

“I had to regain range of motion before I could have the surgery to repair the ligaments,” Husome said. “It took me about two months to get my knee past 90 degrees flexion so the surgery could take place. In February 2015, nearly six months post-accident, I had the first knee surgery for ligament replacement.”

Following surgery, he was in a brace for two months and placed on non-weight bearing status again. After several months of rehab, it was determined he would need total knee replacement surgery. The surgery to replace the damaged joint took place 14 months after the accident. Finally, after another three months of physical therapy, he was able to walk without an assistive device.

“Of course, my amputation is a lifetime injury that can never be reversed,” Husome said. “However, with the use of a well-fitted prosthetic device, I can pretty much do everything I used to do except go running. “When I started the rehab process, my goal was to be able to walk normal again. The best compliment I receive now is when people tell me they can’t tell I’m an amputee.”

I felt like I survived this accident for a reason, a higher purpose, if you will. This is why we started the Husome Strong Foundation.”

Steve Husome ’96
Marketing

Husome Strong
While in the hospital fighting to keep his leg and knowing that amputation was a probable outcome, Husome began asking to speak with someone who was an amputee and knew what it’s like to live every day with the loss of a limb. To his disappointment, there was no such individual available. He later discovered that many amputees also have insurance coverage issues when regarding prosthetic devices.

“In my experience, there was nobody there for me to ask questions to find out what my life might be like moving forward as an amputee,” Husome said. “I was fortunate to have excellent insurance coverage and had all of my care paid for, but there are many people that are less fortunate with their coverage. I felt like I survived this accident for a reason, a higher purpose, if you will. This is why we started the Husome Strong Foundation.”

The Husome Foundation assists amputees in four key areas: education, advocacy, peer support and financial assistance. The HusomeStrong Foundation is a 501©3 non-profit organization that

Steve Husome and his nephew, Collin, riding in RAGBRAI 2019 as members of Team Husome Strong.

Steve Husome’s list of injuries following a 2014 motorcycle accident included multiple compound fractures to his right leg. After several surgeries to try and repair the damage, he ultimately made the decision to have the leg amputated below the knee.
Steve Husome feels he survived a 2014 motorcycle accident for a reason, a higher purpose. This is why he helped start the Husome Strong Foundation and advocates for adaptive golf to be added as a Paralympic sport.

The foundation is 100-percent funded through donations and fundraisers throughout the year. Over the years, the Foundation has helped many people pay-off their out-of-pocket expenses for prosthetic devices, they have advocated for legislation to make high tech prosthetics more accessible and affordable, and the foundation has assisted many people adjust to living as an amputee through their peer support at local hospitals.

In addition, Husome started another initiative called Adaptive Golf Iowa as a part of the foundation. Where the Husome Strong Foundation focuses on helping amputees, AGI uses the game of golf to create an environment of inclusion for people with any type of disability to feel like they fit in. Adaptive golf builds confidence and creates a path for those with disabilities to participate in the fabric of society.

Many times, AGI clinics are the first time that disabled people have an experience playing golf. Some participants have enjoyed the game for years but had something happen to them and thought the game they loved was out of reach. With the use of adaptive equipment and swing aids, people of all ages have found the joy of hitting a golf ball and finding progress in their game within a short amount of time.

"During our first clinic in 2018, one of our participants was an army veteran who was paralyzed from the waist down," Husome said. "He tried one of the adaptive golf carts that we borrowed for the day and after several swings, he launched a ball high in the air, down the range and the smile on his face was absolutely priceless." After the clinic, the man asked, "Where can I rent or use one of these carts so I can play a round with my buddies?" It was that one question that the idea to raise money to purchase an adaptive golf cart was born. In 2019 Husome raised over $45,000 to purchase four Solo Rider adaptive golf carts and donate them to the four public golf courses in the Waterloo and Cedar Falls communities. The Solo Rider carts are available to use at no charge for anyone with a disability.

In addition to operating the foundation, Husome advocates for adaptive golf to be added as a Paralympic sport. The United States Adaptive Golf Alliance (USAGA) and other government bodies across the globe are working to develop a level playing field and determine a classification system so that people with the same type of disability can compete.

"Currently there are 14 different disability classifications that are standardized across the world," Husome explained. "After the disability classification, the USAGA has developed a point system where they will select the top two players in each of the fourteen classifications to comprise the US Paralympic Golf Team. The USAGA is working with other bodies in other countries to have an exhibition match at the 2024 Paris games."

Husome acknowledges that he would find it very rewarding to one day see a Paralympic golf team compete and represent the United States on the world stage.

"For me, the game of golf became an important part of my rehabilitation," Husome said. "Not only from a physical standpoint but also for my emotional well-being. I was motivated to improve my balance, strength, and coordination enough to be able to swing a club and play the game. I am a firm believer that you need to have goals and you need to take action to make those goals a reality. That was my motivation, and I became consumed with completing the necessary physical therapy to get back on the course. Golf gave me a purpose, a reason to get moving, get better and improve my abilities."

“Now, no matter how deep the rough, Husome is similarly inspired to help other amputees thrive and reach their lifetime objectives.”

Steve Husome ’96
Marketing

I am a firm believer that you need to have goals and you need to act to make those goals a reality... Golf gave me a purpose, a reason to get moving, get better and improve my abilities.”
Preserving our natural resources, one program at a time

Hunter Slifka ’18 is one of the many Peacock alumni who work every day to protect Earth’s natural resources for the benefit of current and future generations. A graduate of Upper Iowa University’s conservation management program, Slifka chose his career path following his graduation from Cresco (Iowa) High School and serving as a Howard County Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) summer intern.

“When I finished high school, I had a dream to work as a conservation officer for the Iowa DNR,” Slifka said. “But once I began working with the SWCD I knew instantly that this was the career field I wanted to pursue. It possessed all the characteristics I imagined a dream job would have; outside activities, working directly with farmers and the general public, and the opportunity to help improve our environment and natural resources on a daily basis.”

Setting out on his career path, the wrestling recruit knew he wanted to attend a small college where he would benefit academically and excel alongside a tight-knit group of teammates.

“From the first time I arrived at Fayette Campus, I knew UIU was the school for me,” Slifka said. “The admissions staff, professors, coaches and everyone else I met opened their arms to me and made me feel like I was at home. I especially want to thank my advisor, (biology professor) Dr. Jennifer Stoffel. Without her pushing and helping me, I wouldn’t be where I am today. There were many times I had to juggle my wrestling and academic schedules to ensure the success of my graduation plan. Each time, Dr. Stoffel kept me on the right path to graduating on time. We are still in touch to this day, which I feel many other advisors and professors from other colleges do not do with their former students.”

For his efforts as the watershed project coordinator for the Turkey River Headwaters & Chihak Creek, Slifka was honored with the 2021 Circle of Excellence award by the Iowa Agriculture Water Alliance (IAWA). He and the Howard County SWCD Office have also been bestowed the 2021 Conservation Districts of Iowa (CDI) & Iowa Department of Agriculture & Land Stewardship (IDALS) Watershed of the Year Award, 2021 Izaak Walton League Honor Roll Award, 2021 Outstanding Soil & Water Conservation District Award and 2021 Exemplary Use of State Cost Share Funds Award.

“The work we have done in Howard County and in the Turkey River Watershed has begun to pay off and pay dividends for our area farmers and the environment,” Slifka closed. “The goals I set for myself when I began working with the Soil Water Conservation District back in 2014 are becoming a reality. My watershed project co-worker, Neil Shaffer, always tells me, ‘If you love what you do, you will never work a day in your life!’ I can truly say I have never worked a day in my life!”
ATHLETICS WRAP-UP

Hall of Fame Weekend features 2021 inductees

Upper Iowa held its annual Hall of Fame Weekend in Fayette Friday night, October 15. The UIU Athletics Hall of Fame grew to 207 members with the inductions as family, friends and alumni came together to celebrate. The three newest members all took time at the podium to thank their former coaches, teammates, friends and loved ones, as well as sharing stories of their time at Upper Iowa and in Fayette.

Past and most recent inductees attending the event included (front, l-r) Steve Harms ’73, Steve Exline ’71, Bill Prochaska ’63, Larry Borst ’73, Larry Webeke ’60, Bob Klieman ’61, Denny Brumm ’61; (middle) Rick Knipper ’73, Wade Whitcher ’02 and Lowell Tiedt ’71; the trio of new inductees Max Edmond Jr. ’99, Mitch Norton ’10 and Travis Eggers ’10; Larry Albers ’65, Dave Sanger ’70, Tom Thorson ’64; (back) Matt Cowley ’00, Jamie (Luchtel) Van Erem ’01, Vicky (Ringenberg) Ranck ’00, James Ranck ’99, Rick Heller ’86, Greg Atkins ’85, Joe Smith ’78, Kevin Andrew ’78, Jim Mitchell ’78 and Ryan Phillips ’07.

Save the date for 2022 Hall of Fame Weekend on September 9-10. If you would like to nominate an individual to be considered, submit your nomination at uiupeacocks.com.

Women’s soccer scores eight wins in fall season

The Peacocks finished the season with an overall record of 8-9 and a mark of 6-9 in the Northern Sun Conference. The records are the program’s best marks since going 11-7-1 (10-4-1 NSIC) in 2014. The six conference victories by the Peacocks are their best total since winning seven in 2016. Upper Iowa finished the season ranked 10th in the NSIC standings after being voted to finish 15th out of 16 teams in the preseason coaches’ poll. Aimee Sies and Leah Willenbring each earned a place on the All-NSIC Second Team for their play.

Sies and Willenbring were stalwarts on a Peacock back line that secured six shutouts on the season. The defensive duo and the rest of the UIU crew led the Peacocks to a program-best 5-0 (3-0 NSIC) start to the season; UIU’s 2012 squad is the only other team to start a season with a 2-0 record. The Peacocks allowed just two goals over that five-game stretch and limited their opponents’ looks, as goalkeeper Natalie Rudrud was stellar against the few shots she did face. This is the second time Sies has earned All-NSIC honors after being named an All-NSIC Honorable Mention following the most recent women’s soccer season in 2019. Sies started all 17 games for the Peacocks and played every possible minute in each match. She dished out an assist and put six of her nine shots on goal while handling the majority of UIU’s left-footed corner and free kicks. Willenbring started all 16 games in which she played for the Peacocks, playing full time in each match she appeared in. Willenbring led Upper Iowa with five assists against NSIC opponents and six assists overall. Her total assists tied for the fifth-best mark in the NSIC in both conference and overall play, and she finished with the seventh-best assists per game average in NSIC play at .357 and the fourth-highest assists per game average overall at .375. Katie Samuels and Haley Ramberg paced the Peacocks with four goals apiece.
Men's soccer ties for fourth in GLIAC standings

Upper Iowa finished the 2021 campaign with a 10-7-1 overall record and a 7-6-1 mark in the Great Lakes Intercollegiate Conference. The conference record marks UIU’s best finish as a member of the GLIAC, and their best overall record since a 2015 campaign that saw them finish 13-4-1, win the conference tournament and make a run to the NCAA DII Sweet 16. The Peacocks finished the regular season tied for fourth in the GLIAC after being voted to finish last in the GLIAC men’s soccer preseason coaches’ poll. Upper Iowa’s season came to a close in the GLIAC Tournament Quarterfinals on the road against Purdue University-Northwest. A pair of Peacocks earned All-GLIAC honors: Alan Dunlop earned a spot on the All-GLIAC Second Team and Italo Martins Soares was selected as an All-GLIAC Honorable Mention.

Dunlop was a strong contributor on an Upper Iowa defense that secured four shutouts on the season. The Glasgow, Scotland native ranked fourth in the conference with eight assists this season, and his total tied the all-time single-season mark by a Peacock. Martins Soares paced a Peacock offense that finished second in the GLIAC in scoring with 31 goals in conference contests and 37 scores overall. The forward tied for the third most goals in GLIAC matches with eight, and his 10 goals on the year were the second most in the conference. The Brasília, Brazil native’s 10 goals were the fourth highest in a season in program history, and his 25 points were also the fourth best all-time UIU mark. Martins Soares graduates as UIU’s third all-time leader in goals and points, and second on the all-time assist rankings. Stan Cargill finished tied for the sixth most goals in the GLIAC with seven, ranking second on Upper Iowa in both goals and points. Tate Lofdahl’s seven assists tied for the fifth most in the conference, and he added four goals. A two-goal, three-assist effort against on Oct. 9 saw Lofdahl tie for the most assists and second most points (seven) in a match in UIU history.

Volleyball sets new high mark for NSIC wins

Upper Iowa set a new high mark for conference wins in the high-powered Northern Sun Conference with a 13-7 record this past season. The Peacocks finished the season at 20-10 overall and were receiving votes in the final regular season AVCA Top 25. UIU played nine matches against teams ranked in the AVCA Top 25 this season, posting three wins at home in Dorman Memorial Gymnasium over then-No. 23 University of Minnesota Duluth, then-No. 10 Southwest Minnesota State and then-No. 10 Concordia-St. Paul. UIU defeated UMD and SMSU in four sets, while sweeping the Golden Bears in three sets.

The Peacock volleyball success has been building under the direction of Aaron Nelson, head coach and Jenna Sullivan, associate coach. Over the last four seasons, Upper Iowa has become a nationally recognizable program in the top volleyball conference in all of NCAA Division II. The Peacocks have earned an 80-39 record overall and a 48-32 mark in the Northern Sun over their last four seasons.

A pair of Peacock seniors were named among the conference’s best performers. Kaitlin Niedert earned a place on the All-NSIC first team, while Maggie Streightiff secured a place on the All-NSIC second team. During UIU’s 20 Northern Sun matches, the senior outside hitter has started all matches, scoring 230 points, which ranks 19th in the conference, thanks to 202 kills, 13 aces, six solo blocks and 18 assisted blocks. Niedert finished her career in seventh place all-time at UIU in career kills with 843. Streightiff, who was named the AVCA/Sports Imports NCAA Division II Player of the Week after knocking down 33 kills in UIU’s home victories over the University of Sioux Falls and No. 10 Southwest Minnesota State University, has been a consistent force for the Peacocks on the right side. The Hayfield, Minn. product played in all 20 NSIC matches and scored 287.5 points, thanks to 257 kills, 10 aces, a pair of solo blocks and 37 assisted blocks. UIU also graduates libero Charisma Herr, who set a new program record for digs/set this season with an average of 4.45; Herr also added a team-high 40 service aces.

The women’s volleyball team includes (sitting, l-r): Madelyn Rettler, Sarah Stevelinck and Jorie Randall. (Middle) Maggie Streightiff, Nicole Pozorski, Kaitlyn Mohwinkle, Jaima Tonne, Kayla Veto, Charisma Herr, Kaci Beesecker, Martha Pace, Zoe Semelroth, Emily Kono, Carlee Dove and Reese Martin. (Back) Kylee Willis, Kylee Oldenburger, Kaitlin Niedert and Sarah Johnson.

Volleyball celebrates a victory.
Young football team grows through 2021 season

The Peacock football team went 1-10 in 2021 with the highlight of the season coming on Senior Day in Fayette. Upper Iowa defeated Wayne State College 42-41 in overtime when Kyle Domin blocked an extra point that would have tied the game in the first overtime period. Upper Iowa blocked a total of six kicks this season, with three coming at the hands, and body, of Domin. The total led the Northern Sun Conference and was ninth best in the nation. UIU also led the NSIC in tackles for loss with 78.

Three Peacocks were named among the league’s best players. Erik Hansen earned his second All-NSIC South Division First Team Defense selection, while DJ Emsweller and Eddy Gosche were both named to the All-NSIC South Division Second Team Offense. Hansen was a terror for offensive lines to deal with again this season; he posted 46 tackles, including 32 solo stops, from his defensive end position and added two fumble recoveries. Hansen registered 20 tackles for loss, which ranked 10th nationally and first in the conference, including 8.5 sacks, good for 31st in the nation and tops among NSIC defenders. The defensive lineman ended his career in Peacock blue with the most career sacks in Upper Iowa history with 24.5 and the third most tackles for loss in a career with 43.5.

Upper Iowa will host six home games at Harms-Eischeid Stadium in 2022. The Peacocks’ six home opponents are Minnesota State University Moorhead, Bemidji State University, Augustana University, Minot State University, Winona State University and the University of Sioux Falls. UIU will open their 2022 schedule on the road in week one against Northern State University in Aberdeen, South Dakota.

Shotgun sports grows in numbers and disciplines

The Upper Iowa shotgun sports team, which grew from six shooters in its first year to 16 in year two, closed out their fall competition at the Iowa SCTP Four-Year College State Championships in November. The competing teams shot American trap, sporting clays, skeet and super sporting clays, and the combined scores were used for the final standings. UIU placed fourth with a total of 1,426 targets hit. In trap shooting, the Peacocks finished fourth as a team, hitting 475 of the possible 500 targets. Individually, Colton Heintz-Kuderer finished with the top score on the team at 96/100. He was followed closely by Jayden Shaw (95/100), Brady Carrigan (95/100), Connor Gittings (95/100) and William Ostenson (94/100). UIU saw a slight drop when shooting sporting clays, a new discipline this year, finishing fifth with 192 targets hit in 300 opportunities. Heintz-Kuderer once again led the team with a score of 66/100, followed by Shaw (63/100) and Quinn Schuppner (63/100). UIU finished fourth in skeet, hitting 442 of 500 targets. Angelina Monfrey had the team’s high score at 91/100. She was followed by Shaw (90/100), Heintz-Kuderer (89/100), Lucas Riberich (88/100) and Schuppner (84/100). UIU wrapped up with a fourth-place finish in super sporting clays after hitting 120 of 150 targets. Shaw (41/50), Schuppner (40/50) and Gittings (39/50) all contributed to the team score.

UIU’s two women shooters stood out in the tournament. Monfrey finished with the third highest Ladies Overall score and her skeet shooting total was the second best Ladies Individual score. Schuppner finished with the fifth best Ladies Overall score and the fourth best Ladies Individual score in sporting clays. The event capped off a busy fall for the shotgun sports team. In all, the team competed in five events in Iowa, from Cedar Falls to Decorah to Oskaloosa and Waukee. The team will return to the range in the spring, with their first competition scheduled for late February.
Peacock cross country teams back in action

The Upper Iowa women’s and men’s cross country teams ran hard this fall in six events. Both teams opened their seasons in Sioux Falls, South Dakota, and then made competitive stops in Decorah, Iowa, Minneapolis, Minnesota, and Cedar Rapids, Iowa, before heading into the postseason. UIU’s final two runs came at the NSIC Championships in Wayne, Nebraska, and the NCAA Central Region Championships in Joplin, Mo. The women’s team placed 13th at the NSIC Championships with an average time of 26:33.60 to finish the 6K course and 31st at the NCAA Central Regional with an improved average time of 25:24.00 to complete the 6K map. Brianna Crouch led the women with times of 24:15.88 and 23:23.70 at the two postseason events; Crouch improved by 52 seconds at the regional event. The men’s team finished 14th at the NSIC Championships with an average time of 29:07.62 to complete the 8K course and 31st at the regional with a combined time of 35:30.00 for the 10K race. Dalton Baker led UIU with times of 28:08.91 and 34:25.20 in the postseason races. Baker’s time in the 10K regional race set a new program record for UIU.

The women’s cross country team includes (l-r) Madison Brownrigg, Brianna Crouch, Macey White, Jade Martin, Jadyn Schultz and Ashley Donovan.

The men’s cross country team includes (l-r) Grant Dieken, Nathan Goranson, Brady Johnston, Bryce Baker, Dalton Baker, Blake Smith and David Snider.

Esports continues to battle digitally

The Peacock esports team competed in 16 contests across two games as part of the National Esports Collegiate Conference. UIU opened their fall campaign with a win in Rocket League, finishing their fall season with a 3-5 record in NECC Rocket League competition. UIU played Valorant for the second season in a row, finishing with a 1-6 record in the game’s second season of existence. The Peacocks are projected to play a spring slate that will see them compete in three games. UIU will continue to play Rocket League and Valorant, while also returning League of Legends back to their schedule.

Peacocks earn 37 Academic All-NSIC honorees for Fall 2021

The Northern Sun Conference recognized 37 Peacocks on their NSIC All-Academic Teams for the fall season. To be eligible for the NSIC All-Academic Team, a student-athlete must have a 3.20 cumulative GPA or higher. Additionally, the student-athlete must be a member of the varsity team, have reached their second year athletically and academically at an institution and must have completed at least one full academic year at that institution. The Peacocks marked below with an asterisk earned a grade point average above 3.60 and were named as members of the NSIC All-Academic Team of Excellence. Twenty-four Peacocks held GPAs above 3.60.

Football (19): *Lane Canny, Brownsdale, Minnesota; *Nolan Freeman, Grundy Center, Iowa; *RJ Knaack, Kaukauna, Wisconsin; *Brian Sadler, Jesup, Iowa; *Zach Wegmann, Solon, Iowa; *Jack Beulke, Wanamingo, Minnesota; *Alex Schneider, Waterloo, Iowa; *Spencer Wegmann, Solon, Iowa; *Laith Smith, Wapello, Iowa; *Ethan Bayles, Vandalia, Illinois; Eddy Gosche, Schaumburg, Illinois; Kyle Curran, Spring Grove, Missouri; Drew Knese, St. Louis, Missouri; DJ Emsweller, Tampa, Florida; Eric Ihde, Garnavillo, Iowa; Jacob Daniel, Havana, Illinois; Carter Harris, St. Cloud, Florida; Peyton Bieber, Waukon, Iowa; Erik Hansen, Burlington, Illinois.

Women’s Soccer (7): *Natalie Rudrud, Oak Grove, Minnesota; *Aimee Sies, Brooklyn, Wisconsin; *Grace Birdseye, Prior Lake, Minnesota; *Credence White, Grand Rapids, Michigan; *Haley Ramberg, St. Francis, Minnesota; Katie Samuels, Blackburn, England; Leah Willenbring, South St. Paul, Minnesota.

Volleyball (7): *Sarah Johnson, Elk River, Minnesota; *Kaitlin Niedert, Independence, Iowa; *Carlee Dove, New Hartford, Iowa; *Kylie Willis, Grundy Center, Iowa; *Jaima Tonne, Jesup, Iowa; *Maggie Streightiff, Hayfield, Minnesota; Charisma Herr, St. Paul, Minnesota.


Women’s Cross Country (2): *Ashley Donovan, Dubuque, Iowa; *Madison Brownrigg, Cleveland, Ohio.
1970s  Dwain and Kate Burkholder ’71, Ocala, Florida, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on December 4.

Alan Cook ’72 hosted members of the S.O.B. (Sigma Omega Beta) fraternity at Pin Oak Country Club on September 15.

Bill Neal ’72, has been selected as the high school track starter for the 2020 Drake Relays. The former Williamsburg track coach was selected as the National Federation High School Starter of the Year for girls track in the State of Iowa. He has served as a starter at eight consecutive Iowa state high school track meets and five NCAA National Cross Country and Track and Field championships.

Several members of Sigma Nu Sigma gathered in Vermont for a fun-filled reunion. The group included (front, l-r) Karen (Butterfield) Shirley ’74, Debby (Gent) Scholle ’74, Linda (Leach) Marszalek, Cheryl (Berendt) Christensen ’75, Carrie (Citrangolo) England ’74; (back) Wendy Walker ’73, Ginger Grancagnolo and Pam Wolfe-Graber.

1990s  Daiva Rita Caplenas ’93, Sun Prairie, Wisconsin, was selected as the first-place winner by MSNBC Nightly News for written commentary online for its September 11, 20th anniversary remembrances.

2000s  Pete Caspers ’02, Peosta, Iowa, grew Iowa’s second largest pumpkin ever at 1,707.5 pounds and had two more at 1,470 and 1,477 pounds for an all-best three-pumpkin total of 4,654.5 pounds.

Wayne Slack ’03, Dike, Iowa, accepted the position of Union Middle School principal in La Porte City, Iowa. Slack previously served as the Union High School activities director.

Thomas Hampton ’05, Prairie du Chien, Wisconsin, retired from Novares (formerly MPC) in Prairie du Chien in February 2021 after 31 years of employment.

Lindsey (Doeden) Rothweiler ’07, Cedar Falls, Iowa, began teaching third grade at North Cedar Elementary School in the Cedar Falls Community School District.
Darlyne Keller ’08, Clinton, Wisconsin, president and CEO of Rock Valley Credit Union in Rockford, Illinois, was recently named one of the 2021 People You Should Know by the Rockford Chamber of Commerce. She was one of the 20 men and women who were recognized during a special reception on June 24 at Nicholas Conservatory & Gardens in Rockford.

Carlyn (Wacker) Lechtenberg ’09, Waukon, Iowa, accepted a teaching position as a K-12 art teacher at Central Community Schools in Elkader, Iowa.

Craig Lee Jackson ’11, Sacramento, California, was recognized by the KU (The University of Kansas) Black Alumni Network as an Emerging Leader. He is currently the senior director of development at the University of California College of Engineering.

Nick Mundorf ’12, Marion, Iowa, was welcomed into First Federal Credit Union as a new mortgage loan officer in Cedar Rapids, IA.

Jody Donaldson ’13, Solon, Iowa, recently earned one of the Corridor Business Journal’s Women of Influence Awards. Jody is currently the director of advancement at Kirkwood Community College in Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

Devon Gurnett ’13, Des Moines, Iowa, is now an athletic training coordinator for multiple departments at Select Physical Therapy in Des Moines. He and his wife, Liz, also welcomed their first child just a little over a year ago.

Jon Kluever ’13, Schofield, Wisconsin, began serving a new role on the board of directors for Wausau Events in Wausau, Wisconsin. Jon is also the general manager of the Wausau Holiday Inn Express & Suites.

Trevor Hook ’14, and Ashlen (Damm) Hook, Fayette, Iowa were united in marriage on August 7, 2021.

Dacia Bassett ’15, Fayette, Iowa, has been hired as a financial aid specialist for Upper Iowa University on the Fayette Campus.

Jessie Big Knife ’16, Box Elder, Montana, is currently serving as the assistant attorney general for the Chippewa Cree Tribe and as a board member on the Mahchiwaminahnahtik Chippewa and Cree Language Revitalization (MCCLR). Jessie graduated cum laude in 2016 from UIU and went on to obtain his Juris Doctorate (law degree), including a certificate in Federal Indian Law from Arizona State University.

Logan Hopp ’17, Decorah, Iowa, was recently hired by the Winneshiek County Sheriff’s Office in Decorah, Iowa. Prior, Hopp has served the community of Decorah as a police officer since August 2018. Deputy Hopp will continue to serve on the Winneshiek County Joint Special Response Team, which he has been a member for the past two years. He will also be specializing in K9 handling with the Winneshiek County K9 Unit.

Amanda Drey ’18, Mount Vernon, Iowa, is the new director of healthcare at the Villages at Marion. Amanda earned a nursing degree at Kirkwood Community College and a bachelor’s in nursing at UIU. She is married to Eddie and they have two dogs, Bentley and Kobe.

Jeanne (Raymond) Mentel ’18, Hudson, Iowa, is the new UIU center director for the Waterloo and Cedar Rapids centers.

Shannon Nix ’18, New Hampton, Iowa, was named director of student engagement and leadership at Upper Iowa University’s Fayette Campus.

Sgt. Maj. Nadejda Vorobyeva-Santiago ’18, El Paso, Texas, assumed responsibility as the 901st Contracting Battalion’s (CBN) senior enlisted leader in a ceremony officiated by battalion commander Lt. Col. Ian Vargas on August 20, 2021, at Fort Hood, Texas. Vorobyeva-Santiago enlisted in the Army in

Welcome to the Peacock family, little ones!

Michelle (DeKoter) Shetler ’15, Urbandale, Iowa, and her husband, Tyler, welcomed a baby boy, Memphis David Shetler, on April 1, 2021.

Amber (Schuster) Tanner ’08, Des Moines, Iowa, and her husband, Mathew, welcomed Elaine Carol Tanner into the world on September 30, 2021.
August 2002 as a financial management technician. In 2012, she was assessed into the Army Acquisition Corps as an acquisitions, logistics and technology NCO.

**Anthony Koran ’19**, Middleton, Wisconsin, landed a position as a customer representative specialist with HealthGrades. He also participated in the MS150 Toyota Best Dam Bike Tour charity ride on August 7, 2021.

**2020s** Dzeneta Jusufovic ’20, Waterloo, Iowa, graduated with a Master of Science degree in August 2021 and soon after began working as a marketing specialist at Impact Marketing.

**Bekka Pierson ’20**, Shell Rock, Iowa, was named the seventh grade girls' basketball coach for the Union Knights in La Porte City, Iowa. Bekka was a proud member of the Peacock women's basketball team.

**Autumn Weaver ’20**, Garner, Iowa, joined the Cedar Falls Community School District in Cedar Falls, Iowa, as a high school science teacher.

**Jessica Berk ’21**, Indianola, Iowa, has accepted a first-grade teaching position at Martensdale-St. Marys School District in Martensdale, Iowa.

**Jeff Hughes ’21**, Oelwein, Iowa, was hired as the veterans benefit specialist at the UIU Fayette Campus.

**Caitlin Schauer ’21**, Wauseca, Minnesota, accepted the residence area coordinator position at UIU Fayette Campus.

**Members of E.Y.E. and Galena women gathered in support of their friend Marcia Andrews, who was honored as the 2021 Service to University Alumni Award recipient. The ladies also wore matching shirts to honor the memory of their friend and E.Y.E. sister Diane (Kinkead) Harms ’73. Among the members attending were (front, l-r) Edie (Gibson) Hines ’73, Becky (Harms) Read ’74, Spring Klaus ’70, Chris (Lamy) DeLong ’73; (back) Debbie (Hand) Hess ’73, Donna (Stark) Abraham ’74, Marcia Andrews ’79, Kari (Daily) Gunderson ’74 and Mary Anne (Hedstrom) Macier ’73.**

**In remembrance of Diane (Kinkead) Harms ’73**

The Upper Iowa University community mourns the death of a distinguished alumna, Diane (Kinkead) Harms of West Des Moines. A 1973 UIU graduate with a degree in psychology, Diane was a three-year member of the cheer team and proud member of the E.Y.E. social organization. It was at UIU that Diane met Steve Harms (’73), and the two would enjoy nearly 50 years of marriage. In 2019, Diane, along with Steve, was inducted into the UIU Athletics Hall of Fame in recognition of a lifetime of commitment and philanthropy to UIU.

Very important to Diane’s UIU support was the establishment of the Diane Kinkead Harms Cheer Endowment in 2014. Her $1.65 million gift helped to revitalize the cheerleading program, which has since become a varsity sport within the UIU Athletics Department. The endowment funds a full-time head coach, as well as operational costs, to ensure the longevity of the program. Diane and Steve also funded the construction of the new Harms-Eischeid Stadium in 2011 and contributed to numerous other UIU causes, which include the Recreation Center, major facility upgrades, UIU Giving Days, the President’s Residence, and many other areas.

Diane was a dedicated and passionate Peacock. Her warm and vivacious personality made her the life of any party and her generous heart made her a loyal friend to many. Diane was selfless, caring and fun. It is hard for any of us at UIU to imagine a Homecoming weekend or football game without Diane standing by to cheer on the football team and cheer squad.

In remarks during her and Steve’s induction into the Hall of Fame, Diane spoke of being humbled by the honor and by all that she experienced as a UIU student and alum. Today, we are all humbled by the legacy that Diane Harms leaves behind at UIU.

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IN MEMORIAM

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Mary (Corkery) Vogel ’53
09/05/2021, Bettendorf, IA

Charles Crowe ’56
11/07/2021, Jasonville, IN

Janice (Luse) Farnum ’56
11/05/2021, Maquoketa, IA

Carol (Haberkamp) Murray ’57
09/15/2021, Fairbank, IA

Robert Bassett ’61
09/28/2021, Edgewood, IA

Mary (Mauss) Benson ’61
08/20/2021, New Albin, IA

Robert Meyer ’62
07/03/2021, Cedar Rapids, IA

Fannie (Hudson) Daniels ’64
10/09/2021, Rochester, NY

Margaret (Schmidt) Schulte ’65
08/06/2021, Buckeye, AZ

Vernon L. Jensen ’66
11/27/2021 Midland, TX

Ruth (Lewis) Lundgren ’66
10/20/2021, Castle Rock, CO

IvaNell (Kenneally) Dinan ’67
10/18/2021, Elkader, IA

Suzanne (Thornblade) Hagemeier ’68
08/14/2021, Harlingen, TX

Gary Mardorf ’68
07/09/2021, Henderson, NV

David Frieden ’69
07/16/2021, Swisher, IA

Patricia (Butler) Pekau ’71
09/12/2021, Sun City West, AZ

Thomas Zeleny ’71
08/05/2021, Wilton, IA

Joan Garbers ’72
11/25/2021, Van Horne, IA

Barry Black ’73
10/05/2021, Lake Barrington, IL

Diane (Kinkead) Harms ’73
09/13/2021, West Des Moines, IA

Frank Kuennen ’76
08/30/2021, Solon, IA

Paul Parker ’76
08/29/2021, Covington, GA

Karolin (Falb) Lehman ’73
07/19/2021, West Union, IA

Steven Swancutt ’76
11/30/2021 Cedar Rapids, IA

Joan (Howard) Murray Smith ’82
10/06/2021, Surprise, AZ

Raymond Bolden ’83
07/31/2021, Crestview, FL

Thomas Rhodes ’84
08/28/2021, Beverly Hills, FL

Tommie Lewis ’86
11/13/2021, Macon, GA

Diane Wright ’87
11/10/2021, Naples, FL

Linda (Henderson) Hearn ’92
09/02/2021, Independence, IA

In honor of their memory, we proudly recognize these Peacocks and their special connection to Upper Iowa University.

‘IN MEMORIAM’ SUBMISSIONS

Should you learn of the passing of a fellow Peacock, please notify the Alumni Office at 563-425-5388, alumni@uiu.edu or send us a note to P.O. Box 1857, Fayette, IA 52142
'Betty's Team Fund' Now Fully Endowed

The donations of over 650 supporters have helped Upper Iowa University reach its goal to endow the Andres School of Education Dean’s Fund (Betty’s Team Fund). This achievement further recognizes the Andres family legacy at UIU and marks the third Dean’s Fund endowment to reach the $250,000 level at the University.

Named for the late UIU alumna Betty Andres ’46, Betty’s Team Fund can be used in a variety of ways, including to support students and faculty in attending professional conferences; award funds to students to pay for professional exams; create an alumni speaker and professional network within the Andres School of Education; and purchase tokens of appreciation for cooperating teachers and internship site supervisors.

“There are no words to express our gratitude for the generosity and support of the Andres family throughout the years,” Dr. Billie Cowley, dean of the UIU Andres School of Education, said. “This amazing family’s passion and philanthropy has inspired many individuals to be part of the effort to endow Betty’s Team Fund, which will provide support to the faculty, staff, and students of the Andres School of Education for generations to come.”

Both Bill ’48 and Betty Andres dedicated their time and resources to enhancing the UIU learning environment. Beginning in the ’90s, the couple’s vision and benevolence was at the forefront in revitalizing Fayette Campus. Among these projects, a master landscaping plan was developed and 13 original sculptures were selected for installation throughout Campus.

In addition, Betty envisioned and spearheaded the completion of the Andres Center for Business and Education. With the help of fellow board member, the late Jerry McCauley, ’61, and working alongside then executive director of operations Ron Crooker, she thoroughly researched the elements that would need to be included in the state-of-the art facility. The latest technology was installed and the environment continues to offer UIU business and education students few distractions, while providing a comfortable, relaxed, and aesthetically pleasing atmosphere.

After her husband’s death in February 2000, Betty remained committed to ensuring that the highest-quality education was made available to all students attending UIU. Among the heartfelt contributions provided by Betty and the William and Betty Andres Foundation, based in Medina, Minnesota, was a $4 million donation to name the UIU Andres School of Education.

The Andres family legacy continues today, with son Richard Andres having served on the UIU Board of Trustees for over a decade and daughter-in-law Chris helping to spearhead the annual President’s Fundraising Ball as co-chair of the event. The Andres family also continues to support student scholarships and other initiatives throughout the year.

“We appreciate everyone’s efforts to achieve this milestone of fully funding the Betty’s Team Fund,” said Richard Andres. “I am touched that my mother will always be remembered through this important avenue of support for students in the Andres School of Education at Upper Iowa.”

The Dean’s Funds endowments have been established as part of an effort to increase UIU’s overall endowment and to provide consistent and recurring support to UIU academic programs and students. Three of five Dean’s Funds have reached the $250,000 endowment goal, with efforts continuing to fully endow the Cabby Dean’s Fund (Student Life) and Liberal Arts Dean’s Fund. Persons wishing to donate to any of the five Dean’s Funds can do so at uiu.edu/Give.
Stevens' Double Their Impact with a Matching Gift

After seven years and counting, the Upper Iowa University Donor Club program continues to showcase our amazing supporters and inspire others to give. An impressive 480 members contributed during FY21.

Despite some donors saying they must take a break from charitable giving amidst the pandemic to focus on other expenses, a majority of members have shown unwavering support. Some have even leveraged other resources to maximize their donation.

Ron ’70 & Mary Ann (Jacob) Stevens ’69 are taking advantage of the State Farm Companies Foundation matching gift program, which matches their agents and retirees 1:1, up to $4,500 each year. As a retiree of this generous company, Mary Ann says it’s a wonderful benefit that has accelerated their goal of soon fully endowing the Stevens Family Scholarship ($25,000).

“We celebrate the memory of our daughter, Julie Ann Stevens, whose infectious laugh and gentle smile reminded all who knew her that it is not a person’s disability that matters but the kindness of the heart,” said the couple.

Their scholarship is awarded to a Fayette Campus junior with a minimum GPA of 3.5, majoring in elementary education with an endorsement in special education. To date, three UIU students have received the Stevens Family Scholarship.

All UIU supporters are encouraged to check with their employers and learn about any matching gift opportunities they offer. For a list of all matching gift companies and to view current company policies, visit [uiu.edu/MatchingGift](http://uiu.edu/MatchingGift).

We look forward to adding new contributors in FY22. To learn more about perks for each club or to see a complete list of current members, visit [uiu.edu/DonorClubs](http://uiu.edu/DonorClubs).
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<th>Club</th>
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<td><strong>ALEXANDER CLUB ($10,000+)</strong></td>
<td>All Temp Refrigeration, Christine &amp; Richard Andres, Dr. Charles &amp; Janet Andres, William &amp; Betty Andres Foundation, City of Fayette, Bill &amp; Deanna Cook, Bill &amp; Sharon Duffy, Kenneth &amp; Sharon Erickson, Steve &amp; Diane* Harms, Edward &amp; Jean Hupfer, Iowa College Foundation, Scott &amp; Bobbi Lebin, LocaliQ, Roger &amp; Alice Mangan, Larry &amp; Marjorie Mulholland, Dennis &amp; Marlene Murdock, National Science Foundation, Dr. James Parker, Marshall Richards, J. Paul &amp; Sharroll Richards, Roger &amp; Barbara Schultz, State of Iowa GEER Grant, Office of Environmental Protection Agency, Office of Justice Programs, Pamela Whitmore &amp; Fred Koch, Anonymous</td>
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<td><strong>LIMESTONE CLUB ($5,000-$9,999)</strong></td>
<td>Assurance Agency Ltd, Jim Beckworth, Allan &amp; Kristin Bevans, Matt &amp; Billie Cowley, May &amp; Dale Davig, Darwin Dean, Curtis &amp; Annette Gunter, Carolyn Hatle, Edward Jesle, Glen Kellershals, LaVerne McCoy, Matt &amp; Cynthia Mickelson, Gail Moorman Behrens, Michael &amp; Marianne Murphy, Jim &amp; Ronda Parsons, Thomas &amp; Dorinda Pounds, Kathy &amp; Brian Schultz, The Connie Frank Foundation, Brian &amp; Traci Sims, State Farm Company Foundation, Ron &amp; Mary Ann Stevens, Eleanor Swent, Lowell Tiedt</td>
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*Indicates deceased. Giving totals include outright gifts, in-kind gifts and pledge payments (not pledge commitments) made from July 1, 2020, to June 30, 2021.
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<th>PEACOCK PATRON CLUB ($500-$999)</th>
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<td>Louise Scott</td>
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<td>Scott Pharmacy</td>
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<td>Max &amp; Rhonda Zarr</td>
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<tr>
<td>John &amp; Shelly Adams</td>
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<tr>
<td>Floyd E Alber*</td>
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<td>Ronald &amp; Juliann Ahrens</td>
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<td>Papaya Creek Craft Retreat</td>
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<td>Jason &amp; Teresa Zilk</td>
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| FY21 DONOR Club members                                                                        |

| Steven & Anita Exline                                                                          |
| John Falb                                                                                      |
| John & Jacqueline Foss                                                                         |
| Kathy & Chuck Franken                                                                          |
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| Walter & Nancy Webster                                                                          |
| Wells Fargo Foundation                                                                         |
| Dale & Connie Whaley                                                                            |
| Wendell & Marcia Whitcher                                                                       |
| Betty Whitesell                                                                                 |
| Neil & Heidi Wilkinson                                                                          |
| Brock & Becki Wissmiller                                                                        |
| Dennis & Susan Witte                                                                             |
| Tim & Holly Wolff                                                                              |
| Jason & Teresa Zilk                                                                             |
Contributors Club continued

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Sylvester & Emma-Jean Blank
Red & Nina Brickman
Sidney Burger
Lowell & Suzanne Burger
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Jim & Vickie Bushkofsky
Craig & Cheryl Campbell
David & DeAnn Carpenter
Rachel & Jon Caspers
Celestine Clark
Virgil & Mercedes Coleman
Jim Collins
Chuck Crowe
John Curran
Mark & Sarri Danker
Jon Deigert & Nancy Osgood
Patrick & Kathleen Doland
Terry & Lynn Doland
Paul & Savannah Dupeyrat
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Jolene & Doug Eddy
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James & Kay Hamilton
Kerry & Marge Hansen
Rick & Jill Hartzell
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Jann Henkes
Nicolette Henry
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Dick Kasza
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Andrea Kenney
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John & Connie Kinley
Ted Koester
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Nikki & Joshua Kuhn
Thomas & Linda Kusmerz
Daniel & Angie Leete
Cory & Brenda Lukum
Don, Jayne & Robert Lyons
George & Kelly Margetas
Alice McGowan
Dionne & Jake Meenan
Kenneth Metcalfe
Robert & Susan Meyers
Jim & Carolyn Middendorff
Dave & Linda Mitchell
Del & Yvonne Neel
Northeast Security Bank—Fayette
Cheryl & Gary Northrop
Dawn & Adam Novak
Thomas & Betty Novak
Russel Olander
Missy Olson
Rachel Ong
Ben & Gwen Pagel
Laurie & Rick Parker
Paskill Stapleton & Lord
Dennis & Linda Paulsen
Kenneth & Shirley Peckosh
Richard & Sheryl Peshek
Brett & Athena Petersen
Vince Popolizio
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Gene* & Sandee Wellman
Todd & Kathy Wenthold
Larry & Evelyn Wiebke
Woolverton Printing Company
Steven Wulfekuhle
James & Kay Yanecek

DONOR CLUB
Perks

Gift of Gratitude
UIU Donor Club Webpage Recognition
Featured within the Fiscal Year Donor Report of The Bridge Magazine
Early Digital Access to The Bridge
Signature Club Coin
VIP Suite Experience Passes for Home Football Games (number varies by club)
Public Recognition at Harms-Eischeid Stadium
Two Complimentary Tickets to the Annual President’s Fundraising Ball
Digital Rewards Card for Peacock Gifts
DOUBLE the Rewards!

Contributors Club ($250)
Peacock Patron Club ($500)
True Blue Club ($1,000)
1857 Club ($2,500)
Limestone Club ($5,000)
Alexander Club ($10,000+)

DONOR CLUB
Perks
### Donor Participation

#### UIU Alumni

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<th>Year</th>
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<th>2019</th>
<th>2020</th>
<th>2021</th>
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### Total Charitable Donations

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### Donor Participation

#### All Donors

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<td>2,329</td>
<td>2,445</td>
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Young Alumni Engage More in Estate Planning

Upper Iowa’s partnership with FreeWill continues by offering alumni an opportunity to create their will — for free. Since April 2020, nearly 150 Peacocks have taken advantage of this resource, particularly younger alumni. Conducted by caring.com, a 2021 Wills and Estate Planning Study has uncovered this interesting trend:

“Many younger Americans had delayed creating an estate plan by assuming (incorrectly) that estate planning is only for older people and not relevant for young, healthy people. The unknown aspects of COVID were an unexpected shock that helped many younger Americans realize that estate planning is important precisely because you can never know what the future may bring. Having a plan in place is one small step to protect yourself and your family from otherwise uncontrollable risks.”

Nicole Riha ’09 completed her will recently and generously included UIU in her estate plans. She shared, “I enjoyed the FreeWill site and thought it was very easy to navigate.”

It takes less than 20 minutes to complete the online process and it’s completely optional to include UIU within an estate plan. Individuals who name Upper Iowa as a beneficiary will join UIU’s prestigious Heritage Society, to ensure that they have established a legacy at UIU.

As a global health pandemic continues to be endured by all, UIU is proud to offer this service to alumni because of the importance it is to have future plans in place. To learn more or get started on writing your will, visit uiu.edu/HeritageSociety. Questions may be directed to Andrew Wenthe, vice president for external affairs, at wenthea@uiu.edu or 563-425-5348.

Thank You, Heritage Society Members!

Floyd E. Alber *
Dr. Marcia K. Anderson
Wayne & Nancy Anderson*
William & Betty Andres*
Stephen Arneson
Darrel & Gladys Arthur*
Bob & Sharon Ash
Carleton & Genevieve Baker*
Ruth Baker*
Ronald William Bergfeld
Shannon Blackburn-Hawkins
Robert Brannon*
Donald & Pat Brattebo
Jodi & Jason Bonnett
Robert & Kathryn Burr
Orville & Fran Bunting*
Cassie Bye
Paula Cameron
Bruce Campbell*
Phyllis Carpenter
William “Foster” Cass
Matthew Chapman
Marvin Chevalier*
Lawson & Janet Coapstick
James Collins
Vicki & Ronald Collum
Lori Crass
Barbara Csomay*
Darwin Dean
Jon Deigert & Nancy Osgood
Leota Didier*
Dennis & Judy Dumermuth
Allan & Rosalinda Ekstrom
Dante Elmer
Maureen Enders
Kenneth & Sharon Erickson
Robert Fox*
Raymond "Jack" Gager*
Bess Greenley*
Jessica Gonzalez-Gallardo
LaVonne Gutches*
Chrystal & Oliver Hansen*
Margaret Hanson*
Richard & Georgieanna* Harris
Jacqueline Hawkins*
Bernard & Susan Hay
Michelle Marie Hayes
Steve & Jennifer Heeren
Jann Henkes
Louise Herring*
Craig Jackson
Betty Jensen*
Nicole Johnson
Lawrence Kancius*
Mary & Donald Kimball*
Rupert & Margaret Kneef
Carlton & Maxine Knight*
Kip & Eileen Knight
Anthony Koran
Rudolph* & Marty Kraus
Michelle & Bob Lane
Stan Lee*  
Jo Love
Roger & Alice Mangan
William Maurer
Becky Maxson*
LaVerne McCoy
Douglas & Tamara McReynolds
William Merkle*
Michael E. Miklus
Torrie Moffett
Albert Montgomery
Warren Morgan*
William Murray
William* & Sandra Naylor
Timothy “Muggsy” Nevelle*
Lilian & Sol Oestreicher*
James Olsen*
Joseph & Judith Peluso
Frederick & Cynthia Perry
Loma & Lyle Peterson

Taras “Terry” & Sandra Powroznyk
Brent & Pamela Richter
Nicole Riha
John Rippe*
Lucile Roberts*
Elizabeth “Betty” Ryan*
Steven Sales
Michael & Teri Salmons
David Schlotterback
Mike & Heather Schrock
Louise Scott
Dale & Susan Sevig
Joshua & Andrea Schnell
Serge & Paula Sisler
Edward Smith
Pamela Spear
Robert & Marie Steinburg
Karen Stinson
Leora & Merle Sullivan*
Anita Swanson
Vicki Terpening
Tanner Thompson
Stephanie & Harold Waterman
Wayne Whitney
Kurt & Jennifer Wood

* Indicates deceased
“Change” is a word our UIU Engagement Crew heard time and time again throughout fiscal year 2021. For over 15 years, the student calling team has traditionally worked together at the Alumni Office on the Fayette Campus. However, for the health and safety of the team, during the onset of the pandemic the calling center was moved to a computer lab. This allowed ample space between calling stations, and students were required to follow all COVID-19 guidelines. Later, the program transitioned to remote calling only and all equipment was sent home with students.

The pandemic was a common topic of conversation. Student callers heard many alums share stories of financial hardship, health concerns, or general fear surrounding the pandemic. Students listened and learned from these alumni interactions and reassured alumni that members of the Peacock family were looking out for each other. Despite many challenges, the students utilized technology to the fullest and remained a productive, successful and cohesive virtual team. Online auto dialing, texts, e-mails and video messages were effectively used to communicate with alumni.

During FY21 the Engagement Crew made 56,798 calls and generated $60,908.23 for UIU. We extend a big thank you to each and every one of these talented student callers. They are to be commended for persevering through tough times.

The UIU Engagement Crew included (front l-r) Guin Calpito, Allison Schaffer and Josie Deutmeyer; (back) Abigail Evans, Tony Garrido, Darryl Mcduel-Larry, Kaitano Bateman and Rylee McGonigle.
DON'T MISS
UIU GIVING DAY
& SHOW UIU SOME LOVE!
FEBRUARY 10-11, 2022
MARK YOUR CALENDAR
FOLLOW UIU ON SOCIAL MEDIA
BECOME A MOMENTUM DONOR
GIVE A GIFT
UIU.EDU/GIVINGDAY | UIUUGIVINGDAY
Established by Dr. G.C. Baker Memorial Scholarship
Established by Genevieve Baker '36 in 2006
Belknap Baker Family Scholarship
Established by Mrs. Thelma Tidgewell Baker Rick in 1959

William F. Baker Science Memorial
Established by the Baker family in 1953 in honor of William F. Baker, class of 1893

Beecher Beal and Bertha Beal Roberts/Thomas R. Roberts Student Scholarship
Established by Mrs. Thelma Tidgewell Baker Rick in 1959

Charles G. Bell Endowed Scholarship in Art
Established by Charles Bell '67 in 1993

Joe & Janet (Olson) Brady Scholarship
Established by Joe and Janet '42 (Olson) Brady in 1999

Ivadell Brause Memorial Endowed Scholarship in Education
Established by the Brause family in 1990 in honor of Ivadell Brause '21

Jacob D. Burling Memorial Scholarship
Established in memory of Jacob Burling in 2017

Bruce I. Campbell Endowed Scholarship
Established by the Campbell family in 2006 in honor of Bruce I. Campbell '69

Foster Cass Foundation Student Scholarship
Established by Foster Cass '41 in 2009

Caudle-Holmes Scholarship
Established by Verdia (Caudle) Holmes '34 in 1992

Lew Churbuck Scholarship
Established by Lewis Churbuck '67 in 2007

Clark / Bowen Endowed Scholarship
Established by UIU in honor of Dr. Charles B. Clark and Roger Bowen

The John and Reta Coleman Achievement in Science Award
Established by Dr. Richard W. Coleman in 1997

Beulah Combs Thompson Scholarship
Established by the family of Beulah Combs Thompson '13 in 1972

William R. Cook Scholarship
Established by William R. Cook '65 in 1990

Ron Crooker Facilities Endowed Scholarship
Established by Betty Andres '46 and her family in 2014 in honor of Ron Crooker '02

Csomay Endowed Scholarship
Established by Barbara R. Csomay '46 in 2009

Blanche Cole Gloss Memorial Scholarship
Established by Blanche Cole Gloss '23 in 1987

May (Cliff) Davig Endowed Scholarship
Established by May (Cliff) '95 & Dale Davig in 2019

John William Dickman Endowed Scholarship
Established through anonymous donations in 1993 in honor of John W. Dickman

Dr. J. M. and Zinita Dickman Murphy Scholarship
Established through the estate of Zinita Dickman Murphy, class of 1918, in 1996

The John William Dickman Prize
Established by Mrs. Adella Maltbie Dickman in 1939

Lucille Dickman Scholarship
Established by the Trust of Milo Maltbie class of 1892 in 1995 in honor of Lucille Dickman '22

Leota Didier Scholarship
Established by Leota A. Didier '43 in 2018

Eisched Athletic Scholarship
Established in honor of Everett “Eb” Eisched '38

Kenneth J. and Sharon L. (Reisch) Erickson Scholarship Fund
Established by Kenneth '83 and Sharon (Reisch) Erickson in 2019

Drs. Eugene E. and Mildred Everts Garbee Award
Established through memorial gifts in 1968

The Excellence in Education Scholarship
Established by faculty, staff and friends of Upper Iowa University in 2007

Extended University Scholarship
Established in 2010 by UIU

Faculty Appreciation Endowed Scholarship
Established in 1993 by Dr. Richard Tesoriero '77, Dr. Donald Foley '76 and Dr. Kurt Wood '76

Thomas Parker Goebel and Helen Goebel Scholarship
Established by Thomas Parker Goebel '45 and Helen Goebel in 1993

The Dr. Austin J. Goldsmith Book Scholarship
Established by Dr. Austin Goldsmith '99 in 2005

William F. and LaVonne I. Gutches Student Scholarship
Established through an estate gift by LaVonne I. Gutches in 2009 in honor of William F. Gutches '29

Linda Haines Endowed Scholarship
Established in memory of Linda Haines in 2012

The Forrest G. & Margaret L. Moore Endowed Scholarship
Established in memory of Margaret (Hall) Moore '40 in 1996

Dr. Louise P. Herring Scholarship
Established by Dr. Louise Herring in 1984

Herz Scholarship Fund
Established by Mr. and Mrs. Nathanial Herz in 1930

Irene Humphry Anderson Scholarship in English
Established by Irene Humphry Anderson '34 in 1992

Mrs. Ina Johnson Memorial Scholarship
Established by the Johnson family in 1978

Ralph Kauten Endowed Scholarship
Established by Ralph Kauten '69 in 2012

Paul “Spike” & Merriam Kelly Scholarship
Established by friends of Paul “Spike” '24 and Merriam Kelly '24 in 1987

The Brooke Kerns Endowed Scholarship
Established by the Kerns family in 2006

Killbreath-Timmerman Football Endowed Scholarship
Established by Larry Mulholland '73 to honor Jim Killbreath and Dick Timmerman

Mary Kimball Scholarship
Established by the Kimball family in 2006 in honor of Mary Kimball '56

Carlton W. Knight and Maxine B. Knight Endowed Scholarship
Established by Dr. Kip '62 and Eileen Knight in 2004 in honor of Carlton W. and Maxine Knight

Joyce A. Lang Teacher Education Scholarship
Established by Gerald Lang in 2019 in tribute to his wife, Joyce (Ries) Lang '66
ENDOWED Scholarships (continued)

Scott & Bobbi Lebin Endowed Scholarship
Established by Scott ’64 and Bobbi ’65 Lebin in 2012

Irima K. Ledgerwood Endowed Scholarship
Established in memory of Irma K. Ledgerwood, class of 1922 in 1997

McCoy Endowed Scholarship in Honor of Martha Weatherspoon
Established by LaVerne McCoy ’98 and family in 2016

Mike McCready Scholarship
Established to honor Mike McCready in 2000

Don & Pauline McGuire Endowed Scholarship
Established by Don ’63 and Pauline McGuire in 2016

Dr. Gary McVicker Scholarship
Established by Dr. Catherine McVicker in 2010 in honor of Gary McVicker ’63

Joe Menges Scholarship in Business Administration
Established by Joe Menges Trust in 1959

Military Family Fund Scholarship
Established to honor U.S. military personnel in 2014

Martha M. Moeller Scholarship
Established by the Henry George Mackintosh Foundation in 2014

Helen J. Monserud Scholarship in Sociology
Established to honor Helen J. Monserud in 1977

Charles Morgan Scholarship
Established by the Morgan family in 1988 in honor of Charles Morgan ’42

Warren W. Morgan Scholarship for Business Majors
Established by Warren W. Morgan ’38 in 2006

Dennis and Marlene Murdock Adult Learner Scholarship
Established by Dennis ’68 and Marlene Murdock in 2017

Dennis and Marlene Murdock Leadership Scholarship
Established by Dennis ’68 and Marlene Murdock in 2017

Northeast Iowa Charitable Foundation Scholarship
Established by the Northeast Iowa Charitable Foundation in 1997

The James H. Olsen Biology Scholarship
Established to honor James Herman Olsen ’52 in 2017

Mrs. Richard Otley Improvement Award
Established in 1963

Pande Scholarship
Established by Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Pande Jr. in 1990

Dr. J.D. Parker and Nellie K. Parker Scholarship
Established by Mrs. Eleanor Parker Fox ’26 and Dr. Robert L. Fox ’28 in 1968

Edward L. Paine and Gertrude Pease Paine Scholarship
Established by the family of Gertrude Pease Paine ’35 and Edward L. Paine ’32 in 1996

The Paul and Margaret Pickett Scholarship
Established by Paul and Margaret Pickett ’57 in 1997

Lloyd Pleggenkuhle Memorial Scholarship
Established in memory of Lloyd Pleggenkuhle ’36 in 1990

William “Bill” Prochaska Endowed Scholarship
Established by William ’63 and Janet Prochaska in 2014

J. Paul and Sharroll Richards Scholarship
Established by J. Paul ’56 and Sharroll Richards in 2014

John Rippe Scholarship
Established in memory of John Rippe ’28 in 2000

Michael David Selgelid Memorial Scholarship
Established by the Selgelid family in 1989

Margaret Share Kerfoot Scholarship
Established by Harold Kerfoot, class of 1924, in 1960

Sodexo Campus Services Scholarship
Established by Sodexo Campus Services in 1999

Stivers Leadership Scholarship
Established by Louise (Stivers) Scott in 2003

Upper Iowa University Grace Meyer Scholarship
Established to honor Grace Meyer ’72 in 1992

The Pam Whitmore Endowed Scholarship for Excellence in Student Teaching
Established by Pam Whitmore ’65 and Fred Koch in 2006

*The William G. Wilcox Memorial Scholarship
Established by former Registrar Lois Wilcox in 1987, endowed in 2017

The Hoyt R. & Winifred Appelman Young Scholarship Fund
Established through the Estate of Winifred A. Young in 1993

Zecha-McCauley Scholarship
Established by Gerald McCauley ’61 and Dr. Allen Zecha in 2003

If you’d like to learn more about creating your own endowed scholarship, contact Andrew Wenthe, vice president for external affairs, at wenthea@uiu.edu or 563-425-5348.

Save the Date

Honors & Awards

2022 Banquet Saturday, April 9
Student Center Ballrooms
UIU Fayette Campus
Mulholland retired from EBAA on December 18, 2020, after 32 years of employment with the iron sales company. In recent years, he has been a staunch supporter of UIU Athletics, in particular with providing support/sponsorship for the Peacock Golf Classic.

"In 1969, UIU gave me the opportunity to attend college and I was invited to be a walk-on for Peacock football," stated Mulholland. "My last two years of school, head coach Jim Killbreath gave me a scholarship and I was forever grateful for him doing so. Likewise, Dick Timmerman was one of those people that I always remembered from my playing days in Fayette. Those two are a big reason why I was able to complete my degree, and graduating from UIU was the reason that I had success in my professional career. I am forever grateful."

Mulholland retired from EBAA on December 18, 2020, after 32 years of employment with the iron sales company. In recent years, he has been a staunch supporter of UIU Athletics, in particular with providing support/sponsorship for the Peacock Golf Classic.

"This new scholarship is a fantastic addition for our football program," said Vice President for Athletics Rick Hartzell. "Larry’s generosity will certainly help deserving Peacock football student-athletes for many years to come. Just as important, though, honoring Coach Killbreath and Dick Timmerman will help to preserve their legacies at UIU in a most meaningful way."

The endowed scholarship will be awarded annually to a walk-on student-athlete with the Peacock Football program. Mulholland is originally from Northwest Illinois; the scholarship selection will be given preference to someone from the Northern Illinois region, and then expanded out to the surrounding areas.

Endowed Programs

- Diane Kinkead-Harms Cheer Endowment
- George Richards Football Endowment
- Csomay Honors Program Endowment
- Reunion Class Endowment Fund
- John & Honorine Falb Family Endowment
- Maltbie-McCosh-Delano Professorship Fund
- Maude Wimber Baker Science Fund
- Carrie Drewry Miller Endowment Fund
- Kenneth Hofmaster Endowment Fund
- Doc Dorman Foundation Fund
- Stan Lee Fund
- Robert L. Fox Endowed Chair in Science
- Heddleson Education Endowment
- Firth School of Business Dean’s Fund
- Churbuck School of Science & Mathematics Dean’s Fund
- Betty’s Team Fund – Andres School of Education
- Liberal Arts Dean’s Fund
- Cabby Student Life Dean’s Fund
- Emergency Student Aid Endowment Fund

These funds are invested as part of UIU’s endowment. Earnings are distributed to support a wide variety of programs and activities.
Alpha Nu Omega / Phi Beta Delta Alumni Association Scholarships
Established by Alpha Nu Omega fraternity and Phi Beta Delta sorority alumni in 1995

American Legion of Iowa Foundation Scholarship
Established in 2010

Susan Angeline Collins Memorial Scholarship
Established by Dr. Charles Nick Serra in 2002

Crandall Family Scholarship
Established by Tom ’69 and Carol (Meyer) ’89 Crandall in 2019

The Excellence in Mathematics Scholarship (Formerly the Raymond Deming Scholarship) Established in honor of long-serving mathematics faculty

The Stuart & Roberta Dunkel Annual Scholarship Established by Stuart ’64 and Roberta Dunkel in 2011

Environmental Leadership Scholarship Established by Dr. Katherine McCarville in 2015

Florida Alumni Chapter Scholarship
Established in 2017

John Kinley Emergency and Disaster Management Scholarship
Established by Billy “John” Kinley ’14, ’16 in 2019

LocaliQ Graphic Design & Marketing Scholarship Established by LocaliQ in 2019

Ruth Manuta Memorial Scholarship
Established by David Manuta in 1994 in honor of Ruth Manuta ’87

LaVerne McCoy Scholarship
Established by LaVerne McCoy ’98 in 2013

Emma Meiners-Emerson/Alice Emerson-Hart Scholarship for Excellence in Teaching Elementary Education Established by Alice (Emerson) Hart ’65 in 2016

Emma Meiners-Emerson/Alice Emerson-Hart Scholarship for Excellence in Teaching English Established by Alice (Emerson) Hart ’65 in 2016

Matt and Cindy Mickelson Annual Education Scholarship
Established by Matt ’86 and Cindy Mickelson in 2019

The Perry Scholarship for Excellence in Teaching Established in 2016

The Kathy and Brian Schultz Education Scholarship Made possible by the Connie Frank Foundation, given in memory of Carleton Baker ’34 and Genevieve Belknap Baker ’36

Dr. Larry Seals Scholarship
Established by Dr. Larry Seals ’86 in 2011

Stevens Family Scholarship
Established by Ronald and Mary Ann Stevens in 2017

Tri-State Alumni Chapter Scholarship Established in 2017 by chapter leaders
NEW Faculty & Staff Giving Program

The Faculty & Staff Giving Program is a new initiative to thank and recognize employees who are also donors to the University. Included is anyone who makes a gift of any size to any UIU designation during fiscal year 2022 (July 1, 2021, to June 30, 2022.) This program will help to further develop a culture of giving among employees and hopefully instill within students an inspiration to give back someday as well.

Throughout the year supporters may enjoy special events and perks. One example was the inaugural Faculty & Staff Donor Appreciation Week held October 25-30, 2021. Employee donors were offered an extra UIU Spirit Dress Day, 4:01 Cocktail Social, Donuts for Donors and VIP access at the Harms-Eischied Stadium Suites for the final home football game of the season. The weeklong event was extremely successful and inspired additional employees to make a gift. The number of employee donors increased from 41 to 80 in just one week.

“In fiscal year 2021, forty percent of employees were UIU donors,” stated Andrew Wenthe, vice president for external affairs. “We challenge our Peacock community to help us significantly boost that figure, reminding them that giving can be fun, is easy to do, and is incredibly meaningful to UIU students and programs who benefit from their generosity.”

Employees may donate anytime during the year or they have the convenient option to set up a monthly payroll deduction, which supports UIU directly from the individual’s salary. To learn more and view a list of current faculty and staff donors, visit uiu.edu/FSG.

“Giving is personal to me. As a UIU student, I was the recipient of several scholarships. Now that I’m a staff member here, donating is my way of paying it forward to the next generation of students. As Maya Angelou said, ‘When you learn — teach. When you get— give.’”

Jodi Grover ’06, ’09
Teacher Education Coordinator
UIU-Des Moines

Two Easy Ways to Schedule Recurring Gifts!

1) Use a credit card and schedule recurring gifts at uiu.edu/Give. Select your frequency option using the drop-down list.

2) Set up a monthly Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT) using a checking or savings account. Visit uiu.edu/Give to complete the University’s EFT Authorization Form.
In October 2021 the Alumni Association welcomed six new board members and a newly elected slate of officers. Tom Petsche ’75 will serve as secretary, Tom Webber ’69, vice president, and stepping into the role as association president is Danny John ’16, ’18. Excited to share his leadership and expertise, John provided this message for fellow Peacocks:

“I graduated from UIU-Cedar Rapids in 2016 with my bachelor’s degree in business management and earned my MBA in 2018. As a result, I am co-owner of AJA Estate Services LLC. I meet Peacock alumni everywhere I go and I’m amazed at the number of people who have attended UIU. Being a veteran, I have also found that UIU is military friendly.

“During the pandemic, the board organized virtual alumni socials which brought together Peacocks all over the globe. We will continue hosting virtual gatherings but certainly look forward to traditional face-to-face alumni events. I welcome input from all alums. We need your insight and expertise to continue connecting with alumni and growing our Peacock family.”

The UIU Alumni Association board’s mission is to promote goodwill, create a dynamic alumni program, build loyalty, increase involvement and generate support for the University. To learn more visit uiu.edu/AlumniAssociation.

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1. Give online at uiu.edu/Give.
2. Process your payment over the phone by calling the Alumni Office at 563-425-5388.
3. Stop by the Alumni House at 513 Union Street in Fayette, Iowa.
4. Send a check made payable to “Upper Iowa University” and mail to P.O. Box 1857, Fayette, IA 52142.
5. Schedule recurring gifts by completing the EFT form located at uiu.edu/Give.
6. Text 563-362-9795 to give. Simply text the amount you’d like to donate.

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Second Chance Commencement is Back!

Walking across the stage during commencement is a momentous occasion for all Peacock alumni who attend this ceremony. This is an opportunity to recognize all of the hard work and many accomplishments achieved while being a student at UIU.

Unfortunately, for various reasons, not all alums have been able to attend commencement. Therefore, the Alumni Association is proud to offer a Second Chance Commencement to any alumni who were unable to attend their original commencement. These respective “graduates” will be recognized alongside the Class of 2022 during the May 7, 2022, UIU Commencement ceremony.

Registration is required at uiu.edu/Alumni-Events no later than February 28, 2022. Cost to register is $50. Please direct questions to the Alumni Office at 563-425-5238 or alumni@uiu.edu.
As you can see, the Alumni Office is officially on the road again! It would be our pleasure to see YOU at an upcoming event. For more details and to RSVP, visit uiu.edu/alumni-events. While on the site, be sure to submit an idea for a venue, city or themed event we should consider.

**2022 ALUMNI CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

January 12: Alumni Social – Peoria, Arizona
January 23: Wrestling Alumni Day – Fayette, Iowa
January 28-29: Basketball Alumni Weekend – Fayette, Iowa

February 10-11: UIU Giving Day – Online Fundraiser (uiu.edu/GivingDay)
February 24: Alumni Social – Des Moines, Iowa
March 12: Alumni Social – Las Vegas, Nevada
March 22: Alumni Social – The Villages, Florida (Jim ’73 & Ronda Parsons residence)
March 24: Alumni Social – Bonita Springs, Florida (Richard & Chris Andres residence)

April 8: Alumni Night at the Black Hawks – Waterloo, Iowa
April 8-10: UIU Family Weekend – Fayette, Iowa
April 9: Honors & Awards Banquet – Fayette, Iowa
April 22: Wrestling Legends Dinner – Fayette, Iowa
May 7: UIU Commencement – Fayette, Iowa
June 10: Peacock Classic Golf Outing – Fayette, Iowa

**Team Peacock**

Pedaling for a Purpose

Last year Team Peacock collectively raised an impressive $18,759. Each rider selected a project, fund or program they’re most passionate about and pedaled nearly 500 miles across the state of Iowa July 25-31, 2021, partaking in the epic Iowa bicycle ride, RAGBRAI.

Registration is now open to any road warrior who would like to join Team Peacock and dedicate their RAGBRAI ride to a special UIU cause. The deadline to sign up is March 1, 2022, and space is limited.

To register now or learn more about team perks, fundraising goals, fees and general RAGBRAI info, visit

[uiu.edu/TeamPeacock](http://uiu.edu/TeamPeacock)

For the latest information or to RSVP, visit [uiu.edu/alumni/events](http://uiu.edu/alumni/events).

Dates and locations are subject to change.
ANNOUNCING...

ALUMNI REFERRAL AWARD!

Providing up to $4,000 for new students

One of the best ways alumni can give back to their alma mater is the gift of a student referral. With this in mind, the Alumni Office is excited to announce the new Alumni Referral Award, which provides a tuition award of up to $4,000 to students attending as a result of an alumni referral!

Simply use the online Alumni Referral Award form to share information about a student who you think should join our Peacock family. Referrals are encouraged for any prospective UIU student, regardless of whether they wish to take classes at the Fayette Campus, other UIU locations, self-paced or online.

Help save big bucks for a student you know! Get started at uiu.edu/alumni/referral.