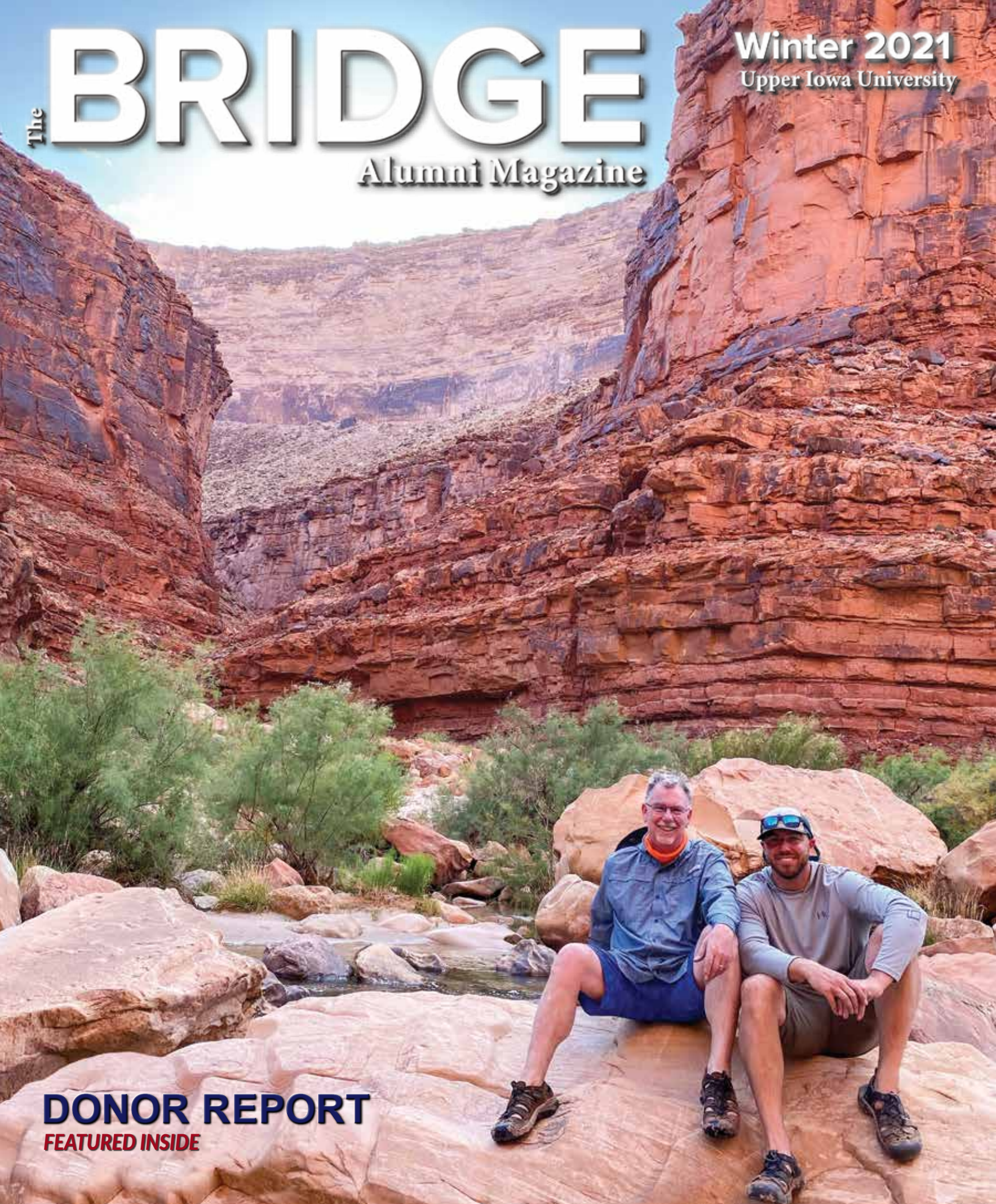


# The BRIDGE

Alumni Magazine

Winter 2021  
Upper Iowa University

**DONOR REPORT**  
FEATURED INSIDE





Homecoming King Noah Antes, a biology and chemistry double major from Rochester, Minnesota.

## 2020 HOMECOMING ROYALTY

Homecoming Queen Kaitlin Niedert, an elementary education major from Independence, Iowa.

“Serving as the go-to resource for students, the CARE Team’s skillful guidance played a major role in UIU’s successful return to face-to-face classes this past fall. There have been times when tough individual choices had to be made, but it has always been while keeping the safety of our Campus and local community in mind.”

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

*President Duffy’s message of appreciation is shared in the CARE Team feature story on page 5.*

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# INSIDE HIGHLIGHTS

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## OUR MISSION

Upper Iowa University provides quality educational opportunities accessible through varied delivery methods to inspire success and empower lives.

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- Beau Sudtelgte, Vice President for Human Resources
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2020 HOMECOMING RECAP — PAGE 10



2020 VIRTUAL HOMECOMING FUNDRAISER — Page 11

## FEATURES

- 5 Handling the pandemic with CARE
- 6 Clinical trials provide staff member uplifting experiences
- 8 First CEP nursing graduates making a difference during pandemic
- 12 Ms. Wheelchair Iowa advocates for inclusion and accessibility
- 14 Fayette Campus electrified by new source of Peacock power
- 25 Senior thesis project to benefit Graf Garden
- 26 Scholarships amplify senior's UIU experience
- 26 It all starts with a 'Handshake'

## DEPARTMENTS

- 2 News Briefs
- 4 Faculty and Staff Notes
- 17 Athletics Wrap-Up
- 19 Winter Sports Schedule
- 21 Class Notes
- 25 Donor Report 2020
- 41 In Memoriam



**Front cover photo:** Ben Bowers '05 (right) and his father, Bernie, were among the alumni, students, faculty, staff and other members of the Peacock family who participated in the 2020 Grand Canyon Whitewater Rafting Excursion this past summer.



# NEWS BRIEFS

More information about these headline stories and others can be found at [UIU.EDU](http://UIU.EDU) and/or [uiubridge.com](http://uiubridge.com). Additional photos can be viewed at [Flickr.com/upperiowauniversity](https://www.flickr.com/photos/upperiowauniversity/).

## 2020 Mangan Teaching Award recipients

Isaiah Stansbery D.B.A., assistant professor of criminal justice, and Dr. Nigel George, professor of mathematics and physics, were awarded Upper Iowa University's inaugural Mangan Teaching awards. Established in 2019 by Roger '62 and Alice (DeLong) '61 Mangan, the awards represent UIU's commitment to excellence in teaching and are annually presented to one rising junior faculty member and one senior faculty member.



Dr. Isaiah Stansbery

Stansbery has served at UIU since 2018. He earned his doctorate at Northcentral University, and Master of Science, Bachelor of Science and Bachelor of Arts degrees at Columbia College. Prior to working in academia, Stansbery spent eight years serving in the United States Army — Military Intelligence Corps working for the National Security Agency and Department of Defense as an intelligence analyst. After honorably separating as a staff sergeant, he went on to work for Iowa's Department of Correctional Services as a probation/parole officer.



Dr. Nigel George

George has been an Upper Iowa University faculty member since 2003. He earned his Ph.D. at Yale University and Master of Science and Bachelor of Science degrees at University of Auckland. George started his teaching career as a physics and math teaching assistant at Auckland University before serving as a Wellesly instructor at the New Zealand university. He later served as a physics teaching assistant at Yale and conducted his post-doctoral fellowship at the Argonne National Laboratory. Prior to arriving at UIU's Fayette Campus George also served as an assistant scientist at Brookhaven National Laboratory.

The Mangan's provided the initial gift for the establishment of the Excellence in Teaching Award. The UIU Faculty Development and Welfare Committee began accepting award nominations/applications in January 2020, before presenting their recommendations to former Provost Dr. P. Joan Poor. The recipients receive a financial stipend and a commemorative plaque for their exemplary teaching. In addition, a larger wall-mounted plaque featuring the names of these and future honorees has been placed in the Student Center at UIU's Fayette Campus.

A native of Chicago, Illinois, Roger Mangan graduated from UIU in 1962 with a bachelor's degree in history with minors in political science and French. A four-time Peacock wrestling letter winner and 2014 Athletic Hall of Fame inductee, he won Iowa Intercollegiate Athletic Conference championships at 147 pounds in 1959 and 1960.

Alice (DeLong) Mangan followed in the footsteps of her mother and aunt and four uncles who also graduated from Upper Iowa with degrees in education. A Maynard, Iowa, native, she helped organize UIU's first drill team before earning a physical education degree in 1961.

## UIU receives 10-year accreditation

Upper Iowa University received notification in 2020 from the Higher Learning Commission (HLC) that the HLC Institutional Actions Council approved the continuance of UIU's accreditation. This recognition from the HLC Institutional Actions Council confirms UIU's commitment to continuous improvement and compliance with its accreditation criterion.

"On behalf of our Board of Trustees, I want to express my deepest gratitude to everyone involved in this process and for all of your efforts and accomplishments to help ensure the current and future success of our students and the University as a whole," UIU President William R. Duffy II said. "I am certain that we will continue to accomplish our mission, providing quality educational opportunities, inspiring success and empowering lives."

"The 10-year accreditation is a comprehensive process that validates the work of the institution," UIU vice president for Academic and Student Affairs Doug Binsfeld agreed. "UIU's efforts, commitment to excellence, and dedication to continual improvement have all been recognized by the Higher Learning Commission. This is a testament to the faculty and staff of the institution."

UIU's next reaffirmation of accreditation is in 2029-30.

## Redesigned website is launched

In its ongoing effort to maintain compatibility across the digital landscape, Upper Iowa University announces the launch of its redesigned website. Online visitors, including future UIU students, are now discovering a friendlier, easier-to-navigate webpage at [uiu.edu](http://uiu.edu).



"This yearlong initiative brought a web advisory team together with the talented team at Paskill, Stapleton & Lord, a firm with significant experience in design and higher education," said Dr. Karl Easttorp, UIU executive director of communications and marketing. "The design is easier to use, cleaner in its presentation and navigation, and generates an even more mobile-friendly site."

UIU officials are confident that both internal and external audiences will find the new site, which is designed to provide easier navigation across

all platforms, more attractive and simpler to retrieve information. Future undergraduate and graduate students will discover all things academia right at their fingertips. Meanwhile, current students, faculty and staff can find the majority of their required resources under one button.

In addition, the website reflects the UIU community, program offerings, student services, mission, vision and values that go into a prospective student's decision on attending UIU. The previous redesign of the UIU website occurred in the winter of 2016. Website content will be frequently updated and enhanced as University services and technology continually evolve. For additional information about UIU, visit the new website at [uiu.edu](http://uiu.edu).

## Military Family Grant launched

For over a decade, Upper Iowa University has successfully utilized tuition assistance at U.S. military locations in an effort to provide the nation's service members an affordable Education Built for Life. To further assist the entire military family in achieving their academic and career goals, UIU announced that a Military Family Grant is now available to eligible spouses and dependents of all active duty, reserve and National Guard service members.

"UIU has long realized that, due to deployments, field duty and a constant change in home location, military spouses and dependents face many of the same education barriers as our service members," said UIU President William R. Duffy II, a retired lieutenant colonel who served 20 years as an active-duty infantry officer in the U.S. Army. "As a proud member of the extended military family, we feel the Military Family Grant is another example of Upper Iowa University's commitment to best supporting all those who serve our country."

The UIU Military Family Grant extends the University's \$250 per credit hour tuition rate for undergraduate courses to the spouses and dependents of active-duty service members for undergraduate classes. UIU also offers annual Military Spouse Scholarships and a Patriot Grant for all veterans and active DOD card holders, and accepts tuition assistance, veterans educational benefits, scholarships and Military Spouse Career Advancement Accounts.

For additional information, see the full story on The Bridge Online at <https://bit.ly/39a>



## 2020-21 Resident Assistants serving the needs of our students



Adrian Wurtz



Alex Dombrowski



Andrew Paskey



Brady Krupa



Caitlin Schauer



Cody Lawrence



Gabbie Palomo



Grant Dieken



Hannah Schutte



Hogan Penny



Iberus Jenkins



Ibrieal Jenkins



Matt Swolley



Meghan Klein



Raven Russell



Shania Christopherson



Shaylen Fiehlner



Yi Mun Choo

Upper Iowa University announced its resident assistants (RAs) for 2020-21. 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 reports, requests and emergencies, RAs ensure that students benefit from a traditional college experience while attending UIU.

"As they work to provide the best college campus experience available, an RA serves as friend and mentor to all other Peacocks," said Daryl Grove, assistant dean of students. "Lead RAs Ibrieal Jenkins and Hogan Penny and the entire RA staff are eager to see that all students benefit from UIU's mission to inspire success and empower lives within a safe and enjoyable residential environment. All RAs are in this six feet apart, but together at heart."

Additional information about each of the 2020-21 resident assistants can be viewed at <https://bit.ly/3m83gYj>.

## Upper Iowa Stands Up to domestic violence



Upper Iowa University President William R. Duffy II, former UIU Project Stand Up victims' advocate/educator Amber Knox (left) and Helping Services dating violence advocate Brittany McIntyre display the pledge that exhibits the University's support of survivors of domestic violence.

As part of Domestic Violence Awareness Month in October, Upper Iowa University President William R. Duffy II signed a pledge at the University's Fayette Campus in support of survivors of domestic violence. Duffy was joined in the ceremony by former UIU Project Stand Up victims' advocate/educator Amber Knox and Helping Services dating violence advocate Brittany McIntyre.

On behalf of the UIU community, Duffy pledged to support survivors of domestic violence,

stand with survivors of domestic violence across all of UIU's 21 education locations, promote a campus where decency and respect dominate, and encourage all citizens to learn more about preventing domestic violence.

Domestic Violence Awareness Month evolved from the Day of Unity in October 1981. The purpose of the Day of Unity was to connect advocates across the nation who were working to end violence against women. The Day of Unity soon became an entire week that was devoted to a range of activities that had a common theme, such as mourning those who have died because of domestic violence, celebrating those who have survived and connecting those who work to end violence. In 1989, the U.S. Congress designated October of that year as National Domestic Violence Awareness Month.

The goal of Project Stand Up is to address sexual, domestic, stalking and dating violence across all university campuses. Project Stand Up is supported by grant funding, which is awarded by the U.S. Department of Justice Office on Violence Against Women.

## UIU receives \$134,000 to improve internet connectivity for students

Upper Iowa University is among 43 Iowa colleges and universities awarded nearly \$4.4 million to increase internet connectivity for students in the 2020-21 school year. The state of Iowa and the Iowa Department of Education announced the funding Thursday, October 22, as part of the state's \$26.2 million in Governor's Emergency Education Relief (GEER) funds, and is part of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act.

UIU was awarded approximately \$134,000, which will help the University further address barriers to online and remote learning opportunities for the 2020-21 school year and help ensure students have equitable access to technology needed to continue their education throughout the COVID-19 pandemic.

"As COVID-19 continues to impact those who wish to start or continue their pursuit of higher education, UIU has risen to the challenge in multiple ways," UIU President William R. Duffy said. "These funds will only strengthen our resolve to continue offering all students an excellent experience in their pursuit of a high-quality education."

Allocations for the recent internet connectivity funds were based on the financial need of undergraduate students at each of the colleges and universities, as determined by the number of students who receive federal Pell grants. An additional \$1.5 million in GEER funds will be available for professional development to support effective online and remote instruction at Iowa's colleges and universities.



# FACULTY AND STAFF NOTES

For consecutive months, LiveHelpNow recognized Upper Iowa University and its staff for being among the top companies providing exceptional customer service. Using its customer service metric score, LiveHelpNow considered 10,000 companies during the monthly challenge. LiveHelpNow is a help desk software platform for live chat and customer service.

Adjunct professor **Greg Beatty** wrote *A New Once Upon a Time*, which was accepted for publication by Little Blue Marble. Beatty also wrote an essay titled "Some People Have a Spirit Guide."

Adjunct faculty member **Stephanie Bush** has written *Molestation Inside the Church: The Forbidden Subject*, which addresses the long-existing issue of molestations in all domains. Published by Christian Faith Publishing, the book is available at traditional brick-and-mortar bookstores or online at Amazon, Apple iTunes, and Barnes and Noble.

Criminal justice online instructor **James Conroy** has written the book *Fraud Dog: Cases of a White Collar Cop*.



Laura Gleissner



Dr. Melinda Heinz

Assistant professor of art **Laura Gleissner** and associate professor of psychology **Dr. Melinda Heinz** were awarded a

\$1,000 grant from the Cedar Falls Art and Culture Board Community Sponsorship Fund for their project titled "Documenting Purpose and Meaning: Photos and Narratives from Older Adults."

**Dr. Heinz** will also chair a symposium at the 73<sup>rd</sup> annual meeting of the Gerontological Society titled "Opportunities and Challenges with Creative Community Partnerships."



Dr. Larry Katz

Adjunct instructor **Dr. Larry Katz** has written *The Joy Pyramid: A Journey from Trauma to Triumph*. The book, which is currently available for purchase on Amazon, features a practical, five-step approach to lasting happiness as the antidote to the anxiety and depression that plague so many of us today.



Dr. Gina Kuker



Dr. Barbara Ehlers



Dr. Katherine McCarville

A team of preservice education students under the guidance of professor of education **Dr. Gina Kuker** was awarded a U.S. EPA grant to rehabilitate the Graf Butterfly Garden as a pollinator habitat and teaching garden. The grant was awarded in connection with the students' participation in the spring 2020

Environmental Issues Instruction (eii) workshop "Water Connects Us All." Eii is a grant-funded program under the direction of associate professor of education **Dr. Barbara Ehlers**. The project, already underway, is guided by Ally Fink, a biology major, as part of her senior capstone experience, advised by professor of geosciences **Dr. Katherine McCarville**. Additional information about the project can be found on page 26.



Dr. Panagiotis Markopoulos



Dr. Kimberly King



Dr. Bianca Puglia

Masters of Counseling program director **Dr. Panagiotis Markopoulos** was joined by lecturer of counseling **Dr. Kimberly King** and adjunct professor **Dr. Bianca Puglia** in presenting "Virtual School Counseling and Safety" during two online live workshops in November 2020 and January 2021.

**Dr. Markopoulos** was also invited by the United Way of Southern Cameron County in Texas to present a one-hour live webinar on November 30, 2020, titled "To Zoom, or Not to Zoom, that is the question: Combatting zoom fatigue."



Dr. Erik Olson

Professor of chemistry **Dr. Erik Olson** co-authored "4-Fluoro-5-Methylacridine. In Search of Long-Range Lone-Pair Mediated H-F and C-F Spin-Spin Coupling" with Gordon W. Gribble. The paper was recently accepted by Organic Preparations and Procedures International.

Adjunct faculty member **Paul Rindahl** was named the 2019-20 Golden Apple Teacher of the Year in central Louisiana. A television report about the award presentation can be viewed at <https://bit.ly/3qNZFSw>.



Dr. Jennifer Stoffel



Dr. Katherine McCarville

Associate professor of biology **Dr. Jennifer Stoffel** and professor of geosciences **Dr. Katherine McCarville**

provided a pair of presentations at the virtual 75<sup>th</sup> Soil and Water Conservation Society (SWCS) International Annual Conference in July. A poster presentation was titled "Positioned for Success: Engaging Undergraduates Through Building a Sense of Pride," while their oral presentation was titled "Cultivating Soil Professionals: A Holistic Approach to Undergraduate Soils Education."

A Bush Fellowship fellow in 2001-2003, **Dr. McCarville** was also selected as one of 15 Quarterfinalist Mentors. After mentor training October 26-November 6, she mentored 10-15 prospective Bush fellows as they prepare for Stage Two of the 2021 Bush Fellowship application process. McCarville also earned certification from the FAA over the summer as a Remote Pilot under Part 107 of the Federal Aviation Regulations (commercial/educational deployment of small unmanned aircraft systems). McCarville initiated a study of microplastic waste in West Okoboji Lake (northwest Iowa) through a summer program sponsored by the IINSPIRE LSAMP Alliance. Finally, due to COVID-19, McCarville is also serving a second year as president of the Iowa Academy of Science.

Associate professor of biology **Dr. Rebecca Schmidt** co-authored a paper titled "IL-10-Producing NK Cells Exacerbate Sublethal *Streptococcus pneumoniae* Infection in the Lung" (doi: 10.1016/j.trsl.2020.07.001). The paper was published in summer 2020 in *Translational Research*.

Andres School of Education administrative assistant **Carrie Taylor '16**, mayor of Volga, Iowa, assisted in writing a successful grant used to purchase \$40,000 in essential groceries, given at no cost to qualifying residents (high-risk individuals, families with children) within the Volga zip code over a five-week period during the pandemic.

## Toy Drive success

Upper Iowa University Peacocks for Progress members presented the Fayette Police Department with approximately \$1,000 worth of UIU community donations to the Christmas Toy Drive on Wednesday, November 18. All funds/toys went to Helping Services for Youth and Families, and the Riverview Center. Pictured are Peacocks for Progress members (kneeling, l-r) Denyse Turnquist, DeWitt, Iowa;



Andrew Paskey, York, Pennsylvania; Larissia Bultman, Hampton, Iowa; (standing) Alex Dombrowski, East Hampton, Connecticut; Marissa McAuliffe, Dubuque, Iowa; Fayette police officer Nicole Ball and Fayette Police Chief Ben Davis.

# Handling the pandemic with CARE

*Care: Responsibility for or attention to health, well-being, and safety.*

*- Merriam-Webster Dictionary*

Since July, a diverse group of Upper Iowa University staff members spanning across Fayette Campus has quietly served on the front line to better assure the safety of students and the entire Campus community during the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.

UIU CARE team members, joined by Fayette Police Chief Ben Davis, are volunteers who directly address any health and safety issues that could potentially impact Campus. Among the group's first tasks was creating the Fayette Campus CARE Plan. The 13-page document describing the protocols, policies and processes designed to help students remain safe and healthy was first provided to students last August ahead of their arrival to Campus and again during the move-in process.

Now numbering approximately 20 members, the CARE Team evolves with each new need or concern. The volunteers not only serve as a planning committee but also spearhead the hands-on assistance required by students impacted by COVID-19. Faculty and staff members have provided daily check-ins, care and assistance to Peacocks in quarantine and isolation, including help with moving, delivering meals and packages, running errands, and providing technology assistance, personal protective equipment and cleaning supplies.

"Serving as the go-to resource for students, the CARE Team's skillful guidance played a major role in UIU's successful return to face-to-face classes this past fall," UIU President William R. Duffy II said. "There have been times when tough individual choices had to be made, but it has always been while keeping the safety of our Campus and local community in mind."

CARE Team member and head athletic trainer Matt Rueckert believes that the team's primary challenge is the ever-changing information and scenarios as a result of an unpredictable pandemic and dynamic Campus.

"It seems that we run into a different scenario almost weekly," Rueckert said. "Trying to give the best advice while staying consistent in our message has been a struggle at times, but the team has overcome any issues by working together and always looking out for the best interest of the masses. Our decisions

are not always the most popular, but the team's attention to detail, persistence and thoughtfulness kept UIU moving forward without a shutdown this past fall."


CARE Team member/Assistant Dean of Student Life Daryl Grove noted that noncompliance and short lapses of judgement were learning opportunities for the Campus community.

"Collectively, the honor system and Peacocks looking out for each other and the greater good of Upper Iowa University has prevailed," Grove said. "Care plans and procedures exist within all modalities, making us even more poised to continue providing quality educational opportunities accessible through varied delivery methods to inspire success and empower lives through 2020 and beyond."

Communication is a critical component of UIU's response to the pandemic. Students are asked to use an app to conduct daily screenings. A COVID-19 dashboard detailing positive cases and on-and off-campus isolations and quarantines is updated daily on the UIU website. A stream of emails and announcements have also been sent to students, faculty and staff.

"An untold amount of time, effort and care went into making sure our students continue to have the safest and most positive experience possible during a pandemic," Amy Tucker said. "By putting in countless hours to help students to move, adjust courses, provide and deliver meals, and keep open a steady line of communication, the CARE Team, and others who have provided a hand, helped the University maintain a face-to-face format this past fall. I would like to share extra kudos to UIU's dining service provider, Aramark, for the amount of coordination, extra work and effort they have provided, which has been especially instrumental in the CARE Team's efforts."

In addition to praising the CARE Team and all the faculty and staff who supported this group's hard work and dedication, Duffy reserved special praise for one important stakeholder.

"I would like to especially thank the students for doing their part in the University's success during this pandemic," Duffy said. "We can design all the safety plans and procedures we want, but if the students didn't buy into it, we wouldn't be where we are today." 

## WE ARE #PEACOCKSTRONG

#PeacockStrong is more than just a hashtag, it's a movement, a value and a culture. To be #PeacockStrong is to have the strength and tenacity to do what's best for all, even when it may be uncomfortable or inconvenient. As a member of the UIU family it's up to all of us to protect not only ourselves, but our fellow Peacocks; all students, staff, faculty, friends and family. Health and safety guidelines have been put in place not to restrict your experience at UIU, but make sure it remains possible.

## UIU CARE TEAM

Daryl Grove, Assistant Dean of Student Life  
Matt Rueckert, Head Athletic Trainer  
Stephanie Herman, Aramark Manager  
Jesse Pleggenkuhle, Director of Facilities Management  
Amy Tucker, Director of Academic Success  
Jordan Hay, Residence Area Coordinator  
Crystal Cole, Director of Counseling and Wellness  
Mike Van Sickle, Editorial Services Director  
Sarah Swanson, Assistant Athletic Director for Internal Operations  
Ben Davis, Fayette Police Chief  
Jake Bass, Coordinator of Student Activities  
Mark Danker, Development Officer III  
Karl Easttorp, Executive Director of Communications and Marketing  
Julie Games, Advancement Operations Manager  
Ryan Goodenbour, Graduate Assistant - Student Life  
Nicole M. Kuhn, Executive Assistant to the VP for External Affairs  
Carson Parker, Graduate Assistant - Men's Basketball  
Anne Puffett, Director of Career Development  
Mike Schrock, Director of Prospect Development  
Morgan Thias, Communications and Marketing Specialist  
Brenda Luzum, Executive Director of Alumni Development  
Edyta Cichon-Barche, Coordinator for International Student/Scholar Services  
Beth Petsche, Director of Graphic Services



Nearly eight years after being paralyzed from the mid-chest down, Markus Hawes '18 has benefited from some of the most recent robotic technology. As part of an exoskeleton clinical trial, the Upper Iowa University (UIU) Tutor Center manager found himself rising from his wheelchair, standing and walking with assistance in the clinic halls and on the sidewalks outside of the Mayo Clinic Hospital in Rochester, Minnesota.

Hawes was accepted into the clinical trial in the fall of his senior year at UIU. The Indego® Therapy exoskeleton is an electronic-powered device that fits an individual's lower body and limbs. With the assistance of therapists, the robotic equipment enables people with spinal injuries similar to Hawes' to perform walking functions.

Hawes suffered his injury in 2011, just five days after graduating from Waukon (Iowa) High School. The then Indians starting shortstop broke his C7 vertebrae after sliding headfirst and colliding with the team's catcher during baseball practice. Hawes was transported by ambulance to Veterans Memorial Hospital in Waukon and then airlifted to Mayo Clinic in Rochester.

Hawes exhibited his fighting spirit when he spent only six weeks in physical therapy and was discharged from the hospital a month ahead of schedule. He also continued with his initial plans to major in agricultural engineering at Iowa State University. Unfortunately, he was soon forced to drop out of college after discovering he needed to dedicate more time to physical therapy and adjust to his new daily life.

Hawes later earned an associate degree at Northeast Iowa Community College (NICC) in Calmar, Iowa, before achieving his bachelor's degree in mathematics at UIU. While attaining his education, he also tutored at UIU's Tutor Center and Waukon's middle and high schools.

Now serving as UIU's Tutor Center manager, he is the main point of contact for Peacock students seeking tutoring services. He currently

oversees 14 student tutors who focus on helping other students with subjects related to their respective majors. An online tutoring platform is also available to all students.

Hawes participated in the two-stage Mayo program from January 2018 to September 2019. The purpose of the study was mainly to weigh the health benefits of the exoskeleton versus its use as a mobility or exercise device by people with spinal cord injuries.

---

“These trials give people hope, and I want to give something back in honor of everyone who has helped me since I was injured,” said Hawes.

*Markus Hawes '18  
UIU Tutor Center manager*

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“I have to admit that I initially signed up for the trial because of selfish reasons,” Hawes said. “But I quickly saw the bigger picture, and I felt extremely privileged to have the opportunity to do something that so many other people couldn't do.”

After being fitted with the exoskeleton, the 28-year-old noticed how it provided support to his lower back and equal weight distribution across the center of his body.

“It felt awesome,” Hawes said. “The exoskeleton kept me stable, especially in areas where my orthotic braces did not provide support. It provided me more comfort and put me in a better mood.”

During the first stage of the trial, Hawes walked the hospital halls in the exoskeleton with assistance from the research staff. The exoskeleton could provide different amounts of assistance to participants, depending on their tolerance and progress. The second phase of the trial included use of electrical stimulation to activate the leg muscles during walking.

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Tutor Center manager Markus Hawes '18 is the main point of contact for Peacock students seeking tutoring services. Hawes, who is pictured last winter with mortuary science major Asyah Moore (middle) and science student tutor Molly Wenthold '20, currently oversees 14 student tutors who focus on helping other students with subjects related to their respective major.





# uplifting experiences


"My injury causes incomplete sensations below the waist," Hawes said. "I have sensory feeling in my lower extremities, but I don't have much motor function. I tried to think through the walking motion to make the sensory motor function stronger. The exoskeleton sensory unit knew where my legs were in space, caused them to properly contract and provided me a more normal gait."

"Both stages were mentally draining, but I became more physically drained during the second stage because it was more taxing on my body," Hawes said.

The robotic device cannot go up stairs, and for safety reasons, a research staff member helped during all walking sessions. Hawes tested the exoskeleton on different surfaces. Researchers tracked his number of steps, as well as changes in his weight and muscle mass.

Acknowledging that he has a very slim to no chance of ever walking again, Hawes realizes that without these or similar clinical trials there would be far fewer success stories. With this as his motivation, he signed up for and was accepted as a participant in a transcutaneous and epidural spinal stimulation study at Mayo.

The purpose of the study is to compare transcutaneous electrical spinal stimulation (TESS) and epidural electrical stimulation (EES), while the focus will be the motor activity enabled by each method and any potential health benefits.

"These trials give people hope, and I want to give something back in honor of everyone who has helped me since I was injured," Hawes said. 

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Alumnus Markus Hawes '18 participated in a two-stage exoskeleton clinical trial at Mayo Clinic Hospital in Rochester, Minnesota from January 2018 to September 2019. He has since signed up for and was accepted as a participant in a transcutaneous and epidural spinal stimulation study at the health facility.



Despite his spinal injury, Markus Hawes '18 continues to live an active life. This past summer, (from right) he joined Zach Dingbaum '20, Andy Frey, and other Peacock alumni, faculty, staff and students in a Grand Canyon whitewater rafting excursion.



**T**he COVID-19 pandemic put a damper on many celebrations in 2020, but in no way did it lessen the importance of commemorating lifetime events and achievements. With the graduation this past spring of the first students in the Upper Iowa University/Northeast Iowa Community College (NICC) Concurrent Enrollment Program (CEP) for nursing, three freshly anointed alumni leaped into a strange new world of health care.

The three graduates — Morgan Bohr '20, Madelyn Monroe '20 and Jill Starrett '20 — viewed the pandemic's grip on higher education with a unique perspective. Their paths diverged from their fellow graduates soon after the University's first virtual commencement ended. After all, these first three CEP nursing graduates, all with promising futures, were heading to the front lines of health care during a pandemic.

"These graduates are the culmination of an academic partnership designed to prepare new baccalaureate nurses to meet the ever-changing demands of regulatory and practice environments in health care systems," said Christa Steffens, UIU associate professor/director of nursing. "They are also a perfect demonstration of what can result from a combination of hard work, dedication and perseverance."

UIU and NICC signed a memorandum of understanding in 2016 that created the nursing CEP, which was the first agreement of its kind in the state of Iowa. The agreement allows NICC students to complete a four-year degree in nursing from UIU. While completing a two-year associate degree in nursing at the NICC Calmar or Peosta, Iowa, campuses, students in the CEP cohort are concurrently enrolled in Upper Iowa University courses toward their Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) degree.

This concurrent enrollment program means that students who graduate with their associate degree from NICC will attend Upper Iowa University online for approximately six to eight additional months to complete their BSN degree. A consortium agreement of this nature also maximizes financial aid to each student's benefit. The overall cost of education for CEP students tends to be less than that of 2+2 programs, and Upper Iowa University tuition for this program is free of extra fees, such as technology, health or lab fees.



Adorned with their Upper Iowa University stoles and Northeast Iowa Community College pins, the first three graduates of the UIU/NICC Concurrent Enrollment Program for nursing (l-r) Morgan Bohr '20, Madelyn Monroe '20 and Jill Starrett '20 are pictured following this past spring's NICC pinning ceremony.

## Meet the graduates

Morgan Bohr is currently employed as a registered nurse (RN) on the general pediatrics floor at Blank Children's Hospital in Des Moines, Iowa. Her interest in nursing first emerged in middle school in her native Calmar, Iowa.

"I decided I wanted to be a voice for the ones that couldn't speak up, help those who cannot move to do so, heal the broken, comfort the grieving, and restore compassion and empathy to the suffering," Bohr said. "I am a patient advocate, and that is what I love about nursing. I enjoy working with kids the most. They are vulnerable, innocent and deserve the best possible care and outcome one could receive, and it's an honor to provide that."

Well informed of NICC's successful nursing program and its partnerships with area clinical sites, Bohr began her journey to pursue her life's passion in her hometown.

"NICC's program challenges nursing students to manage their time, prioritize their education and build their nursing knowledge and clinical decision-making skills based off of caring for the patient's holistic self," Bohr said. "NICC has one of the few programs that emphasize education in mental health and require students to spend a month of in-patient psych clinic rotation to help students gain therapeutic communication skills with one of the world's most underserved patient populations today."

Bohr chose to participate in the CEP and transfer to UIU because of the opportunity to earn a bachelor's degree within six months of



# *a difference during pandemic*

graduating with her associate degree in nursing in December 2019. Completely online, the program's eight-week courses help students complete their required credits with fewer increments of material to focus on at once. In addition, she praised the financial aid staff for helping her navigate tuition payments to both schools.

"UIU also offered a study abroad opportunity in London to online students," Bohr noted. "I was able to go there for a week, learn about England's history of nursing, its practices in medicine and how its health care system differs from the United States. Studying abroad provided me both a cultural and educational experience in health care that I would not have otherwise enjoyed."

Bohr acknowledges that as she started her career, COVID-19 quickly introduced her to many of the same challenges that others in the health care field are facing today, including nursing shortages and subsequent burnout — juggling 12.5-hour shifts that at times turn into 14-15 hours. It's become routine during the pandemic for her and coworkers to neglect their own needs while caring for patients.

"My biggest challenge as a new graduate nurse was the harsh reality I was practicing in a national nursing shortage during a global pandemic, one of which I wouldn't wish upon any nurse, let alone a new graduate," the 23-year-old said. "I have learned to be more flexible, be open to new knowledge and trust the infectious disease specialists in our hospitals, as they are the experts. Most importantly, I have learned how to smile with my eyes when wearing a mask."

During the most difficult times, Bohr looks back on how her UIU education enhanced her clinical decision-making skills, therapeutic communication with staff and patients, how she prioritizes time management and her understanding of the pathophysiology of the human body.

"My Upper Iowa degree has opened many doors to the future for me as a manager, supervisor or director of nursing," Bohr said. "It will not only lead me to a higher salary someday, but also allow me to pursue another stepping stone to my educational path and earn my doctorate of nursing practice."

Madelyn Monroe had the opportunity to first earn concurrent enrollment credits at NICC while still attending South Winneshiek High School in Calmar, Iowa. This partnership heightened her interest in obtaining a nursing degree at NICC before leading to her participation in the UIU/NICC concurrent nursing enrollment program.

"My dad went to nursing school, and that had a great impact on my career decision," Monroe said. "But I also had a lifetime interest in health care and helping others, especially the pediatric population. It is a passion of mine and what better way to do that than becoming a nurse."

The Ossian, Iowa, native attended NICC and soon discovered that it had many similarities with UIU, both in and out of the classroom. Both feature a close-knit, rural campus community with an abundant amount of academic and financial resources readily available for their

students. Faculty and staff are friendly and interested in the academic and lifetime achievements of all students.

"I would highly encourage other nursing students to participate in this concurrent enrollment program," Monroe said. "Each class was structured similarly so it made it easier to complete coursework. The program definitely allowed me to complete my bachelor's degree in a shorter amount of time, and I am greatly honored to be among the first group of students to graduate from it."

The 22-year-old UIU alumna followed her passion after graduation and now is working as a pediatric home health nurse in Rochester, Minnesota.


"My UIU education has broadened my knowledge in the nursing world, especially the behind-the-scenes work of nursing," Monroe closed. "It will continue to benefit me when it comes time to further my career."

Jill Starrett, 44, is currently an RN at Good Samaritan Society in West Union, Iowa. She chose to attend NICC's Calmar campus because of the nursing program's reputation, affordability and its proximity to her family's West Union home. Starrett earned her associate degree in nursing in 2019. A native of Elizabethville, Pennsylvania, she also possesses a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree from Indiana University of Pennsylvania.

Starrett had left the job market for a few years to be home more with her husband, Adam, and the couple's three children. When she attempted to return to the workforce, she had a difficult time finding meaningful employment. As a nontraditional student, Starrett knew the longer she waited, the less likely she would return to school.

"I have always been interested in science and medicine and wanted a job where I could make a difference in people's lives, so I decided to become a nurse," Starrett said. "Since the UIU program was all online, it allowed me more flexibility in my schedule. UIU also accepted many of my previous bachelor's degree credits. As a result, I only had to take an average of two classes per semester at UIU while working on my degrees at NICC and graduating with a BSN in only a semester and a half after earning my associate degree."

Similar to Bohr, Starrett enjoyed sharing the same classroom, clinical struggles and rewards with her classmates while attending NICC. She is equally appreciative of her UIU education, learning about evidence-based practices and quality improvements that are valuable to her as a nurse.

"Living in the time of COVID is like living in an evidence-based experiment," Starrett said. "We learn new information about COVID every day, and we have to shift how we do things to provide better-quality care and protection for our patients. Staffs are stretched thin, and I feel a great sense of pride and loyalty to all who are getting the work done. I enjoy the fast-paced, challenging environment of nursing, helping people and making a difference in their lives." 

# 2020 HOMECOMING

Despite COVID-19, UIU was still able to celebrate Homecoming 2020 this year, just in unique ways. A handful of photos help recap activities held on campus during the week, showcasing our Peacock pride. To view all photos, visit [uiu.edu/Homecoming](http://uiu.edu/Homecoming).



Kaci Beesecker, Kaitlin Niedert and Jaima Tonne (l-r) were among the students, faculty and staff treated to free ice cream by the Fayette County Dairy Producers.



Picking out their favorite foods during the Homecoming Cookout were (l-r) Marquavion Hunter, Tonio Shavers and Ryan Wooten.



President William R. Duffy II and his wife, Sharon, showed their school spirit during the Peacock Honk and Holler parade.



Following the coronation ceremony, UIU students were still able to enjoy the traditional bonfire provided by the Fayette Fire Department.



UIU cheerleaders, including (l-r) Shane Fleming, Elaina Wall, Kevin Dennis, Bri Dahring, Ryan Heck, Guin Calpito and Amaya Dewald helped engage the crowd at the coronation ceremony.

Semaj Owens (below) was among the students who painted the windows of the UIU Student Center in preparation for homecoming.



UIU vice president for external affairs/Fayette mayor Andrew Wenthe '12 (front, right) piloted the homecoming parade entry that included (left) his son, Cormac; (back, l-r) daughter, Annaliese, and alumni Al '56 and Jan (Mork) '64 Seabrooke of Elgin, Iowa.



Brianna Dahring and Cody Lawrence take a break to enjoy the Homecoming Cookout.



Even a snowman joined in the Peacock Homecoming Honk and Holler parade.



Ashley Donovan, Jady Schult, David Snider, Brady Johnson and Delaney Miller have some fun during the ice cream social.



Kaylee Frenette helped with Kappa Zeta Tau's window décor.

## VIRTUAL HOMECOMING FUNDRAISER 2020 RECAP

# Puttin' on Glitz

SEPTEMBER 27 - OCTOBER 3

For the health and safety of guests, the 8<sup>th</sup> Annual President's Fundraising Ball was transformed into a virtual fundraiser. Alumni, colleagues, friends of the University and corporate partners came together (virtually), raising an incredible \$200,000.

Dollars raised by generous supporters aid the ongoing challenges resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic.

Save the date for next year's President's Fundraising Ball, set for Friday, October 1, 2021. To learn more or commit to a sponsorship, visit [uiu.edu/PresidentsBall](http://uiu.edu/PresidentsBall).



*"We were overjoyed by the response from our Peacock family," UIU First Lady Sharon Duffy said. "Thank you for your generous gifts and the outpouring of school pride during a time when we needed it most."*



# Ms. Wheelchair Iowa advocates for



English Language Learners teacher and reigning Ms. Wheelchair Iowa Heidi Kriener '11 advocates for issues she holds near to her heart, such as the construction of more inclusive playgrounds for children and families.

**B**orn with spina bifida, English Language Learners (ELL) teacher Heidi Kriener '11 grew up in a home where everyone was inspired to believe in each other and oneself. Her entire family included the future UIU alumna in everything they did, even if it meant making modifications to their plans to make it happen.

"To this day, I don't like the word 'can't,'" Kriener said. "If it is said to me, I will do my best to prove it can be done. I owe a lot of my attitude and determination in life to my family and the fact that I was told to give it my best, try anything and everything."

And she certainly has.

A member of the Spina Bifida Association of Iowa and the Pony Express Riders of Iowa, the 42-year-old continues to enjoy horseback riding, camping, hunting, country music, sports and fishing. She has harnessed this perseverance to earn a college degree, enjoy a rewarding career in education, and most recently, receive recognition as Ms. Wheelchair Iowa.

Graduating from Turkey Valley High School (located in Jackson Junction, Iowa), Kriener didn't initially choose to pursue an education degree because she was concerned students wouldn't listen to her. She learned otherwise when asked to teach a class at her church; it not only proved to be a positive experience, but she realized how much she loved working with children and was inspired to return to school to pursue a teaching career.

A native of Waucoma, Iowa, Kriener followed in the footsteps of her father, the late Marvin Kriener, in attending classes at UIU's

Fayette Campus. Knowing she would receive an affordable and highly regarded education degree close to home also played a key role in her decision to attend Upper Iowa.

Kriener earned an elementary education degree with endorsements in reading, K-8 language arts and Prekindergarten-Grade 3 at UIU. She later received an English as a Second Language endorsement from Morningside College.

"From my UIU experience, I developed a wonderful foundation of skills and knowledge I needed to become a successful teacher," Kriener said. "I was able to branch out and discover my true passion in the area of teaching ELL."

Currently employed at both her high school alma mater and St. Joseph Community School in New Hampton,

COVID-19 has altered the scheduling of speaking engagements, but Ms. Wheelchair Heidi Kriener '11 has still been able to visit a few schools and participate in public events.







A member of the Spina Bifida Association of Iowa, Heidi Kriener '11 continues to enjoy horseback riding, camping, hunting, country concerts, sports and fishing.

“To this day, I don't like the word 'can't.' If it is said to me, I will do my best to prove it can be done. I owe a lot of my attitude and determination in life to my family and the fact that I was told to give it my best, try anything and everything.”

Heidi Kriener '11  
English Learner Language (ELL) Teacher

Iowa, she works with Spanish speaking students to help improve their English skills in reading, writing, listening and speaking.

“I enjoy working with all my students and especially getting to know their cultures,” Kriener said. “I really like when things start clicking for them and their skills improve — those ‘aha’ moments. We never know where the future may take us, but I would really like to continue what I’m doing until I am no longer able to.”

### Children provide added inspiration

It was from one student that Kriener experienced one of her own ‘aha’ moments.

Kriener first heard about the Ms. Wheelchair Iowa competition from a friend. After learning more, the UIU alumna decided her participation could provide her with an opportunity to further inspire her students to see that anything is possible if they try. Still not totally convinced, Kriener asked an eighth-grade student if she thought her teacher should be in a wheelchair competition.

“Knowing this student as I do, I wasn’t surprised when she instantly lit up like a lightbulb and she told everyone who walked into the classroom that ‘Ms. Kriener is going to be in a wheelchair pageant,’” Kriener explained. “I never try to let any student or child down, and it was at that moment I knew I definitely couldn’t let her down.”

As part of the Ms. Wheelchair Iowa competition, the northeast Iowa educator submitted an application and created a brief platform speech. Contestants were originally scheduled to compete March 7, 2020, but the event was cancelled when a number of the contestants became ill. Instead, Kriener was interviewed and chosen as Ms. Wheelchair Iowa 10 days later via Zoom.

“At first I was like, ‘Yeah, I did it. No big deal,’” Kriener said. “But I quickly realized how honored and blessed I was to have the opportunity to represent people with disabilities and the great state


of Iowa. I am so excited to go out and make a difference — show not only people with disabilities, but everyone, the importance of inclusion — and if that means speaking up for something, then do it!”

The pandemic has altered the scheduling of speaking engagements, but Kriener has been able to visit a few other schools and participate in public events to advocate for issues she holds near to her heart.

“I would definitely like to see more inclusive playgrounds in Iowa that allow all children and families to play together,” Kriener said. “I plan to continue talking to parks and recreation people about their respective playgrounds and help them understand the importance of having inclusive playgrounds. I would like to see small steps taken that eventually lead to bigger and better playgrounds for everyone to enjoy.”

The nationwide Ms. Wheelchair America 2020 competition was postponed due to the pandemic, but this allows Kriener to advocate for more widespread inclusion and accessibility for an extra year before competing in Grand Rapids, Michigan, in August 2021 for the national crown.

“I don’t want anyone to be afraid to take on new challenges or advocate for what can make life and the world better,” Kriener said. “Help make sure everyone is treated the same and has similar access to everything that life gives us!”

Anyone who wishes to have Kriener speak at an event or to an organization may contact her on Twitter: (@Ms\_WheelchairIA), Instagram (@Ms\_WheelchairIA) or Facebook (facebook.com/ms.wheelchairiowa1). 

## What is spina bifida?

According to the Spina Bifida Association of Iowa, spina bifida is the most common permanently disabling birth defect that is associated with life in the United States. It’s a type of neural tube defect (NTD) that occurs when a baby’s neural tube fails to develop or close properly — the literal meaning of spinabifida is “split spine.” Commonly referred to as the “snowflake condition” of birth defects because no two cases are the same, spina bifida can range from mild to severe. Severity depends on everything from the size of the opening to the location on the spine.

**"P**eacock Power" has long been a common mantra among Upper Iowa University students and alumni. Molly Doran '20, Cory Thielen '16, Chase Grabau '17 and Logan Wood '18 aim to give the term new meaning with another source of power at Fayette Campus. All four Peacock alumni had an important role in a 684-array solar project that recently took shape near the University's Peacock Arts and Athletic Center (PAAC). Doran laid the foundation for the project, while Thielen, Grabau and Wood helped install the arrays.

The solar project, reviewed by the UIU Board of Trustees Infrastructure Committee in May 2020, is expected to generate approximately 70% of the electricity demand of the PAAC and Harms-Eischeid football stadium. In addition to long-term utility savings, an estimated 8,814 tons of carbon dioxide will be eliminated from the University's carbon footprint over the life of the system. This is equivalent to planting 205,366 trees or burning 4,294.3 tons of coal.

Doran is credited with spurring action on the project. Prior to receiving her Bachelor of Science degree in May 2020, the Wheaton, Illinois, native chose to investigate renewable energy options available to UIU as her Csomay Honors project.


"I benefited so much from the Csomay Honors Program and the total UIU experience, and I knew I wanted to pursue a project that would have a positive effect on UIU, the Fayette community and

the environment," Doran said. "Being an accounting and financial management double major, I knew that there are monetary and environmental benefits in using renewable energy."

Doran initially explored wind power with personnel involved with the Luther College and Kirkwood Community College wind turbine projects in Decorah and Cedar Rapids, Iowa, respectfully. While the remote landscape and wind speeds of northeast Iowa are suitable for turbines, Doran discovered that, without substantial support from grants and donations, the financial burden of such a project would be too great for UIU to manage.

Returning to square one, she looked into other renewable energy resources and decided upon solar due to its popularity and potential financial feasibility. After talking to UIU Tutor Center manager Markus Hawes, who has solar panels installed on the roof of his Fayette home, Doran contacted a representative from Eagle Point Solar in Dubuque, Iowa.

Founded in 2010, Eagle Point Solar provides renewable solar energy solutions throughout Iowa, Illinois and Wisconsin. The company designs, engineers and builds systems of all sizes for residential homes, small businesses, large commercial facilities, agricultural operations, local government, academic institutions and local utilities.

A photograph of Molly Doran '20, a young woman with long brown hair, smiling and standing in front of a large solar array. She is wearing a dark grey zip-up jacket over a light blue t-shirt. The solar panels are in the foreground, and a white building with a blue roof is visible in the background. The sky is clear and blue.

***"From start to finish, the project was definitely an eye-opening experience. It was awesome to see it all turn into reality, and to know that the solar array will be beneficial to both Upper Iowa and the environment makes it that much more special."***

***Molly Doran '20***



# *new source of Peacock power*



Following a feasibility study and project's approval, installation of the solar array was handed over to the employees of Eagle Point Solar including (l-r) technician crew leader Chase Grabau '17, solar installer technician Logan Wood '18 and solar installation technician crew leader Cory Thielen '16.

With the assistance of Eagle Point Solar energy consultant Tyler Billmeyer, Doran examined the Fayette Campus electric bill. Doran explained that the University's electric provider, Alliant Energy, has different rate codes based on the amount of energy that is used. When a large entity, such as UIU, uses over 75,000 kilowatt-hours of energy they are billed a demand-type rate. The customer is billed according to the highest 15 minutes as a demand charge, which is 50% of their bill. UIU has many meters, and a number of them are in the demand-type rate code.

"In order to take full advantage of what the solar panels have to offer, a customer needs to be able to offset enough energy to get out of the demand-type rate code," Doran said. "Upper Iowa has meters that far exceed the 75,000 kWh threshold, where solar panels would just not be feasible. So the challenge was finding meters where installing solar panels would bring Upper Iowa out of the demand-type rate code and eliminate the demand fee, or finding meters where the kWh usage was significant but solar panels could seriously reduce the cost."

After further examining the different meters, Eagle Point representatives found two meters where solar panels could help cost reduction most — the PAAC and Harms-Eischeid Stadium. Both locations record their highest energy usage months in January, February and December. In months like May through August, the solar panels would produce more energy than the two facilities typically use. This extra energy would be sent back to UIU's electrical provider, Alliant Energy, for a credit per kilowatt-hour. This would help offset costs for months when enough energy is not produced.

"My study concluded that the proposed solar array would provide immediate savings and is expected to pay for itself in less than 10 years, not to mention the environmental benefits the project provides," Doran said. "It will also be a great opportunity for environmental science majors to experience how solar panels work and the benefits they provide their owners, like UIU."

## **Peacocks on point**

To achieve the desired financials and to mitigate as much risk as possible in the solar array's construction, UIU chose to participate in a Power Purchase Agreement (PPA). The PPA allows the University to have the solar panels installed at no upfront cost. A third-party financier paid for the construction of the solar arrays and is responsible for the insurance and maintenance of them through a 20-year term agreement. Through this arrangement, UIU anticipates savings of approximately \$6,080 in utility expenses during the first year of service and an estimated \$607,155 over the next 20 years.

PPA rates sometimes come with a risk; if the PPA rate increases at a rate faster than the utility rate increase, UIU could end up paying more for their electricity. To mitigate this risk, Eagle Point Solar proposed a PPA rate with no accelerator over the term of the agreement. The average utility rate increase was 3.78% annually over the last 25 years. However, when evaluating the increase in utility rates, a person must look at the entire bill, not just the base rate. Although history cannot always predict the future, it is safe to assume that utility rates will rise some over the next 20 years. With a flat PPA rate that doesn't increase over time, there is an assurance that the University will see savings through the term of the agreement.

Following a feasibility study and the project's approval, installation of the solar array in an open area just east of the PAAC was handed over to the employees of Eagle Point Solar. Onsite construction began the week of September 13, 2020, and was coordinated by solar installation technician crew leader and UIU alumnus Thielen. The Dubuque, Iowa, native oversaw a team that included solar installation technician crew leader Grabau and solar installation technician Wood — all of whom graduated with bachelor's degrees from UIU's conservation management program.

"We always talked in school about how fun it would be if we worked together after we graduated," Thielen said. "I felt this project was a really special opportunity for the three of us to help bring solar power to Fayette Campus. I not only received an outstanding education there, but it is also where I first met my wife, Christina (Neil '16). UIU has definitely provided me some great memories in my life."

A transfer from Hawkeye Community College in Waterloo, Iowa, Thielen enjoyed the hands-on approach to the UIU conservation management program, which featured a number of outdoor labs and research projects. He noted that UIU's fast-paced curriculum required him to stay focused and organized, skills that translated well to his current duties.

"I've always loved hard work, being outdoors and promoting our natural resources," Thielen said. "I like the fact that my crew and I are




Alumnus Chase Grabau '17, Logan Wood '18 and Cory Thielen '16 (l-r) install one of the 684 solar arrays now located adjacent to the University's Peacock Arts and Athletic Center. The solar project is expected to generate approximately 70% of the electricity demand of the PAAC and Harms-Eischeid football stadium.

### Project becomes reality

Now attending graduate school at the Mendoza School of Business at the University of Notre Dame, Doran has accepted a position with Ernst and Young upon her graduation from the prestigious business school. In early October, the UIU alumna took advantage of a Fayette Campus trip to visit with a few former Peacock soccer teammates to see her fellow alumni and others complete the solar array installation.

"From start to finish, the project was definitely an eye-opening experience," Doran said. "I not only learned a lot about renewable energy, solar panels and ways to reduce cost, but also about time management and how to communicate with different individuals. It was awesome to see it all turn into reality, and to know that the solar array will be beneficial to both Upper Iowa and the environment makes it that much more special."

Editor's note: Chase Grabau was previously featured in *The Bridge* in 2017. A recipient of the Myrle Burk Scholarship, Grabau worked with UIU assistant professor of biology Dr. Paul Skrade alongside wildlife researcher Jon Stravers to study avian species of conservation concern. The story can be viewed at <https://bit.ly/3mahCqW>. 

helping our customers save money, but what I enjoy the most about working at Eagle Point Solar is that we are helping save our planet."

Similar to Thielen, Wood and Grabau also transferred to UIU, coming from Kirkwood Community College in Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

"I chose to attend UIU because of the number of transfer credits they accepted," said Wood, who grew up in Waukon, Iowa. "My UIU education provided me with the resources to be successful, and the opportunity to work alongside friends at Eagle Point allows us to share our success stories, such as the UIU solar array project. We are each productive in what we do and work to achieve similar outcomes. I knew the UIU project would go well and we would be able to maintain a very aesthetic looking array on campus."

"The relationship that UIU has with Kirkwood allowed me to easily transfer credits, and the professors were the best part of my education after I arrived here," Grabau added. "I was inspired to succeed in each and every class by educators who exert a true passion for their coursework. Their dedication and my overall UIU experience provided me a continued growth in learning, leadership skills and a love for the outdoors."

A native of Robins, Iowa, Grabau applied for employment at Eagle Point Solar after having it recommended to him by Thielen. In addition to the opportunity to work outside, Grabau was interested in the growth of the solar industry.

"Knowing that these solar arrays provide efficient power to resident and company budgets pleases me, but I really enjoy the people I work with," Grabau said. "My connection to UIU made the installation of the array here very cool, but Logan and Cory have been my good friends since I attended classes here. They are extremely professional at what they do, and I am fortunate to work alongside them."



## A longtime partnership with the environment

Upper Iowa University has a history of supporting green initiatives, including when it broke ground in August 2019 on the Liberal Arts building, Student Center, and one of the three South Village suite-style student housing units (above) at Fayette Campus. All of these buildings incorporated low-water-usage fixtures and water-efficient landscaping with underground cisterns that collect water to irrigate surrounding landscaping; were constructed with high use of regional and recycled content materials; integrated flexibility features in anticipation of changing systems, wiring and functionality; improved the indoor environment by connecting indoor and outdoor spaces to provide more daylight and scenic views; used low-emission materials; and increased comfort through operable windows and lighting control.

Additionally, the Liberal Arts building provides optimized energy performance through the use of a geothermal well field system and "chilled-sail" technology for cooling. A geothermal heat pump is a central heating and/or cooling system that pumps heat to or from the ground, using the earth as a source of heat (in the winter) or as source of cold (in the summer). This design takes advantage of the moderate temperatures in the ground to boost efficiency and reduce the operational costs of heating and cooling systems. A total of 55 wells were bored near the building at a depth of 300 feet each.



# ATHLETICS WRAP-UP

## Five Peacocks to be inducted into the UIU Hall of Fame

The 2020 Hall of Fame Banquet was canceled this past October, but the five Peacock honorees will be inducted into the Upper Iowa Athletics Hall of Fame next fall. The five inductees (see below), along with a new class of inductees, will be the highlight of our Hall of Fame Weekend in the fall of 2021.



**Max Edmond '99 (Athlete) Baseball B.S. Degree/Management Information Systems**

- Two-time All-Iowa Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (IAC) — first team in 1998 and second team in 1999
- NCAA Division III All-America third team and All-Central Region first team in 1998
- 1998 — .436 batting avg., .660 slugging per., 57 RBI, 24 stolen bases
- 1999 — .301 batting avg., .466 slugging per., 37 RBI, 35 stolen bases
- Along with Tommy Martinez, holds UIU record for triples in a season with six (1998)



**Travis Eggers '10 (Athlete) Wrestling B.S. Degree/Fitness and Wellness**

- Named to Jim Koch Division II Hall of Fame in 2018
- Three-time NCAA Division II All-America, including NCAA champion in 2010, second place in 2009 and fourth in 2008
- Four-time NCAA Division II national qualifier; placed second at the NCAA Regional for three years before claiming the title as a senior and earning the regional Outstanding Wrestler honor
- Twice named the Northern Sun Conference Wrestler of the Year: once after his senior season and once after his sophomore campaign; he capped off his impressive career with a 19-match win streak, sending his record to 100-34



**Mitch Norton '10 (Athlete) Wrestling B.A. Degree/Agricultural Business**

- Two-time NCAA Division II All-America (third place in 2010 and fifth place in 2009)
- Four-time NCAA Division II national qualifier (2007-10)
- Two-time NCAA Regional champ (2009, 2010) and third place (2007, 2008)
- Named 2007 NSIC Rookie of the Year
- Three-time All-NSIC first team (2008-10)



**Rachael Schmidt '09 (Athlete) Women's Golf/B.S. Degree/Sports Management**

- Rachael and her sister, Rochelle, led the Peacocks to the NCAA Super Region 3 title and qualified the team for the NCAA Division II championships in 2009
- Named to the NGCA All-America team four times while qualifying for the NCAA Division II championships every spring (2006-09)
- Earned 20 tournament wins during her four-year career at UIU
- Carried a 78.13 stroke average in her four NCAA championship appearances: 10<sup>th</sup> (2006), 32<sup>nd</sup> (2007), 15<sup>th</sup> (2008 and 2009)
- Named 2008 NSIC Women's Golfer of the Year
- Holds the top two season scoring averages in UIU history: 77.30 in 2007-08 and 77.43 in 2008-09



**Rochelle (Schmidt) Engels '09 (Athlete) Women's Golf B.S. Degree/Sports Management**

- Named to the NGCA All-America team as a senior in 2009
- Earned eight tournament wins during her four-year career at UIU
- Named 2009 NSIC Women's Golfer of the Year
- Earned medalist honors at both the NSIC Women's Golf Championships and NCAA Super Region 3 Championships as a senior
- Holds the third-best season scoring average in UIU history (77.89 in 2008-09) and four of the top 12

## Fall sports continue to develop in the absence of games

The majority of Upper Iowa University fall teams have spent the last three months training to develop not only their physical and mental skills, but also team unity. Peacock football, volleyball, women and men's soccer, and women and men's cross country each had their competitive seasons put on hold. While hope remains that they will play against outside competition in spring 2021, there will not be any postseason aspirations for these programs until fall 2021.

The coaching staffs of these six programs have worked hard to keep their student-athletes engaged in training and academics while maintaining a high level of health and safety. COVID-19 guidelines were in place prior to the student-athletes returning to campus to allow for development of physical and mental skills while prioritizing the well-being of the entire UIU community.



Here's what our fall coaches had to say about the last three months and how they feel their respective team has progressed through these times of adversity.

**Head Football Coach Jason Hoskins** — "Our student-athletes have

dealt well with fall training. Our players have just been excited to get out and do football activities again. Our players are still eager to get out there and get better for whenever we do get to compete again. I think our team has taken great strides in the last few months. They have done a great job in the weight room and on the field during our five weeks of practices. We have had the opportunity to focus on the little things in our techniques and schemes. Our coaches were able to break it down more than we are usually able to do in the fall because we don't have a game looming. Overall, our team has done a great job of staying focused the last few months on getting better at their craft. I think we have seen the improvement in our focus on the little things that it takes to be a great team. Yes, we are better physically and we have learned our scheme, but we have taken the biggest step in our attention to detail and understanding how the little things we do will take us from being a good football team to a great football team. It has been good to see our guys buy into the importance of all the little things that need to be done right."

**Head Volleyball Coach Aaron Nelson** — "Our ladies have handled the last three months with patience, diligence and care. It is hard to find the same motivation that exists when we compete against the best in country in the NSIC, but we have always had self-motivated, driven individuals ... and this group is no exception. We have tried to exhibit the same growth mindset and objectives that we do during a normal fall, but just don't have the opportunity to test ourselves



against opponents at the moment. We have tried to find different markers for our progress, and the team has responded extremely well. We are making small improvements daily, and we will be even more prepared to play at a high level when we get a chance again. At the moment, based strictly on our department and our team's protocols involving COVID-19, we have been working in smaller groups. Our instruction on the court is focused on skill development and the mental skill development that goes hand in hand with our training. We are constantly working on the mental part of the game as we are training physical skills — I am not sure there isn't a time where both are involved. It's a little more difficult to work on team cohesion as we have had limited time as a group, but that will come as we continue through the academic year."

**Head Women's Soccer Coach James Price** — "The players adjusted nicely to our training model this past fall. It has almost been a reversal of seasons; our spring training is traditionally focused on individual development as well as team tactics. We feel that all of our players



Natalie Rudrud

have benefited from our work this fall, since we didn't have to worry about game preparation and could balance our reps evenly throughout the team. We are working hard to get our team shape and situational aspects correct.


When you also take

away scouting and game day planning it has allowed us more time to work with the players on their individual needs, and with their great attitudes, we feel that we have improved in many areas. Our team fitness levels are up — more specifically, our soccer fitness, which is hard to replicate outside of the team unit. I think that, mentally, all our players know what we are looking for them to do positionally and how we want to play once we get back into a competition, so we are more than prepared and ready to play in the spring."

**Head Men's Soccer Coach Willie McGowan** — "I feel that the lads have handled the situation very well. We've been focusing on building a foundation, as the guys haven't been around soccer for a while. It was important to build up the intensity and fitness gradually. The sessions have been fun to be a part of, and I feel that the attitude of the athletes has been outstanding. It has obviously been tough not having that competitive outlet to play other teams, but we've done well in competing with each other and have seen a good bit of development and are laying the foundation for the next few months. From when we started in September, to having just completed our non-championship section, I feel that we've made progress on a number of fronts. We are competitive and hungry to get playing again, but we are also developing a shared plan on how to move forward as a team. Our team chemistry has improved with working in smaller groups, and there seems to be a camaraderie, based in competition, showing throughout the squad. I'd say the biggest gains these last few months have definitely come in the area of team cohesion. We've looked to create an environment in which the players have more responsibility

in what our identity and team culture should look like. With that responsibility we are now seeing action by students who may have remained quiet, and the incoming lads are showing that they have a voice in preparing to build for a bright future moving forward. I feel that the team is working together more than in the past, and they are holding each other accountable in order to make this happen. The last part to this is that it looks like the lads are enjoying their soccer again and working hard to make sure we have it for as long as possible."

**Head Women and Men's Cross Country Coach Nate Rucker** —


"Though it has been tough losing an outdoor track season in the spring and a cross country season this fall, I feel that our student-athletes have handled it well. While they are disappointed about not having meets to compete in, they are optimistic about the future and the opportunity to return to the field of competition. I feel like our cross country/track and field athletes have improved during their time away. They have taken their training seriously and have shown some really good gains during the fall. They have been focusing on being ready for the upcoming indoor track and field season this winter. With fall training underway, we are starting to see things come together as a team. Team culture has been great! With the addition of a number of new faces this year, the team chemistry is starting to come together and practices have been high energy. Along with that, the mental and physical components are improving as well. Keeping things positive and optimistic during these interesting times has helped our program grow and improve both physically and mentally. I couldn't be prouder of our athletes and coaches." 

## Thirty-five Peacocks earn NSIC All-Academic honors

The Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference announced its All-Academic honors for the 2020 fall athletic season. Twenty-two Peacocks student-athletes were named to the NSIC All-Academic Team of Excellence, while 13 earned NSIC All-Academic Team honors.

To be eligible for the NSIC All-Academic Team of Excellence, a student-athlete must have a 3.60 cumulative GPA or higher, while NSIC All-Academic Team members must have a 3.20 cumulative GPA or higher. Additionally, the student-athlete must be a member of the varsity team, have reached sophomore athletic and academic standing at their institution (true freshmen, red-shirt freshmen and ineligible athletic transfers are not eligible) and must have completed at least one full academic year at that institution.

Below is the full list of UIU student-athletes selected. Those marked with an asterisk were named to the NSIC All-Academic Team of Excellence.

**Football:** \*Brian Sadler / Jesup, Iowa; \*Lane Canny / Brownsdale, Minn.; \*Jack Beulke / Wanamingo, Minn.; \*Jon Deprey / Luxemburg, Wis.; \*Alex Schneider / Waterloo, Iowa; \*Zach Wegmann / Solon, Iowa; \*Spencer Wegmann / Solon, Iowa; Eric Ihde / Garnavillo, Iowa; Laith Smith / Wapella, Iowa; Myles Herrera / Colton, Calif.; Eddy Gosche / Schaumburg, Ill.; Ethan Bayles / Vandalia, Ill.; DJ Emsweller / Tampa, Fla.; Carter Harris / St. Cloud, Fla.; Kyle Curran / Spring Grove, Ill. **Women's Soccer:** \*Aimee Sies / Brooklyn, Wis.; \*Natalie Rudrud / Oak Grove, Minn.; \*Grace Birdsley / Prior Lake, Minn.; \*Haley Ramberg / St. Francis, Minn.; \*Emma Fellowes / Christchurch, New Zealand; Credence White / Grand Rapids, Mich.; Katie Samuels / Blackburn, U.K. **Volleyball:** \*Sarah Johnson / Elk River, Minn.; \*Carlee Dove / New Hartford, Iowa; \*Kaitlin Niedert / Independence, Iowa; \*Kylie Willis / Grundy Center, Iowa; \*Maggie Streightiff / Hayfield, Minn.; \*Jaima Tonne / Jesup, Iowa; Charisma Herr / St. Paul, Minn. **Women's Cross Country:** \*Sidney Schnor / Fairbank, Iowa; \*Ashley Donovan / Peosta, Iowa; \*Madison Brownrigg / Cleveland, Ohio; Serrianna Dehmlow / Huntley, Ill. **Men's Cross Country:** \*Grant Dieken / Clear Lake, Iowa; David Snider / Havana, Ill. 



## Esports finds success in fall 2020 competition



Chase Halbach

The Upper Iowa esports team competes in four different games: Fortnite, League of Legends, Overwatch and Rocket League. The team is an active member of the National Association of Collegiate Esports (NACE), Eastern College Athletic Conference (ECAC) and New England Collegiate Conference (NECC).


Robert Ngo has stood out for UIU in League of Legends. The sophomore set a program record for single-game kills with 30 in round one in a win against Hood College in late September. As a team, UIU has posted a 5-1 record in the NECC League of Legends

fall season, already securing a playoff spot. The team also competed in the ECAC League of Legends Fall Tournament, but was eliminated after a three-game run.

Marqus Kenney helped boost the Rocket League team to four wins in seven games. The freshman set team highs with five goals in a 3-0 sweep over Elmira College and four saves in a loss to New York Tech. Teammates Trace Woodward and Sean Odegard have provided significant contributions by helping to further create a balanced offensive attack for the Peacocks.


The top duo of Joshua Shableau and Odegard led Upper Iowa to three top 20 finishes thus far in the ECAC Fortnite Fall Tournament. The tandem's highest placement came in week two of the competition, when they finished 11<sup>th</sup>.

Angel Jaquez has put on some impressive performances for the Overwatch team. Jaquez accumulated a whopping 35,396 points of healing in one round against Providence College. Despite the team's 0-3 record, the Peacocks have shown promise, with Woodward and Brady Jahr both regularly blocking over 10,000 points of damage per round.

"In a year where esports has gained more attention than normal, the Peacock esports program has evolved into something that the players and I are extremely proud of," head coach Jim Lowery said. "Adding Rocket League for its inaugural season and returning Fortnite, Overwatch and League of Legends to the program has made for a very busy fall. As a coach, I couldn't be prouder of how the season has gone." 

## Basketball and Wrestling Schedules Announced for 2021

The NSIC men's and women's basketball schedules will consist of 16 games played over 8 weeks with teams playing the same opponent at one site on back-to-back days. The season will start with two non-conference games against one NSIC out-of-division opponent. The conference schedule will then consist of 14 games with teams playing each member of its division twice. For this season, the NSIC will only crown a North Division and South Division Champion.

The NSIC wrestling schedule will consist of six duals starting the second week of January and concluding the second week of February. Schools will compete against six of its nine conference opponents. A regular season champion will be crowned based on win percentage from the six duals. 

### PEACOCK WOMEN'S BASKETBALL SCHEDULE

Jan. 2	6 p.m.	St. Cloud, Minn.	St. Cloud State University
Jan. 3	4 p.m.	St. Cloud, Minn.	St. Cloud State University
Jan. 8	6 p.m.	Fayette, Iowa	University of Sioux Falls
Jan. 9	2 p.m.	Fayette, Iowa	University of Sioux Falls
Jan. 15	TBA	Marshall, Minn.	Southwest Minnesota State University
Jan. 16	TBA	Marshall, Minn.	Southwest Minnesota State University
Jan. 22	6 p.m.	Fayette, Iowa	Wayne State College
Jan. 23	2 p.m.	Fayette, Iowa	Wayne State College
Jan. 29	5:30 p.m.	Sioux Falls, S.D.	Augustana University
Jan. 30	3:30 p.m.	Sioux Falls, S.D.	Augustana University
Feb. 5	6 p.m.	Fayette, Iowa	Concordia University, St. Paul
Feb. 6	2 p.m.	Fayette, Iowa	Concordia University, St. Paul
Feb. 12	6 p.m.	Mankato, Minn.	Minnesota State University, Mankato
Feb. 13	3 p.m.	Mankato, Minn.	Minnesota State University, Mankato
Feb. 19	6 p.m.	Fayette, Iowa	Winona State University
Feb. 20	2 p.m.	Fayette, Iowa	Winona State University
Feb. 26-28		Sioux Falls, S.D.	NSIC/Sanford Health Tournament

### PEACOCK MEN'S BASKETBALL SCHEDULE

Jan. 2	6 p.m.	Fayette, Iowa	St. Cloud State University
Jan. 3	2 p.m.	Fayette, Iowa	St. Cloud State University
Jan. 8	6 p.m.	Sioux Falls, S.D.	University of Sioux Falls
Jan. 9	4 p.m.	Sioux Falls, S.D.	University of Sioux Falls

Jan. 15	6 p.m.	Fayette, Iowa	Southwest Minnesota State University
Jan. 16	2 p.m.	Fayette, Iowa	Southwest Minnesota State University
Jan. 22	6:30 p.m.	Wayne, Neb.	Wayne State College
Jan. 23	2:30 p.m.	Wayne, Neb.	Wayne State College
Jan. 29	6 p.m.	Fayette, Iowa	Augustana University
Jan. 30	2 p.m.	Fayette, Iowa	Augustana University
Feb. 5	6 p.m.	St. Paul, Minn.	Concordia University, St. Paul
Feb. 6	2 p.m.	St. Paul, Minn.	Concordia University, St. Paul
Feb. 12	6 p.m.	Fayette, Iowa	Minnesota State University, Mankato
Feb. 13	2 p.m.	Fayette, Iowa	Minnesota State University, Mankato
Feb. 19	6 p.m.	Winona, Minn.	Winona State University
Feb. 20	2 p.m.	Winona, Minn.	Winona State University
Feb. 26-28		Sioux Falls, S.D.	NSIC/Sanford Health Tournament

### PEACOCK WRESTLING SCHEDULE

Jan. 7	6 p.m.	Fayette, Iowa	Northern State University
Jan. 14	6 p.m.	Moorhead, Minn.	Minnesota State University Moorhead
Jan. 21	6 p.m.	Fayette, Iowa	Minnesota State University, Mankato
Jan. 28	6 p.m.	Fayette, Iowa	University of Wisconsin-Parkside
Feb. 4	6 p.m.	Sioux Falls, S.D.	Augustana University
Feb. 11	6 p.m.	St. Cloud, Minn.	St. Cloud State University
Feb. 28	All Day	Aberdeen, S.D.	NCAA Super Region V Championships
Mar. 12-13	All Day	TBA	NCAA Championships

## Shotgun sports soar through inaugural season



(l to r) — Brady Emswiler, Brady Carrigan, Mikel Brown, Matthew Moore, Jayden Shaw, Ty Parsons

The Upper Iowa shotgun sports team began its inaugural season this fall competing in two virtual competitions and four different disciplines: American singles trap, doubles trap, American skeet and doubles skeet. UIU had two different homes this season: the Kornhill Shooting Range in Fayette for trap shooting and the Fayette County Conservation Club in Oelwein for skeet shooting.

The Peacocks first competed in the Scholastic Clay Target Program (SCTP) College Virtual Competition from September 7 to October 11. Following the five-week contest, UIU's scores of 602 of 625 in American singles trap and 505 of 625 in American skeet were good enough to place third and fourth overall, while claiming the top spot in both disciplines for Division III programs. The SCTP placed Upper Iowa into the third division for future competition. The third division is defined as a division of new programs and programs with less than 10 members.

Standing out individually at the SCTP competition were freshmen Brady Carrigan, Ty Parsons and Jayden Shaw, who each took home top 10 overall individual placements. The trio made up the top three trap spots in the division. Carrigan finished second overall, and first in the division, after connecting on a near-perfect 124 of 125 targets in trap. Shaw followed, missing just two targets in the discipline, claiming a share of fifth place overall and a divisional rank of second.

Parsons led the Peacocks in skeet as his 121 of 125 mark put him in fourth place overall and provided a share of the division's top spot. Parsons matched his total of 121 of 125 in trap, which was good for an eighth-place finish overall and the third spot in DIII.

Following their success in the SCTP virtual competition, the Peacocks moved on to the Association of College Unions International (ACUI) College Virtual Competition to close out the fall season. The contest spanned two months and featured 13 different teams from across the country. The month of September was the first time the team had participated in doubles skeet or doubles trap at the collegiate level.

Although their initial scores were low, the team was able to bounce back in October to improve in every discipline. UIU jumped from a team total of 399 to 423 in American Skeet and from 336 to 383 in doubles skeet. The team also went from 453 total targets in September to 469 the following month in American singles trap and leaped from 404 to 429 in doubles trap. Upper Iowa placed sixth in the combined or high overall standings and third in the North Central Region standings. Parsons ranked seventh overall as an individual after claiming 90-plus scores in each of the four disciplines, including a 98 of 100 in individual skeet. Shaw ranked 10th individually fueled by a perfect 100 out of 100 in American trap singles.

The final competition in the fall was the MidwayUSA Foundation 2020 Hometown Challenge virtual shoot. Three Peacocks claimed top-three finishes both in the division and overall. In American trap, Shaw won the event hitting 50 of 50 targets, while Parsons hit 49 targets to finish second. Carrigan followed in third place with 48. In American skeet, Parsons won the event with 50 of 50 connections, while Shaw placed third with 48 of 50.

"The Peacock shotgun sports team had a great inaugural season," head coach Reba Kingsley said. "The team faced adversity and was flexible with the changes they encountered this season. The team continued to get better with every practice and competition, including ending with season-high team and individual scores. As a coach, it has been nice to see the team create a bond, help each other out and push each other to get better. I am proud of this team and the growth they have shown this season." 🏆

## UIU to host 2023 NCAA Division II Wrestling Championships in Cedar Rapids, Iowa

The NCAA Championships Committee announced the championship sites for the next four years, and Upper Iowa was once again selected to host the NCAA Division II Wrestling Championship at the U.S. Cellular Center in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, on March 10-11, 2023. The Peacock athletics department will work together with Cedar Rapids Tourism to host the event.

"We are excited and proud to have been awarded the 2023 NCAA Division II Wrestling Championships," Upper Iowa Vice President for Athletics Rick Hartzell said. "We see the NCAA's selection of Upper Iowa and Cedar Rapids as a final compliment to the work that we have done together in our past three NCAA Division II Championships in Cedar Rapids. We are looking forward to beginning the planning process with Cedar Rapids Tourism to showcase not only the sport of wrestling, but the great people and personalities of Iowa as we put together an epic event for all involved."

Upper Iowa and Cedar Rapids have teamed up to host three NCAA Division II Championships in the last 13 years, including the 2008 and 2018 Wrestling and 2013 Women's Volleyball NCAA Division II Championships at the U.S. Cellular Center, with great success. Following their first joint effort, UIU was awarded the Duane Kramer Sports Tourism Award in 2008 for hosting an event that attracted a significant number of visitors to the Cedar Rapids area.

The 2023 NCAA Division II Championships will feature 180 of the best wrestlers in the country from the nation's six regions. Eighteen student-athletes will compete in each weight class to make up the total field of grapplers. 🏆



Chase Luensman



# CLASS NOTES



**1960s** William Kunzman '69, Charles City, Iowa, shows off his copy of *The Bridge* in front of one of the 20 houses he helped construct in Nuevo Progreso, Mexico. William winters in Rio

Grand Valley each year and has been involved with the humanitarian project for 20 years.

**1970s** Lowell Tiedt '71, Anamosa, Iowa, was bestowed the Outstanding American Award from the National Wrestling Hall of Fame, Iowa Chapter. Lowell was recognized for his outstanding wrestling career in addition to his service to country and community.



In addition, Lowell and his wife, Sue, visited Richard "Sam" Barber '95 at the Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, Colorado, where Sam serves as the head wrestling coach. During the visit, the Tiedts attended wrestling practice and snapped a Peacock photo (above)

with former UIU Athletic Director David Miller and former UIU Board of Trustees Dr. Darrel Lang '70 and Bob Firth '89, '00.

Ezekiel Morris '76, Willowbrook, Illinois, was installed as the 2021 president-elect of Illinois Realtors. He is the owner and designated managing broker of EXIT Strategy Realty/EMA Management in Chicago, Illinois.



Mike Knickrehm '77, Le Claire, Iowa, (right) and Jeff Stavnes '76, Storm Lake, Iowa, recently visited Gullfoss, a spectacular glacial waterfall in Iceland near Reykjavik.

**1980s** Kevin D'Angelo '82, Laurel, Maryland, is currently serving as the chief financial officer with Vehicles for Change Inc. in Halethorpe, Maryland, and is starting his 35<sup>th</sup> year as a football official.

**1990s** Jason Zilk '94, Des Moines, Iowa, was selected by the Rotary Club to be the 2020 Des Moines Fire Person of the year. With his award, he was given the opportunity to select a charity of his choice to donate \$500

and made the decision to support UIU's ANQ Scholarship.

Steve Husome '96, Cedar Falls, Iowa, established Adaptive Golf to provide opportunities for people with all types of disabilities to learn or return to the game of golf — after his own motorcycle accident in 2014 caused him to lose his leg.

Lt. Col. David McDill '98, Spring Lake, North Carolina, graduated from the United States Army War College at Carlisle, Pennsylvania, with a master's degree in strategic studies on July 24, 2020.

**2000s** Renee (Stanford) Christoffier '00, Waterloo, Iowa, was named Veridian Credit Union's president and CEO in their Waterloo office. She was the chief administration officer since 2007.

Faith Wallowing Bull '01, '06, Riverton, Wyoming, recently opened her own accounting business, Eagle Eye Accounting LLC. While managing her business, she will be working to obtain her certified public accountant (CPA) license.



Pete Hildreth '01, Lake View, Iowa, was named the Iowa Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) Wildlife Bureau Conservation and Recreation Division administrator. IDNR director Kayla Lyon announced Hildreth's appointment in October 2020.

## Welcome to the Peacock family, little ones!



Nicole (Gibson) '18 and Nathan Gibbs, Elgin, Iowa, welcomed their first child, Nolan Jon Gibbs, into this wonderful world on September 16, 2020. He weighed 6 pounds, 14 ounces, and was 19.5 inches long.



Hannah (Miller) '16 and Chris Schweiger, West Union, Iowa, celebrated the birth of their first child, Tinley Grace Schweiger, on October 6, 2020. She weighed 8 pounds, 12 ounces and was 21 inches long.



Lyndsay (Westgaard) '13 and Tony Ampe, Belgrade, Minnesota, welcomed their second child, Westyn Anthony Ampe, four weeks early on November 11, 2020. Westyn weighed 8 pounds, 3 ounces, and was 22.5 inches long. He joins big sister Strykar.



Kali (Loescher) '15 and Troy '14 Parker, Crystal Lake, Illinois, welcomed their miracle baby, Kai James Parker. Kai is their first child and was born October 4, 2020.

# CLASS NOTES

**Kate (Shank) Giannini '06**, Riverside, Iowa, was honored by the *Corridor Business Journal* as a Forty Under 40 recipient. She serves as the communications specialist for the Iowa Flood Center.

**Christopher Langlois '06**, Omaha, Nebraska, was hired as the fire chief in Leland, North Carolina.

**Brian Sims, MBA, FACHE, '08, '10**, Chariton, Iowa, accepted the position of Good Shepherd Health Care System's next president and chief executive officer.

**Sarah (Torrey) Bond '09**, Indianola, Iowa, joined LenderClose as their relationship manager.

**Jeremy Masterson '09**, Waukee, Iowa, and his partner in their firm Masterson & Bottenberg law firm joined the Ahlers & Cooney law firm as special counsel, effective October 1, 2020. Jeremy's work is within the Ahlers' Business Entities Practice Group.



**Kristina (Courtney) Wiltgen '09**, Decorah, Iowa, was inducted into the Northeast Iowa Community College Hall of Fame as an outstanding alumna for her service, leadership and creative problem-solving initiatives during the pandemic in her role at the Decorah Area Chamber of Commerce.

**2010s Adam Chase '10**, San Marcos, California, was hired as the new marine safety chief at Imperial Beach, California.

**Tina (Buchter) Whitman '10**, Denver, Pennsylvania, was hired as the program assistant for GateHouse. She also welcomed her very first grandchild last year.

**Amanda (Burns) Stack '13**, Waterloo, Iowa, was chosen as a Waterloo Courier 20 Under 40 recipient. She currently works as the office manager and legal assistant for Trent Law Firm in Cedar Falls, Iowa.

**Casey (Ryan) Westphalen '14**, Atlantic, Iowa, rejoined NutriQuest Business Solutions team as the director of business services. She previously served as CEO of Brenneman Pork. Prior to her time at Brenneman Pork, she led NutriQuest Business Solutions for 10 years.

**Kenneth Clary '17**, Bondurant, Iowa, started as the new chief of the Bellevue Police Department. He took over in September 2020.

**Ashley Althoff '18**, Strawberry Point, Iowa, was hired as the city economic development director and Main Street Elkader director. A story featuring Ashley's hiring can be viewed on Bridge Online at [bit.ly/37O5hUb](http://bit.ly/37O5hUb).

**Hazel Lim '19**, Selangor, Malaysia, was hired by Ogilvy, an advertising, marketing and public relations agency, as the account manager for their public relations team.

**Anne (Shaffer) Puffett '19**, Strawberry Point, Iowa, started as the director of career development at Upper Iowa University on October 1. She was formerly the career development specialist.

## Peacock's NBA contract finds home in University Archives

Located in the Henderson-Wilder Library at Fayette Campus, the Upper Iowa University Archives collects artifacts and documents, such as files, letters, maps, and photographs, relating to the University's history in northeast Iowa, across the nation and around the world.


Among recent donations to the Archives is the contract offered by the National Basketball Association's (NBA) Cleveland Cavaliers to UIU's James Bushkofsky '74. The gift from Bushkofsky, which was shared at the request of his former UIU men's basketball coach Bill Prochaska '63, includes a cover letter from then Cavalier general manager and coach Bill Fitch and a copy of the contract.

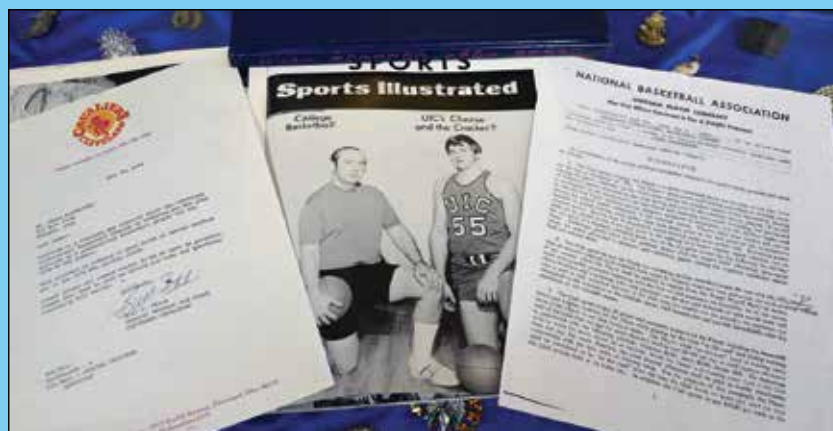
Bushkofsky graduated from Upper Iowa in 1974 with a Bachelor of Science degree. An outstanding collegiate basketball and baseball player, the Elkader, Iowa, native set a state record in 1973 for most points in one game by an Iowa collegiate player with 62 points. He led the then Iowa Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (IIAC) for two consecutive years with 34.0 and 32.8 scoring averages. He was also the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics District 15 leader at 33.9 and 31.8, respectively, and was cited in the February 1973 issue of "Sports Illustrated."

Selected as the IIAC Most Valuable Player in 1973 and 1974, Bushkofsky was honored as the recipient of the Clarkson Award in 1974, emblematic as the most outstanding collegiate player in Iowa that year. Bushkofsky finished as UIU's career scoring leader with 2,194 total points. On the diamond, he excelled as a Peacock pitcher/outfielder, being selected to the All-Conference baseball team in 1974.

Drafted in the ninth round as the 147<sup>th</sup> pick by the Cavaliers in 1974, Bushkofsky was also invited to try out for the Pan American Games. Although declining both opportunities, he continued to excel on the Amateur Athletic Union (AAU) scene, being named the Most Valuable Player in both the AAU State of Iowa Basketball and Baseball Tournaments in 1977.

After retiring his #54 basketball uniform in 1974, UIU further recognized Bushkofsky by inducting him into its Athletics Hall of Fame in 1984.

Bushkofsky's NBA contract is one of the many interesting artifacts available for all to see through the University Archives. To learn more about the University Archives, obtain information on making material or monetary donations, or to schedule a visit, contact UIU Archivist Janette Garcia at [garciaj26@uii.edu](mailto:garciaj26@uii.edu) or 563-425-5722. Select materials are now digitized and made available online at [uii.edu/digitalarchives](http://uii.edu/digitalarchives). Digital archive videos are available at [tiny.cc/uiiarchives](http://tiny.cc/uiiarchives); click the Subscribe button to be notified when new videos are downloaded to the site. 



The cover letter and a copy of the NBA contract offered by the Cleveland Cavaliers in 1974 to UIU's James Bushkofsky '74 are pictured alongside a photo from the 1973 UIU Yearbook featuring former men's basketball coach Bill Prochaska '63 and Bushkofsky. Note: For a brief amount of time in the University's history, the UIU uniforms bore the name of Upper Iowa College (UIC).



# CLASS NOTES

**2020s** **Brinn Grunder '20**, Fayette, Iowa, was hired as an admissions counselor at Upper Iowa University's Fayette Campus.

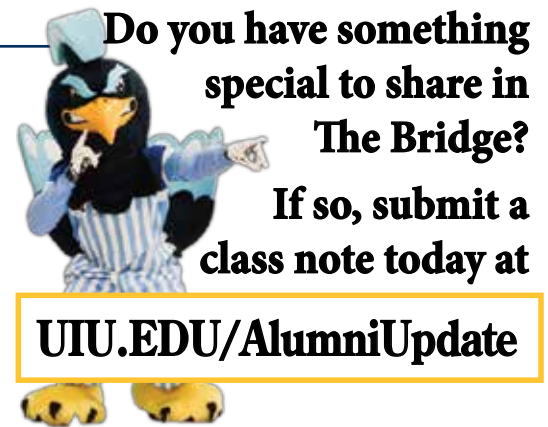
**Corey Lange '20**, Fayette, Iowa, moved from the Fayette Admissions Office at Upper Iowa University to the Human Resources Office, where he is the human resources generalist.

**Allie Ney '20**, West Union, Iowa, is the new youth development coordinator for the North

Fayette Valley Community Coalition. She is also a co-coach for the North Fayette Valley drill team.

**Ryan Roth '20**, Mediapolis, Iowa, accepted his dream position as a park ranger with Des Moines County Conservation.

**Sasha Zainal '20**, Fayette, Iowa, was hired as a data processing specialist at Upper Iowa University's Fayette Campus.



## ALUMNI IN EDUCATION: WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

**1970s** **Twila (Shaw) Converse '78**, Postville, Iowa, retired in May 2020 from teaching middle school science and life skills at MFL MarMac Schools.

**1990s** **Neil Jeanes '96**, Oelwein, Iowa, is the new industrial technology instructor at West Central Community School District in Maynard, Iowa.

**2000s** **Jayne Hurley '00**, Independence, Iowa, accepted the role of 7-12 principal at Manson Northwest Webster Community School District. Previously, he taught junior high and high school physical education in the Independence (Iowa) Community School District.

**Cory Lang '04**, Dysart, Iowa, was hired as the new K-6 special education teacher at the Partnership Center for the South Tama County School District.

**Theresa (Mudderman) Schmitt '08**, Waterloo, Iowa, began teaching second grade at Cedar Heights Elementary with the Cedar Falls Community School District.

**2010s** **Matt Gallagher '10**, Phoenix, Arizona, accepted a position to teach American history and world history at Mountain Pointe High School in Phoenix, Arizona.

**Ashley (Boehm) Becker '11**, Elgin, Iowa, was hired to teach fourth and fifth grade at North Fayette Valley Community School District.

**Alex Gonzalez '13**, Palm Springs, Florida, currently a physical education teacher and coach, recently received the 2020 Teacher of the Year award at Somerset Academy Canyons High.

**Nikki (Petersen) Bergmeier '17**, Hudson, Iowa, started teaching high school special education in the Hudson Community School District.

**Abbi (Rust) Grapp '17**, Waterloo, Iowa, is teaching third grade in the Waverly-Shell Rock School District at Margaretta Carey Elementary.

**Jamie (Buehler) Vargason '17**, Oelwein, Iowa, started teaching K-12 art at West Central Community School District.

**Amber (Miller) Morse '18**, Fayette, Iowa, began teaching first grade at West Central Elementary School. Prior to West Central, she taught Head Start in Oelwein for five years.

**Robin (Cornelius) Pestotnik '18**, Boone, Iowa, was hired at Sacred Heart Catholic School, teaching grades 6-8 social studies and grades 4-8 computer.

**Brian Waskow '18**, Sumner, Iowa, was hired as the new high school industrial education teacher with the Decorah Community School District.

**Vanessa Westen '18**, Washington, Iowa, is the new second grade teacher at Starry Elementary with the Marion Independent School District in Marion, Iowa. She previously taught first grade at Sacred Heart in Oelwein.

**Ashten Wolff '18**, West Union, Iowa, joined the Peace Corps following graduation, where she taught English in the Philippines. Recently, she took a position teaching special education for grades 4, 5 and 6 at West Central Community School District.

**Rebecca Barrett '19**, Des Moines, Iowa, was hired to teach English at East High School with Des Moines Public Schools.

**Ross Chettinger '19**, Waverly, Iowa, was hired to teach third and fourth grade special education for the Charles City Community School District.

**Matt Gross '19**, Jesup, Iowa, accepted a position teaching fourth grade at Jesup Elementary School. In addition to teaching, he will be the head wrestling coach for the J-Hawks.

**Kayla (Kammann) Weidenbacher '19**, Waterloo, Iowa, was hired to teach sixth grade at Cedar Heights Elementary School for the Cedar Falls Community School District.

**2020s** **Noah Dettmer '20**, Waverly, Iowa, was hired as a special education teacher with the Charles City School District.

**Terry Manning '20**, Pleasant Hill, Iowa, accepted the fourth grade classroom teacher position at Rogers Elementary in Marshalltown, Iowa.

**Jazel Rocha '20**, Des Moines, Iowa, was hired to teach second grade at Woodbury Elementary in Marshalltown.

# Five alumni honored during virtual homecoming

Five Upper Iowa University graduates were honored for their professional accomplishments and service as part of UIU's virtual Peacock Strong Homecoming celebration.



**Service to University Award**  
**Jeff Stavnes – Class of 1976**

Stavnes has maintained a close relationship with UIU since earning bachelor's degrees in sociology and business management. As a UIU Alumni Association board member, Stavnes not only regularly attends alumni events but plays an essential role in organizing them. He is highly engaged in projects that relate to alumni engagement and boosting enrollment at the University.

Earlier this year, the Postville, Iowa, native inquired about volunteer opportunities that may be available to him and his fellow Alumni Association board members. A one-time employee of the UIU admissions office, he and other board members assisted in recruiting future UIU students at several college fairs. He is also a regular visitor to UIU's Iowa State Fair booth. Jeff and his wife, Janis, have residences in Storm Lake, Iowa, and Greeley, Colorado.



**Professional Accomplishment Award**  
**Rick McGeough – Class of 1968**

Graduating from UIU with a biology degree, McGeough served one tour of duty in the U.S. Army before beginning a distinguished career in the stewardship of Iowa's natural resources. In 1973, McGeough accepted a position as an Iowa conservation officer with the Iowa Conservation Commission for Warren and Marion counties. Seven years later, McGeough was promoted to chief of the Iowa Department of Natural Resources Fish and Wildlife Enforcement Bureau, where he served for 18 years, until his retirement at the age of 55. Under his leadership, the bureau expanded to include oversight of the state's boating, snowmobiling and ATV programs.

McGeough also participated on the bureau's pistol team, winning a national championship; he was recognized seven times by the U.S. president as one of the best 100 police marksmen in the nation. Rick and his wife, Beth, own and operate Edge of the Woods Raspberry Farm near Indianola, Iowa.



**Service to Community Award**  
**Larry Kaberle – Class of 1965**

A third-generation UIU student and elementary education graduate, Kaberle taught for 13 years and served as a U.S. Postal Service carrier for 23 years before retiring in 2005. He was the city clerk in Rowley, Iowa, where he now lives, for 13 years. During his time at UIU, Kaberle was active in numerous clubs, and he is a regular attendee of many University events today.

The Strawberry Point, Iowa, native also regularly supports many community organizations, including the Independence swimming pool and recreation center, North Linn School District alumni meetings, Rivers Edge Sports Complex, and Cedar Rapids Bender

Pool. He has been an active member of the United Methodist Church for over 50 years (church board, choir, bell choir, band, Sunday Community Lunch Bunch, Bible study, Sunday school programs) and has performed in choir concerts and directed bell choirs at care centers, assisted seniors with transportation and yard/housework, and served as a mentor to grieving parents. A current Buchanan County Historical Society member, Kaberle is a former Lions Club member, and Cub Scout and 4-H leader. Joining Larry in the majority of his volunteer activities is his wife of 51 years, Janice.



**Service to Country Award**  
**John Welch – Class of 2017, 2020**


Welch served in the U.S. military for 20 years, including 14 years as a member of special operations and 13 overseas deployments. A recipient of the Bronze Star with the Combat "V" device on three occasions, Welch continued to serve the nation as a member of the State Department's High Threat Protection Detail for U.S. ambassadors in Iraq and Afghanistan, a position for which he was deployed five times. Welch attended the Louisiana Police Academy, where he was named the president of his class. He enrolled at UIU during this time and soon after became a Louisiana Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST)-certified law enforcement officer.

Welch served three years on several task forces for the city of Alexandria, Louisiana, before accepting the role of the Tulane Health System director of security and emergency management in New Orleans. A graduate of UIU's Master of Public Administration degree program in emergency management and homeland security, Welch is dealing with the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. A Destin, Florida, native, he is engaged to Aradhana Saini of Peru, Illinois.



**Emerging Alumni Award**  
**Matthew Beatty – Class of 2015**

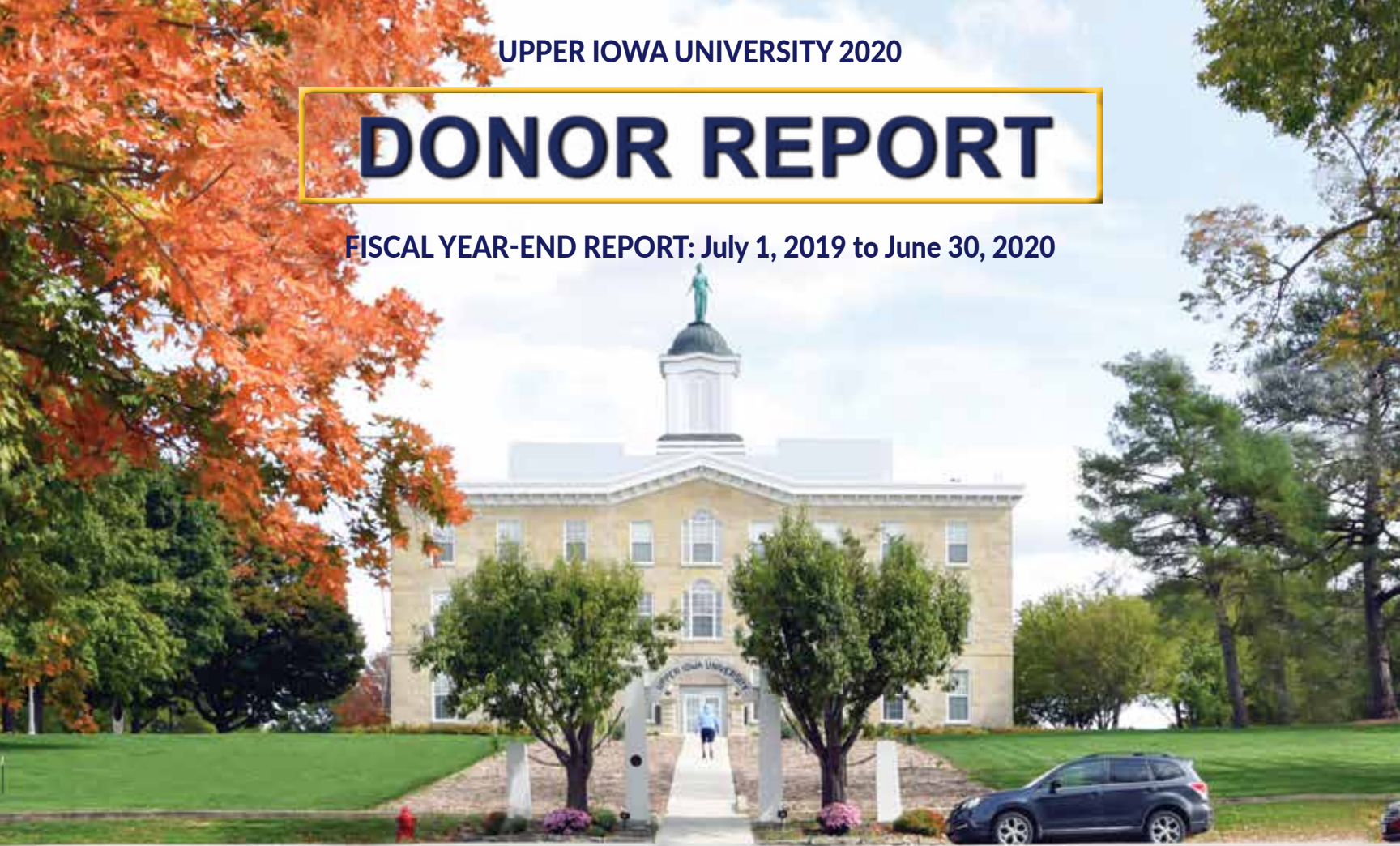
Beatty, an English Language Learner (ELL) teacher at South Tama Elementary in Tama, Iowa, played an integral role in launching an ELL graduation recognition night and arranged monthly Positive Behavioral Interventions and Support (PBIS) awards for students. During his five-year teaching career, he has been part of South Tama's summer school program and is involved with its after-school tutoring program. Beatty helped lead the school district's professional learning community (PLC) team efforts to conduct more formative assessments. As a Professional Educators of Iowa member, he is an advocate for its increased membership and visibility. He also coaches middle school football and track in the school district.

Beatty was the recipient of the KIX 101.1 radio station Pack the Backpack Award after being nominated for using his own money to purchase classroom supplies. In addition to volunteering at the South Tama Booster Club Carnival and other school fundraisers, he plans various social activities for staff, including teacher potlucks and craft/game nights. Outside of school, Beatty is a Tama City Council member and volunteers with the Meskwaki Friends Church Kids Club. The Dyersville, Iowa, native grew up in the Edgewood and Colesburg, Iowa, area. 



# DONOR REPORT

FISCAL YEAR-END REPORT: July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020



## Senior thesis project to benefit Graf Garden


A volunteer effort led by Upper Iowa University senior Ally Fink is leading to the rehabilitation of the Zinita B. Graf Garden at UIU's Fayette Campus. Fink, who is double majoring in biology and psychology, is overseeing the project as part of her senior thesis.

"I hope by creating a better outdoor learning environment for students, and generating additional habitat for wildlife, my senior thesis has a lasting impact on the University and community," the Plainfield, Illinois, native said. "I have also enjoyed being able to provide students with a service project opportunity. Members of the Student Athlete Advisory Committee, Peacocks for Progress and women's basketball team have been especially active in helping me."

With the help of UIU faculty, staff and students, Fink started removing original rock landscape from the pollinator garden in late October. In addition to the majority of vegetation being reintroduced to the plot, 100 new plants were transplanted to the site on Wednesday, November 4. The project is being funded by an Environmental Issues Instruction (eii) grant fund.

Zinita B. Graf studied oratory and liberal arts at Upper Iowa University, earning her bachelor's degree in 1913. She made her professional stage debut in 1917 with the Deveraux Dramatic Company, one of the most talented acting companies of its time. Her casting as Beauty in the play "Everyman" sparked a very prosperous stage acting career.

The Zinita B. Graf Garden is located near the front entrance of UIU's Andres Center for Business and Education. The Andres Center sits on the site of the former Zinita B. Graf residence hall for women.

Fink anticipates completing the installation of additional plants, woodchip mulch and signage at the garden in spring 2021. Additional information on the project will be released at that time. 



A volunteer effort led by UIU senior Ally Fink (foreground) is leading to the rehabilitation of the Zinita B. Graf Garden at Fayette Campus. Fink, who is double majoring in biology and psychology, is overseeing the project as part of her senior thesis.



# Scholarships amplify senior's UIU experience

The opportunity to continue her basketball career at the Division II level initially drew Ally Fink's interest to attend UIU. However, having grown up near the suburbs of Chicago, she quickly admired the welcoming campus environment and small-town atmosphere after arriving in Fayette.

"The UIU experience helped me to build relationships, not only with my peers, but also my professors and community," Fink said. "The people I met have made a lasting impact on me, and I cannot imagine where I would be without them."

Scholarships have amplified the senior's educational experience. Fink explained that the funding empowers her to pursue a high-quality UIU education without placing a huge financial burden on her or her family.

In addition to a UIU athletic scholarship, Fink received the Alexander Transfer, Dr. G.C. Baker Memorial, and James H. Olsen Biology scholarships, as well as a service scholarship for her role as UIU's Student Government Association treasurer.

"These scholarships mean someone else appreciates the hard work that I have, and continue to, put into my educational experience at UIU," Fink said. "I am so thankful to the donors who presented me with these added opportunities. The UIU scholarship program provides people of all talents an opportunity to continue their education without worrying about how they are going to afford it, allowing them to focus on their studies at hand."



With the help of UIU faculty, staff and students, senior Ally Fink transplanted 100 new plants in the Zinita B. Graf Garden at UIU's Fayette Campus in November. Fink's senior thesis rehabilitation project is being funded by an Environmental Issues Instruction (eii) grant.

Fink also praises the UIU financial aid staff for their expertise in creating a financial plan that most benefits each individual student, and the successful communication they provide in solving student account issues.

Following her graduation in 2021, Fink intends to pursue a master's degree and career in occupational therapy. 

## It all starts with a 'Handshake'

Career discovery now starts with a "Handshake" at Upper Iowa University. An online platform, Handshake is UIU's new online career management system. Students can find career-related documents, upload their resume, apply for jobs and internships, make appointments with career development staff and view upcoming career development events. As part of the program, all active UIU students have an account uploaded for them upon their enrollment. As a bonus, alumni can utilize this resource as well. To sign up for a free account, visit [uii.joinhandshake.com/register](https://uii.joinhandshake.com/register) and enter your personal email address to get started.


"Replacing our former Peacock Career Portal with Handshake allows the Office of Career Development to better target career information, internships, employment opportunities, and career-related events to

students and alumni. Employers may also showcase events, and students can choose to have these events displayed on their student dashboard.

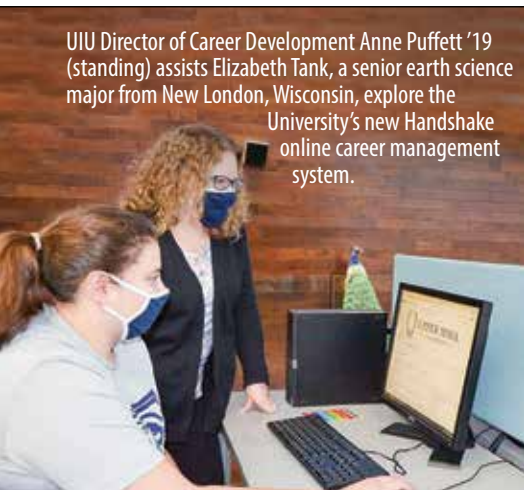
A native of Arlington, Iowa, Puffett has been employed in UIU's Career Development Office for eight years and assumed the role as its director in October 2020. She earned a master's degree from UIU and bachelor's degree from AIB College of Business.

"I've really enjoyed the relationships I've built with my colleagues, who are just like family to me," Puffett said. "Being able to make a difference in the lives of students and alumni, helping them achieve their career goals, and hearing their success stories definitely motivates me each and every day."

As a member of the National Association of Colleges and Employers (NACE), UIU Career Development is able to access professional standards, competencies and principles for professional practice to the benefit of all students and alumni. The Office of Career Development provides student-centered career-related assistance and programs through flexible and multiple delivery systems, including guidance with careers, academic majors, resumes, cover letters, internship/job search, interview preparation, professional networking and branding, and graduate school applications.

For additional information about UIU Career Development services, contact Puffett at 563-425-5229 or [puffetta@uii.edu](mailto:puffetta@uii.edu). 

UIU Director of Career Development Anne Puffett '19 (standing) assists Elizabeth Tank, a senior earth science major from New London, Wisconsin, explore the University's new Handshake online career management system.

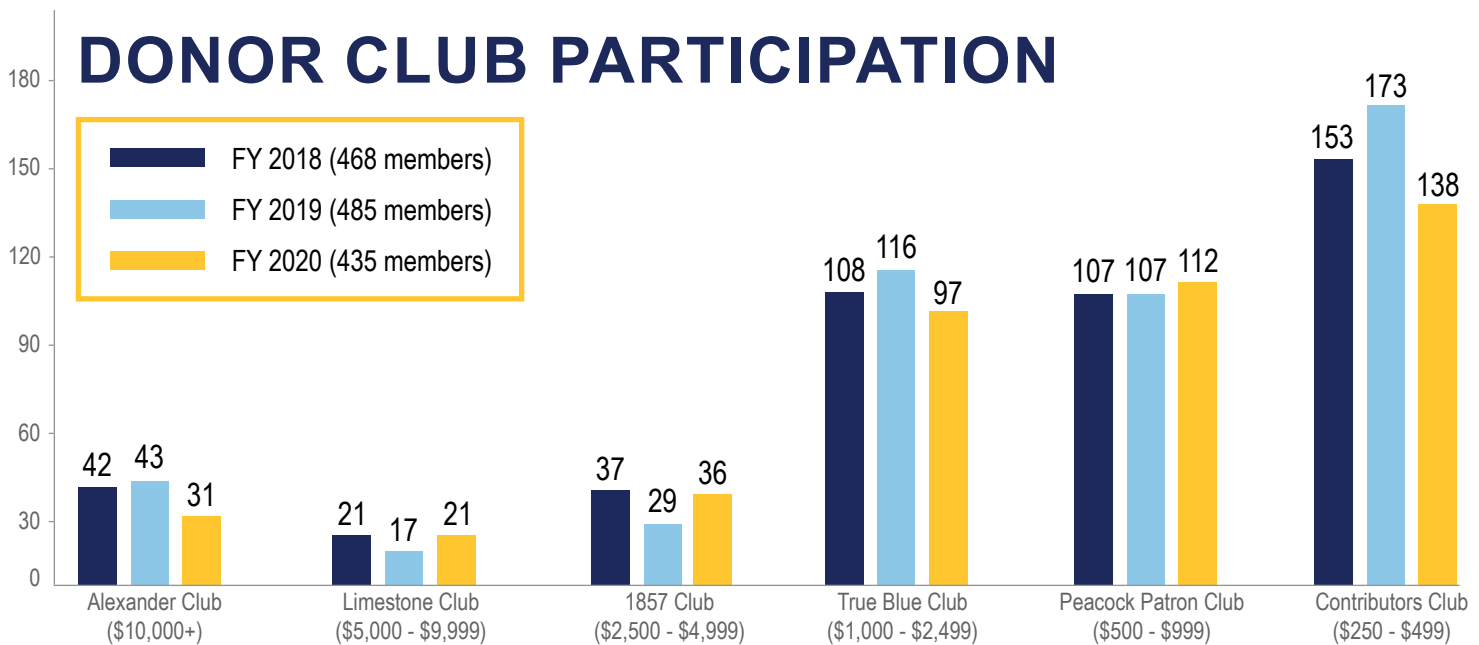


students and alumni based on major, degree type and interests," UIU Director of Career Development Anne Puffett '19 said.

Puffett noted that a number of new employer connections have been developed through the new platform. After being granted access to the site, employers can post job opportunities to UIU



# DONOR CLUB PARTICIPATION



The Upper Iowa University Donor Club program, created six years ago, continues to be an important initiative as UIU seeks to cement a culture of giving within our University. We are encouraged by the alumni, friends, partners, parents and even students who have been inspired to become Donor Club members.

As we all know, 2020 has posed significant challenges for many people across the world, resulting in some individuals needing to make adjustments to their charitable giving. For the first time in four years, the UIU Donor Club program saw a decrease in the number of members. Alumni donors and total donors also decreased during FY 2020.

We are not disheartened by this dip in donor participation but rather have a renewed appreciation for all of those who have made gifts to UIU, this year and in years past. We all know how important UIU is to our alumni and friends. UIU needs its donors more than ever, and, with your support, we will bounce back better than ever after this challenging time.

To view all FY 2020 members (including Contributors Club) or to add your name to the FY 2021 member list, visit [uiu.edu/DonorClubs](http://uiu.edu/DonorClubs).

One last note — as UIU has done its part to stop the spread of COVID-19, we've had to make some changes to how we show our appreciation to donors and engage with our alumni. We will continue to find creative ways to inspire our Peacock Family to get involved and support UIU. If you have ideas for how UIU can better connect in a virtual way, please don't hesitate to reach out to [alumni@uiu.edu](mailto:alumni@uiu.edu) with suggestions.

DONOR CLUB  
*Join a club*

**Big thanks to Alexander Club members Ed '64 and Jean (Dinan) '65 Hupfer, who during FY 2020 utilized the convenient IRA rollover process in support of Betty's Team Fund.**



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\*Indicates deceased. Giving totals include outright gifts, in-kind gifts and pledge payments (not pledge commitments) made from July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020. If an error was made, please contact the Alumni Office at 563-425-5388.



# FY20 DONOR CLUB

*members*

## PEACOCK PATRON CLUB

(\$500-\$999)

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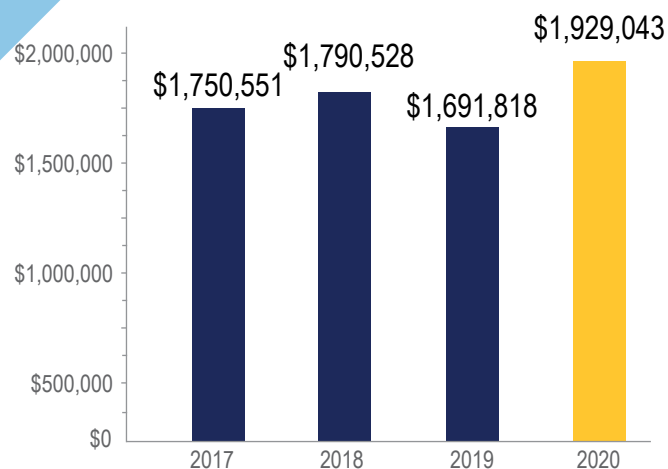
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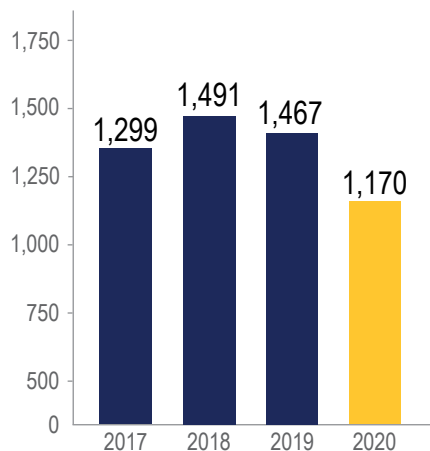
**Peacock Patron Club members  
Jason '94 & Teresa Zilk proudly support  
the Alpha Nu Omega Scholarship. Jason  
was also this year's top "Ringmaster"  
during the Celebrate UIU Day challenge.  
Thanks for your generosity!**

# FINANCIAL REPORTING

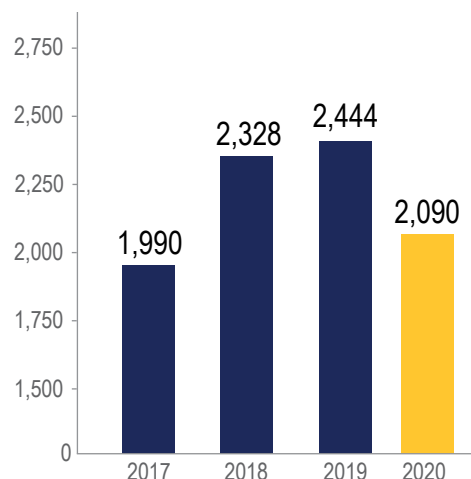
## Total Charitable Donations



## Donor Participation *UIU Alumni*



## Donor Participation *All Donors*





# UIU PARTNERSHIP ENABLES ALUMS TO WRITE THEIR WILL...FOR FREE!

Since April 2020, nearly 100 community members have utilized the FreeWill service. Recent alumnus Tanner Thompson '18 is one of the Peacock alumni who thoughtfully included UIU in his will. Thompson earned his Bachelor of Science degree in financial management and currently works as a financial adviser for Northwestern Mutual in Fayette, Iowa.



**“With my profession, I talk about life insurance with my clients on a daily basis. Having a will in place is extremely important to not only benefit their family members, but also have an impact on other things they love.”**

Tanner Thompson '18

Tanner explained it was surprisingly easy and fast for him to complete his will online. At age 23, he said his current situation is relatively simple and he was pleased to check another “adulting” item off his list. As someone who already regularly attends University events, stays connected with classmates and follows Peacock news, Thompson acknowledged joining the Heritage Society is just one more way he can ensure he stays connected with UIU.

“I encourage Peacock alumni and friends, regardless of age, to consider utilizing this free service and find other ways to stay connected with UIU.”

Whether the user names UIU as a beneficiary in their will or not, the FreeWill resource is completely free of charge. Individuals who do include UIU as a beneficiary will join UIU's prestigious Heritage Society, and more importantly, will leave a lasting legacy at UIU.

To learn more or start writing your will today, visit [uiu.edu/HeritageSociety](http://uiu.edu/HeritageSociety).

Questions may be directed to Vice President for External Affairs Andrew Wenthe at [wenthe@uiu.edu](mailto:wenthe@uiu.edu) or 563-425-5348. 

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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


# STUDENT PHILANTHROPY COUNCIL

The UIU Student Philanthropy Council Crowdfunding Campaign is underway. December 1, 2020, also known as #GivingTuesday, marked the start of this student-led, campuswide initiative as a way to inspire students to give back and make a difference for things they are passionate about.

Crowdfunding is the practice of making a project come to life by generating small amounts of money from a large number of people and is typically carried out online. Three exciting student-led projects include an Art Mural to be painted on campus, establishment of the Peacock Pantry for students to avoid hunger, and new equipment to benefit KPCD Radio/TV.

"The Art Club is thrilled to be raising money for our mural series," said Julia Moran, vice president of the UIU Art Club. "It's been really rewarding to see so much support from fellow students, our professors and even alumni!"

Student project coordinators are working collaboratively with SPC members, the Alumni Office, and the Alumni Association board members to share with others the project need, communicate the community or University impact, and generate excitement to reach their fundraising goal.

The SPC Crowdfunding Campaign goals range between \$1,000 and \$5,000. Show your support for these amazing projects with an online gift today at [uiu.edu/UCC](http://uiu.edu/UCC). 

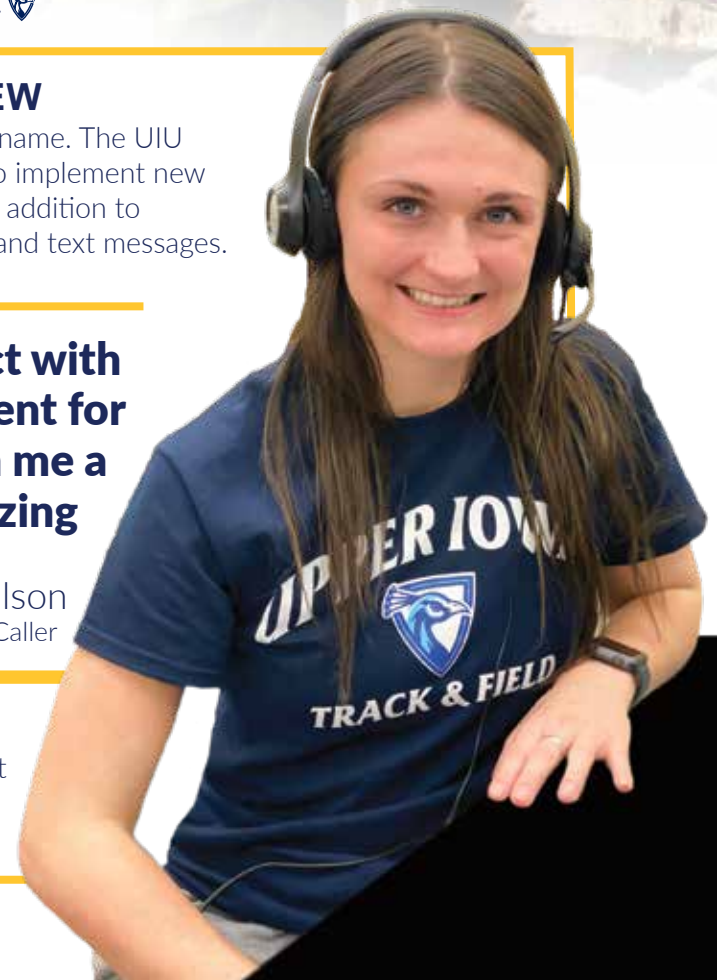
## INTRODUCING THE UIU ENGAGEMENT CREW

As 2020 continues to evolve, so do we, with a fresh new look and name. The UIU Engagement Crew, formerly known as UIU Phonathon, is excited to implement new multichannel technology to connect with alumni — which means in addition to traditional phone calls, we can also remain engaged through email and text messages.

“ Our new platform allows us to connect with alumni in ways that are more convenient for them. Being a student caller has given me a better understanding of just how amazing UIU alumni are.”

Cassiddy Wilson  
Student Caller

For those who are in a position to donate, we thank you for your generosity. For more information about the UIU Engagement Crew, contact Naomi Aziz, director of annual giving, at [azizn73@uiu.edu](mailto:azizn73@uiu.edu) or 563-425-5966.





save the date for

celebrate **UIU** days

April 22-23, 2021

## You're Invited!

- 📅 Mark your Calendar {April 22-23, 2021}
- 📱 Follow UIU on Social {like, comment & share}
- 🎉 Become a Milestone Donor {generate excitement}
- 📁 Give a Gift {support your UIU passion}

Next year marks our fifth anniversary and it's high time we celebrate. Join us for *cake, balloons, confetti and gifts* to support UIU. Can we count on you to participate? It wouldn't be a party without YOU!

**uiu.edu/CelebrateUIU**  
**#CelebrateUIUDays**



# ENDOWED SCHOLARSHIPS

**Andres Business Scholarship**

Established by Betty R. Andres '46 in 2006

**Total recipients: 25**

**Andres Education Scholarship**

Established by Betty R. Andres '46 in 2006

**Total recipients: 26**

**Babcock Scholarship**

Established by the Estate of Mary E. Babcock in 1972

**Total recipients: 18**

**Belknap Baker Family Scholarship**

Established by Genevieve Baker '36 in 2006

**Total recipients: 17**

**Dr. G.C. Baker Memorial Scholarship in Science**

Established by Mrs. Thelma Tidgewell Baker Rick in 1959

**Total recipients: 48**

**William F. Baker Science Memorial**

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

**Total recipients: 30**

**Beecher Beal and Bertha Beal Roberts / Thomas R. Roberts Student Scholarship**

Established by Dr. Mary Margaret Roberts, Col. Lucile M. Roberts and Mrs. Ruth E. Roberts in 2009

**Total recipients: 18**

**Charles G. Bell Scholarship in Art**

Established by Charles Bell '67 in 1993

**Total recipients: 28**

**Joe & Janet (Olson) Brady Scholarship**

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

**Total recipients: 21**

**Ivadell Brause Memorial Endowed Scholarship in Education**

Established by the Brause family in 1990 in honor of Ivadell Brause '21

**Total recipients: 67**

**Bruce I. Campbell Endowed Scholarship**

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

**Total recipients: 23**

**Foster Cass Foundation Student Scholarship**

Established by Foster Cass '41 in 2009

**Total recipients: 14**

**Caudle-Holmes Scholarship**

Established by Verda (Caudle) Holmes '34 in 1992

**Total recipients: 37**

**Lew Churbuck Scholarship**

Established by Lewis Churbuck '67 in 2007

**Total recipients: 10**

**Clark / Bowen Endowed Scholarship**

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

**Total recipients: 11**

**The John and Reta Coleman Achievement in Science Award**

Established by Dr. Richard W. Coleman in 1997

**Total recipients: 15**

**Beulah Combs Thompson Scholarship**

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

**Total recipients: 40**

**Ron Crooker Facilities Endowed Scholarship**

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

**Total recipients: 10**

**Csomay Endowed Scholarship**

Established by Barbara R. Csomay '46 in 2009

**Total recipients: 11**

**Blanche Cole Gloss Memorial Scholarship**

Established by Blanche Cole Gloss '23 in 1987

**Total recipients: 31**

**John William Dickman Endowed Scholarship**

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

**Total recipients: 28**

**May (Cliff) Davig Endowed Scholarship**

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

**Total recipients: 1**

**Dr. J. M. and Zinita Dickman Murphy Scholarship**

Established through the Estate of Zinita Dickman Murphy '18 in 1996

**Total recipients: 27**

**The John William Dickman Prize**

Established by Mrs. Adella Maltbie Dickman in 1939

**Total recipients: 163**

**Lucille Dickman Scholarship**

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

**Total recipients: 151**

**Eischeid Athletic Scholarship**

Established in honor of Everett "Eb" Eischeid '38

**Total recipients: 5**

**Drs. Eugene E. and Mildred Everts Garbee Award**

Established through memorial gifts in 1968

**Total recipients: 31**

Save the Date

# Honors & Awards

## 2021 Banquet

### Saturday, April 10

Student Center Ballrooms  
UIU Fayette Campus



# ENDOWED SCHOLARSHIPS

*ensure the future*

**The Excellence in Education Scholarship**  
Established by faculty, staff and friends of  
Upper Iowa University in 2007  
**Total recipients: 9**

**Extended University Scholarship**  
Established in 2010  
**Total recipients: 30**

**Faculty Appreciation Scholarship given by  
Tesoriero, Foley and Wood**  
Established in 1993 by Dr. Richard Tesoriero  
'77, Dr. Donald Foley '76 & Dr. Kurt Wood '76  
**Total recipients: 39**

**Thomas Parker Goebel and Helen Goebel  
Scholarship**  
Established by Thomas Parker Goebel '45  
and Helen Goebel in 1993  
**Total recipients: 119**

**The Dr. Austin J. Goldsmith Book Scholarship**  
Established by Dr. Austin Goldsmith '99  
in 2005  
**Total recipients: 16**

**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  
**Total recipients: 34**

**Linda Haines Endowed Scholarship**  
Established in memory of Linda Haines  
in 2012  
**Total recipients: 14**

**The Forrest G. & Margaret L. Moore  
Endowed Scholarship**  
Established in memory of Margaret (Hall)  
Moore '40 in 1996  
**Total recipients: 23**

**Dr. Louise P. Herring Scholarship**  
Established by Dr. Louise Herring in 1984  
**Total recipients: 93**

**Herz Scholarship**  
Established by Mr. and Mrs. Nathaniel Herz  
in 1930  
**Total recipients: 82**

**Irene Humphry Anderson Scholarship in  
English**  
Established by Irene Humphry Anderson '34  
in 1992  
**Total recipients: 29**

**Mrs. Ina Johnson Memorial Scholarship**  
Established by the Johnson family in 1978  
**Total recipients: 44**

**Ralph Kauten Endowed Scholarship**  
Established by Ralph Kauten '69 in 2012  
**Total recipients: 8**

**Paul "Spike" & Merriam Kelly Scholarship**  
Established by friends of Paul "Spike" '24  
and Merriam Kelly '24 in 1987  
**Total recipients: 33**

**The Brooke Kerns Endowed Scholarship**  
Established by the Kerns family in 2006  
**Total recipients: 15**

**Mary Kimball Scholarship**  
Established by the Kimball family in 2006  
in honor of Mary Kimball '56  
**Total recipients: 17**

**Carlton W. Knight and Maxine R. Knight  
Endowed Scholarship**  
Established by Dr. Kip '62 and Eileen Knight in  
2004 in honor of Carlton W.  
and Maxine Knight  
**Total recipients: 12**

**Joyce A. Lang Teacher Education  
Scholarship**  
Established by Gerald Lang in 2019 in  
tribute to his wife, Joyce (Ries) Lang '66  
**Total recipients: 1**

**Scott & Bobbi Lebin Endowed  
Scholarship**  
Established by Scott '64 and  
Bobbi '65 Lebin in 2012  
**Total recipients: 8**

**Irma K. Ledgerwood Endowed  
Scholarship**  
Established in memory of Irma K.  
Ledgerwood '22 in 1997  
**Total recipients: 19**

**McCoy Endowed Scholarship in Honor  
of Martha Weatherspoon**  
Established by LaVerne McCoy '98 and  
family in 2016  
**Total recipients: 4**

**Mike McCready Scholarship**  
Established to honor Mike McCready  
in 2000  
**Total recipients: 21**

**Don & Pauline McGuire Endowed  
Scholarship Fund**  
Established by Don '63 and Pauline  
McGuire in 2016  
**Total recipients: 3**

“ I am incredibly grateful to receive a scholarship made possible by generous donors. It is because of these awards that I take pride in my accomplishments and strive to achieve my very best.”

Hannah Schutte  
Joyce A. Lang Teacher Education Scholarship Recipient



# ENDOWED SCHOLARSHIPS

## **Dr. Gary McVicker Scholarship**

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

**Total recipients: 12**

## **Joe Menges Scholarship in Business Administration**

Established by Joe Menges Trust in 1959

**Total recipients: 47**

## **The Military Family Fund**

Established to honor U.S. military personnel  
in 2014

**Total recipients: 15**

## **Martha M. Moeller Scholarship**

Established by the Henry George Mackintosh  
Foundation in 2014

**Total recipients: 7**

## **Helen J. Monserud Scholarship in Sociology**

Established to honor Helen J. Monserud  
in 1977

**Total recipients: 32**

## **Charles Morgan Scholarship**

Established by the Morgan family in 1988  
in honor of Charles Morgan '42

**Total recipients: 30**

## **Warren W. Morgan Scholarship for Business Majors**

Established by Warren W. Morgan '38 in 2006

**Total recipients: 11**

## **Dennis and Marlene Murdock Adult Learner Scholarship Fund**

Established by Dennis '68 and Marlene Murdock  
in 2017

**Total recipients: 6**

## **Dennis and Marlene Murdock Leadership Scholarship Fund**

Established by Dennis '68 and Marlene Murdock  
in 2017

**Total recipients: 3**

## **Northeast Iowa Charitable Foundation Scholarship**

Established by the Northeast Iowa Charitable  
Foundation in 1997

**Total recipients: 138**

## **The James H. Olsen Biology Scholarship**

Established to honor James Herman Olsen '52  
in 2017

**Total recipients: 10**

## **Mrs. Richard Otley Improvement Award**

Established through gifts in 1963

**Total recipients: 85**

## **Pande Scholarship**

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

**Total recipients: 79**

## **Dr. J.D. Parker and Nellie K. Parker Scholarship**

Established by Mrs. Eleanor Parker Fox '26 and  
Dr. Robert L. Fox '28 in 1968

**Total recipients: 50**

## **Edward L. Paine and Gertrude Pease Paine Scholarship**

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

**Total recipients: 38**

## **The Paul and Margaret Pickett Scholarship**

Established by Paul and Margaret Pickett '57  
in 1997

**Total recipients: 24**

## **Lloyd Pleggenkuhle Memorial Scholarship**

Established in memory of Lloyd Pleggenkuhle '36  
in 1990

**Total recipients: 114**

## **William "Bill" Prochaska Endowed Scholarship**

Established by William '63 and  
Janet Prochaska in 2014

**Total recipients: 12**

## **J. Paul and Sharroll Richards Scholarship**

Established by J. Paul '56 and Sharroll Richards  
in 2014

**Total recipients: 15**

## **John Rippe Scholarship**

Established in memory of John Rippe '28 in 2000

**Total recipients: 20**

## **Michael David Selgelid Memorial Scholarship**

Established by the Selgelid family in 1989

**Total recipients: 29**

## **Margaret Share Kerfoot Scholarship**

Established by Harold Kerfoot '24 in 1960

**Total recipients: 43**

## **Sodexo Campus Services Scholarship**

Established by Sodexo Campus Services in 1999

**Total recipients: 42**

## **Stivers Leadership Scholarship**

Established by Louise (Stivers) Scott in 2003

**Total recipients: 17**

## **Upper Iowa University Grace Meyer Scholarship**

Established to honor Grace Meyer '72 in 1992

**Total recipients: 45**

## **The Pam Whitmore Endowed Scholarship for Excellence in Student Teaching**

Established by Pam Whitmore '65 and  
Fred Koch in 2006

**Total recipients: 18**

## **The William G. Wilcox Memorial Scholarship**

Established by former Registrar Lois Wilcox in  
1987, endowed in 2017

**Total recipients: 33**

## **The Hoyt R. & Winifred Appelman Young Scholarship**

Established through the Estate of  
Winifred A. Young in 1993

**Total recipients: 42**

## **Zecha-McCauley Scholarship**

Established by Gerald McCauley '61  
and Dr. Allen Zecha in 2003

**Total recipients: 37**





Roger '62 and Alice (DeLong) '61 Mangan


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

**The funds listed above are invested as part of UIU's endowment. Earnings are distributed to support a wide variety of programs and activities.**

## EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING AWARD HONORS LEGACY OF OUTSTANDING FACULTY

Roger '62 and Alice (DeLong) '61 Mangan created the Roger & Alice Mangan Excellence in Teaching Award in 2019 as a way to acknowledge the dedication and commitment demonstrated by UIU faculty. Roger and Alice each fondly remember many outstanding faculty who were responsible for igniting their lifelong passion for learning while at school together in the late 1950s and early 1960s. Through Roger's involvement on the Board of Trustees and the couple's dedication to attending UIU events throughout the year, the Mangans have witnessed firsthand that the rich tradition of outstanding faculty at UIU remains very much intact.

The inaugural Mangan Excellence in Teaching Awards were announced during a faculty senate meeting in November, with the first-ever recipients being Isaiah Stansbery D.B.A. (junior faculty award) and Dr. Nigel George (senior faculty award). Dr. Stansbery is an assistant professor of criminal justice currently in his third year of teaching at UIU. George is a professor of mathematics and physics and has taught for UIU since 2003. Nominations for this prestigious award come from students and fellow faculty and winners are selected by committee. For additional information about the award recipients, see page 2.

The Mangans hope to see this award fully endowed in the future, allowing current and future faculty to be recognized for years to come. The annual winners receive a cash award and are recognized in a display located in the Student Center. 

*lasting impressions*

# ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIPS

## **Alpha Nu Omega / Phi Beta Delta Alumni Association Scholarships**

Established by Alpha Nu Omega fraternity and Phi Beta Delta sorority alumni in 1995

**Total recipients: 35**

## **American Legion of Iowa Foundation Scholarship**

Established in 2010

**Total recipients: 20**

## **Susan Angeline Collins Memorial Scholarship**

Established by Dr. Charles Nick Serra in 2002

**Total recipients: 20**

## **Arneson Family Annual Scholarship**

Established by Stephen Arneson '00 in 2015

**Total recipients: 13**

## **Jacob D. Burling Memorial Scholarship**

Established in memory of Jacob Burling in 2017

**Total recipients: 5**

## **William R. Cook Scholarship**

Established by William R. Cook '65 in 1990

**Total recipients: 50**

## **Crandall Family Scholarship**

Established by Tom '69 and Carol (Meyer) '89 Crandall in 2019

**Total recipients: 1**

## **The Excellence in Mathematics Scholarship**

(Formerly the Raymond Deming Scholarship)

Established in honor of long-serving mathematics faculty

**Total recipients: 40**

## **The Stuart & Roberta Dunkel Annual Scholarship**

Established by Stuart '64 and Roberta Dunkel in 2011

**Total recipients: 10**

## **Environmental Leadership Scholarship**

Established by Dr. Katherine McCarville in 2015

**Total recipients: 6**

## **Kenneth J. and Sharon L. (Reisch) Erickson Scholarship Fund**

Established by Kenneth '83 and Sharon (Reisch) Erickson in 2019

**Total recipients: 3**

## **Florida Alumni Chapter Scholarship**

Established in 2017

**Total recipients: 5**

## **John Kinley Emergency and Disaster Management Scholarship**

Established by Billy "John" Kinley '14, '16 in 2019

**Total recipients: 1**

## **LocaliQ Graphic Design & Marketing Scholarship**

Established by LocaliQ in 2019

**Total recipients: 2**

## **Ruth Manuta Memorial Scholarship**

Established by David Manuta in 1994 in honor of Ruth Manuta '87

**Total recipients: 143**

## **LaVerne McCoy Scholarship**

Established by LaVerne McCoy '98 in 2013

**Total recipients: 7**

## **Emma Meiners-Emerson/Alice Emerson-Hart Scholarship for Excellence in Teaching Elementary Education**

Established by Alice (Emerson) Hart '65 in 2016

**Total recipients: 4**

## **Emma Meiners-Emerson/Alice Emerson-Hart Scholarship for Excellence in Teaching English**

Established by Alice (Emerson) Hart '65 in 2016

**Total recipients: 4**

## **Matt and Cindy Mickelson Annual Education Scholarship**

Established by Matt '86 and Cindy Mickelson in 2019

**Total recipients: 2**

## **The Perry Scholarship for Excellence in Teaching**

Established in 2016

**Total recipients: 6**

## **Dr. Larry Seals Scholarship**

Established by Dr. Larry Seals '86 in 2011

**Total recipients: 10**

## **The Stevens' Family Scholarship**

Established by Ronald and Mary Ann Stevens in 2017

**Total recipients: 3**

## **Tri-State Alumni Chapter Scholarship**

Established in 2017

**Total recipients: 4**

**“ I am extremely blessed that I was given this award. For me, it is a special gift to give back to UIU and the community. I really encourage you all to do the same.”**

**Serianna Dehmlow**

Dr. Larry Seals Scholarship Recipient





# WEBBERS INSPIRED BY CHALLENGE TO ALUMNI

As Tom '69 and Mary (Roach) '70 Webber can attest, giving is now easy for supporters of UIU. A convenient process is available to help donors make a lasting difference by setting up a recurring gift through electronic funds transfer (EFT) from a bank account or scheduled online gifts using a credit card.

The Webbers recently set up an EFT to show their support of UIU. The couple met on campus as students and recently became more engaged as alums. Tom has served on the Alumni Association Board of Directors since 2018 and volunteered to be a Giving Day captain in 2019, and they both attend as many campus events as possible — with Valentines Day's "Kiss Under the Arch" being one of their favorites.

"Not only do we see the strong leadership from President Duffy, but also an incredible job carried out by faculty and support staff," Tom Webber said. "This makes us proud to support the University and be involved when we can."

The Webbers encourage fellow alumni to consider a recurring gift to support their alma mater. The recurring gift initiative is designed to simplify the process of giving and establish a culture of giving and service at UIU.

"If every UIU alumni carved out \$20 per month from their budget and donated it to UIU, over \$10 million would be generated annually to support current students and emerging University projects," UIU President William R. Duffy II said. "I'm not sure our alumni know just how significant that level of support would be for our institution."

UIU has over 42,000 alums, yet in fiscal year 2020, only 1,172 (2.7%) were UIU donors. All gifts to UIU are tax-deductible, and gifts of any size are enthusiastically and graciously received.

"Being retired, our income has its limitations," Tom said. "But we were inspired by President Duffy's challenge and decided to commit to making a small gift each month. We feel our donation is well worth every cent to show our Peacock pride."


# RECURRING GIFTS

*making giving easy*

**“ We feel our donation is well worth every cent to show our Peacock pride.”**

Tom '69 & Mary (Roach) '70 Webber

Those making recurring gifts can direct their donation to the UIU Fund or any other program, team or initiative. Recurring gift donors may also be eligible for Donor Club or Peacock Athletic Fund membership.

To access the EFT form or schedule your monthly recurring gifts online, visit [uiu.edu/Give](https://uiu.edu/Give) or contact the Alumni Office at [alumni@uiu.edu](mailto:alumni@uiu.edu) or 563-425-5388. 



# ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

Among the many functions of the UIU Alumni Association, it strives to build loyalty, increase involvement and generate support. This Donor Report highlights the impressive show of financial support from many of our alumni; however, charitable giving is only one way our Peacock family gives back.



"Alums can offer their time and talent in a variety of ways," says Alumni Association President Jann (Schellhammer) Henkes '78, pictured left. "Take a shift and share your wisdom through the Alumni Speaker Series, or help with recruitment and submit a student referral."

Association Board members work diligently throughout the year to encourage alums to be involved and stay connected. The pandemic altered several of the group's projects but also encouraged them to be creative and discover new ways to connect.

"During this year's virtual homecoming we sponsored daily giveaways as a way to encourage alums to interact with our social media posts," Henkes said. "Even though we couldn't reunite on Campus this year, it was awesome to see people, no matter where they live around the world, sharing photos and videos of how they were getting into the homecoming spirit."

To learn how you can get involved by sharing your time, treasure or talent, visit [uiu.edu/AlumniAssociation](https://uiu.edu/AlumniAssociation). 

*As the Alumni Association Board gears up for 2021 and beyond, they want to hear from YOU! What do you want, need or wish for from your Alumni Association? This might include ideas for new and improved services, resources, volunteer opportunities, and social media communities and hangouts.*

*To show our appreciation for your feedback, all who submit their ideas at [uiu.edu/AlumniAssociation](https://uiu.edu/AlumniAssociation) will be entered to win a \$25 gift certificate to the UIU Campus Store. The winner will be announced February 1, 2021.*

## 6 EASY WAYS TO Give

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

## Alumni Office Staff



Back (l-r): Mark Danker, Morgan Thias '18, Mike Schrock '99. Middle (l-r): Brenda Luzum, Brock Wissmiller '19, Andrew Wenthe '12. Front (l-r): Nikki Kuhn, Anne Puffett '19, Naomi Aziz '13 and Julie Games.



# IN MEMORIAM

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

**Elizabeth (Clarksean) Batcheller '35**  
02/18/2019, Littleton, CO

**Maxine (Gardner) Van Daele '42**  
08/12/2020, Fairbank, IA

**George Breedlove '47**  
10/14/2020, Sacramento, CA

**Ruth (Anderson) Geilenfeld '50**  
11/22/2020, Mason City, IA

**Robert Christiansen '51**  
06/30/2020, Schleswig, IA

**Robert Hickman '53**  
08/13/2020, Citrus Heights, CA

**Henry Knoploh '59**  
07/11/2020, Ames, IA

**Donald Blaker '60**  
11/20/2020, Arlington, IA

**Paul Johnson '61**  
08/01/2020, Johnston, IA

**Madlyn (Cline) Houg '62**  
11/08/2020, West Union, IA

**Herbert Hill '64**  
10/13/2020, Aurora, IL

**Betty (Roswag) Hoth '64**  
08/22/2020, Sumner, IA

**William Van Eeckhout '64**  
10/12/2020, Menasha, WI

**Phyllis (Erickson) Green '66**  
07/28/2020, Cedar Falls, IA

**Arlene (Zummak) Thiele '67**  
10/20/2018, Oelwein, IA

**Wanda (Carpenter) Batchelder '70**  
08/26/2020, New Hampton, IA

**Steve Becker '70**  
11/02/2020, Meadville, MO

**Lavon (Steward) Linderwell '70**  
10/06/2017, Marion, IA

**Florence (Rosebaum) Gapinski '71**  
08/19/2020, Anamosa, IA

**Laura (Larson) Scott '71**  
11/22/2020, Burt, IA

**Betty (Helble) Urlaub '71**  
11/30/2020, Garnavillo, IA

**William Wignall '75**  
05/02/2020, Ottumwa, IA

**Albert Lyter '76**  
07/25/2020, Freehold, NJ

**Kathleen (Tupy) Moudry '81**  
08/09/2020, Fort Myers, FL

**Kenneth Arscott '83**  
09/04/2015, Little Silver, NJ

**Keith Holman '83**  
08/18/2020, Southport, NC

**Thomas Mayer '87**  
08/06/2020, Gilbert, AZ

**Arthur Murray '89**  
07/17/2019, Lakeland, FL

**Carolyn (Baker) Thomas '91**  
09/17/2020, Hamilton, OH

**Edith (Kampman) Miller '93**  
09/17/2020, Cedar Falls, IA

**Archie Stoops '94**  
11/01/2020, Winnabow, NC

**Tom Shepherd '95**  
10/31/2020, Des Moines, IA

**Brian Brown '98**  
01/15/2020, Dubuque, IA

**Rosemary (Drilling) Ivy '99**  
10/24/2020, Raymond, IA

**Renee Wittlinger '01, '05**  
09/16/2020, Colby, WI

**Egan Garcia '03**  
11/19/2020, Hialeah, FL

**Amanda (Goddard) Bearman '07**  
08/15/2020, Nashua, IA

**Janet (Peterson) Grender '07**  
09/04/2020, Mount Horeb, WI

**William Sykes '13**  
07/08/2019, Ellenwood, GA

**Leta (Oelrich) Schroeder '14**  
07/29/2020, Panora, IA

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