FIT IN...STAND OUT...GET AHEAD THROUGH EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING
AMBER ACKERSON, Business Administration and Sports Administration Magna cum laude graduate originally from Polk, is a member of the Orthman Manufacturing Board of Directors and is the Director of Human Capital and Corporate Secretary. She also graduated with distinction from the UNL College of Law. She was in private practice at Heldt and McKeone in Lexington prior to joining Orthmans.

SCOTT BACON, December 2011 Marketing Emphasis graduate and Kearney native, is a licensed auto/home/life insurance agent for AAA Nebraska in Kearney.

WARD JORGENSON, MBA graduate and Callaway native, has joined the Board of Directors of Orthman Manufacturing where he is the Director of Operations. Prior to joining Orthman, he worked with Pramac America and was a director of Manufacturing for Powermate Corp.

NICOLE KREITEL, Accounting/Real Estate Emphases and MBA graduate, joined the health-care consulting department as a health care manager with Lutz, an Omaha-based accounting and business solutions firm. She has nine years of CPA experience and two years as a CFO at Memorial Community Hospital and Health Systems in Blair.

RYAN MCGREGOR is a business valuation analyst with Lutz & Company. He values small to medium-sized businesses for the purpose of dissolution or succession of assets. He earned his MS degree in Security Analysis and Portfolio Management from Creighton University and a BS in Business Administration with an emphasis in Management from UNK. He has been in the finance industry for more than six years.

MELISSA RUFF, Accounting graduate, is an Audit Senior Manager at Deloitte & Touche LLP.

MICHELLE WIESE, Accounting/Finance graduate, is at the Fremont branch of Great Western Bank where she is a business banker.

MELISSA RUZICKA, Marketing Emphasis graduate and formerly assistant to the President of SCORR Marketing in Kearney, is now an Account Executive with First Comp in Omaha, NE.

BRIAN SUCHA, Accounting Emphasis graduate originally from Schuyler, has joined Orthman Manufacturing Board of Directors where he is Director of Finance and Corporate Treasurer. He was the controller for Harvey Farm Supply and then Champion Home Builder in York prior to joining Orthman as Corporate Controller in 2009. Sucha and his wife, Dawn, live in Gothenburg and have three children, Blake, Regan, and Kirsten.
Dear Friend of the UNK College of Business and Technology:

I know you will enjoy this issue of the UNK College of Business and Technology (CBT) Annual Report. As you read, I hope you will agree that this past year, CBT faculty, staff, and students have made a significant impact through our mission of teaching, scholarship, and service. A few highlights:

- In September, CBT Alumnus and CEO of the Stanley Security Division of Stanley Black & Decker, Kirk Stinson, visited the College as the 2012 Landstrom Executive-in-Residence. Over the course of three days Kirk shared his experiences and reflections with hundreds of students, faculty, staff, and business leaders.

- In October, faculty and students from universities near and far gathered in Kearney for the 2012 Mountain Plains Management Conference, hosted by the CBT. For two days participants enjoyed presentations and discussions of research and informal networking events.

- In December, the ENACTUS student group (formerly SIFE) successfully launched the first ever UNK student-run business, a coffee shop called Brewed Awakenings.

- Nine CBT faculty members (Kay Hodge, Michelle Fleig-Palmer, Janet Lear, David Palmer, Ross Taylor, Nate Barry, Janet Trewin, Frank Tankorang, and Vijay Agrawal) and two former students (Tiffani Luethke and Sharon Obasi) received awards for research.

- The Construction Management Organization was recognized as the Kearney Community Service Program of the Year for constructing a new Santa’s Cottage, a long-standing holiday tradition in downtown Kearney.

- CBT students (ITEC) Moses Moxey and Victor Chacon were elected as student body president and vice president for 2013/14. This is the second consecutive year that student leaders from the Industrial Technology Department have also been elected by their peers to lead UNK student government and serve as UNK student regents.

- In November, we took the College of Business and Technology on the road to Omaha as a busload of students, faculty, and staff visited Werner Enterprises and Conagra Foods. The trip allowed the students to learn more about these key Nebraska firms and the firms to learn more about CBT programs.

- In April, the College put our focus on ethics through CBT Ethics Day. The highlight was a visit by UNK alumnus Bill Bahaurd who presented a case on ethics in three classes and engaged faculty, staff, and leadership of the Kearney Area Chamber of Commerce on ways the College and the Chamber can cooperate to support strong ethics at UNK and throughout the regional business community.

As you review this issue, look for these and other examples of CBT impact. As always, we appreciate your support as alumni, colleagues, partners, and friends. Please continue to spread the word about the great things happening at UNK and the College of Business and Technology, and please let me know if we can ever be of service to you!

Sincerely,

Tim Burkink, Dean
Dr. Ross Taylor, Management Information Systems (MIS) faculty, took nine CBT students to study at Hanyang University, South Korea in July of 2012. Hanyang is a UNK partner institution. Dr. Taylor taught an MIS course to both UNK students and international students participating in the Hanyang International Summer School. Hanyang provides the faculty with salary, round-trip airfare, lodging, and cultural activities, and provides UNK students with a tuition waiver for the classes they take in the program as well as lodging. UNK has the ability to send four to six faculty members per year, one per UNK College.

Students participating in 2012 from CBT with Dr. Taylor were Moe Takenaka, Japan; Jordan German, Imperial; Angelica Calderon, Grand Island; Ciera Neverve, Kearney; Jingting Jia, Shijiazhuang, China; Brandon Wissing, Grand Island; Teruhisa Takahashi, Shizuoka, Japan; Luke Conrad, Valley; and Dane Melson, Kearney.

Jordan German, Marketing Emphasis major said, “I went to South Korea with the goal of completing my course requirements, but ended up coming away with one of my greatest undergraduate experiences. As it was an international school, I was able to meet students not only from South Korea but also from Africa, Australia, and almost every European country. I would recommend this trip to all business students at UNK as a way to diversify your resume, strengthen your cultural understanding, and have an incredibly fun month! I took a course taught by Dr. Taylor titled Experiential Learning. In this class, we hosted South Korean businessmen, compared and contrasted the Western and Non-Western business practices, and developed an understanding of the importance of localization. The school is recognized as one of the top ten universities in South Korea. The university provided a dormitory conveniently located by a metro stop that allowed students to explore the entire city of Seoul for around $3 USD. Since I needed to fulfill my international business minor course requirements and I had been wanting to study abroad throughout my entire undergraduate studies and the one month summer program offered the perfect opportunity for that, I made this amazing decision.”
The College of Business and Technology 2009 Executive in Resident, Bill Bauhard, returned to campus in the spring of 2013 to share ethical insights with students and faculty. He spoke to Dr. Kay Hodge’s Ethics class where they discussed a mini-ethical case study. He successfully engaged students in providing thought provoking remarks. He shared that a recent survey indicated that 45 percent of the U.S. workers observed misconduct in the workplace, 65 percent of them reported it, and 22 percent of them experienced some type of retaliation. Further, he indicated that between 2009 and 2011 the culture that enhances ethical decision making has declined in the United States. It appears that is due to the economic downturn as well as technology. Later, Mr. Bauhard met with representatives from the business community as well as the UNK community for a lunch and discussion of the Omaha Business Ethics Alliance. Discussion ensued regarding the potential integration of ethics education into the Kearney area, focusing on both youth and adults. His last session was with the Assurance of Learning Committee regarding their role in student assessment of ethical decision making.

Bauhard is an executive with experience in the financial services and telecommunications industries. His responsibilities include financial reporting and analysis, planning and forecasting, acquisitions, strategic planning, accounting operations, budgeting, financial systems, treasury, taxes, investments, internal auditing, and debt and equity financing. He was CFO for Omnium Worldwide, Inc.; the Sr. VP, CFO and Treasurer, Guarantee Life Companies, Inc.; President & CEO, Assistant Treasurer, Director of Finance, Manager of Finance & Treasury, US West Enterprises. His Bachelor of Science was earned at UNK while his M.S. in Management was from MIT.

Samantha Seina, Marketing Emphasis May graduate from Elkhorn, NE, completed a summer internship with the Transentric Group, a subsidiary of Union Pacific. Transentric, a supply chain technology solutions provider that creates messaging solutions and business-to-business applications to transportation operations and inter-enterprise supply chains, is located on the eighth floor of the Union Pacific Building in downtown Omaha, NE. Besides learning the product development process of this company, Samantha utilized her marketing knowledge to design a new website for the company. She then presented and received approval, from the executive team, for the new website design, which she implemented.

Seina said, “MY INTERNSHIP WAS INDESCRIBABLE! I felt that it really helped me relate my MIS minor with my Marketing emphasis. I gained so many experiences that I couldn’t have learned in a classroom.” Samantha interacted with 39 information technology interns throughout the UP companies, as well as the full-time employees of the Transentric Group. Further, Samantha experienced the 150th anniversary festivities of Union Pacific during the summer of 2012. She has accepted a full-time position with the organization upon graduation.
Eric Rosenberg describes June 21, 1996, as a bright sunny day; yet, he was filled with a plethora of mixed emotions, excitement, nervousness, and anticipation as he, a self-described small, fourteen-year-old punk from North Platte, NE, rode shackled in the back of a sheriff’s car to Kearney. He expected to be adding credibility to the tough–guy persona that most delinquents desire. His first address in Kearney was at Kearney High School’s “West Campus,” Youth Rehabilitation & Treatment Center (YRTC). Eric said, “Since I was raised in a chaotic, dysfunctional, and impoverished home with a father who tried but was in prison for a short time, college never seemed like something that was ever a real possibility for me, as the proverbial apple really hadn’t fallen far from the tree at all.” At 16 he found himself in county jail awaiting adult charges for felony assault on a police officer.

Eric was an unemployed high school dropout when his family moved to Chicago leaving him in North Platte to make decisions on his own. He began working at a door factory from 5:00 p.m. to 3:00 a.m. The job allowed him to pay bills, live in a very small house, and finish his senior year of high school. Eric was on his way to making choices that would change his life forever. With the support and encouragement of his high school guidance counselor, Lenny Hassle, he chose a new life path that would make a difference. Alternative school allowed him to get some sleep after work, catch up on classes he had missed, and ultimately make the decision that he would graduate from college and create a better life for himself and his family.

After completing course work at Mid Plains Community College in North Platte, he chose UNK because he needed a college that worked well with the community college. Having spent time in Kearney’s YRTC, he imagined that someday he would move there under different circumstances and with a fresh start.

Management became his chosen area of study as he gravitated towards leadership roles in social settings and business, especially after YRTC. “I felt that managing people in business was a natural fit for me. Also, I have worked for a number of managers who helped me understand different management styles. As a result, I learned to focus on ways that the process could be improved to enhance productivity. I want to be the great boss that people deserve. Dr. Jake Messersmith, Dr. Susan Jensen, Dr. Allen Jenkins, and Dr. Ross Taylor were four of my favorite professors. They are all great educators for so many different reasons. I could never pick a favorite,” stated Eric.
There is a demand for professionals who have been trained to work with children and families within formal public agency programs, private childcare, and early childhood education centers. There are few programs that prepare early childhood family advocates, those within educational settings working with families and children in non-teaching positions. Early Childhood Education programs are fine for preparing preschool teachers. However, there is also a growing demand for family advocates who provide comprehensive educational and case management services to children and their families in their homes. Headstart, Zero to Three, and the Buffett Early Childhood Institute are all initiatives that have resulted in changing requirements for employment in this field. Since our students must be prepared for the demands of the environment, an opportunity has surfaced to provide additional curriculum to appropriately develop the skills and knowledge of our students. Dr. Sylvia Asay, Chair of the Family Studies and Interior Design Department, said, “The nature and scope of curriculum within this program makes the field of Family Studies a perfect fit.”

Consequently, the Family Studies Program at UNK is working with the Early Childhood Education Program to create and deliver a non-teaching dual-degree program, “Early Childhood and Family Advocates.” UNK students will be prepared for those positions that not only require at least some coursework in child development but a degree in the area. The Early Childhood and Family Advocates degree combines coursework and experiential learning opportunities from both the family studies discipline and the field of early childhood education.

If all goes as planned, students can begin enrolling in this program in the fall of 2014.

Dr. Tami James Moore, Family Studies Program Director remarked, “Families and educators have always been on the same team. With the Early Childhood and Family Advocates degree, we can bring the two forces together to enhance early childhood education for the really important people—our children.”
A 1991 graduate originally from Superior, Nebraska, returned to his alma mater to speak to hundreds of business and technology students during the 2012-2013 homecoming weekend. Kirk Stinson, 2012-2013 Ron Landstrom Executive in Residence, was in the last graduating class from KSC when he set off to join the sales ranks of Black and Decker in Kansas City. Little did he know that the company would be under taking a big marketing change that would catapult them to become one of the most recognized brand names in and beyond the U.S. hardware industry. The business events he experienced have become a significant case study used by business schools across the country. DEWALT, at the time, was a little used product brand in the industrial tool market. B&D, a player in the consumer do-it-yourself tool market, was having difficulty breaking into the industrial market. As a result, the company chose to revive the little-used DEWALT brand, trademark the “jobsite construction yellow,” and expand the product line. The company’s marketing focus was based upon where their customers work, buy, live and play. They expanded to over 1,000 products and stayed true to the user while focusing on the brand, sponsorships, and products. The professional tool division went from around $100 million in sales in 1991 to $3 billion in 2012. The decision clearly was a wise one.

Stinson indicated that over half of their revenue comes from outside North America. The diversification from construction to industrial to security markets has allowed the company to no longer be reliant on a few major retail customers.

Stinson said, “Success comes from relentless improvement guaranteed through product innovation that matters to the consumer, and being a work horse – this is in the Stanley Black & Decker DNA.”

The company relies on partnerships to build their strength and create a significant presence in the marketplace. They are a partner in rebuilding the towers in New York City and are also involved in a number of Disney projects. They sell hospital health care solutions – automatic doors, locks, tracking devices to ensure medical staff safety, security devices that match newborns to mothers to prevent baby abduction, scanners, and security cameras, to name a few of their healthcare and security products. They have become a big player in a changing, innovative, niche market particularly through their innovation and technology focus.

Stinson told the audience of soon-to-be job seekers, “Create a brand for yourself and find your strengths – stay true to that. Be passionate about what you want to do and the industry in which you will be doing it. Remember to network and always leverage who you know. What you know is important after you make the connection. If you aren’t growing, you are stagnant and falling behind. This is a good company message as well as a personal message.” When asked for advice regarding success he said, “Your brand can vanish in a heartbeat if you lose your way. Don’t rest on your laurels. We are driven by innovation and the need to be leaders in every market.”

He further pointed out the need to develop superior leadership skills, practice good ethical behavior, and hang on to your integrity. “Get out of your comfort zone – think big – and prepare for your next job. Your employer will expect you to work
hard. Remember to be yourself – stand for something. Always learn from the people around you and find good mentors in business and life. If you have a plan and goals you can accomplish anything that you want. Company culture can somewhat be what you make it. Play hard, work hard and then recognize that you have a responsibility to embrace the challenges of the business and forge ahead. You will work your tail off and have a lot of fun doing it. You are in control of your own destiny. Love what you do,” said the KSC/UNK graduate.

Kirk Stinson graduated from the University of Nebraska at Kearney in 1991 with a degree in Business Administration with an emphasis in Marketing. Stinson grew up in a retail family who owned and operated a local hardware store in Superior, Nebraska. Considering his family business background, it made sense that Stinson’s first job out of college was a sales position with Black & Decker. After his start in the Kansas City area, Stinson has held many roles in sales and marketing and relocated to the DEWALT/BLACK and DECKER Corporate Headquarters in Baltimore, MD. Recently, Stinson has been promoted to assume the role of President, Advanced Industrial Solutions, located in Indianapolis, IN. In 2010, Stanley merged with Black & Decker to create a $11B company with divisions focused on hand and power tools, security products, industrial products and healthcare.

The Ron Landstrom Executive in Residence program, which is responsible for bringing him to campus to share with students, was created through the generosity of Jerry and Jeanne Taylor. Jerry Taylor is a KSC/UNK alumnus and former Senior Vice President and CFO for Applied Materials. Taylor chose to name the program after one of his favorite professors, Ron Landstrom, because of his profound respect and gratitude for the man who helped and inspired him as an undergraduate.
Entrepreneurial spirit is alive and being nurtured by CBT through the efforts of Dr. Jake Messersmith, Management, and Shawn Kaskie, Center for Rural Research and Development Director, dedicated ENACTUS student organization advisors.

Students created a feasibility study, developed a business plan, found a coffee supplier, purchased equipment, developed a marketing plan with the aid of the Collegiate Chapter of the American Marketing Association, and gave birth to “Brewed Awakening Coffee Shop.” Located in the UNK Health and Sports Center, this entity is the first student-operated business on campus and is open weekdays 7:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Profits generated will go toward a variety of projects that the group intends on pursuing such as helping a rural grocery store regain life, an outreach program that focuses on developing skills in area high school students, and a campus sustainability project.

Dr. Messersmith said, “Brewed Awakening is a student-driven project that provides a number of learning opportunities. The students have learned to navigate the complicated regulations governing start-ups and now have a live business in which to apply a wide-range of skills including staffing, inventory management, marketing, and financial planning. The coffee shop start-up exemplifies the entrepreneurial spirit of our students and underscores the CBT’s commitment to preparing our students with meaningful experiential learning opportunities.”

“The experiential learning and experience I have gained with my involvement as the Manager of Brewed Awakening has helped me develop skills I can further use in my future career. My involvement in the start-up process has taught me a lot about all the steps in starting a business. Even though the start-up process was long, it was a great learning experience. I am proud to be able to say I was a part of the first student-run coffee shop that came to UNK. Brewed Awakening is an experiential learning bookmark that will be marked as student empowerment in UNK’s history for years to come,” said Amanda Thee, manager, from Kearney.

Jordan Rehnstrom, Hartington, is the assistant manager; Miranda Kluthe, North Platte, marketing project leader; Zach Shultz, Grand Island, Board of Directors for Non-profit; Nicole Conner, Bennington, Board of Director’s; Michael Lechowicz, Millard, employee and Board of Directors; John Larchick, Loup City, marketing and Board of Directors; Kasey and Kori Dietz, Morrill, founding members; along with Hyejin Park, South Korea; and Eric Rosenberg and Levi Mendyk, Kearney and Loup City, research and equipment sourcing.
Dr. Bree Dority, Economics, and Shawn Kaskie, Center for Rural Research and Development who completed an economic impact study using IMPLAN software, estimated that UNK has a $115 million impact on the Kearney area based on data from 2009-2010. University and university-related spending totaled more than $164 million, which included UNK faculty/staff payroll and physical plant expenditures, $68.9 million; UNK student spending, $75.9 million; campus-related visitor spending, $13.6 million; and spending by UNK-related units (bookstores, dining services, etc.), $5.9 million. The estimated spending multiplier was 1.41. Dr. Dority said, “On a per dollar basis, this means that for every $1 spent locally by a UNK employee, student, or visitor, another 41 cents is generated in the Kearney area economy.”

In terms of jobs, the study found that for every three jobs at UNK one job is created in the community and that nine percent of the non-farm employment is due to the presence of the University of Nebraska at Kearney. Of all the spending categories, student spending is the largest – approximately each UNK student contributes $6,500 per year to local businesses. Visiting athletic teams spend a quarter of a million dollars annually while competing in Kearney. Kaskie indicated, “Buffalo County has typically ranked as one of the top five least economically stressed counties in the nation, according to the Associated Press Economic Stress Index. With about nine percent of all jobs in the community tied directly or indirectly to UNK’s presence, Buffalo County’s largest non-profit employers like UNK and Good Samaritan Hospital provide strong stability during economic downturns.”

UNK graduate, Kristan Barleen, Kiewit Building Group District Recruiting and Outreach Coordinator, said, “Being involved in the Construction Management program is a great opportunity for UNK students interested in pursuing a career in construction. Kiewit continues to be impressed with the students coming out of the program who have been hired as interns and full-time employees. They come in prepared and ready to hit the ground running.”

"Kiewit Corp., a global construction firm located in Omaha, NE with divisions throughout the country, has really taken to our concept of providing them the skillsets outlined in our mission. Kiewit trains the students how to build a bridge, power plant, road, skyscraper, oil rig, hospitals, schools, etc.,” said Dr. Nate A. Barry, Construction Management Assistant Professor.

Based upon the success of the hires from an institution and their future potential, Kiewit ranks programs/institutions as a Gold, Silver, or Bronze level program. UNK has risen to the level of Gold with the southwest division ranking UNK #1 in the country, thus garnering a high level of commitment from the organization. Barry remarked, “While this is just one company’s view of our program at UNK, we are excited about our future and the direction we’ve taken. More and more companies from across the country are realizing that the students at UNK are exceptional. We have been working very hard as faculty to change the perception that Construction Management is a ‘hands-on’ rough and dirty degree. It’s encouraging to see our students graduate and be able to manage multiple teams, use the most advanced technologies, and oversee millions of dollars. The trust that these companies are putting in our graduates is amazing and is a direct reflection of the entire education that they are receiving from UNK.”
DR. JANET LEAR, Economics, is the Nebraska State Business Education Association (NSBEA) University Teacher of the Year for 2012 as well as the recipient of the BEST Award. Fifty-nine BEST Awards were given this year for excellence in Business Education. The award is sponsored by Speaking Solutions. The recipients of the NSBEA Teacher of the Year Award are nominated by a member of NSBEA teaching business at the secondary, post-secondary, or collegiate/university level. Bonnie Sibert from the NE Department of Ed., Business, Marketing, and Information Technology Division nominated Dr. Lear.

The following faculty were recognized for their excellence in teaching, research, service, or lifetime achievement at the fall retreat: Teaching—Tenured: DR. SUSAN JENSEN, Associate Dean; Teaching—Untenured: DR. JAKE MESSERSMITH, Management; Scholarship—Tenured: DR. KAY HODGE, Management, and DR. JEANNE STOLZER, FSID; Scholarship—Untenured: DR. BRENDA ESCHEBNBRENNER, Accounting/Finance; Service: TERRY GIBBS, Aviation Program; Lifetime Achievement Award: SYLVIA ASAY, FSID, and BOB YOUNG, retired faculty Accounting/Finance.

A Distinguished Research award was presented to DR. MICHELLE FLEIG-PALMER, DR. JANET LEAR, DR. DAVID PALMER, and MS. TIFFANI LUETHKE (UNK graduate) for their paper, “How Do Mentors and Protégés Choose Each Other? The Influence of Benevolence, OCB, and POS on the Initiation of Mentoring Relationships,” which was presented at the Eighth Annual Business and Leadership Symposium at Fort Hays State University in Kansas.

SHERRY MORROW, Safety Center Director, announced that the Center has received a $37,000 grant from the Nebraska Department of Roads (NDOR) to conduct training for public transportation drivers.

DR. KAY HODGE presented “The Society for Case Research: An Organization Built on a Culture of Success” during the Society for Case Research, a subset of the Midwest Business Administration International Conference (MBAA). Co-authors were Roy Cook from Fort Lewis College and Reed McKnight from the University of New Mexico. They won the 2012 MBAA International McGraw-Hill/Irwin Distinguished Paper Award. Additionally, Dr. Hodge received the 2012 Phil Fisher Service Award from the Society for Case Research.

DR. SRI SESHAADRI, Marketing, received the Distinguished Alumnus award from his alma mater, the National Institute of Technology Karnataka, India. He accepted the award while at a meeting in Dubai. He also recently earned the Sloan-C Certificate in Online Teaching.

DR. SUSAN JENSEN, Associate Dean, and SHAWN KASKIE, Director of the Center for Rural Research and Development, have each received Rural Futures Institute Grants. Kaskie’s focus is on the concept of “rural sourcing” which relates to existing and start-up companies strategically locating operations in rural areas to reduce labor costs and increase employee reliability. This project aims to expand on a successful “cross-sourcing” model used by an existing software company and modified it to recruit University of Nebraska Alumni back to rural Nebraska in targeted professional service occupations. Dr. Jensen’s research focuses on developing the next generation of business and civic leaders for communities through appropriate training. Dr. Jensen said, “I appreciate the chance to partner with colleagues at UNO. This project will not only help us identify key leadership challenges in rural Nebraska, but also help to better understand how to best develop and support those individuals who take on the challenge of leading our rural communities.”

DR. JEANNE STOLZER, Family Studies and Interior Design, received the “Outstanding Faculty of the Year” award from the Division of Student Affairs at the University of Nebraska at Kearney.

DR. GREG BROEKEMIER, Marketing faculty and Chair of the Marketing/MIS Department, received the campus and the regional Institutional Faculty/Staff of the Month Award for the Region.

The 2013 Distinguished Alumni Achievement Award was presented to Kenneth W. Kroeker during the University of Nebraska at Kearney College of Business and Technology Honors Night, May 2, 2013.

Kroeker addressed the audience of outstanding graduating seniors, their loved ones, faculty, and staff with remarks that he referred to as “Lessons Learned.” Kroeker said, “Get a career about which you are passionate. Set goals, decide how you will achieve these goals and determine a time line. It takes years to build a good reputation and one foolish act to destroy it.” He told the honor students to be ethical and not succumb to pressure to behave in an unethical manner. “Slow and steady wins the race,” he remarked.

He also shared that saving money for a house, children’s education, and retirement was essential. “Time flies. Retirement arrives rapidly. Investing early is a key. Monitor your balance sheet annually,” said Kroeker. He told them to give back to the community because it would provide them with personal reward and enhance their career through the connections made. He ended his words of Advice from Kenneth Kroeker

“Lessons Learned” by wishing the honored graduates of spring 2013 success in life.

Mr. Kroeker, 1961 graduate of Nebraska State Teachers College/UNK with a B.A. in Education with Emphases in Accounting and Economics and 1969 graduate from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln with an M.A. in Finance and Accounting, is the Chairman and CEO of Lawson Kroeker Investment Management, Inc., an Omaha, Nebraska based firm, which he co-founded in 1986. The company manages assets of high net-worth individuals, foundations and endowments. Measured by assets under management, his firm is one of the largest Securities and Exchange Commission registered independent investment advisors in Nebraska.

Kenneth Kroeker and his wife, Victoria (Nemecek) Kroeker, a retired accountant, reside in Omaha. Victoria is also a graduate of KSC/UNK and the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. They have a daughter who works in securities compliance and regulation in the finance industry in New York.

A plaque honoring Mr. Kroeker has been placed in the West Center Building on the UNK campus along with the 2012 recipient, Dennis Nelson, Buckle CEO.

Ten-years ago the first Japanese students arrived on UNK’s campus to learn about aviation. Their success and the number enrolling in the program increased. As a result, the Aviation Systems Management (ASM) program at UNK developed a partnership with Takushoku University to train their future pilots since the airline industry in Japan was no longer doing so. The U.S. model was adopted, which resulted in initial academic and flight training being completed in a collegiate environment. Partnerships with entities like UNK needed to be created due to the paradigm change, limited general aviation infrastructure, and very high costs for training.

Students who arrived in August 2011 will have completed two-years of UNK aviation training by August 2013. They will return to Japan with a U.S. Commercial Pilot Certification with multiple ratings. After completing additional education at their home university, they will graduate prepared to enter the aviation industry. UNK’s ASM program stands poised to welcome the next group of Takushoku University students in August 2013.
AMANDA FIKE, a freshman Advertising and Public Relations major, Marketing/Management minor from Deweese, NE, and GAVIN SCHNEIDER, a sophomore Exercise Science major, Health Science and Business Administration minor from Edgar, NE, will be serving the State PBL organization as officers during the coming academic year. Amanda has been selected to serve as Vice President of Membership and Gavin will serve as the Vice President of Communication. The two also represented UNK and Nebraska Phi Beta Lambda at the National Leadership Conference in San Antonio, Texas June 24-27.

The Board of Governors of BETA GAMMA SIGMA recognized the UNK Chapter for being named a Premier Chapter for 2011-12. To be named a Premier Chapter, at least 85 percent of all those qualifying for membership at both the undergraduate and graduate level must have accepted the invitation to become lifetime members of Beta Gamma Sigma. Beta Gamma Sigma is the international business honorary serving business program accredited by AACSB international.

The CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT student organization was awarded the Community Service Program of the Year Award for their work on Kearney’s Santa Cottage by Sharon Pelc, UNK’s Director of Student Life. The group is advised by Dr. Kennard Larson.

ENACTUS won a Regional Trophy in Seattle, WA in April 2013 for their Annual Report and outreach programs which helped people in need by utilizing business practices.

DUSTIN DEKAY, Ogallala, was named an Outstanding Student during an awards ceremony for the National Association of Home Builders (NAHB) Student Chapters program at the 2013 NAHB International Builders’ Show (IBS) in Las Vegas. This award is based on grade point average, involvement in the local student chapter, involvement with the local home builders association, and interest in pursuing a residential building career. He received a certificate and gift card from HBI, made possible by the NAHB Leading Suppliers Council, which sponsors the awards.

The 2012-2013 Student Body President from CBT, MOSES MOXEY, is a junior majoring in Industrial Distribution. He is a member of the Black Student Association, the African Student Association, and was a member of the 2012 New Student Enrollment summer staff. He volunteers for several organizations on and off campus and assists UNK Dining Services with surveys and questionnaires. Moses is the son of Moses Moxey, Sr. and Vivian Campbell of West End, Grand Bahamas Island, the Bahamas. The Vice President, VICTOR CHACON, is the son of Eva and Victor Chacon, Sr. of Cozad, NE. He is a sophomore majoring in Industrial Distribution and a member of Loper Programming and Activities Council, Industrial Distribution Organization, and the Newman Center. He is a Student Diplomat and a member of Student Government and Student Programming Board.

Finance students toured the Omaha Federal Reserve Branch Bank and met with Jason Henderson, Vice President and Omaha Branch Executive, where they discussed current economic conditions and the upcoming “fiscal cliff.” Students were: TORI BEYE, Grand Island; JOSIAH BURGER, Davenport; KELSEY MARTINSEN, Primrose; KACIA SMITH, Imperial; BAYLEN WHITEHEAD, Yuma; and COLBY WURST, Taylor.

DR. SRI SESHADRI, Marketing, guided his students through the process of giving $10,000 to area philanthropic associations through the Learning by Giving course which will be a general studies capstone course next year.

MARY RITTENHOUSE’S ECON 270 classes participated in video conferences with Jerry Nelson, Public Affairs Specialist with the Chicago Federal Reserve Bank, for an open conversation on the structure and function of the Federal Reserve System and the role of money and monetary policy in today’s economy.

JORDAN REHNSTROM, a sophomore from Hartington, NE, presented “IFRS and Its Effect on Reported Working Capital” at the Society of Business, Industry, and Economics Annual Conference in Florida. This was the result of findings through the 2011
Summer Student Research Program where he was mentored by Dr. Laurie Swinney, Accounting.

The National Conference on Undergraduate Research at the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse in April accepted students from UNK who worked in collaboration with their mentors to design and conduct original scholarly projects over the past year. Over 3,500 students from across the country applied to the conference (100 percent of UNK applicants were accepted this year). The quality of scholarly projects at UNK is obviously high as CBT students and their research are as follows: JUSTIN VOGEL, Scottsbluff; RACHELLE SMYDRA, St. Paul; and JACEY SCHULTHEISS, Eustis; presented their research which was “The Funeral Service Industry: Consumer Knowledge and Perceptions;” REBECCA SWENSETH from Lincoln “University Athletics Attendance: Determining Factors That Affect Students’ Decisions Regarding Attending NCAA Division II Sporting Events;” and LISA M KLINGELHOEFER, Kearney, and JACKIE ZIEMKE, Waco. Their advisor was Dr. Greg Broekemier. The title of their paper was: “Keeping Downtown Businesses Involved and Vital in Development Organizations.”

Marketing student research presenters were LISA KLINGELHOEFER, Kearney, and JACKIE ZIEMKE, Waco. Their advisor was Dr. Greg Broekemier. The title of their paper was: “Selection of Creative Individuals Through Interviews to Facilitate Innovative Organizational Cultures.”

AMANDA SWENSON, a graduate student from Grand Island, presented “Health Care Reform: The Impact On Business And Managers.”

JUSTIN VOGEL, Scottsbluff, and JACEY SCHULTHEISS, Eustis. Their faculty advisor was Dr. Greg Broekemier, and their paper’s title was “The Funeral Service Industry: Consumer Knowledge and Perceptions.”

Graduate Management student presenter, AMANDA SWENSON from Grand Island, was advised by Dr. Michelle Fleig-Palmer. The title of her paper was “Health Care Reforms: The Impact on Businesses and Managers.”

MARGARET FENNESSY, Management student from Norfolk, was advised in her research project by Dr. Fleig-Palmer. Her research title was “Selection of Creative Individuals Through Interviews to Facilitate Innovative Organizational Cultures.”

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AMY ENCINGER from Grand Island is a Family Studies student and was advised by Dr. Jennifer Crosswhite. Her research was titled “NAK-Nursing at Keyboard: Exploring Online Social Media Breastfeeding Support Groups.”

CHARLA PEEKS from Kearney is in the Family Studies program. She was advised by Dr. Jeanne Stolzer in her research titled ”Boys Will Be Boys: The Possibility of Misdiagnosing Biological Behavior.”

Student presenter ROY MACHAMIRE is an Economics student from Chinhoyi, Zimbabwe. He was advised by Dr. Frank Temkorang. His title was “Money Demand and Supply during Zimbabwe’s Hyperinflation and Dollarization: 1998-2010.”

Recipient of the First Place Calvin T. Ryan Library Research Award: SANGEETA BOKEN, a Family Studies student originally from India, was advised by Dr. Toni Hill. Her presentation was entitled “Arranged versus Love Marriages: A Comparison between the United States and India.”

Dr. Michelle Fleig-Palmer, Management, will mentor YI ZHAO and KAITLIN DUGGAN on research projects in the Undergraduate Research Fellows program for the 2013-2014 academic year. The students will each be paid a $1,000 stipend while they are conducting the research. Only 100 students are accepted in this program on an annual basis.

Departmental faculty selected Outstanding Juniors based upon their performance in their classes as well as their involvement on and off campus in various organizations. These students received recognition along with a departmental scholarship Friday, April 26, 2013, during the Annual and Endowed Scholarship night. A total of $234,741 in scholarships was awarded through 90 scholarships resulting in 276 awards to 182 recipients.

The 2013 Outstanding Juniors are ACCOUNTING/FINANCE: Michael Florance, Papillion; Kirsti Rehler, Austin, TX; Chaney Black, Spencer. ECONOMICS: Yipeng Zhang, China; Sara Wilson, Imperial; Logan Krueger, Amherst, CO. FAMILY STUDIES/ INTERIOR DESIGN: Carly Havener, Fremont; Crystal Shortall, Bayard. INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGY: Travis Groteluschen, Columbus; Brett Douglas, Ravenna; Matt Lenagh, Omaha; Nick Knudson, Norfolk; Tomas France, Gothenburg; Christina Ritz, Arcadia. MANAGEMENT: Jordan Bloesser, Colorado Springs, CO; Gongxun Zhang, China; Shad Bride, St. Johns, AZ; Brenda Marble, Holdrege; Andrew Broadfoot, McCook. MARKETING/MIS: Jacobi Goodell, Kearney, and Bailey Mahlberg, Elwood.
Honors graduates of 2013 were recognized at a ceremony May 2, 2013.

ACCTOING/FINANCE: Jeffrey G. Bryant, Platte; Ryan Grossnicklaus, Aurora; Roy T. Machamire, Zimbabwe, Africa. ECONOMICS: Abbie Davis, Wood River; Zachary E. Shultz, Grand Island; Pamela Thindwa, Blantyre, Malawi. FAMILY STUDIES & INTERIOR DESIGN: Amy Encinger, Grand Island; Amanda High, Bertrand; Crystal Krohn, Grand Island. INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGY: Jessica Rivas, Lexington; Pierce Longacr, Fremont; Tracy Metz, Imperial; Kyle William Kerkman, Clearwater; Christopher Lee McEntee, Kearney; Jeffrey S. Lantz, Lincoln. MANAGEMENT: Eric Michael Rosenberg, North Platte; Megan A. Axmann, Overton; Vanessa Leeper Jones, Colorado Springs; Ariane Jae Aten, Kearney; Sarah Jo Schillin, McCook. MARKETING/MIS: Justin A. Vogel, Scottsbluff; Elizabeth “Libby” Manfull, Gibbon; Clayton J. Pfeifer, Grand Island; Samantha C. Seina, Elkhorn. MBA: Ronald Spencer Wall, Henderson.

ABBI DAVIS, Economics graduate with an MIS Minor from Wood River, delivered the senior address at the 2013 spring commencement. Abbie graduated Summa Cum Laude. MARISSA NIDAY, Management Emphasis Major from Fremont also graduated Summa Cum Laude and delivered the senior address at Honors Convocation.

The MAJOR FIELD TEST (MFT) is taken by graduating seniors in the capstone business class. The students’ scores are compared to students across the country. The MFT, which is administered by Educational Testing Service (ETS), is a comprehensive undergraduate and graduate outcome assessment that measures the critical knowledge and understanding obtained by students in a major field of study. ETS develops, administers, and scores more than 50 million tests annually such as the GRE and The Praxis Series. CBT 2012-2013 students scoring at or above the 99th percentile: Eric Rosenberg, & Jeffrey Bryant, North Platte; at the 98th percentile: Justin Vogel, Scottsbluff, and Abbie Davis, Wood River; at the 97th percentile: Chaney Black, Spencer; at the 96th percentile: Clayton Pfeifer, Grand Island, Shari Spilnek, Elba, and Jake Sawatzky, Silver Creek; 95th percentile: Jarod DeTurk, Amherst; the 94th percentile: Daniel Frauendorfer, Aurora; at or above the 90th percentile: Marissa Niday, Fremont; Zach Schultz, Grand Island, and Travis Arnold, Beaver Crossing/York; Benjamn Fullerton, Neligh, NE and Albert City, IA; Brian Riley, Gothenburg, and Kevin Dancer, North Platte. Also scoring high: Danielle Meyer, Deshler; Ciera Neverve, Kearney; Kyle Glidden, Benkelman; Michael Runge, Waco/York; Ryan Skogg, Littleton, CO; Joe Mannschreck, Cook; Jared Carlson, Eagle; and Brett Klein, Scottsbluff.

MBA high performer at the 99th percentile: John Roschewski, Kearney; at the 98th percentile: Mark Krienert, Hastings, and Kyle Teel, Indianola; at the 95th percentile: Anne Maina, Nakuru, Kenya, and Sarah Nolan, Red Cloud; at the 90th percentile: Andre Ball, Bellevue, Keri Carder, Albion, Ross Pierce, Verdigre, and Yauheni (Eugene) Prystupa, Brest, Belarus.

Marienau Scholarship Economic Essay Contest winner, Dayna Larreau; Faculty, Frank Tenkorang; and winner, Anson Hueftle

Larry & Jeffe D. Hall Scholarship Dr. Bev Frickel & Bridget Seberger

2013 Honors Graduates

OutSTANDING StuDENTs & ORGANiZAtiONS

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2013 Honors Graduates

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Dr. Ngan N. Chau, Assistant Professor in the Department of Marketing and Management Information Systems, holds a B.S. in Information Technology from Vietnam National University, B.B.A. in Posts and Telecommunications Institute of Technology in Vietnam, and a Ph.D. in Marketing from the University of Central Florida. Her research interests focus on durable goods, product introductions, and supply chain design. She is focusing upon the further growth and development of the Supply Chain Management program at UNK. “I enjoy teaching at UNK. I found that most students are hard-working and respectful. I was also impressed by how the faculty devoted their energy to experiential learning which gives students a great opportunity to succeed after graduation. My first semester at UNK was very exciting. I look forward to working with my colleagues and the students in the future,” said Dr. Chau.

Dr. Eddery Lam, Assistant Professor in the Department of Economics, holds a B.A. in Mathematics and Economics and a M.A. in Economics, all from Boston University. His Ph.D. in Economics is from Kansas State University. Prior to coming to UNK, he was a Visiting Assistant Professor at the University of Colorado in Denver. His research focus is on macroeconomics, econometrics and international economics.

Captain Russell Bartholow is an Assistant Professor and Director of Military Science in the College of Business and Technology. His B.A. was earned at the University of California in Santa Barbara. He is a member of the Nebraska Army National Guard where he served as a Logistics Officer. He previously served in Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan. Captain Bartholow said, “The Military Science program produces leaders ready to operate on a global level. It is good for students considering a career in politics, state department, international affairs, law, law enforcement, etc. We recruit future leaders, diverse students with strong scholastic, athletic and leadership qualities. We continue to teach and build Army values in each cadet. ROTC offers scholarships, contacts, and benefits of joining the guard.”

Damien Cullen, Senior Military Science Instructor, earned his B.S. degree in Criminology and Criminal Justice from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln in 2010. He has over eight years in the Army National Guard. He has been teaching Military Science at Colorado State University for the past two years and plans to continue working at UNK while he pursues his Master of Science in History.

“Leadership is the art of getting someone else to do something you want done because he wants to do it.”

-General Dwight D. Eisenhower
THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGY’S Industrial Distribution program was recently awarded a $27,000 product donation from GE Energy. The products will be placed in the Industrial Distribution Simulation Laboratory.

The Marketing/MIS Department’s Business Sales program has been identified as among the 2012 and 2013 Top Universities for Professional Sales Education by the Sales Education Foundation. The Industrial Distribution Technical Sales program continues to be listed as well.

The Family Studies program was recently awarded a 5-year renewal as a Certified Family Life Education program by the National Council on Family Relations.

“CBT On The Road” was developed as an event to educate students on industry and employment opportunities throughout Nebraska as well as build strategic relationships between the College of Business & Technology and Nebraska businesses. Nineteen students and six faculty and staff members traveled to Omaha to visit Werner Enterprises and ConAgra Foods. Both businesses treated the students to tours of their facilities as well as educational sessions about their business, careers, and internships. In particular, the companies highlighted careers and internships in logistics, transportation, materials management, operations, and other areas of the supply chain.

CBT students recognized the following outstanding faculty at a Mortar Board Faculty Appreciation dinner: DR. ROSS TAYLOR, DR. SRI SESHAADRI, DR. GREG BROEKEMIER, Marketing/MIS, and DR. MICHELLE FLEIG-PALMER, Management.

The Aviation Systems Management, Construction Management, Industrial Distribution, and Information Networking and Telecommunications programs, within the Industrial Technology Department at UNK were recently reaccredited through the Association of Technology, Management, and Applied Engineering (ATMAE) at the November 2012 meeting of the ATMAE Board of Accreditation. ATMAE currently accredits a total of 179 baccalaureate level programs across the country. The Industrial Technology programs at UNK are the only programs in the State of Nebraska to hold ATMAE accreditation. The Industrial Technology Department has been a pioneer in developing a fully online accreditation self-study since initial ATMAE accreditation was achieved in 2002. The reaccreditation period will extend through 2018.

Business Statistics students in Dr. Michelle Fleig-Palmer’s class conducted a research study to assist the local Red Cross Blood Services Chapter. The students collected data at the Nebraskan and at West Center to better understand the characteristics of people who donate blood. They presented the results to representatives of the Red Cross after analyzing the data.

CBT was well represented at the February 15, 2013 meeting of the Board of Regents in Kearney. DR. STEVE SCHULZ, Assistant Professor of Marketing, and Tom Henning, CEO of Cash-Wa, presented Supply Chain Management as the featured academic program. Jane Petersen, Assistant Director Instructional Technology, and DR. KATHRYN ZUCKWEILER, Associate Professor of Management and Associate Dean of Graduate Studies and Research presented the topic of Mobile Learning. UNK Students JUSTIN VOGEL, Marketing student from Scottsbluff; Colleen Kellar, Communication Disorders student from Rapid City, South
Alyshia Nelson, senior marketing student from Newman Grove, studied abroad during the 2012 spring semester of her junior year. The Nebraska Semester Abroad program is open to all Nebraska universities and colleges and coordinated by UNK. Alyshia’s program was based out of Olomouc, Czech Republic, home to Palacky University. It was the perfect home base for the group’s eleven week trip as it was a relatively small, friendly community. Approximately 20 university students arrived in mid-March and returned to the states May 31, 2012.

Alyshia said, “There is no one reason I chose to study abroad. First, I love traveling in general, but haven’t had much opportunity to do so in my life. I thought this couldn’t be a better opportunity. Second, with my marketing degree I believe it’s important to be aware of many cultures’ and countries’ attitudes towards certain products, ideas, and services. Third, I have always wanted to participate in a study abroad experience. I believe it’s an experience not many people get, so to be one of those rare candidates I consider myself truly blessed. I also have worked really hard ever since high school to be ahead in my college credit hours so I would have the opportunity to take a semester and study abroad.”

Mary Ann Lawson Retired Internship Director Impacted Lives of CBT Students. Mary Ann was born in Loup City, NE in 1940, grew up in Ogallala, and began working at Rexall Drug headquarters in Hollywood, CA upon graduating from high school. In 1965, she and Gayle Lawson met in CO, married and had three children, Andrea, Matthew, and Chad. In 1978, the family moved to Kearney, NE where she pursued her dream of earning a college degree. While working as a secretary in the business area at UNK, she proudly started her B.S. program at 42 years old. She became Director of Business Internships under Dr. Galen Hadley, Dean. In July of 2011, Mary Ann retired. She spent a significant amount of time volunteering with the Kearney Community Theatre, the Central Mediation Center, Leadership Kearney, and the Gold Torch Society. Mary Ann was a member of the Kearney Chamber of Commerce and Lambda Pi Eta Honorary, as well as a Board member of the UNK Alumni Association. Mary Ann died December 18, 2012.

Memorials are suggested to UNO Medical Center Oncology Department.
Have you been promoted, received an award, changed jobs, married, increased your family, or moved? We are interested in you and other alumni are interested in the events of your life. Help keep our CBT mailing list current and the newsletter interesting by using this form to notify us of a change of address as well as to update us on your eventful life.

NAME: ____________________________

ADDRESS: ____________________________

E-MAIL ADDRESS: ____________________________

HOME PHONE: ____________________________ WORK PHONE: ____________________________

GRADUATION YEAR FROM UNK OR KSC: ____________________________ MAJOR: ____________________________

EMPLOYER: ____________________________ POSITION/TITLE: ____________________________

WORK ADDRESS: ____________________________

NEWS ITEM: ________________________________________________

Send form to: Marsha K. Yeagley, College of Business & Technology | UNK | Kearney, NE 68849-4450, fax to 308.865.8387, or email yeagleym@unk.edu