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upcoming EVENT
Thursday and Friday, September 22-23
2016-2017 Ron Landstrom Executive in Residence,
Jeanette M. Wojtalewics, CHI Health Chief Financial Officer
FROM THE DEAN... 

Dear Friends,

One of the most important outcomes of a college education is establishing a strong foundation for career success. We embrace our mission of preparing our graduates to compete in dynamic professional environments. To accomplish this, we strive to develop curricula that is state-of-the-art in content and relevance to industry. We also ensure all of our students engage in hands-on, applied learning and help each develop skills critical for professional success, such as effective communication and critical thinking.

How are we doing? Here are highlights from our most recent placement report for 2014/15, with 86 percent of graduates reporting:

- **90 percent** of graduates were placed in fields related to their degree within three months of graduation.
- **100 percent** of the MBA graduates were placed within three months of graduation.
- **138 graduates** (53 percent of those reporting) started their careers in Nebraska.
- The average starting salary for graduates was **$40,000**.

We are proud of the impact we are making in preparing talented professionals for employment in Nebraska and beyond! This will always be our top priority.

Looking ahead, we are embarking on a journey which will transform the College of Business and Technology facilities. This summer the West Center will receive a facelift in all common areas and classrooms, including new flooring, painting, and signage. The Family Studies faculty and students will move into the West Wing, recently vacated by the College of Nursing which moved to the new Health Sciences Building. Several classrooms will be enlarged and improved as part of this transition.

Recently, UNK was allocated funding to replace Otto Olsen, the longtime home to our Industrial Technology and Interior Design programs. Planning is in progress for a new building! We are confident that these faculty and staff will be moving into a state-of-the-art facility located on the UNK West Campus by 2019. We are so pleased that our facilities will be among the best in the state.

I am sure you will enjoy reading about the accomplishments of our faculty, staff and students in this issue of our Annual Report. As always, we appreciate your ongoing interest and support of the College of Business and Technology.

Best wishes,

Tim Burkink
Dean, College of Business & Technology
Thursday, May 5, 2016, University of Nebraska Board of Regents member, Robert Phares, was presented with the 2016 College of Business and Technology (CBT) Distinguished Alumni Achievement Award at the CBT Annual Honors ceremony held prior to graduation. Following the presentation, he addressed the CBT honored graduates, their families, faculty and staff. He spoke to the need to act with integrity and compassion, as well as serving others. Regent Phares said, “Make a life by what you give. You owe rent on the space you occupy. Leave things a little better than you found them. It is important to remember to do the right thing always. People around you have given to you. There is no such thing as a self-made person. Thank those who have encouraged you.” As a devoted Rotarian, he shared the object of Rotary and the four-way test. He said, “When you speak or act, ask, is it the truth? Is it fair? Will it build goodwill and better friendships? Will it be beneficial to all concerned?”

Robert “Bob” Phares is President of Phares Financial Services, a third generation independent life, health, and financial planning firm started by his father, Carl, in 1947. His achievements include being a life and qualifying member of the Million Dollar Round Table for over thirty years, Court of the Table for eight years, and a two-time qualifier for the elite Top of the Table, which is achieved by less than one percent of agents world-wide.

The North Platte High School and KSC/UNK Business Administration honors graduate also graduated from the American College located in Bryn Mawr, PA. He is a Chartered Life Underwriter (CLU) and a Chartered Financial Consultant (ChFC). He received the National Quality Award and The National Sales Achievement Award for over 30 years and is the past President of the Nebraska Association of Insurance and Financial Advisors.

Mr. Phares was elected to the University of Nebraska Board of Regents in 2006 and continues to serve in 2016.

April 29, 2016, The Business Division at the University of Nebraska-Kearney was notified that after a long process of evaluating faculty, curriculum, and processes it has maintained its business accreditation by AACSB International—The Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business. Founded in 1916, AACSB International is the longest serving global accrediting body for business schools that offer undergraduate, master’s, and doctoral degrees in business and accounting.

AACSB Accreditation is the hallmark of excellence in business education and has been earned by less than five percent of the world’s business programs. Today, there are 755 business schools in 51 countries and territories that maintain AACSB Accreditation.

The review was conducted by a peer review team made up of three business deans from accredited programs. The team thoroughly examined extensive written documentation and conducted a three-day campus visit, when they met with faculty, staff, employers, and students. According to Tim Burkink, Dean of the College of Business and Technology, the team commended the business programs for a demonstrated commitment to students including offering experiential learning opportunities, an effective strategic planning process, impactful research, and service.

CBT faculty and administrators are dedicated to providing a quality education and delivering information regarding best business practices to students.
Karen Couvillon Goracke, 2015-2016 Ron Landstrom Executive in Residence, graduated in 1988 with a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration and Organizational Communication from KSC/UNK. In 2013, Warren Buffett, Chairman of Berkshire Hathaway, Inc., appointed her CEO and President of Borsheims Fine Jewelry and Gifts.

Goracke spent two days at her alma mater giving back to the campus community by sharing her career path and words of wisdom with students. She said, “Have confidence. Tell yourself, ‘I can do this.’ Volunteer for projects. Don’t be afraid to make a mistake. Define your benchmarks before you start a project so you have that measure of success. You don’t need to be the smartest person in the room. Find your experts. Communicate effectively and make sure your teams work together. I got where I am by raising my hand and saying, ‘I can do that.’”

Further, she indicated that making mistakes means you are trying new things. Then you should learn by fixing the mistake. She shared that her organization has a robust corporate responsibility program. They consistently ask how to lower their imprint on the environment and they look for partners that are ethical and socially responsible as well.

She said, “I have a strong work ethic. I love a challenge. I love to think. I love to work. I am curious to learn. Do what is right for you and your family. Find what makes you happy and balance your work and personal life. I love my role as a mom, a wife, and a CEO. When I am at work, I work. When at home and my family is present, my focus is with them.”

After returning to Omaha and having time to reflect on her visit, she said, “What I enjoyed the most was the interaction with the students. Their enthusiasm, curiosity, and kindness beyond impressed and made me excited for the future. I was honored to be an Executive in Residence and will forever be grateful for the opportunity.”

Ms. Goracke is a Director with the Jewelers Vigilance Committee, the leading compliance organization in the jewelry and gem industry. Additionally, Ms. Goracke serves on boards and committees within the gem and jewelry industry. Locally, she serves as a volunteer with Skutt High School as well as with the school’s Angel Flight fundraiser, just to name a few of the many entities in which she is involved.

Omaha native, Goracke, resides in Omaha, Nebraska, with her husband, Bruce, and their three children.
Danielle Mohlman Bohn, 2009 Interior Design graduate, is a designer at Creative Kitchen Designs, Inc. in Anchorage, Alaska. She was the National Kitchen and Bath Association (NKBA) Alaska President in 2014, VP for Programs 2012-2013, and VP for Technology/Communications 2011-2012. In 2015, she was selected as a 30 Under 30 Alumni, and in 2016 she was identified as one of the Best of KBIS Judges. She has had several designs published in the Alaska’s Best Kitchens Magazine and was a guest on the Washington Post’s weekly Home Front live chat where she discussed kitchen renovations and revamps utilizing the latest trends.

Mindy Chesnut, 1998 Accounting graduate, is President of Design Four Inc. Before she and her husband became entrepreneurs, she was an auditor for Medicare at Mutual of Omaha.

Kathy Herbers, 1984 Business Administration graduate, is an account executive for Firespring. This company merged with her business which is an Advertising Specialty Institute distributor. She has more than 25 years of experience in the printing industry having worked at Colonial Press in Omaha and Baker Printing in Lincoln. After she left Baker Printing, the company was acquired by Cornerstone Print and Marketing, which also merged with Firespring.

Miranda Kluthe Hubbell, 2014 Marketing Emphasis graduate, is employed at Buckle, Inc. as an Email Marketing Specialist.

Puja Kandel, 2002 Computer Information Systems and Business Administration graduate, launched CMIT Solutions of West Omaha which is the first Nebraska franchise location for the Texas-based company. She plans to expand the organization to additional Nebraska communities where she will provide a broad range of IT services, remote backup and recovery, outsource support, and antispam solutions. She has worked as an IT programmer analyst intern for West Corporation and in CHI Health’s IT department prior to this endeavor. She received a certificate in Leadership Franchise and a certificate from the Sandler Sales Boot Camp Training Program.

Paul Knutson, 2011 CPA-Accounting graduate, joined Lutz, an Omaha-based accounting and business solutions firm in 2012 and specializes in the Sanitary and Improvement Districts and construction industries. He has recently been promoted to senior accountant.

Billie Kunzman, 2015 Marketing Emphasis graduate, is employed with C&A Industries of Omaha as a nurse recruiter for Aureus Medical Group.

Shelby Laramore, 2015 Marketing Emphasis graduate, is a Financial Analyst at Verizon in the Tulsa, OK area.

John Lawless, 2012 Business Administration summa cum laude graduate and University of Minnesota Law School magna cum laude graduate, was named to the Order of the Coif and served on the National Moot Court as a competition team member and director. Lawless has joined the Lincoln-based firm of Scudder Law representing clients in business transactions.

Dillon Miller, 2015 Industrial Distribution graduate, is employed by IBT, Industrial Bearing and Transmission in Tulsa, Oklahoma.

Jaye Monter, 1984 Accounting/Finance graduate, is employed by Chief Industries as a controller. She coordinates the company’s financial planning and budget management functions while providing internal leadership.

Randy Mousel, 1987 Business Administration graduate, is the Senior Vice President of brokerage sales for Mutual of Omaha. He is
responsible for the sales and marketing strategies of the company’s brokerage distribution health products. Mousel joined Mutual of Omaha in 1995 as a distribution specialist in the supplemental distribution operation.

Joe Nerud, 2008 Construction Management graduate, is the project manager for Sampson Construction on the $70,000,000 Kearney High School project and will be managing the construction of the Central Community College structure as well. He has been employed with Sampson Construction for nine years. Mr. Nerud said, “The UNK-CM program provided an excellent foundation to excel in the commercial construction industry. The instructors provided extensive knowledge and credibility on real-world applications. Teaching inside and outside of the classroom provided a well-rounded education that prepared me for daily challenges. I will never forget the German exchange program, CMO and friendships that UNK provided.”

Dave Ott, First Officer, 2003 Aviation Systems Management (ASM) Program graduate and current CBT Advisory Council member, works for Spirit Airline. He and fellow UNK/ASM graduate, Captain Levi Gray, fly an Airbus 320 for Spirit Airline.

Jaiden Potter, 2014 Accounting/Finance, 2015 MBA magna cum laude graduate, and VP of Beta Alpha Psi, is an associate with Seim Johnson LLP.

Dusty Reynolds, 2004 Industrial Distribution graduate, was awarded the 2015 Innovator of the Year by a team of international judges after a challenging year of business pitching, planning, and training. Dusty chose to become an entrepreneur as opposed to focusing on technical sales.

Denise Rice, 2011 Family Studies and 2014 MBA – Human Services graduate, is a Federal Aid Administrator in the Grants Division at the Nebraska State Patrol. She was recently awarded two, fully-funded grants for $761,277 and $785,449.

Alyshia Nelson Samuelson, 2013 Marketing Emphasis graduate, is a Program Manager with SCORR Marketing in Kearney.

Lana Lueck Shaw, 2008 Marketing Emphasis graduate, is the Marketing Director for Adams Bank & Trust in Ogallala. Upon graduation, she gained experience with Sandhills Publishing.

Kiley Thiele, 2000 UNK Marketing Emphasis and Northern Illinois University MBA graduate, is Vice President of Development and Marketing for Make-A-Wish Nebraska. She is responsible for developing strategic training, marketing, and stewardship plans. Thiele’s successful fund raising strategies have increased revenue over the past five years and increased major gift donors by 127 percent. Due in part to her efforts, the organization has won the Better Business Bureau Integrity Award in 2012 and 2015 and the Make-A-Wish Outstanding Chapter Achievement in Fundraising Award in 2012 and 2013.

Gongxun Zhang, 2015 graduate, is in an MHRIR program at Michigan State and will engage in a 2016 summer internship with Boeing in St. Louis. He credits his education at UNK/CBT for helping him move forward in his career.
During the summer of 2015, three UNK ROTC cadets attended the Cadet Leadership Course (CLC) at Fort Knox, KY. Two of the three UNK cadets were given the highest rating of “Top 15 Percent” of cadets nation-wide that attended CLC in 2015. UNK Army ROTC cadets are among the best trained cadets in the country. Eighty percent of the cadets from UNK who attended Army ROTC’s summer training programs the past two years have ranked in the top third of the 5,000 cadets from across the country.


Nathan Sell presented “Kin Selection and Public School Funding in Rural Nebraska” at the 2015 Fall Student Research Symposium. All of these students were mentored by Dr. Bree Dority, Economics.

Winners of the fall Kay Payne Case Competition in Dr. Heather Meyer’s Advertising Management class were the Vertical Focus Realty and Look What’s Cookin cases. Dr. Greg Broekemier’s Marketing Research students, who completed the Kearney Hub case, were also engaged in this three-way tie.

Winner of the spring competition in Dr. Sri Seshadri’s Marketing Management class was the team that developed a marketing plan for HelpCare, a nonprofit, free clinic for the uninsured in Buffalo and Kearney counties. Cash prizes are earned by the winners of this competition.

Accounting major, Jamie McCann, was awarded the Virgil Eihusen Scholarship and honored at the Annual Nebraska Business Hall of Fame Banquet organized by the Nebraska State Chamber of Commerce. She is one of only three UNK recipients since 1997.

Jaime said, “This scholarship has presented me with opportunities that make me excited to see where my future will take me.”

The following students were recognized at the Annual Phi Beta Lambda State Leadership Conference: Andrew Armatys: 1st in Financial Services, 1st in Entrepreneurship, and 3rd in Contemporary Sports Issues; and Tianna Engen: 3rd in Accounting Principles, 4th in Entrepreneurship Concepts, 1st in Hospitality Management, and 4th in Marketing Concepts.

2016 UNK Student Research Day

POSTERS
Accounting/Finance
Aaron Kroll, Advisor: Dr. Nacasius Ujah, Title: An Ex-post Effect of Banking: Does Rural America Matter?

Economics
Shelby Rowan, Advisor: Dr. Bree Dority, Title: Fluctuations in Teenage Birth Rates

Family Studies/Interior Design
Kyla Bruxvoort, Advisor: Dr. Mickey Langlais, Title: How SnapChat Behaviors Influence Relational Conflict

Industrial Technology
Mayra Hernandez, Advisor: Dr. Mickey Langlais, Title: How SnapChat Behaviors Influence Relational Conflict

Marketing, MIS, Supply Chain Management
Maria Gutierrez, Advisor: Dr. Greg Benson, Title: Ethical Networking-Business Ethics
Oral Presentations
Accounting/Finance
Rachel Jack, Advisor: Dr. Nacasius Ujah, Title: Founding-Family Ownership and Firm Performance

MBA
First place winner in graduate oral presentations was Kaley Hodgen, Advisor: Dr. Sri Seshadri, Title: Organizational Audit: Honors Program at the University of Nebraska at Kearney

UNK’s student organization, Blue Gold BriGade, and the UNK Alumni Association selected two CBT students as outstanding seniors: Abbey Rhodes of Kearney and Ryo Suzuki of Tokyo, Japan, were selected by a panel of UNK alumni and recognized for their leadership, scholarship, involvement and dedication to UNK and the Kearney Community. Both were members of the interdisciplinary CBT student organization, Enactus.

First and Second Place winners of the 2016 Marienau Trust Paper competition are as follows: First place winning paper was “Regulations and the American Economy: Hayekean Spontaneous Order” which was written by sophomore Jason Schutt who is majoring in Information Networking & Telecommunications. “Is the American Economy Over-Regulated?” was the second place winning paper. Senior Industrial Distribution major Manuel Ozorio authored the paper.

UNK’s Applauding Excellence Ceremony recognized the Industrial Distribution Organization with the “UNK Community Service Program of the Year” award for its involvement in the Kearney Friends Program and their hours of community service.

The following students’ Major Field Test scores were at or above 90 percent when compared to the thousands of students nationwide who take the test annually:

Fall 2015: Aaron Kroll, Bassett; Colby Wurst, Burwell; Riley Racicky, Greeley; Chris Dier, Kearney; Leslie Bierman, Independence, MO; Nolan High, Bertrand; Allen Smith, Kearney; Anson Hueftle (scored at the 99th percentile), Eustis; Ashley Jasnoch, Grand Island; Kelsey Martinsen, Primrose; Kacia Smith, Imperial; and Madison Doughty, North Platte.

Spring 2016: Andrew Armatys, Cedar Rapids; Reed Bellamy, Goodland, KS; Josiah Burger, Deshler; Lisa Charron, Scottsbluff; Joe Jacobson, Gordon; Bryan Luna, CA; William Obermier, Aurora; Jacob Berglund, Omaha; and Abbey Rhodes and Jonathon Vasquez, both of Kearney. Scoring at the 99 percentile was Jacob Clancy, Dawson.

The Major Field Test, assesses students’ ability to analyze and solve problems, understand relationships and interpret material from their field of study, which in this case is business.

Kyla Bruxvoort, a sophomore from Fort Collins, CO, presented her Facebook relationship research in April at the National Conference for Undergraduate Research in North Carolina. Her research shows how teenagers use Facebook to pursue romantic relationships and how their self-esteem plays a role in their pursuit of romance.
Beta Gamma Sigma, the international honor society serving business programs accredited by AACSB International—the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business inducted two MBA students, twelve seniors, and seventeen juniors in April.

The following graduating seniors were recognized by the faculty for their stellar achievements at the Annual Honors Ceremony the day prior to graduation:

**Accounting/Finance Department:** Leslie Katie Bierman, Independence, MO; Aaron Kroll, Bassett; and Kelsey Martinsen, Primrose.

**Economics Department:** Taylor Gellerman, Imperial, and Nolan High, Bertrand.

**Family Studies/Interior Design Department:** Olivia Gestring, Holdrege; Aaron McCauley, North Platte; and Jacqueline Star, Hershey.

**Industrial Technology Department:** Jacob Griffith, Merna; Matt Houston, Loomis; Jesse Rule, Burchard; Klay Kasik, Schuyler; Jesus Moreno, Lexington; and Takumi Nozuru, Chigasaki Kanagawa, Japan.

**Management Department:** Reed Bellamy, Goodland, KS; Ryan Bruna, Juniata; Sarah Hansen, Scotia; Ryo Suzuki, Tokyo, Japan; and Chris Dier, Kearney.

**Marketing/MIS/Department:** Billie Kunzman, Omaha, and Victoria Crook, Kearney.

**MBA:** Zach Justus, Lincoln.

**Ben Ritter,** Industrial Technology May 2016 graduate from Alma, received the prestigious Nester Student Leadership Award in May.
The 2016 Marienau Morality of Capitalism Symposium, “Sustainable Agriculture versus Industrial Agriculture” was co-ordinated by Dr. Frank Tenkorang and Dr. Bree Dority, Economics faculty, for the benefit of the campus and the community. The keynote speaker, Marion Nestle, has focused her efforts on examining scientific, economic, and social influences on food choice and obesity, with an emphasis on the influence of food industry marketing.

Her keynote address to the community and campus was “Taking on Big Soda and Winning: Lessons for Advocates.” Ms. Nestle said, “Consumers should know that the soda industry funds research that they then use in their marketing. One such study related to the obesity epidemic indicated that physical activity is more important than what one eats. The disclosure of this funding proved to be an embarrassment to Coke as it showed a lack of transparency and a conflict of interest.” Nestle suggested that the community consider looking at local issues and advocacy to determine where to devote time and energy and framing issues to resonate with the people. Further she stated, “Vote with your fork.”

In addition, the day was filled with discussion by experts on GMOs, sustainable agriculture, and industrial hemp. Industrial hemp was one of the more controversial topics. Since Nebraska can only grow hemp for research purposes through institutions of higher education and Colorado already has legal cultivation, four people from the Denver area actively engaged in hemp cultivation and product development spoke to UNK students. Economics Professor, Dr. Allan Jenkins, organized and served as the moderator for the session: “Hemp: That Ditch Weed You’ve Been Mowing Might Be Worth $1 Million.”

The event was sponsored by the late John Marienau, UNK alumnus, and his wife, Jane.

Twelve Nebraska high schools arrived on campus with their students to experience the challenges and rewards of being an entrepreneur for a day. They generated and developed a business idea and worked with professionals in banking and real estate, as well as other entities that provided insight and advice. At the end of the event, which was sponsored by Enactus, a CBT student organization, they presented their idea, strategy, promotion, financial figures, and more to judges who critiqued their work.

NBDC’s Sara Bennett Received National Recognition as a 40 under 40 Professional for Valuation & Client Services.
Victoria Crook, Kearney; Jill McClure, York; Kelly Messbarger, Kearney, and Alysha Watson, Minden; ventured to Brown County Hospital (BCH) in Ainsworth as part of CBT on the Road. Jill McClure said, “BCH is in rural Nebraska, making it hard for some patients to access the health-care needed, but the technology and staff at BCH hospital is actually quite advanced. For example, within seconds a licensed doctor or nurse is available to be on call through video chat.” Kelly Messbarger said, “I was very impressed with how well-run and clean the facilities were and how friendly the staff was. This trip has helped me with my research paper for the Healthcare Management class. I am exploring the problems with recruitment of healthcare providers in rural areas. I could definitely see myself working in a rural area.”

CBT on the Road to Lincoln - 25 Supply Chain Management (SCM) students chose to invest their time with SCM faculty and experts in the field. David Burkink of Kearney said, “As a student in the Supply Chain Management Program, I chose to attend this field trip to discover supply chain related job opportunities in the Lincoln area. We visited Schneider Electric, Crete Carriers, Kawasaki Motors, and Sandhills Publishing where we experienced jobs related to procurement, logistics, and sales. This opportunity allowed me to get a hands-on approach to the day-to-day operations within the supply chain, observe company culture and hiring criteria, and identify the multiple job opportunities offered in this field.” In the spring, SCM students engaged in similar activities to learn more about GIX Logistics, CNH, Cash-Wa Distributing, and Kearney Regional Medical Center.

CBT on the Road to North Platte - Students learned about Wal-Mart, Union Pacific, and Nebraskaland Bank. Jessica Lee, Central City, Business Administration-Marketing Emphasis major, said, “This trip was one of the best experiences for me. What surprised me the most were the job opportunities at each of the three businesses we visited.” Mariah Kimble, Management Emphasis student from North Platte, said, “I have attended CBT on the Road in the past, and each time I attend I learn even more about the companies and the career opportunities.”

Thirty-two interior design students and their faculty, Dr. Dana Vaux and Jeff Nordhues, went on a design immersion trip to Kansas State University where they were joined by K–State interior design students to participate in a collaborative design activity. The group was challenged with solving how to create a temporary environment that they could take with them when they moved around campus. They were asked to identify the purpose of this temporary environment, how it would rely on the existing physical world for structural and experiential support, and if the creation was parasitic or symbiotic, all to be completed within two hours. In addition, the group toured design firms and show rooms in Kansas City.
Brewed Awakening has shifted its location to the West Center Building and has been enhanced through design development and implementation completed by students in the Interior Design program. Samantha Rohmiller, Interior Design student, helped with the space. She said, “We were tasked with re-envisioning the shop area as well as adjacent seating areas. The project became operational during the 2015 fall semester on a part-time basis and opened full-swing in the spring. I am very grateful to have had this experience. It allowed me to apply the concepts and space planning I’ve learned to a real-world project.”

Jeff Nordhues, Assistant Professor in the Interior Design Program, said, “I think the greatest value to our students who were involved with this undertaking was when they saw the complexity of the budget and construction, in spite of the fact it was a small project. Nothing can surpass this hands-on experiential learning process.”

UNK’s student organization, Enactus, is responsible for the development, implementation and ongoing control of this first, student-run, campus business. “It’s a market opportunity. This is an entrepreneurial experience, and they are moving ‘home’ to the business college where the student board of directors, managers and staff will be closer to advisors,” said Shawn Kaskie, director of the Center for Rural Research and Development and Enactus advisor.

Proceeds from the coffee shop fund Enactus projects, including a rural grocery revitalization initiative, a campus-wide sustainability plan, and New Venture Adventure, an outreach program aimed at area high schools.

Brewed Awakening recorded nearly $14,000 in sales in the 2014-15 academic year and just over $9,000 in 2013-14. The coffee shop earned $7,000 profit in the 2014-15 academic year. The students’ experience is priceless.

The Center for Rural Research (CRRD) is inspiring entrepreneurial spirit through the Fifth Annual Central Nebraska Idea Contest

The CRRD annually engages in a shark-tank like activity to aid in the growth of the entrepreneurial spirit in Nebraska. Students and community members are encouraged to pitch their business idea concept to a group of judges. The cash prizes are used to aid in the launching of their business idea.

1st Place $1000 prize:
Sam Middleton-VR Game Development-UNK Student from Kearney

2nd Place $500 prize:
Jacey Anderson-Audition app ‘Auditionr’-UNK Student from Axtell

3rd Place $250 prize: Mike Bloomberg-LED Light Barricade-from Hastings
I am more mindful and humble from my experience in Hong Kong, and I will never forget the people who influenced me.”

Abbey’s advice, “Do not overspend on an undergraduate degree. Find a university that will expand your mind through opportunities.”

**Abbey Rhodes’** entrepreneurial involvement with Enactus, a CBT student organization in which she was treasurer, president, and manager of its student-run coffee shop, Brewed Awakenings, led to her receiving an invitation to apply for The Hong Kong University Scholars Leadership Symposium. This annual Southeast Asian symposium, “Enrich, Educate and Enlighten,” was supported by the Humanitarian Affairs Council of the United Kingdom as well as Asia.

Abbey said, “The positive energy offered by the speakers and fellow students motivates me to find solutions to local and national problems. After attending leadership sessions, I learned how dangerous it is to assume and to put human beings into stereotypes based on their national origin, race, religion, and cultural backgrounds.

**Taekyung (Tae) Nam**, senior in Business Administration with an International Business minor, completed a summer internship at Export Import Strategies Corporation in the Fort Worth, TX area. Tae worked primarily with buyers in South Korea arranging the logistics and documentation of their imported products, evaluating product samples, negotiating pricing, and conducting market research for the South Korea area. He indicated that he learned more about his home country by living and working in Texas than he did when he lived in South Korea. Tae said, “I learned sales skills, learned how international trade works, and developed an understanding of buyers and suppliers from many different countries and what I should do as an intermediary to satisfy them. Without this precious UNK time, I wouldn’t have known what I should be doing for my future.”

After graduation, Tae will continue to work for Export Import Strategies at a new South Korean office.

**Jonathon Vasquez**, a senior in Management from Kearney, completed a Sales & Management Internship at Kearney’s Buckle. This national internship program is designed to give students hands-on experience in sales, merchandising, leadership, and retail management. Besides learning weekly financial reporting, personnel scheduling, and sales techniques, Jonathon’s special project has been merchandising and creating a sales plan for a specific denim product. After graduation in May 2016, Jonathon may continue in a MBA program with an interest in retail management. Jonathon said, “The opportunity to work with such great people not only expanded my skill set, but allowed me to apply what I learned at UNK.”

**Quinten Dawes**

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**Jonathon Vasquez**, a senior in Management from Kearney, completed a Sales & Management Internship at Kearney’s Buckle. This national internship program is designed to give students hands-on experience in sales, merchandising, leadership, and retail management. Besides learning weekly financial reporting, personnel scheduling, and sales techniques, Jonathon’s special project has been merchandising and creating a sales plan for a specific denim product. After graduation in May 2016, Jonathon may continue in a MBA program with an interest in retail management. Jonathon said, “The opportunity to work with such great people not only expanded my skill set, but allowed me to apply what I learned at UNK.”

**Quinten Dawes**
Quinten Dawes, a sophomore in Supply Chain Management (SCM) from Gretna, completed a spring internship at Kearney Regional Medical Center in their supply department. Quinten’s internship focused on purchasing, working in the areas of vendor agreements, negotiation, cost savings, demand forecasting, usage reports, and just-in-time inventory. He is looking forward to experiencing a study abroad in the future. He hopes to find a career in SCM and be able to travel. Quinten said, “UNK helped me find my internship, and I can’t thank them enough for the rewarding experience it has been. UNK was the perfect fit for me. When I graduate I am going to have the opportunity and the ability to do whatever I want.”

Alexandra Prochaska, a Marketing major from Ralston, completed a summer internship in Omaha at Marriott’s Global Sales and Customer Care campus. Alexandra was a member of an eight-intern marketing team that completed projects in market research, customer surveys, and analytics. She helped create a new data reporting form for customer service, utilized Touchpoint Dashboard for journey mapping of projects, and crafted a new internship recruitment video to be used for online internship recruiting. Alexandra’s career goal has been to work in market research, and her internship confirmed that she has a passion for this type of work. Alex said, “It was a great experience with so many learning opportunities from different aspects of day-to-day business, new marketing skills, and building relationships. It really made me feel valued to be a part of research projects that would still be used after my internship had been completed.” Alex has a standing offer to see what is available when she graduates in May.

Luke Ackerman, Business Administration Accounting Emphasis student from Holdrege, said, “I know my internship with Certified Financial Planner, Jeremy Armagost, is more of a financial internship, but these professions aren’t that far apart. I wanted to learn more about this profession. I have been working with many software programs like CRM, email marketing, financial planning, and social security. I am becoming familiar with regulations, marketing, and the administration of brokerage accounts as well as financial planning for clients.” Luke intends on graduating in December 2016, then earning a Master’s degree and a CPA. He intends on trying both public and private accounting.

Lisa Charron, a Scottsbluff Accounting Major with a Finance Minor, interned during the fall of 2015 at Kearney’s Barney Insurance. Lisa engaged in completing journal entries, reconciliation, accounts payable and receivable, as well as agency billing for multiple branches. Her strength has been in communicating with clients and troubleshooting billing issues. Lisa said, “My internship was a great experience that let me develop leadership and communication skills as well as build on my accounting knowledge.” She plans to graduate in May 2017 and stay in Nebraska working in either the private or public accounting sector.
Indra Rowedder interned during the spring of 2016 in the human resources department of Kearney’s Good Samaritan Society-St. Luke’s Village. Indra has been involved in hiring, terminations, workman’s compensation claims, reference checks, grievances, and payroll. She indicated that working in a business has helped to polish her communication skills and improve her ability to speak to different people. She graduates in December 2017 and would like a career in HR.

These Business Administration, Supply Chain Management, and Accounting majors have already made some great choices for their future careers by experiencing a quality study abroad program in the Czech Republic. Clark said, “One of the first lessons I learned was to try to respect and learn the culture.”

CBT alumni and Senior Law students Peng Li (UNO alumnus), Jordan Heiliger and Justin Sheldon gave a presentation on Intellectual Property Law, “Protecting Your Most Valuable Business Assets,” to approximately 100 students and faculty.

Martin and Patricia Bremmer, recipients of the NBDC Innovation Business of the Year Award for their GrainGoat, a hand-held harvesting and moisture content measuring mechanism which allows testing of grain without using full-sized harvesting equipment, credit NBDC Director, Odee Ingersoll, for his superior expertise and guidance. CBT MBA students, Candace McGee and Ryan Krantz, are working with the couple to develop marketing plans and an advertising campaign.

scholarship FACTS

$282,715 in Scholarships Awarded
99 Scholarships resulting in 260 Awards
177 Recipients
327 Students applied for scholarships

UNK COLLEGE OF BUSINESS & TECHNOLOGY

16 | WE ARE | DIFFERENCE | MAKERS
Several years ago the College of Business & Technology (CBT) Advisory Board members, led by Tom Henning of Cash-Wa Distributing, urged CBT to develop partnerships with Nebraska businesses such as, GIX Logistics, Werner Enterprise, Kearney Regional Medical Center, and Crete Carrier, to develop and grow a Business Administration Emphasis in Supply Chain Management (SCM).

SCM professionals are involved in planning, forecasting, purchasing, transporting, storing, distributing, providing customer services, and selling goods throughout the channel of distribution. Assistant professor of marketing and program coordinator, Dr. Greg Benson said, “In spite of the program’s growth, there are currently more companies seeking SCM graduates than there are students graduating from the program.”

In an effort to further enhance the program, serve the industry, and develop the students’ capabilities, an experiential learning opportunity in SCM was created in the spring of 2016 through the implementation of a SCM Business Center. The Center prepares students for internships, provides project analysis opportunities for businesses, and functions as a satellite business office for organizations desiring to expand the internship experience. This entity provides part-time work preparing students for full-time opportunities upon graduation. Eventually the Center anticipates including other business disciplines—accounting, finance, marketing, and management.

Students throughout the CBT are required to have a minimum of three credit hours of experiential learning to graduate. CBT dean Burkink said, “Research, including feedback from employers, indicates that employees who engaged in internships and other forms of hands-on experiential learning while in College are better prepared for early and lasting career success.”

The fall and spring UNK Career Day events included the all-campus Career & Graduate School Fair, the Industrial Distribution Career Event, and the Supply Chain Management Career Fair. These events were attended by over 1,000 students and close to 200 employers and graduate schools. The connections made at these events led to hundreds of job interviews. Additional events included the Job Search Boot Camp, the Gain Your Career Fair Edge program, the Supply Chain Management Networking Reception, the ID Program Partner Banquet, The ID Network night, the Nebraska Bankers Association Reception, and the business networking reception at the Kearney Country Club.
outstanding impactful faculty

PROMOTION AND AWARDS-

Brenda Eschenbrenner, Accounting/Finance, has been promoted to Associate Professor.

Dr. Dana Vaux, FSID, and Dr. Eric Holt, Industrial Technology, have earned their Ph.D.’s.

The following faculty received the 2014-2015 faculty awards at CBT’s Annual fall retreat:

Tenured Teaching–Dr. Suzanne Hayes, Accounting and Finance
Non Tenured Teaching–Dr. Heather Meyer, Marketing and MIS
Tenured Scholarship–Dr. Michelle Fleig-Palmer, Management
Non Tenured Scholarship–Dr. Bree Dority, Economics
Service–Dr. Kathy Zuckweiler, Management

Dr. Toni Hill, FSID, won the 2016 CBT Faculty Mentoring of Undergraduate Research award.

Dr. Greg Benson, SCM, successfully completed the Certified Profession of Supply Management (CPSM) Bridge Exam, and he was appointed to the University of Nebraska Graduate Faculty in September, 2015.

Dr. Sri Seshadri, Marketing, received the “Rotarian of the Year” award for Rotary District 5630. This annual award is given to the Rotarian who demonstrates the Rotary spirit, is involved with multiple Rotary-sponsored service projects at the club, district, and global levels, and who has engaged in several active leadership roles within the district.

Dr. Kyle Luthans, Chair of the Management Department, has co-authored a revised edition of the textbook “Organizational Behavior: An Evidence-Based Approach.” This is the 13th edition of the popular OB textbook originally authored by Fred Luthans from the University of Nebraska—Lincoln. The third co-author on the text is Brett Luthans, a Management Professor at Missouri Western State University.

Dr. Sylvia Asay, Chair FSID, has been selected by the International Section of the National Council on Family Relations to receive the 2015 Jan Trost Award. The award recognizes outstanding contributions in International Family Studies and honors an individual for his/her lifetime achievement in research, teaching, and service to international families. Angela R. Wiley, Ph.D., Chair of the International Families Section, said, “Dr. Asay’s career has been a wonderful example of how collaboration across the globe and deep cultural sensitivity can combine with intellectual and methodological rigor to profoundly impact the field, particularly in the area of intimate relationships.” The presentation of a plaque and $500 was made during the business meeting of the International Section of the Vancouver conference.

Mick Anderson, Director of the Nebraska Safety Center and Great Plains Safety and Health Organization, received the Governor’s Lifetime Achievement Award for his work in promoting health and safety in Nebraska.

Ted Larsen, FSID, has been appointed as the director for the Center for Economic Education by The Nebraska Council on Economic Education.

Dr. Noel Palmer, Management, has been selected for the US Army War College (USAWC) 2016 distance education program. The USAWC
program prepares selected military and civilian leaders to assume strategic responsibilities in military and national security organizations.

Dr. Palmer taught ethical leadership for the United States Strategic Command (USSTRATCOM) Strategic Leadership Fellows program that UNO manages with US STRATCOM. Many of the nation’s top civilian security specialists trained in team building, collaboration management, data-driven decision making, mission core competency development and project management are trained through this program. All of the Fellows are USSTRATCOM civilian leaders from the greater Omaha area.

**Dr. Bree Dority** is replacing **Dr. Susan Jensen** as Associate Dean in CBT. Dr. Jensen will be returning to the classroom after seven years as Associate Dean where she worked tirelessly to aid in accomplishing CBT goals.

Dr. Dority, 2008 UNL PhD graduate, came to the Economics Department in 2010 after working for the Analysis Group in Denver from 2008-2010. Dr. Dority has a strong record as a collaborative researcher and effective instructor, and she actively mentors undergraduate research. As a consultant she is engaged in applied research, including economic impact studies. Dr. Dority’s work ethic will surely be applied to furthering the CBT goals.

**Dr. Jim Vaux**, Industrial Technology Department Chair, has been certified through the American Institute of Constructors (AIC) as a Certified Professional Constructor (CPC). He completed the eight-hour CPC exam which requires one to have eight years of qualifying experience and education prior to taking it.

**Sonja Bickford**
Lecturer, Industrial Technology Department

**Sarah Borchers**
Lecturer, Accounting/Finance Department

**Don Budde**
Lecturer, Industrial Technology Department

**Daniel Chaffin**
Assistant Professor, Management Department

**Theresa Yaw**
Lecturer, Economics Department

**Erin Howard**
Transportation Safety Manager, Nebraska Safety Center

**2015-2016 new hires**

**Dr. Bree Dority**

Photo courtesy of UNK Communications

**Dr. Susan Jensen**

Photo courtesy of UNK Communications

**安全中心**

The Nebraska Safety Center, under its Rural Transit contract with the Nebraska Department of Roads, has taken on the tasks of Mobility Management, Transit Technology, and additional oversight functions. The Center will continue its role in rural public transit driver training for the entire state and will serve rural Nebraskans by promoting and supporting safe, affordable and efficient public transit. The program will be directed by Bill Bivin.

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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 Annual Report interesting by using this form to notify us of a change of address as well as to update us on your eventful life.

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