



Mission >>> Familiarize staff and employees with Leadership opportunities at UNK and opportunities in the Kearney area. - - - unk.edu/leadership-unk

Take The Lead

We would like to say **THANK YOU** to all who have supported Leadership UNK this year. **Thank you** to those who presented or led sessions. **Thank you** to those who contributed to the food drive, helped out with Habitat for Humanity, organized events and speakers, or nominated potential new members. **Thank you** to those who supported office mates who were part of the current class. **Thank you** to those who have offered input and who continue to promote the program across campus. **Thank you** for your time, your efforts and your support. This program could not happen without you.

Once again, this has been an unique year, and our Board of Graduates and our class leaders have faced unique challenges. Congratulations to those leaders for continuing to provide a beneficial leadership experience for our class members.

As always, if you have any ideas for new sessions or would like to get involved, please reach out to anyone on our Board of Graduates. (<http://www.unk.edu/committees/leadership-unk/leadership-unk-board-of-graduates.php>)

-Board of Graduates

Leadership UNK Alumni Spotlight

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Sarah Bartling

Hometown:

Kearney, NE

Department:

Teacher Education/
College of Education

Job Title:

Online Coordinator/
Communications & Recruitment
Specialist

Job Responsibilities:

I serve as the point of contact and coordinate for all the online Teacher Education Master's Degree programs. I advise students and help them from their initial inquiry, and all the way thru to graduation.

I recently also began helping with communications and recruitment endeavors for the College of Education, ranging from student visits to social media and news publications.

Hobbies:

My current hobbies are whatever my 6-year-old daughter and 3-year-old son are doing! So, currently you'll find me playing sight word Bingo and helping with Girl Scouts or playing baseball and running around the house acting like a dinosaur! Haha. When I do get spare time, I do enjoy painting with acrylics or watercolor.

In 3 words, describe what true leadership looks like to you:

Communication --- Flexibility --- Committed

If you could do another job for just one day, what would it be and why:

Definitely a Crime Scene Investigator! Anyone that knows me, knows that I love problem solving and digging in to find whatever answer is needed. I am a super sleuth when it comes to web searching, hunting down clues and solving mysteries!

Tell us something that might surprise us about you:

I collect vinyl records! I have 300+ vinyls dating from 1940-current, with most being from the 50's-80's. I sure love the sound of old school records crackling on the turn table. Let me know if anyone is ever selling their old records!



final thoughts...

"The pessimist complains about the wind. The optimist expects it to change. The leader adjusts the sails."

-John Maxwell

Teamwork & Negotiating

Led by Dawn Cromer & Scott Olson

April was the last class meeting for the 2021-2022 LUNK Class. Following our book review of “Leaders Eat Last”, the class had a presentation on Negotiation presented by Michael Christen from UNK Business Services. As part of the presentation, the class was able to participate in a case study scenario.

Following Michael’s presentation, Bud Synhorst did a workshop with the class on “Building Yourself as a Leader”. He touched on Believing and Listening as being the most important skills you can have as a leader. Later that day, Bud did a campus wide presentation titled “Being an Adaptable Leader During Changing Times.” Mr. Synhorst is the President and CEO of the Lincoln Independent Business Association, and a John Maxwell trainer.



2021-2022 Leadership UNK Graduation

On Wednesday May 18th, the Board of Graduates for Leadership UNK held a graduation ceremony for the 2021-2022 class of Leadership UNK at the UNK Alumni House. Special guests included Vice Chancellor for Business and Finance, Jon Watts, along with guests of the graduates. The current Board of Graduates members and many past members of the program were also in attendance.

The program began with a brief slideshow with photos highlighting the 2021-2022 classes. The class address was given by Luis Olivas, the assistant director of the Office of Student Diversity & Inclusion/ Gender & Sexuality Resource Office. Mr. Olivas spoke of his own journey to his current position and the leaders who had influenced him, along the way. He encouraged the class to never underestimate how much their efforts might impact the life of someone else.

Matt Allbright, the current Co-Chair of the 2021-2022 class, gave a few remarks and words of thanks. It was announced that Stefani Wegner and Olivia Whittaker will be the Co-Chairs of the 2021-2022 class of LUNK. Each class member was given the opportunity to share about their volunteer opportunities, the meetings they attended, and their personal mission statement. Each graduating class member was presented with a glass award commemorating their accomplishment, along with LUNK apparel and other gifts to celebrate the day.

Paula Fuestman, the Board of Graduates President, and Co-Chair Matt Allbright, recognized the out-going members of the Board of Graduates: Brandon Drozd, Julie Smith, Beth Montag, and Stacy Darveau. These members were honored with a glass memento. Paula Fuestman closed the ceremony offering many thanks to the administration and those in attendance for their support of the program.



Congratulations to our 2021-2022 graduates:

Bethany Johnson
Office Associate
Kinesiology & Sports Sciences

Heidi Knake
Study Abroad Advisor
International Education

Renee Mitchell
Benefits and Compensation Specialist
Human Resources

Stefani Wegner
Assistant Director
Health Sciences

Olivia Whittaker
Coordinator of Academic Support Services
Office of the University Registrar