



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

Take The Lead

Leadership UNK Class #14

Ten staff members were selected for the 2020-2021 Leadership UNK class. Check out the [UNK News](#) article that was published and please feel free to reach out to the new members to offer a welcome!

- **Lynelle Fritzen** - Business Services
- **Devin Koch** - Student Diversity & Inclusion
- **Danielle Kluver** - eCampus
- **Dawn Cromer** - Communications & Marketing
- **Stacey Schwarz** - eCampus
- **Rachelle Warner** - Thompson Scholars Learning Community
- **Scott Olson**— Finance Office
- **Ashley Olivas**— Admissions
- **Matt Allbright** - Residence Life
- **Darlene Sandoval**— Accounting, Finance & Economics Department

Leadership UNK Alumni Spotlight >>> Michelle Widger

Hometown:
Guide Rock, NE

Department:
Department of Communications

Job Title:
Senior Lecturer

Job Responsibilities:
I teach Public Relations, Advertising and Design. I am also introducing a class on social media. I also work with the Antelope advertising staff.

Hobbies:
I love reading historical fiction. I also like drawing on Procreate for the iPad, watching science fiction shows with my husband, and playing with my dogs.

In 3 words, describe what true leadership looks like to you:
Vision for the team. Listening to team members to learn their strengths and utilize them. Conversations; being able to be frank with team members and have tougher conversations about what needs to happen and how we can work together to make it happen.

If you could do another job for just one day, what would it be and why:
Wow, many things. I have wanted to be a dermatologist or a veterinarian. I thought it would be fun to be a photographer for National Geographic. It would also be cool to be a travel blogger.

Tell us something that might surprise us about you:
I can slick shear a sheep in half an hour.



final thoughts...

“The ability to learn is the most important quality a leader can have.”
-Sheryl Sandberg

August session >>>

Attitude and Leadership

Led by Kathy Benne & Karen Myers

The 2020-2021 class of Leadership UNK Met on Wednesday, August 5th for their first of 10 meetings. The beginning of the meeting was spent with a few socially distanced ice breaker activities and learning about the requirements for graduation. Then the class members donned their masks and got into groups of three. Kathe Benne explained the thoughtfully planned out “Exchanging Business Cards” activity.

After a brief break, Derek Rusher, the President and CEO of the Kearney Chamber of Commerce spoke on his Five C’s of a Leader and conducted a group activity. The group then moved to the first floor of the Student Union to enjoy a boxed lunch with Leadership UNK alumni. Lots of talking and sharing life events took place.

The group then participated in a few more introduction activities, including a photo quiz in which members were asked to identify places around the UNK campus. The last few minutes were spent reviewing the class requirements and the “Getting to Know You” homework activity. The session ended on a positive note, with everyone stating that it was nice to switch spaces and meet with Leadership UNK Graduates.



September session >>>

Communication & Networking

Led by Courtney Burbach

The September meeting started in the vivid sunshine of the morning at the newly completed fountain. After a few announcements, Paula Fuestman facilitated book discussion. Following a lively icebreaker activity led by Courtney Burbach, each class member spent a few minutes introducing the class member they had interviewed as their “getting to know you” homework assignment.

Alyse Pflanz spoke to the group about communication, including the impact that various kinds of communication can have, and even how colors can provoke emotions. Kyle Saylor, of Saylor Screen-printing, spoke to the group about the importance of branding yourself, and how the way a person presents themselves to others can impact their business.

Following a short break, Lucas Dart and Kristin Howard offered their insights on networking. They stressed the importance of presenting yourself in situations to meet new people, being an active listener, and the importance of a good story to help people remember you.



Preparing Tomorrow’s Leaders TODAY!

Leadership UNK Graduation

Graduation for the 2019-2020 Leadership UNK Class was finally able to take place on Wednesday August 5th. The afternoon consisted of hearing the mission statements of the class members, recognizing outgoing Board of Graduate members and hearing from Coach Josh Lynn. In addition to those in attendance, members of the board and campus were able to stream the ceremony.



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