

campus report

A NEWSLETTER FOR PARENTS OF UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA-LINCOLN STUDENTS

Spring 2011 • VOL. 27 • NO. 2



University of Nebraska-Lincoln
Parents Association

EXECUTIVE OFFICERS 2011

Co-Presidents

Susan and Timothy Draftz
Atchison KS

President Elect

*We need you. Please contact
Tonda (thumphress1@unl.edu or
402-472-3756) if you are interested
in serving as President Elect.*

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Michael Keralis
Lincoln NE

Treasurer

Kaylene Luedtke
Columbus NE

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Houston TX

Dick Luedtke
Columbus NE

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Anthon IA

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Kearney NE

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Lincoln NE

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Norton MA

UNIVERSITY OF
Nebraska
Lincoln

UNL Parents Association Introduction

Welcome, Parents!

The University of Nebraska Parents Association is an organization dedicated to the promotion of the University and keeping parents informed on what is happening at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. We consider every parent who has a student enrolled at UNL to be part of our organization. It is truly an organization by the parents, for the parents and for the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. The question is, why are you involved or why are you not involved in the UNL Parents Association?

My wife and I chose to be involved in the UNL Parents Association because it was a natural progression in supporting our local school system from grade school through high school. When our children were young, we chose to be involved. Involvement included helping with field trips, volunteering in the media centers, being part of the PTO, helping with music boosters, quiz bowl, and academic decathlon. You get the picture. We were involved not only to help with the education of our children, but also to encourage the teachers and staff at our local school. Our kids were part of a school system that encouraged our involvement. So we knew our children's classmates and their families, we knew their teachers and never felt like we were intruding where "parents were not invited."

Therefore, when our kids moved to the university level we looked for ways to continue to be involved in their educational process. The UNL Parents Association has given us the opportunity to keep up on what is happening at the university, developments in the education arena and the social environment. We have been involved in raising money so that we can give grants to university organizations which support the students. The UNL Parents Association helps with moving in day (directing traffic and answering questions) at the start of the school year, recognizing and awarding outstanding student leaders, recognizing outstanding efforts among faculty and staff and promoting the university state wide. In addition to promoting the university, we have had the opportunity to meet university administration, faculty and staff, along with students from all over Nebraska, the US and even the world. In addition, we meet other parents! The parents who have been involved with the UNL Parents Association are not just from Nebraska, but also Kansas, Texas, Iowa and Minnesota to name a few. The UNL Parents Association opens us up to opportunities, experiences and people associated with the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

The University of Nebraska-Lincoln Parents Association is for you, your students and the whole University. As a parent of a student at UNL become involved in the UNL Parents Association. We need your input, camaraderie, encouragement and ideas. Chose to be a part of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln as a member of the UNL Parents Association. Chose to give back to the university as it educates our students and prepares them for their future. You can make a difference!

(402) 472-3755

thumphress1@unl.edu

Parentsassoc.unl.edu

Or find us on 



Michael (UNL Parents Association Secretary) and Robin Keralis

Meet the Parents . . .

Opportunities for our UNL Parents Association members to meet other UNL Parents exist via attendance at UNL Parents Association meetings and events. However, it can be a particular challenge to our parents who live out-of-state and who have schedule conflicts for the meetings and events. We have recently created a Facebook group for the UNL Parents Association which may help parents connect. (Feel free to join the Facebook group and to send us your suggestions to maximize the usefulness of this tool.) The organization name in Facebook is **UNL Parents Association**; it is a “global” organization. The website is: <http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=22626258497>.

The *Campus Report*, the UNL Parents Association newsletter, is another way we would like to try introducing you to our wonderful parents. We have asked parents to please send us a photo of them and/or their student with a brief introduction that we can share in our newsletter. Mike Sadler, a proud Husker Dad who lives out-of-state was the first to meet the challenge. Now, we want to introduce you to . . .



John B. and Liz Ferguson Parents of UNL Student, Kelli

Our family is from Kimball, Nebraska where John is retired and Liz owns and operates a Oil and Gas Well Serving Company.

Kelli is presently a Junior at the University of Nebraska majoring in Athletic Medicine. She is presently assigned to wrestling and loves it. She spends most of her time in the training room or going to the several games on campus. She is a true Husker at heart. She has maintained an above B average while attending UNL and is planning on continuing to get her masters.

We want to thank the parents association for this prize it will be greatly appreciated since Kelli's younger brother James has just put in his application to UNL.

Note: The UNL Parents Association congratulates the Ferguson's on winning one of the tuition prizes during the UNL Parents Association raffle this past fall.



New Residence Hall Center Opens

Robert E. Knoll Residential Center opened in August 2010.



There is Excitement in the Air

Oh, there is so much excitement in the air! Students are campaigning for the building of a new campus recreation center on East Campus and the renovation of the facility on City Campus as well as the construction of a new facility to house “Outdoor Adventures” on City Campus. As of this writing, more than 4,000 students had cast their ballot, and we still have one more day of voting.

We are in the midst of a battle for the Big XII North Championship. Our volleyball team is rated Number 3 in the country and is undefeated in conference play. There is much excitement about moving to the Big Ten, and we are planning two more new residence halls to accommodate student growth and students’ desire for modern living facilities.

I am also very excited about our focus this year on service, service-learning, and civic engagement. UNL has declared this year the “Year of Civic Engagement”. Several things are occurring that support this designation. For example, we have recently received

a grant (Bringing Theory to Practice) which will support our development of a certificate program in civic engagement. We have put more emphasis on our current service and service-learning efforts. We have begun a “Character Campaign” in which we encourage and recognize students who perform good deeds. Our over-arching goal is to establish a “Center for Civic Engagement”. This Center will house current and future programs related to civic engagement. We are hopeful that we can find a Foundation that will help fund the Center.

Our enrollment continues to grow. Next year we should be very close to the highest enrollment ever at UNL (and system-wide). UNL accounts for about half of the enrollment in the system. As our exposure outside the state increases because of our association with the Big Ten, the number of out-of-state students is expected to grow.



By Juan N. Franco, Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs



Photo from the JournalStar.com



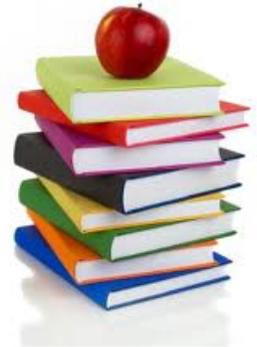
Image from www.bigten.org



Photo from newsroom.unl.edu

Congratulations to this year's Raffle Drawing Winners!

The UNL Parents Association Annual Tuition raffle is the primary fundraiser for the UNL Parents Association. The funds raised help support UNL Parents Association activities. These activities include paying for the raffle mailing and for activities that improve the college experience for UNL students, such as the UNL Parents Faculty/Staff Recognition, the Outstanding Student Leadership Award, and mini-grants that directly benefit UNL students. Thank you to everyone that participated in the raffle. Your contribution helps not only the Parents Association, but also the University and the students themselves. You have helped to make the University a better experience for your students as well as others. Be sure to watch for next year's Raffle mailing— and GOOD LUCK!



- ★ **UNL Tuition (up to \$2,500) for the Spring 2011 Semester**
John and Liz Ferguson (student: Kelli).....Kimball, NE
Kelly Foster (student: Derek).....Elm Creek, NE

- ★ **UNL Textbook Scholarships (up to \$250 each)**
Teresa Clark (student: Racheal)Silver City, IA
ML Cavanaugh (student: Chelsea).....Omaha, NE
Cynthia Kelly (student: Thomas)Sutherland, NE

- ★ **Autographed Team Football**
Erv Beiermann (student: Jacob)Omaha, NE

- ★ **Autographed Football (Coach Bo Pelini signed)**
Steve and Becky Erickson (student: Carl)Omaha, NE

- ★ **Autographed Team Volleyball**
Rhonda Anderson (student: Jeremy)Bancroft, NE

- ★ **Autographed Baseball (Coach Mike Anderson signed)**
Tracy Bradley (student: Hayden)La Vista, NE



You can do it!

You can still be involved in a Parents Association that will benefit all our students. The UNL Parents Association is made up of a wonderful group of friendly and caring parents and they do a lot of good things. The UNL Parents Association provides information to help other parents with questions, provides opportunities for parents and students to get together with other parents and or students and has a positive, direct impact on our students' experiences at the University of Nebraska–Lincoln. But we need your help. The UNL Parents Association meets four times a year—plan to attend at least one meeting. We have events throughout the year, plan to attend or help with one of those events. Stay informed by visiting the UNL Parents Association web site (<http://parentsassoc.unl.edu>) and/or by providing your contact information (available on the web site). Be involved and consider serving on the UNL Parents Association Executive Board (in particular, we are in need of a President-Elect and a Treasurer at this time). You won't be alone; you receive a lot of support and you can make a difference!

If you are considering serving on the UNL Parents Association Executive Board but have questions or concerns, our current Co-Presidents Susan and Timothy Draftz (email in care of Tonda at thumphress1@unl.edu) or any of our other current Board members (<http://parentsassoc.unl.edu>) would be willing to help answer those questions.

We look forward to hearing from you!

Susan and Timothy Draftz
UNL Parents Association Co-Presidents



Calendar

Important Dates

- **UNL Parents Recognition Ceremony — February 4, 2011**
- **UNL Parents Association Winter Meeting — February 4, 2011**
For more information and to register visit:
http://parentsassoc.unl.edu/meet_dates
- **UNL Big Red Road Show — February 13, 2011**
at the Omaha Qwest Center
- **UNL Parents Association Spring Meeting — April 16, 2011**
For more information and to register visit:
http://parentsassoc.unl.edu/meet_dates
- **Parents Weekend 2011 — September 30-October 2, 2011**
(Dates are Tentative at this time.)
For more information and to register visit:



You can find us on facebook!
UNL Parents Association



The University of Nebraska–Lincoln does not discriminate based on gender, age, disability, race, color, religion, marital status, veteran's status, national or ethnic origin or sexual orientation.

