

campus report

A NEWSLETTER FOR PARENTS OF UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA-LINCOLN STUDENTS

Spring 2012 • VOL. 28 • 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.*

Secretary

Michael Keralis
Lincoln NE

Treasurer

Kaylene Luedtke
Columbus NE

Members-at-Large

Henry Carnaby
Houston TX

Dick Luedtke
Columbus NE

Darwin and Kathy McGhee
Anthon IA

JoyDell Payne
Kearney NE

Dana Stubben
Lincoln NE

Clyde Waite
Norton MA

UNL Parents Association Introduction

Welcome, Parents!

Spring is in the air

Spring is in the air! No, wait. It is still winter, but it feels like spring with the warm weather we are having. The spring semester has begun; students are scurrying to class, to meetings, or to buy that last book.

This is an exciting time to be at UNL. We continue to focus on the goals set by the Chancellor: grow to 30,000 students, increase our graduation rates and significantly increase the research dollars that come to the University. As the Chancellor has stated, we want to be a Big 10 University in fact not just in name.

In order to reach the goal of 30,000 students (about 5,000 more than we have today) by the year 2017, we will need to be more aggressive in the recruitment of students but also do a much better job of retaining the students we have. To that end, Student Affairs has been tasked with helping students become more engaged with the campus community. Research informs us that students who are engaged are more likely to stay with the university through graduation. Thus we will be promoting and supporting more engagement activities, whether they are civic engagement, joining one of about 400 clubs on campus, participating in intramural sports or joining student government or one of its many committees.

I am delighted to report that we are starting 2012 with some very positive notes. The Nebraska Commission on Postsecondary Education gave final approval to our Certificate in Civic Engagement. The first "class" in the program will be selected this spring semester. Final architectural touches are being made on the two new residence halls and the new East Campus Recreation facility. The Center for Civic Engagement has officially opened; we invite you to tour the Center when you are on campus. It is located on the second floor of the Nebraska City Union.

In addition, the student portal, MyRED, received a facelift. It is now more attractive and more user friendly. Student feedback has been very positive. Our next step is to revamp the staff portal, making it easier for the staff to serve students.

We expect another great semester. Please contact me, though, if you have any questions throughout the year.

(402) 472-3755

thumphress1@unl.edu

Parentsassoc.unl.edu

Or find us on 



*Juan N. Franco, Vice
Chancellor for Student
Affairs*



**Welcome
Parents!**

To the University of Nebraska-Lincoln Parents Association!

As a parent of a currently enrolled University of Nebraska–Lincoln (UNL) student, you are already a member of the UNL Parents Association. The mission of the UNL Parents Association is . . .

- ✓ **to strengthen the bond between the University of Nebraska and parents** by encouraging communications in both directions
- ✓ **to support activities** designed to enhance students' educational experience
- ✓ **to keep parents informed** about the University, its background, present programs, and future plans
- ✓ **to promote the advancement of the University** by strengthening it at all levels.

Later in this issue you will see a list of the 2011 UNL Parents Association Raffle winners. The raffle is the primary fundraiser for the UNL Parents Association and funds go to support programs that benefit all of our students, so we appreciate all of our parents who participate to support this activity. In addition to supporting our students, though, it is always such a pleasure to contact our raffle prize winning parents to let them know they have won. We would like to introduce you to Ellen, Kevin and Cindy Brown—one of our tuition prize winners in the 2011 raffle. Cindy was kind enough to send in this great picture. Ellen is a freshman Biological Sciences major at the University. Being from Vermillion, SD, we are certain the tuition prize will be put to good use and appreciated. Congratulations to Kevin, Cindy and Ellen Brown. We hope your good news continues through the new year.



Ellen, Kevin and Cindy Brown



Katie, Karen and Lauren Smith

We would also like to introduce you to Karen, Katie and Lauren Smith who also won in this year's raffle. Karen was kind enough to send us this photo. Both Katie and Lauren are students at UNL. Katie is a freshman this year and Lauren is junior Business Administration major. With two students in college, this is a great prize for the Smith family to win.

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 2012 Semester

Kevin and Cindy Brown (student: Ellen Brown) Vermillion, SD

Karen Smith (student: Katie Smith) Kearney, NE

★ University Bookstore Gift Card (\$250 each)

Cynthia Sabatini (student: Mara Sabatini) Leawood, KS

Joni Piper (student: Conor McDermott) Omaha, NE

Selena Wiese (student: William Wiese) Raymore, MO

★ Autographed Football (UNL Athletic Director Tom Osborne)

Sarah Rice (student: Kelli Rice) Lincoln, NE

★ Autographed Football (Coach Bo Pelini signed)

Kevin Schaaf (student: Nate Schaaf) Omaha, NE

★ Autographed Team Volleyball

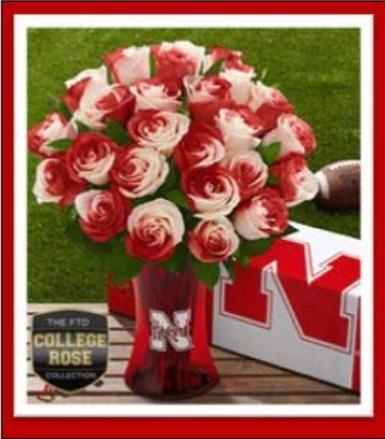
Carol Culbertson (student: Tessa Culbertson) Aurora, IL

★ Autographed Baseball (Head Coach)

Larry Paulsen (student: Jed Paulsen) Cozad, NE



Care Package Ideas



Parents often call to ask about care package options and different items they can send to their students. Someone recently sent me information on these Husker Roses (the salesperson recommends them for graduations too) and I thought it might be something some parents would be interested in. The web site is: www.ftd.com/croses81 if you are interested. The flowers come in a Husker box (you can order with or without the vase), and instructions on how to care for your bouquet. After removing a few of the outer flowers, you combine the plant mix with water as directed, put your flowers in the water and you are ready to enjoy your flowers.

Other Options include:

- University Bookstore: http://images.efollett.com/htmlroot/images/templates/library/507_CarePackage.pdf
- Collegetown Snacks: <http://collegetownsnacks.com>
- Local grocery stores, such as HyVee, may also be able to help.
- I have also recently come across a website for The Basket Bunch (<http://www.basketbunch.com>), which may also offer some ideas and options. While I haven't actually used their services but some of the items on the website look fun.
- In addition, you could always order a pizza to be delivered during high stress times—order Large or a couple of pizzas if you think it is time your son or daughter takes a little break with his or her friends.
- And, as always, an encouraging note from home accompanied by a favorite homemade cookies or other favorite snack is always a great option.

An invitation to you . . .

As Dr. Franco mentioned in his article, the Chancellor plans to increase engagement of our students to improve their college experience and to help them be more successful. We believe that parents have a role here too - by being engaged themselves. Parents can help the University and their students achieve these goals and become successful while making new friends and having fun. Please contact one of the UNL Parents Association Board members or Dr. Franco, Dr. Alvarez or Tonda Humphress to let us know you are willing to help.

Michael Keralis, P.A. Secretary
mkeralis@gmail.com

Kaylene Luedtke, Treasurer
luedtke@greatplainsfs.com

Susan Draftz, Co-President
Can be contacted through the UNL
Parents Association Facebook group.

Student Affairs Phone: 402-472-3755

- Dr. Franco, jfranco2@unl.edu
- Dr. Alvarez, talvarez2@unl.edu
- Tonda Humphress,
thumphress1@unl.edu

Parents Weekend 2012

Parents Weekend 2012 will be

October 5—October 7

Need a fun weekend getaway? Visit your student, relax, have some fun and do it all in one weekend! Plans are currently underway for Parents Weekend 2012! Mark your calendars now and watch for more information coming this summer.

UNL Parents Association Weekend website:
<http://parentsassoc.unl.edu/weekend>



*The Gallagher Family,
Parents Weekend 2011*

*The Cozart Family,
Parents Weekend 2011*



*The Haggar Family,
Parents Weekend 2011*



*The Nelsen Family,
Parents Weekend 2011*



*The Hartman Family,
Parents Weekend 2011*



Susan and Timothy Draftz
UNL Parents Association Co-Presidents

The UNL Parents Association is here for you. If you have any questions with which we may be able to help, please contact any of our Board Members (<http://parentsassoc.unl.edu/executive/>) or the UNL Student Affairs Office (402-472-3755).

You can also find us on .

The UNL Parents Association and UNL Teaching Council presents the “Certificate of Recognition for Contributions to Students” Ceremony on Friday, February 3, 2012, in the Nebraska City Union Centennial Room.

- * Check-in/Reception begins at 2:30 p.m.
- * Program begins at 3:00 p.m.



Calendar Important Dates

- Spring Break — March 18 - 25
- Ivy Day—March 31
- Annual Spring Meeting — April 14
(Spring Red/White Game)
- Honors Convocation — April 22
- Final Exams — April 30 - May 4
- Undergraduate Commencement — May 5
- Homecoming — September 29, 2012
- Parents Weekend 2012 — October 5-7

For more information and to register visit:

<http://parentsassoc.unl.edu/weekend>



*UNL Parents Association Meeting
Attendees and Jackie Gaughan
Multicultural Center Tour Guide,
November 5, 2011*

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.

