FOUNDERS DAY

FEBRUARY 26, 2015

UNIVERSITY OF NORTH DAKOTA
The One Hundred and Thirty-Second Anniversary of the Founding of The University of North Dakota

FOUNDERS DAY 2015

6 p.m. Thursday, February 26, 2015, in the Memorial Union Ballroom

WELCOME
Robert O. Kelley, President

MUSICAL ENTERTAINMENT
Social: UND Music Faculty Members Wesley Lawrence (voice) and Keith Teepen (piano)
Special Music: UND Opera Students Kaylee Lackman, Jacy Thibert and Ryan King

DINNER

OPENING REMARKS
President Kelley

PRESENTATIONS TO HONORED GUESTS
Introductions of Retired and Retiring Faculty and Staff
Introductions of Faculty and Staff With 25 Years of Service

FACULTY AND DEPARTMENTAL AWARDS

CONGRATULATORY REMARKS
DeAnna Carlson Zink, Chief Executive Officer, UND Alumni Association & Foundation

CLOSING REMARKS
President Kelley

ON THE COVER: The Old Main Memorial Sphere and Plaza were dedicated on May 29, 1964. Speaking here is Edgar I. Syverud, dressed in the uniform he wore as a member of the UND Cadet Band while a student here in 1903-04. The idea for the memorial sprang out of a letter Syverud received from UND Alumni Director J. Lloyd Stone discussing the demolition of Old Main, UND’s first building. Syverud wrote back, suggesting a monument that could incorporate a “living flame.” Stone liked the idea and presented it to President George Starcher (1954-1971). Stanley O. Johnson, professor of art, was commissioned to create this widely recognized symbol of the University. A native of Cavalier, N.D., Syverud was then a photographer living in Dagmar, Mont. A history enthusiast, he was responsible for the founding of many historical sites in North Dakota. Visible behind Syverud are, from left, President Starcher, Harvey Jacobson (founder of the News Bureau, later University Relations), Stanley Johnson, Russell Peterson (College of Education), and J. Lloyd Stone.
The UND Foundation/McDermott Faculty Award for Individual Excellence in Teaching
BRIAN DARBY
Assistant Professor of Biology

The UND Foundation/Lydia and Arthur Saiki Faculty Award for Individual Excellence in Teaching
CHERYL TERRANCE
Associate Professor of Psychology

The UND Foundation/Thomas J. Clifford Faculty Award for Graduate or Professional Teaching Excellence
DANA HARSELL
Associate Professor of Political Science and Public Administration

The UND Foundation/Karleen Home Rosaaen Award for Excellence in Academic Advising
KIMBERLY COWDEN
Assistant Professor in the Communication Program

The UND Foundation/Thomas J. Clifford Award for Outstanding Professional Academic Advising
CHELSEA MELLENTHIN
Academic Advisor in Psychology

The UND Foundation/Thomas J. Clifford Faculty Achievement Award for Outstanding Faculty Development and Service
CURTIS STOFFERAHN
Professor of Sociology

The UND Foundation/Thomas J. Clifford Faculty Achievement Award for Excellence in Research
JONATHAN GEIGER
Chester Fritz Distinguished Professor of Pharmacology, Physiology, and Therapeutics

The UND Foundation/B.C. Gamble Faculty Award for Excellence in Teaching, Research or Creative Activity, and Service
ALENA KUBATOVÁ
Associate Professor of Chemistry

The UND Award for Interdisciplinary Collaboration in Research or Creative Work
F. RICHARD FERRARO
Chester Fritz Distinguished Professor of Psychology

GLENDA LINDETH
Professor of Nursing

PAUL LINDETH
Professor of Aviation and Associate Dean, John D. Odegard School of Aerospace Sciences

THOMAS PETROS
Chester Fritz Distinguished Professor of Psychology

WILLIAM SEMKE
Professor of Mechanical Engineering

BENJAMIN TRAPNELL
Associate Professor of Aviation

The UND Foundation/Thomas J. Clifford Award for Departmental Excellence in Teaching
THE DEPARTMENT OF BIOLOGY

The UND Award for Departmental Excellence in Research
THE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY

The UND Award for Departmental Excellence in Service
THE DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE AND PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION
The UND Foundation/McDermott Faculty Award for Individual Excellence in Teaching

Brian Darby
Assistant Professor of Biology

Brian Darby is always looking for creative ways to present his material in class. An innovative teacher who continually looks for ways to engage students, he thoughtfully looks at student feedback to get them more involved in learning.

“Dr. Darby is effective in presenting the course material. He presents it cogently and in many different imaginative reports, which (include) playing music videos at the beginning of class that are connected to the topic of the day to get people interested in trying new ideas,” said student Shay Erickson. “He is always smiling and ready to teach as long as people are willing to learn. Even when people make mistakes, his mood is never bad.

“His mood creates a very stress-free environment that makes it easy to learn.”

With his dedication to student success and drive to continually keep students engaged in learning, Darby has won the Outstanding Undergraduate Teaching Award.

“During class, he challenges his students and sets high expectations so that we can become all that we can be,” said student Jessica Fairley. “His projects and assignments are always flexible enough so that as students we have enough freedom to engage each issue in a variety of ways. He truly challenges our critical thinking skills by guiding us with general guidelines and letting us choose the right path for ourselves. These valuable skills he has been teaching us will prepare us for the future we desire, whether we are aiming for a master's in biology or a doctorate in medicine.”

Students feel that Darby truly cares about them as individuals and wants them to succeed. He pushes them to do their best and makes them aware of ways to further their learning, including research opportunities, volunteer opportunities, and internships.

“You can tell he loves his job and really tries to help students understand what is actually important in class and helps us find ways to succeed in our field,” said student Rebecca Devine. “Having professors who actually care is so relieving for students because we learn the best when the professors care about everything they teach and offer assistance.”

Darby clearly has a passion for what he does, and the students find that infectious.

“A good teacher helps students achieve their study objectives. A great teacher helps students achieve beyond their original study objectives and enjoy the process,” said student Melissa Hingorani. “A good teacher has an invested interest in the subject. A great teacher has an invested interest in not only the subject, but also in their students and their students’ growth. A good teacher teaches course material in a way that is adequate enough for what they consider to be the average student. However, it is a remarkable ability to understand that each student is an individual and thus each and every student has unique learning requirements. A great teacher doesn’t just simply acknowledge this truth, but instead fully embodies this concept by actively working to communicate with each student in the particular way that is optimal for his or her educational success. To merely say that Brian Darby is a great teacher would be an understatement, for he is nothing short of extraordinary. I owe much of my academic success to Dr. Brian Darby, who has gone above and beyond to help me achieve my educational goals and who has undeniably been one of the greatest undergraduate professors I have ever had.”

His colleagues have high praise for Darby as well. They say he has a reputation as an approachable and enthusiastic but rigorous instructor who challenges students to do their best.

“Brian is a dedicated and effective teacher who works hard to provide students with the very best learning experiences that he can,” said Brett Goodwin, associate professor and chair of the Biology Department. “He makes a huge contribution to the teaching mission of the Biology Department at UND and very much deserves the recognition and praise of the Outstanding Undergraduate Teaching Award.”

The UND Foundation/Lydia and Arthur Saiki Faculty Award for Individual Excellence in Teaching

Cheryl Terrance
Associate Professor of Psychology

Cheryl Terrance has demonstrated a remarkable ability to effectively reach undergraduate students in the Psychology Department. She structures her classes so students must be active participants engaged in problem solving. Not only is she a successful, enthusiastic teacher in the traditional classroom, she’s able to translate her passion for teaching to online students as well.

Terrance cares so much about her teaching that she engages in self- and peer-evaluative processes to improve her effectiveness as an instructor. She continually exceeds departmental expectations in her teaching and consistently receives some of the highest student evaluation ratings.

“Such high ratings and evaluations are especially noteworthy given that they are largely based on the undergraduate statistics course that Dr. Terrance routinely teaches,” said Joelle Ruthig, a member of the Psychology Department’s Evaluation Committee. “Introduction to Statistics is a particularly challenging course to successfully engage students in and one that many students fear taking. Nonetheless, Dr. Terrance manages to not only engage the students in the course material, but her good humor and strong rapport with students actually make learning statistics fun. Through her commitment to teaching, she provides our students with a solid basis of statistical knowledge that they continue to draw upon in subsequent psychology courses and research experiences.”

Terrance’s remarkable skills and dedication to her students have earned her the Outstanding Undergraduate Teaching Award.

Terrance joined the UND Department of Psychology as an assistant professor in 2000. She was promoted to associate professor in 2006.

“Dr. Terrance serves multiple roles in our department,” said Jeffrey Holm, professor and chair of the Psychology Department. “She teaches at the undergraduate level, and she is a core faculty member in two of our graduate programs. Furthermore, she is extremely active in a variety of meaningful ways across campus, particularly with diverse and/or underrepresented students groups.

“Her impact as an undergraduate instructor goes far beyond the traditional classroom and even at time extends into areas that can be controversial with the administration and community.”

Terrance has served as a mentor for others in her department and is known to be generous with her time when working with undergraduate students.

“Dr. Terrance is one of the most influential teachers I have had at UND,” said Sarah Kittleson. “I first had her in general statistics, where she clearly put forth
The UND Foundation/Thomas J. Clifford Faculty Award for Graduate or Professional Teaching Excellence

Dana Harsell
Associate Professor of Political Science and Public Administration

Dana Harsell has distinguished himself as an innovator who brings what he's teaching to life with valuable, real-world experiences. Students see him as a teacher, role model, and mentor.

"Dr. Harsell has been an outstanding graduate teacher for many years. His work with our Master of Public Administration students in the classroom and in directing independent studies stands out for its quality and commitment to student success," said faculty member Mark Jendrysik. "Dr. Harsell is able to make our in-class and online experience the same. He is also an innovative teacher, as can be seen by his use of simulations. Recently he has started to use the SCALE-UP [Student-Centered Active Learning Environment for Undergraduate Programs] classroom to increase collaboration between on-campus and distance students in the hybrid classes offered in our MPA program."

Harsell also puts a great deal of time and energy into the Business and Government symposium, which is offered jointly by the MPA and MPA programs. This annual trip to Washington, D.C., allows graduate students to meet with lobbyists and lawmakers and see the interaction of business and government first-hand.

"It is wonderful to see our students interact with important people in Washington," Jendrysik said. "This experience has led to students gaining new opportunities for employment in the public or private sector. The amount of work needed to set up this class is great, but Dr. Harsell always makes it a rewarding experience. His work with our graduate students has helped increase enrollments in our program."

For his work as a teacher and the opportunities he provides his students, Harsell has garnered the Outstanding Graduate Teaching Award.

Joseph Field, second secretary at the U.S. Embassy in Amman, Jordan, was one of the students in the Business and Government class in 2009 who went to Washington, D.C. It was an inspiring and life-changing event for him.

"The trip to Washington truly opened my eyes to other possibilities, especially as Dr. Harsell continued to engage me in stimulating discussions on policy, political leaders, and public careers," Field said. "I enjoyed the structure of this course, as we received a solid foundation on the relationship of business and government in the classroom at Gamble Hall, and then we were able to see it in action while in Washington. This unique experience is what it all came together for me."

Harsell serves as an associate professor of political science and public administration, director of the Public Administration program, and a full member of the graduate faculty at the University of North Dakota.

"Dr. Harsell is first and foremost an excellent teacher," said former student Kim Pedersen, who has taught in the Department of Modern and Classical Languages and Literatures for more than 15 years. "His enthusiasm for the subject matter spreads to his students. He creates an exceptional learning environment where students are challenged and encouraged to ask questions."

But his efforts to help his students succeed go even beyond the classroom and real-world opportunities.

"Dr. Harsell has never wavered in his support, and he stood by me during my long and tedious application process for a position with the U.S. State Department," Field said. "After I moved to Washington, he kept in touch with me, and we would meet during subsequent UND Business and Government trips to the Capitol. Even now as I serve in the Middle East, Dr. Harsell has spent valuable free time writing and discussing topics of importance to me. I know my story is just one small sample of the countless students Dr. Harsell has helped and influenced over the years."

As an online student, Andy Burmeister was initially nervous about finishing his MPA, but his fears were soon assuaged.

"As a busy professional 10 years into my career who had completed half of a master's degree in the traditional format seven years before, I was apprehensive of returning to complete my degree, and extremely apprehensive about doing the entire degree in an online format," he said. "Everything changed once I began discussions with Dr. Harsell, who helped me break through the areas of concern and provided clear and concise counsel that led me onto a topic that I was extremely excited about."

Burmeister said Harsell has the ability to cut through the distractions and help students focus on their goals and objectives. Harsell helped him find a number of viable paths to achieve strong academic research.

"Impressively, he was able to do all of this through nontraditional academic settings and harness the benefits of the online format of teaching and learning," Burmeister said. "In an ever-changing academic world, individuals like Dr. Harsell will help lead the institution to new heights while ensuring strong academic integrity and vigor."

The UND Foundation/Karleen Home Rosaaen Award for Excellence in Academic Advising

Kimberly Cowden
Assistant Professor in the Communication Program

Kimberly Cowden's students and colleagues agree that she has an amazing understanding of policies and procedures at the University of North Dakota. While that alone makes her a valuable asset to her department and her students, it's the personal interest she takes in her students' success that make her even more special. For these reasons and more, Cowden has earned the Outstanding Faculty Advisor Award.

"Dr. Cowden is a wonderful advisor. She has always been there for me, always making time to guide me, especially when I was having some difficult times that affected my academics. She genuinely cares about her students' well-being," said Christalin Casinader. "She helped me figure out the policies and procedures I needed to follow when I was having a difficult time. She connected me with the right people and resources on campus. Dr. Cowden is definitely a mentor to me, and she gives me sound advice that is applicable to my individual needs. She is very helpful and honest. She gives real-world knowledge and insight, especially when it comes to career goals."

Cowden is an assistant professor in the Communication Program and resides in the Department of Indian Studies. She received her doctoral degree from North Dakota State University in 2009. Her areas of specialization are advertising, public relations, risk and crisis communication with vulnerable populations.

Since 2005, Cowden has been a research fellow with the National Center for Food Protection and Defense, a Center of Excellence for the Department of Homeland Security. She also is the project coordinator for the Risk and Crisis Communication Project at NDSU.

"I have known Dr. Cowden for two years now, and I have to say that she certainly goes above and beyond when it comes to her students. In my experience, she is always honest and fair with students," said Roy Roach. "In the beginning of every class, she lists on the board all pertinent information for class lecture and campus events as well. Not only is she confident in the course material, (she) demonstrates strong knowledge of University policies and class major requirements."
The UND Foundation/Thomas J. Clifford Faculty Achievement Award for Outstanding Faculty Development and Service

Curtis Stofferahn
Professor of Sociology

Not only has Curtis Stofferahn been active in leadership roles for many years on campus, he has truly made a difference. He’s been involved with everything from academic advising of student groups and student and faculty mentoring to leadership in faculty governance and faculty development activities. The list of committees he’s served on in various capacities goes on and on. His contributions have been substantial and are helping to shape the University of North Dakota for the future. For his hard work and meaningful contributions to the university, the community, and his profession, Stofferahn has earned the Award for Outstanding Faculty Development and Service.

Stofferahn first came to UND in 1988 as a visiting assistant professor in the Sociology Department. Later that year, he was hired as an assistant professor. The next year, he added director of the Social Science Research Institute at UND to his responsibilities. He held that position until 1996. From 1994 to 1997 and 2004 to 2008, he also was director of Graduate Studies for the Sociology Department.

In 1998, Stofferahn co-founded the Center for Rural Studies at UND and North Dakota State University. He served as the co-director for about eight years. He also was eventually promoted to full professor.

Despite all the hats he wore through the years, Stofferahn always found time for additional service activities.

“His dedication to shared governance — and his willingness to put in the time and effort that meaningful shared governance entails — is legendary on this campus,” wrote faculty members Kathy Smart and Jim Mochoruk in nominating Stofferahn for the award. “His work at all levels is exemplary, but I would argue that Curt’s greatest impact derives from his work on UND’s Senate and its myriad committees. Not only has he served as chair of the Senate, vice chair (twice), and immediate past chair (twice), he has been a leader of the Senate via his work as a member of the Senate Executive Committee for over a decade, which I believe is a record.”

Under his leadership, shared governance has moved to a whole new level on campus.

“It is no exaggeration to say that Curt was the catalyst for launching a whole new approach to shared governance,” Smart and Mochoruk wrote. “Recognizing that the Senate and many of its committees were becoming moribund, it was Curt who launched the movement to reconsider and restructure the Senate, a process that will be coming to its conclusion in the next few months.”

Stofferahn recognized the value of attracting a new generation of faculty leaders into the difficult but rewarding work of shared governance. He also understood that one of the best ways to make shared governance work was to create a more collegial and less conflict-prone environment on campus.

“Even as he was working toward a whole new approach to more effective shared governance, he became the leading voice in the fight to create the office of Ombuds on this campus,” Smart and Mochoruk wrote. “And once again, his hard work in this regard was remarkable: he convinced the President’s Office to fund the position, served on the committee which defined the job, served on the hiring committee, and then agreed to serve as a member of the new Ombuds’ Advisory Committee.”

Stofferahn is dedicated to his discipline as well.

“He has been a committed, active, and engaged member of the Rural Sociological Society,” said Debbie Storrs, dean of the College of Arts and Sciences. “He
has served on the council in a variety of ways, including chair of the Professional Communication Committee and secretary and a member of the Executive Committee.

In whatever roles Stofferahn tackles, he strives to make things better — and he has succeeded.

"His many accomplishments at UND and in his discipline have resulted in a more inclusive and collaborative learning and working environment," Storrs said.

The UND Foundation/Thomas J. Clifford Faculty Achievement Award for Excellence in Research

Jonathan Geiger
Chester Fritz Distinguished Professor of Pharmacology, Physiology, and Therapeutics

It’s no secret that Jonathan Geiger is doing amazing things at the University of North Dakota. A Chester Fritz Distinguished Professor in the Department of Basic Sciences, Geiger is an outstanding teacher and mentor. He also is a phenomenal researcher. This fact is evidenced by his many high-impact publications, his continuous grant support from national resources such as the National Institutes of Health, including two this year, and the list of invitations he receives from national and international institutes and universities to present his research. For his hard work and dedication, Geiger has earned the Faculty Achievement Award for Excellence in Research.

"The impact of Jonathan’s research is enormous, and his work on HIV proteins and its effect on neurological disorders is forming the basis for important translational research efforts," said Joshua Wynne, vice president for health affairs and dean of the School of Medicine and Health Sciences. "Despite tremendous progress toward the understanding of HIV infections, the disease has continued on an upward trajectory globally. One reason for this is that there is a disconnect between clinical and basic research. I believe that the research performed in Jonathan’s lab will be a major breakthrough in understanding HIV-mediated clinical disease."

Since the beginning of his career, Geiger has been recognized for his outstanding research. He earned numerous scholarships and awards, first as a student and then as a professional in his field. Geiger came to UND in 2003. Just six years later, he was named a Chester Fritz Distinguished Professor. At present he is professor in the Department of Basic Sciences, but he has served as chair and interim chair for departments in the School of Medicine and Health Sciences for much of his time at the University.

"Dr. Geiger has made numerous impressive contributions to his profession in general and more specifically to neuroscience research, where his contributions are recognized both nationally and internationally for their innovation, high quality, clinical relevance and impact on people’s lives," said Malak Koth, chair of the Department of Basic Sciences. "In addition to his own outstanding achievements in research, Dr. Geiger is a dedicated mentor to other scientists who enjoy their own highly successful careers."

Others quickly attest to the fact that Geiger has been instrumental in helping them in their careers.

"I must mention that I was a direct recipient of his mentoring and have enjoyed various scientific interactions with him," said Professor Brit Singh. "In my early years at UND, he not only worked with me on my many grants, but also critically evaluated the grants that I submitted to both NIH and NSF. The comments and his style of writing helped me tremendously in understanding how to write a good proposal, and it is my judgment that because of his insight, I was able to obtain federal support."

Geiger also actively contributes to the teaching mission of the University and is involved in teaching medical and graduate students. He has advised two Ph.D. students, one master’s degree student, and five postdoctoral fellows, along with hosting several undergraduates and medical students in his lab.

"Dr. Geiger devotes an enormous amount of time and energy to sustain an outstanding academic environment at UND and throughout the state of North Dakota," Koth said. "He has brought significant national and international recognition to our institution."

The UND Foundation/B.C. Gamble Faculty Award for Excellence in Teaching, Research or Creative Activity, and Service

Alena Kubatova
Associate Professor of Chemistry

The Outstanding Faculty Scholar Award recognizes a record of accomplishment in three areas: teaching, research/creative activity, and service. One would be hard-pressed to find a more well-rounded and outstanding candidate than Alena Kubatova.

Kubatova came to the University of North Dakota in 2000 as a postdoctoral researcher at the Energy & Environmental Research Center. In 2003, she became a research scientist at the EERC and an adjunct professor in UND’s Chemistry Department. Two years later, she was promoted to assistant professor in the department.

In 2006-07, Kubatova served as director of the COBRE Mass Spectrometry Core facility at the School of Medicine and Health Sciences. In recent years, she has worn three hats. She was promoted to associate professor in the Chemistry Department in 2010, was named an adjunct assistant professor in the Chemical Engineering Department in 2011, and has served as the co-director of the SUNRISE Initiative since 2012.

Colleagues say Kubatova has a true passion for education at all levels at the University. "However, her enthusiasm extends well beyond traditional curriculum as demonstrated by the seminar she and colleague Evgeni Kozliak developed to help first-year chemistry students transition to the major and a new professional development course for graduate and undergraduate students she is teaching this spring titled ‘STEM Outreach to the Public,’" said David Pierce, professor and chair of the Chemistry Department.

Students consistently rate Kubatova favorably, and she continually works to improve her classes. "Moreover, she has been a front-runner in adopting best-practices in her classroom, such as using clickers in the Chem 333 lectures and converting her traditional Chem 443/543 lectures to a flipped classroom model," Pierce said.

Kubatova maintains one of the largest research groups in the Chemistry Department, and many of her manuscripts and presentations have been co-authored with graduate and undergraduate advisees, a sign of her outstanding mentoring.

"Alena has always been very engaged in research," said Jana Casey, a former student who is now a research investigator at Bristol-Myers Squibb. "As my advisor, she spent many hours teaching me new techniques, exploring new possibilities, discussing progress, and listening to new ideas. She was always very enthusiastic and made sure we gained valuable hands-on experience in the laboratory. We published my research in high-impact factor, peer-reviewed journals, and I presented my work at multiple local and national conferences."

Kubatova is one of the most active chemistry advisors for undergraduate research and has mentored 34 students since 2005. In addition, she has supervised 14 master’s or Ph.D. students in the last five years. Her students feel she really cares about their success and makes time to help them — even on her own time outside of class and her office hours. Students say her enthusiasm inspires them to grow academically.

Kubatova has had 21 journal articles published or in press in the last five years and has proved to be a prolific reviewer for important journals in her field. In addition, she was appointed last year to UND’s Advisory Committee for Research Administration and has served on or chaired several other committees. Younger budding scientists have also benefited from Kubatova’s expertise. She has worked with the College of Engineering’s “Young Scientists and Engineers Academy” to develop interactive learning modules for K-fourth grade students that teach about gases. She also has arranged for research demonstrations for participants in the North Dakota Science and Engineering Fair.

"Probably the highest impact outreach that Dr. Kubatova has organized over the years is her very popular Air Pollution Workshop for high school students," Pierce said. "This annual event brings over 150 students to UND from throughout the region — many from rural and tribal communities — to engage in hands-on activities and to spark interest in the STEM disciplines."

Events such as the Air Pollution Workshop are a true service to the community, according to Kirk Misialek, a science teacher at East Grand Forks High School.
“Alena has reached out to our school as no other faculty member at any college or university ever has in my 20 years of teaching high school science,” he said. “Dr. Kubatova has organized, planned, and even funded these events to promote science and the university for which she works. It is not a hard sell to walk into the principal’s office and request this type of experience for our high school students.”

**The UND Award for Interdisciplinary Collaboration in Research or Creative Work**

F. Richard Ferraro  
*Chester Fritz Distinguished Professor of Psychology*

Glenda Lindseth  
*Professor of Nursing*

Paul Lindseth  
*Professor of Aviation and Associate Dean, John D. Odegard School of Aerospace Sciences*

Thomas Petros  
*Chester Fritz Distinguished Professor of Psychology*

William Semke  
*Professor of Mechanical Engineering*

Benjamin Trapnell  
*Associate Professor of Aviation*

A group of pioneers from a variety of fields came together to further solidify the University’s place in aviation history. For their exceptional work to develop and expand the Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) field of research and education, a team of six has been honored with the Interdisciplinary Collaborative Research Award. They include Ric Ferraro, Chester Fritz Distinguished Professor of Psychology; Glenda Lindseth, professor of nursing; Tom Petros, Chester Fritz Distinguished Professor of Psychology; Will Semke, professor of mechanical engineering; Paul Lindseth, professor of aviation; and Ben Trapnell, associate professor of aviation.

“Each of these individuals had the vision to assemble a collaborative team of UND investigators that developed the state-funded Center of Excellence for UAVs and Simulation Applications,” said Bruce Smith, dean of the School of Aerospace Sciences. “Collaborative research efforts in the Unmanned Aircraft Systems Engineering Lab, the UAS human factors core with research conducted in the Northern Plains Center for Behavioral Research, and the UAS Aviation research conducted in the John D. Odegard School of Aerospace Sciences have all contributed immensely to where the University and the state of North Dakota are at today — i.e., the naming of the state of North Dakota as one of the six FAA-designated UAS test sites.”

Paul Lindseth took the helm and ensured that the team had monthly meetings to keep everyone abreast of each other’s efforts and of emerging opportunities for grants and partnerships with industry.

“This coordination enabled each person to be entrusted with delivering a common path forward with a mutual respected vision,” Petros said. “The activities resulted in numerous meetings producing multiple successful partnerships and funds from industrial and government leaders.”

As co-investigators on the first two rounds of the state Centers of Excellence funding, this team continues to make significant contributions to UND’s interdisciplinary UAS program of research. Among the many examples of the work products emanating from their efforts are the establishment of a UAS Predator research and training facility at the Grand Forks Air Force Base; $5.4 million from the U.S. Air Force Research Lab to create a curriculum for medium-altitude, long-range unmanned aircraft systems pilot training; and the creation, implementation, and expansion of the Unmanned Aircraft Systems Engineering (UASE) Laboratory, which involves both graduate and undergraduate students and will include Senior Design projects.

“The UASE Laboratory is dedicated to the design, build, flight test, and evaluation of UAS payloads for Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance (ISR) and Air-Borne Sense and Avoid (ABSAAS) missions,” Semke explained. “Civilian and environmental applications related to precision agriculture, atmospheric science research, disaster — particularly flood — monitoring, and search and rescue activity are actively addressed as well.”

Currently, Glenda Lindseth, Petros, and Ferraro serve associate directors of the UAS-COE Human Factors Core.

“The Human Factors Core has focused its research on flight performance issues — both manned and unmanned — such as UAS cockpit design, fatigue, and health-related and behavioral issues,” Glenda Lindseth said.

The diversity of the team allowed them to delve into many different areas, all centered around UAS research.

“This team brought together the expertise to investigate the incredibly dynamic and varied fields of UAS research that are emerging in a collaborative and supportive environment,” Trapnell said. “This ability to work together in nontraditional academic teams was unique to many institutions of higher learning, significantly raising the bar at the University of North Dakota.”

**The UND Foundation/Thomas J. Clifford Award for Departmental Excellence in Teaching**

The Department of Biology

Brett Goodwin, *Associate Professor and Department Chair*  
Jay Boulanger, *Assistant Professor*

Jeffrey Carmichael, *Associate Professor*  
Brian Darby, *Assistant Professor*

Denise Darland, *Associate Professor*  
Tristan Darland, *Assistant Professor*

Susan Ellis-Felege, *Assistant Professor*  
Chris Felege, *Instructor*

Steven Kelsch, *Associate Professor*  
Manu, *Assistant Professor*

Peter Meberg, *Associate Professor*  
Igor Ovtchinnikov, *Associate Professor*

Steven Ralph, *Associate Professor*  
Turk Rhen, *Associate Professor*

Isaac Schlosser, *Chester Fritz Distinguished Professor*  
William Sheridan, *Chester Fritz Distinguished Professor*

Rebecca Simmons, *Associate Professor*  
Vasyl Tkach, *Professor*

Jefferson Vaughan, *Professor*  
Kathryn Yurkonis, *Assistant Professor*

In a big, busy department tasked with teaching 800 to 1,000 majors and countless non-majors, it might be easy for faculty to be happy with the status quo. That isn’t true of the Biology Department. Its faculty continues to strive for excellence and aggressively pursues changes to the curriculum to increase student learning. For their outstanding commitment to effective and creative pedagogy with the goal of improving the learning experience for all of their students, the Biology Department has garnered the Departmental Excellence in Teaching Award.

The Biology Department consists of 18 tenured or tenure-track faculty members, including one joint appointment with the Forensic Science Program, and one instructor position. The department has been a leader in innovative teaching, and its hard work has been paying off.

“The department was the first to teach in the new SCALE-UP [Student-Centered Active Learning Environment for Undergraduate Programs] room, converting all of their introductory non-majors and core courses — seven courses with a total annual enrollment of approximately 2,300 students — to the active and collaborative teaching style that has resulted in increased student learning, decreased withdrawal and failure rates, and increased student engagement,” said department chair Brett Goodwin. “This major effort to change curriculum involved 10 of 18 faculty and illustrates Biology’s commitment to high-quality and innovative teaching.”

As interim dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, Dr. Kathleen Tiemann [now dean of the School of Liberal Arts, Merrimack College, North Andover,
The UND Award for Departmental Excellence in Research

The Department of Sociology

Curtis Stofferahn, Professor and Department Chair
Abdallah Badahdah, Associate Professor
Justin Berg, Assistant Professor
Liz Legerski, Assistant Professor
Ashley Leschshyn, Lecturer
Krista Minnott, Associate Professor and Graduate Director
Daphne Pedersen, Professor
Clifford Staples, Professor
Frank White, Assistant Professor

The faculty members in the Sociology Department are known as exemplary social science researchers who have high levels of scholarly publications and grant activity. The quality and quantity of scholarship produced by the department's faculty, and their commitment to cross-college collaboration, are recognized with the Departmental Excellence in Research Award.

"Their research collaborations with faculty across departments, colleges, and with students are consistent with the value the college and University places on (interdisciplinary work)," said Debbie Storrs, dean of the College of Arts and Sciences. "They represent one of the strongest departments in my college." Between 2009 and 2014, the members of the graduate faculty in the Department of Sociology applied for, and received funding from, a large number of internal and external grants. They also conducted and published a significant amount of research. There were eight graduate faculty members during this time, though one was an interim dean of the College of Arts and Sciences for two years and another was on leave for a year.

The graduate faculty members completed the research as solo authors and in collaboration with other faculty members, graduate students, and undergraduate students. In the five-year span, the department had 55 percent of its grants funded for a total of nearly $680,000, the great majority coming from external funding sources.

While working under a five-course teaching load, the faculty, as a group, averaged more than 11 articles published per year. In addition, they published 45 other books, book chapters, reviews, and reports and made 84 professional presentations at local, regional, national, and international meetings. Faculty of the Sociology Department are recognized for their expertise in gender and work, medical sociology, marriage and family, community sociology, immigration, and globalization. In addition, half of the graduate faculty members also served as editors or editorial board members for several research journals as well.

"Under the departmental leadership of previous chair, Dr. Clifford Staples, and continuing under the current chair, Dr. Curt Stofferahn, a culture of research productivity and interdisciplinary (collaboration) has developed," Storrs said.

"Such a culture does not happen accidentally. It is intentionally created through recruiting the best faculty, articulating clear expectations, and providing support.

In addition to the significant amount of research activity, the graduate faculty members also provided a great deal of service to the University, community, nation, profession, and world. Between 2009 and 2014, they provided service and expertise to more than 50 UND committees, organizations and events, performed more than 30 service roles in a variety of professional organizations, and offered their services and expertise to a dozen or more community groups and organizations.

Graduate faculty in the Sociology Department typically devote 50 percent of their time to teaching, 40 percent to research and scholarship, and 10 percent to service. In addition to the classroom instruction, faculty members also routinely supervise and collaborate with numerous individual students via independent study and through service on master's and Ph.D. committees.

"As a collective whole, sociologists in this department have made significant contributions to their discipline, to the University of North Dakota, and to the general public," Storrs said.

The UND Award for Departmental Excellence in Service

The Department of Political Science and Public Administration

Paul Sum, Professor and Department Chair
Laura Hand, Assistant Professor
Dana Harsell, Associate Professor and Director of the Master of Public Administration Program
Andy Hulquist, Associate Professor
Mark Jendrysik, Professor
Jason Jensen, Associate Professor; Associate Dean of Academics for the College of Business and Public Administration, and Coordinator of the Social Entrepreneurship Certificate Program
Ben Kassov, Visiting Assistant Professor
Steven Andrew Light, Professor and Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs; Co-Director of the Institute for the Study of Tribal Gaming Law and Policy
Katherine Scheurer, Assistant Professor
Kristin Sullivan, Assistant Professor
John Staley, Lecturer
Brian Urlacher, Associate Professor
Robert Wood, Associate Professor; Director of the Bureau of Governmental Affairs

The collective efforts of the Political Science and Public Administration Department to serve the University are inspiring. But the department's faculty doesn't stop there. Their desire to serve stretches across the state and even
nationally. For their tremendous work, the department has earned the Excellence in Service Award.

Faculty from PSPA are active in committee work within their college. They also are involved in University committees and governance. Five faculty members have served on the University Senate. Department faculty routinely engage in college and University academic matters, such as accreditation assessment, faculty rights, and shared governance.

“As a new member of the University community and a new resident of the state of North Dakota, I have been impressed by the number of people who have gone out of their way to mention to me the service provided by PSPA faculty and how much they appreciate the work of the faculty and the department,” said Margaret Williams, dean of the College of Business and Public Administration and professor of management. “Within the University, they are recognized for the quality of their contributions to faculty governance and are sought out to serve on and chair some of the University’s most important committees.”

Faculty members also sit on community boards and are involved in helping bring community events to fruition. Two PSPA faculty members judge the “We the People” competition in Bismarck. One organizes a model United Nations event. Another serves as director of government for the North Dakota Flickertail Girls State.

As a whole, the department sponsors or participates in a number of forums, including discussions for Constitution Day. Members of the department routinely emcee political debates, including a recent forum on North Dakota Constitutional Measure 3.

Faculty are involved in national associations as well. They serve as reviewers for journals and even served as a site visitor for the Public Administration accrediting body.

“Of special note is the department’s involvement in the annual Government and Business Symposium, in which part of a class is held in Washington, D.C., to interact with members from government, industry, trade associations, and government relations personnel,” said faculty member Dana Harsell. “This class also serves to connect students with University alumni.”

The idea of giving back is ingrained in the PSPA Department’s mission and in all of its faculty members. And while the faculty members work hard in the area of service, they also are committed teachers and researchers.

“The PSPA Department has been faithful in completing its mission in the areas of service to the University, to the broader community at various levels, and to the profession,” said Paul Sum, professor and department chair. “The department contribution is a collective effort from a group of senior faculty who maintain the highest standards in the classroom and active research agendas. Departmental practice has sheltered junior faculty from major service commitments; yet junior members also contribute substantially to our service mission. Thus, the PSPA Department represents academic citizenship at its very best.”

IN APPRECIATION

Thank you to the Founders Day volunteers and organizations for helping with the décor and support for this year’s Founders Day banquet and awards.

Brenda Haugen, Writer
Founders Day Design on a Dime Team: Dawn Botsford, Andrea Green, Marietta Kvitstad, Loren Liepold, Rebecca Slade, Millie Strang, Fred Wittmann
Janice Weiss, Founders Day Assistant
UND Alumni Association and Foundation
UND Burtness Theatre Scene Shop
UND Campus Catering
UND Facilities Management
UND Founders Day Awards Committees
UND Memorial Union Building Services Technicians
UND Music Department and UND Opera
UND Office of the President
UND Office of the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs
UND Office of the Vice President for Finance and Operations
UND Office of the Vice President for Research and Economic Development
UND Office of the Vice President for Student Affairs
UND Office of the Vice President for University and Public Affairs
UND Office of Ceremonies and University Events
UND University & Public Relations Group
Jackie Lorentz, Shawna Noel Schill and Kory Wallen, University Photographers
UND Sign & Design Team: Rebecca Slade, Brittany Watne, Hailey Rerick, Jasmine Stevens, Chandler Boyd, Amara Kallgren, and Katie Rehder
UND Spirit Committee
UND Staff Volunteers
UND Student Ambassadors

This undated view, perhaps from the 1920s, looks north to the central campus mall. On the left is Science Hall, later known affectionately as Old Science. Built in 1902, it was demolished in 1999. At right is Woodworth Hall. Built in 1909, Woodworth was destroyed by fire on March 10, 1949. The Law Building is at the right edge.
Since 1967, the presentation of faculty honors has been a highlight of the Founders Day celebration. From 1967 to 1979, the awards were supported by the Amoco Foundation. In 1978, the Fellows of the University of North Dakota, Inc., began to sponsor an individual award, which in 1985 became a departmental citation. In 1980 the University of North Dakota Alumni Association and Foundation expanded and turned over to the committee its existing faculty recognition program and has supported individual and departmental awards since. Funding for the awards presented tonight is provided by the UND Foundation and the University of North Dakota.

The Outstanding Faculty Awards Committee, composed of students and faculty, screens nominations and selects recipients for individual and departmental honors for teaching, service, and overall scholarly excellence.

Recipients of honors for excellence in research are selected by a committee composed of research administrators and faculty.

The recipients of awards for academic advising are selected by the Academic Advising Committee.

Individual Faculty Awards for Teaching, Research, Service, and Advising

2001: Irina Smoliakova, Chemistry; Jeanne S. Aneregg, Honors Program; Jeff S. Carmichael, Biology; Alexander J. Bott, Law; Richard C. Vari, Pharmacology, Physiology and Therapeutics; Cindy L. Juntunen, Counseling; Leon F. Osborne, Atmospheric Sciences.

2002: Kevin D. Young, Microbiology and Immunology; Marilyn R. Bjerke, Nursing; Mary L. Cutler, Theatre Arts; Mary O. Loyland, Accounting and Business Law; Ronald H. Brinkert, Physical Education and Exercise Science; Shelby J. Barrentine, Teaching and Learning; Joyce K. Coleman, English; Jeffrey W. Lang, Biology.

2003: David O. Lambeth, Biochemistry and Molecular Biology; Patrick B. O’Neill, Economics; Warren C. Jensen, Aviation; Ralph G. Koprince, Languages; Margie J. Hansen, Family and Community Nursing; Joan J. Hawthorne, Writing Across the Curriculum, Writing Center, and the University Writing Program; Jody A. Rada, Anatomy and Cell Biology; Jay Meek, English.

2004: Roxanne A. Vaughan, Biochemistry and Molecular Biology; David T. Pierce, Chemistry; Mary N. Haslerud Opp, School of Communication; Karen B. Wettersten, Counseling; Melinda Leach, Anthropology; Manuchair (Mike) Ebadi, Neuroscience and Pharmacology, Physiology and Therapeutics; Audrey M. Glick, Communication Sciences and Disorders.


2006: Glenda N. Lindseth, Nursing; Darrin S. Muggli, Chemical Engineering; Carl D. Barrentine, Humanities; Patti Alleva, Law; Richard G. Landry, Educational Foundations and Research; Albert J. Fivizzani, Biology; Michael D. Mann, Chemical Engineering; Elizabeth I. Bjerke, Aviation.

2007: Daphne Pedersen Stevens, Sociology; Jack Weinstein, Philosophy and Religion; Thomas Hill, Microbiology and Immunology; Steven Light, Political Science and Public Administration; Kathryn R.L. Rand, Law; Michael Gaffey, Space Studies; Wayne Seames, Chemical Engineering; Francis White, Sociology.

2008: Mark Guy, Teaching and Learning; Ryan Zerr, Mathematics; Jeffrey Sun, Educational Leadership; Donald Sens, Pathology; Janice Goodwin, Nutrition and Dietetics; Manohar Kulkarni, Mechanical Engineering.

2009: Rebecca Simmons, Biology; Michael Atkinson, Occupational Therapy/Anatomy and Cell Biology; Patrick Carr, Anatomy and Cell Biology; Jeffrey Weatherly, Psychology; Eric Murphy, Pharmacology, Physiology and Therapeutics; Lori Robison, English; Travis Heggie, Recreation and Tourism Studies.

2010: Amanda Boyd, Languages; Krista Minnott, Sociology; Jason Jenson, Political Science and Public Administration; Mary Ann Sens, Pathology; Vasyl Tkach, Biology; Thomas Steen, Physical Education, Exercise Science and Wellness; Richard "Rocky" Graziano, Aviation.

2011: Melissa Gjellstad, Languages; Kanishka Marasinghe, Physics and Astrophysics; Rebecca Weaver-Hightower, English; James Mochoruk, History; Sandra Donaldson, English; Michael Blake, Music; Sagini Keengwe, Teaching and Learning; Mark Askelson, Atmospheric Sciences; Richard Schultz, Electrical Engineering; William Semke, Mechanical Engineering.

2012: Diane Darland, Biology; James Popejoy, Music; Marcus Weaver-Hightower, Educational Foundations and Research; Lowell Stanlake, Mechanical Engineering; Brett Goodwin, Biology; Sandra Short, Physical Education, Exercise Science and Wellness; Cindy Anderson, Nursing; Wayne Seames, Chemical Engineering; Evgeni Kozliak, Chemistry.

2013: Joshua Bronfman, Music; Sheryl O’Donnell, English; Paul Hardersen, Space Studies; Meganne Misko, Music; Elizabeth Bjerke, Aviation; Mark Hoffmann, Chemistry; Holly Brown-Borg, Pharmacology, Physiology, and Therapeutics; Wayne Seames, Chemical Engineering; Min Wu, Biochemistry and Molecular Biology; Julia Zhao, Chemistry.

2014: Christopher Felege, Biology; Wesley Lawrence, Music; Anne Haskins, Occupational Therapy; Rebecca Simmons, Biology; Thomasine Heitkamp, Social Work; Alena Kubatova, Chemistry; Jefferson Vaughan, Biology; Paul Sum, Political Science and Public Administration; William Gosnold, Geology and Geological Engineering; Richard LeFever, Geology and Geological Engineering; Michael Mann, Chemical Engineering; Hossein Salehfar, Electrical Engineering.

Departmental Awards for Teaching, Research, and Service

Departmental Awards for Excellence in Teaching: Computer Science, 2001; Teaching and Learning, 2002; Humanities and Integrated Studies, 2003; Theatre Arts, 2004; Space Studies, 2005; Physician Assistant Program, 2006; Political Science and Public Administration, 2006; Chemical Engineering, 2007; Sociology, 2008; Occupational Therapy, 2009; Biology, 2010; Honors Program, 2011; Educational Foundations and Research, 2012; Modern and Classical Languages and Literatures, 2013; Space Studies, 2014.


Departmental Awards for Excellence in Research: Neuroscience, 2001; Biology, 2002; English, 2003; Microbiology and Immunology, 2004; Chemical Engineering, 2005; no award, 2006; no award, 2007; Psychology, 2008; Chemistry, 2009; Pharmacology, Physiology and Therapeutics, and Biology, 2010 (two recipients); Chemical Engineering, 2011; Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, 2012; Center for Rural Health, 2013; Atmospheric Sciences, 2014.
RETIRED AND RETIRING
FACULTY AND STAFF

Sandra Ahonen
Administrative Officer, Department of Clinical Neuroscience (Fargo)

Eugene Balek
Technology Development Operator, Energy & Environmental Research Center

Wayne Blegen
Technology Development Operator, Energy & Environmental Research Center

Cheryl Brooks
Disability Specialist, Disability Services for Students

Wayne Carl
Floor Installation, Facilities Management

David Carlson
Associate Professor of Psychiatry and Behavioral Science

David Daucsavage
Building Services Technician, Facilities Management

Arlene Davidson
Building Services Technician, Facilities Management-Housing

Gale Delude
Lead Building Services Technician, Facilities Management-Housing

David Driscoll
Building Services Technician, Facilities Management

Gene DuBois
Associate Professor of Languages-Spanish, Department of Modern and Classical Languages and Literatures

Maria DuBois
Lecturer in Spanish, Department of Modern and Classical Languages and Literatures

Linda Duckstad
Admissions and Records Associate, College of Business and Public Administration

Bonnie Espelien
Administrative Secretary, Department of Sociology

Kathleen Gershman
Professor of Educational Foundations and Research

Thomas Gilsdorf
Professor of Mathematics

Ruth Grzadzieski
Administrative Assistant, Department of Family and Community Medicine

Dianne Hamre
Medical Cataloger, Harley E. French Library of the Health Sciences

Kenneth Hansen
Professor of Accountancy

Judy (Jude) Heit
Administrative Secretary, Department of Family and Community Medicine

Linda Holdman
Program Director, Office of the Dean, College of Education and Human Development

Cyndi Iverson
Serials and Acquisitions Manager, Harley E. French Library of the Health Sciences

Dorothy Jerik
Administrative Secretary, Department of Criminal Justice

Shelly Kain
Project Coordinator, Facilities Management

Judith Kamrowski
Administrative Secretary, Department of Surgery

Deborah Kirby
Administrative Secretary, Department of Philosophy and Religion

Mark Kobe
Building Services Manager, Energy & Environmental Research Center

Nancy Krom
Office and Data Coordinator, Institutional Research

Marietta Kvistad
Media Relations Assistant, Public Relations Group, Division of University and Public Affairs

Mary Loyland
Professor of Accountancy

Janet Lucht
Laboratory Technician, Energy & Environmental Research Center

Peggy Lucke
Associate Vice President for Finance and Operations

Diane Martin
Building Services Technician, Facilities Management-Housing

Wayne McCormick
Utility Person, Dining Support Services

John McLaughlin
Building Services Technician, Facilities Management

Charlotte Minier
Administrative Assistant, Counseling Center

Linda Morken
Building Services Technician, Facilities Management-Housing

Margaret Myers
Associate Vice President for Finance and Operations
As a disability specialist, Cheryl Brooks worked with students who face a wide variety of challenges. Brooks faced her own challenges, but found her niche when she came to UND. After nearly 23 years with the University, she retired Feb. 2, 2015.

Brooks grew up on a ranch northwest of Rhame, a small town in southwest North Dakota. After graduating from Rhame High School, Brooks attended North Dakota State University, where she earned a bachelor’s degree in microbiology in 1974. She worked as a research assistant at Kansas State University, but her career in science was cut short due to vision loss and other medical issues.

Brooks returned to NDSU and earned a master’s degree in counseling in 1983. In December 1984, she moved to Grand Forks when she took a position as a vocational rehabilitation counselor with the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation. On March 16, 1992, she joined the University of North Dakota as a disability specialist with what is now called Disability Services for Students (DSS).

“Our office is charged with making sure UND programs, activities, and services are accessible to students with disabilities,” she explained. “With appropriate access, students with disabilities have the same opportunity as their non-disabled peers to succeed or fail in college.

During her at career at UND, Brooks served on the Student Affairs Diversity Committee, the UND Diversity Committee, and the Undergraduate International Student Tuition Waiver Committee. She also served on the Special Task Force charged with reviewing UND policies related to bias-related incidents.

Brooks was a nationally certified rehabilitation counselor from 1992 until 2012. She was also active in the North Dakota Disability Services Council, a collaborative effort between the North Dakota Office of Special Education and higher education disability services providers to promote transition and full participation in North Dakota colleges and universities (NDUS, tribal, and private) for students with disabilities. Brooks served twice as co-chair from higher education, vice chair, secretary, listserv participant, keeper of the membership roster, and Web reorganization.

Brooks’ plans for retirement include retiring her alarm clock, attacking the clutter in her house, becoming more active in her church (Holy Family Catholic Church), joining a fitness club, and doing only what she wants to do when she wants to do it. The options are limitless, she said.
DAVID CARLSON
Associate Professor of Psychiatry and Behavioral Science

David Carlson said he enjoyed being on the faculty of UND's School of Medicine and Health Sciences. He liked being a part of a growing and evolving curriculum and faculty. He also appreciated the opportunity to impact the training of med students and residents over the years.

Originally from Bismarck, Carlson earned degrees in humanities and mathematics at Concordia College in Moorhead, Minn. He went on to earn his master's in divinity at Luther Seminary in St. Paul, Minn.

Carlson served as a Lutheran pastor in eastern North Dakota before coming to UND to attend medical school. He earned his M.D. from the UND School of Medicine and Health Sciences and completed his psychiatry training at UND's Psychiatry Residency Training Program in Fargo.

After finishing his residency in 1995, Carlson joined the faculty at the UND School of Medicine. At the same time, he continued to work with the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America, serving as a clergy consultant working with the bishop in eastern North Dakota, serving on the Synod Candidacy Committee helping prepare men and women for becoming clergy, and leading groups for clergy relative to personal and professional development, pastoral care and systems issues within the parish.

In October 2014, Carlson retired as an associate professor of psychiatry and behavioral science.

During his career at UND, Carlson belonged to a number of professional organizations and served on a variety of task forces and committees, most relating to curriculum at the med school. He served in numerous capacities in the North Dakota Psychiatric Society, the American Psychiatric Association, the National Board of Medical Examiners, and many task forces and national academic associations related to psychiatry and education.

He earned a number of awards and honors as well. Among them was being named to the Alpha Omega Alpha honor society, being selected for the National Dean's List representing UND SMHS, serving as a Ginsberg Fellow with the Group for the Advancement of Psychiatry, serving in a number of national positions with academic organizations, and being selected for various test development and other committees with the National Board of Medical Examiners.

Carlson said the med school has a very solid core group of faculty that has made the department strong. At the same time, the department isn't afraid of evolving in terms of research and of educating students in positive ways.

He also is very proud of his three daughters. Shanna is a third-year post-doctoral fellow at the University of Chicago. She earned her Ph.D. at Cornell University. Elisa graduated from Concordia College in Moorhead and went on to a career that took her to Utah, where she manages an IT department. Andrea is a third-year medical student at UND.

ARLENE DAVIDSON
Building Services Technician, Facilities Management

When the 1997 flood destroyed the nursing home where she had been working, Arlene Davidson didn't have to look too far to find a new employer. Her sister, Lori Bakke, worked at the University and really liked it. So Davidson applied as a building services technician at UND and started her new job in October 1997.

Originally from Grand Forks, Davidson went to hair styling school after graduating from high school. It was tough to find a job because most places wanted people with experience, Davidson said. She worked a variety of jobs before she came to UND, but when she started at the University, she found her niche. Davidson said she really enjoyed working with her coworkers and with the students.

Initially, Davidson worked in Noren Hall. Before she retired Nov. 10, 2014, she worked in Walsh Hall. She said it was quite a change moving from a female dorm to a male dorm, but she enjoyed her work. Her duties included everything from cleaning bathrooms and waxing floors to vacuuming and cleaning carpets.

Among Davidson's favorite memories at UND are the wonderful Christmas parties with UND's presidents. She also had the opportunity through the years to occasionally work in the same area as her sister.

Now that she's retired, Davidson hopes to have more time to relax and to travel.

GALE DELUDE
Lead Building Services Technician, Facilities Management-Housing

In nearly 40 years of service to the University, Gale Delude has seen a lot of changes. New buildings have gone up. And the methods and equipment he and his custodial team have used have changed with the times as well. But one thing hasn't changed, and that's the fact Delude enjoyed his job and the people with whom he worked.

Delude lived in Grand Forks most of his life. He graduated from Sacred Heart High School in East Grand Forks.

For a couple of years, he worked at Western Potato. When that company went bankrupt, he applied at UND.

"I had a friend who worked over here," he said.

Delude was hired in 1975 at the UND Rehab as the night janitor. He worked there about two years before he went to the Walsh Hall complex as a custodian. He was named lead custodian after about three years and spent most of his career there.

"I liked working at UND," Delude said. "I enjoyed working with the kids." To many of the students, he was kind of like a dad.

In the last years of his career, Delude worked as the lead custodian at Family Housing. He also drove a supply truck. He retired in the summer of 2014.

"I liked working with the families and all the different nationalities," Delude said. "Most people made you feel pretty good. They appreciated what you did." Delude also got to work with people from other trades as well, including painters, plumbers, and maintenance people while at Family Housing. They all had the same goal: to make sure everything looked good and was running smoothly.

"I enjoyed working with all those people, and everyone seemed to get along real well," Delude said. "There are a lot of real professional people working here."

Delude was recognized as a real professional as well. He earned both the Golden Hammer Award and the Meritorious Service Award.

In his free time, Delude enjoys hunting, fishing, and gardening. He also keeps busy at his home about 70 miles from Grand Forks.

"We've got a farmstead, so there's plenty of work, mowing the grass and dealing with snow in the winter," he said. "I've got about 10 acres in the middle of nowhere. My one daughter says, 'You live in no-man's land!'"

Delude's wife, Julie, works at Digi-Key. They have a blended family of five grown children. Jennifer lives in Denver, Iowa. Ellen, who graduated from UND with a degree in education, lives in Oakes, N.D. Sheryl lives in Minneapolis. Adam lives in Osakis, Minn., and Joey resides in Grand Forks.

GENE DUBOIS
Associate Professor of Languages – Spanish

Through the years, Gene DuBois wore a number of hats at the University of North Dakota. His activities in the Department of Modern and Classical Languages and Literatures included teaching, service, and publication. He served on a number of committees and also a term as chair of the Languages Department.

Originally from St. Paul, Minn., DuBois earned a Ph.D. in Spanish from the University of California, Riverside. From 1984 to 1986, he worked at Alfred University. He came to UND in 1986 and served as an associate professor of Spanish until his retirement in May 2014.

Through the years, DuBois saw a number of changes at UND. He worked under four presidents and saw many changes in other administrators and faculty colleagues as well. He saw UND's enrollment grow and saw changes in priorities.

Among his favorite memories are his interactions with UND and the Grand Forks communities. DuBois was very active in the community. He coached youth soccer and basketball, volunteered for the Special Olympics, served on the board of directors of elementary and middle schools, and participated in art appreciation at West School.

Now that he's retired, DuBois plans to follow up on scholarship plans he didn't finish at UND. He also plans to find time to relax and travel.

DuBois' wife, Maria, is a retired lecturer at UND. They have two children, one of whom went to UND.
LINDA DUCKSTAD
Admissions and Records Associate, College of Business and Public Administration

Linda Duckstad vividly remembers her first day of work at the University. It was Jan. 2, 1973, and she was helping with registration at the Fieldhouse (now the Hylosp Sports Center).

“I didn’t have any clue what I was doing,” she said with a chuckle. But her coworkers helped her through it, and she ended up staying with the Registrar’s Office for 17 years. And she obviously did a wonderful job. She even earned a Meritorious Service Award during her tenure there.

Originally from Larimore, Duckstad attended the technical college in Alexandria, Minn. She came back to Grand Forks and worked at the Grand Forks Clinic for a short while before taking the job in the Registrar’s Office at UND in 1973.

Through the years, Duckstad had a couple of different jobs within the Registrar’s Office. Among her responsibilities was student registration and room scheduling.

Then Duckstad moved on to the College of Business and Public Administration, where she’s been ever since. She serves as an academic advisor. Her duties include advising students for their graduations — making sure they’re on track with all their classes, doing the scheduling for the building, and working on curriculum items.

During her career, Duckstad has seen a number of changes.

“It’s very mind-boggling,” she said. But through it all, one thing didn’t change.

“I liked what I did,” she said.

Duckstad also liked the people with whom she worked. And she was recognized for her hard work. Along with the Meritorious Service Award she earned while at the Registrar’s Office, Duckstad also garnered an award for her service at the College of Business and Public Administration.

Duckstad will retire in May 2015. In retirement, she plans to do more camping, fishing, gardening, and spending time with her grandchildren. She’s also active in church activities at Walle Lutheran Church in rural Thompson.

Duckstad’s husband, Richard, works at LM Wind Power and will retire in April 2015. They have two daughters, both of whom attended UND. Melissa and her husband, Jose Gonzalez, live in Buxton, N.D., with their children, Isabella and Liam. Heather and her husband, Joe Loquist, also live in Buxton.

KATHLEEN GERSHMAN
Professor of Educational Foundations and Research

While talking with Kathy Gershman, it’s easy to see that nothing gives her greater professional joy than to see her students succeed.

“I’ve had a lot of great students who have graduated over the years,” said Gershman, a professor in the Department of Educational Foundations and Research. “They’ve done very interesting work. I’ve learned a lot from them!”

“In our business, success is measured by your students’ success. Seeing my students publish their hard work and be appointed to positions in their field is very gratifying.”

Another of the highlights of her career was chairing dissertation committees, particularly when they’ve been nominated for awards. The first award for the best dissertation of the year went to one of Gershman’s advisees, Dr. Amy Phil-
Over the last 18 years, six other dissertations she chaired were nominated for national awards and two were published as books.

“That has been great,” she said.

Originally from Boston, Gershman earned a bachelor’s degree in anthropology from the University of Massachusetts and master’s and doctoral degrees in education from Harvard University.

Gershman was a bilingual teacher in Boston. She taught in Spanish, which she had ample time to practice — she was in Latin America for five years. Gershman served in the Peace Corps in Bolivia for two years, offering public health education, specifically tuberculosis control.

In Bolivia, Gershman met her husband, Hal, who also was serving in the Peace Corps. After they were married, they lived in Mexico City for nearly three years before coming back to Hal’s hometown of Grand Forks.

In 1980, Kathy Gershman was hired as a part-time instructor at UND. After completing her graduate studies in 1984, she was appointed as assistant professor of secondary education and foundations. She would later change departments when she was appointed professor of educational foundations and research, a title she will hold until her retirement in May 2015. Gershman also chaired the department until 2013.

As a professor, Gershman teaches and consults with her graduate students on their research. In retirement, she will continue to conduct her own research on rural schools.

“My own research has been really interesting to do, but like everybody else, I never have enough time to do it!” she said. Her high school ethnography was published as They Always Test Us on Things We Haven’t Read: Teen Laments and Lessons Learned.

Gershman has been recognized for her dedication and hard work. In 1990, she earned the Burlington Northern Foundation Award for Individual Teaching, Research, Creative Activity, and Service. In addition, her department has earned the best teaching award more than once.

“I have had wonderful colleagues in the past 30 years,” she said. “It’s been a tremendous privilege to work with them.”

In their free time, the Gershmans have been very involved in fundraising to save the Empire Theater in downtown Grand Forks.

“I’m happy to say the theater is doing very well,” Kathy Gershman said.

That didn’t always look like it was going to be the case. The 1997 flood hit right after some important renovations had been started at the facility.

“We were scrambling for funding right when everybody didn’t have a lot of extra money to donate,” Gershman said. “(But) eventually the community responded. We raised a million dollars. It took about two years.”

Gershman loves spending time with her family. Hal, a local retailer, is active in city politics. Their daughter, Leonora, a graduate of New York University, is an actress and lives in Los Angeles with her husband, Scott Pitts. They have two children, Willa, 4, and Murphy, 2.

DIANNE HAMRE
Medical Cataloger, Harley E. French Library of the Health Sciences

Those who knew Dianne Hamre in elementary school probably wouldn’t be surprised to hear she ended up working in a library.

“I love to read. I always have,” she said. “I even worked in the library in elementary school helping kids check out books when I was in fifth and sixth grade.”

For the last 26 years, she worked as the medical cataloger at UND’s School of Medicine and Health Sciences Library. She retired July 31, 2014.

A native of Coon Rapids, Minn., Hamre was part of the first graduating class at Coon Rapids Senior High. She went to college at Bemidji State University and earned a teaching degree. Hamre expected it might take a while to get a job, but she was wrong. By the time she got home to Coon Rapids, she discovered a superintendent had called. He was looking for a kindergarten teacher. Not everyone got a kindergarten endorsement in college, but Hamre had, and somehow the superintendent had found out. Hamre took the bus to McIntosh, Minn., where she taught for several years.

Hamre took some time off from teaching to raise her family. When she began considering re-entering the workforce, she decided to go to UND and earn her library degree, which she finished in 1986. Hamre thought she’d have a better chance of landing a teaching job with both her teaching and library degrees.

Soon she was the teacher and librarian at Clearbrook, Minn., but when times got tough, the position was cut.

Looking for a new job, Hamre saw an advertisement for a position at UND’s med school library. She got the job. She said she was appreciative of the benefits offered but challenged by the commute from McIntosh, which she did for a little more than 10 years before making a second home in Grand Forks.

When Hamre began working at UND in September 1988, the library resources were held in two buildings on campus. “In the old building, that was really something else,” she said with a smile. “There was an old-time elevator, and it wouldn’t quite stay on the floors when it stopped, so they put a big boulder on top of it. So you looked up and saw this great big boulder.”

The library was on the first floor, but it had five different levels, she said. A lot of the journals were held in the current med school building, though, she added.

The whole library moved over to the present med school in December 1994.

Though she was a medical cataloger, Hamre still got to work with students when she helped on reference desk or in circulation.

“It wasn’t as much time as I would have liked with the students, being a teacher at heart,” she said. She helped to fill her need for working with people at her second job. She was a direct support professional for Development Homes. She earned a certificate from Minot State University to work with the developmentally disabled. She particularly enjoyed taking her clients to movies, church, and other activities.

Through the years, Hamre saw a number of changes at the library even beyond the 1994 move. Much of the library has been computerized and thousands of books have been discarded, she said. Though she has a Kindle, she uses it mostly for games and jigsaw puzzles.

“I still think there’s nothing that takes the place of books,” she said.

Even though she was sad to see books being replaced by computers, she loved working at the library. “I enjoyed my time here,” she said. “We were kind of a little family here. It was a nice place to work.”

Since retiring, Hamre has been able to go to more of her grandchildren’s activities. Her husband, David, is semi-retired from farming. They have two sons, Erik and Peter, and four grandchildren: Lexi, Maci, Kobe, and Braylon. Their oldest granddaughter, Lexi, is attending UND.

KENNETH HANSEN
Professor of Accountancy

Kenneth Hansen remembers what it was like to be a student. As a professor of Accountancy, Hansen not only teaches what his students will need in their professional lives, he tries personalize his lessons and give students the tools to be successful in their personal lives as well.

Originally from Ohio, Hansen went to Ohio Northern University in Ada and earned a bachelor’s degree in accounting with a math and education minor. He graduated with distinction in May 1976. He attended the Indiana School of Law at Indianapolis, where he earned his Doctor of Jurisprudence, cum laude, in December 1982. He finished his Master of Laws in taxation in February 1989 at DePaul University College of Law in Chicago. Hansen went on to Indiana University Northwest in Gary and earned his MBA in May 1991.

Before coming to North Dakota, Hansen worked as an IRS agent for three years and was a practicing attorney for seven years, all in Indiana. He came to the University of North Dakota in 1991 as an assistant professor. In 2002, he was named a full professor, the position he will be retiring from in May 2015.

Hansen said he’s really enjoyed his time at UND. He likes the students, the people with whom he works, and the atmosphere of the University.

“It was a good fit,” he said. “I couldn’t think of a better fit.”

During his career, he’s garnered a number of awards, including the Milton Larson Award, which he has won four times. He’s also served on a variety of committees, including the Promotion, Scholarship, and Grants Committee at the College of Business and Public Administration. He served as chair and vice chair of that committee as well.

Through the years, Hansen has been impressed with his students’ performance on the CPA exam. Year after year, UND’s pass rate exceeds the national
average by more than 10 percent, he said. One year, the pass rate was 90 percent — so high that the CPA Society contacted Hansen to make sure there wasn’t some cheating going on!

In his free time, Hansen enjoys investing. In fact, he was responsible for getting Vanguard on campus as a retirement option. He also likes to use his expertise to help students. He tries to show them how the things they’re learning in class can be used to invest in their personal lives as well.

“I try to do a lot of practical applications in class,” he said.

Hansen credits his wife, Valerie, for helping the couple get to the point where they can retire. He said she worked to put him through school.

“She spoils me, but I appreciate it,” he said. “We complemented each other very well. She gave me the start I needed.”

JUDY (JUDE) HEIT
Administrative Secretary, Department of Family and Community Medicine

Though Judy “Jude” Heit enjoyed working at UND, she’s really having fun in retirement, too.

“I just retired in January, and we moved to Arizona for the winter, so I am enjoying planting flowers in January!” she said. “I love sitting out in the sun and reading a book and looking at the mountains. I think I will enjoy being a bum for a while.”

Heit grew up in Grand Forks and went to St. James High School and Mayville State College. “I was lucky enough to be a stay-at-home mom for many years,” she said. “Then I started in several part-time jobs. I have done flower arrangements at Michael’s, worked at the YMCA, and at the Rehab Hospital.”

She started working in the Library of the Health Sciences in 1987 before moving to Student Affairs and Admissions, where she worked until September 2013. Then she went to the Department of Family and Community Medicine. She served as the secretary for the Primary Care Office there, assisting the director. She retired Jan. 9, 2015.

Through the years, her hard work and dedication to UND haven’t gone unrecognized. “The awards I have received are both very special to me,” she said. “The first one was the Portrait Award, given to me in 2011 by the class of 2013. It is given to a person who the medical students feel has been the most helpful. Now my picture hangs in the hall at the medical school along with many professors. The second award that I received was just as special, as it was the Meritorious Service Award. What could be better than the people you work with telling you they feel you do a good job? I felt very blessed to have gotten both of these honors.”

Heit has many other happy memories of her time at UND as well. “I have many fond memories of my career in Student Affairs and Admissions because I had the privilege of working with students who were applying to and were accepted into medical school,” she said. “They were the highlight of my day.”

Through the years, Heit has seen many changes as well. “I think the biggest change I have seen in my career at UND is the movement into the electronic age,” she said. “I am not sure this is all good. I hope we don’t lose that personal touch with each other and our students.”

Away from work, Heit has kept busy with her family. “When my kids were in school at St. Michael’s, I was very involved in church and school projects, such as running the school carnivals and raffles, and being president of the Home and School Association,” she said.

Heit and her husband, Don, have been married nearly 45 years. Don was an electrical lineman for Nodak Electric Co-op for 38 years. They have two children. Their daughter, Angie, graduated from UND and now owns Mexican Village. She and her husband, Randy Green, and their son, Duncan, live mostly in Grand Forks, but they also have a farm near Ada. The Heits’ son, Ben, went to North Dakota State University. He is the general manager of Mexican Village. “He used to be a storm chaser,” Heit said. “Now he chases spirits in the Unveiled Paranormal Research Society.”

CYNDI IVERSON
Serials and Acquisitions Manager,
Harley E. French Library of the Health Sciences

Cyndi Iverson said she’s always felt appreciated and valued while working at the University. Perhaps that’s why she’s stayed at UND for nearly all her career.

Originally from Lankin, N.D., Iverson went to UND and earned degrees in music and library science. She worked at the East Grand Forks Public Library for a couple of months before getting a call about a library position at the Air Force Institute of Technology at the Grand Forks Air Base in 1973.

“That was a UND Library position,” Iverson explained. She applied and was hired there as the head of the library.

After about three years, Iverson got word that the program was folding, so she started looking for other positions. She was hired as head of Interlibrary Loan at the Chester Fritz Library in 1978. When the library was reorganized, she became head of Access Services, which was a combination of Circulation and Interlibrary Loan.

Back then, Interlibrary Loan received more than 40,000 requests a year, Iverson said. She worked with people from across the country and even around the world, depending on the requests. She remembers once having to contact the University of Spain.

“We were really a busy department at that time,” she said.

Iverson attended a number of conferences and met a lot of great people throughout the years. She also enjoyed working with the other staff at the Chester Fritz Library and getting to meet and help students and faculty as well.

Iverson stayed at the Chester Fritz Library until 1996 when she decided it was time for a change. A position opened up at the School of Medicine and Health Sciences’ Harley French Library. She was named head of Serials and Acquisitions.

“I’ve been very happy there,” she said.

She was so happy that even though she retired Sept. 30, 2014, she’s still working temporarily about 13 hours a week. “The University has been good to me,” she said. “I’ve loved my positions. I love what I’m doing. I love library work.”

During her career, Iverson said technology has really changed the way she does things. Now most of the serials are electronic, and she works with serial vendors on a lot of more technical issues. She also doesn’t order as many books as she used to on the Acquisitions side of her job.

Iverson has been involved in a number of professional organizations as well. She has been a member of the North Dakota Library Association (NDLA), the Mountain Plains Library Association, the North American Serials Interest Group, the Central Red River Valley Library Association, and the Northeast Interlibrary Cooperation Council. In the NDLA, she also served as secretary of the Academic Section and of the Health Science Information Section.

In 1992, Iverson earned the University Librarians Award. She also wrote an article with her colleagues in The Good Stuff, a publication of the NDLA.

In her free time, Iverson enjoys reading, going to her family’s lake place, gardening, traveling, and playing piano. She is a member of St. Michael’s Catholic Church.

Iverson’s husband, Bruce, is retired from Xcel Energy. They have been married for more than 38 years. “I look forward to spending more time during retirement with my daughters and my grandchildren, and I have another one coming in July,” she said.

DOROTHY JERIK
Administrative Secretary, Department of Criminal Justice

Dorothy Jerik served the University in a variety of ways, from custodian to administrative secretary. She retired July 31, 2014, after more than 33 years of service to the University.

Jerik was born at St. Michael’s Hospital in Grand Forks. After graduating from high school, she went on to Aaker’s Business College. She went to work for the Grand Forks Herald until starting a family. After her children started school, she went back to work for a couple of years for RBJ Apartments before coming to UND in January 1981.
When she retired, Jerik was an administrative secretary with the Department of Criminal Justice. Along with her secretarial duties, she managed the departmental budget, kept transcripts updated with current GPAs, and assisted the faculty.

Among Jerik’s fondest memories are working for Sociology and then getting the honor of becoming the secretary for the newly developed Department of Criminal Justice. At first she worked with the undergraduates but adding the graduate program was another proud moment. Jerik especially enjoyed meeting with prospective students and then working with them as undergraduates to get admitted to the program and later some continuing as Ph.D. students.

“Many students have kept us informed after acquiring jobs and about their advancements, and occasionally stopped by to visit,” she said.

During her time at UND, Jerik saw numerous changes at the University, from the increasing enrollment through several title changes. She also served under a number of UND presidents, from Tom Clifford to Robert Kelley.

Through the years, Jerik was involved in a variety of activities away from work. She was a 4-H leader, member of the Sacred Heart Guild and a frequent visitor in nursing homes and the hospital.

In retirement, Jerik plans to spend more time with family and friends, do some traveling, and work more on flower and vegetable gardening.

Jerik’s husband, Bob, is retired. They have five children: Kevin Jerik, Kim Wasylow, Keith Jerik, Ken Jerik, and Kristi Gerszewski. They also have seven grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

**SHELLY KAIN**
*Project Coordinator, Facilities Management*

With all the building and remodeling projects the University of North Dakota does each year, someone needs to keep an eye on the costs and be responsible for making sure the projects run smoothly. Shelly Kain was one of those people.

Originally from Cavalier, N.D., Kain started working at UND Dec. 11, 1978, in the office of the assistant to the president for facilities, a position that no longer exists. On July 1, 1988, she became administrative assistant for the vice president for finance. Ten years later, she was named project monitor in Facilities Management, a position she held until her retirement July 4, 2014. Kain was responsible for monitoring the costs of construction and remodeling projects less than $100,000, scheduling utility shutdowns, interacting with construction companies, approving payments for services, processing change orders on projects, coordinating and interacting with other departments on campus, maintaining project files, processing reports, and coordinating project meetings.

Kain took on even more responsibility after the flood.

“After the flood of 1997, I was assigned the task of working with FEMA, North Dakota Emergency Management, and our flood consultants to work with all UND departments to identify equipment, materials, and furniture losses due to the flood and then assist with the procurement of replacement items,” she said. “I became the primary liaison between FEMA, the state, and UND as renovations progressed and became complete, as well. The files were finally able to be closed in 2010.”

Kain also served on a number of committees: “During my employment, I served on Staff Senate, COSE, and served on the presidential selection committee when Dr. Charles Kupchella was hired,” she said.

In addition, Kain was a student, using the “one class per semester” benefit given to UND employees.

“It took me 14 years to receive my bachelor’s degree in sociology with a business minor,” she said.

Kain has kept busy away from work, too. She’s had season tickets for men’s and women’s hockey and basketball for years, as well as football.

“When REA opened, we became spotlight operators for the arena and truly enjoyed this job for not only UND hockey but many high school games, UND basketball games, and other major events and concerts in the arena,” Kain said.

Since she retired, Kain and her husband, Guy, have been RVing in the Southwest and on the West Coast. Guy retired from the U.S. Air Force and worked for 12 years as the UND locksmith. They have two married daughters, both of whom attended UND, and two grandchildren.

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**MARK KOBE**
*Building Services Manager, Energy & Environmental Research Center*

Mark Kobe really enjoyed his work with the University, but when his 96-year-old mother started having some health issues, he knew it was time to retire. He wasn’t able to continue working nights and taking care of her during the day without risking his own health.

“She raised me, and now it’s my turn to take care of her,” he said.

Kobe worked for eight years as a cook in the U.S. Navy before coming to UND in 1982 as a cook with Dining Services. He first worked at Winkler before moving to the Centennial Dining Room, the Terrace Cafeteria, and then the Squires Cafeteria, where he was named the lead evening cook.

Kobe joined UND Building Services in 1995, first working at the Hughes Fine Arts Center before being named lead custodian at both the School of Medicine and Health Sciences and at the Memorial Union at the same time. It was while he was in this position that the most memorable event of his career happened: the flood of 1997. Along with his regular responsibilities, Kobe helped with sandbagging on campus. He remembers the aftermath of the flood vividly. He said that while the med school was spared any floodwaters, it did suffer 4½ feet of sewer backup. But contractors were brought in to help get the building ready for summer session students.

“At the time of the flood, it was almost time for graduation for the medical students, so they were about done anyway,” he said. “And we got it ready for summer school.”

The Union was hit hard as well. Kobe said he remembers that they lost the bowling alley and the kitchen area, both in the lower level. “All the wood in the bowling alley warped out really bad. They never rebuilt the bowling alley. They made it a computer center,” Kobe said. “We lost the Centennial Dining Room there, too, because of the flood. They remodeled and did away with it.”

Kobe said the Centennial Dining Room was unique on campus because it was a full-service restaurant. They also made meals for seven different senior sites around the area, he said.

Over time, Kobe moved on to be a building services supervisor at the Human Nutrition Research Center. He moved to the Energy & Environmental Research Center in 2007. He retired as the building services supervisor there April 30, 2014. His job involved 13 buildings and a quarter-million square feet of space that Building Services takes care of at the EERC. Among Kobe’s duties were supervising five full-time employees, ordering all the supplies they needed, working with other area supervisors when they needed to strip and wax floors and clean carpets, submitting budgets and making budgetary changes as needed, and making sure employees got their time sheets in for payroll.

“It was a good experience,” Kobe said. “I really liked it.”

In 2009, Kobe won the UND Vice President for Finance and Operations Employee of the Year Award, which recognizes employees who represent the division and the University in an exemplary manner through a positive attitude, courteous and responsive demeanor, and outstanding performance. He also served as a member of the Staff Senate for six years.

For 25 years, Kobe pursued a UND degree, taking a class at a time while working full time. In May 2007, he graduated from UND with a degree in management.

In his free time, Kobe is active at Holy Family Catholic Church. He also has a brother in Grand Forks and a sister in Arizona.

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**NANCY KROM**
*Office and Data Coordinator, Institutional Research*

When Nancy Krom first started working at the Office of Institutional Research, everything was done on paper. Her boss’ office was full of big piles of paper printouts.
“His office was piled high, almost to the ceiling, everywhere with huge stacks, reams of paper,” she said. “Over the years it became paperless. Everything is done on computers now.”

Krom remembers jumping in to learn how to use a computer when she first got one. During her career, she took advantage of the many training sessions that were offered in a variety of areas. She earned numerous certificates and awards for the training sessions she took.

Originally from Thompson, N.D., Krom graduated from Grand Forks Central. She earned an associate’s degree in the secretarial program at Aaker’s Business College. Krom has lived in Thompson most of her life and continues to do so in retirement. She retired from the University on June 1, 2014.

Before coming to UND, Krom worked as a secretary at Northern States Power. Then she had her children and was a stay-at-home mom for six years. When she came back to the work force, she took a part-time job in Fee Payment at the UND Business Office. When she heard about a full-time opening in Institutional Research, she jumped at the opportunity. She began working there as a clerical assistant in January 1984.

Eventually Krom became an office and data coordinator, a position she held until her retirement. She did a lot of reporting for the University, anything that included numbers, from credit hours to enrollment.

“And any of the big surveys that are sent to UND, like College Board and Princeton Review, I took care of all of those. I put all of that information in,” she explained.

Krom said she worked with wonderful people. “I loved my job,” she said. “And I loved working for UND. The people were great. I just never cared to work anywhere else. I was happy with what I was doing. It worked out really well.”

One of Krom’s most vivid memories of her time at UND was the flood of 1997. She said she was off from work for a while because of it. “But we were on the fourth floor on Twamley, so our stuff was all fine,” she said.

Along with her work for Institutional Research, Krom also served on the Staff Senate. In her free time, Krom is active in her church in rural Thompson. For Christmas, she and others from her church helped wrap gifts at the ARC for those who don’t have family.

Krom also loves fishing and going to her family’s Minnesota lake cabin. “That’s our home away from home,” she said. She also loves spending time with her family, including her mother, Elaine Thompson, who’s 93 and still lives independently in Grand Forks. Krom’s husband, Gary, retired from Burlington Northern. Their daughter, Angie, and her husband, Justin Fournier, live in Bemidji with their daughter, Mia. 7. Angie is a psychology professor at Bemidji State. Justin has his own business taking care of golf courses and also substitute teaches. The Kroms’ son, Bryan, is manager of Countrywide Sanitation and lives in Grand Forks. Krom also has two sisters in Grand Forks and a brother in Bemidji.

**MARY LOYLAND**

*Associate Professor of Accountancy*

When Mary Loyland has a good idea, she doesn’t let anything stand in her way — particularly when it was something that benefited her students. One such case arose in the late 1980s when she went back to UND to earn a master’s degree in math at North Dakota State University. She taught high school math and later had two children. When she was ready to again start her career, she told her sister she didn’t want to teach. Her sister suggested she get a master’s degree in math.

But Loyland didn’t want to be a teacher. A graduate of Grand Forks Central, she went to UND to earn a bachelor’s degree in math. She also earned a master’s degree in math at North Dakota State University. She taught high school math and later had two children. When she was ready to again start her career, she told her sister she didn’t want to teach. Her sister suggested she get a degree in accounting. So Loyland went back to UND to earn a master’s degree in accounting. She later secured a job in public accounting.

But someone else saw her potential as a teacher. Department Chair Ludwik Kulas asked her to come back and teach at UND — not once, not twice, but three times. After turning him down twice, Loyland said yes the third time. To get tenure she had to earn a Ph.D. in accounting. She went to Nebraska to get her Ph.D., and she had been at UND ever since.

In retirement, she plans to spend more time at the lake and with her grandchildren.
associate professor. Among her duties were teaching Financial Accounting and heading the very successful accounting internship program. And it’s obvious she was very proud of the department’s students.

“Our graduates do very well when they take the professional CPA test,” she said. “Our pass rates are consistently much higher than the average for the other schools in the area. So we’re very proud of that.”

The department’s most outstanding students have jobs lined up two years before they graduate, which is about 80 percent of their graduates. She said it’s rare for any graduate not to have a job within a couple of months of graduating. “I think as a department we view it as one of our responsibilities to help students get a job,” she said.

Through the years, Loyland has served the greater community as well. She’s been on several nonprofit boards, including Valley Memorial Homes and the Community Foundation.

Loyland has two children. Her son, Mike, and his wife, Karna, have two children. Mike runs the family farm near Grand Forks. Loyland’s daughter, Stacey, and her husband, Reid Asbury, live in Pittsburgh and have three boys. Loyland is married to Don Berntsen, a UND graduate and former UND football star.

JANET LUCHT
Laboratory Technician, Energy & Environmental Research Center

Janet Lucht grew up playing ball where the newer sections of the Energy & Environmental Research Center now stand. Her home was just two blocks away. Little did she know then that she would spend more than 35 years of her adult life working for the EERC.

Lucht’s ties to the University run deep. A graduate of Central High School, Lucht took some classes at UND. Both of her parents, Ernie and Tudy Jones, worked for UND.

“They were like ‘UND is the place to work,’” Lucht said. “My dad worked at Plant Services and my mother was a custodial supervisor. A lot of her time was spent with Tom Clifford’s house. They actually got to be good friends.”

Lucht started working at the Human Nutrition Research Center cleaning rat cages in 1974. She liked working there and enjoyed being with her coworkers, but she wanted an opportunity to advance in her career. In 1979, she found that opportunity at the EERC, where she was hired as a lab technician, the position she will retire from in May 2015. Most of her responsibilities involved working in the coal analysis lab. As interest in coal has waned and waned, the lab has changed as well.

“We had 10, 15 people at one point,” Lucht said. “Then there were about five years when I was here alone, so I was my own boss. It was kind of challenging. Now there are two of us, but we work side by side.” Lucht said having a second technician in the lab has helped a great deal.

Lucht worked at the EERC through the organization’s name changes as well as the move from a federal institution to a part of UND. She’s seen tremendous growth at the EERC, too.

“When I started there were maybe 50 people, and it was just a small building,” she said. “Now they say there are more than 200 people working here.”

One thing that hasn’t changed is that Lucht has worked with good bosses and coworkers, both at the nutrition lab and at the EERC.

“A lot of the people here, I’ve pretty much grown up with them,” she said. “Through the years, Lucht worked with a number of students who came back to work at the EERC after earning their degrees. And other graduates who worked at the EERC as students have come back just to visit, she said.

The EERC has been a very supportive environment, Lucht said. As a single parent, she wasn’t able to travel, and the EERC was very understanding of that, which Lucht really appreciated.

Lucht also was involved in another project at the EERC for more than 30 years. She did samples for the state of North Dakota. The results were reported to the state Health Department. The samples were mostly used to monitor sulfur emissions, she said.

In her free time, Lucht enjoys her flower gardens and being outside. In retirement, she wants to find more time to work on crafts and visit her grandchildren. She has four children and two grandchildren.

PEGGY LUCKE
Associate Vice President for Finance and Operations

The University is making good use of Peggy Lucke’s wide variety of skills and expertise before she retires this spring. “I’ve been here 43 years, and I’ve kind of been everywhere and done a bit of everything,” she said.

Originally from Cavalier, Lucke went to North Dakota State University for a year before transferring to UND for the fall of 1969 — and she’s been here ever since. She earned a bachelor’s degree in accounting in December 1972 but started working for the University as a student. At first she worked in Athletics, doing transcription for the trainer. Then she moved to Internal Auditing. She was hired full time in May 1972 as the internal auditor.

Lucke eventually moved to Grants and Contracts Administration. She left the University but came back less than a year later and worked in the Accounting Office. Lucke was assistant director of accounting before being promoted to director of accounting and then controller. She was appointed associate vice president for finance and operations in early 1998. In July, she was named interim vice president for finance and operations, a position she held until July 2000 when she went back to being the associate vice president. She will retire as associate vice president on April 1, 2015.

Since the early 2000s, in addition to having responsibility for financial reporting, accounting, purchasing, and student account services, Lucke’s duties have included special projects. She was involved with shepherding the PeopleSoft implementation in 2005 and 2006. She also worked on a reorganization at Facilities, flood of 1997 recovery financing with FEMA, and, since February of 2009, has been “temporarily” responsible for Parking Services and Transportation. In addition, she’s been the interim director of capital projects since Jan. 1, 2014.

Right now she’s working on a budget model redesign and implementation as well as a program prioritization initiative. The variety of work has fit Lucke well.

“We’re a city within a city. There’s never a dull day,” she said. “I love a challenge, and I love the people,” she said. “I have been so blessed with the opportunities and challenges I have had at UND, as well as lifelong friends.” Lucke and Margaret Myers, the other associate vice president for finance and operations, have enjoyed a long, rewarding, and close working relationship.

Through the years, Lucke said she has felt appreciated and supported, and admires the diversity of the campus. She enjoyed working with students and loved the teamwork shown by them and her colleagues.

During her career, Lucke has seen many changes at UND, including the growth of the campus and increased demand and complexity related to compliance and politics. She particularly remembers the campus’ recovery from the flood of 1997 and the impact of technology.

Lucke has served on many committees through the years. She also has had some involvement in dealing with the Legislature, particularly when she was the interim vice president. Her hard work and dedication to the University haven’t gone unnoticed. She earned the Meritorious Service Award and the Ken and Toby Baker UND Proud Award.

In her free time, Lucke loves to read, particularly mystery novels, follow UND hockey, and spend time spoiling her grandchildren. She serves on the Calvary Lutheran Church Council as vice president for finance and operations. She and her husband especially enjoy spending time at their lake cottage in Minnesota with friends and family. “It’s a nice retreat,” she said. “We have wonderful neighbors. We’re like family.”

In retirement, Lucke hopes to spend more time with her children and six grandchildren. “I love being a grandma, and I want to be the best grandma in the whole world,” she said with a smile.

Lucke’s husband, Jerry, is a UND graduate and is retired. They have two children together. Their daughter, Jaimee, and her husband, Jason Hendrikson, live in St. Paul, Minn., with their children, Parker and Crosby. The Luckes’ son, Brad, and his wife, Becky, live in Grand Forks with their children, Camden and Corban. Lucke’s stepdaughter Jocyelyn and her husband, Chris Love, live in Fargo with their children, Theron and Jaiden. Lucke’s stepdaughter Alissa lives in Las Vegas. Jaimee, Jason, Brad, Becky, and Jocyelyn all attended UND.

The whole family loves UND hockey and has many special memories from traveling together to college hockey tournaments.
DIANE MARTIN
Building Services Technician, Facilities Maintenance-Housing

The wonderful benefits offered by the University of North Dakota first attracted Diane Martin to the job as custodian, and they helped keep her for 26 years. But there were other perks to the job as well. “I did enjoy the years I was there,” she said. “And I liked working with the students.”

A graduate of Central High School in Grand Forks, Martin lives in Manvel, N.D., now. For 26 years she was a custodian at UND. Her duties involved keeping the residence halls clean. She retired in April 2014.

Martin also served on various committees through the years and earned an award for her hard work at the University.

In her free time, Martin enjoys spending time with her family.

WAYNE MCCORMICK
Utility Person, Dining Support Services

Wayne McCormick’s bosses at Dining Services often said they wished they had a special award to give to him for all of his hard work and his dedication to the University of North Dakota. They’ve said they don’t know what they’ll do after he retires in June 2015 after 46 years with the University.

McCormick has loved working there, too. He likes his co-workers and working closely with the students on campus.

Born with cerebral palsy, McCormick conquered a number of obstacles both before and after coming to UND. He attended grade school in his hometown of Maddock, N.D., and went to a couple of camps, including Camp Grafton. Through physical therapy, exercise, and determination, McCormick was able to gain control of the left side of his body, something he wasn’t able to do when he was younger.

McCormick was in his late teens when his family learned of a special program at UND that helped people with special challenges learn to live on their own. Again McCormick was extremely successful. These days, not only does he have his own apartment and ride his bike wherever he needs to go, he’s had an exemplary memory, and for making sure everything is always clean. He spent many hours helping clean at UND after the flood of 1997.

Through the years, McCormick has also furthered his education. A volunteer at the Chester Fritz Library helped him learn the alphabet so he was able to write his name.

McCormick earned many certificates for years of service to UND and for perfect attendance. He often donated vacation days to people at UND who needed them in times of emergency. McCormick is a long-time member of the Eagles Club. In his free time, he enjoys gardening and fishing with friends. He also likes spending time with family. He has several cousins who live in the area. McCormick also has several family members in Huntington Beach, Calif., including his sister, Linda Trower, and her husband, Jeff; his nephews, Austin and Cameron; and his great-nephew, Holden.

CHARLOTTE MINIER
Administrative Assistant, Counseling Center

When Charlotte Minier and her husband moved to Grand Forks, they thought they’d be here for a couple of years. That was more than 34 years ago, and Charlotte has worked for UND the entire time.

“The years went by so incredibly fast,” she said. “It’s a journey, and you don’t know what that journey is going to entail, but it was fabulous. I’ve met some amazing people. It’s been a great experience. I will leave with a lot of great memories.”

Born in St. Cloud and a graduate of St. Cloud Technical High School and St. Cloud Beauty College, Charlotte Minier worked for the St. Cloud school system for about six years. She worked in Special Education as a receptionist and did dictation for three psychologists. She also was secretary for two social workers and the Early Education director.

“I worked for a lot of people, and it was a fabulous place,” she said.

Minier moved to Grand Forks in 1980 when her husband got a job in town. “We came here for two years. Well, it’s been 34 now,” she said with a laugh.

Even before they moved to North Dakota, Minier interviewed for a job at UND. She was hired as a secretary for the Geography Department. Minier took advantage of the opportunity to enroll in classes at UND and attended a class or two every semester for several years.

“So when we moved here in October, I had a job waiting for me,” she said. Minier stayed with the department for about seven years. “It was a lot of fun, and I made lifelong friends there,” she said.

Her next stop was Space Studies, which was a fairly new program at the time. David Webb was the director, and Minier served as the secretary. It was a small, close-knit group, she said. She got to meet a lot of interesting people, including former astronaut Buzz Aldrin.

When Webb moved on, Chuck Wood was named the new director. When Wood discovered the department might lose funding for Minier’s position, he let her know and encouraged her to look for another position on campus. After about 3 ½ years with Space Studies, Minier moved on to Social Work, where she served as secretary for about seven years.

“It was really a neat place,” she said. “There were lots of great people there.”

In January 1997, Minier went to the Provost’s Office. Many faculty and staff members from departments all over the campus filter through the office, Minier said. “The Provost’s Office was really interesting,” she said. “You get to meet people you wouldn’t necessarily meet if working in a department.”

That spring, the flood devastated Grand Forks. In the last week before the flood closed the University, Minier was allowed to volunteer with the Red Cross. She has very vivid, eerie memories of that week and the events as they unfolded, as well as of the aftermath. She said the silver lining was getting to see how the community and the University have since bounced back.

In August 2001, Minier went to Counseling Center as an administrative assistant. She retired in July 2014. “It was a really interesting place to work,” she said.

Minier loved meeting the students who came to the office as well as the interns. While she was working at the Counseling Center, they started an intern program. The interns came from all over the United States. Some were later hired as staff, she said.

Through the years, Minier also served on a variety of committees. She was part of the committee that wrote the bylaws to establish the Staff Senate.

In her free time, Minier enjoys cooking, food preservation, flower gardening, and entertaining. In retirement, she and her husband plan to do more trail riding with their recumbent bikes and traveling. They also hope to find time to spend at the shooting range.

Minier and her husband, George, have been married for more than 45 years. He works in security at Parkwood. In the coming year, they plan to move closer to family in central Minnesota.

MARGARET MYERS
Associate Vice President for Finance and Operations

Margaret Myers appreciated all the challenges and opportunities she had at the University during her career. There aren’t many places on campus that her work didn’t touch in some way.

“I don’t think I ever would have found another place I enjoyed nearly as much as I enjoyed it here,” she said. “I loved working with young people.”

Myers grew up in western North Dakota but has lived in Grand Forks for about 40 years. After graduating from high school, Myers initially thought she wanted to be a music major and attended Dickinson State for two years. When she decided she didn’t want to teach, Myers left Dickinson and moved to
Colorado. But she'd return to North Dakota when her husband, Joe, came to Grand Forks to finish college. Joe earned a degree in nursing at UND and recently retired as the administrative director of Surgical Services at Altru.

Myers first came to UND in 1975 as an administrative secretary for Continuing Education. She moved to Chemical Engineering as a secretary and also started taking classes at UND to earn her accounting degree. Once she graduated, Myers went back to Continuing Education before taking a position in Accounting Services.

Myers left the University for about a year and a half when she and her family moved to Kansas. But when they moved back, Myers went to work as an accountant for the vice president in the Operations Division. When Finance and Operations merged, Myers was promoted to assistant vice president. For the last 11 years, she was the associate vice president for finance and operations. She had responsibilities for many areas, including for the Chester Fritz Auditorium, the golf course, Mailing Services, Duplicating, and the Bookstore, as well as some special projects.

Myers retired at the end of December 2014. She said the people she worked with and met through the years were the main reason she stayed at UND until the end of her career. She pointed to the flood of 1997 as a prime example of the spirit of those on campus.

“I don’t think you can say enough about the people who were here then, and the people who are here now, and the can-do attitude they have,” she said.

She also made some lifelong friends. She and Peggy Lucke, the other associate vice president for finance and operations, worked together nearly all their careers and had adjoining offices.

“She’s a great colleague and an even better friend,” Myers said.

Watching the physical growth of the University and the growth in the enrollment has been fun, too, Myers said. She also found it exciting to work with different presidents and administrators through the years.

During her career, Myers served on a variety of committees. Her last committee assignment was the UND Nickname and Logo Process Recommendation Task Force, which was wrapping up its work at the end of the year at the same time she was retiring.

In her free time, Myers and her husband enjoyed sporting events at UND, as well as going to events at the Chester Fritz Auditorium. “We love sports, and we have always been great supporters of UND athletics,” she said. “There are so many things on this campus to do.”

In retirement, Myers and her husband are moving to Graham, N.C., just outside of Chapel Hill, to be closer to their children and grandchildren. Their daughter Angie and her husband, Harry Seibert, currently live in Montgomery, Ala. Harry is a lieutenant colonel in the Air Force. Angie and Harry have three children: Harrison, 19, Chase, 16, and Kayla, 13. The Myers’ daughter Jackie and her husband, Clay Harris, live in Chapel Hill with their daughter, Zoe, 2. A second daughter, Nora, arrived in January.

Church is very important to Margaret Myers as well. She’s a member of Calvary Lutheran Church. She also was involved with the United Way.

EILEEN TRONNES NELSON
Certified Legal Assistant, Central Legal Research

Eileen Tronnes Nelson, is truly one of a kind. She is the only Certified Legal Assistant at the University of North Dakota. Eileen works in Central Legal Research (CLR) at UND’s School of Law. But with the CLR program closing down, Eileen’s position is ending after June 30, 2015. She worked at CLR for 35 years and six months.

“Central Legal Research provides legal research memoranda primarily for cases pending in the courts to judges, prosecutors, and court-appointed defense counsel in the federal, state, municipal, and tribal courts,” Eileen explained. “It can be analogized to the research department of a fictional law firm, which consists of all lawyers who use the research services. The lawyers use the research as foundation for their court filings. Central Legal Research also provided an intensive, practical clinical researching and writing experience for law students. The students produced a quality legal research project in a reasonable amount of time, that has the strong foundation for what, over the years, grew to be a quality research service to the North Dakota legal system. The success of the CLR program was due to the high caliber of the UND law students, and they were the heart of the program. Although the majority of CLR’s services are provided to the above individuals, numerous private practitioners throughout the region called upon CLR for research at an hourly rate.”

Eileen also serves in the attorney library services position. When attorneys who do not qualify for CLR services call and want a copy of a case or other documents, Eileen obtains the information for them.

Originally from Nielsville, Minn., Eileen graduated from high school in Halstad, Minn. Before coming to UND, Eileen worked for attorneys A. Roger Kringle and William J. Johnson in Northwood, N.D., for eight years. On Nov. 29, 1979, Louise “Lou” (Becker) Lindsey hired Eileen to join CLR.

“As a Certified Legal Assistant, I provided research assistance using, WESTLAW and LEXIS, and training to law students,” she said. “In addition, I assisted law students in research and writing legal memoranda for prosecutors, court-appointed defense attorneys, and judges within the state of North Dakota.”

Always interested in learning new things, Eileen continued her education. “After working at Central Legal Research for several years, I began taking a class a semester,” she said. “It was difficult because the classes were during the day, and I missed a lot of classes. Several of the law students told me about obtaining a legal assistant bachelor’s degree at Minnesota State University Moorhead by taking classes at night and on weekends, and I did that until I graduated in May 1993. Several years later, I graduated from the University of North Dakota with a general studies bachelor’s degree.”

In January 1991, Eileen had become a Certified Legal Assistant as well, a certification she maintains by completing legal education lectures/classes each year. “In addition to my continuing legal education lectures/seminars/classes, I take Osher Institute of Lifelong Learning classes,” Eileen said. “Last spring, I took a UND history class from Dr. Gordon Iseminger. I am presently taking a UND geography class from Dr. Christopher Atkinson. Additionally, I take UND’s Learning and Development classes on a variety of subjects.”

Eileen has also been active in the larger campus community. She is a member of the President’s Advisory Council on Women’s Issues, the Staff Senate, and the Committee on Sexual Violence Prevention. The latter, in particular, is close to Eileen’s heart.

“My grown children and I are survivors of abuse that occurred during the time when there was no protection, no place to go, nor anyone to contact,” she said. “To assist other survivors of abuse, I took the training to be a crisis line volunteer with the Community Violence Intervention Center. For a few nights and a weekend each month for 25 years. I was a crisis line volunteer for Community Violence Intervention Center in Grand Forks answering the calls and physically responding to calls in the community.”

Eileen belongs to numerous organizations, including the National Association of Legal Assistants; the Red River Valley Paralegal Association; the North Region Legal Assistants; the North Dakota Democratic-Nonpartisan League; and North Dakota United. She is a member of the Minnesota Genealogical Society; the American Legion Auxiliary; the Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary; Sharon Lutheran Church; and Planet Fitness. In addition, she belongs to the Sons of Norway, Agassiz Swedish Heritage Society, and the Greater Grand Forks County Bar Association.

Eileen has four children and 10 grandchildren: son Douglas and his children, Jasmine and Shannah; son Dwight and his wife, Darlene, and her children, Amy (James), Arlen (Cole H.), and Andrew (Sarah); daughter Deborah Nelson and her children, Heather Sorenson and Jonathan Sorenson; and daughter Julie and her husband, Timothy Schanilec, and her children, Nicole (Jon Paul) Chamberlain and Jared (Karen) Jackson. Several members of Eileen’s family have attended or are attending UND.

MARSHA NELSON
Assistant Director for Facility Operations, Memorial Union

Marsha Nelson has never been the type of person to let opportunities to help pass by. That may be one of the reasons she was given more and more responsi-
ability during her career with UND. She retired Jan. 9, 2015, as assistant director for facility operations at the Memorial Union.

“I’ve been given great opportunities with the University,” she said. “I’ve seen a lot. I’ve been involved a lot. I was never one to just sit back and let other people do everything. I volunteer for stuff. I was on the Staff Senate. In fact, I was the third Staff Senate president. I’m a doer. Let’s get in there, and let’s help out.”

Nelson also was on the Orientation Committee for many years.

“I loved to be involved. And I was given the opportunity to do that,” she said. “I’ve always had good people to work with and good bosses that allowed that.”

Originally from Grand Forks, Nelson graduated from St. James High School. Through the years, Nelson took many college classes while also working at UND.

Right out of high school in 1968, Nelson started working on the line at the cafeteria in the Memorial Union. Her mother, Mildred Wert, worked in UND’s Bookstore at the time.

After three years with the cafeteria, Nelson moved to the Union’s Information Desk. She later worked as the Union’s accounting secretary and then took reservations for the meeting rooms at the Union. “That morphed into information and facilities coordinator for the building,” she said. “I’ve done every job that we have here.”

When the Union’s assistant director left, Nelson took over management of the building. She eventually was promoted to assistant director for facility operations.

“I ran this building — all of the upkeep, maintenance, furniture, renovations,” she said. “I was involved in all of that.” She played an instrumental role in the $3.5 million renovation of the Union in 2003-04.

Nelson said she’s had great mentors through the years, particularly Gordon Henry and Greg Mann.

“It’s been a wonderful place to work. It really has,” she said.

She also enjoyed working with students and following many of them as they went on in their lives.

“You get them as freshmen, and you watch them grow and develop,” she said.

“Then, when they graduate, it’s so rewarding.”

In retirement, Nelson plans to travel and visit friends and family. She’s also got some projects planned closer to home.

“I love to redo my house,” she said. “I’ve got a lot of things that I’m doing in retirement. I want to repaint and redo.”

Nelson’s husband of 24 years, Jerry, is semiretired and drives the shuttle bus for The Grove. They have five children: Todd Bushy, Chad Bushy, Lynette Nelson, Julie Nelson, and Tamara Shogren. Todd and Tamara are UND graduates. Chad works at CILT at UND. The Nelsons also have 13 grandchildren.

NICHOLAS NEUMANN
Associate Dean, Southwest Medical Campus, School of Medicine and Health Sciences, and Professor of Medicine

During his time with the University of North Dakota, Dr. Nicholas Neumann not only helped educate the next generation of doctors, he helped shape the future of medical education. “My passion was helping medical students navigate the challenges and opportunities of medical education and prepare for the next level of their professional development,” he said. “I thoroughly enjoyed opportunities to help shape the growth of medical education in the state of North Dakota, contributing to academic and faculty development as well as student affairs and public and governmental relations.”

Neumann was born in Detroit but lived in Bismarck since 1980. He earned a Bachelor of Science degree at the University of Dayton and his M.D. at Wayne State University in Detroit. He went on for his master’s of medical management at Tulane.

Through the years, Neumann has worn many hats. From 1980 to 2008, he was a pulmonary/critical care physician at the Heart and Lung Clinic in Bismarck. From 1994 to 1999, he served as director of medical affairs at St. Alexius Medical Center in Bismarck. He was the clinical coordinator with North Dakota Health Care Review, Inc., from 1995 to 1999. From 2004 to 2012, he was the medical director and pulmonary/critical care physician at SCCI/Triumph/Kindred long-term acute care hospital in Mandan. He worked as a pulmonologist at Regional Children’s Asthma Clinic in Bismarck and Lincoln, N.D., from 2004 to 2014.

Neumann became part of UND in 1980 as a clinical assistant/associate professor of internal medicine and pulmonary/critical care medicine. From 1990 to 1999, he was an academic professor of medicine and regional vice chairman of the Department of Internal Medicine and the Southwest Campus faculty coordinator of Internal Medicine. In 2011, Neumann was named interim associate dean for student affairs and admissions.

In 1999, Neumann was named associate dean for the Southwest Campus of the School of Medicine and Health Sciences. He was eventually promoted to associate dean for the Southwest Campus and was a professor of medicine. His duties involved the comprehensive oversight of the Southwest Campus as the “campus dean,” he explained.

Neumann’s major interests and activities have been related to physician leadership, higher education, and community health activism. He served on the Board of Directors at St. Alexius Medical Center from 2008 to 2014. He was a member of Board of Directors of North Dakota Health Care Review, Inc. (now Quality Health Associates), the North Dakota CMS-contracted quality review/ performance improvement organization from 2007 to 2014. He has been on the Medical Executive Committee at St. Alexius Medical Center since 2001. He served on the Executive Operations Committee at the Harold Schafer Leadership Center, Emerging Leaders Program, at the University of Mary from 2000 to 2014. He was part of the Community Health Grant Program with the State Health Officer’s Advisory Council from 2004 to 2008. He was part of the North Dakota Tobacco Policy Initiative and was a member of the Board of Directors for the Bismarck Tobacco-Free Coalition. From 1994 to 2014, he served on the North Dakota Medical Association Commission on Medical Education. He also was involved with the North Dakota Matters of Life and Death Coalition. He was an EPEC (Education for Physicians on End of Life Care) educator for the AMA as well.

Neumann earned a number of awards through the years. He was a member of Alpha Omega Alpha, a medical honor society, and Delta Omega, a public health honor society. He was named Outstanding Teacher Southwest Campus in 1986 and earned the Buckingham Service Award that same year from UND Family Practice residents. In 1992, he was named the Outstanding Teacher of the Year — Southwest Campus and earned the Dr. William Buckingham Contribution Award. In 2004, he received the American College of Healthcare Executives Regent’s Award, and four years later garnered the Leonard Tow Foundation Humanism in Medicine Award. He gave the keynote presentation at the School of Medicine’s White Coat Ceremony in 2008 and also earned the North Dakota American College of Physicians Laureate Award as well as the University of Mary Schafer Excellence in Healthcare Award.

He retired Oct. 1, 2014, and now is focusing on deepening his relationships with family, including new grandchildren, and friends, as well as exploring his artistic interests and new ways to help make the world a better place. Neumann and his wife, Jean, have four children — Matt, Laura, Michelle, and Lukas — and two grandchildren, Sonia and Diljaan.

KATHLEEN NEWMAN
Administrative Assistant, Children and Family Services Training Center

It all started when Kathy Newman wanted to surprise her husband with a recliner for Christmas. She was a stay-at-home mom but wanted to earn the money for the special gift. So she started doing daycare. After five years of daycare, she needed something else. A friend suggested she try the University of North Dakota.

Newman first got her foot in the door at UND by filling in for a woman who was on maternity leave in Student Financial Aid. After that, a short-term opportunity opened up at the Native American Center. When that job ended, Newman filled in at the Grand Forks Health Department. Then she got a call about a position at the new Child Welfare Research Bureau (CWRB) in the Social Work Department at UND. That was in September of 1984. Newman stayed there until her retirement on July 25, 2014.

Through the years, Newman’s job at the Children and Family Services
Training Center changed. Newman was initially hired as a clerk. Several years later she was reclassified as a secretary, and later, as an administrative assistant until her retirement.

“The CIWRB was initially started to conduct child welfare research but soon evolved into two separate entities: one for research and one for training for social workers,” she said.

Under Director Pete Tunseth, the Training Center now includes working with foster parents as well as child welfare workers and other training groups. The biggest part of Newman’s job was reimbursing foster parents and social workers when they attended training. She prepared manuals and handouts for different training events and managed the budgets and the center’s library. She also conducted registration at training conferences.

“There was a variety,” she said. “I think that variety kept it interesting.”

Originally from Anamoose, N.D., Newman completed a business college course in Minot. Since her retirement, Newman and her husband have been working on a big project in her hometown. They’re refurbishing the house Newman grew up in, which has been sitting vacant for years. The project is far enough along that Newman’s husband and family were able to stay there during hunting season, but it’s not all done yet, she said.

Newman also enjoys sewing infant/toddler blankets, reading, puzzles, and spending time with her family. She and her husband, Richard, have four children — all of whom attended UND — and five grandchildren.

Gloria Olson
Information Processing Specialist, Registrar’s Office

When Gloria Olson started working for the University, she really found a home there — even if she didn’t completely know it at first. Olson first came to UND in 1989 as an account technician for the Housing Office, a position she held for six years. At that point, she took a job off campus for a year and a half. “I knew immediately it had been a mistake, and I missed the campus environment,” she said.

Shortly after the flood of 1997, Olson came back to UND. Initially she took a one-year temporary position in Admissions to get her foot back in the door. Then she moved to the Registrar’s Office, where she stayed until her retirement in September 2014.

Born in North Dakota, Olson grew up in Oakland, Calif. After graduating from high school, she worked for the Federal Civil Service at the Military Sealift Command, Pacific in Oakland. She continued there until the 1970s when she married and moved back to North Dakota.

Olson was first attracted to UND in the late 1980s because of the University’s wonderful benefits, including health insurance and stability. An added bonus turned out to be how much she loved her work and enjoyed her coworkers through the years. At the Registrar’s Office, Olson served as the graduation specialist. Her responsibilities included everything from managing the three graduations per year, recording degrees, and printing and tracking diplomas to managing the budget and paying bills for the Registrar’s Office. During her career, Olson figures she’s been involved with 48 graduation ceremonies.

“I always said I had the best job on campus, sharing in the joy of that day with students and their families,” she said. “I found a niche I just loved, and I never wanted to look for anything else.”

Olson said she has many fond memories from her years at UND, but one highlight was a big surprise at the end of a graduation ceremony at the Alerus Center. From space, astronauts from the International Space Station sent their congratulations to graduates.

“That was really special,” Olson reminisced.

Olson also remembers being a bit afraid of some of the changes that came her way — such as the move to PeopleSoft and printing diplomas in-house rather than ordering through Jostens. But the changes proved to be great moves and “simplified things so much,” she said.

The impact Olson made at UND was noticed, too. She was honored with the U-Shine Award and was once nominated for the Meritorious Service Award. Outside of work, Olson was active at Hope Covenant Church. She led the Divorce Care group for several years and helped start the Single Journey group.

Now that she’s retired, Olson lives in Fargo and works part time in Guest Services at West Acres. Two of her children are getting married in 2015. Eventually Olson plans to move to Pensacola, Fla., where she hopes to indulge more in her passion for photography as well as enjoying her time living by the water.

Olson has three children. Her daughter Jamie Moe and her husband, Brian, live in Fargo with their children, Duncan and Addison. Jamie, who earned a bachelor’s degree in education from UND, is director of the Goddard School. Brian, who earned his B.A., M.A., and Ph.D. from UND, is a clinical psychologist at Southeast Human Services. Olson’s son, Justin, is a saturation diver in the Gulf of Mexico. He and his fiancée, Gabriela Daelli, who is a facility administrator at DaVita Dialysis, live in New Orleans and are planning a March wedding in Gulf Shores, Ala. Olson’s youngest daughter, Jodi, attended UND, and was a cheerleader for UND hockey. Jodi is now a general manager for Target. She lives in St. Paul, Minn., and is engaged to Michael Jordheim, who is a member of the North Dakota Army National Guard and also works at St. Paul Harley Davidson. They are planning an August wedding.

Olson said she is very proud of her time at UND and thankful for the opportunity she had here.

Dennis Pazderic
Facilities Maintenance Coordinator, Energy & Environmental Research Center

Time flies when you’re having fun. Dennis Pazderic said that’s definitely true of his career at the Energy & Environmental Research Center. He can’t believe he’s already been working there 27 years. He’ll be retiring April 6, 2015.

Originally from Larimore, N.D., Pazderic attended the North Dakota State School of Science in Wahpeton, where he studied sheet metal and air conditioning. After graduating, Pazderic worked for the Veterans Administration in Washington, D.C., as a junior engineer designing air conditioning systems for VA hospitals. The next year, Pazderic went to Vietnam with the Navy Seabees. He returned to North Dakota in June 1970 after a one-year tour of duty in Vietnam. Initially he returned to Larimore where he worked in a plumbing and heating shop. There he became a journeyman plumber and later earned his master plumber’s license.

For a couple of years, Pazderic worked as the lead plumbing and heating man at Niagara Lumber. After moving to Grand Forks, Pazderic worked for a couple of plumbing and heating establishments in town. But Pazderic grew tired of being on the road and away from his family, so he took a job in the heating and cooling field at UND’s Rehabilitation Hospital, a position he held for three years. When UND sold the Rehab, Pazderic moved to the EERC. “And I’ve been here and happy ever since,” he said.

At first Pazderic did heating work at the EERC. About five years ago, he became the EERC’s maintenance supervisor. “Now I’m doing what I like doing the most: fixing anything and everything,” he said. Every day is different. “We have a lot of pride in the work we do at the EERC, and it shows in every task we do, from moving the grass or removing snow from the sidewalks to painting or patching holes — we do it all,” he said. “Because of the nature of the work, I get to talk to everyone here. Days go by too fast. It’s a nice family. I couldn’t have found a better job and better people to work with on a daily basis.”

And the folks at the EERC appreciate the work he and his staff do. “Our working shop is a great shop because we’re always fixing something, and when we finish a job, we have usually made someone happy,” he said. “One of the rewarding parts of the job is that we receive a lot of compliments for a job well done.”

Through the years, Pazderic has seen a number of changes at the EERC. Along with adding several buildings, the staff has grown tremendously. But perhaps the biggest change has been in technology. “I suppose the computer would be the largest change in my field,” he said. “I thought I’d never see a computer on a heating and cooling system, but little did I know. Now our equipment is all digital.”

Outside of work, Pazderic keeps busy. He’s been involved with the Grand Forks County Fair for more than 30 years. He’s served on the Board of Directors.
and is the director of Buildings and Grounds. Six years ago he was named Fair Person of the Year by the North Dakota Association of Fairs.

In 1984, he became an auctioneer, something he did for about a decade to help fund one of his biggest passions: restoring antique cars. He is a member of the North Dakota Region Antique Automobile Club of America, which is affiliated nationally. Pazderic has served twice as the club’s president and is currently the membership director. In 2000, Pazderic’s 1958 Corvette received first place in the Antique Automobile Club of America’s junior and senior categories and then went on to receive the AACA’s top national award for restoration. In 2003, the car received a Senior Award at the Annual Grand National Meet in Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

But Pazderic’s proudest accomplishment is the purchase of an antique gas station in Ayr, N.D. Pazderic secured funds from members of the North Dakota Region of AACA for the purchase of the gas station and costs associated with moving the building to Grand Forks to be donated to the Myra Museum.

Pazderic also enjoys restoring antique boats, something he started doing after buying a home on Lake Bemidji. In retirement, he plans to spend more time restoring antique cars and wooden boats. He also wants to spend more time at the lake with his family. His wife, Peggy, worked at UND for 43 years and is now retired. They have two sons, Matt attended UND and graduated from North Dakota State University. He lives in Grand Forks and is a pharmacist at Altru. Ryan graduated from the North Dakota State College of Science in Wahpeton, majoring in construction management. He lives in Pennsylvania.

**TOM RAND**

Associate Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, and Associate Professor of Humanities

As a college student, Tom Rand ran into some issues that could have prevented him from earning his degrees. So it should come as no surprise that he would end up helping students with serious academic problems at the University of North Dakota.

A native of East Grand Forks, Rand went to Macalester College for a couple of years before he flunked out. To make matters worse, his story was front-page news in the Minneapolis paper, much to the dismay of his future father-in-law. Though the road would have a few more bumps along the way, Rand eventually talked his way into the University of Minnesota, where he earned a bachelor’s degree in philosophy with a minor in Slavic and Oriental languages. He continued on to the University of Minnesota Graduate School and then the Harvard Divinity School, where he earned a Bachelor of Divinity degree.

Rand came to UND in 1969 as a preceptor in the Humanities program and a student adviser with the College of Arts and Sciences. From 1973 to 1992, he served as an assistant professor of humanities and assistant to the dean of the College of Arts and Sciences. He also was the acting Honors Program coordinator in 1977.

In 1992, Rand was promoted to associate dean of the College of Arts and Sciences and associate professor in Humanities. He will be retiring July 1, 2015.

Rand said his main responsibility is helping students overcome serious academic problems. “I call myself an academic bureaucrat,” he said with a smile. He explained that he works within the university system to help students solve academic problems. “If I call myself an academic bureaucrat,” he said, “I have to work with the people in my office. It’s not something I would rather do than going to work with the people in my office.” In his 46 years at UND, he’s never had a cross word with anyone in his office, he said.

In retirement, Rand looks forward to cleaning out his home’s attic, reading, and playing a little more bridge. He runs the local bridge games at the senior centers and writes a weekly bridge column for the Grand Forks Herald.

Rand’s wife, Alice Jean, is a retired speech teacher and bookseller. They have three children, all of whom are UND graduates. Their son Steve is an assistant physical therapist at Altru and lives in East Grand Forks with his daughters, Chloe, Kendal, and Avery. Their son Douglas is a computer scientist working for the weather forecasting company Meridian/Iteris. Their daughter Kathryn is dean of UND’s School of Law. Kathryn’s significant other, Steve Light, is UND’s associate vice president for academic affairs. Doug, Kathryn, and Steve Light live on the farm where Alice Jean grew up, about 10 miles south of East Grand Forks.

**AVIS REYNOLDS**

Administrative Assistant, Physician Assistant Program, School of Medicine and Health Sciences

When Avis Reynolds told her mother that she was going to be working on the fourth floor of UND’s School of Medicine and Health Sciences, her mother excused herself for a moment. When she returned to the room, she was carrying a tiny plastic ID band, the kind they put on newborn babies. This one showed that Avis has been born on the fourth floor of what was then St. Michael’s Hospital. Avis was now working in the same room where she’d been born.

A graduate of Central High School, Reynolds has always called Grand Forks home. After graduating from high school in the spring of 1971, she started working at UND in the MEDEX Program at Community Medicine. In the fall, she enrolled as a student at UND, but she’d only be a student for one semester. In January, she started working part time with MEDEX again. But in the spring, she couldn’t pass up an opportunity to travel to Europe for $200. When she returned home, she went back to work with MEDEX.

In 1975, Reynolds took a position in the Student Opportunity Programs, what is known today as Student Special Services. In 1977, Reynolds left UND to start a family.

A chance meeting brought Reynolds back to UND in 1982. While shopping, she ran into Dr. Robert Eelkema, who told her that when she was ready to come back to work, he’d help her find a job at UND.

Reynolds took Dr. Eelkema up on his offer. In October 1982, she started working part time as a secretary in the Family Nurse Practitioner Program. In 1986, the program moved from an office in downtown Grand Forks to UND’s School of Medicine and Health Sciences, and Reynolds started working full time. She was basically the computer person, she said, inputting schedules, learning packets, and other materials for the student’s Blackboard courses. She also scheduled rooms for student classes and sent out letters, parking passes, and other information to the people asked to lecture. Reynolds retired as an administrative assistant May 31, 2014.

Some of her favorite memories at UND revolve around working with Martha Adams in 1982. Adams had recently lost her sight, so Reynolds read her mail to her. Since Adams could type, Reynolds would read what Adams typed, corrected the mistakes, and retyped the documents.

“So I was her eyes,” Reynolds said. “I remember one time she came over to me and said, ‘Avis, will you read this to me?’ And I said, ‘Martha, you ran out of typing ribbon.’ Oh no!” she said. “Wait a minute! Wait a minute! I think I can read it!”

Reynolds put the paper up to the window and could read the imprint from the typewriter keys. So she read the words aloud to Adams, they made the corrections, and Reynolds retyped it. Martha later had to relay a funny story to Reynolds. Dr. Eelkema had come into Adams’ office asking why Reynolds was looking at a blank sheet while typing!

While she loved her job, Reynolds has always been busy away from work, too. In her free time, Reynolds is active in her church. In her retirement, she wants to start quilting and find more time to read. She and her husband, Bill,
who was her high school sweetheart, recently started working out together at a local health club at least three times a week. Bill retired as a yardmaster at Burlington Northern. They also enjoy gardening, taking their grandkids to the lake as often as they can, and going to their grandchildren’s activities. They have two sons. Shane works for Cullen Insulation in Grand Forks. His wife, Andrea, works as a speech pathologist. They live in Grand Forks with their children, Mason, Caleb, and Chase. The Reynolds’ son Damon works for B & B Masonry. His wife, Kristi, troubleshoots computer problems for McDonald’s. They also live in Grand Forks with their children, Daniel, Becca, and Shane.

LINDA ROHDE
Director, Environmental Training Institute

Through the years, Linda Rohde has been a trailblazer at the University of North Dakota and for women in general. “I’ve been really fortunate. All my years at the University — 40—some years — I’ve been in new positions,” she said. She also was among the first women to join many previously male-only organizations. She was the first woman on the Sioux Booster board. She also served as the secretary/treasurer for the Kiwanis for many years and was one of the first females to join the organization when it opened to women.

Rohde grew up in Grafton, N.D., and went to what was then the North Dakota State School of Science in Wahpeton, where she earned a business degree. She came right to UND and worked for two years in the assistant comptroller’s office.

When Rohde got married, she moved to the Iron Range for about 2 1/2 years and worked as the secretary to the chief engineer for U.S. Steel. She moved back to Grand Forks and was hired in November 1971 as part of the original staff at the Chester Fritz Auditorium while it was still under construction. She worked as an administrative assistant there until she was hired as the first conference coordinator for Continuing Education.

She returned to the Fritz, however, and worked as the assistant director and eventually the director. In 1989, she was named director of the Environmental Training Institute (ETI), a position she held until her retirement at the end of November 2014.

“It’s been fun. I met great people,” she said. “It’s been an interesting career.”

The ETI does a variety of training that is required by such groups as the EPA, OSHA, DOT, and HUD. The ETI has held trainings on everything from lead and asbestos to other hazardous materials in a three- to five-state region.

During her career, Rohde did a lot of traveling, especially in the early years. She did a lot of trainings at companies in the region. In the winter months, travel could be little hazardous itself. “I had one trip to Bismarck where the transmission burned out in the van by Steele,” she recalled. “I got towed in to Bismarck. That was interesting. It happened in February.”

She was traveling by herself and figures it was about half an hour before anyone found her. “That was before cell phones, and with smoke coming out, you can’t really start the van for warmth,” she said. “The Highway Patrol came, and he called a wrecker from Steele.”

A self-supporting department, ETI got all its income from the trainings it did. That income paid the salaries of the three or four staff members and all of the department’s expenses. “It’s a challenge,” Rohde said. “You ran it like a business because we had no funding.”

Initially ETI was in Auxiliary Services before moving to the old Ralph Engelstad Arena. Now ETI is in Dakota Hall, the former Road King motel next to the Ramada.

Through the years, Rohde served a number of organizations. She was on the board as secretary for the National Lead and Environmental Hazards Association for five years. She also was a member of the Grand Forks Chamber and is a past president of the Grand Forks Convention and Visitors Bureau. She’s served at the fair board president since 1997. Rohde is also past president of the North Dakota Association of Fairs, was named Fair Person of the Year by the association, and was inducted into the North Dakota Fair Hall of Fame.

In her free time, Rohde likes to knit, crochet, and do other crafts and puzzles. She also enjoys spending time with family. Her husband, Harold, is a realtor. Their daughter, Jennifer, and her husband, Jesse Helland, live in Fargo. Jennifer earned a degree in elementary education at UND and works for Wells Fargo. Jesse works as an architect at ICON Architectural Group in Grand Forks. The Hellands have three children: Brenna, Crosby, and Shelby.

VONNIE SANDLAND
Administrative Secretary, Department of Clinical Neuroscience

Vonnie Sandland is proud of the work she did during her 21-year career at the University. She also appreciates having worked with such wonderful people.

“I enjoyed working with psychiatry residents and was proud to be working for such a well-known doctor in research,” she said. “It was great to be part of UND.”

Sandland started working for UND Aug. 11, 1993. When she retired on Sept. 30, 2014, she was an administrative secretary. Among her responsibilities was creating PowerPoint presentations, typing documents for journals, and serving as the assistant to Associate Chair Stephen Wonderlich in the Clinical Neuroscience Department in Fargo.

Among her biggest achievements was helping to create a patient manual and workbook for eating disorders research for Dr. Wonderlich.

A native of Valley City, N.D., Sandland went through a year of secretarial training at InterState Business College. Before coming to UND, she worked for a chiropractor for four years, at Metropolitan Bank for seven years, and at St. John’s Hospital for two years.

Sandland saw many changes at UND during her career, chief among them, the advent of email and Internet service.

“We all rebelled when email first came out,” she recalled. “Now we can’t get along without it.”

In her free time, Sandland is active in St. John Lutheran Church in Fargo. She and her husband, John, have a small craft business and attend shows. In retirement, Sandland plans to do more craft shows and do some traveling. John retired from North Dakota State University in September 2013. They have five married children, 11 grandchildren, and one great-grandchild.

ROGER SCHAUER
Associate Professor of Family and Community Medicine

Looking back at his career, it’s obvious Roger Schauer isn’t afraid to try new things.

Originally from Wishek, N.D., Schauer came to UND as a student in 1962. After two years, Schauer ran out of money and went to California to work for IBM for about a year. He came back to UND in 1965 and earned a degree in biology with a minor in chemistry in 1967. He went on to medical school at UND, which only had a two-year program at the time. After completing his Bachelor of Science in Medicine at UND, he transferred to Wayne State University in Detroit for his M.D. degree. He completed his three-year family medicine residency at Hennepin County Medical Center in Minneapolis in 1974.

“Family medicine was brand new at that time,” he said. Schauer’s senior advisor at Wayne State actually introduced him to the field, and it turned out to be the right choice. In 1974, after completing his residency in Minneapolis, Schauer and two other recent graduates were recruited to come to Hettinger, N.D., and join a group of five doctors. “They had exciting ideas, including the commitment to provide quality health care for all people, including those in rural and remote settings,” Schauer said. The eight doctors, all of whom had completed their first two years of medical school at UND, served about 26,000 people in a 25,000-square-mile area by developing an extensive clinic satellite system in southwest North Dakota and northwest South Dakota.

In 1978, UND’s medical school was transitioning to a four-year M.D. program. That same year, the first UND medical students came to Hettinger, and Schauer became one of the volunteer teachers for many of those students. In
1991, Schauer began teaching part time in the Department of Family and Community Medicine at UND while continuing his medical practice in Hettinger. The following year, Schauer joined the UND School of Medicine as full-time faculty, and he and his family moved to Grand Forks.

Until his retirement June 30, 2014, Schauer was director of the Family and Community Medicine clerkship for students in the third year of med school. He also directed the Rural Opportunities in Medical Education (ROME) Program, which was developed in the mid-1990s to give UND medical students some involvement in rural communities. In addition, Schauer was involved with the Office of Medical Education for first- and second-year students, focusing on doctor-patient relationships, physical diagnosis, health promotion, and end-of-life care.

Through the years, Schauer earned numerous awards. In 1990 he was named Family Physician of the Year by the North Dakota Academy of Family Physicians (NDAFP). The North Dakota Nurses Association named him Friend of Nursing in 2002. More recently he was presented with the Friend of Family Medicine by the NDAFP, and the Dakota Conference on Rural and Public Health honored Schauer with a Lifelong Commitment for Rural Health Award. Last year the North Dakota Medical Association presented him with the North Dakota Community and Professional Services Award, “for outstanding leadership and service to the state.”

In addition, Schauer was awarded the Arnold Gold Foundation Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine Award.

But to Schauer, his most poignant memories from his career at UND involve students. He said he hooded several medical students whom he had once delivered as babies. He also is quick to point out that UND wouldn’t have a medical school if it weren’t for volunteer physicians throughout North Dakota and Minnesota who provide education for UND medical students. “They are the heroes,” he said.

In retirement, Schauer plans to spend more time with his 10 grandchildren and their parents. He and his wife, Janet, again live in Hettinger, home for five grandchildren, but spend a lot of time in Victoria, Minn., near the other five grandchildren. Janet, a retired pediatric nurse practitioner, not only earned her bachelor’s degree in nursing at the University, she also taught in its College of Nursing.

**SUSAN SCHOSTAG**

Office Manager, Student Financial Aid

Susan Schostag tries to do her best and make the most of her opportunities, whatever comes her way. That philosophy has served her well during her 25-year career at the University of North Dakota.

“I’m a bloom-where-you’re-planted kind of person,” she said.

Originally from rural Badger in northern Minnesota, Schostag attended Northland Community College in Thief River Falls, Minn., before joining the Army in 1973. She served nearly four years in the military, including 37 months at an Army base in Germany where she met her husband, Terry, who was born in California and raised in Florida. The two married in December 1975.

The couple eventually moved to Grand Forks to be closer to her family. Schostag finished her degrees in history and political science at UND, but soon the couple would again be on the move. Terry went to school in Virginia and then in Baltimore, while Sue was basically a stay-at-home mom while working as a home proofreader for a printing and publishing company.

In January 1990, they came back to Grand Forks. Just six weeks later, Schostag was hired as a temp at the Housing Office. By May, she was in a permanent position, working with apartment assignments. After about 8 1/2 years in Housing, she became a scheduling secretary in the Administrative Office at the Memorial Union, a position she held for about 4 1/2 years. Then a friend told her about a position in new area: Associate Vice President for Enrollment Management. She was hired for the administrative assistant position in February 2001 and stayed there for 11 years.

Schostag’s journey then brought her to Student Financial Aid, where she spent several months working with scholarships. She was later permanently assigned to Financial Aid, now serving as the office manager. She’ll be retiring from that position in May 2015.

“UND has been good to me and to my family,” she said. “I have loved working for and with students; this has resulted in several friendships that have continued after they graduated. Working on a college campus also keeps a person young at heart.”

Schostag has been active outside her departments as well. She served on the UND Staff Senate for six years and volunteered at commencements and Founders Day for several years. She was very active in the PTO’s when her children were in school. She continues to be involved in St. Michael’s Catholic Church and in the auxiliary at St. Anne's Guest Home, where she serves as president.

In her free time, Schostag enjoys traveling. Her first time on an airplane was the trip to basic training in Alabama, but it was far from her last. She and her husband have traveled extensively in Europe with the many friends they’ve made there through the years.

Schostag’s husband, Terry, is retired from the Army and Crystal Sugar. After she retires, the couple will move to the Florida panhandle. They plan to travel and spend time with family.

All four of their children are UND graduates. Sarah is a mechanical engineer who works as a quality and continuous improvement manager at Shutterfly’s new manufacturing facility in Shakopee, Minn. Her husband, Fred Steffen, is a mechanical engineer in Shakopee. They have three children: Meghan, Freddie, and Audrey. The Schostag’s daughter, Katie, while teaching in Dodge City, Kan., earned a master’s degree in special education from Fort Hays University. Currently, she teaches special ed in Newton, Kan. Their son, Brian, graduated with a degree in industrial technology and works as an engineering technician at Ulteig in Fargo. His wife, Crystal, works at Noridian. The Schostag’s youngest daughter, Laura, graduated with a degree in recreation and tourism studies and lives in Eden Prairie, Minn.

Susan Schostag is also being recognized for 25 years of service to UND.

**JANET SPAETH**

Educational Services Librarian, Chester Fritz Library

If you love a good mystery or romance, you might have read one of Janet Spaeth’s books. She’s written nine novels, a nonfiction book, nine novellas, and numerous short stories and articles that have been published. And since she retired from UND in August 2014, she’s planning to write even more.

Born in Nebraska, Spaeth lived in New Mexico, Iowa and Oregon before coming to Grand Forks. She graduated from high school in New Mexico and earned an English/philosophy degree from the University of New Mexico.

Spaeth worked at the Albuquerque Public Library, where she met some wonderful people who encouraged her to go on to get her master’s degree in library science. Spaeth earned her M.L.S. at the University of Oregon. As a student and after graduating, she worked at the library at the University of Oregon and at the Eugene Public Library.

When her husband, Kevin, wanted to go to UND’s Law School, Spaeth took the opportunity to earn her Ph.D. in English at UND. She first came to the University as a student in August 1979. She also worked at the Grand Forks Public Library for a year and was a graduate teaching assistant in the English Department.

After she graduated, she stayed on in the English Department as a lecturer. Then she moved to the Library Science and Audio Visual (LSAV) Department and taught children’s literature. When LSAV closed, Spaeth took a year off to expand her family before returning to UND to work at the Chester Fritz Library. She retired Aug. 1, 2014, as the on-campus educational services librarian. In that position, Spaeth was mainly responsible for the Education and History Department.

Through the years, Spaeth was mainly responsible for the Education and History collections.

In 2011, Spaeth was presented with the Friend of Family Medicine Award.

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“I loved my job. I loved working with students. That was my favorite thing,” she said. “I loved working with the students, and I loved working with the faculty. That was the best.”

Outside of work, Spaeth has been active with the Edgar Awards for Mystery Writers of America. She was on the committee for young adults, and two years...
ago she chaired that committee. She said she’s been afforded opportunities to travel and meet many of other writers through that group. She’s also an active member and has served on the executive board of the Midwestern Mystery Writers of America. And she’s a member of the Romance Writers of America as well.

Speaker continues to serve as a part-time adjunct faculty member at Lake Region Community College, where she teaches online classes.

Speaker’s late husband, Kevin, was a UND Law School graduate. She has two adult children.

**KAREN SPEAKER**  
Administrative Assistant, Center for Rural Health

Karen Speaker loves animals. She worked at the Grand Forks Humane Society for a number of years, and the Kennel Club also was a big part of her life. “My first love is the Irish wolfhound,” she said. “I showed those for many years.”

She traveled in Canada and around the Midwest for shows. She and a friend also started the first therapy dogs program in Grand Forks.

Originally from Richardson in southwestern North Dakota, Speaker went to UND and graduated in 1974 with a degree in home economics. On Jan. 12, 1977, she took a job at the Human Nutrition Research Center, where she worked for 27 years. At first she was a dietary technician. Then she transferred to the bio-physics lab where she worked as a lab tech II for nine years. In that position she was responsible for the operation and maintenance of the most sophisticated Whole-Body Scintillation Counter in the United States. She also co-authored a paper on radon that was presented at the International Symposium on Radon and Radon Reduction Technology.

After transferring to the psychology research lab, Speaker worked as a lab tech IV for 11 ½ years. She focused on development and testing related to psychology research studies evaluating the effects of trace minerals and vitamins in people and animals. She developed, documented, and analyzed multiple research procedures, conducted psychological research testing, and co-authored a presentation given at the North Dakota Academy of Science in 1996.

In December 2003, Speaker’s division closed. She enjoyed her work and the camaraderie of the folks who worked at the nutrition lab, especially in the early days when the lab was small.

“I made a lot of good friends there. It was kind of like a family,” she said. “It was hard to leave there.”

But Speaker was able to continue working at UND. She was employed at the Registrar’s Office, but she had also applied for a position at the Center for Rural Health. When she called to check on the Rural Health position, she was invited for an interview and got the job, which she started in February 2004.

At Rural Health, Speaker worked with Nora Amann, Patricia Moulton, and Kyle Muus on running data analysis, literature searches, survey administration, and database development. Speaker went on to work with Marlene Miller and Garth Kruger on a number of projects, including Evaluation Services INBRE, Empowerment Evaluation Services, and the Carol M. White Grant Evaluation. Speaker attended strategic planning conferences for the North Dakota Council on Abused Women’s Services (NDCAWS). She provided technical assistance and training associated with the NDCAWS project goals and helped with evaluation reports submitted to the stakeholders.

Speaker also worked with Mary Amundson on the physician tracking project, Rebecca Quinn on the Traumatic Brain Injury Project, and Jacques Gray on the National Elder Indigenous Justice Initiative and Seven Generations Center of Excellence. In addition, Speaker assisted with the American Indian Health Research Conference planning and setup from the original conference through 2008.

Speaker has been co-author or listed author on 13 reports, publications, and presentations both locally and nationally. She also has served as the wellness coordinator and software coordinator at Rural Health for three years. Though she retired in September 2014, Speaker still works part time.

“It’s really been a good place to work, and I came back to work again,” she said with a smile.

While working at Rural Health, Speaker also took classes at UND and earned a master’s degree in education and general studies.

Speaker has done a good deal of traveling and plans to do more in retirement. She also enjoys quilting, her pets, and spending time with family. Her husband, Will, is retired from working as a community service officer for the Grand Forks Police Department. The Speakers’ son, Brian, lives in Illinois and works in computers with General Electric. Back in the day when the med school was a hospital, Brian was born on the same floor where his mother now works.

**THOMAS STEEN**  
Professor of Kinesiology and Public Health Education, and Director of Essential Studies

You could say Tom Steen’s duties at UND have been a real balancing act. But it’s one he’s truly enjoyed. In 2008, when he took on the role of director of Essential Studies, Steen served in two places. Initially, that was on the faculty in the Department of Kinesiology and Public Health Education, as well as handling the leadership of Essential Studies. Recently, he has served dual administrative roles: as interim chair of the Department of Educational Leadership (2013–14) and as interim associate dean for research and program development in the College of Education and Human Development (2014–15).

“Balancing two things has been a challenge, but it’s been a fun challenge,” he said. “Early on, I wasn’t sure that would be the case. Would I feel pulled in two different directions?” But Steen says that with the support he’s had, he’s been able to do very interesting and satisfying work wherever he has found it. He’ll be retiring at the end of June 2015.

Steen grew up in Grand Rapids, Mich., where he graduated from high school and college, earning a degree in education and physical education. After teaching for three years, Steen went to the University of Oregon and earned his master’s degree in education and physical education. He went on to teach and coach at schools in Michigan and Florida before taking a job as a professor, athletic director, and coach at a small college outside of Chicago.

Steen continued his education and earned his Ph.D. at Ohio State. Upon earning his degree 30 years ago, he came to UND to take a faculty position in what was then the Health, Physical Education, Recreation, and Dance Department. The name of the department changed with the addition of a Public Health program and is now Kinesiology and Public Health Education.

His early work in HPER focused on physical education, where he helped develop UND’s undergraduate program there in teacher education, achieving national recognition for the program’s distinctive collaboration with St. Mary’s School in which UND students learned to teach physical education by working with school children.

Through the years, he’s become more active outside the department. That involvement in the greater UND community is one of the reasons Steen got involved in the University’s general education program.

However, up until the last two years, he continued to serve as a professor in his department’s Teacher Education program. Teaching is something Steen has always loved. He’s been recognized for his hard work and dedication to his students by being named Undergraduate Professor of the Year.

Yet he did take on other responsibilities. He served as interim chair of three different departments in the College of Education and Human Development: first in Counseling, then in Educational Foundations and Research, and most recently, in Educational Leadership.

In the early 2000s, Steen got involved with the General Education Committee, eventually being named chair. This coincided with a time that UND was looking at making changes to its General Education program. During this time, Steen was on the ground floor of various teams and groups that led to the development of Essential Studies as the University’s new general education program.

Eventually this led to his being named the first director of the Essential Studies program in August 2008.

Steen frequently speaks and writes about general education issues, such as program design, student learning assessment, and transfer policy. He has also served as an external reviewer and consulted with general education programs.
Thompson's hard work didn't go unnoticed. His most recent award was the 2009 Siggelkow-Starr Award for Association of College Unions International Region 10 (North Dakota, South Dakota, Minnesota, and Iowa). This award recognized Trimarco for having made a significant impact on the development and quality of the region's programs and activities.

In his free time, Trimarco enjoys traveling in his motorhome and seeing the country. In retirement, he moved back to the New York City area to be closer to family. His future plans include consulting and continuing to develop and present workshops on organizational and leadership development for business, professional, and social organizations.

CHERYL WIDMAN
Lead HRMS Records Coordinator, Human Resources and Payroll Services

Cheryl Widman had a challenging job that continued to grow throughout her career. But she really appreciated that she worked in an office with dedicated
people who got the job done while still being able to take time for a laugh.

Originally from Cando, N.D., Widman went to Aaker's Business College. She came to the University in April 1987 as a teller in the Business Office, which now is Student Account Services.

Widman moved on to the Housing Office for a year before finding her niche at Human Resources and Payroll Services. She retired as the lead HR coordinator July 4, 2014.

Through the years, Widman has seen a tremendous amount of change. Technology led to changes in how payroll is processed. Recruiting has become more challenging with new policies and procedures that were being implemented.

But despite the ever-changing world in HR/Payroll, Widman and the rest of the HR staff handled it all while maintaining their sense of humor. Widman said she really enjoyed the people with whom she worked.

"Every day was a good day. We all enjoyed working with each other. We all pitched in and helped whenever needed," she said. "We had a lot of good laughs through the years. We could be in stitches having fun, but still we got our work done. We had a good bunch of people."

Widman served on the Staff Senate and many other committees. In 2007, she earned the Employee of the Year Award from the Division of Finance and Operations.

Widman's husband, Bill, owns the C.L. Linfoot Co. in Grand Forks. They have four children and six grandchildren. Their daughters Kristi Turano and Jennifer Manzke live in California. Their son, Shawn, lives in Grand Forks and works at C.L. Linfoot Co. Their daughter Lyndsey and her husband, Barrett Ziemer, live in Hibbing, Minn. Both Lyndsey and Jennifer graduated from UND.

Now that she's retired, Widman continues to be very active in her church and plans to travel and spend more time enjoying family and their cabin at Lake of the Woods in Ontario. She also enjoys fishing, skiing, snowmobiling, and just spending time outdoors.

HAROLD WILDE

Associate Professor of Accountancy

Harold Wilde could have chosen the path to becoming a full professor, but that path would have meant not following his passion. “I was very committed to serving the practice of accountancy rather than publishing in journals, so I decided to forego the promotion to full professor,” he explained. He also has a deep passion for teaching. “I’ve enjoyed the teaching side. I’m a teacher, and that’s what I loved,” he said.

Originally from rural Madison, S.D., Wilde graduated from Colman High School. “There were 20 kids in my class,” he said with a smile. “It was a small school.”

After graduating from high school, Wilde went into the Army, serving on active duty for about three years. Then he went to Dakota State University in Madison before transferring to South Dakota State University, where he earned undergraduate degrees in economics and teaching — secondary education with a minor in math.

Wilde taught math at the junior high and high school level for the next four years: one year in Iowa and then three in Brookings, S.D. He discovered teaching at that grade level wasn’t his cup of tea, so he went to the University of South Dakota to earn his MBA. He started his collegiate teaching career at Wayne (Neb.) State. After a year there, Wilde returned to USD in 1975 and stayed there until he took a position at UND in 1982. In December 1981, he had earned his Ph.D., but he wouldn’t have been able to teach auditing at USD, which was his specialty. He could teach it at UND. Plus, he was familiar with the area because his wife’s mother lived in Nekoma, N.D. He’s retiring in May 2015 as an associate professor.

Through the years, Wilde has been involved in a number of organizations. He initially got involved with the North Dakota Society of CPAs at the request of another faculty member. “That led to me serving on their Board of Directors and several committees and then as president,” Wilde said. “From there, I got appointed by Gov. (Ed) Schafer to the North Dakota State Board of Accountancy and served on that for 10 years, from 1990 to 2000. Then I was also made the chair of the department in 1992 and served until 2009. I stepped down to let someone else take over as I was preparing to retire.”

Wilde also did consulting and offered continuing education courses to CPA firms around the country. That led to him initiating and teaching a senior seminar at UND in 2000. “In teaching a lot of the continuing education courses to CPAs practicing, too many times I heard ‘just tell me what to do.’ And as a teacher, as an educator, I want them to understand a little bit about where it came from and why,” he said.

So Wilde asked the faculty about creating a senior seminar to look at the ambiguities in accounting, rather than just the certainties that most undergraduate programs examine. “So we deal with cases where I give them essay exams where there’s more than one right answer, and I’m relying on their justification for that answer, their research into the standards and other literature,” he explained. “It’s been a really good course.”

Wilde also served on a number of committees through the years. Among the committees and task forces he served on at UND were the University Senate, the Summer Session Committee, the University Curriculum Committee, and the Parking Ramp Task Force. He also was on the Education Committee of the National Association of State Boards of Accountancy and served as president of the state board for seven years. In addition, he was on the Board of Directors, was involved in a number of committees, and served as president of the state Society of CPAs.

Wilde was also active in academic accounting organizations. He served on the Board of Directors of the Midwest Regional American Accounting Association and the North American Accounting Association. He also served as the president of the North American Accounting Association.

Wilde has earned a number of awards as well. He garnered an AICPA Excellence in Teaching Award. He also has been honored about 15 times by Beta Alpha Psi, the honorary scholastic society in accounting. In addition, he was the recipient of the “Milton E. Larson Excellence in Teaching” award several times during his career.

Wilde was a member of the North Dakota Air National Guard, the “Happy Hooligans.” He retired from the Guard as a major in 1995.

In his free time, Wilde restores automobiles from the 1960s. In retirement, he also wants to spend more time with his grandchildren and going to their activities, as well as working on his house, which he and his family built themselves in the 1980s.

Wilde’s whole family is teachers. “When we get together, we talk education,” he said. His wife, Roni, is a retired elementary teacher. They have three daughters: Lisa, Darci, and Leslie. Lisa teaches at Red River High School in Grand Forks. Her husband, Darin Winkler, works in the construction industry and also does taxidermy. They have three children: Zach, who is a mechanic at Rydell’s, and Lexi and Max. Darci teaches in Mandan. Her husband, Pete Strindlen, just finished his service with the Marines and is a deputy sheriff. They have three children: Brock, Erik, and Chase. Leslie also is a teacher. Her husband, Scott Isburg, is a mortician, and they own two funeral homes in Pierre, S.D. They have three children: Payton, Paige, and Lauren.
The sculpture work of Stanley O. Johnson contributed significantly to the visual identity of the University of North Dakota. His best-known work, the Old Main Memorial Sphere, is an enduring symbol of the University's commitment to the spirit of learning and social progress.

Johnson taught in UND's Department of Art from 1954 until his retirement in 1984, serving as department chair from 1971 to 1975. Born in Crookston, Minn., he served in the Army Air Corps in the South Pacific during World War II. He earned bachelor's and master's degrees at UND and did post-graduate work at the Illinois Institute of Technology and the University of Washington. Johnson passed away in 1995.

Johnson's contributions to the campus often did not have formal titles or names. The imposing granite sculpture near Smith Hall and the English Coulee was described as "an exercise in design," with "a feeling for negative lines becoming positive." It weighs 11 tons and stands 20 feet high.

Well known to area sports fans is the steel statue of a UND hockey player. Nine feet high and weighing over 600 pounds, it greeted fans at the Winter Sports Center from 1983 until the opening of Ralph Engelstad Arena, where it now stands in the lobby level.

A wall sculpture in the Chester Fritz Library celebrates communication with symbols and media through the millennia, including cave painting, pictographs, Egyptian hieroglyphics, letterforms from alphabets, and electronic wave forms. Constructed of metals and stained glass, it measures six feet wide by 12 feet high.

Students of the 1960s and 1970s who visited the Memorial Union saw a collection of 13 life-size wooden figures representing the various races and nationalities. The "brotherhood" figures stood on a platform suspended over the main lobby.

Johnson also executed numerous other works for clients, including a granite sculpture for the University of Minnesota-Crookston. Another sculpture, symbolizing the pioneer farmer, was originally commissioned for a financial institution and now stands in UND's Skalicky Tech Incubator.
## TWENTY-FIVE YEARS OF SERVICE

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MARVIN ASP
Technician, Telecommunications

Marvin Asp started his career at the University in February 1989. He grew up in Thief River Falls, Minn., and then enlisted in the Navy, serving with Fighter squadron 21. While in the Navy he did two deployments aboard the USS Coral Sea with Fitron 21. The travel introduced him to many countries and their cultures; later in life, his desire for international travel would be reignited.

After his service in the Navy, Asp studied electronics at the Thief River Falls AVTI and also attended Northland Community College to complete his two-year degree. He started working at UND in 1989 at Facilities in the Electronics Department. In January 1990, he was reassigned to the Telecommunications Department. He said that was the best reassignment. He was able to get to know many people around campus. Through the years many changes have taken place in technology that have transformed how people communicate.

"Back then there were one, maybe two phones per dorm for student use, and one was a pay phone," he said. "The network was going to a computer lab, no email or social media. The mid-90s led the push to put a phone and network connection to every bed in the dorms. With the advent of cell technology, people would soon abandon land-line technology as we witness everywhere today."

Asp used the work benefit of taking classes toward a degree and completed his degree in general studies in 2008. His enjoyment of international travel was rekindled when he got involved in his church in 1998 and went to Europe to teach conversational English. Since then he has been on more trips where he shares his faith and the source of his faith.

"People of other cultures enjoy learning from others as well as sharing their cultures," he said. "In life we all are ambassadors, for our faith, family, country, community, and our jobs. Our actions and words reveal our character."

The University of North Dakota has given Asp opportunities that other employers might not have. He said he has always had good supervisors who support his travels.

In his free time, Asp enjoys many activities, including hunting, motorcycling, and other outdoor activities. He also spends time with family.

GRAEYEM DEWAR
Professor of Physics and Astrophysics

When Graeme Dewar chose to come to UND 25 years ago as a physics professor, it proved to be a good move. Whether he's working with students or furthering his research, he's always learning something new and is never bored. And Grand Forks has proved to be a great place to raise a family.

Originally from just outside Montreal, Dewar went to Bishop's University in Quebec, where he earned an undergraduate degree in physics with a minor in math. He went on to Simon Fraser University for his Ph.D. in physics.

From 1977 to 1981, Dewar was a lecturer at Princeton University. He then joined the faculty at the University of Miami for eight years. In 1989, he was hired by UND as a physics professor.

"It was the first job I ever searched for and got," Dewar said of his position at UND. "Every other job I had, I was recruited. This was the one I got to choose."

When he started at UND, part of the job involved teaching courses in what was then known as the Distance Engineering Degree Program.

"We were doing it those days on videotape. That was our 'online' stuff 25 years ago," he said with a chuckle. "The tapes were mailed out, and it was a long return time."

From 2005 to 2011, Dewar served as department chair. Though he had to put it on the back burner while he was serving as chair, Dewar is actively involved in research. His work has centered on studying the radio frequency properties of magnetic materials. Much of this research is based on experiments performed on a sensitive microwave spectrometer he built at UND.

He is currently studying the magnetoelastic properties of Tefenol-D. He is also working on making negative index of refraction mesostructures with the aim of extending their operating frequency from the microwave regime to the far infrared.

Dewar also has been the author and editor of many publications. He helped write and edit a book on metamaterials (materials that can't be found in nature) that was published in 2009.

Along with continually learning through his research, Dewar sees his undergraduate evolution as a teacher as well. "One thing I've found is that when you're teaching, you pretty much have to change what you do completely every five years because the students keep changing," he said. "Things have evolved. Since I've been here 25 years, that's several cycles of changing what you do."

Dewar is proud of his students, particularly those who have gone on to be faculty members at other institutions.

"I've been here long enough to see some good students come through and go on to be successful," he said. "That's a good, positive part of the job, that we've had some successful students."

During his career, Dewar has earned awards within his college and served...
on a variety of committees, including the Graduate Committee, the SOAR Committee, and the Faculty Senate's Budget Restructuring and Reallocation Committee.

Outside of work, Dewar can often be seen enjoying the Greenway, which is near the home he shares with his wife, Pamela Davis. He enjoys walking and cross-country skiing. “It’s a nice place to live,” he said.

Dewar has four children. His youngest will be graduating from UND with a double major in physics and German.

DAVID DISETH
Building Services Technician, Facilities Management

David Diseth had a variety of jobs before coming to UND. But 25 years ago, he really found his place here. He really enjoys all the people with whom he works. He also likes that he gets the chance to talk with people from other fields and trades.

“I like working here, and there are good benefits,” he said. “I’ve enjoyed working for the University.”

Diseth has lived in Grand Forks for most of his life. He graduated from Central High School in Grand Forks and attended UND and Aaker’s Business College.

His first job with UND was a five-month temporary position. During his third temporary job at UND, he got a permanent position as a custodian at the airport. That was in 1993.

One of his most vivid memories is of a cold January day out at the airport. He and two others had work to do in the line shack, a stand-alone building that isn’t connected to any others.

“You’ve got to bring your water buckets and all your materials there,” he explained. “I had two guys helping me, and we were stripping the floor.”

Both of the other men got sick at the same time, so Diseth had them leave. They already had the stripper on the floor, and the line guys were coming in a couple of hours, so Diseth couldn’t just leave, too.

“So I did the cardinal sin, and I hurried,” he said. In his rush to finish the job, Diseth fell. “I got up, and I was OK, but I was covered in floor stripper. So I took a bucket of water and poured it down my back, and I finished the job.”

Diseth went back to one of the main buildings, where he showered and washed his clothes, but he had to put his wet clothes back on and head out into the January chill to get home.

“That was probably the most memorable thing,” he said with a chuckle.

Diseth worked at the airport for 10 years. Then, when a custodian retired at Odegard Hall on campus, Diseth jumped at the opportunity. Diseth had been working 11 p.m. to 7 a.m. at the airport. The position at Odegard Hall is from 4 a.m. to noon. Diseth does general custodial work as well as outside work: shoveling snow, raking leaves, and picking up trash. He also continued for many years to work at the airport a couple of days a week. In addition, he served on an employee committee for Facilities.

Diseth’s hard work didn’t go unnoticed. He earned the LeRoy Award with Facilities.

In his free time, Diseth has been taking Bible courses from Global University through his church, Valley Christian Church Assembly of God. On Sunday nights he helps with services at the jail.

CINDY FETSCH
Budget Manager, Budget Office

While Cindy Fetsch is obviously passionate about her job and enjoys what she does in the Budget Office, she finds not everyone shares her feelings.

“I often wondered why my children never wanted me to speak about my job at school because I think my job is exciting and very interesting,” she said with a laugh. “I love my job. I love helping people on a one-on-one basis. I love UND, and I’m very passionate about budgeting.”

A native of Bemidji, Minn., Fetsch graduated from UND in 1988 with a bachelor’s degree in public administration. Her first job at UND was as an administrative assistant in the Physiology Department. After working there for about six months, Alice Brekke hired Fetsch as a grants officer in 1990. Fetsch was named a budget analyst in 1994 and then budget manager in 2012. Her main responsibilities are getting the annual budget guidelines to all the departments and working with them to establish their budgets each year. After the various budgets are submitted to her, she audits them.

“I like to say I put all the pieces of the puzzle together,” she explained. “I like numbers and puzzles. My favorite time of the year is the budget season. I enjoy working with the departments on campus, assisting them in preparing their annual budgets. I then get to fit the department budgets into the overall University budget and make sure all of the pieces fit together.”

She loves that her job lets her work with folks all across campus. She also likes working with students.

“When I get the chance, I love working with students,” she said. “I am on the Student Fee Advisory Committee that is chaired by the student body president.”

Fetsch also served on the Supervisory Committee at the University Credit Union from 2002 through 2005.

During her career, one of her biggest accomplishments was eliminating the reams of paper once used for the University’s now $512 million budget. “With my vision and talented developers, we developed a Web-based annual budget application,” she said.

Fetsch also worked on the governor’s funding model that was put into legislation in May 2013. “It was a huge project, and it was very exciting,” she said.

Through the years, Fetsch said, Alice Brekke has served as her role model and someone she has aspired to emulate. “I have a great role model in Alice Brekke,” Fetsch said. “She’s inspired me to keep moving up and keep working hard. She’s basically been my boss these whole 25 years.”

Fetsch’s hard work and dedication haven’t gone unrecognized. In 2006, she earned the Meritorious Service Award. “I am proud of the work that I and my analysts have done throughout the years,” she said.

In her free time, Fetsch enjoys reading, yoga, tennis, swimming, skiing, and hiking in Grand Marais, Minn. She is active in Calvary Lutheran Church. She also knits, quilts, and paints walls, cupboards, and furniture. “My favorite thing to do is to spend time with my husband and my daughters,” she said. “Many weekends are spent at the lake. We love to take family trips, skiing, beaching, biking, and hiking.”

Fetsch and her husband, Kevin, have been married for about 30 years. Kevin has worked for AgCountry for most of his career. They have three daughters. Jocelyn is a first-year med student at UND. Mikelle is a junior at UND and is applying for admission to the physical therapy program. Isabell is a ninth grader and has a passion for volleyball.

BEVERLY FETTER
Administrative Assistant, Department of Space Studies

In December, Bev Fetter’s fantasy football teams were keeping her extra busy. “I have five football teams right now, and they’re all in the playoffs,” she said with a laugh. “I had an unbeaten season with one team.”

A native of Reynolds, N.D., Fetter now lives in Grand Forks but has called Reynolds home for most of her life. After graduating, she began working at a car dealership in Grand Forks. “I started working right out of high school,” she said. “I took some years off when the kids were young, and then went back to work when they went to school.”

Fetter worked as a receptionist at a dental office before moving to Kansas, where she ran a small diner for about four years. She and her family came back to the area to be closer to family in 1990. Fetter took at job at the Rehab Hospital, which UND owned at the time. She worked in Patient Accounts for about five years.

“When they decided to have Altru take over, I wanted to stay with UND, so I chose the job that I have now,” she recalled.

Fetter is currently an administrative assistant in the Space Studies Department and is also involved in student recruitment. That includes going to major space conferences. Along with traveling to conferences in the United States, she’s been to Scotland, South Africa, and Toronto to promote the department.
While student recruitment involves answering numerous emails and phone calls, she also does a lot of email correspondence with the department's online students, trying to make them feel as much a part of the UND community as possible. She is also responsible for maintaining the department website, class schedules and textbooks, special events, travel, accounting and inventories. If that sounds like a lot of responsibility, it is. A part-time clerical assistant was recently hired to help. "Enrollments are growing, and it was just getting to be too much for one person to handle," Fetter said.

Though she's very busy, Fetter loves her job. She said she's always worked with great people at UND. She really enjoys working with students. The variety of work she does, combined with the space element are exciting, too. "Space stuff interests everyone!" she said.

While Fetter appreciates her department, the University has shown its appreciation for her, too. She earned the Meritorious Service Award in 2010. During her 25 years with UND, Fetter has seen a number of changes in her department. When Fetter first started, professors taught at the Grand Forks and Minot Air Force bases. Faculty would travel to those locations to teach classes — one five-hour class a week. Now that's all done online.

When she's not working, Fetter enjoys travel, including recent trips to Denver, Arizona, and Oregon to visit family. She also likes gardening and reading, and is a fantasy sports fanatic. She participates in both fantasy football and fantasy baseball online.

Fetter said she keeps busy with family, too, particularly trying to go to as many of her grandchildren's activities as possible. Fetter's mother, Frances, is 95 and lives on her own. They have a standing date for grocery shopping every Saturday morning. Fetter has two sons, both of whom attended UND, and three grandchildren. Her son Brian Thompson works for Robinson Construction in Grand Forks. His wife, Jamie, is a patient access supervisor at Altru. They live in Reynolds with their daughters, Katie, 14, and Chriissy. 9. Katie plays basketball and volleyball. Fetter's son Scott Thompson works for Burlington Northern and lives in Reynolds. Scott's son, Johnny, is 14 and plays hockey. Johnny's team won a state championship in his division during his first year of playing hockey.

TRACY FETTER
Bakery Manager, Dining Support Services

Tracy Fetter was working in a kitchen in Brooklyn, N.Y., when fate stepped in and changed his life. Fetter worked with a guy from Grand Forks. The man's older brother was married to the sister of Diane, the woman Fetter would end up marrying. In September 1980, Diane and her sisters visited New York City and needed a tour guide. Fetter was happy to help. The following January, Fetter made his first trip to Grand Forks, and after several other visits to Grand Forks, they were married in February 1982.

Fetter grew up in California. He went to grade school in Los Angeles and junior high and high school in San Francisco. After he came to Grand Forks, he worked as the kitchen manager of The Windmill. He stayed there for about six years until the restaurant closed.

Fetter started his career at UND as a cook at Wilkerson. He worked from about 10 a.m. to about 7 p.m. "I was there for about a year and a half, but I hated those hours," he said. "But a job came open in the bakery."

At first, the hours were from 2 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. Fetter thought he would like that better and took the job. After working at the bakery a couple of years and learning the ropes, Fetter was offered a brand new position, bakery manager. He's been in that position ever since.

The bakery mainly serves the three dining centers at UND, but it also provides goods for the UND Bookstore Café, Wings Café at the airport, the coffee shop and deli in the Memorial Union, the kiosk at the School of Medicine and Health Sciences, and University Place's store. The bakery also supplies the Catering Department with a variety of baked goods, including decorated cakes for everything from graduations to retirements.

During his career, much has changed, Fetter said. Among the changes are his hours. No longer can he come in at 2 a.m. and get everything done. As the bakery got busier, his starting time moved back in hour increments. "Now one of my bakers comes in at 9 p.m. and gets things ready," he explained. "I come in at 9:30, and then my other two bakers come in at 10. Everything has to be ready by 5 o'clock in the morning."

The number of staff needed to accomplish everything has grown, too. In the past, there were very few part-timers or students on staff. Now the department employs three part-timers and two students along with the three full-time bakers, a full-time utility person, and Fetter, who actually bakes as well as managing the department.

"When I first started, we could probably do all of the bread for a week in one or two days," Fetter said. "Now my bread maker probably does 300 pounds a day. I probably do 50 to 70 pounds of donut dough a day alongside that."

These days, students also want more choices. That means the bakery produces many more items than it did when Fetter first started. For instance, the bakery only made two flavors of muffins — blueberry and chocolate chip — when he started. Now they make about 20 flavors. The bakery staff also makes many more items from scratch than they used to. A more recent change has been the use of trans-fat-free cooking oils, shortening, and other products.

Fetter served as president of Bakers Association of North Dakota for a year, and the bakery earned several awards for products they entered in the annual competition. Fetter said he and his staff enjoy working with the UND's dietetics students every fall.

In his free time, Fetter likes to work on his house, go to baseball games in Fargo and the Twin Cities, and have "foodie" weekends in Minneapolis. He also loves spending time with his family. His wife, Diane, has worked at Hugo's six months longer than he's been at UND. She's the Health and Beauty Aids manager at the East Grand Forks location. They have two sons. Nicholas lives in Iowa with his wife, Melanie, and their two sons, Jace and Rhys. Anthony and his wife, Karla, live in Fargo.

LARRY FISK
Manager, Telecommunications

Larry Fisk has seen a lot of change in UND's Telecommunications Department in his 25 years of service. But one thing that hasn't changed is how much he enjoys his job.

"Our department really works well together," he said. "I really like the work we do out here. I love UND. I always have."

Originally from Lakota, N.D., Fisk graduated from UND with a degree in industrial technology. While going to school, he worked for Team Electronics, where he installed telephone systems.

After earning his degree, Fisk was contacted by a former Team Electronics coworker who was employed at UND. He told Fisk the University was starting a new project and urged him to apply for a job. Fisk jumped at the opportunity and was hired as a technician II. He was later promoted to technician III, then technician supervisor, before taking on his current position as manager of the Telecommunications Department.

As Telecommunications manager, Fisk assists with design of network and telephone cable and infrastructure. He is a BICSI RCDD (Registered Communications Distribution Designer), an accreditation regarding communications infrastructure design. His department also is responsible for taking care of the nearly 6,000 phones on campus and at the airport and UND's Fargo and the Bismarck Medical School locations. Telephone service for Mayville State is also provided.

Through the years, Fisk has seen a number of changes in the department. When he first started, the Telecommunications Department included 12 staff and two or three students. Now there are four people in the office and three technicians in the field. "But we're still busy," Fisk said.

At the start of his career, he was crawling in ceilings and tunnels installing communications cabling, so he has seen most areas of the UND campus. With the advent of cell phones he has witnessed the decline of student phone service. "That's totally gone now," he said. "How the phone system is used has greatly changed."

But it hasn't changed as much as some might think. Fisk's department still deals with everything from the older analog telephones to the newest voice over IP technology. "There's still a place for the old phones," he said. "Fax machines, for instance, need the old technology."

Fisk also remembers that when he started, his office only had one computer that was hooked up to a laser printer. "Everyone in the office had to share that..."
computer when we wanted to use the laser printer,” he said with a chuckle.

One of the biggest projects he was involved with came in 1992. That summer, the University installed infrastructure to all the buildings on campus and had to dig underground to do it. Fisk was a field supervisor tasked with ensuring that the contractor was doing things right. “That was a huge project,” he recalled. “It went well. That’s good memories of a very busy summer.”

In his free time, Fisk enjoys working on old cars, going to UND men’s hockey and football games, and spending time with his family, including those still living in Lakota. Fisk’s wife, Carrie, manages Happy Joe’s in Grand Forks. They have two daughters: Brittney, 22, and Courtney, 21. Both work at Parkwood Place in Grand Forks.

**JOANN GALOW**
Quality Assurance Assistant, Flight Support Services, John D. Odgard School of Aerospace Sciences

If JoAnn Galow isn’t working at the airport for UND, you can probably find her working with her horse. During the summer months, she shows her appaloosa, but she rides year-round. She even works part time at a stable facility in Manvel, N.D., where she can ride her horse indoors in the winter.

Galow shows for the FM Posse and has had a really good summer. She earned high point overall for pleasure riding. Galow mainly shows her horse in Fargo at events that are open to all breeds. She also travels on the appaloosa circuit, which includes Bismarck, Minot, Fargo, and Valley City.

Galow is passing her love of horses on to the next generation as a 4-H leader. “I just got my 10-year award for that,” she said.

She’s coach of the 4-H Hippology Team, which is all about horse knowledge. She said it’s fun to see the kids learn and grow and improve each year.

Originally from Bisbee, N.D., Galow went to college in Minot for a year before coming to UND to work toward a degree in airport administration. She also earned her private pilot’s license.

Galow started working at the airport as a student employee in the parts room. “There’s three guys I work with that I’ve known for 29 years,” she said.

In 1989, she took a full-time job in the dispatch area. In 1997, she moved to the Maintenance Division, where she is now.

“I schedule the airplanes for their oil changes, if you will,” she said.

Along with scheduling the periodic inspections, she enters data in the maintenance records.

“I’m the buffer between the FAA and the mechanic,” she explained. “I make sure all the ‘i’s are dotted and the ‘t’s are crossed to keep the FAA away from my mechanics.”

The job fits her well. “It’s a good job,” she said. “I have good bosses. It’s just worked out.”

Galow’s parents still live on a farm near Bisbee. She has two sisters and one brother who also live in North Dakota.

**BECKY GREER**
Executive Assistant to the CFO and CRO, UND Alumni Association and Foundation

When Becky Greer came to the University as a student, and then an employee, she wasn’t particularly fond of the community or the campus. That has changed drastically during her 25-year career with the Alumni Association.

“I can’t imagine being anywhere else but at UND,” she said.

Greer grew up in Grand Rapids, Minn., and was looking for a bit of a change when she went to college. “I chose UND because it was not where everyone else was going for college,” she said. “It was close enough to get back home when I wanted to, but far enough away that I was not obligated to come home every weekend.”

Greer earned an associate’s degree in secretarial administration with the Business Education Department in 1990. Then she heard about an opening at the Alumni Association. “They actually asked the department secretary if there was a good candidate,” she recalled. “So that’s how I got connected.”

Greer didn’t expect to be with the Alumni Association long term. “It was going to be short term to get some experience,” she said. “I actually did not love Grand Forks and did not love the campus when I came up here. But I’ve never left campus. It grows on you. It’s a wonderful community — the people especially.”

Through the years, Greer continued taking classes and, in 2006, earned a bachelor’s degree in social science. “I like to learn new things, so the anthropology, the history, and things like that were really fun classes,” she said. “I was very lucky.”

Greer has been with the Alumni Association her entire career. She started working with Homecoming registrations and Alumni Days in the spring. Then she switched to supporting the annual drive coordinator as an assistant. Later, she moved to the Records Department, where she did computer tech work and mailings.

“We did a lot of our mailings in-house,” she explained.

In time, Greer moved back into the Development area and was the executive assistant for CEO Tim O’Keefe until his retirement. Now she is the assistant for Chief Financial Officer Laura Block and Chief Relations Officer Don Kojich.

“They’re both wonderful people,” Greer said. “This whole organization is composed of wonderful people. It’s like a family here.”

Among Greer’s duties are doing the calendar scheduling and the preparation for meetings. She also works with the UND Alumni Association and Foundation Board of Directors, taking minutes and preparing materials. “Our board is always an incredibly dynamic, bright group, so it’s always fun,” Greer said.

One of Greer’s fondest memories is the opening of the Goresch Alumni Center about two years ago. “I thought I would miss working in the Stone Center because that has so much history and character, but we’re so blessed to be in this building,” she said. “And I know it was a long process. It was a dream long before it became a reality. So it was really fun to see it finally done and have the dedication and move in.”

Greer appreciates that she has been able to learn and grow in her career as well. “I like the variety,” she said. “I like the fact my hats have changed over the years. I can’t imagine doing the same thing forever.”

The UND Alumni Association has shown its appreciation for her hard work and dedication in other ways as well. Greer earned the Eagle Award in 2005 when she was working in what is now referred to as the Operations Department. She said the award was particularly special because she was nominated by coworkers. Greer and her husband, Ken, were foster parents for nine years, and she was recognized with a Community Champion Award in 2009 for her volunteer work. She also used to run the Foster and Adoptive Parent Support Group in Grand Forks. Ken owns Dakota Dry Cleaners as well as a martial arts school.

Greer said she’s cut back on her activities as her children have gotten older and more involved in school. She and Ken have been married for 27 years. They have four children: Josh, 21, Chelsea, 15, Zyan, 14, and Aaron, 8. Josh attended UND before he transferred to Northland Community College. He works at Dakota Dry Cleaners and is engaged to Alexie Randall, a sophomore at UND.

**LOANN HIRSCH**
Administrative Assistant, RAIN Program, College of Nursing and Professional Disciplines

Since coming to the Recruitment/Retention of American Indians into Nursing (RAIN) Program eight years ago as the administrative assistant, LoAnn Hirsch has really enjoyed watching the students learn and grow. Many of them have come to think of her as a second mother, and she “keeps an eye on them.”

Hirsch was born in Grand Forks, but grew up in Duluth, Minn. She returned to Grand Forks in 1973 and graduated from Central High School. She went to work first as a waitress and then as a cook at Mexican Village and later at La Campana. She was working for the Northwestern Bell Telephone Company when the company computerized and centralized, so she moved to Oklahoma City, Okla., in 1982 to seek employment. While in Oklahoma, Hirsch worked again as a cook and went to college. She earned an associate’s degree in computer

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programming from Oklahoma State University. In 1987, Hirsch and her husband moved back to Grand Forks so they could start their family. They wanted to raise their children with extended family around.

To get her foot in the door at UND, Hirsch worked for six months as a secretary in Gamble Hall for someone who was on maternity leave. When that position ended, Hirsch went to Concrete Incorporated for a year. Then UND called and offered her a secretarial position in Archaeological Research with the Department of Anthropology. Hirsch worked there for 17 years, beginning January 1, 1990.

When funding for Archeological Research got tight after the September 11 terrorist attacks, Hirsch’s boss told her it was OK if she wanted to start looking for positions in other departments. Hirsch found her niche at the RAIN Program, where she’s been the last eight years.

Hirsch has a wide variety of duties in the program. She’s responsible for all the financials. Since RAIN is a grant-funded program, she spends a lot of time dealing with federal authorities to make sure paperwork gets done and handed in on time. She tracks students, helps with semi-annual and annual reports, keeps the databases up and running, and sets up travel for all the program’s employees. The program employs six office staff and five distance mentors, Hirsch explained.

Hirsch said she has good memories from throughout her career at UND. When she worked in Archaeology, she would go out on digs if they were short-handed. She also went to some field schools and took classes in sorting and identifying artifacts. In addition, she helped in the lab and worked with the State Historical Society when they needed something from the UND collection. At RAIN, she also gets to do some traveling and help with recruiting as needed.

Through the years, Hirsch has seen a number of changes at UND. When she started at RAIN, there weren’t any online courses. Now there are some online classes for graduate students. “Computer technology is always evolving,” she said. When Hirsch first started, RAIN’s office area at the College of Nursing was about a third of what it is now.

“Now it’s bigger, brighter, better,” she said. “It’s awesome.”

In her free time, Hirsch enjoys reading and spending time with her family. She has two grown daughters, Kady and Kelsey, and two grandchildren, Destiny and Easton.

KIRSTI HOFER
Administrative Officer, School of Medicine and Health Sciences
Southeast Campus, Fargo

Family is extremely important to Kristi Hofer, and she appreciates that the University of North Dakota understands that.

“UND has been good to me,” she said. “When I was younger, I appreciated the opportunities to take vacation time to go help at my children’s schools and attend their activities that happened during working hours if I could get away. I feel that it is important for working parents to do their part in the education of their children. I know stay-at-home parents play big roles at schools, but I feel it was our obligation to show our children we understood our priorities.”

Originally from Wadena, Minn., Hofer graduated from Moorhead High School and went to Interstate Business School to become a medical assistant. She also has taken a variety of classes at North Dakota State University.

Hofer has been working most of her life. “From my freshman year of high school, I learned a real work ethic at Sher’s Kitchen in Moorhead as a server and hostess,” she said. “After school, I worked in a small chiropractic office in Fargo, Weiss Chiropractic Clinic.”

When her husband transferred to Grand Forks, Hofer worked at the Grand Forks Convention and Business Bureau. She started working at UND in 1988 and is now the administrative officer for the southeast campus of the UND School of Medicine and Health Sciences. In addition, she participates on the Graduate Medical Education Committee and has overseen many remodeling projects over the years at the southeast campus.

Hofer said her position allows her to be learning continually. “I have learned enormous amounts from current and previous supervisors and colleagues,” she said. “Working with really smart people and great administrators teaches you things you can’t learn in a classroom.”

She’s also seen many changes during her career, but she’s not afraid of it. “Change is good,” she said. One of those good changes is the caliber of students she sees. “It seems like the students entering our school are smarter and smarter,” she said.

While Hofer works hard for UND, she can often be found working hard at home as well.

“My husband is a house builder, so historically we have moved quite a bit,” she said. “I enjoy decorating each new house, but more important, I love to do yard work and plant bushes, grass, and trees. Last year I shoveled 11 tons of rock in the landscaping around the house. I believe hard work is a character builder.”

When her children were young, she was also very involved in their activities. “I taught Sunday school and confirmation classes when our kids were young,” she said. “They are grown now. I now look forward to any help we can lend with our first grandchild due next summer. My husband and I are really excited to be grandparents!”

ROXANNE HURLEY
Clinical Associate Professor of Nursing

Talking with Roxanne Hurley, it’s obvious she loves her work. As a clinical associate professor in UND’s College of Nursing and Professional Disciplines, she’s definitely found her niche. “I’m so grateful to have worked for an institution that really believes in its people,” she said. “And I feel really thankful for the fact that I’ve been able to make an impact on so many young people’s lives, and that I get to see how successful they are. I continue to have that connection with our alumni as I work with them in the hospital setting to educate the next generation of nurses.”

A native of Williston, N.D., Hurley could have easily ended up somewhere else if not for advice she got while still in high school. She said her high school counselor encouraged her to get her four-year degree, which is why she came to UND. She earned her bachelor’s degree in nursing at UND in 1980.

“And I met my husband here, and we got married that summer,” Hurley said.

After they got married, Hurley and her husband, John, a Grand Forks native who earned a degree in physics from UND, headed for the Fiji Islands. They had joined the Peace Corps and spent the first two years of their marriage there helping the less fortunate.

“They needed educators in their school of nursing, so my first job was to be a clinical instructor at the hospital with the students,” she said. “I actually developed that program for them. They didn’t have a faculty member at the hospital with the students. They would just pair them up with the nurses. So they had no formal curriculum for that. My job was to develop that role and to expand it. And the neat thing was that I didn’t know what I was doing, so I wrote letters back to my faculty at UND ... and they sent me materials to help me know how to be an educator. I got interested in nursing education from that job.”

Hurley did such an amazing job that when she left, they had to hire two people to replace her.

Back home in Grand Forks, Hurley started working at Altru Hospital as a staff nurse while her husband worked at the Energy & Environmental Research Center. Hurley knew she wanted to be an educator but felt she should further develop her nursing skills before she went back to school to earn her master’s degree in order to teach. Taking a class at a time while working, Hurley earned her master’s degree in adult nursing/nursing education in December 1985. She taught one semester as a graduate teaching assistant at the UND College of Nursing and was hired on as faculty soon after she graduated.

Her time at UND would be interrupted when John had an opportunity he couldn’t pass up. They moved to Pennsylvania while John earned his Ph.D. at Penn State. Hurley applied for a clinical teaching position in their School of Nursing, and they hired her. She taught there for three years.

The Hurleys started their own family in Pennsylvania, but they missed their family in North Dakota. When they moved back, John returned to the EERC. Roxanne was pregnant and didn’t plan to start working right away again, but
after Christmas 1990, she got a phone call from the College of Nursing saying they were looking for a part-time clinical instructor and wanted to know if she was interested. She said yes and came back part time for a while and then went full time, over the years receiving promotions to the rank of clinical associate professor. “I love teaching in the undergraduate program,” she said. “I have always wanted to stay connected to nursing practice and the clinical education of undergraduate nursing students.”

Hurley has been involved in numerous organizations, given many presentations, and produced many publications. In 2005-06 she participated in the UND Bush Teaching Scholar Program, which ignited her passion for the scholarship of teaching. She has served on a variety of college and university committees, most recently as a co-chair for the UND Higher Learning Commission Reaccreditation Steering Committee.

From January 2009 to June 2012, Hurley served as associate dean of undergraduate studies in nursing. She was interim chair in the Department of Practice and Role Development in 2004-05. In 2012, she made the choice to go back to full-time teaching.

She said she’s always proud to be chosen by students to be the faculty speaker at the Nursing Pinning Ceremony, an honor she’s had several times. In 2013 she was recognized with UND’s Phenomenal Women Award. She has been honored as a UND Faculty Star and was a top three finalist for the UND Undergraduate Teacher of the Year Award.

“We’re most proud of is that I’ve taught so many wonderful students,” she said. She also appreciates her colleagues, whom she describes as awesome and dedicated. “The College of Nursing is a family,” she said.

In her free time, Hurley is active in music ministry at Holy Family Catholic Church, where she plays piano and sings.

The Hurleys have two daughters, both of whom graduated from the University of Minnesota. Katelyn is a nurse on the Trauma Unit at North Memorial Hospital in Minneapolis. She lives in Minneapolis with her husband, Josh Salvey, a computer programmer, and their son, Penn. The Hurleys’ daughter Laura earned a degree in fisheries and wildlife and is an environmental consultant for MetroBlooms in Minneapolis.

DALE JACOBSON
Senior Lecturer, Department of English

Writers are told to write about what they know. So it’s no surprise that Dale Jacobson hasn’t strayed far from the Midwest for too long.

“I never really wanted to go too far from Minnesota,” he said. “This is the land that I know. I love the prairie.”

Jacobson has lived most of his life in Minnesota. He graduated from high school in Marshall and went on to Moorhead State to earn his bachelor’s degree in English.

He worked for VISTA at the Standing Rock Reservation for about a year in the mid-1970s. He also spent about six months hitchhiking and working in Albuquerque, N.M., making silver jewelry.

Jacobson earned a master’s degree in English at UND, after which he taught for a year at Moorhead State. He moved on to Glyndon, Minn., where he was a librarian. Then he ventured to London in the late 1970s while a friend was there.

In 1982, Jacobson taught creative writing at Hamline University in St. Paul. In 1983, Jacobson came back to UND as a part-time lecturer in the English Department. Around 1990, he was one of the people who were instrumental in creating a permanent lecturer position. Jacobson has been a senior lecturer with the department ever since. He’s taught composition, poetry, fiction, creative writing, and technical writing.

Writing is truly one of Jacobson’s passions. He’s written nine books of poetry that have been published. In 2005 he was named an Honorary Poet Laureate of North Dakota by the state’s Poet Laureate, Larry Woiwode, who considers his long poem, “A Walk by the River,” a masterwork. Jacobson also is one of the world’s foremost experts on the work of Thomas McGrath and has done considerable critical and analytical work in that regard.

Jacobson’s favorite memories during his career at the University include John Little and the many interesting people he brought to UND for the Writers Conference.

Jacobson also has seen a number of changes through the years. While the English Department has been consistently strong, most of the faculty on staff when he started are gone.

“It’s virtually a different faculty now,” he said.

In his free time, Jacobson enjoys camping, canoeing, and bird-watching with his wife, Therese Masters Jacobson. He is an accomplished painter and works for the Northwest Arts Council. He has three adult children: Tom, Amy, and Jonathan.

JOANN JOHNSON
Interprofessional Health Care Coordinator, School of Medicine and Health Sciences

Joann Johnson has had a number of jobs at the University, but it’s clear that she truly enjoys what she’s doing now at the School of Medicine and Health Sciences.

Originally from Bagley, Minn., Johnson graduated from Fosston High School. She went to UND and Northwest Technical College, where she earned an associate’s degree.

She started her career at UND in the late 1970s when she was hired part time for the UND Bookstore’s book rush. Then she worked the graveyard shift at the UND bakery, where she got hurt on the job and was out of the workforce about 1½ years. But she came back to UND and had an internship with Human Resources/Payroll. She moved on to Purchasing and then the College of Nursing, where she worked with the Anesthesia Program. When the federal grant ended, Johnson got a job at the Energy & Environmental Research Center.

In 2000, Johnson took her current position at the School of Medicine and Health Sciences. She serves as the interprofessional health care coordinator as well as the Frank Low research coordinator. She also manages the Cyclotron Department.

Among her duties are helping to organize the education piece for the interprofessional health care courses. There are four sessions a year, and each session is five weeks long. In the summer, they regroup and take a look at the program itself to see if it needs any changes, Johnson explained. She works on any needed changes through the summer.

Johnson also has helped with the interprofessional education piece of it. She has worked with a number of doctors on a variety of projects, including Parkinson disease, Alzheimer’s, and breast cancer research. She said she appreciates that she’s been promoted through the years and has been able to work with a number of different people.

Johnson truly enjoys her work. She loves working with the interprofessional health care courses in particular. And one of her favorite events is working on Frank Low Research Day, which involves staff, faculty, and students.

“It keeps growing,” she said. “I think last year we had 99 posters. So it’s a big event. That is what I thrive on. That’s what I like to do.”

Johnson likes that she wears many hats on the job, too. “I’m not stagnant in my job,” she said. “There’s always something new to do every day.”

Johnson has seen many changes during her time at UND, from new personnel to new technology. And in 2016, the new medical school is slated to open.

In her free time, Johnson enjoys baking and cooking for family and friends, sewing, music, and dancing. She is a member of the Northern Lights Ballroom Dance Club in Fargo and helps with Grand Forks Community Education dance class when needed. She also participates in dance lessons at Cottonwood Community Church with her friends.

Johnson has two children. Her daughter, Keri, works for a manufacturing company in North Dakota. Keri’s husband, Travis Pedersen, is a rancher. They have five children: Krystal, Cody, T.J., Morgan, and Justine. Krystal also has a daughter, Adalynn. Johnson’s son, Brent, is manager of the Home Depot in Plymouth, Minn. Brent’s wife, Laura, works for Anderson Merchandisers/Best Buy. They have two children, Edward and Caroline.

MARY JOHNSON
Program Coordinator, Continuing Medical Education

It’s obvious that family is very important to Mary Johnson. Not only did she make her career decisions with her family in mind, her daughter, Cassandra, has felt like she’s been a part of the University ever since her mom started working.
here. "She always tells me she grew up on campus, and she probably did," Johnson said with a smile.

Cassandra was a hockey cheerleader at UND and graduated with a degree in criminal justice.

Mary Johnson is a native of Williston, N.D. For a year, she went to what was then called UND-Williston. She transferred to UND in Grand Forks, where she earned a degree in general studies.

As a student, Johnson initially thought she might go into accounting. She worked for travel agency and chiropractor, doing their books while she went to school.

When Johnson started a family, she first stayed at home with her daughter, who was quite ill. "When she was 13 months old, I got a part-time job at UND," Johnson said. "It was kind of a trial basis for all of us — her, to see if daycare would work at that point. But it was nice. It provided a lot of really neat benefits — the health insurance and all that. It was only 20 hours a week, so I had plenty of time to be a mom, and I really liked it."

That was in 1990. Johnson was part of the distance learning program in the Pathology Department, helping people with two-year medical lab technician degrees earn their four-year degrees. It was a grant-funded program done entirely online. Johnson coordinated classes and student schedules.

When her daughter was in middle school, Johnson started working with the graduate CLS program, helping four-year students get their master's degrees. She did this in addition to continuing education for laboratory technicians, she explained. The increase in responsibilities meant more time at work. At that point, she was up to 32 hours per week.

Johnson went full time in her current position in Continuing Medical Education (CME). She now does continuing education for physicians, which she took on about 11 years ago. But it almost didn't happen. "My position before this, I went to my supervisor and said, 'I think I'm going to look for something else. I'm kinda bored.' And he said, 'Oh, don't do that. We've got something in the works here,'" she recalled. "And I can honestly say I've never been bored in this position. Every day is different, which is probably the reason I really like it. I'm constantly learning stuff. And you work with all kinds of different people from different places. It's always new and different. I leave work every Friday feeling like I've done something, and it's really great to know that."

Among Johnson's responsibilities is maintaining the accreditation for CME. "Once physicians graduate, they need a certain number of continuing ed hours a year. So, by maintaining the accreditation, the medical school is able to approve programs for them for licensure," she explained. "We do everything from working with other facilities in the state to approve programs that they want — making sure they're meeting all the guidelines and criteria so it can be an accredited program — to actually creating programs ourselves."

For example, CME created programs on tuberculosis after the outbreak in the area last year, and most recently it created one on ebola.

Four years ago, Johnson helped lead the CME accreditation process, and they got it without any questions or concerns. They're going through the accreditation process again, and Johnson is striving for the same excellent results.

Johnson's ongoing quest for excellence in her career has been recognized with the Meritorious Service Award.

Through the years, Johnson has been involved in the greater community as well. She participated in booster and other school activities when her daughter was in school. For the last three years, she has facilitated Beginning Experience, a support group for widowed and divorced people. She's served on ACME and ACCME committees. She's also been involved with the Humane Society. In her free time, she enjoys attending UND sporting events, traveling, reading, dancing, and taking care of her pets: three cats and a dog.

LYNN LEE  
Events Coordinator, Career Services

Lynn Lee has found herself at the right place at the right time on many occasions in her life. When opportunities presented themselves, Lee recognized them, and she's been able to move up in her career at UND. Lee was born in Oklahoma, but her dad was in the Air Force, so the family moved a lot. Lee attended high school in Inkster, N.D.

She worked at a variety of jobs before coming to UND. She worked for a nonprofit company and handled the company's gaming. She worked in restaurants and bars as a server. She even used to roof houses.

In the late 1980s, her neighbor's sister-in-law used to manage part of the UND Bookstore when it was still in the Memorial Union. She said they were looking for help. Lee jumped at the opportunity, working part time in the Express area where candy and gum were sold.

"Everything was rung up manually," she remembered. "You rung everything by hand. I even remember my code to get into the cash register."

Lee worked at the Bookstore about a year before another opportunity presented itself. The husband of one of her coworkers was the director of Career Services, and they needed part-time help. It was a perfect fit for Lee. She continued to work at the Bookstore four hours a day, but also worked another four hours a day at Career Services. In time, the job at Career Services transitioned into a full-time, 10-month position.

Lee was the receptionist, did the billing for teacher education files, and helped run the Résumé Center.

"That was back when not everyone had computers, so we typed up résumés for students," she said.

Lee has been with Career Services for 25 years and now is the events coordinator.

"I still work on the front lines. I still work with students and get to help them out," she said. "But I also plan the Career Fairs, the Professional Dress event, the..."
Etiquette and Networking Dinner, those types of things. It keeps me busy."

Among the biggest changes Lee has seen during her career are improvements in technology. When she first started, she didn’t have a computer. “They were just talking about getting computers, but we still had to go through the training because they knew we were going to get some,” she recalled.

Computers made her job easier. Many students helped out at the office through the years as well. “We’ve had a lot of student workers, so I’ve seen a lot of students come through the office,” she said. “There are some that keep in touch so I know what they’re doing.”

Lee has also served the University as secretary for Staff Senate and the Denim Day and Staff Recognition committees. “I’ve always enjoyed working at UND,” she said. “The people are so nice. I work with great people.”

In her free time, Lee and her husband, John, enjoy riding motorcycles and travelling. John was a machinist for many years and retired from the Energy & Environmental Research Center a year ago. They have a blended family with five children. Chris Lee works at the UND Steam Plant. He lives in Grand Forks with his wife, Jodie, and their children, Jessica and Tyler. Chad Lee and his wife, Collette, live in Grand Forks with their children, Nelson and Trish. Chad owns his own business. Doron Kleppen was in the Marine Corps for 10 years and now is a firefighter for the Department of Defense in Georgia. His wife, Marisel, is a teacher. They have three children: Ellyette, Jake, and Justin. Ellyette lives in North Carolina with her daughter, Isabella. Devin Kleppen lives in Missouri and works at a meatpacking plant. She has three children: Patience, Tammy, and Trenton. Robert Lee and his wife, Pam, live in Grand Forks with their daughter, Alyssia. They’re expecting their second child in February. Robert works with the Post Office, and Pam works in Altru’s Business Department.

RICHARD MILSPAUGH
Professor of Mathematics

Growing up in Los Angeles, Richard Millspaugh never expected he’d spend his career teaching at the University of North Dakota. But that’s what he’s done for the last 25 years, and he’s really enjoyed it.

“Actually, I came up here to practice interviewing,” he said of his first time at UND. “But out of the offers I got, it just appealed to me more than anywhere else.”

After graduating from high school in Los Angeles, Millspaugh went to the University of Dallas for his undergraduate degree in math and to the University of Oklahoma for graduate school. After he earned his Ph.D., he came to UND in the summer of 1989 as an assistant professor and was eventually promoted to full professor. His duties mainly involve teaching about 15 or 16 credit hours each year, and he has published a number of papers in topology and math pedagogy.

Millspaugh has been nominated for a number of awards and served on a variety of committees. He has chaired committees as well, including the Arts and Sciences Curriculum Committee, the University Curriculum Committee, and the Graduate Committee. He’s currently on a task force working on program prioritization.

Millspaugh chuckles when he thinks back to the first committee he ever served on at UND. It was Student Academic Standards, which is an appeals committee.

The first meeting went eight hours.

“And then you’re worried that everything is going to work that way,” he said, adding he was glad to learn this wasn’t the norm.

Millspaugh also served his department as chair for six years. But his favorite thing is teaching. He said several students stand out in his mind. He particularly enjoyed being a mentor for those who have gone on to be teachers themselves.

“I still hear from some students,” he said. “A fair number are professors somewhere themselves now, so I hear from that group.”

Along with enjoying teaching students, he said he’s been fortunate to work alongside wonderful people as well.

“I’ve always really enjoyed the people I’ve worked with,” he said. “That’s what has kept me here.”

While he’s seen a number of changes in his department through the years, most have taken place gradually and have just become accepted ways of doing things. For example, these days everyone from students to professors in the department use computers more than when he first got here, and now it’s just a standard part of what people do. Two and half decades ago, the University didn’t have online homework systems like it does now. And email is commonplace.

“I get a lot of email questions from students now,” Millspaugh said. “There was nothing like Blackboard at the time. But it’s become such a standard part of what you do now, it just mixes in with everything else.”

Many of Millspaugh’s lasting memories from the last 25 years at UND involve events that happened on campus. For instance, he will always remember attending the first women’s basketball championship, which was played at UND. Millspaugh enjoys various events on campus, but during the summer months, you can usually find him hitting the links.

“I golf quite a bit in the summer,” he said. “Otherwise, in the winter, I tend to work and spend time at home.” His wife, Penny, is a bereavement and holistic care coordinator at Altru. His stepdaughter, Stefanie Kurtz, lives in Grand Forks and works as a goldsmith at Riddle’s Jewelry.

MARY MORLEY
Senior Lecturer, Department of English

From the classes she took to earn her bachelor’s degree to those she now teaches in UND’s English Department, Mary Bauer Morley has found no shortage of inspiration to continue learning and to see more of the world.

“I truly enjoyed my undergrad years majoring in English at UND,” she said. “Getting to be in classes discussing great texts also inspired the traveler in me. And it was during those years, too, that I was able to participate in a three-week field study to Mexico with the Anthropology and Ceramics Departments. And reading became seeing, as I did an independent study on Anton Chekov, which included a two-week trip to the Soviet Union. And on a trip to the British Isles, I found it thrilling to visit Shakespeare’s England, Stevenson’s Scotland, and Swift’s Ireland.”

Morley spent her early years in Bottineau, N.D., and moved to Grand Forks with her family when she was in the eighth grade. She graduated from Grand Forks Central.

“I distinctly recall, even in my earlier years at Bottineau Elementary School, my nose always in a book. I came from a bookish family — a family of readers,” she said.

So it comes as no surprise that she always seemed to surround herself with books, even in her early work life. She worked at Waldenbooks in the Columbia Mall and then started her undergraduate degree in English when her youngest daughter started kindergarten. In 1994, Morley earned her master’s degree in English at UND.

“I recognized early on my passion for reading, so majoring in English and eventually becoming an English teacher was more than a goal,” she said. “It just seemed a natural life course.”

For most of the 25 years Morley has been at UND, she’s taught English composition in the English Department. During the early years of her career, however, she worked at the Chester Fritz Library in the Inter-Library Loan area. For several years, she also taught Intro to Fiction and Comp 101 for Correspondence Studies in the Division of Continuing Education. And for a few years, she served as the production manager for the North Dakota Quarterly.

In 2000, Morley got to be part of a very special project. “I had the opportunity to work as editor with a distant cousin who was reprinting our great-great-grandfather F.F. Kiner’s book, One Year’s Soldiering,” she said. “This book, which was originally published in 1863, is the narrative of our great-great-grandfather’s Civil War experiences as he served as chaplain with the 14th Iowa Infantry.”

Looking back at her career at UND so far, Morley realizes she’s a part of history here, too. “It’s really interesting to me to reflect on how things have changed in my many years of teaching,” she said. “It’s fascinating to realize how in the past quarter of a century the world of technology and its advancements have changed so many aspects of our lives. I’m talking not only in how we do research and how we access information, but in the actual teaching of writing and interacting with our incoming students — young people all equipped with cell phones, tablets, and/or laptops.”

Morley has been recognized for her work in the classroom as well. She has...
won the Multicultural Teaching Award, which is presented on Martin Luther King Day. She’s very appreciative of the recognition and opportunities she’s had.

“As I look back, I realize that I have gotten to do many interesting things here at UND, and they all significantly have much to do with reading — my earliest passion,” she said. “I feel very fortunate for these opportunities that UND has afforded me.”

In her free time, Morley loves to read, particularly books by authors coming for UND’s Writers Conference. She also loves spending time with family. She has three grown daughters, two of whom went to UND. Morley also has six grandchildren, and all of them love to read. The whole family also enjoys spending time in Bemidji, Minn., and fishing as well.

ERIN O’LEARY
Associate Director for Business and Operations,
Energy & Environmental Research Center

Originally from East Grand Forks, Erin O’Leary graduated from Sacred Heart High School in 1977. She worked at Robertson Lumber Company as a keypunch operator for a year before attending Minnesota State University, Moorhead. She also did an exchange program at New Mexico State University. O’Leary married and had two children before going back to school at UND in 1984. She earned a bachelor’s degree in business administration with a major in information management in 1988. In 2007 she earned an MBA and a master’s degree in management from the University of Mary.

O’Leary began her career at the Energy & Environmental Research Center (EERC) in 1989 as a research technician with the Combustion Studies Group. Early on, O’Leary proposed and spearheaded the development of an integrated resource management system to encompass fund management, resource management, proposal tracking, and sponsored award tracking. These in-house developed software products remain the backbone for financial management at the EERC.

Through the years, O’Leary has taken on a variety of duties at the EERC. She has had the opportunity to work in the EERC’s Business unit and also directly on research projects, eventually being promoted to senior research manager.

“I was able to experience how things work from a researcher’s perspective,” she said. “So when I returned to the Business unit, I was able to be more effective because I understood the challenges that the technical staff face in performing research.”

O’Leary was promoted to deputy associate director for business and was recently promoted to associate director for business and operations. “My responsibilities entail managing the Accounting, Contracts, Programming, Computer Systems, Travel, Procurement, and Facilities — Operations, Maintenance, and Safety departments,” she explained. “The Operations side is the challenging, new part of the job right now.”

O’Leary said she loves her job at the EERC because she feels valued. She also appreciates all of the opportunities she’s had. More recently, she’s been involved in a variety of policymaking committees at UND.

“I really enjoy taking part in opportunities such as this,” she said. “I think one of my strengths is taking a situation and trying to find a working solution. I’m not a ‘can’t-do’ person. I like to find a way to get things done.”

O’Leary says her favorite aspect of working at the EERC is that the research involves working with clients all over the world to develop extraordinary technologies that improve the environment. She says being a part of a place that has such a profound impact on the world is really satisfying and, at the end of the day, makes her feel really good about what she’s doing.

O’Leary also believes it’s important to build a spirit of teamwork and camaraderie. To that end, she implemented the annual EERC golf tournament, which is an important aspect of building internal employee relationships at the EERC.

Away from work, O’Leary is involved at Holy Family Catholic Church, where she helps facilitate the Adult Generations of Faith sessions. Her husband, Gary Theisen, manages a grain elevator in Emerado. They have a blended family of six kids and 15 grandchildren, with one more on the way. Four of their children attended UND.

O’Leary and her husband recently bought a lake cabin and enjoy spending time there. They golf whenever they get the chance and are also big fans of UND hockey.

JAN ORVIK
Coordinator of Internal Communications,
Division of University and Public Affairs

People on campus may know Jan Orvik from her job as University Letter editor, the emails she sends to inform the campus community, or the publications and projects in which she’s been involved. Or maybe she’s been their teacher.

Her family’s North Dakota roots go back a long way. Orvik grew up on a farm in southwestern North Dakota and graduated from high school in Hettinger.

“My parents are still on the farm,” she said. “My dad is 83. He still runs cattle in the summer. They’re extremely healthy. It’s very, very nice.”

Orvik earned a bachelor’s degree in communication with a minor in English in 1985 from the University of Mary in Bismarck. She worked as a newspaper reporter at the Napoleon Homestead in Napoleon, N.D., in 1985 and 1986. The following year, she worked as an editor and proofreader at North Dakota REC Magazine in Mandan, N.D., where she also served as a college intern in early 1985. She worked as an audiovisual assistant for the North Dakota Department of Transportation in Bismarck, where she wrote, edited, and produced video and slide shows.

When her husband took a job in the area, Orvik moved with him to Crookston, Minn. She applied for a job at UND. “And it’s the best job ever,” she said. “I just really like what I do.”

Orvik first started working at UND 25 years ago as an advancement writer in what is now University and Public Affairs.

In addition to internal communications, which includes editing the faculty/staff newsletter and sending notifications to the campus community, she writes copy for magazines, advertisements, news releases and other pieces. From 1994 to 2010, she also served as Web manager.

She also was a student. She finished her Master of Arts in communication in 1995 at UND.

Through the years, Orvik has been an instructor and lecturer at UND as well. She developed and teaches an online Communication course, Intro to Media Writing. Since 1995, she’s also taught the 300-level Public Relations Writing course in the Communication Program when needed.

She’s been busy away from the workplace, too. She co-authored The Return of Lake Agassiz: The University of North Dakota and the Flood of 1997 with Dick Larson in 1998. From 1990 to 1998, she volunteered for the Grand Forks Chamber of Commerce. She served on the Board of Directors for Sunrise Children’s Center in Crookston from 2000 to 2007 and has been involved in other community activities.

Her hard work and dedication have not gone unrecognized. She received an Access Champion Award from Disability Support Services at UND in 2004. She earned the Meritorious Service Award in 2001.

In her free time, Orvik likes sewing and reading. She also loves spending time with her family. Her husband, Larry, works for the Polk County Attorney’s Office and earned his history and law degrees from UND. The Orviks have two sons: Zach, 21, is a junior at UND looking at engineering. Alex, 16, is a sophomore at Crookston High School.

BARRY PEDERSON
Information Technical Support Specialist, Center for Rural Health

Barry Pederson likes his work at the Center for Rural Health, but he also enjoys traveling when he gets the chance. One of the biggest trips he’s taken was to Greece. Unfortunately, it was a couple of years ago, during the riots.

“That was interesting,” he said with a smile.

A graduate of Central High School in Grand Forks, Pederson went to UND and earned degrees in computer science and applied mathematics. He first
JOYCE RISKE
Manager, Energy & Environmental Research Center

Joyce Riske was in the right place at the right time. She was working as a lecturer in UND's English Department when she overheard a conversation. The Energy & Environmental Research Center was looking for someone with both English and science degrees—an unusual combination—to fill an open position. As luck would have it, Riske had both degrees, but she had to make a decision quickly. The application deadline was the next day. So she talked with her husband, and he told her to go for it. Now she's celebrating 25 years with the EERC.

Originally from Buxton, N.D., Riske graduated from Mayville-Portland High School and went to Mayville State College, where she earned a degree in secondary education with majors in English and physical science. She also was close to minors in German and math.

Riske taught at Sacred Heart High School in East Grand Forks for three years. Then, after studying Spanish, she decided to head to Bogotá, Colombia, and teach at Colegio San Carlos, an all-boys prep high school. Her aunt, a Benedictine nun, had served as the grade school's director.

"She wanted me to come down there and teach," Riske said. Riske wanted that, too, but couldn't make it work until 1983, two years after her aunt's death.

"Colegio San Carlos is the best school in Colombia. It produces their politicians, doctors, and lawyers. It's run by Benedictine monks from Richmond, N.D. So when I went down to Bogotá, I was working with people from Devils Lake and Richmond. And the Benedictine nuns from Crookston were managing the grade school."

After two years teaching abroad, Riske came back to the United States and went to Eastern Michigan University to get her master's degree in English literature. She taught as a graduate assistant for a year and then decided to move back to North Dakota to finish her degree at UND. It was there she overheard the conversation that led her to the EERC. In February 1990, she began her work there as a technical editor.

At the time, the Editing Office consisted of two people: Riske and the grammatical editor. The grammatical editor basically worked on letters and correspondence. Riske did the reports and brochures—anything that had a technical

JOHN RICHTER
Research Associate, Energy & Environmental Research Center

John Richter grew up on a farm near Bismarck and graduated from Bismarck St. Mary’s. He was the sixth-oldest of 14 children, and two of his younger brothers went on to be priests. When his brother Tom was studying at North American College, Richter got the opportunity of a lifetime.

“I got to meet Pope John Paul II,” he said. “We got to have a private Mass with the pope in his private chapel. There were only 30 of us there.”

Through the years, 10 members of his family got to meet the pope, he said. “Of course, nowadays everybody’s got one,” he said.

But early in Pederson’s career, people who had computers really only used them for word processing. People weren't yet using email and surfing the Internet. When that changed, getting the school equipped for it was a big job.

“The computerization of everything was a pretty big project,” Pederson said, “bringing in networking and email and Internet and all that stuff.”

Through the years, Pederson has served on a variety of committees, mainly related to computer issues. For instance, he was part of a working group focused on the campus network.

One of the highlights of Pederson’s career was working with Don Larson, who also became his friend.

“Don Larson was my supervisor for 20 years,” Pederson said. “He and I did a lot together. He retired back in 2010, but he's still here in town. He's a good guy. A big part of my career here was working with him.”

In his free time, Pederson enjoys biking and traveling. He also likes spending time with family, including his girlfriend, Holly Gabriel. His mother, Evelyn, lives in Grand Forks. He also has a brother, Tony, who lives near Chicago.

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nature. She was able to put all she had learned to good use. “Over the years I’ve been able to use my math, Spanish, and German,” she said.

When she first started, Riske didn’t have a computer. She had a desk, red pens, and reference books. She marked up the documents and brought them to people in Workflow, who had computers and did word processing. Riske also started a list of abbreviations that were often used in EERC documents. The list became a booklet about 20 pages long that became a valuable tool for staff.

Eventually Riske was asked if she would serve as a supervisor. She was up for the additional responsibility. In time, she was named manager of Editing and Graphics when the two departments merged. Along with overseeing the department, she edits technical documents, attends meetings, and tries to be a resource to the EERC staff. Her department includes three editors and three graphic artists.

Because she’s very detail oriented, the job fits Riske well. Those in Editing are responsible for reading through requests for proposals (RFPs) to make sure everything required has been discussed and submitted. They tailor staff résumés to spotlight what the RFP is looking for. And they make sure the budgets match up. They work with people of variety, including researchers, those involved with budgeting, and the Workflow people who handle the documents. Riske and the other editors also edit all documents before they’re sent out. Additionally, Riske has worked on a number of white papers.

Although she has a very serious and exacting job, Riske is able to share her great sense of humor at work, too. Whenever people retire from the EERC, a program is put together for them. Riske writes parodies for the program — and sings. In fact, she writes songs for what has been dubbed the EERC Choir. The group performs at Christmas parties and other EERC events. And sometimes those events include dancers. Riske has even recruited a couple of coworkers to pose as the Blues Brothers.

In her free time, Riske plays guitar and sings for her church in Reynolds. She also enjoys fishing in the summer and winter, and the occasional cruise.

Riske lives in Reynolds with her husband, John, whom she married in 1987. Although he’s now retired, John worked as an iron worker and a business owner. Later in life, he went to UND to become a licensed social worker. He worked at Red River Valley Community Action and did millions of dollars worth of work rehabbing homes for the poor and elderly. Continuing that work, the Riskes now build homes for the poor in Jamaica through Food for the Poor. The Riskes have two sons. Peter attends Northland Community and Technical College in East Grand Forks and is studying nursing. Tom works at LM Wind Power as a lead in molding.

DOREEN ROLSHOVEN

Staff Nurse, Human Nutrition Research Center

Doreen Rolshoven has met a lot of interesting people in her 25 years as a staff nurse at the Grand Forks Human Nutrition Research Center.

“I love the people that I work with,” she said. “The volunteers who come in to do the studies are just fun to be around. I love visiting with people and learning what’s going on in their lives.”

Rolshoven grew up in Lefor, a small town south of Dickinson, N.D. The high school in Lefor closed after Rolshoven’s freshman year, so she ended up graduating from Dickinson. She went on to Bismarck State College for business.

“I worked in business for a couple of years, and then I decided it wasn’t what I really wanted,” she said. “So I went back to school for nursing. I went to the North Dakota State School of Science, because I wasn’t really sure if that was going to be my ‘thing’ either, so I didn’t want to do four years.”

But it did turn out to be her “thing.” Rolshoven first worked at Med Center I in Bismarck for seven years. Then her husband graduated from college and took a job in Grand Forks in 1989. Doreen started working at UND that fall.

“I was a staff nurse at the Nutrition Lab, and I’m still a staff nurse at the Nutrition Lab,” she said with a smile. “I’ve been there the whole time.”

Though her title hasn’t changed, her responsibilities have. “My duties have really changed since I first started,” she said. “We used to have live-in studies. We could house up to 14 volunteers at one time.”

The volunteers came from all around the country.

Rolshoven said it was fun to get to know people she wouldn’t have otherwise met. The volunteers lived on-site for six months or more, and the Nutrition Lab needed to be staffed at all times. Rolshoven worked the evening shift for about 15 years. With federal budget cuts, the live-in studies went by the wayside for the most part, and Rolshoven started working more with community studies volunteers and working the day shift. While the lab still does some live-in studies, volunteers don’t stay for as long as they used to, she explained.

Another change has been in staffing. “Our staff has shrunk,” Rolshoven said.

“We used to have nine nurses on staff, but now I’m the only one.”

She also used to do a lot of cardiac monitoring because of the types of studies they were doing at the time. Now Rolshoven helps with some of the recruiting and screenings for studies, does blood draws, works on testing in the Physiology Lab, schedules tests, and orders supplies, as well as many other duties.

Rolshoven keeps busy outside of work, too. She was involved in PTO and booster groups when her children were in school, and she taught CCD classes for about nine years. She also likes to bake, sew, read, and crochet.

Her husband, Reid, is an insurance adjuster. They have three children.

Lindsay, a graduate of UND, is a NICU nurse at Sanford Hospital in Fargo. Michael works at Sam’s Club and is deciding what he wants to do for college. Koryn is a freshman at UND.

JANE RUSSELL

Technical Editor, Energy & Environmental Research Center

When Jane Russell took a job as a grammatical editor at the Energy & Environmental Research Center 25 years ago, she really found her niche. She’s had the opportunity to grow in her career and work with people she enjoys.

But even more important, the EERC’s family-friendly environment allowed her to go to her daughter’s activities and other important events in her life. Last summer, Russell served as her daughter Liz’s wedding planner. Liz and her husband, Clint Frey, both work at Dakota Harvest, and Clint is attending the University of North Dakota. They had a rustic country wedding last June at a farm outside Grand Forks.

Originally from Grand Forks, Russell graduated from Red River High School. Through the years, she’s taken many classes at UND. After her first stint as a student, Russell started working at the UND Law School. She started as an administrative secretary and was eventually promoted to office manager in the faculty offices. She stayed with the law school for about eight years before deciding to go back to school.

But that didn’t mean Russell didn’t have a job. In fact, she had two.

“I’ve always loved to work,” she said.

Not happy with the work she was doing, Russell decided to apply for a job at the EERC as a grammatical editor.

“I have an English background, and I love to read and write,” she said. Now, 25 years later, she’s a technical editor: “It’s a dream job for somebody in English.”

Along with her technical editing, Russell said she gets to work on a variety of special writing projects and do some marketing.

“It’s a very nice variety, and the people here are great to work with,” she said. “It’s really a team-oriented organization. It’s really afforded me a lot of opportunities.”

While the job fits Russell perfectly, it wouldn’t be for everyone. Everything that goes out of the EERC has to be edited, so there is always something to do.

“We are always working under high-pressure deadlines,” she said. “That’s just the nature of what we do.”

Russell said she is continually learning something new as well.

“It’s such an interesting job because there are so many scientific disciplines here,” she said.

Over the years, Russell’s hard work has been recognized within her department. Administrative Resources gives out a variety of awards. Peers within the department nominate one another for the awards and subsequently vote for the winners. Russell has been honored with a couple of leadership awards and a teamwork award.

“It’s just a really nice way for people to recognize each other’s strengths,” she said.
During her time with the University, Russell has seen a lot of changes. At the EERC, the number of editors on staff has grown. And when she looks back to her years at the law school, she remembers working on a typewriter before her office had any computers. Russell was the first person in her building to be trained on the big IBM word processors. She had to go to Fargo to learn to use it.

“Things have changed a lot in 33 years,” she said with a smile.

**MYRON SCOTT**

**Journey Electrician, Facilities Management**

Myron Scott has the distinction of being part of a couple of firsts. He was part of the first graduating class at Red River High School in Grand Forks. And he was on the first Staff Senate at the University of North Dakota.

Originally from Fargo, Scott moved to Grand Forks with his family when he was 13. He attended UND for a couple of years before entering the workforce full time.

“I worked construction for 20 years and then came out here,” he explained. Scott said he has always liked UND, so it seemed natural to apply here when he was looking for a more steady job. When working construction, he sometimes had to work out of town and put in long hours. And being laid off was always a concern. UND provided a more stable, secure job that allowed him to be with his children in the evenings.

“It’s 8 to 4:30, and I had young kids, so it was nice to be around for them,” he said.

When he was first hired at UND 25 years ago, Scott worked in the Paint Shop doing drywall construction.

“Then I was able to go over to the Electric Shop and learn the trade there and get my license,” he said. “It was a good move.” That was about 20 years ago, he said.

Scott has many good memories of his years at UND.

“We used to do some rather large projects, and they were a lot of fun,” he said.

One of his favorite things to do is helping students. When students in the Engineering Department, for instance, need help with wiring — something they aren’t allowed to do — Scott and his department step in to help on their projects.

Scott said he also enjoys working with the others in his department, many of whom have been there a long time as well. He’s also served on some committees, including the Staff Senate and the Facilities Department’s Employee Committee.

During his career, Scott has seen a variety of changes on campus. One change that has hit close to home is the advent of computers. At one time, projects were tracked on paper by someone else in the department. Now Scott keeps track of his own projects on computer.

In his free time, Scott enjoys traveling, particularly on his motorcycle. He’s a member of the BMW Club and goes to their annual motorcycle rally. Each year it’s held in a different place. He’s been to Vermont, Washington, and Tennessee for rallies. “So that’s helped me to see a bit of the country,” he said.

He also enjoys visiting Minnesota lakes and spending time with his family. He and his wife, Karla, have been married for 35 years. She is a financial information analyst for Altru. Their daughter, Leah, and her husband, Mandar Gadgil, both went to UND and now live in Akron, Ohio, where Mandar is a chemical engineer. The Scotts’ son, Nick, attended UND as well. He lives in Grand Forks with his wife, Tiffany, and their son, Toby. Both Nick and Tiffany work for Amazon.

**KATHLEEN SPENCER**

**Librarian/Information Specialist, Center for Rural Health**

Kathleen Spencer can’t believe the good fortune she’s had in her education and in her career. But one thing is clear: She found the right career when she came to work at UND.

Spencer grew up in St. Paul, Minn., where she graduated from high school. She was a stay-at-home mom in Oslo, Minn., when she decided to go back to school at UND. When she finished her Bachelor of Science degree in geography and library science in 1988, she began working part time at the Chester Fritz Library. Over time, she moved into a full-time position at the library, but in 1990, she transferred to the geology library, where she worked for 14 years. While there, she also earned her Master of Science degree in geography with a minor in geology at UND.

Then Spencer heard about an online program where she could get a master’s degree in library science. When she was awarded a $5,000 North Dakota State Library Scholarship, she decided she couldn’t pass up the opportunity to further her education. She also was awarded a $1,000 American Federation of Teachers scholarship. Spencer earned her M.L.S. from Southern Connecticut State University in 2003.

Librarians typically don’t also have master’s degrees in science, so Spencer was in a good position. It wasn’t long before a special opportunity presented itself. “A co-worker called me and said, ‘Do you know there’s a job opening up for librarians over at the Center for Rural Health?’ I was not familiar with the Center for Rural Health even though I’d lived rural for 40-some years. Two of my children were born in small rural hospitals. I know what it is to travel 40 miles to receive health care or emergency services. My oldest son is deaf, and I remember services for the deaf being limited, so I definitely lived that experience. But that’s all I knew,” she said.

It was enough. Spencer applied for the job and got it. She’s been with UND’s Center for Rural Health for about 11 years now. As a librarian/information specialist, she works with a professional team to maintain a clearinghouse of rural health and human services resources through Web-based services. She also provides customized assistance to clients with rural concerns, identifies and posts potential funding opportunities, provides clients with appropriate federal or state agencies and other organizations and experts, and provides statistics, data sources, and maps that aid in grant writing. She also gives a variety of presentations at conferences.

Spencer has earned a number of certifications. In 2005, she was a medical informatics course fellow at the Marine Biological Laboratory in Woods Hole, Mass. Two years later, she was a Leadership Institute fellow at the Leadership Institute in Abiquiu, N.M. In 2011, she was a rural health fellow at the National Rural Health Association (NRHA) in Washington, D.C. Currently, Spencer is serving as an elected member of the NRHA Rural Health Policy Congress.

She’s also been involved in UND beyond her work experience. In the late 1990s, she was part of the UND Staff Senate Steering Committee tasked with developing the constitution and bylaws for the first Staff Senate. In addition, she is a charter member of the Staff Senate.

Spencer also earned an Outstanding Support Staff award for her work at the Chester Fritz Library.

In her free time, Spencer enjoys going to the Wellness Center every day during her lunch hour. She also loves music, kayaking, hiking, and quilting.

Spencer’s husband, Eben, is an agronomist and works for Archer Daniels Midland. He earned his graduate-level GIS certificate at UND. They have three children. Jesse and his wife, Jessica, live in Northfield, Minn. Jesse has master’s degrees in special education and rehabilitation counseling. He works at Career Ventures in St. Paul. Jessica is a teacher’s aide for Northfield Public Schools. The Spencers’ daughter, Minto, got her undergraduate degree at UND and also went to UND’s medical school. She is a pediatrician and allergist in rural Minnesota. Her husband, Jeffrey Porter, also got his medical degree from UND. They have three children: Spencer, Samuel, and Sophia. The Spencers’ son Eben James lives in Apple Valley, Minn., with his wife, Erica. Erica, Eben James earned a bachelor’s degree in geological engineering and a master’s degree in environmental engineering at UND. He works for Koch Pipeline in the Twin Cities. Erica works for American Public Media.

**LISA SPENCER**

**Administrative Secretary, Student Success Center**

Lisa Spencer’s ability to move up and learn new things during her 25-year career at the University is proof that hard work does get rewarded.

Spencer grew up in Park River, N.D. She worked for a couple of years at Larry’s Food Center in Park River after graduating from high school. At first...
she was a cashier, but in time, she was promoted to produce manager. In the fall of 1985, Spencer moved to East Grand Forks. She attended what is now Northland Community and Technical College and earned a secretarial certificate.

Her first job out of college was as a receptionist with Grand Forks Glass and Paint. She later was promoted to a secretarial position under the glass contractors. But being a single mom, Spencer was attracted to UND by the great benefits package and the opportunity to grow in her career. On July 1, 1989, she took a job as a registration clerk at UND’s Graduate School.

“I worked at the front counter at the Graduate School. Back at that time, you still had to stand in line to register,” she said with a chuckle. Spencer moved to an administrative secretory position with the Health, Physical Education, and Recreation Department in January 1992. In July 1998, she became an administrative secretary in the Dean’s Office at the College of Business and Public Administration. She was there about two years when she was recruited to be the administrative secretary for the Marketing Department.

“It worked out so great,” she said. “It was an easy, smooth transition and a great fit with the faculty in that department.”

In 2007, UND Learning Services and Student Academic Services merged to create the Student Success Center. That September, Spencer moved to her current position as administrative secretary with the Student Success Center.

“I absolutely love it,” she said. A large part of her duties is working with students — scheduling appointments with academic advisors and answering a lot of questions about academic information. She maintains two budgets, one for the assistant vice president for student academic services and the other for One Stop Student Services, which recently opened in the Memorial Union.

Spencer also has served on various committees, including the Hultberg Lectureship Committee during her years with the CoBPA, the Student Success Center Professional Development Subcommittee, and currently the SSC Assessment Committee. Her hard work and dedication to the University have not gone unrecognized. She earned two College of Business and Public Administration meritiorious awards during her tenure in the Marketing Department.

Away from work, Spencer enjoys attending her sons’ sporting events, reading, movies, and spending the summer months outdoors working with flowers and going to her in-laws’ lake home in Minnesota. She loves spending time with her family. Her husband, Fred Spencer IV, is a sales associate at Honda Nissan of Grand Forks. Their sons, Kade, 13, and Logan, 11, go to school in East Grand Forks and play hockey, baseball, and football. Spencer’s daughter, Lindsey, graduated from UND with a degree in communications. She earned an MBA from Capella University in Minneapolis. Lindsey lives in Minot, N.D., with her husband, Chris Pickard, and their daughter, Alivia, 2.

Spencer is a member of Our Saviors Lutheran Church and the Blue Line Club in East Grand Forks.

THOMAS STOKKE
Assistant Professor of Computer Science

As an assistant professor in the Department of Computer Science, Tom Stokke is always learning new things. Students expect their professors to keep current in this ever-evolving field.

“That’s one of the greatest things and one of the scarier things all at the same time,” Stokke said of the constant change. “We do stuff with Web-based programming in sophomore-level classes that didn’t exist when I was in grad school.”

A native of Williston, N.D., Stokke went to UND-Williston and got an associate’s degree in computer science. He transferred to UND in Grand Forks and earned bachelor’s degrees in computer science and teaching. He graduated in December 1987 and went right on to graduate school at UND.

“I literally came here to school and never left,” he said.

In 1988, Stokke took a summer job at the Energy & Environmental Research Center. The summer position turned into a temporary job and then a full-time job in the spring of 1990. Stokke started with Process Control and stayed with the EERC for just over 10 years.

By sheer chance, Stokke ran into his former advisor, Tom O’Neil, who was then chair of Computer Science. Stokke had always been interested in teaching and was hired to teach a class over his lunch hour for three semesters. When a position opened for a full-time teacher, Stokke moved from the EERC to Computer Science as an instructor. Now he’s an assistant professor. His main duty is teaching, although he does a little research as well.

“I got into it because I wanted to teach. It fit well,” he said. “I love my job. I love the people I get to work with.”

Along with teaching college students, Stokke also enjoys working with younger students. He’s done everything from Career Days at schools to various camps at UND.

“I do a lot of outreach,” he said. “I go out to high schools, and I do robotics clubs and animation clubs, and I started our summer camps. This will be our 10th year this summer where we run 15 weeks of different camps.”

Stokke also finds time to further his own education. He’s been taking classes in Teaching and Learning at UND.

In his free time, Stokke serves as a volleyball referee at the high school and college levels. But much of his free time is spent taking his children to their many activities. Stokke and his wife, Angie, have three children. Nick is an eighth-grader. Erik and Elizabeth are in the sixth grade. Angie works with special needs children for Grand Forks Public Schools.

MORGAN STROH
Quality Assurance Manager, Flight Support Services,
John D. Odegard School of Aerospace Sciences

In his 25 years with the University, Morgan Stroh has watched the Aviation Department grow. He said he has seen an increase in the size and diversity of UND’s fleet of training aircraft in particular.

A native of Johnstown, N.D., Stroh graduated from Midway High School before going on to Dakota Aero Tech, North Dakota State University, and UND. Before working at UND, he served in the U.S. Navy and worked at Cessna Aircraft and AERO Center 1.

Stroh is past president of the North Dakota Professional Aircraft Mechanics Association and was named North Dakota Mechanic of the Year in 2007 and Great Lakes Region Maintenance Technician of the Year in 2003. He is a past president of the East Grand Forks Rod and Gun Club and has served on the UND Staff Senate and the UND Aerospace Safety Council.

In his free time, Stroh enjoys hunting and recreational shooting as well as educating young people in the shooting sports. He also enjoys spending time with family. His wife, Jennifer, works for the UND Aerospace Foundation. Their daughter, Amy, graduated from UND in 2012 with degrees in English, history, and religion. She’s currently working on her master’s degree in popular culture at Bowling Green University.

THOMAS SWANGLER
Assistant Director, Chester Fritz Auditorium

When you work at the Chester Fritz Auditorium like Tom Swangler does, you get to see behind-the-scenes events that are hidden from the general public. "There have been events in there that people don't know about," he said.

"In the industry, they look for places to put together rehearsals or to build their shows. So they have come in to the Fritz, built their show, and had rehearsals and performances. All these people who are associated with the show are there for a week or 10 days, and people (in the community) never know they are there."

People using the Fritz this way have included everyone from a recent kids...
show to rocker Ted Nugent. "He was in the building for about three days, and they had it cranked," Swangler said with a chuckle. "The dust was coming off the ceiling."

While working at the Chester Fritz Auditorium, Swangler has met a lot of people he wouldn't have encountered otherwise. "I've really enjoyed the job," he said. "It's different every day. It's fun."

Swangler grew up in Grand Forks and graduated from Central High School. He earned a degree in accounting with a minor in history at UND. In the summer of 1989, he was going to take job in the Twin Cities with the federal government. He had a job lined up at UND, but it wasn't slated to begin until September. But his plans changed when he was asked to help for the summer at the Chester Fritz Box Office until he started his new job at UND. Swangler decided to stay in Grand Forks and was a part-time ticket clerk at the Fritz that summer.

"They had some changes in leadership at the Fritz early in the summer," he explained. "They then basically were looking for people to work full time in the box office."

Swangler started as the box office manager Feb. 1, 1990. Since then he's served as an accountant, business specialist, and most recently, assistant director. For about eight years he's also done the accounting for Ray Richards Golf Course. The additional responsibilities fit Swangler's schedule well.

"That worked out nice because it's busy at Ray Richards Golf Course, it's slow at the Fritz," he said.

Swangler's duties at the Fritz involve the accounting and budgeting. He also steps in for the director when he's not there. In addition, Swangler supervises the four student employees and handles the box office, including any accounting issues that come up.

Swangler has served the University and the greater community as well. He has been on the Staff Senate at UND and on Grand Forks Symphony board. He also served as the North Valley Arts Council board's treasurer for five years. His hard work hasn't gone unnoticed. The Grand Forks Convention and Visitors Bureau honored him as Host of the Year for the city.

When he's not working, Swangler loves to read, camp, visit his in-laws' lake cabin in Minnesota, and spend time with family. He and his wife, Aimee, have been married for three years. Aimee is a daycare provider. Swangler's son, Matt, lives in Fargo and works at the Fargo Air Museum. Matt's wife, Lindsey, works in the trade industry promoting North Dakota products. Swangler also has four stepchildren. Mack will graduate in May from the John Deere program at the University of Minnesota. Sophia is a sophomore at Central High School, where he plays football and wrestles. Sophia is a sophomore at Central and is active in the choir. Cole is an eighth grader at Valley Middle School and participates in cross-country and wrestling.

**Paul Todhunter**

*Professor of Geography*

As a geography professor at UND, Paul Todhunter has found no shortage of research opportunities in the state. Since moving to North Dakota more than 25 years ago, he's developed an interest in hazards. He's authored several papers related to the 1997 Grand Forks flood, as well as on Devils Lake, wetland flooding and things related to climate change.

"Every time you walk around, there's something new to study," he said. "Just trying to find the time and the students to do the work is really the limiting problem."

Todhunter was born in Baltimore but grew up in southern California. He graduated from high school in San Bernardino and went on to college at UCLA, where he earned all his degrees. He has a bachelor's degree in geography-ecosystems, and his master's degree and Ph.D. are in geography. After earning his Ph.D., Todhunter had a four-year visiting position at a university in Massachusetts. He came to UND as an assistant professor in the fall of 1989. Since his area of expertise is climatology, coming to North Dakota made sense.

"It's been a pretty good fit, I think," he said.

A full professor, Todhunter has also served as department chair nine of the 25 years he's been at UND. In addition, he's served on the Graduate Committee and the Tenure, Reappointment, and Promotion Committee of the College of Arts and Sciences. He also taught in Moss, Norway, in 2002 and will be doing so again this spring.

Todhunter has seen a lot of changes in his department through the years.

"Our discipline has really been invigorated by the development of some geographic techniques, computer-based processing of spatial information," he said. "Our discipline has undergone what is called a paradigm shift. The way we do geography is different. Now, I'm in the old school. Actually in our department, we have three generations of geographers."

The most senior professors in the department come from the pre-quantitative revolution, he explained. Todhunter is a quantitative geographer. In the 1990s, the field transitioned into geo-spatial analysis with the emergence of geographic information systems, or GIS. "All of our new people are into that paradigm," he said. "I know the principles, but I don't fiddle with the software."

Todhunter said the department has a diverse staff of human geographers and physical geographers. He's a physical geographer. "We have a pretty good mix of that," he said. "And we have a pretty good mix of the technical people and nontechnical people."

"For about eight years he's also done the accounting for Ray Richards Golf Course. The additional responsibilities fit Swangler's schedule well."

"The number of career choices for graduates has expanded through the years. Todhunter said that when he first started teaching at UND, students went on to a limited number of government jobs. "Now they're doing all kinds of things," he said. That can be anything from tourism, city planning, and economic development to working with Fish and Wildlife and the Corps of Engineers. Todhunter said he's able to follow the careers of some former students. He said it's rewarding to hear when they are doing well. Many students are doing work that benefits the state and the region, and it's nice to have been a part of making that happen. "I think that everyone wants to have a life of significance, to feel like they're impacting people in some way," he said.

Outside of work, Todhunter is active in his church, Faith Evangelical Free Church. He also supports the theater and has kept busy with his children's activities. He and his wife, Debbie, a registered nurse at Altru, have four children. All four graduated from Red River High School and were involved in music and sports. Nathan lives in Louisville, Ky., and is an intern with a faith-based movie production company. Emily is a registered dietician in Ocala, Fla. Ryan is in his second year of medical school at the University of Minnesota. Ryan's wife, Lexi, graduated from UND and is a CPA. The Todhunter's daughter Rachel is a junior psychology major at North Dakota State University.

**Benjamin Trapnell**

*Associate Professor of Aviation*

Ben Trapnell, associate professor of aviation, helped developed UND's Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) degree program into an amazing success story. "We have about 150 students in the degree program right now," Trapnell said. "It's the fastest-growing degree program on campus."

"I have a life member of the Academy of Model Aeronautics and has flown nearly every type of radio-controlled aircraft."

"And that works out really well because it's unmanned aircraft," Trapnell said. "So technically, I've had 45 years flying radio-controlled model aircraft. That's one reason I got involved in this."

Trapnell's father was a career Marine, which allowed...
Trapnell to live in a variety of places while growing up. He graduated from high school in Tustin, Calif., and followed in his father's footsteps by serving his country in the military. He received an appointment to the U.S. Naval Academy, graduating from there in 1978. He underwent flight training and earned his wings before moving back to California to fly at Mirimar Naval Air Station. In 1984, Trapnell moved to Corpus Christi, Texas, where he was a flight instructor and aviation safety officer. He served in the Navy for 13 years.

In 1989, he was hired by John Odegard to teach aerodynamics as part of the Spectrum Ab-Initio flight training program. As well as aerodynamics, Trapnell taught classes in transport category aircraft systems, gas turbine engine systems, and drift-down procedures. He rewrote the aerodynamics curriculum for this program.

In 1997, Trapnell finished his master's degree in aeronautics and went to work for Kent Lovelace in the Aviation Department, again teaching aerodynamics and aircraft systems. In 2005, Trapnell started doing UAS research. Three years later, he started developing the world's first Unmanned Aircraft Systems Operations degree program. The program produced its first graduates in 2011.

When Trapnell first started doing UAS research, he was the principal investigator on a project working for the U.S. Air Force through the Unmanned Aerial Vehicle Battle Lab. He and his colleagues developed an interim ground-based risk mitigation system for sense-and-avoid for unmanned aircraft systems, while earning a patent for their work. Through his UAS research, Trapnell was able to attend the UAS test and evaluation short course at the U.S. Naval Test Pilots School in Maryland.

Trapnell said he did a lot of traveling while putting together the degree program to ensure graduates would have the skills necessary to be of value to an industry that is just taking flight. He has presented at a number of national conferences and serves as the current chair of the UAS committee for the University Aviation Association. He has traveled to England, Scotland, Switzerland, and the Netherlands to assist technology fund managers with information for creating UAS investment strategies for their clients.

In his free time, Trapnell enjoys woodworking, model trains, and flying model aircraft. He also is an avid photographer. His wife, Becky, is a teacher coach for the Grand Forks School District. They have a blended family of three children and four grandchildren. Nicholas, a graduate of UND, lives in Grand Forks with his wife, Corisa, and their daughters, Madelyn and Olivia. Meghann, a graduate of Northland Community College, lives in rural Grand Forks with her husband, Kyle Zak, and their children, Owen and Nora. Jonathan lives in Thompson and is attending graduate school at UND.

### PETER TUNSETH

**Director, Children and Family Services Training Center**

Pete Tunseth didn't think he'd be at UND for 25 years, but he's found a niche in the Children and Family Services Training Center.

"The job that I have is really exciting," he said.

Perhaps the part he finds most exciting and rewarding are the many hats he gets to wear and the variety of people he gets to work with. For example, among his responsibilities is teaching the Child Welfare elective for the Social Work Department. Many of the students taking the class are undecided about what they want to go into, and Tunseth enjoys working with them as they find their paths. On the other side of the coin, Tunseth also gets to meet folks who are making policy decisions at a federal level at the Children's Bureau.

"And I get to meet everyone in between," Tunseth said. "That's probably what's kept me around. It gives me the opportunity to influence child welfare practice on every level."

Tunseth said he appreciates that in his position he gets to have an impact on people in a variety of ways. UND also has shown its appreciation for him. Last year, he won the Ken and Toby Baker UND Proud Award. "That was very nice," he said.

Tunseth grew up in Mayville, N.D., and went to Concordia College in Moorhead, Minn., where he earned his bachelor's degree in social work. He continued his education at Moorhead State University and earned a master's degree in counseling and human development.

### THE FIRST FOUNDERS DAY

The observance of Founders Day, begun in 1904 on the University's twenty-first birthday, offered an annual opportunity for self-advertisement as well as for sober reflection on the past. The first celebration, held on Saturday, February 27, 1904, although so simple as to be nearly private, received wide newspaper coverage, even headlines, and called forth many expressions of sentimental pride in the progress of the state's one university. The observance occupied the whole day and marked the anniversary of the signing of the organic act, a date selected by the faculty as the official birthday. A debate on Friday evening opened the ceremonies. On Saturday morning Gottfried Hult, then at the Agricultural College, addressed students and faculty in the Budge Hall Armory. In the afternoon there were students' speeches and a girls' basketball game in which the University trounced the Fargo High School 15-4. The main program was presented in the evening at the Baptist church. Bardi Skulason ('95) spoke on "The University and the State"; the major address, "The University – Its Past," was given by President Webster Merrifield. George Walsh, then living in Minnesota, was unable to accept an invitation to attend but submitted a long letter relating the story of the events of 1883 at Grand Forks and Yankton, which was incorporated into Merrifield's speech; it remained for years the official version of the founding. In his address, Merrifield outlined the history of the University and emphasized his conception of the high role it must play in North Dakota. From [University of the Northern Plains, the history of UND, by Louis Geiger, published in 1958](http://example.com).
Philanthropy can be defined as “the desire to promote the welfare of others, expressed especially by the generous donation of money to good causes.”

The benefits of philanthropy are found all around the campus, from structures like the Chester Fritz Library and Ralph Engelstad Arena to numerous resources for enriching student learning and hundreds of scholarship programs.

Spirit Week is a time to celebrate those who make UND great.

This week, University of North Dakota alumni and friends are celebrating the fourth Annual North Dakota Spirit Week, which honors the generosity of our alumni and friends in making UND exceptional.

Together, we’re showing our appreciation for UND’s spirit of philanthropy. Earlier this week, as part of National Student Engagement and Philanthropy day, students showed their North Dakota spirit by participating in UND trivia and philanthropic conversations with campus celebrities. They also took part in writing “thank you” notes to first-time investors who have supported them.

Tonight’s Founders Day banquet offers the opportunity to honor those who created the UND of today, where an innovative, creative, and entrepreneurial spirit prepares graduates to become tomorrow’s leaders in North Dakota and beyond.

Spirit Week wraps up on Friday.