Thank you for your continued commitment to the University of Northern Iowa. Over the course of the past year, you supported scholarships, endowments, people, places and iconic spaces on campus. Your gifts help do so many wonderful things for the UNI students, faculty and staff. Please know we are extremely grateful for your investment in making UNI a thriving educational community.

For nearly 150 years, the University of Northern Iowa has put students first. To ensure that we are able to meet the needs of our students, state and world, in October we publicly launched a fundraising campaign more ambitious than any in our history — Our Tomorrow: The Campaign for UNI. The Our Tomorrow campaign will invest in all areas of the university — every college, every student. The campaign is organized around four strategic pillars: student access and success, engaged learning, academic programs and faculty, and iconic spaces.

Thanks to our wonderful community of UNI alumni, donors and friends, this campaign is off to an impressive start. The 2021–2022 fiscal year brought UNI $36.6 million closer to realizing the $250 million goal for the Our Tomorrow campaign.

We are proud to be part of the UNI family and we thank you for joining us in the Our Tomorrow campaign. Together, we will build the UNI tomorrow needs. Together, we will create a brighter tomorrow for our students.

Best wishes to you and your family this holiday season!

Linda Cook, '89
Chair, UNI Foundation Board of Trustees
President, Gilbert & Cook, Inc.

Jim Jermier, '95, '09
Vice President for University Advancement,
President of the UNI Foundation
In fiscal year 2021–2022, the University of Northern Iowa saw $36.6 million in giving for the students, staff, programs and spaces that make our university strong. The success of the past three years — the three highest years of philanthropic support in UNI’s history — meant the UNI Foundation was well poised for the public launch of the Our Tomorrow campaign this fall.

The UNI community has much to celebrate. In this report you will find the stories behind another successful fundraising year and firsthand accounts of the tremendous impact of philanthropy on our students. Thank you for all you do to provide for the Panthers of today — and tomorrow!

### 2021–2022 Highlights

- **8,752** Donors came together to make an impact on the future of UNI
  - 5,777 alumni, 2,206 friends and 359 corporations — including 94 matching gift companies and 86 charitable foundations — donated to UNI
  - 11,912 donors, alumni and friends attended events
  - 1,109 donors raised $274,496 in just 24 hours on UNI’s annual day of giving, #LivePurpleGiveGold

- **133** New funds were established, bolstering student success
  - 54 new program funds
  - 79 new scholarship funds
  - 44 of the 133 funds were new endowments
  - 1,936 students received UNI Foundation-funded scholarships

- **$10,277,396** Direct support provided to help the university fulfill its mission
  - $6,683,502 in scholarships and other financial support given to students

- **$11,743,657** Scholarships

- **$4,526,053** Capital Projects

- **$19,424,096** Programs

- **$950,791** Unrestricted

- **$4,262,053** Capital Projects

## Endowing Our Future

The university endowment continues to be an area of strong performance and growth. During the 2021–2022 fiscal year that growth resulted in:

- **$15 million** in giving to endowments
- **44 new endowments** established
- **$163 million** — university’s endowment as of June 30

## Endowment Incentive Fuels Growth

As part of the Our Tomorrow campaign, the UNI Foundation launched an endowment incentive program to increase the impact of newly established endowments.

The incentive program allowed the Foundation to allocate funds to match a portion of endowment pledges in order to provide immediate payout and impact to UNI students without having to wait until the vesting year — or when the minimum endowment pledge is fully paid.

### Endowment Incentive Details

- **$150,000** in endowment incentive funds generated
- **$2.2 million** in endowment giving across 38 new endowment funds

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**Fundraising by Gift Type**

Fiscal year ending June 30, 2022

- **Endowed**
  - Non-Endowed $19,623,153
  - Endowed $6,455,000
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  - Fiscal year ending June 30, 2022
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Marilyn Bohl, ‘62

UNI-Dome Renovation Receives $5 Million Gift from Alum Marilyn Bohl

The campaign to transform the UNI-Dome for the next generation received a major lift thanks to the largest private gift in UNI Athletics’ history.

Marilyn Bohl, a 1962 UNI graduate (then known as the State College of Iowa), invested $5 million in the UNI-Dome renovation project. The former software developer and executive said the gift honors the education she received at the university and will support tomorrow’s student-athletes.

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Through the Our Tomorrow campaign, the university is seeking $50 million to support a three-phased renovation of the UNI-Dome facility, which will celebrate its 50th anniversary in 2026. UNI Athletics director David Harris said Bohl’s generosity will resound for the next generation of student-athletes and visitors to the UNI-Dome, and he hopes the gift will spur additional support for the project.

Growing up in small-town Iowa in the 1950s, Marilyn was known as the star of her high-school girls’ basketball team, and she dreamed of being a sportswriter. But after being told that sports reporting was only open to men, Marilyn considered becoming a school teacher. She earned a teaching certificate at Luther College before enrolling at UNI and graduating with a degree in math and a minor in history.

Bohl started her computing career as a software developer with Collins Radio in Cedar Rapids in 1964. She joined IBM in 1968 and spent 20 years there, rising to become, at the time, a rare female senior executive and software industry leader. While climbing the career ladder in software development and marketing, Marilyn launched her second career writing college textbooks in computing. She is the author of nine college computing texts, many of which have appeared in multiple editions and been translated into multiple languages, including German, Portuguese and Chinese.

Now living in Long Beach, California, Bohl has donated to athletics programs at Long Beach State, Saint Mary’s College in Moraga, California, and the University of Nevada, Reno. She made her first gift to UNI Athletics in 2020 to support the program and its student-athletes through financial hardships brought on by the pandemic.

In recognition of Bohl’s gift to the renovation, a premier space in the UNI-Dome will be named in her honor.

For more information about the UNI-Dome renovation project or to give, visit unidomerenovation.com.
Gerontology Program Expansion

Donors Jumpstart Gerontology Program Expansion

The past year has been an exceptionally busy one for the UNI gerontology program.

Spring of 2022 saw the launch of a cutting edge university and community learning space — the UNI Dementia Simulation House. The residential space on the south side of campus is a partnership between the gerontology program and the Northeast Iowa Agency on Aging with the goal of providing students and community members the opportunity to experience what it’s like to live with dementia.

In just six months, more than 500 individuals — students, caregivers and community members — have gone through the simulation. According to Elaine Eshbaugh, ‘00, Adele Whitenack Davis Professor of Gerontology, it’s the only dementia simulation of its kind in the Midwest, if not the entire country. And it’s one of the ways UNI is expanding the gerontology program to better support the rising population of aging adults in Iowa.

For 15 years, UNI has been at the forefront of addressing the shortage of elder care workers, establishing the state’s first undergraduate gerontology program in 2006. Today, the university remains home to Iowa’s only bachelor’s degree program in the field.

Lisa Soifer, ’03, said UNI’s unique role in meeting the needs of aging adults resonated with her and her husband Scott, also a 2003 alum. Lisa said her late grandmother experienced dementia, and her family wanted their philanthropy to support education and outreach. The Soifers recently made a $100,000 gift to support the dementia simulation house.

“The past year has been an exceptionally busy one for the UNI gerontology program. The residential space on the south side of campus is a partnership between the gerontology program and the Northeast Iowa Agency on Aging with the goal of providing students and community members the opportunity to experience what it’s like to live with dementia.”

Elaine Eshbaugh, ’00
Adele Whitenack Davis Professor of Gerontology

“An investment in our gerontology program means that we will be able to do a better job producing a workforce that is prepared to work with people as they age. Not only for people who are sick and need direct care, but also to give older adults opportunities to thrive.”

Gerontology program alum Megan Zimmerman, ’20, serves as director of Dementia Friendly Iowa, an initiative of the Northeast Iowa Agency on Aging, and has partnered with Eshbaugh on the dementia simulation house. Zimmerman said her UNI education gave her the foundation to advocate on behalf of older adults, but with additional resources, the gerontology program can make an even greater impact.

“There are so many dimensions to aging and the aging process,” Zimmerman explained. “Having more resources and additional faculty who specialize in different areas of aging would really help UNI take the next step for the program and give students a more comprehensive education to prepare them for working in the field.”

Brenda Bass, dean of the UNI College of Social and Behavioral Sciences, said the university hopes to raise funds through the Our Tomorrow campaign to help expand this program and meet the growing student interest in the field of aging. Gifts to the gerontology program expansion will support strategic faculty positions to offer more courses and outreach, as well as funding for scholarships and the dementia simulation house.

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To learn more about the UNI gerontology project or to give, visit foundation.uni.edu/gerontology.
Fellowship Honors Longtime UNI Marketing Professor

Gifts from UNI College of Business Alumni Established the first named faculty fellowship in the UNI Department of Marketing & Entrepreneurship, far surpassing the fundraising goal and establishing a lasting reminder of one of the most celebrated professors and mentors at the college.

The Steven B. Corbin Endowed Fellowship in Professional Sales will support a faculty member who dedicates his or her time to the department’s professional selling program and builds on Steve Corbin’s 37-year legacy as professor and head of the marketing department.

Funding was crowdsourced from friends and former students of Corbin, honoring his impact on their lives and careers. More than $60,000 was raised in support of the fellowship, surpassing the goal of $37,000. Alumni in 15 states donated more than 90% of the funds raised.

“I am really, really thrilled,” said Martin Hansen, a longtime friend of Corbin and current instructor of marketing and entrepreneurship who serves as the head of the UNI Center for Professional Sales Excellence. “There are a ton of things that I see this fellowship can help the school accomplish, really helping us become a jewel when it comes to sales education and helping people.”

A focus of the fellowship is building out the Center for Professional Sales Excellence, a dedicated sales program at UNI that offers premier education for students, faculty and community members throughout the Midwest. The center is located in the Business and Community Services building and features state-of-the-art training classrooms and workshops with video and audio recording capabilities.

“This really is the kick-off for that center,” said Dale Cyphert, head of marketing and entrepreneurship and one of the leaders for the fellowship fundraising campaign. “We’re excited to have this support so we can expand the reach of this program. This fundraising effort is a very successful example of what we can do as a university community. One person could never have done this alone.”

Steve Corbin, ‘70

Waterloo Schools Foundation and John Deere Invest in Diversifying Teacher Workforce

A $300,000 grant from the Waterloo Schools Foundation, matched by $100,000 from John Deere, will fund the expansion of a thriving partnership between the Waterloo Community School District and UNI.

Teach Waterloo aims to diversify the K-12 teacher workforce in support of student success. Research has shown that having a teacher of color in a classroom is associated with greater academic achievement and graduation rates for all students, including students of color.

The initiative provides paraeducators and other support personnel of color at Waterloo Schools a streamlined path to earning teacher licensure through UNI. Teach Waterloo participants, known as fellows, commit to a three-year agreement for employment with Waterloo Schools upon graduation. The fellows receive advising, textbook and tuition support and are able to attend class during the workday.

Grants from the Waterloo Schools Foundation and John Deere will support scholarships for a new group of 16 Teach Waterloo fellows. The fellows include teachers in high-need areas such as special education and middle level education.

To date, the program has focused on elementary educators.

“This unique partnership is transformational for our students, staff, schools and community,” said Hannah Luce, executive director of the Waterloo Schools Foundation and a 2021 UNI alum. “We are grateful for the late Eleanor and Kenneth Ketcham for making this gift possible and excited to champion the continued success of the Teach Waterloo fellows.”

Additional support for Teach Waterloo is provided by the R.J. McElroy Charitable Trust.

“Teach Waterloo program highlights our collective commitment to growing and diversifying the teacher workforce locally. It takes an authentic, collaborative partnership like the one we have with Waterloo Schools to fine-tune our goal of a supportive and personalized paraeducator pathway to licensure. We are very proud of this work.”

Colleen Mulholland
Dean, UNI College of Education

Dawn Boone, ‘05, ’20
Teach Waterloo graduate

Steve Corbin, emeritus faculty in the marketing department, retired in 2013 but is still passionate about giving back and helping students. This fellowship will ensure his work lives on at the UNI College of Business.
Aleksandar Poleksic, professor of computer science, explained that the new computing system places faculty in the driver’s seat; no longer will they compete for time on supercomputers at other universities, which involved writing grant proposals with no guarantee of approval. And even when those grants were approved, faculty were given limited use of the machines.

Further, without high-performance computing hardware of their own, UNI faculty were at the whim of scheduling at other institutions, making it difficult to integrate much-needed data skill sets into curriculum for students.

W ith employer demand and student interest in data science on the rise, the University of Northern Iowa is scaling up its academic offerings with the help of a private foundation grant.

A $363,676 grant from the Roy J. Carver Charitable Trust will allow UNI to use high-performance computing equipment to augment some 20 courses in the departments of physics, chemistry and biochemistry, mathematics, and biology in addition to computer science.

Aleksandar Poleksic, professor of computer science and project director for the grant, said data science has long been a part of UNI’s educational offerings, but the departments of physics, chemistry and biochemistry, mathematics, and biology in addition to computer science.

Poleksic explained that the new computing system places faculty in the driver’s seat; no longer will they compete for time on supercomputers at other universities, which involved writing grant proposals with no guarantee of approval. And even when those grants were approved, faculty were given limited use of the machines.

Data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics show computer science and data science are in the top five highest demand occupations in the state of Iowa, just behind business, education and health. The data is based on projected job increases between 2020 and 2031.

“Up until the arrival of this new computing system, the faculty had to purchase time on external resources or rely on their own personal networks in academia or industry. With this new resource, we are now fully in control.”

The high-performance computing system is essentially a cluster of processors that work together to analyze large data sets in a fraction of the time it would take for one stand-alone computer station. The rack of processors, or “nodes,” amounts to a miniature Amazon data center capable of serving a range of needs — from systems biology to machine learning, computational physics and much more. The computing cluster allows UNI to add additional processors as campus demand increases.

Installing the system required some facilities renovations, which were funded by the university to match the Carver grant. The computers use technology called GPUs (graphic processing units) that enable more complex processing and multi-tasking at much greater speeds, but generate significant heat. To address this, the renovations included cooling systems.

Poleksic said faculty are already training on the new computers and are having dialogues across disciplines with regard to potential applications. Several faculty are looking to incorporate high-performance computing into their spring semester courses and undergraduate research projects.

“This funding was really a collective effort by a lot of faculty across campus and we are now fully in control.”

Honoring Student Veterans

UNI was recognized again this past year for its strength in educating student veterans, receiving the highest designation for veteran-friendly colleges and universities in the country that embrace veterans and dedicate resources to ensure their academic success. Approximately 300 students make up UNI’s veteran student population.

Henry Korf, director of UNI’s Military and Veteran Student Services, said donor investments provide students the resources they need to be successful. He pointed to both the American Legion of Iowa Foundation and Darrell Doss Boots to Books scholarships as examples of donors making a difference.

“Each veteran student navigates a unique set of challenges to reach their educational goals,” Korf said. “For example, not all students qualify for Forever GI Bill benefits. Philanthropic support fills in the gaps of traditional military educational benefits and truly helps make the dream of a college education a reality for our veteran students and their families.”
The department of applied engineering and technical management (formerly the Department of Technology) is getting much closer to having a new home.

On a sunny June afternoon, UNI leadership — joined by Governor Kim Reynolds, representatives from John Deere and other industry leaders — turned dirt to mark the beginning of construction on the new Applied Engineering Building (AEB). The $44 million project is a renovation and expansion of the former Industrial Technology Center (ITC) to create a modernized hub for UNI’s industry programs on the south side of campus.

“The commercial building industry in Iowa has changed greatly in the 40-plus years since the ITC was originally constructed,” said Chad Kleppe, president and chief executive officer of Master Builders of Iowa, a key construction industry association that invested $250,000 in the project.

“What used to be considered a dirty, dingy career, construction is now a highly technological field of Building Information Modeling, data collection apps, drones, virtual reality and wearable tech, 3D printing and artificial intelligence.”

Funding for the project includes $40.5 million in state funds for construction costs, supplemented by an ongoing campaign to raise $4.2 million from private individuals, corporations and industry associations. Private support will outfit the new facility with equipment and other Industry 4.0 learning tools.

Phase one of the AEB modernization, the expansion phase, is expected to finish in the summer of 2023. Renovations of existing space in the facility will be the focus of phase two and will complete the project in the summer of 2024. In total, the facility’s footprint will increase from 64,000 square feet to 109,000 square feet.

Becky Gunn, factory manager for John Deere’s Waterloo location, addressed the impact of the AEB on John Deere’s talent recruitment. The company has provided the lead manufacturing industry gift to the project thus far, pledging $750,000. Other leadership gifts include Graham Construction Company (Des Moines), Elder Corporation (Pleasant Hill) and Peters Construction (Waterloo), as well as the Mansfield Charitable Foundation and the Roy J. Carver Charitable Trust.

Lisa Riedle, head of the applied engineering department, said industry partnership on the project directly supports UNI’s recruitment. The department aims to increase enrollment by 40%, from 500 to 700 students by 2025.

A GARDEN IN EVERY LOT

A $5,000 grant from the Wellmark Foundation provided resources for local families to start their own vegetable gardens through A Garden in Every Lot, a UNI Center for Energy and Environmental Education (CEE) program.

A total of 62 families, a large portion of them recent immigrants, from Waterloo and the surrounding communities received CEEE assistance with tilling, planting and maintaining their gardens.

“We’re committed to building a culture of gardening in our community through this program,” said Kamyar Enshayan, CEEE director. “We’re grateful for the support from the Wellmark Foundation to expand access to locally grown, nutritious foods.”

A NEXT-GENERATION PERFORMING ARTS CENTER

An outpouring of donor support is bringing the vision to life for tomorrow’s Gallagher Bluedorn.

In 2021–2022, generous gifts from Barbara Corson, ’70, Marge Polacek, and Dick, ’74, and Kathy, ’77, Redfern — among others — pushed the campaign closer to its $14.9 million goal. A $1.5 million investment from the Friends of the Gallagher Bluedorn included funds to match gifts dollar per dollar up to $500,000.

Phase one of the project, reseating the Catherine Cassidy Gallagher Great Hall, commences this winter and is slated to be completed by spring.

Pictured above from left Chad Kleppe, Master Builders of Iowa; Jim Kiesey, ’98, construction management alum; Becky Gunn, John Deere; Iowa Governor Kim Reynolds; UNI President Mark Nook; and John Fritch, dean of the UNI College of Humanities, Arts and Sciences.