You Zheng enters data from soil erosion research.

The month's newspaper for faculty and staff of the University of Nebraska–Lincoln
Vol. 22, No. 8
Aug. 23, 2012

Chancellor's State of the U address is Sept. 11
Event to include annual Employee Service Awards; all-university picnic moves to Sheldon Gardens

Welcome back…
Read Chancellor Harvey Perlman’s annual welcome back message at http://go.unl.edu/welcome2012.

By Troy Fedderson
University Communications

The speech traditionally outlines university priorities for the coming year while addressing major accomplishments during the previous academic year. Faculty and staff being honored for service "milestones" will be recognized during the annual employee service award recognition program beginning at 10:30 a.m. and a picnic will follow at 11 a.m. Admissions will be set up in the Sheldon Gardens. No street closure for the picnic will occur this year because of city street construction.

The Campus Recreation massage therapy program will provide free, 10-minute chair massages from 10 to 11:30 a.m. in the Lied Center.

One year to go
Construction of Lincoln’s Pinnacle Bank Arena – the future home to Husker men’s and women’s basketball – is in little more than a year away from a September 2013 completion deadline. On Aug. 17, nearly 40 years after groundbreaking, the arena and indoor recreation facility will be completed.

The construction project is part of UNL’s master plan that focuses on university-wide growth and expansion. The master plan covers a 10- to 15-year time frame. The master plan and a new landscape master plan will be announced in the fall to be followed by a call for a new master plan to span 10 to 15 years. However, approved in 2006 and designed to span 10 to 15 years. However, approved in 2006 and designed to span 10 to 15 years. However, approved in 2006 and designed to span 10 to 15 years. However, approved in 2006 and designed to span 10 to 15 years. However, approved in 2006 and designed to span 10 to 15 years. However, approved in 2006 and designed to span 10 to 15 years. However, approved in 2006 and designed to span 10 to 15 years. However, approved in 2006 and designed to span 10 to 15 years. However, approved in 2006 and designed to span 10 to 15 years. However, approved in 2006 and designed...
Three named NU graduate fellows

Three UNL students received 2012-2013 NU Graduate Fellows awards from the University of Nebraska Foundation (UNF) of the University of Nebraska at Lincoln. The annual fellowships are available to UNL Master’s and PhD students who have not exceeded a major area of study.

The awards are supported by the Exploratory and Pro-Faculty Advisory Program, also called the NU Graduate Fellows Program. The goal of this program is to assist students and faculty with resources to support research, teaching, and other scholarly activities. Further information is provided by Bill Watts, director of The Exploratory and Pro-Faculty Advisory Program, and the National University of Singapore’s assistant dean for UNF.

The Exploratory Center combines advising services for UNL researchers and UNL faculty and offers greater access to UNL researchers and Academic Systems’ assistant dean for the National University of Singapore.

The Exploratory Center is also developing a new program to further support faculty and students.

For undergraduates who are undecided and interested in the Arts and Sciences Center, the Exploratory Center offers assistance to students transitioning to new majors.

Charles “Chuck” O’Connor is in a Richards Hall and has been named Dean of Fine and Performing Arts. Dean of Fine and Performing Arts.

How action do you plan to do in the local area?

I plan on being very active in the arts scene in Lincoln and Nebraska. I plan to work with the arts community, our alumni, our students, and our faculty to support and develop the arts in our community.

What is your idea of the Midwest?

I grew up in the suburbs of Phoenix and have not been thinking about it as I live in the Midwest. But I will be there for the whole four-year term. I believe our faculty are ready for change and a lot of right now. New disciplines are energizing ideas.

What do you do for fun away from work?

I love being a part of the arts community and I'm always attending performances of all kinds. I enjoy attending operas, ballets, and other events. I love attending other events and I enjoy going to Friday night events where there is a live band.

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Nebraska National Art exhibit, new Museum Gallery opens Sept. 7

The Department of Art and Art History will celebrate the first Nebraska National College Curated Art Exhibit and the opening of the new Metro Gallery on Sept. 7. Both events will be in Richards Hall.

The Nebraska National exhibition will be open Sept. 7 – Sept. 29 in Richards Hall, Eastman-Hoagland Hall. The exhibit will show the broadest undergraduate and postgraduate work from students in the United States and Canada. A total of 386 students from 37 states and two provinces submitted 495 pieces for exhibition. Jurors selected 122 pieces from 97 artists, including 26 ceramics works, 31 photographs and 55 painting/illustrations.

“Getting an excellent response for the first year of the competition. There is a wide variety of interesting work,” said Dr. Pantaleo, chairman of art and art history.

The department intends to make this show an annual event. Each year’s exhibition will feature three different categories, on a two-year rotating basis. This year’s categories are ceramics, printmaking and photography. Next year, the categories will be painting, drawing, sculpture and mixed media.

Long-time department supporters Dan and Barbara Hord of Lincoln, creators of the Howard Awards for Excellence in painting, will sponsor one award — a $1,000 first prize in each of the three categories. A “Best of Show” prize — intended to award both excellence and to attract students to enter the competition — will also be announced.

“Taking advantage of a venue to see student work the institution doesn’t own, and I hope it will also interest the general public to attend our openings and see what we’re doing here in the department,” said Pantaleo.

The Nebraska National will have special events on Sept. 8 and Sept. 28. The Howard Awards for Excellence will be announced at 7 p.m. on Sept. 7. The event will be free and open to the public.

The opening night event will also celebrate the opening of the Metro Gallery, also on the first floor of Richards Hall. A ribbon cutting and dedication will take place at 5:30 p.m. on Sept. 7, during the opening of the Nebraska National show. This event will also be free and open to the public.

The $10.00 cost of the renovation was paid for by one freshman in the art department who supports the Department of Art and Art History.

“The new gallery is being named to honor Moldes and the wonderful people who have served with this group over the last 20 years,” said Pantaleo. “These volunteers have given many years of time and energy to support our programs, and we’d like to take advantage of this space to show appreciation for them.”

Moldes will be celebrating its 25th anniversary this fall with a special gala celebration on Sept. 14, which will feature the dedication of the Metro Gallery.

The first exhibition in the Metro Gallery will be curated by the student art administration class, organized by faculty members in painting, printmaking and sculpture, under the direction of a student-selected title, “21st Student Work from Metexa.”

For more information, go to www.unl.edu or call 402-472-5022.

Invisible War opens Aug. 31 at the Ross

The groundbreaking investigative documentary, “Invisible War,” which explores the epidemic of rape within the United States Army, will be shown at 7 p.m., Mondays, Aug. 27 – Sept. 17, at the Ross Performing Arts Center, room 162. The film, produced by veteran filmmaker Kate Hirson, tells the stories of five women who are victims of sexual assault by their fellow soldiers. Hirson’s behind-the-scenes access opens a window into the struggle of the victims, those who enable (not prevent) the crimes and the judicial system, and the fight for justice. “The Invisible War” features interviews with rankling military officials and members of Congress that reveal the perfect storm of a military that is out of touch with the military, in history of cost-cutting and political decisions that have been made to cut back on the military, and the inability to do anything about the situation.

Crowd and community building are the other aspects they are focusing on and taking to the next level. The Ross is at 2130 O St. (between P and Q streets). For more information, go to www.theross.org or call 402-472-3082.

Tickets on sale for Sedars’ Halloweeen performance

An Evening with David Sedars

When: 7:30 p.m., Oct. 31
Where: Liner Center for the Performing Arts

Sedars will present an evening of engaging recollections and telling all-new stories from his latest book, “The Good Book.”

Funding for this event was made possible by the Friends of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln Libraries, the University of Nebraska Foundation and Kent State University’s College of Communication and Information.

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Global Gateway education abroad program wins grant

UNL’s Global Gateway Program has received a $255,000 grant from the University of Nebraska Foundation. New in fourth year, the program provides assistance and preparation for students seeking to take part in education abroad. The award is the fourth grant its received from the foundation.

Kevin Potkonen of South Sioux City is a member of the UNL’s Global Gateway offers and recent- ly completed a study abroad completion in Argentina and Peru.

“While studying abroad, I gained confidence in my latent ability to transition to university life in a foreign country,” says the senior when taking ethnic studies and psychology.

“Of my new way of confidence, I have learned how important hard work, determination and persever- ence really are for success. Global education abroad has given me a cultural flavor for re- gions far outside of my own.”

Susanne Hugg of the University’s board of directors made several grants totaling more than $150,000 to the University of Nebraska, including the $255,000 to UNL. Each grant application was submitted proposals for the grants which are made possible because of unrestricted dona- tions from the University’s board of directors. The unrestricted donations account for $250,000 of the total and are gifted to each campus through this annual grant program.

University President James B. Milliken requested this year’s grant proposal to assist the Campaign for Nebraska, a for- tune-building fundraiser for facility univer- sity for campus priorities.

Global engagement is a top priority of the campaign.

“What do you get when you take a student to an area in a particular country? A bonding experience that is intangible and priceless. We are grateful for that,” said Milliken.

“We are excited that these and other grants will be facilitated by Ruth Distleman, a UNL computer engineer. They can be reached at 402-472- 5358. email at rlionberger2@unl.edu. "We are excited that these and other grants will be facilitated by Ruth Distleman, a UNL computer engineer. They can be reached at 402-472- 5358. email at rlionberger2@unl.edu.

“While the vast majority of gifts to the university are designed for a single purpose, our grants are designed for these unanticipated gifts that make our grant program available to the university,” said Ruth Distleman, chair of the grants committee.

“It is inspiring to know that these grants are reaching students with the world around them.”

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“While studying abroad, I gained confidence in my latent ability to transition to university life in a foreign country,” says the senior when taking ethnic studies and psychology.

“Of my new way of confidence, I have learned how important hard work, determination and perseverance really are for success. Global education abroad has given me a cultural flavor for regions far outside of my own.”

“Although much has changed, be assured that many of the same services and may be reached in the same ways.”

Dawn Wexo, DDN

420 University Terrace for the time being.

International Affairs realigns to better serve students

On July 1, Academic Affairs made some significant changes to help ensure the successful delivery of key services, including the Student Services Center, Career Services, the Office of International Affairs, and UNL International. The division realigned to be more responsive to the needs of students, faculty and staff.

The goal of the new structure is to further the internationalization of the UNL campus to ensure that global competencies well-prepared for an increasingly complex and interconnected world. As a result, UNL will help attract, enroll, retain, edu- cate and engage students, faculty and staff. UNL International has spent the last few months discussing the best way to provide excellent service to the campus.

“The changes reflect our commitment to deliver a centralized, seamless experience for all of UNL’s students, faculty and staff,” said Academic Affairs vice provost Dean G. (Troy) Feddersen, director of UNL International. “We are pleased to offer our students, faculty and staff the high-quality services they need, more efficiently, and in a manner designed to improve education for our students and enhance services for our faculty and staff.”

International Services is now an integral part of Academic Affairs. The ISS staff can help students identify and work with the resources available at UNL, is taking shape at the Engagement website — International Students and Scholars website.

International Student and Scholar Services, ISS) has moved to the north end of the Memorial Union, to 12th Street and the main campus, to provide one-stop shopping for all international students and scholars.

“The International Services staff is excited about the new location and the services we’re able to offer for students and scholars,” said ISS director Paul Ohgami. “Our team is committed to helping students and scholars maintain their immi- gration status and comply with their U.S. employment regulations. Our new location will enable us to focus more on their needs and support a better experience for students and scholars.”

International Student and Scholar Services is located at 12th Street and the main campus. The staff can be reached at 427-472-5356 or email at internationalunl@unl.edu.

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Schaffert earns grant to build Trans-Mississippi Expo archive

Tentatively Schaffert has researched a novel into a grant to develop an online archive of materials from Omaha’s 1898 Trans-Mississippi Exposition.

The assistant professor of English has interned at the Plains Humanities Alliance, a program administered by the University of Nebraska’s Center for Great Plains Studies. He is using the grant to develop content and archival materials for the project in collaboration with the UNL Center for Digital Research in the Humanities.

“The idea is to create an archive that will serve everyone, from the amateur historian to the scholar,” said Schaffert. “I want to let people drop in or immerse themselves in the world of the exposition and come away with a distinct sense of the period.”

Schaffert’s interest in the period grew as he worked on his novel “The Swarm Conundrum.” The 1898 Trans-Mississippi Exposition and turn of the century Omaha serve as the backdrop for the novel.

“I started to research the period because I wanted some level of accuracy and authenticity in the story, particularly with the roles of women and history of trade,” said Schaffert. “I also wanted a number of different collections and resources when it occurred to me that a central archive would be useful.”

Schaffert is working with Omaha Public Library, which already has a Trans-Mississippi Exposition online resource including a set of photographs by F.A. Reinhardt, the official photographer for the exposition. But Schaffert intends to add to that resource by identifying more resources open to the public and leading new collections and items not yet archived.

His online resource will be housed on a website sponsored by the UNL Center for Digital Research in the Humanities.

Schaffert said the resource will open with a short narrative on the fair then feature links to resources such as the Wakefield Scrapbook by Jake John Wakefield, who served as the exposition’s first historian; a calendar of the exposition’s offerings; a gallery of images, maps and blueprints of the fair buildings and exhibits; the Indian Congress; a historiography; and publications from the fair.

Schaffert has created a Facebook page, called “Trans-Mississippi & Exposition” on Facebook, to help publicize the project tolay Walker, co-director of the Center of Digital Research in the Humanities.

That discussion led to a meeting with Wendy Kutz, associate director and project administrator for the Center for Great Plains Studies.

“The website and grant all evolved from those meetings,” said Schaffert.

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“The website and grant all evolved from those meetings,” said Schaffert.

The website is in the planning stages. Schaffert plans to bring in graduate students to help organize data and content. Besides finding scholarly resources, Schaffert hopes to gather more from individual collections. He can be reached at tschaffert@unl.edu or 402-472-0908.

Students of the Transplant Plantaecons consensum—picted observing The monarchs at La Verdo National Park, Costa Rica, this past June.

By Juan Ortiz Jones
University Communications

In keeping with efforts to further internationalize campus, UNL has become a member of the Organization for Tropical Studies. The OTS is a consortium of more than 60 universities and research institutions that provides diverse international opportunities for students and faculty to study, work, and conduct research in tropical countries.

Since its founding in a 1963, OTS has become recognized the world over for excellence in research and education in the undergradu-

ate and graduate level in a wide range of topics including ecology, botany, entomology, environmental medicine, and public health, with an emphasis on emergent issues of tropical regions. Each year OTS trains more than 400 undergradu-

ates, graduate, and professionals in rigorous, hands-on, inquiry-

based field courses (both sum-

mer and semester-long) which are taught by faculty from OTS member universities and local scientists. OTS builds courses and facilitates research through its three on-site research stations in Costa Rica and also conducts courses in Peru, Brazil, Guyana, and South Africa.

Membership in OTS broaden-

es the range of educational and research opportunities for our undergraduates and graduate stu-

dents in many emerging cross-

cultural and interdisciplinary fields and adds an important ele-

ment to the training our students in our curriculum and research,” said Greg Snow, associate dean for research in the College of Arts and Sciences. UNL students and faculty are already taking advantage of mem-

bership in OTS. Three graduate students in the School of Biological Sciences — Jay Dupin, John Dengler and Melissa Whiteman — took OTS courses and conducted research in Costa Rica this past summer. Whiteman described the experience as an unparalleled opportunity to be “surrounded by like-minded researchers,” all intensely curious about the natu-

ural world and launch collaborative and research projects that will grow for years to come.” His doctoral research, partly funded by the OTS grants, builds on the research he began during his OTS course. Dengler, who along with Whiteman took the six-week tropical bot-

any course, said she found her outstanding training in plant life diversity and made her part of an “international network of tropical plant biologists.”

Statc Smith, assistant profes-

sor of biological sciences, was a resourceful faculty for that botany course. Shart Fritz, professor of Earth and atmospheric sciences, is leading an OTS-funded research carden workshop next spring on Amazonian and African diversity. The workshop proposes to integrate new gene tools with new conceptual and methodological advances in genomics to test key hypotheses about the patterns and origins of tropical forest diversity in South America. This interdisci-

iplinary integration will be used to develop an emerging field called “geogenomics,” which not only uses geological data to understand the drivers and routes of evolution-

ary clades, but also uses genetic sequences of modern organisms to provide key information about the timing and nature of past geo-

logical events.

For more information on OTS, go to http://ots.utexas.edu.

Zipcars now available

UNL has launched a new partnership with Zipcar, to offer a car-sharing program on campus. The transportation option is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week for students, faculty and staff. UNL members can join for a $25 annual membership fee, with rates on campus Zipcar vehicles starting as low as $7 per hour and $66 per day.

Read more at http://go.unl.edu/zipcar.

E.N. THOMPSON FORUM ON WORLD ISSUES 2012-2013

ROBERT PUTNAM | OCT. 2, 2012

7:00 p.m. “The Death Penalty: Justice, Retribution and Dollars”

The Stillman Professor of Government, Harvard University

Modeling Gender in Politics


November’s Speaker: Felice Gaff

FEB. 4, 2013

7:00 p.m. “Protecting the Human Rights of Religious Minorities Worldwide: International Religious Freedom in U.S. Policy”

Karen Hagan, U.S. Senator, North Carolina

For more information, visit: http://ln.unl.edu/nts