The **UNI** Traditions Challenge
Welcome to the University of Northern Iowa
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The UNI Traditions Challenge

Are you asking yourself “what is it?” Well, think of it this way: Visualize something you consider your passion, whether it’s a sports team, an activity, a hobby, etc. Then think about all of those good memories you have surrounding your passion… and there it is! The pages you hold in your hands gather UNI’s great feelings into one scrapbook. Not only does the Traditions Challenge book serve as priceless memorabilia, but it also provides all Panthers with great knowledge of the campus, our traditions and the spirit of UNI. This lethal combination lays out an excellent blueprint for your college experience. Use it wisely!

The University of Northern Iowa has been around since 1876 and we have quite the history. Scattered throughout this book are some fun tidbits about UNI’s past and how we have changed throughout the years. Many of the “lost traditions” are extremely interesting. For example, did you know that UNI used to have a pond? Even back in the day, there were many activities to participate in…sometimes it seems like we celebrated anything and everything! SUNI days—a week-long party—celebrated the spring season. Taking a look at our past reinforces our current traditions, as well as conjures up new ones.

Finally, the Traditions Challenge Book boasts a plethora of challenges for you. This is a “must-do” list of campus activities that everyone should participate in before graduation. There really is something for everyone. It includes athletics, musical/theatrical productions, visiting the museum, just hanging out at the dining center, plus much more. UNI’s traditions are part of our campus’ continually evolving history. This is where you come in! We can’t be everywhere you and your friends will be, so we have a proposal: Take photos of yourself participating in the traditions and we’ll make sure that you’re recognized at graduation and the TC book will serve as a memory book for you when you become an alumnus!

Remember, this book is here to help you make memories as a Panther, so use it as you please. Scrapbook in it to remember the good old days of college, let it serve as a guide for your explorations and search through it when referencing past and current information about your campus. We want this book to make your years on the UNI campus unforgettable.
Congratulations!

You're ready to begin a new chapter in your life at the University of Northern Iowa. Your experience here will be memorable.

The UNI campus community is a place of many proud traditions. I invite you to participate in as many of those traditions as possible, as active involvement in the university will only add to your experience as you work toward graduation. UNI also is a great place to meet diverse people, find out more about yourself and get involved in student activities. There are student organizations and residence hall groups, fraternities and sororities, intramural sports, spiritual organizations and many more.

I invite you to experience all UNI has to offer and remind you of the importance of tradition. You're now a part of this wonderful community and I wish you all the best in your time here on campus.

Sincerely,

Benjamin J. Allen
President
Many people look at graduating from college as the end of an era. No more papers and classes, the day you have been longing for. But when one door closes, another opens and a new chapter in your life will begin…as UNI Alumni.

Being an alumnus or alumna is about staying involved with UNI once you graduate. It’s about making the place better and stronger so your degree is better and stronger.

It’s about you. How you, already a part of the university’s history and certainly a part of its future, can make a difference. Right here. Right now.

You have an opportunity to become a member of the UNI Tradition Keepers. With this honor will come special recognition at graduation.

This book serves as a road map of UNI traditions to guide you through your time at UNI and plenty of room to create your own traditions. It’s these traditions and your part in them that make UNI unique.

Welcome to the family!

Purple for Life,

Amy Mohr
President, UNI Alumni Association

P.S. If you are not a member of STAT (Students Today Alumni Tomorrow) you should be! Great discounts, free t-shirts and special opportunities for STAT members-only await you. For more information, visit www.unialum.org/stat.
What is STAT?
Students Today Alumni Tomorrow, the student organization for the UNI Alumni Association, provides opportunities for students to get involved with the campus and community and it’s the official Panther Spirit group.

Why join STAT?
Every year, more than 3,000 students join STAT. It offers an awesome benefits package including discounts at dozens of businesses in the Cedar Valley. Use your STAT key fob and you’ll save more in a few weeks than your membership costs for the year!

What do I get when I join STAT?
- T-shirt
- Premium gift
- Key Fob
- “BEAT” T-shirts or official game day T-shirts
- Opportunities to participate in “Member’s Only” events throughout the year
- Dozens of local discounts

How much to join?
$35. This is a steal considering how much you get—you’ll get your money’s worth after using your discount on pizza only a few times!

How to join?
Visit www.unialum.org/stat or stop by the Alumni House on W. 23rd St. (Across from University Book and Supply.)
Dear Panthers,

Welcome to the University of Northern Iowa! You are about to begin the experience of a lifetime. UNI has so many great programs and opportunities to offer students. Over the next few years, you will discover so much about yourself. You will make lifelong friends and determine your academic passion and interests.

Take time to soak up all UNI has to offer. Go to a show at Gallagher-Bluedorn Performing Arts Center, take challenging classes, participate in a few of the hundreds of programs on campus, head over to the Wellness/Recreation Center with your friends, join student-led organizations, attend a resident house meeting and cheer on the Panthers at your favorite athletic event. Try something new and attend events outside of your usual comfort zone.

Life as a Panther is waiting for you. The University of Northern Iowa really does have so much to offer students – so take advantage of it. After all, you only have a few short years to try it all!

GO PANTHERS!

From the CATS
What is CATS?
The University of Northern Iowa’s Connecting Alumni to Students (CATS) is the official student volunteer group of the UNI Alumni Association. CATS are dedicated and passionate students whose primary goal is to be the official tradition keepers of the University of Northern Iowa. CATS represent the University of Northern Iowa student body to alumni and friends. CATS create and promote long lasting connections between past, present and future Panthers.

CATS Programs and Services
You’ll find CATS on and off campus working hard to promote Panther Pride.

Alumni Initiatives
CATS host on and off campus events that reconnect alumni to UNI.

Panther Fridays
One Friday each month, CATS reward local businesses for showing their Panther spirit by giving them special prizes and placing their photo on our website.

STAT
The CATS organization promotes and assists in planning special events for STAT members.

Homecoming
CATS are very active in Homecoming week activities- both with the students and during the weekend by working with the UNI Alumni Association's programs and events.

Traditions Challenge Amazing Race
The Traditions Challenge Amazing Race is a fun way for students to fill up the pages in their Traditions Challenge book.

Polar Bare
A large scale “run, walk or roll” event held on campus every November for UNI students and anyone in the Cedar Valley. Can you “bare” the cold?

Traditions
CATS are the official “Traditions Keepers” here on campus. Maintaining the Traditions Challenge and giving traditions presentations are right up their alley.

How can I get involved?
Each fall, CATS seeks applications for membership. The process includes a written application, interviews and more. You can get more information at www.unialum.org/cats.
Academic Programs
UNI is simply one of the best universities in the nation. We don’t boast idly. There are more than 120 undergraduate majors and 60 graduate programs – many of which have earned national or international recognition and honors.

Colleges:
- College of Business Administration
- College of Education
- College of Humanities, Arts and Sciences
- College of Social and Behavioral Sciences
- Graduate College

Academic Advising
Need some help exploring majors or scheduling classes? Academic Advising is the place to visit. The Academic Advising staff is made up of professional and student staff members who can help guide you through your academic decision making process. This team will help if you need to find a major, add a minor or explore academic areas of interest. Academic Advising can also help you select courses that are going to be right for you. Don’t hesitate to ask for help – that’s why we are here!

Career Services
Career Services helps students succeed professionally. Through training, networking opportunities, internships and career management systems, Career Services facilitates opportunities for students to engage employers from Iowa and the nation.

Residence Life
On-campus living is a proven way to get the most out of your UNI experiences. The benefits are well-documented, plus studies show that students who live on campus tend to have better grade point averages. Living on campus gives you the unique opportunity to experience college with a set of your peers. Each residence hall is divided into smaller communities, known as “houses.” Each house has its own resident assistant, or RA. Your RA can help you figure out everything you need to know about UNI. He or she will be a great resource for you.
On-Campus Employment
On-Campus employment is a great way to enrich your college experience. Working on campus allows students the opportunity to meet new people and build references, while earning money for everyday expenses in an environment that will work around your schedule. The average student employee typically works between 8-12 hours per week. With more than 3,500 student jobs on campus in a variety of departments, there are tons of opportunities for students to develop communication skills, networking contacts, and more! To view jobs that are currently available, please visit the Online Job Board, located on UNI’s Financial Aid page, under the Student Employment tab.

Wellness Recreation Services
Wellness and Recreation Services (WRS) offers programming to help you live a healthy and enjoyable lifestyle. Programs include drop-in recreation in the Wellness/Recreation Center and in Health Beat (in Maucker Union), fitness classes of all sorts, personal training, outdoor recreation, intramural sports, sport clubs, massage therapy, aquatics and American Red Cross certification programs. More than 8,500 students participate in fun WRS activities each year. Additionally, WRS offers educational programs and services to help students make positive lifestyle changes, whether related to eating behaviors, alcohol or tobacco use, relationships or other personal health issues and offers violence intervention services as well. We’re here for you! www.uni.edu/wellrec
Center for Multicultural Education
The Center for Multicultural Education’s (CME) mission is to promote cross-cultural awareness and multicultural understanding at UNI. What started as a refuge for African American students in the early 1970s, is now a leading force in diversity affairs in the university community. The CME hosts numerous programs throughout the year including heritage month celebrations, workshops and lecture series. In addition, it serves as a gathering place for more than 15 cultural student organizations to share ideas and engage in open dialogue.

Student Rush Tickets
UNI students may purchase rush tickets for $5 to select performances at the GBPAC that are not sold out on the day of the show. These tickets are available for pick up starting at 8:30 a.m. the day of the performance at the GBPAC ticket office. Tickets are limited to one ticket per student ID and are on a first come, first served basis. Learn more at www.uni.edu/mbpac/unistudents/.

“UNI Friendly”: A Tradition of Inclusiveness
UNI is known for our “friendly campus.” The tradition of welcoming others helps visitors and newcomers alike feel like they belong and are valued. There is a growing awareness that welcoming others extends to those who are different than the majority. This challenges all of us to intentionally seek out opportunities to learn about diverse backgrounds and people.

Within the UNI community each of us—faculty, staff and students—experiences intersecting sub-cultures: rural and urban students; gay and straight students; African American and Anglo-American students; students who do and do not use wheelchairs; and many, many more. Engaging in opportunities to learn about the experiences and perspectives of those in these sub-cultures happens when we deliberately step outside our “comfort zones.” Examples include making connections with on-campus neighbors, attending campus programs, and involving ourselves in topical discussions in classes.

Experiencing cultural differences is, in fact, one of the most important reasons to go to college in the first place! Sometimes the differences are a little uncomfortable. But, the learning that results is as important as the contribution it makes to a more inclusive, friendly campus environment.

Make it a priority to embrace opportunities to move past assumptions and stereotypes, so you can connect with the humanity in each person. Each time you do, you contribute to the proud history and exciting future of what it means to be “UNI friendly.”
**Student Involvement**
Getting involved on campus is a must. With more than 300 student organizations, you’re sure to find something of interest. UNI organizations are lead by students, for students. Can’t find a student group that sounds appealing? Then create your own! The Student Involvement and Activities Center will work with you to create a student organization of interest to you. You’re sure to find something of interest.

**Student Government**
Northern Iowa Student Government (NISG) is a group of about 40 dedicated students. These student senators and executives work every day to ensure UNI is a great place to live and learn. NISG is made up of on- and off-campus senators and a team of executive officers. The executive branch includes president, vice president, director of administration, director of public relations, director of diversity and student life and director of governmental relations. NISG also has an executive cabinet and judicial branch.

NISG sponsors a host of great programs. Interested in getting involved? Student government elections are held every spring. Also, don’t forget to check out NISG meetings. Senate meetings happen weekly and are open to the public. For more information on NISG, visit www.uni.edu/nisg.

**Greek Life**
Fraternities and sororities have had a presence at UNI for more than 70 years. They offer students a unique opportunity to live with other members in their student organization. UNI’s fraternities and sororities are dedicated to service and philanthropy on campus and in the surrounding community. They are an awesome way to enhance your collegiate experience through activity and lifelong friends.
Study Abroad

If you’ve thought about experiencing life in another country and strengthening your resume, the Study Abroad Center, located in 28 Gilchrist Hall, is ready to help. They have everything you need to make plans. UNI offers programs with countless other universities around the globe that allow you to earn UNI credit while studying in a foreign country. Can’t speak another language? No problem. There are plenty of opportunities to study in English. In addition, through various scholarships, many students find that tuition and cost of living expenses are comparable to those incurred at UNI. You should consider this great opportunity whether it’s for a semester, a year or just for a summer. For more information, visit www.uni.edu/studyabroad.

University Honors Program

Looking for an extra challenge with unique opportunities to network and to learn? Challenge yourself through the University Honors Program! As a member of the honors program, you can register for designated honors courses, which offer small, discussion-based classes designed to increase student learning and interaction with professors and other students. The Honors Program also offers leadership opportunities through the student advisory board and its committees.

Campbell Hall is the designated home of the Honors Clusters where students can live with other honor students. Sound interesting? We invite you to stop by the Honors Cottage, located next to the President’s House, for more information about any or all of the opportunities the University Honors Program offers!
Panther Athletics

The University of Northern Iowa is the home of great Panther athletes. The Power of Purple is right here – UNI has one of the nation’s top athletic programs including national powerhouses in volleyball, football, track and field, wrestling and basketball.

One of the great things about being a Panther fan is that you get into all the games for free with your UNI ID card.

Have a bit of bleacher creature in you? Check out STAT to become a True Panther.

Men’s Athletic Programs
Basketball
Cross Country
Football
Golf
Track and Field
Wrestling

Women’s Athletic Programs
Basketball
Cross Country
Golf
Soccer
Softball
Swimming and Diving
Tennis
Track and Field
Volleyball
We are UNI
Historical Timeline

1876—Iowa State Normal School opens; President James Gilchrist takes office
1880—Enrollment is 233 students
1882—Gilchrist Hall is built; it burned in 1972
1886—President Homer Seerley takes office
1890—First President’s House (now Honors Cottage) is built; enrollment is 529
1894—Administration Building (later Central Hall) is built; it burned in 1965
1900—Lang Hall is built; enrollment is 911
1903—The East Gym (now Innovative Teaching & Technology Center) and Physics (Begeman Hall) buildings are built
1906—Superintendent’s home is built; it later housed International Services and is now the Alumni House
1908—Seerley Hall and the new President’s House are built
1909—Normal School becomes Iowa State Teachers College
1910—Enrollment is 1,108; tuition is $5 per term
1912 to 1915—Sabin Hall, Bartlett Hall and Wright Hall are built
1920—Enrollment is 1,402; tuition is $5 per term
1924 to 1925—The Campanile and West Gym are built
1928—President Orval Latham takes office
1930—Enrollment is 2,169; tuition is $20 – 30 per term
1932 to 1937—The Commons, Prexy’s Pond, Baker Hall and Seerley Hall for Men are built
1939—Lawther Hall is built
1940—President Malcolm Price takes office; enrollment is 1,745; tuition is $26 – $32 per quarter
1948—Latham Hall is built
1950—President James Maucker takes office; Campbell Hall and Price Laboratory School are built; enrollment is 2,688; tuition is $35 per quarter
1960—Health Center, Rider Hall and Russell Hall are built; enrollment is 3,616; tuition is $220 per semester
1961—Iowa State Teachers College becomes State College of Iowa
1963—Current Gilchrist Hall, Rod Library and Shull Hall are built
1964—Hagemann Hall and the Redeker Center are built
1965—Noehren Hall is built; Central Hall burns down
1966—McCollum Science Hall is built
1967—State College of Iowa becomes the University of Northern Iowa; Bender Hall and Maucker Union are built
1968—Dancer Hall built
1970—President John Kamerick takes office; Schindler Education Center is built
1972—Biology Research Complex is built; original Gilchrist Hall burns down
1974—Industrial Technology Center and the UNI-Dome are built
1975—Communication Arts Center and Strayer-Wood Theater are built
1980—Enrollment is 11,020; tuition is $387 per semester
1983—President Constantine Curris takes office; Kamerick Art Building is built
1986—Tuition is $682 per semester
1990—Enrollment is 12,638; tuition is $940 a semester
1992—Residence on the Hill (ROTH) is built
1994—Enrollment is 12,572; tuition is $1,146 a semester
1995—President Robert Koob takes office; the Wellness/Recreation Center is built
1996—Enrollment is 12,957; tuition is $1,235 a semester
1997—Gallagher-Bluedorn Performing Arts Center construction begun
1998—Enrollment is 13,329; tuition is $1,333 a semester
2003—Enrollment is 13,441; tuition is $2,458 a semester
2004—McLeod Center construction begins
2006—President Benjamin Allen takes office; Human Performance Center is built
2007—Enrollment is 12,609; tuition is $3,095 a semester
2010—Men’s basketball team made their first Sweet Sixteen appearance in the NCAA Basketball Tournament and the women’s basketball team made their first ever appearance in the NCAA Basketball Tournament
2010—The 14th Dalai Lama of Tibet spoke at UNI
2010—Sabin Hall became the first building on campus to meet Silver LEED certification, incorporating sustainable design
2011—UNI is one of only nine schools in the U.S. and Canada to achieve a gold Sustainability Tracking Assessment & Rating System (STARS) rating
2011—First lady Michelle Obama delivers the spring commencement address
**Who is UNI?**

Traditionally, 92 percent of all students come from Iowa. We have students from each of Iowa’s 99 counties.

The balance of men and women tends to run about 58 percent on the women’s side.

UNI residence halls are home to more than 4,400 students - mostly freshmen and sophomores.

Business Administration is the largest college by enrollment, followed by Education, Humanities, Arts and Sciences and Social and Behavior Sciences.

There are usually 3,000 graduates each year.

There are more than 100,000 living alumni from UNI (you must graduate to be considered an alum) and 60 percent live in Iowa! UNI alumni live in every state and territory in the union.

Thirty-four percent of our alumni are education majors; 20 percent are business majors.

**What’s in a Name?**

The University of Northern Iowa has not always been UNI. It’s actually had four names over the years.

In 1869, the university took root as a Civil War orphanage. Annie Turner Wittenmyer, a Civil War nurse, started the orphanage here in 1869 to house the kids abandoned by the war. The statue on the east side of Lang Hall is dedicated to her.

In 1876, when there was no longer a need for the orphanage, the Iowa legislature founded the Iowa State Normal School. The first class took place on September 6, 1876. The Normal School only had a handful of degrees and most students attended with the intention of becoming a teacher.

In 1909, legislation was passed in the Iowa Congress changing the name of the institution to Iowa State Teachers College. During this time, many campus improvements were made - the Campanile was built, the Board of Regents was formed, and the campus grew from two buildings to 10 major facilities.

In 1961, ISTC was renamed State College of Iowa. The administration at the time realized that not all students were going on to teach after graduating, and the college was deemed a liberal arts college. Prior to this change, students had been required to study teaching in addition to their desired field.

The campus officially became known as the University of Northern Iowa in 1967, making it the third public university in the state. The administration separated all majors into different colleges. Although teaching is still a big part of UNI, we are constantly adding new majors and minors, allowing students to study and enjoy other areas of interest. From an orphanage to a university, UNI has grown to become one of the premier institutions of higher learning in the country.
**Fight Song**
Hail our Panthers, we are ever loyal
Showing strength and unity
GO CATS!
As we rise, we firmly stand behind you
Urge you on to victory
Rah, rah, rah!

As you lead us on to fame and honor
Fight, fight, fight will be our cry
So give us a yell, HO!
the Purple and the Gold
Victory for UNI!

UNI Fight, UNI Fight!

**Alma Mater**
Hear our voices now in song;
Hail to thee, O state of plenty,
Thou has raised it proud and strong

True in spirit, strong in knowledge
UNI, we in homage.
Hail to thee, O Alma Mater
Our tomorrows shall be thine.

From the hallowed halls of learning,
Rising from the fertile land;
Guide to fame thy sons and daughters,
In the pattern on thy hand.
The Student Giving program has a rich history spanning over 100 years. Students have contributed gateway entrances, gardens, sculptures, landscaping, and many other gifts that beautify and enhance the campus as it is today. Upon graduation, students join the ranks of alumni who collectively contribute millions of dollars each year to help those who follow in their footsteps. To read more about giving back and its impact on students, check out www.uni-foundation.org.

1881 Granite boulder for dedication of Gilchrist Hall
1895 Two etchings for Library
1898 Cycad fossil for museum
1901 Wicker chairs
1909 Bronze tablet with Gettysburg Address inscribed
1911 Portrait or statue of Prof. Leonard W. Parish for Rod Library
1912 & '13 Two gateways to campus
1914 Gateway on 26th Street
1915 $1,000 for Campanile fund
1916 Donations for Campanile fund
1917 Sun dial
1928 President’s Medallion for Campanile
1939 $16,000 gift
1964 Attempt to raise $5,000 for browsing room in library
1965 Speaker system for Hemisphere Lounge
1966 Carillon bells for Campanile (Some dispute between class about this gift. Turned into joint effort with Alumni)
1967 Four art pieces for display in union
1968 Funds for new auditorium
1969 $7,500 for new auditorium
1970 $8,300 for new auditorium
1971 Funds for new auditorium
1972 Funds for tree replacement on campus
1973 Centennial Fund (new auditorium)
1975 Lighted UNI sign
1976 Two flags in UNI-Dome in honor of Wayne Morris
1977 Sculpture in lobby of Strayer-Wood Theater
1978 Artwork for Strayer-Wood Theatre
1979 Aerial campus map for union
1980-82 Three flag poles
1984 Visualtek Voyager XL magnifier for library
1986 $16,750 for six locator maps on campus
1987 Renovation of the corner at College and University
1988 Electronic card catalogue for library
1989 Campanile renovation
1990 $60,000 to improve outdoor lighting on campus
1991 Club 91 in union
1992 Student scholarships
1993 Idea to build new Prexy’s Pond
1994 New equipment for WRC
1995 New parking lot
1996 Scholarship for students
1997 Landscaping for new performing arts center
1998 Millennium Gardens (Memorial Garden)
1999 Bench and arbor for Memorial Garden
2000 Scholarships for students
2001 Millennium Gardens (Memorial Garden)
2002 Bench and arbor for Memorial Garden
2003 Score’s table for McLeod Center
2004 Rose Garden
2005 Memorial Garden stage
2006 Panther statue and pond in Memorial Garden
2007 Panther Path signage
2008 Student scholarships
Lost Traditions
Class Distinctions
Back in the day, freshmen were easily identified. Men had green beanies or armbands, and women wore distinguishing garb such as buttons, handkerchiefs or purple caps. Freshmen were required to wear their beanies Monday through Saturday from morning until dinner. The duration of their beanie-wearing varied by era - from only the first few weeks of the school year, until Homecoming or almost until the end of first semester. At one time, students wore the caps the entire school year!

The classes competed against one another during the campus-wide Class Day. Winning any event in this celebration allowed freshmen to “lose” their beanies, and was the highlight of a freshman's first semester.

Freshmen also had certain rules. They had to be on time for football games and sit in a designated section, address upperclassmen as Mr. or Miss, dance every dance at the Monday Rec Dances, and sit in the center section of the reading room in the library – not in the corners. The life of a first-year student was filled with excitement and fun – but also stressful pressures!

Campus Dances
Prior to the 1920s students were not allowed to dance on campus. After World War I, however, the rules changed and students made up for lost time.

Throughout the 1920s and 1930s, dances were held nearly every week. Live bands came to campus and students donned their best attire: jackets and ties for the men and dresses for the women. Dances were held for special occasions like Homecoming and Christmas, as well as holidays such as Washington’s Birthday. Throughout the years, the Christmas dance had themes such as Fantasy in Frost, Wintermezzo, Snow Ball and Mistletoe Memories. The tradition of campus dances continued all the way into the 1980s.
**Phantom Buildings**

Of course, there’s an interesting story to be found about each of the campus buildings but what about the buildings that never materialized? They too have a story. These “phantom buildings,” as they’ve come to be called, include a chapel, octagonal library, men’s dormitory and an additional tower.

Plans for an octagon-shaped library were drawn in 1905. The building never appeared on campus. Instead, present day Seerley Hall was built as the campus’ first library in 1917. It served this purpose until 1964 when the Rod Library opened.

The influx of male students after WWII brought about plans to build a men’s dormitory located south of Baker Hall. Instead, due to the shortage of materials and funding, it was decided to link Baker and Seerley Halls to add a little additional living space.

During the 1940s, a chapel was proposed for just west of the ITTC (then called the East Gym.) Although funds were raised to help support the project, they would have covered only about 10 percent of the cost, so no chapel was ever built on UNI’s campus. The Maucker Union does feature a meditation room.

The baby boomers coming of college age in the mid-1960s brought another need for living space. A large tower connecting with Campbell Hall was suggested. The idea of one large tower evolved to include two towers connected by a dining center and built farther away from Campbell Hall, like Bender and Dancer are today. During this time, a third tower also was suggested. It never happened.

**Literary Societies**

Collegiate literary societies were prestigious academic societies where students learned to develop and appreciate the skills of public speaking and debate, and to discuss various forms of literature. Literary societies possessed their own culture and were an important part of campus social life with regular meetings and public presentations.

Students were required to join a literary society, although no academic credit was awarded. At one time, the university had a dozen literary societies for male and female students. Not only did the literary societies instill valuable knowledge and skills, they also fielded intramural athletic teams!

Academic classes eventually incorporated all that was learned in the literary society and, as a result, their participation suffered and they ceased to function as organizations on campus.
**Winter Holidays**

Cocoa and carols, the lighting of the campus Christmas tree, performances of Handel’s “Messiah,” and all-campus dinners were all ways students celebrated the holidays.

The first “Messiah” performance took place in the winter of 1896, making it the oldest campus holiday tradition. The inaugural lighting of the Christmas tree was in 1943 and was spearheaded by President Malcolm Price.

President Price wanted to bring military personnel, who were then training on campus, together with the students, faculty and staff for the holiday season.

When the Iowa State Normal School began the tradition of an all-campus Christmas tree located in the Crossroads (where the Memorial Garden now stands), students, faculty and staff would gather around the tree and sing carols at noon for 15 minutes. During the 1940s, these impromptu gatherings evolved into the Cocoa and Carols program.

The first holiday dinner for the campus community was held in the Commons Dining Center in 1933. A turkey dinner was served for all to enjoy.

Though the traditions have changed throughout the years, the holidays continue to be celebrated on campus.

**Campus Ghosts**

Who isn’t intrigued by a scary ghost story? Spooky stories are fun, especially around Halloween, but there are a couple of rumors that we might actually have real ghosts haunting our buildings. UNI is believed to have two ghosts haunting campus: Augie and Zelda.

Augie is rumored to reside in Lawther Hall. His legend dates to World War I, when Lawther was used as an infirmary. It is believed that the attic of Lawther was actually the site of Augie’s death. Spooky occurrences reported by students have included radios turning on by themselves and posters ripped off the walls in the middle of the night. Along with many creepy reports and unexplainable phenomena over the years, some students have reported actually seeing Augie. Some said he was in an army uniform, others saw him in a pin-striped suit.

Zelda is believed to haunt the Strayer-Wood Theatre. No one is really sure why, but many have reported hearing crying in the distance or the piano playing late in the night when no
one else is there. Zelda was said to haunt Lang Hall when the Theatre Department was located there, but it is believed she followed them to their new home in a costume box.

Augie and Zelda are part of just another tradition that makes UNI unique. Maybe, if you get the intestinal fortitude, you could go explore and find out if the rumors are true.

**Prexy’s Pond**

UNI used to have its very own pond, located south of the current Curris Business Building. The women of the Department of Physical Education were a demanding group who declared their need for a pond. The pond was proposed so the canoeing class could hold their class on campus rather than on the Cedar River. Not only was the pond ideal for the class, it beautified the campus.

The pond, which was dug in 1936, quickly became a popular campus site for swimming, ice skating, snow sculpting and the traditional spot for dunking freshmen students.

Despite its great popularity, the pond was never given an official name. Orval Latham, college president at the time the pond was added, left his legacy with the pond. The word “prexy,” a slang term for president, quickly became the name the campus embraced.

In 1991, the Curris Business Building was built over Prexy’s Pond. The first spring after the pond disappeared, there were a number of confused ducks wandering around campus. Prexy’s Pond is still remembered today; take a look around Maucker Union and notice that every time you grab a bite to eat it’s from “Prexy’s”!

**The Crossroads**

Wonder what students ever did without the union? The Crossroads has been long forgotten, partially because the building no longer exists. Every day students, friends and alumni pass over the spot where it stood and most are none the wiser.

The Crossroads was not a railroad station or a mall in Waterloo, but a campus social hangout. The small connector building stood where the Memorial Garden, outside of the Center for Multicultural Education, is today. The Crossroads was comprised of three corridors connecting Lang Hall, Central Hall (the original building from the Soldiers’ Orphans’ Home, destroyed by fire in 1965) and South Hall (the old administration building that no longer stands). A short structure stood in the middle of these three hallways. In that building was a part of UNI’s history that served a role similar to Maucker Union.
The Crossroads was a place to meet friends, post bulletin board ads and get dates for the weekend. Back when computers didn’t exist, this was where student elections were held and campus newspapers were distributed.

The Crossroads was demolished in 1999 during the renovation of Lang Hall. By this time, the Center for Multicultural Education was ready to be built on top of Maucker Union.

The campus now has dozens of places where you can catch up on campus news, student affairs and happenings or to just hang out. But back then, the Crossroads was the place to be.

SUNI Days

Heard of VEISHEA? Well SUNI Daze was 10 times better than that! Imagine a week-long Woodstock occurring at UNI. Back in the day, UNI held a grand event every spring. It began in 1971, as a week-long celebration of the spring season. Students wanted the event to be the last big event for the campus community before final exams. The name of this celebration varied throughout its history. In 1971, it was called SUNI, standing for “Spring at UNI.” Until it ended in 1980, it was referred to as SUNI Days or SUNI Daze.

Over the years, the celebration’s activities included co-ed olympics, rock concerts, cult opera, Thieves Market, picnics, regattas down the Cedar River, pie eating contests, mattress races and a carnival.

Although some Panthers tried to revive the tradition in 1995, spring at UNI has not been celebrated since the 1980s. Although it’s sad to think of this lost tradition, is it our time to create some new ones? Just think. The traditions that you help maintain or maybe even create during your time here will be looked back on by someone very much like you in a few short years! What are YOU going to do to leave your mark?
Traditions Challenge
How does it all work?

We challenge you to accept and complete the UNI Traditions Challenge. But, you might be wondering, “How does it all work?” So, we’re providing you with a how-to-guide to the Traditions Challenge.

1. Start collecting photos of you and your friends completing the traditions listed in the book.

2. Complete as many challenges as possible.

3. Keep your eyes and ears open. During each semester the CATS will host “Check-In” days, during which you can bring your book to the Alumni House to log in your traditions.

   ■ Complete 25 challenges, you will receive a Traditions Challenge lapel pin to wear at your Commencement ceremony.

   ■ Complete 45 challenges, you will receive a Traditions Challenge medallion to wear at your Commencement ceremony.

4. Wear your pin and medallion proudly at your Commencement ceremony. When it’s all said and done, you will be a knowledgeable and proud Panther! You will be a Traditions Keeper.

Get started! There’s no time to waste – after all, you only have four (or so) years to get it done!
Traditions Checklist

- Summer Orientation
- Students Today Alumni Tomorrow
- Maucker Union
- Residence Hall
- Dining
- Rod Library
- Wellness/Recreation Center
- Gallagher-Bluedorn Performing Arts Center
- Strayer-Wood Theatre
- Music
- Student Organizations
- Campus Activities Board
- Intramurals
- NISG Meetings
- UNI Museums and Collections
- Botanical Center
- Planetarium and Observatory
- Volunteer
- Philanthropy
- Family Weekend
- Homecoming
- Campaniling
- Guest Speaker Lecture
- Heritage Month Celebrations
- Professor/Adviser
College Hill
Experience Cedar Falls
Football Tailgate
TC
Granite Panther
The Interlude Dance
Volleyball
Football
Women’s Soccer
Softball
Women’s Tennis
Women’s Swimming and Diving
Men’s and Women’s Cross Country
Men’s and Women’s Golf
Men’s and Women’s Track and Field
Men’s Basketball
Women’s Basketball
Wrestling
Spirit Squads
Commencement
Join UNIAA
Create Your Own Traditions
Summer Orientation

Summer Orientation is the first stop on the road to becoming a Panther! This is an exciting opportunity to check out residence life, meet new friends and schedule classes for your first collegiate semester. Take advantage of all that orientation has to offer by spending time at the Student Organization Fair and previewing the WRC. Your life as a Panther is just beginning, so enjoy the ride!
Become a member of STAT
Join the UNI Alumni Association’s student group

Student’s Today Alumni Tomorrow (STAT) is the official student membership group of the University of Northern Iowa Alumni Association. As members, students receive discounts at local businesses and restaurants, a premium member-only gift, and the opportunity to participate in member’s only programming. STAT members also have the opportunity to claim a BEAT T-shirt/Game Day T-shirt for key home sporting events. Join the more than 3,000 students annually who participate in STAT!

www.unialum.org/stat
Maucker Union

*Grab a smoothie and spend time with friends*

Whether you’ve got time to kill between classes, homework to do, or just want to hang out with friends, the Maucker Union is the place to go. Located near the center of campus, the union serves as a hub for food, friends and fun. In the middle of the day, the union is the perfect place to meet friends for lunch. At night, it becomes study central for Panthers who prefer a more social study space.
Home Away From Home

Live in a Residence Hall

Living in one of UNI’s residence halls will put you in the thick of college life: dining, classes, the library, computer labs, recreational facilities, athletic events, concerts, performances and activities. You’ll meet people who are sure to become lifelong friends. Students who live on campus earn better grades and are more likely to graduate. There are many housing options within each residence hall; single and double rooms and suites are offered in most, as well as apartments for up to eight people in ROTH (Residence On The Hill). Make the most out of this challenge by taking a picture with your Resident Assistant or attend a Residence Hall Association or Senate meeting! Don’t miss this unforgettable experience to expand your knowledge beyond books and classrooms.
Feed Your Face
At one of UNI’s Dining Centers

“Dig in!” to all the choices the dining centers on campus have to offer! The Piazza is located in the Redeker Center and Rialto is in the Towers Center. You’ll have a plentiful buffet, from homemade sandwiches and stir-fry, to ice cream and coffee. You’re sure to find foods that will keep you going back for more! Don’t have time to stay and eat? Dashes or Café on the Way offers on-the-go options so you can catch a bite to eat when you’re in a hurry. A great way to complete this challenge is to gather all your friends and experience “late night in the dining center!”
Make a Date with Rod

Grab your books and head over to the library

Each of the Rod Library’s four floors offers a unique study atmosphere; its many group study rooms make it a great place for group projects. Whatever your needs may be, student assistants and full-time staff are always available to answer any questions you may have about the one million volumes housed in the library. So when it’s time to focus on big projects or finals, head on over to the library for some uninterrupted study time.
Forget the Freshman 15

Work out at the Wellness/Recreation Center

The Wellness/Recreation Center (WRC) is the prime location to find active Panthers. The WRC provides students with weight lifting equipment, a track, two swimming pools, specialty exercise classes, and basketball, volleyball and racquetball courts. One of the WRC’s most recognizable features is the rock wall—the largest indoor climbing wall in Iowa, and is ranked as the #1 collegiate climbing wall in the Midwest. Get over to the WRC for physical fitness and fun!
It’s Opening Night
At the Gallagher-Bluedorn Performing Art Center

The Gallagher-Bluedorn Performing Art Center (GBPAC) host concerts, shows and events. You could see a Broadway production, your favorite musician, and UNI’s renowned talented student musicians.

UNI students will receive two FREE tickets to any show each semester with valid uCard ID. You can select two tickets to one show or one ticket to two different shows, each semester. If tickets are still available on the day of the performance, they become available to students for only $5!
Theatre at the University of Northern Iowa is a magical experience. You can see world renowned plays performed by students like you in the Strayer-Wood, or small intimate productions in the Bertha Martin black box theatre. Both theatres are located on the southwest side of campus, near the Quads. With your UNI ID, you are entitled to one free ticket per performance, which makes it very easy to be a patron of the arts.
No matter what your music style, the UNI School of Music has something for you. Ranging from a concert band or orchestra performance to UNI vocalists and jazz concerts at Spicoli’s, you’re sure to find something you enjoy. UNI’s music program is considered one of the best in the nation. Don’t miss the opportunity to experience a performance by your fellow Panthers.
Get Involved with Your Campus Community

Join a Student Organization

With more than 300 student organizations on campus (and new ones started every year) you’ll be able to find one to pique your interest. You’ll learn new things about your hobbies, interests, issues in society or your major, or a combination of all four. If you don’t see something you’d like to join, invite friends to start a group of your own and contact Northern Iowa Student Government to get it set up. Stay active on campus and you’ll get much more out of your years at UNI.
Start Your Weekend Early

Campus Activities Board is a great way to enjoy your free time

Events hosted by your Campus Activities Board (CAB), range from newly released movies to casino nights and comedians. Be sure to check out the fun and free events every week at the union as a way to kick back, relax and get ready for the weekend!

CAB also hosts once a month programs including the likes of American Idol Josh Gracin, the Nadas, 80s Night with Mr. Belding, and comedian Seth Meyers from “Saturday Night Live.”

www.uni.edu/studentorgs/cab
Let the Games Begin!

Intramurals at UNI

The intramural athletic selection is mind-boggling – there really is something for everyone. Team and individual sports are offered year-round at UNI and are designed for athletes and athletes at heart. Students can choose from events like dodgeball, racquetball, flag football, basketball, volleyball, kick ball, bowling…the list goes on and on. Intramural involvement is a great way to meet people and stay fit. Fun and fitness, is there a better combination?
Interested in hearing about issues that are of concern to other students? Attend an NISG meeting to find out. These dedicated students meet weekly to deliberate over hot topics that are important to every student on campus. Pencil in the weekly NISG meetings and save a seat before the meeting in order to fully take in the great debates.
Take a Bite Out of the Panther Past

University Museums and Collections

Experience our university’s history. From the Iowa State Normal School to Iowa State Teachers’ College to the State College of Iowa to the University of Northern Iowa, you can see the transformation of the campus and the growth of the student body. The museum is currently located on the corner of Hudson Road and University Avenue; new exhibits visit the building each semester. Admission is free for students, so check it out on a stressful weekday. You’ll feel better about your education when you see the word processors students at ISTC had to use!

The Marshall Center One-Room School is part of the UNI Collection. It represents the university’s long tradition in education.

Check us out at www.uni.edu/museum/
Go Green and Purple!

Botanical Center

Since 1938, the UNI Botanical Center has been home to a very extensive and diverse collection of plants and several animal friends, which have been studied and enjoyed by generations of students, faculty, and public visitors. There is a twist to this challenge, in order to master it; you need to complete the Botanical Center scavenger hunt. Ernie, the Iguana and Columbo, the African Gray Parrot are ready to assist you on your journey. The Botanical Center is open Monday thru Friday from 8 am to 4 pm. Come visit the beautiful flowers, plants and friendly staff and wildlife!
A Night Under the Stars

Planetarium and Observatory

Located in Latham Hall, room 105, the planetarium is one of UNI’s best-kept secrets. Thursday nights at 7 and 8 p.m. during January and February, the planetarium offers free showings. The planetarium contains an intimate seating area where a trained technician will guide you through the show. Even on a cloudy night, students can watch the stars in our campus’ very own planetarium.

McCollum Science Hall also houses another UNI hidden treasure, the observatory. Meet by the polar bear outside of Lantz Hall, room 137, for your guided tour to the observatory. Showings are every Thursday night at 9 p.m. during the fall semester before Thanksgiving break. During the spring semester, observatory shows begin after spring break at 9 p.m. and run until the end of the semester. Come check out the world’s celestial events right here at UNI!
Give Back to your CommUNIty!

Volunteer

Many student organizations at UNI participate in philanthropic events or organizations. For more information on how you can get involved, visit Student Leadership Center’s website www.uni.edu/maucker/leadership/ and sign up for Volunteer Tuesdays. Take a picture and feel proud while you’re doing something good for UNI and the community!
Leave your paw print at UNI!

The University of Northern Iowa Alumni Association and Foundation cares about connecting with UNI students. Most UNI students do not realize that their tuition covers only 44 percent of what it costs to educate a student at UNI. The state of Iowa covers approximately 49 percent, leaving a 7 percent gap which is filled by private support. Each year thousands of alumni, friends, parents and businesses contribute generously to UNI in order to provide students with outstanding classroom and experiential opportunities. Now is the time for UNI students to make student philanthropy a tradition! It is important for students to understand the importance of becoming future alumni and the value of giving back to their alma mater.

Without the generous support of students, alumni, faculty and staff, UNI’s campus would be without the following: Campanile, UNI-Dome, McLeod Center, Hall of Fame Connector, GBPAC, Panther Sculpture, scholarships for students whether of they’re graduation. the gifts listed “It’s not the matters. It’s the size of the paw print that fact that you left one!”

PHILANTHROPY
Fun with the Fam

Invite your family to participate in the Panther experience

Moms, dads, brothers and sisters are all invited to spend a weekend with you. Family Weekend is a great opportunity to share the University of Northern Iowa experience with your family. Take them to the football game, check out the dining centers, show them around campus, work out at the WRC and enjoy their company. This is your time to show and tell! (And, of course, make sure they take you shopping!)

www.uni.edu/familyweekend
Homecoming

Past and present Panthers join in celebration!

Pride Cry! Traditions Challenge Amazing Race! Pep Rally! Fireworks! Campaniling! AND… Football! These are all exciting events you can enjoy during UNI’s Homecoming Week. Start off the week with an exciting competition of Pride Cry. Put a team together and join in on the many Homecoming competitions against your peers. Go to the pep rally, watch fireworks and cheer on Panther athletics. Don’t forget to experience the more than 50-year-old tradition of Campaniling. Enjoy and learn about different campus organizations at Panther Fest. Come to the Panther Festival for food, fun and games before you head over to the big football game. Come wearing your best Panther gear to the Homecoming football game to cheer on the UNI Panthers.
One of the University of Northern Iowa’s oldest traditions is Campaniling—a tradition that finds students gathering to kiss at the clock at the stroke of midnight on the Friday of Homecoming week. This tradition has many campus tales to go along with it. One story states that a student is not truly a UNI co-ed until he or she participates in Campaniling. Another legend states that if a student doesn’t go Campaniling before graduation, a brick from the Campanile will fall on his or her head.
Listen Up!

Attend a Guest Lecture

UNI hosts many guest speakers every year, many with national reputations. No matter what your major or interest area, there’ll be at least one you won’t want to miss. Take advantage of the opportunity to learn about exciting careers, diversity in our society, global issues and much more. Listen up and enjoy hearing a guest speaker’s story.
Celebrate every Panther

Heritage Celebrations

Sponsored by the Center for Multicultural Education (CME), the Heritage Month Celebrations consist of different guest speakers, dance performances, student forums, and more. The numerous events are intended to create awareness and promote unity within our campus community. They are great opportunities to experience different facets of cultures through camaraderie!

Visit the CME throughout the following months and celebrate:

- September – October: Hispanic Heritage Month
- November: Native American Heritage Month
- February: Black History Month
- March: Women’s History Month
- April: Asian/Pacific Islander Heritage Month
I love this Class

Remember your favorite professor/adviser

With more than 800 professors at UNI and almost 200 majors, minors and programs, you are sure to find at least one educator that will have a significant positive influence on you. It’s the professor that gets you to come to an 8 a.m. class, not with their attendance policy, but with the excitement they generate when they talk about their subject. Whether you like to hear them lecture or they’re helping you discover where you fit in at UNI, take a photo with them and grab a business card to keep in contact.
Grab your friends and head to the Hill!

**College Hill**

Directly adjacent to the University of Northern Iowa is an area known as College Hill. This tree shaded and vibrant neighborhood has a diverse mix of residents, businesses and gathering places. This area boasts unique and innovative recreational, educational, retail, entertainment and cultural activities such as an annual arts festival, Oktoberfest, and neighborhood gatherings. With its diversity of residents and businesses, the College Hill area is a great place to live and a popular place for students to visit. There is always something to do on the Hill! For more information check out www.collegehillpartnership.org
Prowl the Town

Experience Cedar Falls away from campus

Not far from the UNI campus is the thriving Main Street of Cedar Falls. This unique area combines historical sites, culture, great shopping and fantastic restaurants. The counterbalance between the old and new provides an atmosphere everyone can enjoy. Cedar Falls is dedicated to providing year-round festivities including a farmer’s market, annual breast cancer run, women’s night out and holiday celebrations for all to enjoy. As a UNI student, Cedar Falls is your new home—be sure to take advantage of this wonderful community and its flourishing downtown.
Get Your Game-Face On

Experience a football tailgate

Tailgating for UNI Panther football games is a relatively new, but very popular UNI tradition. The UNI-Dome parking lots and surrounding fields are all abuzz on game days. Panther fans, young and old, prowl the campus searching for friends, food and a Panther victory. Purple and Gold are a must for tailgating! Grab your grill, round up family and friends and head on over to the Dome for pre- and post-game celebrations!
Purrrfect Picture

A snapshot with TC is a must-have for all UNI students

University of Northern Iowa’s mascot, TC, can be found all over campus. He is at welcome week events, sporting events and campus rallies during the year. TC, or The Cat, has competed in mascot competitions at the national level. Before you graduate, make sure you grab a picture with our nationally renowned Panther!
Set in Stone

A touch of luck

Stop at the granite Panther and rub his nose for luck anytime you cheer on the Panthers at the McLeod Center. Volleyball, basketball and wrestling teams call the McLeod Center home. Make sure to give “paws” to the Cat!
Join the newest UNI Craze!
The Interlude Dance

Take part in the UNI's newest phenomenon that is hitting the nation: The Interlude Dance! The craze was started by three UNI students and made its debut during a women's basketball game. The new sensation has appeared on several national news outlets such as NBC, ESPN and Sports Illustrated's website. Next time you're at a sporting event, join the excitement!

Joining the craze is as easy as learning six simple steps.
1. Warm your hands up around the fire.
1a. Clap your hands at the appropriate time
2. The Interlude
3. Sparkles
4. The ninja robot
5. Fist pumps, starting at the floor
6. The revenge of the Interlude
Spike It!
Volleyball

Head Coach Bobbi Petersen has helped the Panthers climb to the top 15 in the nation in all time wins with more than 800! UNI Volleyball is perennially one of the best teams in the nation and calls the McLeod Center home. Come out and support one of the nation’s best this fall!
Get Your Keys Out

Football

Panther Football has a longstanding tradition of excellence. The football team has called the UNI-Dome home since 1976. The Panthers have claimed back-to-back Missouri Valley Football Conference championships. Attending a Panther football game is a must. Don’t forget to bring your keys…it’s a tradition to jingle them before every kickoff and during every key play of the game.
Kickin’ It With the Panthers

Women’s Soccer

As the newest addition to the UNI family, these athletes are ready to play regardless of the Iowa weather! Since beginning their program in 2000, they have experienced the extreme August heat while continuing their season until just before the snow starts to fall in November. Weather is not the only obstacle for these ladies; the women’s soccer team also fiercely battles a new opponent each week. Come cheer them on as they play at the Cedar Valley Soccer Complex.
The Panther softball team has a strong winning tradition over the past 33 years. Head Coach Ryan Jacobs is always looking for supporting fans to cheer on the team. Come see what outstanding Panther athletics are all about!
Game. Set. Match.

Women’s Tennis

The women’s tennis team is making their move. Each year, they make great strides to the top spot in the MVC. The team travels near and far to face the best competition – Minnesota, Nebraska, Kansas, North Carolina, South Carolina and even Florida. The women’s team calls the Black Hawk Tennis Center home. This off-campus venue is a great way to reach out and bring the spirit of Panther tennis to the Waterloo and Cedar Falls communities.
Make a Splash
Women’s Swimming and Diving

The top-notch eight-lane pool, in the WRC, is surrounded by a gutter filtration system to reduce water turbulence and help increase the swimmers’ speed. The women’s team spends countless hours in this pool as they chase after the Missouri Valley Conference championship crown. You won’t want to miss them in action – go early to get your spot in the 300-seat gallery!
Running Wild

Men’s and Women’s Cross Country

The Men’s and Women’s Cross Country teams have had many winning seasons and both teams look to continue their winning ways this fall. Enjoy a day outside and show your Panther Pride! Get out there and support your Panther Men’s and Women’s Cross Country teams.
Par-fect!

Men’s and Women’s Golf
The UNI Men’s and Women’s Golf boasts teams of talented men and women from all over the country. These students’ athletes can drive and putt with the best of them. Come out and support your UNI Golf teams in either the fall or the spring!
The UNI Men’s and Women’s Track and Field teams have a national reputation by consistently competing at the highest level. These student-athletes are quick! Coach Steele is keeping them on track and ensuring success for the foreseeable future. Make sure to cheer on the whole UNI Track and Field teams inside the UNI-Dome or at the Mark Messersmith Outdoor Track and Field Complex.

A ‘Dash’ of Purple
Men’s and Women’s Track and Field
Men’s Basketball
Coach Jacobsen and the Panthers are one of the best in the Valley Conference year in and year out. Come join the student section at the McLeod Center and be a part of something special as the Panthers work toward the NCAA Tournament every spring.
She Shoots, She Scores

Women’s Basketball

The UNI women’s basketball team also calls the McLeod Center home and is a part of the Missouri Valley Conference. Coach Tanya Warren has brought a new energy to Panther basketball and taken the program to new heights. Get out to the McLeod Center and check it out!
Pin ‘Em Wrestling
With more than 700 victories since 1923, the UNI wrestling squad is one of the country’s best. UNI has produced more than 100 All-American Wrestlers and five UNI wrestlers have participated in the Olympic Games and/or the Pan American Games. The McLeod Center is home to the Panthers as Head Coach Doug Schwab brings energy and excitement to the program. Come on out and experience our nationally renowned wrestling team.
Enjoy the game with some of UNI’s most spirited Panthers!

One of the Spirit Squad’s most recognizable members is TC, but don’t forget about UNI’s Cheerleading and Dance Teams. UNI cheerleaders are prime examples of purple and gold pride. In addition to attending all practices, games, cheer camp and scheduled public appearances, the squad members must attend and/or assist in at least seven community service events. The UNI Dance Team is also extremely busy. These women work hard and their record shows it. UNI’s Dance Team has qualified for UDA’s national championships nine times in the last 10 years.
Pomp, Circumstance and Panther Pride

*Participating in commencement completes your undergrad experience*

Celebrate your accomplishments with faculty, staff, friends and family. UNI celebrates our graduates during the fall and spring semesters. This tradition is a campus-wide celebration of students, families, faculty and staff. Graduation day is certainly a day you won’t forget.

www.uni.edu/commencement
Congratulations! You Made it!
Let the UNI Alumni Association and all of its members be the first to congratulate you on your graduation and invite you to become a member of the Alumni Association.

The Alumni Association is a great way to stay in contact with all your friends and keep up to date with what’s happening at UNI. Your membership will give you awesome benefits including access to the UNI online alumni directory, Northern Iowa Today Alumni Magazine, discounts at businesses, restaurants and hotels, and opportunities for half-priced tickets at Panther sporting events. Let us teach you what life as an alum is all about. Sign up today!

Learn about everything we’re doing and what you can do to make your degree stronger at www.unialum.org.
Create Your Own Traditions
What is the UNI Alumni Association?
The UNI Alumni Association exists to encourage and support a life-long relationship between the University of Northern Iowa and its alumni and friends, to promote the interaction of alumni with each other, and to promote and advance the interests of the university and its alumni.

Why join the Alumni Association?
It’s the easiest way to stay in touch with all your friends from college, and an awesome way to show your support for your alma mater. Plus, you get tons of great benefits for being a member.

What do I get when I join the UNI Alumni Association?
- A subscription to Northern Iowa Today alumni magazine
- UNI custom wall calendar
- Access to online alumni directory - so that you can stay in touch with all of your friends and those who live in your area who might help in career or life connections!
- “Members only” admission rates to Alumni Association-sponsored events
- Half-price tickets to home UNI athletic events (some restrictions apply)
- Discounts at more than 50 businesses, including restaurants, hotels and entertainment venues
- Free access to Career Cat, a job board and career development tool

What does it cost to join?
There are three membership levels, ranging from $35-$100. With each level, more benefits are received. Check out all out the benefits online at www.unialum.org/membership-benefits.

Join us on Facebook and Linkedin!
Official Class Ring

Display your Panther pride by investing in the official ring of the university. UNI’s ring features our most prized landmark - the Campanile.

You can customize your ring in a variety of ways, including size and color.

The inside of the ring bears the word “LUX,” also found on the university’s seal. LUX means “light” in Latin and serves a constant reminder to keep the lamp of knowledge burning. The word LUX has appeared on the university seal since our founding in 1876.

Interested in getting an official class ring on your hand? Call or stop by the Alumni Association to find out how to order! There are no-interest financing plans available.

Don’t want to wait until you graduate? You may purchase your ring as soon as you complete 60 hours of academic credit!
A HUGE Thank You to Our Sponsors!