UNI CENTERS
an Overview for the Office of the Provost

April 2022
CENTERS AT A GLANCE

Annual Impact...*

3500 **UNI Students**
225 **UNI Faculty**
12,700 Pre K-12 Students
4700 K-12 Faculty
96,500 Community Members
1075 State & Local Government Groups
1300 National/International Groups

*As of most recently submitted Annual or 7-Year Report.

Annual Funding in Millions*

- **$15** External
- **$2** General

Staffing (FTE Equivalents)

- **Faculty, 8**
- **P&S, 90**
- **Merit, 16**

# of Centers by Study Area

- Research / Contract for Service
- Education / STEM
- Community
- Arts/Music
- Environment
- Business

# of Centers by College

- **COE**
- **CBA**
- **CHAS**
- **CSBS**
- **Provost**

April 2022
Additive Manufacturing Center
At the UNI Foundry 4.0 Center, staff and students provide services targeted towards demonstration, education and consultation in additive manufacturing. Past clients have included small and large companies alike, as well as all five branches of the U.S. Department of Defense.

Arctic, Remote and Cold Territories Interdisciplinary Center (ARCTICenter)
ARCTICenter is a hub for many Arctic research and educational projects funded by various U.S. and international organizations. The center’s mission is to develop collaboration among faculty, staff and students, who are engaged in research and educational activities pertaining to the Arctic, remote, and cold regions.

Center for Business Growth and Innovation
In 2015, the UNI Regional Business Center and MyEntre.Net brands became the UNI Center for Business Growth and Innovation. Its programs include Advance Iowa, Business Concierge, Dream Big Grow Here, Innovation Incubator, and the Small Business Development Center.

Center for Educational Transformation
CET is a PreK-12 education research and development hub is designed to respond all education stakeholders. Through field-based and action-oriented research, innovative educational practices and policy analysis, the center strives to impact PreK-12 student learning and advance teacher effectiveness across the state throughout the nation.

Center for Energy and Environmental Education (CEEE)
The CEEE strives to create a sustainable future for our communities. CEEE raises public awareness about key energy and environmental issues, and creates leadership opportunities for UNI students and faculty, to foster community involvement and advance sustainable principles.

Center for Holocaust and Genocide Education
This Center aims to increase knowledge about the Holocaust and other genocides as well strengthen our commitment to confront threats to human rights, such as intolerance, anti-Semitism, racism and ignorance. This is accomplished through educational programming and resources on campus, in the community, and throughout Iowa.

Center for Social and Behavioral Research (CSBR)
CSBR conducts applied survey research; since 1967 there have been more than 600 externally funded studies for local, state and federal agencies and public/not-for-profit organizations. Recent projects focus on various issues of public health. Project results are used to improve services and advance public policy.

Center for Teaching and Learning Mathematics (CTLM)
CTLM assists teachers, students, and parents in making sense of mathematics through research-based resources. CTLM provides professional development for teachers in the area of mathematics to deepen teachers' understanding of mathematics content and implementation of research-based best practice.

Center for Violence Prevention (CVP)
CVP builds the capacity of institutions of higher education, K-12 schools, victim service agencies, law enforcement and the criminal justice system to systematically implement best practice violence prevention and evaluation strategies in collaboration with state, family and community partners.

Family Business Center
To strengthen the viability and success of Iowa's family owned businesses through a virtual breakfast series, next generation peer groups, legacy peer groups, family host speakers, UNI Family Business Conference, family business counseling services.

GeoTREE Center
GeoTREE stands for "GeoInformatics Training, Research, Education, and Extension" – an interdisciplinary center working to transfer geospatial technologies to federal, state, local and tribal governments through education, multi-disciplinary research, and outreach activities.

Institute for Decision Making (IDM)
IDM is a unit of UNI’s Business and Community Services Division and works to guide organizations and community-based groups in making economic-and-community-development decisions. IDMs team typically serves economic development corporations, chambers of commerce, convention and visitor bureaus, community planning groups.
**Iowa Waste Reduction Center (IWRC)**
IWRC provides free and confidential environmental assistance to Iowa small businesses with less than 200 employees. Services include on-site review, assistance with environmental paperwork, and answering questions.

**Jacobson (Richard O.) Center for Comprehensive Literacy (JCCL)**
JCCL works with Iowa schools to improve literacy for all students. The Center strives to close the achievement gap between diverse groups, increase teachers’ knowledge and instructional expertise, support teachers’ monitoring of student progress and instructional decision-making.

**John Pappajohn Entrepreneurial Center**
JPEC is one of five such centers across the state of Iowa. The JPEC at UNI focuses on entrepreneurship in capital programs, student / faculty / staff entrepreneurship, and technology transfer. JPEC also offers educational programs and are open to all qualifying businesses and individuals.

**Metal Casting Center (MCC) / Foundry Center 4.0**
MCC is a nationally recognized leader in foundry research, applied technology, and technical business assistance. The MCC links university research and resources to private sector applications through hands-on experience, modern well-equipped facilities, and cutting edge technology concepts in the casting industry. At the UNI Foundry 4.0 Center, staff and students provide services targeted towards demonstration, education and consultation in additive manufacturing. Past clients have included small and large companies alike, as well as all five branches of the U.S. Department of Defense/

**National Program for Playground Safety (NPPS)**
NPPS' mission is to help the public create safe and developmentally appropriate play environments for children. They deliver training and services about outdoor play and safety and have developed the most comprehensive clearinghouse of outdoor play area safety resources in the U.S.

**Recycling and Reuse Technology Transfer Center**
RRTTC is an interdisciplinary research, education and outreach center serving Regent university researchers and students, Iowa citizens, business, and industry. RRTTC develops economical approaches to solving intractable solid waste problems and provides research and technical assistance on public health concerns related to solid waste.

**Regents’ Center for Early Development Education**
RCEDE works to improve early childhood education (birth through 8 years) in Iowa and beyond. The Center supports educational efforts that emphasize children’s interest, experimentation, and cooperation.

**Strategic Marketing Services**
SMS is a component of Business and Community Services in the College of Business Administration at UNI. SMS provides market research support and services to businesses across Iowa and beyond, including market and employee survey research, interviewing, focus groups, and expert panels.

**Tallgrass Prairie Center**
TPC works to restore native vegetation for the benefit of society and the environment, with research, education and technology transfer. Core programs include Research and Restoration, Integrated Roadside Vegetation Management (IRVM), Natural Selections, and Prairie on Farms.

**UNI Center for Urban Education**
UNI-CUE’s mission is to provide a positive environment for lifetime learning where individuals may pursue and continue their educational goals and prepare for careers. UNI-CUE collaborates with UNI departments and community programs to match resources to community needs. The UNI-CUE facility supports several federally-funded TRiO programs.

**UNI Community Music School**
The Community Music School provides innovative music education experiences for youth and adults through private instruction, coaching, enrichment classes in theory and music history, and music instruction. They also provide outreach and teaching opportunities for UNI School of Music students.

**UNI SUZUKI School**
The mission of the UNI Suzuki School is to enrich the lives of children and adults through the study of music. While Suzuki training for children is primarily a "triangle experience" between parent, teacher and student--participation in group activities enhances the enjoyment of making music with and for others.
A Closer Look at UNI Centers

Following is a one-page summary of each Center, organized by College.
MISSION
The mission for the University of Northern Iowa Center for Urban Education (UNI-CUE) is to provide a positive environment for a lifetime of learning, where individuals may pursue and continue their educational goals and prepare for careers.

GOALS
Goal 1: Diversity and Inclusion – Provide a campus culture that reflects and values the evolving diversity of society and promotes inclusion.
Goal 2: Campus Vitality – Enhance resources and facility development to provide an enriched campus life experience which is both environmentally and fiscally responsible.
Goal 3: Community Engagement – Create opportunities for students, faculty, and staff to build external relationships that enhance local and global learning experiences and contribute to the cultural and economic vitality of the Cedar Valley and Iowa.

PRIMARY ACTIVITIES AND SERVICES
UNI Federally-Funded TRIO Programs [Educational Opportunity Center (EOC), Educational Talent Search (ETS), and Upward Bound (UB), Continuing Education Courses, UNI-CUE Tutoring Center, 5th Grade Leadership Academy, ACT Prep Courses, Classroom and meeting spaces at no cost to area organizations and university programs

STAFFING
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<th>Position</th>
<th>Full Time</th>
<th>Part Time</th>
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<td>0</td>
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<tr>
<td>P&amp;S</td>
<td>18*</td>
<td>0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Merit</td>
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<td>1**</td>
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* currently in the hiring 2 additional P&S staff
** currently in the hiring an additional PT Merit staff

PARTICIPANT POPULATION
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<tr>
<td>Educational Opportunity Center (EOC)</td>
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<td>Educational Talent Search (ETS)</td>
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<td>Upward Bound (UB)</td>
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<td>Tutoring Center</td>
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<td>5th Grade Leadership Academy</td>
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<tr>
<td>ACT Prep</td>
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BUDGET
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<tbody>
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<tr>
<td>ETS</td>
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<tr>
<td>ETS-CR</td>
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<tr>
<td>UB</td>
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<tr>
<td>EOP</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNI-CUE</td>
<td></td>
<td>UB John Deere $448,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

ACCOMPLISHMENTS
- EOC received a five-year renewal grant to provide counseling and information on college admissions to qualified adults who want to enter or continue postsecondary education. The EOC has received the funding since it was established in 1988.
- ETS received a five-year renewal grant to provide academic, career and financial counseling to 1,200 low-income or first-generation Waterloo students and encourages them to graduate from high school and continue on to and complete their postsecondary education. The ETS has received consistent funding since 1985.
- UNI-CUE received additional ETS grant for the Cedar Rapids area to provide academic, career and financial counseling to 500 low-income or first-generation students in the Cedar Rapids Community School District.
- UNI-CUE was awarded a $87,000 grant from Iowa Workforce Development to provide summer employment to youth who are at risk of not graduating, from low-income households or from communities under-represented in the Iowa workforce.
- UNI-CUE’s Academic Attainment Fund, which is supported by a $117,000 grant from CUNA Mutual Group Foundation, was able to make a more affordable path to college for four high school graduates. The scholarship is able to provide $2,000 per semester for its recipients and is renewable each year dependent on funding.
- Governor’s STEM Advisory Council awarded a scale-up grant to UNI-CUE. Around 40 Waterloo Community School District middle school students who are a part of Educational Talent Search participated.
COLLEGE OF BUSINESS

Business and Community Services*

Center for Business Growth and Innovation / Advance Iowa

Family Business Center

Institute for Decision Making

Iowa Waste Reduction Center

John Pappajohn Entrepreneurial Center

Small Business Development Center

Strategic Marketing Services

*Business and Community Services represents all UNI Centers that focus on Community and Economic Development, regardless of College.
Advance Iowa specializes in serving small- to medium-sized enterprises throughout Iowa. Our team assists business leaders in gaining the skills needed to strategically plan for sustainable and profitable growth, value creation and the eventual transition of ownership. Using a broad network of passionate professionals and an array of services, we work to ensure that each business, no matter how unique it is, can thrive and grow providing financial benefit to the business owners, employees and communities that rely on its success.

Services & Programs

Strategic Planning Services & Technical Assistance // guide leadership to assess business operations and external environments resulting in the development of objectives and goals leading to solutions that ensure future success.

Business Ownership Transition & Continuity Planning Services // create a comprehensive plan for the smooth transition of ownership through leadership development, increasing the business value and the strategic identification of potential buyers.

Business Valuations // assist owners in converting the story of a company, its operational performance, history, brand and market position into dollars and cents. We assist in developing strategies that lead to the increase in company value.

Networking Events & Activities // connect our networks of similar professionals, other service providers and recognition programs ensure an excellent source of new perspectives and ideas.

Alternative Ownership Structures // assist owners in assessing whether an Employee Stock Ownership Plan, Employee Owned Cooperative or the sale to a key management/employee group would be the best buyer resulting in a greater financial advantage while preserving the company legacy.

Peer Learning Groups // offer facilitated peer learning groups that allow participants to share their collective knowledge, wisdom and ideas as they assist group members in processing and solving issues while looking at their businesses in new ways.

Workshops & Seminars // provide skill development for all leaders and employees, leading to innovation to drive sustainable and profitable future growth. Workshops, seminars and training programs introduce and develop critical skills and methods that deepen the understanding and application of business principles.

Highlights

Collaborates with state and local economic developers to present much needed programming to Iowa communities.

Worked with 30+ business owners to determine the value of and develop succession plans for their business.

Employs UNI students to help them gain real world and client experience.
The UNI Family Business Center offers a comprehensive suite of programs and services to Iowa’s family-owned companies. Family firms deal with a unique set of challenges and opportunities including family succession planning, next generation development, governance, and other issues impacting the longevity of the firm. The Center focuses on consulting, peer learning, events, and networking opportunities. Our mission is committed to strengthening the viability and success of Iowa’s family owned businesses.

Family Business Programs and Services

**Virtual Breakfast Series** // delivers an annual series of gatherings featuring family businesses, consultants, and service providers who share best practices and experiences on a range of family business topics.

**Next Generation Peer Groups** // facilitates monthly meetings to develop the next generation of family business leaders focusing on leadership development and experience sharing.

**Legacy Peer Groups** // facilitates quarterly meetings of retired and retiring family business leaders focused on the “third phase” of their lives and legacies.

**Family Host Speakers and Tours** // provides opportunities to learn from other Iowa business families, experience their facilities, and discover more about the shared challenges that all family businesses face.

**UNI Family Business Conference** // hosts an annual conference to provide education and networking opportunities for business families from across the Midwest.

**Family Business Consulting Services** // provides consultation and facilitation services to Iowa family businesses.

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Iowa family-owned companies are actively engaged with the Family Business Program with 50 family businesses members within the first year of a new membership platform.

Individuals currently involved among five affinity peer groups including Next Gen Leadership and Legacy groups.
The Institute for Decision Making provides Iowans with the knowledge, tools and guidance to take organized community and economic development actions to improve their communities, regions and the state.

**IDM Services and Programs**

**Strategic Planning** // designs and facilitates strategic planning and visioning, workforce development planning, marketing and public relations planning, and more for communities and organizations

**Organizational Development** // provides technical assistance for board leadership and staff in a variety of organizational management and development areas including organizational mergers, and enhancing cooperation and collaboration with partner organizations

**Applied Research** // conducts research that answers economic development-based questions to help clients make informed decisions

**Professional & Volunteer Development** // provides economic development training and informative resources for economic developers and their organizations

**EDA University Center** // develops business retention/expansion programs that incorporate innovation, intrapreneurship and Industry 4.0

**IDM Clients**

// Economic Development Organizations
// Chambers of Commerce
// Regional Alliances
// Government Entities
// Tourism Organizations

// Community Colleges
// Main Street Organizations
// Other Not-For-Profit Organizations
// Utility Providers
// National, Regional & Statewide Associations

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**All 99**

counties in Iowa have clients assisted by IDM.

IDM is a key partner in Iowa’s Manufacturing 4.0 Consortium, providing Industry 4.0 training to build the capacity and knowledge of Iowa’s economic development professionals and other business service providers.

IDM supported community alignment in Emmetsburg, Iowa by facilitating a collaborative strategic planning process for the City, the School District, and Municipal Utility.

IDM is active across campus. This past year IDM engaged students and faculty from 13 academic departments.

IDM helped to establish ONE Cedar Valley to assist individuals overcome barriers to employment.
The IWRC, founded out of the 1987 Groundwater Protection Act, has been a leading outreach program at UNI for over three decades. The center’s core funding comes from landfill tipping fees to provide environmental assistance to Iowa’s small businesses. Through the years, the IWRC has leveraged this funding and its expertise to expand programming in specific areas including; air emissions, painter training, food waste, craft brewing, energy efficiency and more. The IWRC’s culture of innovation has led to several spin-off businesses as well as many patents, copyrights and trademarks.

**IWRC Services and Programs**

**Environmental Assistance** // provides direct, on-site assistance to Iowa small businesses including environmental compliance audits and pollution prevention recommendations. The center has also developed several online tools for businesses to use that help them maintain records for compliance.

**Painter Training** // creates and delivers specific and customized training to increase the efficiency of painters while reducing waste from the painting and coating operations. Since 2003, the Spray Technique Analysis and Research for Defense (STAR4D) program has focused on training military and contract painters across the country.

**Food, Beverage and Organics** // provides assistance to Iowa businesses, organizations, schools and other public entities in reducing food waste. Funding from the USDA has allowed these assistance efforts to reach many rural areas in Iowa and surrounding states. The center’s Green Brewery award-winning program rewards the craft breweries of Iowa for their sustainability efforts while providing direct assistance to these breweries.

**Energy Efficiency** // delivers programming to help rural businesses become more energy efficient in collaboration with the Iowa Economic Development Authority. IWRC staff provide free energy audits and recommendation reports demonstrating potential energy and cost savings.

**Highlights**

- **6,250+** Iowa businesses have received direct assistance from IWRC since its inception.

- **4,000+** Active duty and contract painters have been trained and certified through the STAR4D training program.

- The IWRC was a champion in bringing a state chapter of the United States Composting Council to Iowa as well as has hosted two award-winning regional conferences focusing on reducing food waste in the Midwest.
The John Pappajohn Entrepreneurial Center offers a comprehensive program in entrepreneurship services for UNI student and community entrepreneurs. The JPEC team, which includes the UNI Small Business Development Center, provides a vibrant and dynamic environment that inspires, empowers and equips entrepreneurs and innovators to impact the Iowa economy.

The center collaborates with the Department of Marketing & Entrepreneurship to offer students the opportunity to complete either a Certificate or Minor in Entrepreneurship.

**JPEC Programs and Services**

**Campus and Community Outreach** provides workshops to numerous campus and community partners, and is active within the entrepreneurial ecosystem in the Cedar Valley.

**Early Founder Program** delivers an eight-week accelerator program during the summer and a mini winter session that provides student entrepreneurs with the opportunity to focus on building their business model.

**IASourceLink** serves as an online portal for inspiring entrepreneurs and business owners who need help starting, scaling or accelerating their business idea. This site provides resources, guides, webinars and state-wide events that assist in entrepreneurial success.

**Panther Biz HQ** is a student-led digital marketing research and implementation services to assist rural and small retail businesses in Iowa. Businesses receive marketing strategies, support and input on how to shape their online marketing strategies and how to effectively connect to their customers.

**R.J. McElroy Student Business Incubator** is an educational learning laboratory designed to inspire and educate students interested in entrepreneurship and small business. Three levels of services are available to students: networking, business support or physical incubation in dedicated office suites with 24/7 access.

Over the past 25 years, the JPEC established a strong student incubation program that received international recognition in 2016 by the International Business Innovation Association (InBIA).
The UNI Small Business Development Center provides free, confidential, customized business guidance and technical assistance in a nine-county region in Northeast Iowa: Black Hawk, Bremer, Butler, Buchanan, Chickasaw, Fayette, Grundy, Howard and Tama.

SBDC Programs and Services

**Customized Assistance** // offers no cost, one-on-one consulting for start-ups and existing businesses on loans and financing, financial statement analysis, marketing, accounting and record keeping, sales, advertising, business planning, management, and more.

Resources and information about business growth, government contracting, exporting, marketing expansion and new emerging technologies are also available.

**Market Research** // provides access to a wide range of research tools that can help small businesses achieve a competitive advantage.

**Community Engagement** // participates actively on committees for Waterloo Main Street, Cedar Falls Community Main Street, and serves on the board for the Cedar Falls Tourism and Visitors Bureau. Additional involvement includes participation in the Cedar Valley Regional Partners and North Iowa Business Network economic development groups.

**Disaster Assistance** // serves as a resource partner with the SBA to assist existing clients with financial and operational challenges related to the COVID-19 pandemic and natural disasters in the region.

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### Highlights

- **16** new businesses were started
- **$3,769,319** capital infusion
- **91** jobs were created
- **290** clients sought counseling totaling 802 hours of client counseling
- **$9,343,961** of sales supported
- **651** jobs were supported

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IOWASBDC.ORG
Strategic Marketing Services' primary purpose is to strengthen organizations, whether they are exploring marketing research for the first time or just looking for fresh ideas. As a full-service market research firm, SMS creates customized research strategies designed to meet the unique needs of our clients. Simply put, SMS collects information, but delivers intelligence that creates the insights and influence required to move organizations forward.

**SMS Programs and Services**

Strategic Marketing Services conducts full-service market research studies to deliver customized, targeted and actionable marketplace intelligence. Our services include work in the following areas:

**Strategic Intelligence** // collects, processes, analyzes and disseminates marketplace data, often from market research-related activities including market characterization studies and strategic opportunity assessments such as market penetration, market development, product/service development and diversification.

**Customer Intelligence** // delivers a wide array of qualitative and quantitative customer intelligence services such as Voice of the Customer studies, ongoing customer satisfaction programs and proprietary customer panels.

**Product Intelligence** // provides product or service evaluation studies that provide intelligence relative to customer perceptions and experiences, industry requirements and trends and vertical market attractiveness.

**Competitive Intelligence** // assesses company-level characteristics such as sales, marketing and service capabilities, corporate messaging, branding and finances, as well as product line or service attributes such as pricing, positioning and line extensions.

Since 1990, SMS has served over 300 clients in diverse markets during our 30-year history. Our clients include entrepreneurs, Fortune 500 companies, government agencies, economic development corporations and not-for-profit organizations.

SMS, along with the Center for Social and Behavioral Research and the Institute for Decision Making (IDM) assisted UNI's University Relations department with conducting a comprehensive university branding assessment by performing primary market research among 13 UNI constituency groups. This research effort served as the foundational research for current UNI re-branding work across the campus community.

SMS and IDM, in partnership with the Iowa Economic Development Authority, conducted three Iowa COVID-19 Business Impact surveys to assess the impact of the pandemic on Iowa’s businesses and nonprofit organizations. The IEDA has used the data collected to inform its public policy and programming in response to the ongoing impacts of the pandemic on Iowa.

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**Key Services**

/Brand Awareness & Perception /Competitive Intelligence /Concept Testing /Prototype Evaluations /Focus Groups /Custom Panel Research Development /Surveys /Market Development /Intercept Interviews /Product Development /Pricing Strategies /New Product Development /Marcom Campaigns /Targeted Industry Analysis /Workforce and Housing Studies

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**Highlights**

**Branding**

**COVID Impact Assessments**
COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

Center for Educational Transformation

Jacobson Center for Comprehensive Literacy

National Program for Playground Safety

Regents' Center for Early Developmental Education
History of the Center for Educational Transformation

In 2009, Iowa Senate File 470 created the Iowa Research and Development Center for Education Innovation at the University of Northern Iowa (UNI). The original goals for this Center, as outlined in Senate File 470, were:

- To raise and sustain the level of all PK–12 students' educational attainment and personal development through innovative and promising teaching practice.
- To enhance the preparation and professional competence of the educators in this state through collaborative inquiry and exchange of professional knowledge in teaching and learning.
- To focus on research that transforms teaching to meet the changing needs of Iowa’s educational system.

With regard to funding, in April 2013, UNI received a $2 million award from the Carver Trust to establish the Center for Educational Transformation (CET), an entity intended to fulfill the mission of the Iowa Research and Development Center for Education Innovation. On October 24, 2013, the Board of Regents, State of Iowa, approved the CET and Phase I commenced. In 2017, the Carver Trust grant concluded. In 2018, the CET entered Phase II.

With regard to leadership, when the CET started in 2013, it was led by director Alan Heisterakmp until 2015. Cindy Diehl-Yang took over as director from 2015 to 2017. In 2017, Gaetane Jean-Marie became the CET director until 2018. In 2017-2018 a national search was conducted to find an experienced innovative researcher to lead the CET into Phase II. Lisa M. Hooper was hired as director and has served in that role since 2018. With regard to other critical leadership, long time program director, Chris Opsal was with the CET from 2013 to 2019. The CET has conducted several searches to fill the program manager position since Opsal’s departure and the position has remained unfilled serving as significant deficit in human resources for the CET.

Current Mission Statement

The current mission reads: The CET serves as Iowa’s PK–12 education research and development center, supporting and conducting transformative education research, building collaborative relationships across Iowa, and sharing innovative, research-based best practices to inform policy and drive practice. We began the process of refining the CET's mission and vision based on the recommendations put forward by diverse stakeholders. The data were derived from meetings with community stakeholders and approximately 50% of the UNI departments across all colleges. In an effort to be inclusive and comprehensive in the revisions, the data collection will continue. We will continue collecting information and refining the mission and vision consonant with the changing needs of the populations and communities the CET serves.

Critical and Emerging Issues

The CET conducts and supports basic research, translational research, and research to practice studies on unique and combined effects of education, health, and culture. These studies improve and extend the knowledge and practice base on education, health, and culture for PK-20 populations and their families in Iowa and other national and global communities. The CET has established research foci, which are informed by conversations with diverse stakeholders, about current critical and emerging issues in Iowa. Some of these issues include: mental health in schools, trauma-informed care in schools and communities, individual, family, and community well-being, cultural and linguistic preparation and competence, and Science, Technology, and Engineering, and Math (STEM). Relevant to all of these areas are the implications of culture—broadly defined—race, equity, and inclusion. Given that the CET is a transdisciplinary center, the opportunities to partner with every UNI college, faculty member, student, and diverse agencies (e.g., public health agencies, K-12 schools, and businesses) across the state, nationally, and internationally are endless. Our current local, national, and international partners and activities reflect this diversity.

Measurable Productivity and Outcomes

This past year we engaged in several first-time activities and were quite productive. Specifically, we submitted 12 grant applications, which totaled approximately 13 million dollars, to a range of funding sources (e.g., National Science Foundation, Institute of Education Sciences, and Spencer Foundation). Thus far, two grants have been funded, eight grants were not funded, and two are pending. Additionally, we were finalist for the William T. Grant Foundation Institutional Challenge Grant. Concurrent with grantsmanship, the CET initiated or continued long-term projects (6 research projects). These projects are consonant with our research foci and include: diversifying the teacher workforce, cultural linguistic competence among teachers, trauma-informed care, immersive virtual reality, and whole-teacher well-being to name a few. With regard to scholarship, we have produced reports, peer-reviewed papers, and presentations. Although we did not receive the external funding we expected, we have laid the ground work for local and nationwide partnerships, which will inform grant proposals that will ultimately offer empirically-supported solutions to complex problems and inform practice, research, and policy going forward. With regard to first-time initiatives the CET hosted our first award-winning international scholar and supported our first high school student intern, who was later hired and now serves in the position of research and development emerging scholar. Taken together, these outcomes illustrate diverse opportunities for substantive and beneficial experiences for students (in similar and different disciplines), faculty members, professionals, and citizens to engage in collaborative research and development work to solve complex problems facing our society.
The Richard O. Jacobson Center for Comprehensive Literacy (JCCL) was established in November 2010 with a gift of $11 million. In the first years of the Center, under the direction of Salli Forbes, Ph.D., the focus was on preparing Reading Recovery teacher leaders through the Reading Recovery Program of Iowa, and the preparation of classroom and intervention literacy coaches in the Partnerships in Comprehensive Literacy (PCL) model working in concert with Reading Recovery. With the retirement of Dr. Forbes as director, Deborah Tidwell, Ph.D., served as interim Center director for the 2019-2020 academic year. While no longer working with Reading Recovery, the Center will maintain its focus on comprehensive literacy, supporting and sustaining educators and districts in comprehensive approaches toward literacy teaching and learning. Lori Norton-Meier, Ph.D., began serving as the director of the Center in August 2020.

Vision

Offering unique opportunities for pre-service and in-service teachers to inquire about the teaching and learning of literacy, the JCCL will be an extension of the diverse and inclusive campus community of UNI providing community-engaged opportunities for new, innovative thinking about literacy education empowering all involved to lead and share that learning both locally and globally.

Mission Statement

To promote comprehensive literacy of all learners by transforming literacy education through expanding pre-service and in-service teachers’ literacy knowledge and instructional expertise in professional learning communities.

The Jacobson Center for Comprehensive Literacy Mission will be accomplished by the following goals:

- Form collaborative partnerships with districts across the state for the development of effective literacy programs that impact student learning and progress.
- Support professional development based on effective literacy instruction practices and current reading research. Assist teachers to collaborate in planning to meet the instructional needs of all students.
- Involve pre-service teachers in authentic teaching and learning experiences in the school setting, including shared professional development opportunities with in-service teachers.
- Advance knowledge related to literacy teaching and learning by engaging in mutually beneficial research-practice partnerships with schools, community organizations, and other research institutions in Iowa, nationally, and globally.

Historical Highlights (2010-2020)

Partnerships in Comprehensive Literacy is a systemic school change model dedicated to increasing student achievement. This program provided professional development to 567 K-12 teachers.

Reading Recovery is an early literacy intervention providing intensive individual instruction to first grade students having the greatest difficulty learning to read and write. In the last decade, this program served: 27,650 K-12 students, 3,500 K-12 teachers, 269 schools and 131 districts per year.

Literacy Academy and Summer Institute - From 2011-2019, two annual conferences served 2,580 K-12 teachers.

Opportunities for the Future

The year 2020-2021 focused on strategic planning with a variety of partners within the college and university, across the state, and national leaders in education. Four initiatives were identified to guide the JCCL for the next five years:

LITERACY RE-IMAGINED – The literacy profession is looking to the future by questioning the very definition of literacy. Literacy continues to be transformed by technology, and a growing understanding of the complexities of learning to read and write, talk and listen, enact and visualize.

BECOMING - Becoming a teacher and continuing to grow in our understanding of the teaching and learning of literacy is a critical commitment of the JCCL.

ILLUMINATE – Literacy teaching and learning are dependent on materials for writing and reading and creating innovative environments where this learning can occur.

OUTREACH – Outreach is critical to our mission to share research and practice related to literacy teaching and learning with educators, families, the community, and beyond the borders of the State of Iowa. Dissemination of our original research will occur through ongoing presenting and publishing.
Iowa Regents' Center for Early Developmental Education Schindler Education Center 116 and 117
regentsctr.uni.edu

STAFF
Director: Beth Dykstra VanMeeteren, EdD (2014- present) – faculty line / general fund
Program Coordinator: Sherri Peterson, MA, MS – supported by grant funding
Faculty Fellow: Sarah Vander Zanden, PhD – supported by grant funding
Secretary III: Yin Yee – general fund
Campus Advisory Board/Volunteers: Dr. Judith Finkelstein, Dr. Jill Uhlenberg, Dr. Linda Fitzgerald, Dr. Rosemary Geiken, Dr. Shelly Counsell, Dr. Sonia Yoshizawa, Dr. Mary Donegan-Ritter, Dr. Allison Barness

ORIGIN
Established in 1988 by the Iowa Legislature (Senate file 2295:262.71) to represent all three state universities (indicated by color of pinwheels in logo). Iowa Legislature selected UNI as its caretaker.

PURPOSE
To transform and promote best practices in early education (birth – 8 years) that address local, state and national needs through advocacy, research, professional and curriculum development, dissemination and outreach.

MISSION STATEMENT
Through its activities, the Regents' Center aims to accomplish the following:

1. Develop research-based programs and curriculum materials that respect the unique developmental needs of young children and their families.
2. Promote applied and interdisciplinary research in early education.
3. Disseminate information about developmentally appropriate early education to educators, parents, and the public at state, national, and international levels through workshops, conferences, and publications.
5. Inform policy makers about the developmental and educational needs of young children and their families.
6. Promote interinstitutional collaboration among the three State Regents' universities, other educational agencies, and government agencies.

EXAMPLES OF CURRENT AND RECENT ACTIVITY:

1. Development of six infant toddler STEM educational experiences and professional learning offered on iPower training registry for Iowa childcare providers and child care center directors.
2. Development of 13 PK-2 STEM educational experiences and professional learning offered on iPower training registry for Iowa preschool and k-2 teachers and directors (exploring use of micro-credentials).
3. Referenced in two recent policy statements put out by the Education Commission of the States highlighting the center’s early STEM work and how it dovetails with UNI's early childhood teacher education program.
4. Supports UNI faculty and students in teacher preparation through the use of the Integrative Classroom Studio and early STEM materials to check out for field experiences.
5. Selection by Iowa Governor’s STEM Advisory Council as a Scale Up Program for five consecutive years to provide 811 Iowa early childhood educators classroom materials and professional learning on early STEM learning. Resulted in $2,506,230 and increased enrollment of 811 UNI students over four years. Awaiting for numbers of educators for fifth program to be implemented in FY23.
6. Collaboration with UNI Dept of Technology to manufacture classroom kits for Scale Up Programs allowing them to purchase equipment for manufacturing that also benefits their program and instruction for UNI students.
7. Contract with Teachers College Press to publish STEM Learning with Young Children: Inquiry Teaching with Ramps and Pathways (also translated into Chinese) and seven teacher guides on early STEM experiences with the first two coming out in June, 2022.
8. Contract with Tennessee Early Childhood Training Alliance to provide professional learning for 150 Tennessee early childhood teachers, and training of six Instructors to continue the professional learning across the state.
9. Collaborator with North Tama County Community School District to secure two STEM Best grants to transform their pk-2 classrooms into Integrative STEM and Literacy Classrooms. These serve as model classrooms for Iowa school districts.
10. Fulfilled request from universities in Shanghai to present early STEM experience, Ramps & Pathways, at two international early childhood conferences.
11. Collaborative grant writing with UNI and ISU early childhood faculty.
COLLEGE OF SOCIAL AND BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES

ARCTICenter

Center for Social and Behavioral Research

Center for Violence Prevention

GeoTREE Center
Interdisciplinary center for the studies of Arctic, remote and cold regions:

- sustainable development, human well-being and environmental change;
- interdisciplinary and community-focused research;
- unique learning and engagement opportunities for students;
- promoting Iowa's connections to the Arctic and the world;
- home for key Arctic research networks: Arctic-FRONT, Arctic-COAST, ASUS and Arctic Horizons

Areas of interest and expertise:

- Social indicators and human well-being development and implementation of indicators and social monitoring systems (Arctic Social Indicators, Arctic Human Development Report)
- Benefit sharing and resource economy how to make extractive activities beneficial for communities (Resources and Sustainable Development Project)
- Arctic creative and cultural economies study of human creativity, innovation, arts and cultural economies in Arctic communities (Creative Arctic Project)
- Arctic renewable energy assessment of renewable energy potential in the Arctic (A-WIND)
- Arctic youth focus on socio-economic conditions, aspirations and futures of young people in the Arctic (Arctic Youth and Sustainable Futures Project)
- Arctic cities a look at the Arctic cities and their sustainable development (PIRE Arctic Urban Sustainability Project)
- Human impacts on tundra origins, dynamics and consequences of tundra fires and vehicular tracks
- Reindeer dynamics analysis and monitoring of current and historical change in wild reindeer herds in Russia (TAMARA Project, i-Reindeer)
**Mission:** To enhance knowledge of social and behavioral phenomena and research methods, train students, and support scholars and public agencies through research, service, evaluation and educational activities. The center conducts original survey research, quantitative and qualitative data collection, and data analysis that inform scholarship and public policy decision-making. This mission is met through:

- **Partnership:** Establishing and developing research relationships, both within the University and with external public policy makers, researchers, and not-for-profit agencies locally, and nationally; and,

- **Research Excellence:** Designing and providing quality research and evaluation by adhering to the highest ethical standards and professional best practices.

**Overview:** The Center for Social and Behavioral Research (CSBR) was formed in 1967, making it one of the most experienced academic survey and evaluation organizations in the Midwest. Most CSBR research activities assist public organizations in answering questions about public opinion, participant behaviors and the implementation and impact of their programs -- using data to inform scholarship and decision-making. CSBR resides in the College of Social & Behavioral Sciences and serves the UNI community, external public policy makers, researchers/scholars at other colleges and universities, and not-for-profit agencies. With projects ranging from $100 to over $11M, CSBR has collected data from over 850,000 Iowans by telephone interviewing conducted in the CSBR 24-station computer-assisted telephone interviewing (CATI) lab, face-to-face interviewing, self-administered mail or online questionnaires, focus groups, in-depth interviews, and SMS quick capture questionnaires.

CSBR projects span all phases of the research process: development and design, quantitative and qualitative data collection and analysis, program evaluation, reporting results, consulting services, budgeting, and assistance with grant proposal preparation. CSBR develops and submits research proposals both independently and in collaboration with others on campus and at other universities and organizations.

Topics addressed in its 800+ projects include education, public health, transportation, and environment. CSBR’s portfolio includes long and short-term projects. For the past 28 years, CSBR has conducted the Iowa Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance Survey (BRFSS) in partnership with the Iowa Department of Public Health and the Centers for Disease Control. CSBR serves as evaluator for multiple National Science Foundation grants, the Iowa Governor’s STEM Advisory Council, and a number of applied studies of watersheds and water quality for Iowa DNR and public perceptions of transportation issues for Iowa DOT.

Other key partners include the University of Iowa, Iowa State University, Iowa state government agencies (e.g., IDPH, DOT, DNR, DHS). CSBR provides a unique training site for undergraduate and graduate students seeking experience in applied social and behavioral research, quantitative survey methods and qualitative methods such as focus groups, in-depth interviewing, program and project evaluation.

Staff include two faculty administrators, two P&S doctoral-level administrators, nine professional staff (five holding masters or doctoral degrees), 8 student research assistants and 65 student interviewers. Most core staff are active members of the American Association for Public Opinion Research (AAPOR) and/or the American Evaluation Association (AEA). CSBR is a founding member of the Association of Academic Survey Research Organizations (AASRO) and is a Charter Member of the AAPOR Transparency Initiative (TI), which recognizes those organizations that pledge to practice transparency in their reporting of survey-based findings.

**Near-term Goals:** Expanding and diversifying staff and developing a summer internship (to begin 2023) for underrepresented students to provide exposure to and experience in applied social and behavioral research.
BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF DEPARTMENT
The Patricia A. Tomson Center for Violence Prevention (CVP) was formed in 2011 with the mission to build the capacity of institutions of higher education, PreK-12 schools, victim service agencies and non-profit organizations to systematically implement best practice violence prevention and evaluation strategies in collaboration with state, family, and community partners. This work is accomplished by conducting bullying and gender violence prevention trainings, and workshops with school and community partners; increasing the engagement of men in and boys in working to reduce and end violence and abuse; supporting and enhancing academic departments and course curricula; and through supporting schools and community partners in their efforts to maintain and sustain bullying and violence prevention initiatives and strategies.

The CVP emerged from work at UNI and the Regent campuses through 4 grants from the Department of Justice Office of Violence Against Women Department of Justice grant program to reduce sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence and stalking on campus program. In 2015 the CVP was designated as the Governor’s Office on Bullying Prevention.

DEPARTMENT STATISTICS
The College of Social and Behavioral Sciences supports 1 full-time Director. One faculty member receives one course release each semester to serve as the Director of Research and Evaluation. The CVP often supports 2-3 undergraduate and graduate interns pursuing assistantships in violence prevention on annual basis.

HIGHLIGHTS OF DEPARTMENT
- The CVP received a $2M endowment from Pat and O. Jay Tomson (fall 2022) and additional funding of $100K and $25K from the Buntrock and Sukup Foundations, respectively.
- The work of the CVP is supported through (sub)grants from the Iowa Department of Education ($370,000), the Iowa Department of Public Health ($35,000 annually), Department of Justice-Project Safe Neighborhood ($70,000 annually) and through private foundation grants ($60,000 annually).
- The CVP is a nationally recognized training site for the evidence based Mentors in Violence Prevention (MVP) Bystander/Leadership program and the Coaching Boys into Men (CBIM) program.
- UNI and Higher Education
  - Approximately 5-7 classroom visits per semester reaching on average 800 students in CSBS/COE.
  - Supports MVP Train the Trainer training for students and staff (e.g. fraternities, athletics, student organizations, new student orientations)
  - The CVP has facilitated violence prevention trainings with over half of Iowa’s colleges & universities.
- The CVP has organized and delivered several webinars and symposiums on engaging men and boys in gender violence prevention.
- Secondary schools in Iowa is a major focus of the CVP. To date, the CVP has worked with 47 secondary schools, working with over 4750 MVP Mentors, reaching approximately 38,500 secondary school students across the State of Iowa. The CVP facilitates:
  - Multi-level assessments on violence prevention efforts.
  - MVP Train the Trainer model with school districts and community partners.
  - CBIM trainings in collaboration with the Iowa High School Athletics Association.
- The work of the CVP has been presented at state, national and international forums.
The GeoInformatics Training Research Education and Extension (GeoTREE) Center supports the effective use of geospatial (Geographic Information Systems, Global Positioning Systems, Remote Sensing, web mapping) technologies across the UNI campus and in the state of Iowa. We serve federal, state, local, and tribal agencies in Iowa as well as the non-profit sector, academic, and commercial entities.

**GeoTREE Partners**

**UNI Faculty, Staff and Students** // assists CEEE, UNI Facilities Management, Government Relations, Iowa Governor’s STEM Advisory Council, UNI Foundation, Center for Violence Prevention, Center for Educational Transformation, Tallgrass Prairie Center, President’s Office, Provosts’s Office

**Federal Programs** // collaborates with the National Science Foundation, National Geospatial Intelligence Agency, Natural Resources Conservation Service

**Commercial Partners** // partners with John Deere, VGM Inc., Agronomy Partners

**State and Local Government Programs** // works with the Iowa DNR, Iowa DOT, Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship, Iowa Economic Development Authority, and various cities and school districts.

**Non-Profit Organizations** // conducted projects for the Community Foundation of Northeast Iowa, Northeast Iowa Food Bank, Vacation Okoboji, Iowa Geographic Information Council, Experience Waterloo and City of Cedar Falls Visitor and Tourism Bureau

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**Highlights**

50+

UNI undergraduate students have worked on projects in Iowa for the collaborators listed above.

Hundreds of terabytes of data have been delivered across all 99 counties in Iowa, while providing software tools and free training sessions to hundreds of clients.
COLLEGE OF HUMANITIES, ARTS AND SCIENCES

Center for Energy and Environmental Education

Center for Holocaust and Genocide Education

Center for Teaching and Learning Mathematics

Community Music School

Metal Casting Center / Industry 4.0

Recycling and Reuse Technology Transfer Center

Tallgrass Prairie Center

UNI Suzuki School
The Center for Energy & Environmental Education (CEEE) creates opportunities for UNI students, faculty and staff to work with community leaders to arrive at evidence-based, solution-oriented responses to the problems they wish to address. We offer technical assistance, educational programs and leadership in energy conservation and renewable energy, environmental conservation, and community-based agriculture. The CEEE serves Iowa cities, counties, school districts, teachers, farmers, businesses, elected officials, state agencies, community leaders and citizen organizations.

Programs and Services

Green Iowa AmeriCorps & Community Service Programs
- Residential energy and weatherization services for underserved populations and communities
- Environmental education, service learning and sustainability programming with K-12 school districts
- Land, water and biodiversity restoration services to communities across Iowa
- Fossil energy emissions benchmarking as a starting point towards developing a community resilience plan
- Energy, food system and environmental health planning services offered to local governments

UNI Local Food Program
- Services to connect farmers to institutional buyers
- Connecting opportunities to local farms seeking new local markets
- Improving access to more fruits and vegetables among underserved populations

Improving Children’s Environmental Health
- Training workshops for ground staff, community leaders on pesticides and public health
- Managing statewide Pesticides & Public Health Working Group
- Workshops at state and national conferences on upstream solutions for food and agricultural systems

Highlights

- 1,100+ residential energy efficiency projects in Iowa
- 400+ students engage the community through CEEE initiatives each year
- 600+ environmental outreach projects engaged
- 3,500+ volunteers
- 625 educational programs facilitated for nearly 25,000 participants
- $2.8 million in external funds secured in 2021
The UNI Center for Holocaust and Genocide Education (CHGE) was established in 2011. The Mission Statement of the CHGE is: to educate about the Holocaust and other genocides as well as to mobilize individuals and communities to challenge genocide and other threats to human rights, such as intolerance, anti-Semitism, racism and ignorance. We do this by providing programming and resources on campus, in the community, and in partnership with educational and other organizations throughout the State of Iowa, and beyond.

This statement underscores the CHGE’s core involvement with diversity and equity issues through its effort to educate audiences about historical and current threats to marginalized and targeted communities throughout the world. It also makes explicit the CHGE’s work on campus, in the local community and throughout Iowa.

Community engagement has been fundamental to the work of the CHGE through our collaboration in the Cedar Valley and statewide with businesses, organizations, libraries, museums, and educational institutions (K-12, college and university). The CHGE’s high degree of community engagement and our longstanding relationships with our various partners has helped to establish UNI as a leader in Holocaust and genocide education around the state and enhanced UNI’s visibility and prominence.

An initial understanding of the history, achievements, challenges and needs of the CHGE can be found in our annual reports (the most recent was for FY21) and in our 7-Year-Report (2010-2017). Most recently, the Center completed an exhibit, *Doctors and Nurses as Rescuers in Humanitarian Crisis*, formerly on display at the Grout Museum of History & Science, marking the eleventh annual collaboration with the Grout to bring an exhibit dealing with genocide or human rights crisis.

The Director of the CHGE reports to the Dean of the College of Humanities, Arts & Sciences. The Dean communicates with the Provost on matters involving the CHGE. The CHGE is in the midst of a lengthy transition to a new director (the current director has remained on staff as a part-time employee in order to continue directing the CHGE).
The CTLM: Who Do We Serve?

Our Brief History: The CTLM was originally established at UNI to coordinate externally funded mathematics education projects. During the 1980’s and ‘90s, prior to the establishment of the CTLM, the math department at UNI provided professional development (PD) through contracts and appropriations. When the CTLM was established in 2007, the focus was both PD and the development of online educational videos for educators and parents, supported by the Department of Defense Education Activity (DoDEA). From 2010 - 2016, the CTLM expanded upon this work, supported by Mathematics and Science Partnership funding, to deliver the PD program, Making Sense of Mathematics and Teaching (MSMT), to elementary teachers across Iowa, and a particularly strong partnership was established with the Waterloo Community School District. In 2014, a new program, Teaching Mathematics to Struggling Learners (TMSL), was created to address the emerging need for mathematics PD designed specifically for special educators. In 2016, the CTLM returned to serving educators in DoDEA Partnership school districts, and we continue to serve DoDEA general and special educators. In 2020, MSMT expanded to include grades 9-12 to meet the needs of high school math teachers.

The CTLM: What Do We Do?

Our Mission, Vision, and Goals: The CTLM strives to apply the continuous process of research, development, and implementation to professional learning experiences with the goal of making powerful learning a reality for every person we serve. A goal of the CTLM is to address the needs of practicing teachers as they strive to implement effective mathematics instruction in their classrooms. A second goal is to provide experiences outside of school that enhance K-12 students' learning. The third goal of the CTLM is to sustain itself through the seeking and successful stewardship of external funding.

Our Work: The CTLM develops and delivers hybrid and fully online mathematics PD courses for in-service general education K-12 (MSMT) and special education K-8 (TMSL) teachers. All CTLM courses are offered through UNI’s Office of Continuing and Distance Education and are accessible to teachers across the state and beyond. Summer camp experiences and training of teachers to deliver these camps are also our work. Additionally, free access is available to students, parents, and teachers to our Making Sense Online Resources through a CTLM YouTube channel and the CTLM website.

Enrollment: K-12 Educators Enrolled in CTLM Courses

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<th>FY20</th>
<th>FY21</th>
<th>FY22</th>
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<td>Non-credit training</td>
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Diversity and Inclusion: The TMSL series of courses supports mathematics special education teachers in the delivery of interventions for struggling students. Mathematics is often a gatekeeper for middle school students.

Challenges & Opportunities: Addressing the PD needs for teachers is a fluid, changing marketplace which necessitates responsive institutional systems. The CTLM needs to be able to provide job-embedded PD at a competitive rate that teachers or school districts can afford, possibly outside of typical tuition-based fees. Micro credentialing could be a part of the solution to this problem.

The CTLM: What is Our Future?

We believe that our success in procuring funding for the sustainability of the CTLM lies primarily in our willingness to be of service to educators. Our future lies in identifying the needs of educators and providing tools to meet those needs. As always, the CTLM will identify needs by connecting with educators. Needs identified as of now:

- A gap exists between researched-based best practice and actual classroom practice and job-embedded PD.
- Teachers are being asked by their districts to utilize low, or no-cost, curricular options with no vetting and/or little or no support. There is a need for job-embedded PD that helps teachers implement what they learn.
- As the pandemic revealed, teachers need research-based methods to receive and deliver instruction online.

Funding history 2006-present

<table>
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<tr>
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<th>Awarded Contracts/Subawards</th>
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The University of Northern Iowa Community Music School offers innovative music experiences for area youth and adults, provides mentored teaching opportunities for UNI students, and establishes community-based partnerships which promote and utilize the many resources and facets of cultural diversity in the Cedar Valley.

UNICOMMUNITYMUSIC@UNI.EDU
319-273-2142 / RSL 142
CMS.UNI.EDU

“Music Lasts a Lifetime”

The UNI Community Music School (CMS) offers a variety of engaging music education experiences, taught and led by professional musicians and UNI students to the Cedar Valley community.

CMS embraces a diverse and inclusive learning environment with exceptional programming where everyone is welcome regardless of ability, age, or financial means.

The Community Music School is an integral part of the Cedar Valley and UNI community, with over 400 participants annually. Teachers and volunteers are UNI students, faculty, staff, alumni, and professional musicians and teachers in the community.

CMS teachers benefit from having the opportunity to work in a variety of teaching environments as well as interacting with and instructing members of differing populations in the Cedar Valley.

Several public performances are available throughout the year, on the UNI campus, and in surrounding communities.

Community partnerships have included a number of local organizations in Waterloo, including Irving Elementary School, Jubilee UMC Freedom Center, the Boys and Girls Club, Waterloo First UMC, and Westminster Presbyterian Church.

The University of Northern Iowa Community Music School offers innovative music experiences for area youth and adults, provides mentored teaching opportunities for UNI students, and establishes community-based partnerships which promote and utilize the many resources and facets of cultural diversity in the Cedar Valley.

UNI
University of Northern Iowa

Music Lessons
- Individual and Group Lessons taught by UNI students and area professionals
- Children and Adult participants

New Horizons Band
- Adults 50 years old +
- Staple of the Cedar Valley musical community for over 20 years
- Group Lessons taught by UNI students

Children’s Choir
- Strives to create a model of artistic excellence and diversity that represents, enriches, and gives back to the community.
- Assisted by UNI students

Camp Musicmania
- Fine Arts Summer Camp
- Music, Theatre, and Art exploration
- Experience UNI campus
- Professional and UNI student leadership
Metal Casting Center & Foundry 4.0 Center

The UNI Metal Casting Center (MCC) has been an industry service center on the UNI campus since 1990. The UNI Foundry 4.0 Center is housed at the TechWorks Campus in Waterloo. UNI students from all disciplines work and supported applied research in both centers. Most of the industry clients are medium-sized enterprises and the manufacturing supply chains.

As leaders in independent research specializing in metal casting materials, processes and technology, the MCC focuses on materials research, metal manufacturing and foundry education. With revolutionary metal casting, molding, and 3D printing equipment, the MCC is able to utilize its equipment to advance learning and push the boundaries of technology.

Services

// Green sand capabilities
// Chemically bonded sand capabilities
// Unbonded sand capabilities
// Biobased binder technology

Research

Material characterization // for ceramic 3D printing
Advanced Sensors // to test the VOC’s, temperature, humidity, and pressure of the curation in binders and sand grains

Staff and students at the Foundry 4.0 Center provide services targeted towards demonstration, education, applied research and consultation in Manufacturing 4.0 technologies for the foundry industry. Past clients have included small and large companies alike, as well as all five branches of the U.S. Department of Defense. The center reflects new and advanced technologies such as foundry automation, robotic casting finishing, advanced design application and additive manufacturing, the Internet of Things, including data acquisition through advanced sensors and smart manufacturing technologies.

Services

// Hard foundry tooling for sand casting
// Expendable patterns for investment casting
// Printed sand molds and cores
// Robotic sand milling of cope and drag molds
// Automated investment casting
// Robotic casting cleaning and grinding
// Sensor technology

Research

Developed Domestic Printing Materials // that have reduced the cost of 3D sand printing by more than 80%.

Low-VOC Printer Cleaning Fluid // assisted in development of this non-flammable product that reduces fire, environmental and worker safety risks
Recycling and Reuse Technology Transfer Center (RRTTC)

**Background:** The RRTTC is funded by a direct appropriation from the state legislature. The center is housed under the UNI Sustainability Office within the Division of Finance and Operations.

In the last year, the longtime center director departed from UNI. Since that time, some functions of the center have been streamlined, as priorities continue to evolve. Additionally, the goals and direction of the center are being reimagined. Below is a condensed list of ongoing activities. Not all center activities are captured.

**Resource to UNI Students**

Each year the RRTTC organizes and serves as a central hub, along with the UNI Sustainability Office on a number of student focused sustainability events. These includes Earth Day events throughout April as well as the week of Earth Day. Additional engagement events occur year round through programming like America Recycles Day or RA Sustainability Toolkits.

The RRTTC provides UNI students opportunities to enhance their classroom experience through research and participation in environmental outreach activities. In recent years, the RRTTC has provided over 40 research opportunities to student interns from a wide range of majors. These students work first-hand with community and industry representatives on solving real world problems ranging from supply chain management to global health issues.

**Resource to the Community**

The Panther Initiative for Environmental Equity and Resilience (PIEER) is an internship-based program that promotes resiliency through environmental equity education and advocacy. PIEER has worked with many community organizations, schools and other UNI centers to address issues that affect rural and urban Iowans and encourage positive changes. PIEER has worked on issues including water quality, pollinators, access to healthy food choices, clean energy, reducing solid waste, recycling, composting, diversity and disaster preparedness.

Through the Creekside Harmony Educational Garden, the RRTTC has been able to reach out to underserved populations, Cedar Falls and Waterloo school children and K-12 teachers, community children and adults along with UNI students. This setting provides a place to learn in an outdoor environment while bringing home the importance of the role we play on a variety of topics all centered around sustainability. Topics covered include water conservation, soil conservation, composting, food waste, solid waste issues, food miles, US food systems, Iowa based job economy in agriculture, organics implication, and the basics on how to grow produce and what to do with it.

**Resources to Business**

Through Materials Innovation Services (MIS), Iowa companies have access to affordable materials testing and consultation as they work to replace mainstream materials with recycled material. MIS also provides technical assistance to manufacturers wishing to re-engineer or re-tool their operations to include recycled content, and in the development of innovative recycling/reuse process technologies that help turn waste into resources. This portion of the center touches businesses across the state of Iowa in both rural and urban parts of the state.

Note that this segment of the center is currently being evaluated for effectiveness.
The Tallgrass Prairie Center empowers people to value and restore resilient, diverse tallgrass prairie. We work with the UNI Biology Department, non-governmental organizations, and federal, state, and local agencies. By helping to implement our programs, UNI undergraduate and graduate student employees, interns, and volunteers engage in high-impact, real-world learning experiences.

**Annual Budget: $1.16 million**
- 83% from government grants, contracts and generated fees
- 6% from donations and endowment income, up 25-fold since 2016

**Staff:**
- Half-time director
- 4 full-time and two half-time staff
- 2 part-time student assistants
- 1-2 summer research students
- 1 graduate assistant
- AmeriCorps host site (4 members)

**Broad Impacts**
- Biodiversity on thousands of miles of Iowa’s roadsides, reaching all 99 Iowa counties
- Science-based recommendations for conservation on millions of acres of farmland
- Genetic diversity of half of the prairie wildflowers sold in Iowa
- Ecosystem science education for over 90,000 K-12 students and their teachers
- Career-related employment and research experience for 4-8 UNI students per year

**Partnerships and Learning Opportunities**
- Midwest Native Seed Stakeholders Group
- National Rights-of-Way as Habitat Working Group
- National Academy of Science Native Seed Assessment Committee
- Iowa State University STRIPS / Extension; Practical Farmers of Iowa
- Iowa Governor’s STEM Council Externship
- AmeriCorps Land and Water Stewards
- Online botany courses, UNI summer camps, Artist-in-Residence

**Where We Are Headed — 2022-2027**
- **Enhancing UNI’s unique facilities for learning:** We aim to increase accessibility of campus natural areas to enable at least 1,500 instruction-hours per year. Student/community recreational use will double, laying the foundation for strong donor support. We will expand student participation in TPC programs through regular volunteer events.
- **Improving the resilience of the Iowa landscape to climate change:** We are the only research group in the country to conduct controlled field experiments for the 22-million acre USDA Conservation Reserve Program. We are expanding our impact through broader dissemination and farmer/landowner engagement.
- **Pushing the limits of high diversity prairie restoration:** We have received another pledge of land and financial support for Irvine Prairie. A $2 million endowment will support prairie maintenance and student research opportunities in perpetuity.
UNI SUZUKI SCHOOL

Mission: The mission of the School is to enrich the lives of children and adults through the study of music. Guided by the teachings of Dr. Suzuki, we believe in the potential of all children to learn within the framework of the parent-teacher-child relationship.

Staffing: The School employs seven part-time Professional & Scientific Employees, one outside provider/master teacher, and one adjunct instructor.

Enrollment: Current enrollment is 105 students from 12 different communities in northeast and central Iowa. Minorities are represented in 30% of our enrollment and adults represent 6%.

Budget: The annual budget of $160,000 annual which is funded through instructional fees, grants, UNI Foundation accounts, Community Foundation, Suzuki Strings Association, and the Hinson Family Trust.

Programs: Individual and group lessons in violin, viola, cello and guitar, an advanced student string quartet, the Northern Iowa Youth Orchestra and the Northern Iowa Junior Orchestra. Performances include two annual student solo recital performances, an honors recital, a faculty recital and a large ensemble concert. Both orchestras will present several concerts later in April locally and for grade school children in Cedar Falls, Waterloo, and Grundy Center, for high school students in Charles City and for a senior residential center in Cedar Falls. A summer string workshop for orchestra was held last summer and will be offered again this summer.

Established Program on Campus: Founded in 1976, the School has provided School of Music Education majors an opportunity to see string educators at work. As one of the only schools of its kind in Iowa, it provides unique opportunities for interested UNI students. In the past, UNI graduate and undergraduate students have served as instructional assistants and orchestra music directors for the School and they are welcomed to do so in the future.

Students as young as three or four can begin their musical studies with the School and may stay up to 15 years or until they graduate from high school. The School boasts longevity with staffing, as well. Current staffing includes a coordinator with the School since 1987, three instructors for over 15 years, and three over 5 years.

While the School is still feeling the impact of the pandemic, a switch to virtual lessons kept the drop-out rate to a minimum and allowed students to continue to progress through their studies. This fall, in-person lessons and group lessons were again offered. Enrollment numbers show a slight increase in new students especially with the beginning class numbers and in other instruments and the older orchestra.

Inclusivity, Diversity, Equity: The School is committed to all students regardless of race, gender or gender identify or age.

Goals: Our immediate goals include continuing to recover from the challenges presented during the pandemic by increasing enrollment and offering more outreach and other educational opportunities for our students. Our long-term goals remain closely aligned with our mission, which is to provide high-quality music education to all students and families.