Recently, NAU’s Chief Executive Officer, Dr. Ronald Shape, provided a written and a video message of National American University’s “State of the University,” for the faculty and staff describing University Initiatives recently designed to increase NAU’s abilities to provide programs and services for students in a caring and supporting learning environment. The success of the university depends on a continuation of a strong student-centered philosophy. Three current initiatives have been designed and are being implemented to enhance efforts in carrying out the university’s mission to ensure student success. Our June 2014 NATIONAL NEWS featured an Academic and Strategic Initiative described by Dr. Lynn Priddy, Provost, that emphasized academic programs and services, academic achievement, learning, persistence, placement and an effective use of the university’s work force. The undergraduate programs have been reorganized into three colleges and academic deans have been appointed to be followed by establishing program coordinators and employer advisory councils. A faculty ranking structure is also part of a new academic alignment along with a stronger career emphasis with career programming integrated into the entry process, as well as the courses and activities a student pursues at NAU.

Financial services and support for all students, regardless of their geographic location is being expanded with creation of financial service centers, ensuring an increased coordination, consistency and a faster response and packaging time. A Financial Services Center has been established in Rapid City, and remote service centers have been designated for Burnsville, Minnesota, Lee’s Summit, Missouri and Austin, Texas. Hours of operation will be expanded to include a longer work day with weekend support. In order to ensure service to students is of primary importance, individual conferences will be held with the financial services staff and further training will help to broaden awareness and involvement with regional vice presidents, campus directors and other staff.

In NAU’s enrollment process, the admissions positions (admissions advisors) are being redesigned to establish a relationship and primary point of contact with the student that carries through graduation. Admissions advisors will be provided a stronger cross-departmental training on the various programs and services in NAU operations, allowing the campus to be better equipped to support students in their academic and career success. The intention is to assist students in gaining a stronger sense of community and to establish a clear commitment for student success on the part of NAU. There will be an emphasis on “We are here with you from enrollment to graduation!”
BLOOMINGTON/BURNsville, MN

Honors Nights are regularly scheduled events to recognize accomplishments of future graduates. The Bloomington and Burnsville, Minnesota campuses combined to celebrate with approximately 140 students, faculty and staff at a banquet hall in Bloomington.

CAREER SERVICES

Diana Assad has been named as the Regional Career Services and Business Development Director, serving Rapid City, Ellsworth and Houston locations.

NAU FOUNDATION - MAVERICK STAMPEDE

During June, a scholarship walk and military appreciation event was held at the Central Administration offices in Rapid City. The Foundation received $1400 from the silent auction and $2700 came in from donations. These donations support student scholarships. There were over 100 participants from the campuses and the community and the event was hosted by Jodi Neiffer, Foundation Coordinator with speakers included Dr. Ron Shape and Master Sargent Christina McCormick, NAU military student from Ellsworth AFB.

ROUCHE GRADUATION CENTER, TX

The RGC hosted a military event, during the Military Appreciation Campaign, for NAU graduate staff on June 27, 2014. Jaime Nicolette, Outreach Specialist, and Elwanda Hawthorne, Veterans Counselor from the Austin Vet Center, presented to the RGC staff about the transition soldiers make when they come home from deployment and enter civilian life and the workforce. Both of our speakers have made this transition. They explained the difficulties many soldiers have faced when making this change and also how NAU staff can support students who may be making this transition. This military event was recorded and the information is being shared with our Master’s military students!

The RGC announced two Faculty of the Quarter recipients for the Spring 2014 quarter master’s programs. From a field of 17 nominees, Dr. Susan Dunlap and Dr. Gene Garone were selected based on their exceptional instructional efforts, dedication to their students, and classroom management.

Dr. Susan Dunlap teaches marketing for the MM and MBA programs and has a doctorate in business management from Argosy, with a concentration in marketing. In her nomination, she was credited with helping her students better understand the role of marketing in running a business and teaching her students how to research and prepare effective discussion assignments.

Dr. Gene Garone teaches our managerial communications class for the master’s programs and holds a doctorate of education from Columbia University. When asked to explain why he was nominated, one of his students wrote, “I understand that Dr. Garone has an impressive background in higher education, but it was his sincere devotion to our entire class, patience, fairness, great sense of humor, and dedication to our success that truly impressed me. I consider myself, and every single one of my classmates, very fortunate to have been assigned to a class under Dr. Garone’s instruction.”

SCHOOL OF NURSING

Sheryl Huber is a new team member as an associate compliance officer for the nursing school.

On June 7, 2014 the Sioux Falls campus held their second annual Nursing and Pinning Ceremony following graduation. Ten nursing students were recognized and awarded their pin. From left; Susie Walgrave, Ashley Vanvoorthis, Tracy Pighors, Richard Munson, Makenzie Lovell, Loetitia Grave, Candace Ebsen, Julia, Boos and Chad Boettcher.
GRADUATE EMPLOYMENT INFORMATION

Matthew John Sexton, a 2013 Master of Management graduate is living in Baltimore, Maryland, and works as a staff coordinator for John Hopkins Medicine in Baltimore.

Ronald Imbrogno, a Rapid City graduate (1972), is working as a wireless sales associate for Sam’s Club in Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio.

Debbie Moore-Hargrove received BS degrees from NAU in 1993 and 1996, and she is now a part time instructor in basic education and literacy for the Penn Valley Community College in Kansas City, Missouri.

Lisa J. Davies is a MSN graduate from NAU in 2013, and is a member of the Practical Nursing Faculty at Hutchinson Community College in McPherson, Kansas.

Kathleen R. Crawford is a 1993 BS graduate, paralegal studies-Rapid City, and has worked for Rensch Law in Rapid City for approximately 15 years.

Vida Protacio, 2004/2013 Online grad, BS & MBA, is a financial software analyst for Eagan Minnesota, and living in Apple Valley.

NAU IS HIRING – check out Careers at NAU - www.national.edu/careers-nau
SYSTEM ANNOUNCEMENT

The university is restructuring academics into three colleges under the direction of three recently appointed Deans of the Colleges.

Michael Trump has accepted the position as Dean of the College of Legal Studies while remaining in his position as associate legal counsel. He was a state prosecutor for the state of South Dakota for three years. He also serves as a compliance officer and teaches online in criminal justice courses. In his law practice he specialized in criminal defense. Michael also published his first book—a nonfiction legal history entitled, “Raiding Deadwood’s Bad Lands.”

Dodie Serafini has expanded her responsibilities to become Dean of the College of Health and Science. She has been with NAU since 2007, and during this time, she served as program chair for Denver’s nursing program and as associate dean for the school of nursing. She is completing her doctoral dissertation in educational leadership at Northcentral University. She is also a certified nurse educator, and has her master’s degree with an emphasis in nursing education from University of Northern Colorado.

Todd Herseth has also accepted an expanded role in becoming Dean of the College of Business, Accounting and Technology. He is currently a doctoral student at the University of South Dakota and his research interest is in the field of business ethics. He has been with NAU since 2004 as the business program chair for the system. He has been active and involved in IACBE, an international organization providing specialized business program accreditation, and is currently President of the Region 5 IACBE Assembly and recently elected to serve as a member of their board of commissioners.

Academic Excellence Award Scholarship Recipients

Academic Excellence Scholarships are supported by the NAU foundation and gifts from alumni and others. The alumni scholarships are awarded to the most senior recipient at each NAU campus.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Recipient</th>
<th>Major</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alfred Pohl</td>
<td>Bus. Admin, AAS</td>
<td>Albuquerque</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Una Berr</td>
<td>Bus. Admin, BS</td>
<td>Houston</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marc Benz</td>
<td>Acc’t, BS</td>
<td>Bloomington</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emily Roberts</td>
<td>Med, Asst, AAS</td>
<td>Bellevue</td>
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<tr>
<td>Suzanne Hoffman</td>
<td>Crim.Jus, BS</td>
<td>Online</td>
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<tr>
<td>Heidi Huntley</td>
<td>Nursing, BS</td>
<td>Rapid City</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Linda Sadlon</td>
<td>Masters M’gmt</td>
<td>Grad School</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cassandra Fager</td>
<td>Nursing, AS</td>
<td>Zona Rosa</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

STAFF ANNOUNCEMENTS

Jay Longbrake is an IT Network Analyst in Rapid City’s Central Offices, and as of July 2014, he is Number One in the 2014 Indian National Finals Rodeo standings - the Saddle Bronc event. He is more than 30 points over the number two position standing. He competes in other rodeo events as well. He has been with NAU for about 4 years. Professional and Collegiate Rodeo have been very important in NAU’s athletic history.

ZONA ROSA, MO

Graduate, Jessica White, died suddenly following the Pinning Event Ceremony for nursing student graduates. The Zona Rosa faculty and staff have been working to raise money for a memorial fund for her family and three sons ages 12, 9 and 8. NAU made a contribution to the fund. If interested, you can make a personal contribution to: The Jessica White Memorial Fund, P.O. Box 1223, Raymore, MO 64083-1223.

The Zona Rosa campus also recently collected items and money to send care packages to a women’s unit in Afghanistan. This was in response to a letter received from PV2 Samantha Alcott, a member of an Army unit stationed in the area.

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NAU Co-hosts Veterans Appreciation featuring Admiral McRaven

NAU and Austin Community College co-sponsored the Veterans Appreciation and Resource Fair featuring Admiral William McRaven as Honored Speaker on Friday, May 16th at Austin Community College Highland. McRaven was commander of the U.S. Special Operations Command. He is best known for organizing and executing Operation Neptune Spear, the special ops raid that led to the death of Osama bin Laden.
Graduation is also for family and friends!
Watertown Graduation - 2014

Troy VanDusen, a Detective Sergeant with the Watertown, SD Police Department, received this award at the Sioux Falls and Watertown Graduation event 2014. He holds an NAU bachelor’s degree in Business Management. Troy began his law enforcement career in 1994.

Later he graduated from the Law Enforcement Academy in Pierre. He received a diploma in General Law Enforcement from the Police Sciences Institute, and he is also a graduate of the 248th Session of the FBI’s National Academy in Quantico, Virginia. He has held progressively higher positions, and he was also a police dog handler. Troy and his wife Carol have two daughters, and they are very active in the Watertown community. He holds a number of memberships in professional associations, and he has won a number of awards and honors. NAU wishes to encourage community and professional service on the part of students and graduates.

Sioux Falls Graduation – 2014

Angela Miller Wahl graduated in Travel and Tourism in 1993, and following this she was hired by Ken Hirsch travel launching a 19 year career in the travel industry. For the last five years, she has owned her own travel agency (All-Star Travel), working as a travel consultant and business owner. She is very active with volunteering in the community. She is married with 11 and 15 year old girls and is living on an acreage by Harrisburg, SD.

Angela was born in Mozambique, Africa to parents from the USA, and she spent 19 years living in multiple countries abroad. In 1988 she moved to Sioux Falls, South Dakota and entered the work force. She enrolled in NAU at the age of 23, and she began her studies in Travel and Tourism.