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National American University
Present Time and the Future

NAU currently operates 38 locations in 11 states, including those pending approvals, and is planning one additional location to open in 2013 in the Seattle/Tacoma, Washington area. In a very short time, the university has aggressively more than doubled its geographic “footprint” by adding seven or eight new locations each year for the past three years. Looking forward, the goal is to focus on growing enrollments at the existing locations with the expectation of adding one or two new locations per year. The current enrollment stands at approximately 12,000 students, an all-time high. The 38 locations have the enrollment capacity of approximately 32,000 students. It is expected that this goal can be reached in 3-5 years.

The growth in students attending NAU is a product of the flexibility of on-ground and online courses, or a mix of both. These choices and this combination in coursework continue to provide relevance and convenience. Presently 64% of NAU’s enrollment hours are online, with about 36% on-ground. The online market has the greatest potential and expectations are for an 80%-20% mix in the future.

The creation of the Roueche Graduate Center currently housing the Harold D. Buckingham Graduate School in Austin, Texas is also expected to dramatically impact the volume of graduate students at NAU. It is anticipated, and an ambition exists, that the graduate enrollment of about 400 may multiply many times over by 2015. NAU’s initiatives and affiliations with community colleges leaders provide continued educational opportunities for students.
STAFF NEWS

Dr. Manuel Gomez has been named as the System Vice President and Dean of the Faculty. Previously he served as the director of education, training and assessment for the Higher Learning Commission. He will have responsibility for faculty development, training and related activities.

Dr. Terry O’Banion (pictured left) has joined NAU as Distinguished Professor and Chair of Graduate Faculty. He will continue to be instrumental in strengthening the partnerships between community colleges and the university in his role as the Chairman of NAU’s National Community College Advisory Board.

Leadership Development Program and Director of Admissions Leadership Development Program candidates finalized their program requirements during a meeting in Rapid City in October. Participants (pictured right) included Angela Estes, Mitzi Austin, Lawrence Lettau, Becky Schwarz, Deb English, Nicole Gerlach, Steve Dus, Keith Stiffler, Rodney Norman, Diana Asaad, Lyn Miller, Stanley Hawkins, John Johnson, Karli Gross, Heather Niedfeldt, Gretchen Elfstrand, Jacqueline Wilson, Travis Lyon and Shell Jeffrey-Tomjack.

CAMPUS NEWS

ALBUQUERQUE & ALBUQUERQUE WEST (NEW MEXICO)

The campuses teamed up to host a career fair featuring 22 employers. More than 250 job seekers attended the event which was open to students, alumni and members of the local community. All three local news channels highlighted the event.

AUSTIN (TEXAS)

Mitzi Austin, career services director for the South region and an NAU-Rapid City graduate, recently connected with other Rapid City graduates, Angela Oeastman, Ericka Anderson, and Larissa Hood. All four of these ladies are now living in Texas and are making plans to get together.

BELLEVUE (NEBRASKA)

NAU-Bellevue was nominated for “New or Emerging Business of the Year” by the Sarpy County Chamber of Commerce. Bellevue opened in 2011 and is currently serving students through both campus-based and online courses.

COLORADO SPRINGS (COLORADO)

Faculty member Charles Boyll was recognized by the Colorado Association of Career Colleges and Schools during their recent Faculty and Staff Members of the Year annual event. Mr. Boyll received the award for “meritorious recognition”.

DISTANCE LEARNING (SOUTH DAKOTA)

The Distance Learning campus has teamed up with the Taller San Jose (TSJ) organization in Santa Ana, California. TSJ teaches young adults basic skills and aims to help them develop a mindset to become a productive member of society by gaining education and job skills. They offer a 24-month program teaching specific job skills in areas of business, healthcare, construction, and green technologies. NAU accepts this training as college credit for the Associate of Applied Science degrees in Management and Information Technology. In addition, NAU’s Strategies for...
It is appropriate to recognize Dr. Asefaw Indrias, Southeast Region Business Studies and Program Coordinator, for his self-appointed responsibilities as the managing editor of the NAU Tribune for the Kansas City region, and for those who are supporting him in this effort. The NAU Tribune is a periodic, colorful and relevant publication being received and read by regional staff and students. The features cover news events at each campus including student awards and honors, staff photos and bios, Culture Club activities, and many other things. As NAU has grown so dramatically and prospered, it is important that we recognize the value and significance of all of the people who are interacting with each other in our widespread locations and the worthwhile nature of sharing information relating to these individuals and their accomplishments. Perhaps a regional tribune, comparable to that being created and shared in the Kansas City region, might be considered in other NAU locations, and perhaps the Tribune’s managing editor might share his idea with other campuses. At any rate, Dr. Indrias, thank you!!

RAPID CITY (SOUTH DAKOTA)

John Terry has been named as the Interim Senior Campus Director for the campus. Mr. Terry has served as the campus director for the Ellsworth Air Force Base extension and he will continue to work in that capacity as well. He received his MBA from City University and he served 25 years in the Air Force.

SIOUX FALLS (SOUTH DAKOTA)

Several graduates from the therapeutic massage program attended a picnic hosted by the campus. They toured the new facilities and an alumni committee was formed with the intention that future alumni events could be planned.

NAU has once again been selected as a Military Friendly School. Inclusion on the 2013 list of Military Friendly Schools® shows National American University’s commitment to providing a supportive environment for military students. NAU does this by ensuring that faculty and support staff understand the unique obligations of military service by exhibiting leading practices in the recruitment and retention of students with military experience.
Lawrence Chavez is a project manager and an AIS system administrator for the US Army Corps of Engineers. He is an IT graduate from Albuquerque and he continues to live in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

Bobbie Dean Elam lives in Overland Park, Kansas and graduated from that NAU location. He is employed as a computer specialist with George Butler Associates Inc. in Lenexa, Kansas.

Elizabeth (Silos) Gisi, a Denver campus 1996 graduate is working as a math teacher at the Provost Academy Colorado.

Laura Greenfield received her bachelor’s degree from NAU-Watertown and is employed by the campus as a financial services representative. She has a special connection with the students because of being in their shoes at one time.

Orin Grinnell is an applied management graduate of Rapid City and he is a building trades instructor for Fort Peck Community College in Poplar, Montana.

Tracie Maag, Fall 2012 graduate with a bachelor’s degree in business administration, is the associate campus director at the NAU-Watertown location. While a student, Tracie has worked for NAU as the director of first impressions, financial services representative, and the midwest regional financial services representative.

Andrew N. Njenga, a recent graduate of NAU Austin, lives in Round Rock, Texas and is working as a tax examiner in Austin.

Angela Oeastman, a 1997 Rapid City graduate, is employed as a senior application developer and programmer in Richardson, Texas.

Leslie Posvancz, graduated from NAU Colorado Springs and is working for U.S. Bank as a business relationship manager. She is married to Josh and she lives in Arcata, California.

Paula Pierce, attended and graduated from NAU-Ellsworth, is employed by the USAF as a wing intelligence superintendent. She is living in Fort Walton Beach, Florida.

Rhonda L. Rocco, a Distance Learning graduate Medical Staff Services Management is employed by Sutter Health as a credentialing specialist in Sacramento, California.

Robert J. Smith, a graduate of the St. Paul campus lives in Texas, and he is an information services developer for Hewlett Packard in Plano, Texas.
Alumni Reunion

MESSAGE

In October, Rachel Hammer, regional career services director, and the NAU Sioux Falls campus hosted the 8th annual alumni reunion of a small group of 1971 graduates of the Rapid City campus of National College of Business (NAU). This group is very successful in their professional careers and each is looking forward to retirement within the next 5-10 years. The group toured the new NAU facilities in Sioux Falls and viewed a presentation related to the university’s 70th anniversary. They were very interested in the growth and changes of the university, as when they graduated in 1971, the only location was the single site in Rapid City.

Attendees of the reunion were: Paul Vander Woude, an owner of East, Vander Woude and Associates CPAs in Sioux Falls helped to organize this event. Roger Heidt needed to choose between military service or continued education, and he chose National College of Business (NAU). He then became CEO of St. Mary’s Hospital and is now an Ordained Minister and Deacon for the Catholic Church. He assists with business planning for the Catholic parishes in South Dakota. Eric Beals works in real estate in the Rapid City area. Nick Gusso is the owner of Gusso Surety Bonds. Dennis Beck was a dairy farmer and following the sale of the dairy he worked in the stock market for several years. Dave Scholken works in Minneapolis in the field of financial planning. He spoke highly about his great education and the importance of education for everyone.

This reunion event might serve as an incentive for other NAU alumni to reach out to some of their former classmates, or to visit their home campus of NAU, or even a closer NAU location. The educational experience and opportunity has been significant and very important to so many of the graduates and former students of National American University.

Academic Excellence Scholarship Awards

The following students received the designated academic excellence alumni award scholarship for 2012:

- Albuquerque: Christina Lopez
- Bloomington: Katie Johnson
- Brooklyn Center: Lynda Fisher
- Colorado Springs: Bhanu Dhungei
- Denver: Pamela Smith
- Ellsworth AFB: Kyle Battell
- Rapid City: Melissa Wener
- Roseville: Gail Bruns
- Sioux Falls: Lisa Janssen
- Wichita: Emily Guerrero

The Academic Excellence Scholarships are made possible by the contributions of our alumni and supporters. Please consider a monetary donation in order to support educational ambition and career goals of our current and future students. Almost $1,000 was received in the last few months from a small number of former students of the Rapid City campus. The alumni and academic excellence scholarships support students throughout the university system. Academic excellence scholarships total approximately $100,000 each year.

We want to stay in touch!

To be added to the alumni mailing list, or to update your current listing, please go to http://www.national.edu/alumni. This will ensure that you continue to receive this newsletter and other noteworthy communications from NAU.
NAU’s new Mission Statement

Approved by Board of Governors (January 2012)
Approved by Higher Learning Commission (October 2012)

National American University welcomes students of diverse backgrounds, interests, cultures and abilities and prepares them for careers in technical and professional fields by providing quality higher education in a caring and supportive environment.

The university builds learning partnerships with students and other institutions and organizations locally, nationally and internationally through its private, regionally-accredited system of campuses and education centers offering courses in traditional, accelerated and distance learning formats.

As a comprehensive technical and professional institution of higher learning, the university responds to the changing needs of students, employers, and their communities by providing undergraduate and graduate programs and continuing education opportunities to serve an evolving global society.

You deserve an education...we provide the opportunity.