



# UNOPA Notes

UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA OFFICE PROFESSIONALS ASSOCIATION

<http://unopa.unl.edu/>



VOLUME 50, ISSUE 1  
AUGUST 15, 2011

## Education: The Journey of a Lifetime

### Not Goodbye, Just “See You Later”!

I hope all of you have had a wonderful summer. We finally got the warm weather that comes with the season! I know on July 1, 2011, you ALL met my challenge and BEGAN writing in your journals for this next year of UNOPA! One of my goals was to connect with as many of you as possible throughout the year and ask if you would share some of your entries with me.

Not only do the seasons change abruptly but so do our plans sometimes. For those who were not aware, my job at NUtech Ventures was eliminated on June 30, 2011. I applied at the University first and foremost so I could continue to take classes AND fulfill my duties as UNOPA President this next year. There were a few other places outside of the University that peaked my interest so I applied for those positions also. After a few rejection letters from the University, an outside company made me an offer I couldn't refuse. I am now the administrative assistant at BVH Architects in the Haymarket area next to Bread & Cup. My first day was July 22.

I must admit I was downhearted not to be at the University. After all, I was leaving UNOPA members who, over the past 5 years, have become friends and “cohorts” and whose company I enjoy immensely. At first after having some doubts and personal concerns about being President, I had finally gotten excited to serve a fine group of members this year!

This next year will be top notch with Cathy Robertson as your president! Cathy is well equipped to serve in this capacity and I have no doubt she will perform at 110% if not more! Since she has been working on the ‘task force’ regarding how to enlist and retain members, Cathy is well aware of the goals and the ideas suggested, and she is anxious to see progress happen.

UNOPA will always be near and dear to my heart. It is only because of UNOPA that my journey toward a degree was put into motion. While attending a workshop as a UNOPA member I met a NEOPA member, and we started talking. We told each other one thing we would really like to do and then challenged each other to do it! Her challenge made me slowly climb out of my box! If it weren't for UNOPA I would not have been at that workshop! UNOPA has helped me grow and given me so many other opportunities such as serving on committees, being a committee chair, serving as an officer and joining other organizations such as NEOPA, NAEOP, NAPW and, last but not least, Toastmasters!

All of you will be greatly missed! I will remain an associate member and would jump at the chance to participate by email on any committee you feel I could benefit. Trying to learn a new office with 30 people and their schedules is going to be exciting and very time consuming at first so I may not have the opportunity to attend meetings physically but I will be there in spirit! And by all means, please feel free to contact me through my personal email: [mindtraveler2004@yahoo.com](mailto:mindtraveler2004@yahoo.com). Keeping up with friends is important to me and I hope we can do that as time goes by.

Thank you all again for letting me be a part of UNOPA and what you have given me through it. I hope I can return the favor when needed. Don't forget to share some of your journal entries with me through email, if you would like to. Also, I am always ready to meet for coffee and catch up! Give me a call – (402) 429-9563. Good luck to Cathy, even though I don't believe she will need it! I will be looking forward to being informed of what is going on!

God bless, take care and keep in touch!

—Donna Boone

#### 2011-2012 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

##### OFFICERS

President – **Cathy Robertson**, CEOE  
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Immediate Past President – **Mary Greer**  
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##### STANDING COMMITTEE DIRECTORS

Awards – **Edie Schleiger**, CEOE  
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UNOPA Notes – **Linda Ratcliffe**

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Ways and Means – **Board Members**

##### AD HOC COMMITTEE DIRECTORS

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## CALENDAR

### September

- 1 Chancellor's State of the University Address & Annual Picnic
- 3 Home football game, Chattanooga, UNOPA parking lot
- 5 Labor Day, UNL closed
- 6 Board meeting
- 10 Home Football Game, Fresno State, UNOPA parking lot
- 13 General Meeting
- 15 PSP deadline
- 16 Deadline for *UNOPA Notes*
- 17 Home Football Game, Washington, UNOPA parking lot
- 23 Autumn begins
- 30 Membership renewals due

### October

- 4 Board meeting
- 8 Home football game, Ohio State, UNOPA parking lot
- 10 Columbus Day
- 11 General meeting
- 14 Deadline for *UNOPA Notes*
- 15 Deadline for the Bradley Munn Professional Growth Fund Reimbursement
- 16 National Bosses Day
- 17 Floyd S. Oldt Awards deadlines
- 17-18 Students' Fall Break
- 21 NEOPA Fall Conference, Wayne, NE
- 29 Home football game, Michigan State, UNOPA parking lot
- 31 Halloween



### Membership Dues

It's that time of year to renew your membership. We hope you have enjoyed being a part of UNOPA and found the benefit of your membership. Your new Board is working hard to get ready for the new year. You will find a link to the 2011-2012 Membership Form here [<http://unopa.unl.edu/membership/>]. Please complete it and return it to [Gretchen Walker](#) at the address listed on the form.

We look forward to seeing you at UNOPA activities this year. A drawing will be held at the September general meeting for two \$100 Nebraska Home Sales Scholarships to be used for conference/workshop attendance. You must be a current UNOPA member to be entered in the drawing, so be sure to renew early! We will also have a representative from the MLK Scholarship Fund to speak to us about their annual scholarship program for high school students.

### From President Cathy Robertson

Donna Boone's position with NUtechVentures was eliminated as of June 30th. Fortunately for Donna, she has accepted a position at Bahr Vermeer Haecker Architects in the Haymarket. Unfortunately for us, she will step down as UNOPA President. We wish Donna the best in her new position. She will continue as an Associate UNOPA Member.

Per the Bylaws, I will assume the position of President of UNOPA for the 2011-2012 year. It's a little earlier than I had anticipated, but I am excited for the opportunity. Donna has started me out strong. We have a great Board who has already started preparing for the year. And each of you will contribute to our success. Donna began her year with the theme — *Education: The Journey of a Lifetime*. I will continue with her theme as we continue on our lifelong journey of learning. It will be my honor to serve as your President, and I pledge to do the best for each of you.

The position of President-Elect will be filled through a special election. If you are interested in this position, please contact the Nominations Director, Nelvie Lienemann, at [nlieemann1@unl.edu](mailto:nlieemann1@unl.edu). Nelvie and her committee will be contacting members for nominations.

A number of our members attended the NAEOP National Conference in Charleston, South Carolina last month. We will hear about the awards and activities of the conference at our September meeting.

I look forward to serving you this year. Please let me know if there is anything your Board can do for you this year. We'll see you on September 13th at our first meeting.

—Cathy Robertson

### Opportunities To Represent UNOPA

The Employee Concerns Committee is looking for people who would be willing to represent UNOPA, and other office-service employees, on the following campus-wide committees:

- Faculty Senate (1)
- Chancellor's Commission on Environmental Sustainability (1)
- Emergency Employee Loan Fund Advisory (3 needed)
- Parking Advisory (1)
- Parking Appeals (2)

Contact Marcy Tintera, 2-1258, [mtintera1@unl.edu](mailto:mtintera1@unl.edu); or Roddy Spangler, 2-3989, [rspangler2@unl.edu](mailto:rspangler2@unl.edu) for additional details.

### From UNOPA's Career Development – PSP Committee

It's not too early to start thinking about expanding the opportunities open to you by applying for the Professional Standards Program (PSP) certification. September 15 is the first deadline to apply for a PSP certificate for the 2011–2012 year.

Contact Debbie Hendricks at 472-9685 or [dhendricks1@unl.edu](mailto:dhendricks1@unl.edu) for more information or help in completing the forms.

### UNOPA Parking Lot

UNOPA's fundraising project for the past several years has been staffing a UNL parking lot on home game days. We are excited to offer our membership this opportunity to support UNOPA by volunteering to staff the lot.

Please volunteer at least 3 hours for one of these dates:

- Sept. 3, Sept. 10, Sept. 17
- Oct. 8, Oct. 29
- Nov. 5, Nov. 25

Contact: [Cathy Robertson](#) or another board member and say YES to supporting UNOPA by staffing the lot.