Helping veteran and military students ‘Get where the world is going’
Commitment to service

In November we were excited to welcome the community to our W.A. Lettinga Campus to help us celebrate Veterans Day. We signed DU flags to send to servicemen and women in Afghanistan, including 20 Davenport students deployed there who are currently taking classes online. We honored all our veterans with a moment of silence. At informational booths, we learned about the soldiers protecting our freedoms.

We craned our necks in awe as an F-16 screamed overhead during its DU flyover. Finally, it was with great pride that we watched a U.S. Army Blackhawk helicopter touch down in one of our parking lots, piloted by DU MBA student and Army National Guard Captain Trish Barker.

Veterans made a commitment to service that would benefit all of us in the U.S. At Davenport, we make a commitment to serve our veterans with the highest level of quality service. We are proud to welcome service members into our University community and to do all we can to help them achieve their career goals as they pursue degrees in business, technology and health.

We are working hard to further expand degree opportunities for all our students. By the Spring/Summer semester of 2012, we plan to launch a new Master of Science in Nursing program, followed by a Master of Science in Occupational Therapy degree program in the fall of 2012. Finally, DU plans to launch its Doctorate in Physical Therapy program in January 2013 – not just because we want a doctorate degree in our portfolio, but because it’s what the market will demand by 2015.

New programs and the new facilities required to accommodate them will require your support. I invite you to become involved and give back in a way that will change the future for students, employers and communities for years to come.

I hope you enjoy reading this issue of DU Review and learn more about DU’s commitment to service of the highest measurable quality to our military veterans and to all our students across Michigan and online.

Best wishes to all of you for a Happy New Year from everyone at DU!

Sincerely,
Richard J. Pappas, Ed.D.
President
In October, the United States reached two momentous milestones in the war against terror. Oct. 7, 2011, marked 10 years of war in Afghanistan while on Oct. 21, 2011, President Obama announced all remaining U.S. troops would leave Iraq by the end of the year.

When these soldiers return home, many turn their attention to higher education. Service members can attend any college of their choosing as part of the G.I. Bill. Davenport University goes above and beyond to meet the specific needs of the military by having dedicated admissions and advisor teams in place while also offering additional tuition discounts. For the past two years, Davenport’s efforts to assist military students have earned it a spot on the Military Friendly Schools list, created by G.I. Jobs. The list recognizes the top 15 percent of colleges, universities and trade schools that are doing the most to embrace America’s veterans as students.

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Students, staff, faculty and members of the public check out a Blackhawk helicopter on display for DU’s Veterans Day event at the W.A. Lettinga Campus

Top of page: DU student Specialist Andrew Weiss peers out the window of a Blackhawk helicopter as it prepares to land on campus
is another veteran. That’s why Davenport University’s dedicated military admissions and advising teams are made up of actual veterans. One of those vets is Scott Lemmon, Director of Admissions and Partnerships. Scott, who served as a Security Forces Specialist from 1998 to 2002, oversees the military admissions team.

“For me to see where DU was when I was a veteran undergrad student here in 2002, to what it is today is extremely rewarding,” says Scott. “At one time the extent of a military admissions team at Davenport was a hybrid full-time position, like an ‘in addition to’ type of spot.”

Today, the team consists of two military-specific admissions representatives, Jonathan Highman, who served as a Blackhawk Helicopter Crewchief from 2001 to 2010, and First Lieutenant Adam S. Betz. Adam is currently on leave from Davenport and is serving his fourth deployment. In addition to Jonathan and Adam, there are five military-specific advisors serving separate regions of the state and seven VA-certifying officials across the University. DU plans to have a military advisor at each campus by the end of 2012.

Davenport offers tuition reductions for veterans, active service members, and their spouses and dependents. The University also waives their application fees. Over the past year, Davenport has seen a 16-percent increase in military and veteran student enrollment. Today, nearly 500 military and veteran students take classes at Davenport.

Clockwise from top left: Military and Veteran Admissions Representative, Jonathan Highman’s aviation kneeboard used for monitoring aircraft status and patient transfer information. Jonathan Highman; Director of Admissions and Partnerships, Scott Lemmon; Military and Veteran Admissions Representative, First Lieutenant Adam S. Betz
“Our military team understands the unique needs of veteran and military students and has a sincere desire to help them,” says Jonathan. One specific need Davenport fulfills is flexibility in the form of online courses and maintaining close contact with students taking those courses. In fact, 20 students who are currently deployed continue taking courses online.

“I chose Davenport because it offered courses both online and in-seat, which allowed me the most flexibility with my unpredictable military schedule. The staff has been amazing. My graduate advisor, Elaine, even communicated with me while I was in Iraq to make sure I was all set when I returned,” says DU student Captain Trish Barker. She has been with the Army National Guard for 13 years and is set to graduate with her MBA in December 2012.

Going from combat to the classroom is a unique challenge faced by our servicemen and women and sometimes the only person who can help ease that transition is another veteran. That’s why Davenport University’s dedicated military team is made up of actual veterans.

On Nov. 11, Trish helped DU celebrate Veterans Day in a very unique way by piloting a Michigan Army National Guard UH-60 Blackhawk helicopter to the W.A. Lettinga Campus. In addition to viewing the aircraft for several hours up close, hundreds of spectators showed up to watch an F-16 jet fly over the campus. The Veterans Day event, sponsored by the DU chapter of the Student Veterans of America (SVA), also involved students writing letters to deployed soldiers, a slideshow of DU’s military community, remarks by Davenport President Dr. Rick Pappas, a parade of EMS vehicles and a National Guard obstacle course.

Trish wasn’t the only DU student who took on an unusual role during the Veterans Day event. Student and Vice President of the DU chapter of the SVA, Andrew Weiss, was a part of her flight crew that day. “I thought it was a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to fly in to my school on the UH-60 Blackhawk that was with me in Iraq. It was a great honor being such a big part of Davenport’s Veterans Day event.”

Top left: Student Captain Trish Barker  Top right: An F-16 jet flies over the W.A. Lettinga Campus on Veterans Day

Left above: Dr. Pappas addresses the Veterans Day crowd right before the national moment of silence  Left below: The Veterans Day event helicopter flight crew, including students Specialist Andrew Weiss (inside left) and Captain Trish Barker (inside right)

To view more pictures of the event, visit our Flickr site.
Panther Prowl builds community of classmates

More than 300 incoming freshmen were welcomed to the W.A. Lettinga Campus during the Aug. 24 move-in day, which is part of the annual Panther Prowl festivities.

Volunteers from Davenport’s registrar and admissions departments, several athletic teams and various community members greeted the freshmen and helped them move into South Hall. Davenport President Dr. Rick Pappas also was on hand to assist.

Once students settled in, the class of 2015 participated in the three-day Panther Prowl orientation. Panther Prowl activities featured a hypnotist, game night in the Student Center and a motivational speaker whose topic was “making a community out of classmates.” Panther Prowl concluded on Saturday with students volunteering at the Grand Rapids Mud Run.

New DU students participating in Panther Prowl on the W.A. Lettinga Campus
New Vice Provost for Academic Affairs

Provost Dr. Linda Rinker is pleased to announce that Joy Gianakura has accepted the position of Vice Provost for Academic Affairs. In this position, Joy will be responsible for the University’s academic programs, policies, procedures and strategies, international programs, experiential learning, libraries, new program development process and management of the University’s overall learning atmosphere. Joy has been with the University for 11 years and has served in a number of academic positions, most recently as the Executive Director of Academic Services. Joy has a Bachelor of Science in Secondary Education from Central Michigan University and a Master of Education in Higher Education Administration from Grand Valley State University. She is currently working on her dissertation for a Doctorate in Education at CMU.

New Dean named for College of Arts and Sciences

After a thorough national search, Davenport University named Dr. Thomas Lonergan to the position of Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences. Previously, Tom was Department Chair and Professor for the Department of Biological and Environmental Sciences at Western Connecticut State University.

“Joining DU as the founding Dean of the newly created College of Arts and Sciences is a wonderful opportunity,” said Tom. Formal creation of the College of Arts and Sciences was achieved through an academic restructuring earlier this year.

Tom was previously with Western Connecticut State University since 2008 and prior to that was a Professor at University of New Orleans for more than 20 years. He holds a Doctorate in Cell Biology from the University of Illinois Champaign/Urbana and a Bachelor of Science in Biology from State University of New York at Albany.

Nursing students earn 100% pass rate on state boards

The College of Health Professions is proud to announce that nursing graduates from the class of 2011 in Grand Rapids achieved a 100% pass rate on their National Council Licensure Examination for Registered Nurses (NCLEX). Approximately 95 percent of these nursing graduates are also now employed within hospital specialty areas involving in demand critical thinking skills. Congrats to these successful DU graduates!
Recognizing faculty who make a difference

In addition to recognizing employees who make a difference in the lives of the DU community, this year’s annual DavenFest all-employee meeting also acknowledged the excellence of faculty members. The University bestowed its first Excellence in Teaching Awards, honoring faculty for outstanding performance in the classroom and inspiring students to excel as they prepare for the real world and their careers. The awards were presented to the following faculty members:

**Tim Bergsma**  
Faculty member, College of Business, W.A. Lettinga Campus

**Dr. Alexander Israetel**  
Faculty member, College of Arts and Sciences, Warren Campus

**Doreen Petersen**  
Adjunct faculty member, College of Business, Online

**Dr. William Sanders**  
Adjunct faculty member, College of Health Professions, Caro Campus

**Dr. Julia VanderMolen**  
Department Coordinator, DU Online

Two longtime employees receive Tyrus R. Wessell Award

At this year’s DavenFest all-employee meeting, two outstanding employees were presented Davenport’s most prestigious honor, the Tyrus R. Wessell Award. This year’s recipients were Patty Brechbiel and Tom Woods.

Patty has been at Davenport for more than 20 years. She is currently the Director of Academic Services, but has filled a number of roles, most recently as Interim Dean of the College of Health Professions.

Tom is the interim leader for Student Services and also has been at Davenport for more than 20 years. He is very active within the University and is a trusted advisor and leader in the DU community.
New leaders appointed at each campus

To better serve our students, campus directors have been appointed for most of our campuses outside Grand Rapids.

The new directors will be responsible for developing and implementing their campus strategic plans in support of the University’s bold vision. They also will establish and build positive relationships with students, community leaders, community colleges and other higher education and business partnerships in their campus markets.

These positions will ensure programs and services are implemented that will positively impact enrollment, retention, student satisfaction and graduate employment rates. The directors will also serve as liaisons with other University leaders, faculty and staff to ensure consistent, coordinated efforts for each campus. New campus directors are:

**Susan Crkovski**  
Executive Campus Director, Warren

**Danielle DeLonge**  
Executive Campus Director, Lansing

**Dr. James Loughran**  
Executive Campus Director, Livonia

**Chris Marx**  
Interim Campus Director, Battle Creek

**Kristy Nelson**  
Campus Director, Midland

**Denise Sherman**  
Campus Director, Saginaw

**Linda Sievert**  
Campus Director, Holland

**Kathy Stewart**  
Campus Director, Kalamazoo

**Susan Wisniewski**  
Campus Director, Flint

*Not pictured

Davenport University has entered the world of smartphone apps. The DU Mobile Toolkit currently features the electronic student newsletter, athletic news, class search and campus locator.

“The Mobile Toolkit is all about offering new ways for our students to interface with Davenport. We are converting existing web-based services and creating unique services for the user on the go,” said Josh Isaak, Senior Internet Systems Architect, one of the creators of the Mobile Toolkit. The application is in its beginning stages and will continue to grow and add useful features.
Board of Trustees approves pursuit of three new health programs

Davenport’s Board of Trustees approved development of three new graduate degrees for the University’s College of Health Professions – a Master of Science in Nursing, a Master of Science in Occupational Therapy and the University’s first doctoral degree in Physical Therapy.

An inclusive process involving the University’s deans, faculty and curriculum committee was followed to recommend these programs for launch over the next 18 months. Approval for all three programs is being sought from the Higher Learning Commission – North Central Association of Colleges and Schools (NCA) and accreditation from other required bodies.

Providing approvals and accreditations are granted in a timely manner, the Master of Science in Nursing program is scheduled to launch with its first cohort of students during the Spring/Summer semester in 2012, followed by a Fall 2012 launch of the Occupational Therapy program and a Winter 2013 launch of the Physical Therapy doctoral program.

Market research indicates continued job growth in these areas, which make them appealing programs for prospective students. In addition, the decision to pursue the University’s first doctoral program in Physical Therapy was driven by market research indicating a doctorate will soon be necessary for career progression in this growing field of practice.

On Oct. 17, the Midland Campus held a ribbon-cutting ceremony dedicating its nursing simulation labs that were completed in August. The fundamentals lab allows students to learn and practice basic nursing skills and features six hospital beds. The new labs enable students to practice more advanced nursing skills using mannequins in high-fidelity patient situations. The “sim lab” features three high-tech beds, new computers and a control room to direct simulations for students.

“We are excited to offer this new state-of-the-art simulation experience to our College of Health Professions students in the Great Lakes Bay Region,” said Dr. Karen Daley, Dean of Davenport University’s College of Health Professions. “This new technology will significantly enhance the learning experience that our students receive in the classroom and in clinical settings.”

Midland students, faculty and staff attended this exciting event, as well as members of the Midland Area Chamber of Commerce and other local community members.
Midland Campus holds community fundraisers

Midland Campus staff, faculty and students participated in two fundraisers that helped the community raise more than $17,000. Volunteers from DU stood in 100-degree heat on July 15 at two Midland McDonald’s restaurants to help raise money to stop child abuse in the Tri-Cities. The event raised more than $15,000.

On Aug. 7, the DU community again volunteered at the 2011 Lizard Fair, held by WIOG FM. Several staff, faculty and students from Midland joined other volunteers from the tri-cities in collecting $2,640.74 – a 238-per-cent increase from last year’s collection. The proceeds went to the Child Abuse and Neglect Council, the Nathan Weidner Children’s Advocacy Center and Safe and Sound Child Protection and Advocacy Center.

Flint Habitat for Humanity project a success

Volunteers from Davenport University’s Flint Campus spent Saturday, June 18, working with Genesee County’s Habitat for Humanity. The DU volunteers helped build a total of four homes for the Youth United Campaign. In addition to building homes, the DU students were able to meet the future resident of one of the homes, and they are excited to support her in her journey of home ownership.

Virtual in-seat learning: a new way to take class

Davenport University recently introduced Virtual In-Seat Learning (VISL), which allows students to complete degree requirements on their own campus without the need to drive to another campus.

Virtual In-Seat Learning consists of a “host” class and “remote” class. Instructors and students are located at the “host” class, and additional students on other campuses attend “remote” classes where lectures are viewed on video screens. With the introduction of 60 VISL courses, Davenport continues to expand options that support student achievement and provide more convenience and incentives for completing educational goals.
Kalamazoo and Midland campuses raise funds for Breast Cancer Awareness month

For Breast Cancer Awareness month in October, the Kalamazoo Campus held a fundraiser that involved some of the DU community “losing their hair” for a good cause. The first annual “Go Bald for Cancer Awareness” was held Oct. 26 and raised more than $500 for Gilda’s Club in Grand Rapids.

DU students John Smallcombe and Matt Halbeison, along with staff and faculty members Craig Haan and David Holmes, shaved their heads in support of those who lose their hair due to cancer treatments. In addition, several students and faculty members purchased feather hair extensions at the event. An auction of Gilda’s Club items and a Business Professionals of America cookie sale at the fundraiser also helped raise funds.

In Midland, two Registered Student Organizations, the Student Nurse Association and the Student Leader Initiative, participated in a “Making Strides to End Breast Cancer” walk on Oct. 15. The Midland Campus raised $2,025, placing them as the ninth highest fundraising team and eighth place for highest fundraising organization out of the more than 60 organizations that participated.
Students’ business ideas rewarded

Several DU business students put their knowledge to work as they competed in the Collegiate Entrepreneur Organization’s annual Elevator Pitch Competition on Oct. 18. Competitors had only 90 seconds to impress judges with their business pitches. Afterwards the students had an additional three minutes to answer any questions the judges had about the business plans presented.

The first place prize of $1,000 went to student Jamie Barnes for her idea for a soft-serve-ice-cream business. The second place prize of $500 went to Chad Oullette for his hockey product innovation. Jamie and Chad advanced to the Regional Pitch Competition on Nov. 3, held at Davenport University, where they competed with 12 students from other colleges in the area. Chad Oullette placed third in that event and took home an additional $500 for his idea.

More than 50 students from the W.A. Lettinga Campus participated in Make a Difference Day on Saturday, Oct. 22. Students volunteered to perform a variety of tasks at John Ball Zoo, Crash’s Landing, Ronald McDonald House and Home Repair Services. Make a Difference Day is a national day designated for volunteering and making a difference in our communities. It also represents the start of DU students’ year-long efforts to make a difference and give back to our community.

The Lansing Campus also participated in Make a Difference Day. Students, faculty and staff came together to pick up litter around the campus and participated in the fall lawn maintenance. While the idea was to help the facilities on Kalamazoo Street look better, the result was great camaraderie and high spirits for everyone involved.
Davenport President Dr. Rick Pappas was joined by members of Davenport’s Board of Trustees, University leaders and dozens of donors and supporters on Oct. 12, 2011, to dedicate the new Peter C. Cook Center at 45 Ottawa Ave. NW in downtown Grand Rapids.

The late Peter C. Cook, who passed away in November of 2010, was a devoted alumnus, supporter and champion of Davenport. He graduated from the Davenport-McLachlan Institute (now Davenport University) in 1936 and generously supported the University for many years.

Peter’s son Tom spoke to the assembled audience at the dedication ceremonies about his father’s fondness for Davenport and the university’s impact on the community. The Peter C. Cook Center is home to Davenport graduate programs and to the Institute for Professional Excellence (IPEx), which offers corporate training, development and certification programs.
Sneden Center celebration a success

On Sept. 9, Davenport hosted a celebration in honor of those who made contributions to the Building on the Legacy campaign for the Robert W. Sneden Center. Nearly 100 guests found their way into the auditorium named for Wilbur and Sharon Lettinga. Guest speakers included Frank Merlotti, Jr., Vice Chair, Davenport University Board of Trustees; Donald W. Maine, Chancellor Emeritus, Davenport University; Margaret Sneden Moceri, President, M.E. Davenport Foundation; and Wilbur A. Lettinga, Davenport University Board of Trustees. The speakers reflected on the legacy of Robert W. Sneden, who served as President of Davenport after M.E. Davenport, from 1959 until his retirement in 1977. They also spoke of the overall spirit of philanthropy at DU and throughout our community. Overall, $3.2 million was raised for the Sneden Center. The event unveiled newly installed donor recognition signs along with the Please Take a Seat nameplate installations located on the arms of the auditorium chairs.

Please Take a Seat

You can honor or memorialize a loved one by sponsoring a seat in the Wilbur A. and Sharon L. Lettinga Auditorium. For more information, call Kaylen Williams in the Office of Advancement at 616-233-3417 or email Kaylen.Williams@davenport.edu.

LIST OF NAMED SPACES

First Floor
Robert W. Sneden – Center and Lobby
Wilbur A. and Sharon L. Lettinga – Auditorium
Wilbur A. Lettinga – Meeting Room 1
Roger G. VanderLaan – Meeting Room 2
Donald W. Maine – Meeting Room 3
James and Clarine Lanting – Conference Room on First Floor/Financial Aid Office

Second Floor
Rockford Companies – Classroom 206
Linda Lindsay Byington – Classroom 208

Third Floor
In Memory of Fred R. Tiggleman – Executive Office Suite
James N. and Joy S. DeBoer – Executive Conference Room

Top: Frank Merlotti, Jr., Vice Chair, Davenport University Board of Trustees Middle: Wilbur and Sharon Lettinga with family Bottom: Left to right: Catherine, Jeff, Sue and Craig Tiggleman
As 2011 draws to a close, I would like to thank our donors for the impact you made in the lives of our students. Thanks to you, the Davenport Foundation and DU Fund were able to award nearly $800,000 in scholarship support for the 2010-2011 fiscal year. Receiving a scholarship is often the deciding factor for students to pursue their educational dreams.

As we look forward to 2012, we have the opportunity to make an even greater impact. Please consider making a tax-deductible contribution by Dec. 31. As always, you can choose a specific scholarship or program to support or give to the general fund. Administrative costs are never deducted, allowing 100 percent of your gift to go to scholarship or program support.

Easy ways to make your annual gift include filling out and returning the enclosed envelope in this magazine, making an online contribution through www.giving.davenport.edu, or by calling or emailing me at 616-233-3417 or Kaylen.Williams@davenport.edu.

Again, thank you for making the difference

— Kaylen Williams, Director of Annual Giving

To learn how alumni giving affects DU students, please view Benjamin Brewer’s video at www.davenport.edu/AlumniScholarships

Legacy of leaders

A special portion of the Robert W. Sneden Center celebration included a presentation of the Legacy of Leaders plaque for Wilbur A. Lettinga, Donald W. Maine and Roger G. VanderLaan. The donor recognition plaque outlines their many contributions to Davenport University. The three individuals have been very generous donors and have significantly impacted thousands of students.

Wilbur A. Lettinga, Donald W. Maine and Roger G. VanderLaan — working closely together as Board Member and Chair, President and COO/Executive Vice President — built on the foundation laid by their predecessors and left a growing legacy for others to follow. Major accomplishments during their era included multiple campus expansions, establishing the Davenport College Foundation, adding Baccalaureate and Master of Business Administration degrees, online courses and degrees as well as achieving record enrollments.

Wilbur A. Lettinga graduated in 1955 from Davenport College (now Davenport University), where he majored in accounting. Wilbur became a force in the West Michigan community as a successful business entrepreneur, investor and philanthropist. He joined the Davenport College Governing Board in 1973. In 1977, Wilbur began a 14-year tenure as Board Chair, continuing to serve on the Board of Trustees afterward.

Donald W. Maine, a life-long educator who had previously been a faculty member at Davenport, was appointed President in 1977. Don’s leadership drove Davenport’s expansion into every major market in Michigan and two locations in Indiana. His extensive community involvement with multiple Grand Rapids organizations was highly valued and recognized with numerous honors and awards. Don retired as Chancellor Emeritus in 2000.

Roger G. VanderLaan joined Davenport in 1963 as a business instructor. In addition to coaching basketball and golf, he served as Athletic Director, Admissions Counselor, Director of Admissions, and in several vice president positions. Roger was influential in Davenport’s enrollment growth during this era with operational responsibility for all campuses. He retired as COO/Executive Vice President in 2001.

Roger VanderLaan, Wilbur Lettinga and Donald Maine pose by new “Legacy of Leaders” sign in the Robert W. Sneden Center

Benjamin Brewer, 2010 alumni scholarship recipient

You make the difference

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— Kaylen Williams, Director of Annual Giving

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It’s back by popular demand . . .

And indeed it was popular! More than 90 golfers and nearly 20 additional lunch guests participated in the Detroit College of Business Alumni Reunion Golf Outing on Aug. 12 at the Dearborn Hills Golf Club.

Members of the committee that revived the annual golf outing were former DCB President Dr. Jim Mendola, President Emeritus Dr. Frank Paone, alumni Mike Allie and Kevin Ryan, and former DCB Director of Alumni Relations Kevin Brazell. Friends and classmates gathered for an 18-hole scramble with lunch and beverages. Outing sponsorships support the DCB Alumni Endowed Scholarship for Southeast Michigan students.

The winning foursome, at 15 under par, was Kevin Ryan, Rosco Sloan, Nunzio Mariano and Razmig Boghikian.

Davenport is proud to celebrate its predecessor institution alumni, and the fun-filled day went so well that it is already on the calendar for Aug. 10, 2012!

Visit the DU Alumni Association’s Facebook page at Facebook.com/DUAlumni for golf outing photos.

Follow DU athletics in new and exciting ways

The Athletic Department is proud to announce many new features and ways to follow your favorite DU athletic teams! Sports Information Director Aaron Sagraves and his staff created numerous options for up-to-the-minute scores and news, including social media accounts and new online features added to the Athletics website. One of the main features launched this year is the mobile app for Android phones. The app allows you to get stories, scores and photo galleries plus follow along with the buzz (social media) about DU Athletics. Twitter and Facebook also have seen a major lift in 2011-12 with many teams getting their own pages. Check out all of the social media happenings at the “One Stop Social Media Spot” on www.dupanthers.com

Fall sports are already in full swing with many teams off to great starts! Highlighting the outstanding performances thus far is the duo of Diana and Denisse Favela of the women’s tennis team. The twins, who hail from San Luis Potosi, Mexico, recently won the 2011 ITA (International Tennis Association) Midwest Regional doubles title. The win, the first of any kind at the ITA level for a DU Panther, sent the sisters into the small college national tournament.
25th Annual Davenport Scholarship Golf Classic a success

The Davenport Scholarship Golf Classic hit a milestone this year, celebrating 25 years of raising funds for student scholarships. More than 280 people registered to play in this year’s golf outing, held at Egypt Valley Country Club in Ada.

“We had a wonderful time raising funds for the DU Foundation and also getting the chance to interact with some of the students who benefited from scholarships granted by the foundation. With cuts to the Michigan Tuition Grant and others, these students need help more than ever.” Bill Lettinga, DU alum, member of Davenport Foundation board and Chair of the Golf Committee

Top: Mike Faas and Doyle Hayes enjoy a day out on the course  Bottom left: Ed Talaga looks on as Mike Corby sinks a putt   Bottom right: Michele Postma, Jeff Richter ’88, Brian Hogan ’92 and Kelly Shrauger pose for a quick team picture
Event Sponsor: Integrated Architecture
Dinner Sponsor: Huntington Bank
Lunch Sponsor: Fifth Third Bank Securities
Cart Sponsor: Michigan Office Solutions
Putting Green Sponsor: Liberty Mutual Group
On-Course Contest Prize Sponsor: Maple Hill Golf Course
Scorecard/Course Sponsor: Rockford Construction
Beverage Sponsor: West Side Beer Distributing
Favor Sponsor: Varnum

Above: Wilbur Lettinga ’55, and Don Hamelink ’69, Right: Char Vanderson
Alumni Awards banquet a hit

Three alumni were honored at the 2011 Annual Alumni Awards Banquet on Saturday, Nov. 12, in the Student Center at the W.A. Lettinga Campus. The Auxiliary Gym was transformed into a banquet space for more than 90 guests, and the John Shea Trio’s smooth jazz tunes entertained during dinner.

The Distinguished Alumni Award went to David Slikkers, ’70, CEO of S2 Yachts, Inc. in Holland; while the Hy Berkowitz Professional Excellence Award went to Randall L. Goodyke, ’90, Partner at DeBoer, Goodyke, Kahler & Tuttle, PC in Hudsonville. A new award this year, the Outstanding Young Alumni Award, went to Ryan Lougheed, ’04, Retail and Investment Development Officer for PNC Bank in Chicago.

*Right:* Doug Lameyer, Don Maine and Hy Berkowitz Professional Excellence Award winner, Randy Goodyke.
Also recognized was Michael W. Reynolds as recipient of the Distinguished Alumni Mentor Scholarship for his essay submission on Philanthropy. Michael is a student in the Computer Networking program at the W.A. Lettinga Campus.

Excerpt from Michael’s winning essay: “Someone felt that Davenport was worth their time and money, and I can never thank them enough for the money they gave so I could attend Davenport University. Philanthropy made this all possible. At some point I hope to be able to give back to the businesses and individuals who have given to Davenport.”

2011 Alumni Award recipients

DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI AWARD

David Slikkers, ’70, graduated from Davenport University with an Associate in Sales and Marketing. Dave is CEO of S2 Yachts, which produces Tiara Yachts and Pursuit Boats at its corporate headquarters in Holland, Mich., and at a Pursuit manufacturing facility in Fort Pierce, Fla. David and his senior team formed Energetx Composites, LLC in 2008, for which he serves as Chairman. Energetx’s main focus is renewable energy products, defense, e-transportation and aerospace.

David has continued a long tradition of active involvement in the National Marine Manufacturers Association (NMMA) and served as Chairman from 2008 to 2010 and Chairman of the Boat Manufacturers Board of Directors from 1999 to 2001. He is Chairman of the Board and an Executive Committee Member of the Holland Area Chamber of Commerce. David places a high priority on his family and enjoys fly-fishing, boating and hunting.

HY BERKOWITZ PROFESSIONAL EXCELLENCE AWARD

Randall L. Goodyke, CPA, ’90, graduated from Davenport University with an Associate in Hospitality Management in 1985 and a BBA in Accounting in 1990. Randy successfully passed the CPA exam in 1992. While in Hospitality Management, he was selected to participate in the Magic Kingdom College Program and worked at Disney World, where he met his wife of 25-plus years, Brenda J. Westveld, ’84. In 1991, Randy started a CPA firm in Hudsonville with his friend and colleague, Paul DeBoer. The firm has grown to a staff of 12 with two additional partners, DeBoer, Goodyke, Kahler & Tuttle, PC. Randy’s volunteer service includes membership on the Grandville Christian School Board, coaching youth sports and being a meal coordinator at Degagé Ministries. He also has volunteered in Guatemala through Pray America and is currently serving on the council at Ivanrest Christian Reformed Church in Grandville.

Randy and Brenda live in Grandville with their three children. His nominator affirmed M.E. Davenport’s words in describing Randy by stating, “I believe Randy is a great example of a DU graduate making a living, making a life and making a contribution.”

OUTSTANDING YOUNG ALUMNI AWARD

Ryan Lougheed, ’04, the first and only member of his family to graduate from college, holds a Bachelor in Business Management degree from DU and two Masters Degrees. Working as a police officer in Northern Michigan, he was presented the Life Saver Award in Grand Traverse County for saving a man’s life. After receiving a Master’s of Business Administration at Regis University in Denver, Colo., Ryan served again as a police officer with the Department of Defense in South Carolina.

Ryan lives in Chicago, where he recently received a Master of Science in Public Administration degree from DePaul University. His volunteer efforts include Chicago Lighthouse for the Blind, The American Red Cross and the Chicago Citizen Emergency Response Team. He also supports Davenport alumni initiatives and is the Chicago-area DU Alumni Ambassador.
9th Annual Homecoming tailgate and game provide fun for all

The Panthers of the Caribbean homecoming theme carried its way from DU’s statewide campuses all the way to the Patterson Ice Center on Friday, Nov. 11 for the traditional alumni and student tailgate preceding the ice hockey game against Lindenwood University. Students enjoyed a meal catered by Brann’s in a heated tailgate tent, while alumni and friends gathered in the Ice Center for food, a 50/50 drawing, a chuck-a-puck competition, camaraderie and a competitive game of ice hockey.

Paul Lowden, Athletic Director and past Panthers Hockey Coach, was recognized for his contributions to the hockey program and leadership in the last four national championship seasons with the dedication of the Panthers Locker Room in the Ice Center in his name. Lowden was presented with a custom plaque that will be placed outside the room. In addition, the 2010-11 Panthers received their National Championship rings before the game. Even though the final score of the game was 3-1 for Lindenwood, our Panthers won’t be deterred from another winning season!
The Rein family was profiled in an early issue of Success Magazine, published by the Business Institute of Detroit, because the five siblings all graduated from the school and all found good jobs locally. The education and professional placement of the Rein siblings was especially significant considering the year: 1932, when the Great Depression was in full swing.

A small run of Success Magazine between 1929 and 1932 is among the many valuable assets of the Davenport University Archives. According to Peggy Sneden Moceri in her book, “History of an Institution,” M.E. Davenport purchased the Detroit Business Institute in 1954. Davenport’s successor, Robert Sneden, expanded the institution into the Detroit College of Business (DCB). In 1985, DCB was merged into Davenport and operates under a combined Board of Trustees today.

In addition to Success Magazine, archival holdings related to Detroit include newsletters, yearbooks, promotional pieces and other publications primarily from the acquisition by M.E. Davenport to the present.

The mission of the Davenport University Archives is to collect, organize, preserve and share material that documents the history of this institution. While archival material does not circulate, it can be accessed on the W.A. Lettinga Campus by arrangement with the archivist. The archivist also responds to requests for information and images as time allows.

We strive to represent all our campuses in our archives, and we’d love to preserve your part of the DU story, too! If you have memories or memorabilia to share, or if you have questions, please contact Jennifer Morrison, University Archivist, at 616-554-5664 Ext. 6145, or Jennifer.Morrison@davenport.edu
The Sally Lake Story
By Catherine G. Rogg, Director of Alumni Relations

A Living
Sally Lake, ’85 was filled with boundless energy. She was funny, compassionate, a true friend, a great mother, a wonderful wife and a loyal employee. She had a competitive streak that helped her attain her professional status as the first female officer at Spartan Stores, serving as Vice President of Sales and Marketing. She also served as a mentor to many and was a committed volunteer for Davenport University, serving as its Alumni Co-Chair for the Invest in Success Campaign. Sally was married to Andrew Lake, ’94 and they have a son, Shannon.

A Life
When people speak of Sally, they light up. Sally made such a significant impact on so many people’s lives, in the years she was healthy and after her diagnosis of pancreatic cancer. She was a beacon of hope and encouragement to those around her, and her faith carried her through the most difficult of circumstances.

The website devoted to her life and story, sallylakencancerhope.com, reads:
Sally tackled (cancer) as she tackled everything in life — with passion, compassion, humor and grace. Her passion for God, family, and the human race was unflagging and larger than life throughout her 5-year battle with pancreatic cancer, inspiring everyone she came in contact with — friends and strangers alike.

For some, the challenge of a deadly diagnosis can signal the end, yet for Sally it signaled a new beginning. Sally, in her brief years, touched so many people around the world in a profound and life-changing way, that the spirit of her living will go on forever like the ever-widening ripples of a drop of water.

A Contribution
Throughout her illness, Sally kept a blog that her husband, Andy, has made into an inspirational book, “Live, Love & Hope, The Sally Lake Story” by Andrew and Sally Lake with Anne Margaret Lewis. In this book, she "will walk you through her incredible and inspiring crusade to fight pancreatic cancer."

According to Andy, the book was written to inspire and help others understand and appreciate our daily blessings, and to support the Andrew and Sally Lake Charitable Fund established to provide "annual scholarships for those battling cancer, disease or other illnesses, as well as those seeking higher education."

Sally acknowledged that battling an illness depletes the financial resources with which people can afford an education. It was her wish, and her family’s, that the proceeds of this book could be the start of breaking down those barriers by providing much-
needed financial assistance, and the content could provide those with cancer in their lives an expanded support network.

For more information on Sally’s life, contributions and battle, visit the dedicated Facebook page Life, Love & Hope – The Sally Lake Story, and sallylakecancerhope.com where you can read some of her writings, see an inspiring interview with her and purchase the book, “Live, Love & Hope, The Sally Lake Story”.

Update 50: “...It is still Summer 2008, and when I typed the words “Update 50,” I just stopped and pondered to think about how much gratification has been given to me through the ability to stay connected to all of you. Most of us have shared some laughs and some tears along the way of the last forty-nine updates, and the greatest joy for me has been the continued gift of life. June 23rd marks two years since my surgeon-oncologist informed Andy and me that the cancer had come back with a vengeance in the form of “too many tumors to count” in the liver and surrounding lymph nodes. Christopher Reeves, actor and activist, once said, “You play the hand you’re dealt. I think the game’s worthwhile.” Amen to Christopher’s thoughts, as folding due to a bad hand was never an option for me either—only staying in the game!...”

Are you a published author?
Are you a Davenport University alum who has published a book? The Alumni Association is compiling a list of published authors and would like to help you promote your success to the DU community by creating a special section in the bookstore for books published by alumni. We would like to hear from you!
Contact Cathie Rogg in Alumni Relations at crogg@davenport.edu or 616-233-3419 to share your success!

NetPlus Connections book launch and reception
How much value do you really add to those around you? The reality is that Facebook friends often aren’t really your friends, Twitter followers often aren’t your real followers and you really aren’t connected to anyone through LinkedIn.

So, what now? How can you become an asset on the balance sheet of life? How do you add value?

The answer is to learn how to be a NetPlus Connection!
Ken Fortier ’01 and NetPlus Connections can help you transform your professional and personal life forever. Being a NetPlus Asset will give you the ability to positively affect those around you, making everyone else’s worth bigger and better! Join us for an evening with Davenport alumnus and author Ken Fortier. Ken is the CEO of Quantum Leap Communications and serves as Vice Chair of the Davenport Alumni Association Board of Directors.
The event is Thursday, Jan. 26, 2012, from 7 to 9 p.m. at the W.A. Lettinga Campus. For more information, visit www.DUAlum.com

Details
Jan. 26, 2012
7 – 8 p.m. – Ken Fortier Presentation and Q&A
8 – 9 p.m. – Book signing and after-glow reception
Meet the Young Alumni Council

The West Michigan Young Alumni Council was formed this past summer to assist the Alumni Relations Office with programming ideas for young alumni – defined as graduates of the last decade, 40 years and younger. Their charge is to plan and coordinate social and professional networking events as well as community service projects for alumni.

Council member Jaime Brookmeyer ’08 joined the group of volunteers and had this to say:

“Although I attended DU in more of a non-traditional setting – in my later 20s, I still felt a sense of pride of fulfillment in completing my college education, much like students at a traditional age do. Once I was done, I wondered, ‘What next? How do I stay involved?’ With the Young Alumni Council, I’m hoping over the next few years we can help those students answer that question and have them become actively engaged in the alumni community at DU.”

If you are interested in serving as a member of a Young Alumni Council in your area, contact Jason Madden in the Alumni Relations Office at (616) 233-2593 or jmadden@davenport.edu. For more information on events, visit dupantheralum.com or email Mike Dokter at mike@dupantheralum.com

Fall Crawl 5K raises money for Gilda’s Club

Around 60 runners and walkers, including students, faculty, staff, and community members, took part in Davenport University’s fifth annual Fall Crawl 5K on Saturday, Sept. 24. The run is coordinated by the Student Life Office, Alumni Relations and Panther Recreation. The event is also part of DU’s annual Family Weekend.

Proceeds from each year’s race are donated to the DU Cares Partner. Since 1978, Davenport University has annually selected a community partner to support through human and monetary resources. In addition, this partnership serves as a great resource for volunteer opportunities for the Davenport community.

This year’s DU Cares partner was determined by a student vote, and Gilda’s Club Grand Rapids was selected. Gilda’s Club is a free cancer support community of children, adults, families and friends. The Fall Crawl raised nearly $1,000 for Gilda’s Club. For more information on the partnership, please visit: www.davenport.edu/volunteer.

Upcoming alumni events

Detroit College of Business
Holiday Luncheon
Dec. 29 | 11:30 a.m.
Andiamo Livonia | Livonia, Mich.
www.DUalum.com/DCBLunch2011

Meet the President Reception in Holland
Jan. 10 | 7:30 – 9 p.m.
www.DUalum.com/HollandMeet

Grand Rapids Griffins Game
Jan. 20 | 7 p.m.
www.DUalum.com/Griffins2012

Meet the President Reception in Flint
Jan. 25 | 7:30 – 9 p.m.
www.DUalum.com/FlintMeet

NetPlus Connections Book Launch
with DU alumnus and author Ken Fortier
Jan. 26 | 7-9 p.m.
Wilbur A. & Sharon L. Lettinga Auditorium
Grand Rapids, Mich.
www.Davenport.edu/NetPlus

Meet the President Reception in Battle Creek*
Feb. 15 | 7:30 – 9 p.m.

Saginaw Spirit Hockey Game
Feb. 18 | 7:11 p.m.
The Dow Event Center, Saginaw, Mich.
www.DUalum.com/Spirit2012

Meet the President Reception in Midland*
March 14 | 7:30 – 9 p.m.

Meet the President Reception in Saginaw*
March 15 | 7:30 – 9 p.m.

Meet the President Reception in Warren*
March 21 | 7:30 – 9 p.m.

Discussions at Davenport with
Mark Peters*
March 22
Wilbur A. & Sharon L. Lettinga Auditorium
Grand Rapids, Mich.

* Details coming soon. Visit www.dualum.com/events
Professional

Dawn Olney, ’80 AS Administrative Technology, spoke at the Republican Women of Benzie County educational outreach luncheon.

Kristy Watson, ’85 AAS Administrative Technology, has been appointed Marketing Manager for West Michigan’s largest aviation company, Northern Jet Management, along with sister companies The Company Jet and NorthernAir.

Lynn Mohney, ’89 BBA Management, has joined Biggs Gilmore as a Project Manager.

Sargeant Major Robert Piper, ’98 BAS Management, has retired from Michigan Army National Guard after 31 years of military service.

Rebecca Ufkes, ’99 BBA Management, has been promoted at Chemical Bank as a Mortgage Officer for Holland, Saugatuck and Hamilton. Her great customer service and realtor network have made her a top loan officer.

Mandee Rick, ’04 MBA, has been recognized as a 40 Under Forty Business Leader by the Grand Rapids Business Journal.

Brad Coyer, ’05 BBA Computer Networking, has been hired as a Senior Network Engineer at NetSource One.

Michelle Ann Davidson, ’06 BBA Finance, has accepted a position with Healthcare Informatics Associates as a Technical Consultant. Michelle was married in March 2011 and is expecting a child in January 2012.

Carlos Sanchez, ’07 BBA International Business, is the Executive Director of the West Michigan Hispanic Chamber of Commerce. In his first year as head of the Hispanic Chamber, Sanchez’s leadership resulted in 25-percent increase in membership. Event revenue increased by 50 percent and event attendance by 25 percent.

Jeff Pirrone, ’08 BBA Management, has accepted a position at Perrigo Co. as Procurement Operations for the packaging team. He oversees the company’s strategic and day-to-day packaging component operations.

Shimeka Bailey, ’08 ABA Management, has joined Burnham & Flower Insurance Group as an Administrative Associate/Reception.

Keep in touch!

Recently married or have a new baby? Promotion at work or a new job?

Please keep your alumni records updated and share any news with your fellow alumni. Email us at alumni@davenport.edu (be sure to include your full name, class year, major and location you attended) or log on to www.davenport.edu/alumclassnotes
DeVos Place in Grand Rapids

Honoring: Dave & Carol Van Andel
Keynote: Tom Izzo

For reservations, call:
616-233-3412