Alumni Survey Results: Our Alumni Rock

Thank you very much to those who participated in the alumni survey completed in October 2010. We received an overwhelming response. Union College has approximately 3,963 alumni with a valid e-mail on our database. Of those who opened the e-mail survey, 58 percent responded! We are very blessed to have such involved alumni. Thanks again!

Union nursing graduates continue to have highest NCLEX pass rate in Nebraska

Union College nursing graduates posted the highest pass rate in the state of Nebraska on the National Council Licensure Examination, or NCLEX, for a fifth straight quarter, ending in December 2010. Since October 2009, Union's 97 percent pass rate has surpassed the fourteen other nursing schools in the state and the Nebraska (88 percent) and national (87 percent) averages.

The NCLEX-RN is the standardized proficiency test required for licensure by states boards of nursing in all 50 states. May 2010 graduates faced a recently overhauled and more difficult NCLEX test, which also required a higher score to pass

"Continued success on the NCLEX illustrates the diligent academic effort of our students and the dedication of their professors," said Charlotte Schober, interim chair of the Division of Health Sciences. "A graduating senior shared this thought when asked about the strength of the nursing program: 'The teachers truly agonize about our success. It made me care more. I have never been such an earnest student.'"

Union Music Department Performs Handel's Messiah

Union College's Division of Fine Arts presented part one of George Frederic Handel's Messiah for the annual Christmas concert December 10 at the College View Church. The concert was open to
the public and featured Union's Chamber Orchestra under the direction of Cynthia Stokes, instructor of music, and the Unionaires, Chamber Chorale and soloists directed by Daniel Lynn, professor of music.

Working on these majestic pieces with such talented students has been a rewarding musical experience," said Lynn. "The students have put in many hours of preparation for the concert, and I'm thrilled to present our hard work and showcase some of the most famous and spiritual baroque music."

You can watch just the famed "Hallelujah Chorus" on Union's video gallery or the full concert on UCLive (Note to Mac users: UCLive uses the Windows Media streaming protocol, and will work best if you open it with the free MPEG Streamclip.)

Phonathon 2010

Thank you to all who supported the Union College Fund through the annual fall phonathon. During October and November, our student callers raised $242,000 in pledges from 1,440 donors. Next week, we will start calling the alumni we missed in the fall. If you are called please take a moment to chat with the student. He or she can fill you in on the latest campus happenings.

You can support the Union College Fund any time by giving online at www.ucollege.edu/giving. Each gift makes a difference for the students of Union College. Thank you for your generosity.

Physician Assistant Students Learn Through Service

Union's physician assistant and nursing programs jointly sponsor and staff a foot clinic twice each month at one of Lincoln's soup kitchens. "We wash their feet and clean their nails," Chris Kinney, a PA student, explained. "It's very rewarding to give somebody a pair of shoes and to brighten their day." Student volunteers provide basic foot care and two clean pairs of socks for each client. Every six months, a client also receives a new pair of shoes.

"These types of experiences are important," said Cliff Korf, director of outreach for the PA program. "Students see the need and get excited about helping. They start thinking about how they can help the community when they get out of school and begin practicing."

Not only do PA students get a chance to serve Lincoln's poor and homeless citizens, but they also volunteer at local companies as well.

Lincoln Industries, a metal finishing company nationally known for the electroplating on most Harley Davidson motorcycles, is recognized as having one of the top 10 employee wellness programs in the country. For five years, Union's PA students have tested Lincoln Industries employees as part of this award-winning program. Each quarter, as many as 30 students volunteer several hours to test
blood pressure, weight, body fat composition and flexibility.

"I enjoy volunteering at Lincoln Industries," said Kinney, who has helped out six times. "The employees are obsessed with their health progress because the company provides some nice incentives for good health."

**Upcoming Events**

**Homecoming 2011**

*Experience Homecoming* April 7-10

Honor classes:
and Warriors Reunion - Celebrating 25 Years!

For more information regarding Homecoming 2011 visit [www.ucollege.edu/homecoming](http://www.ucollege.edu/homecoming). [Click here](http://www.ucollege.edu/homecoming) to register online for Homecoming 2011.

Please contact the alumni office at alumni@ucollege.edu or 402.486.2503 for more information about any of these meetings.