Investing in the Vision
The Campaign for Davenport University
A Vision, a Campaign and You!

Last month, we announced Davenport University’s Vision 2020, which describes what the future of this University will look like. Before you can create strategic plans, you need to know where you are going, which is what Vision 2020 is all about. In May, we announced our Investing in the Vision Campaign, which is a critical component to help us achieve our ambitious plans for this University. You will read about the Vision and our Campaign in this issue of DU Review.

Vision 2020 was developed with input from many key stakeholders following an extensive environmental scan and a hard look at our internal performance to achieve Vision 2015. Our efforts since 2010 to achieve Vision 2015 resulted in an incredible 110 percent increase in Davenport’s graduation rate — not easily achieved in higher education — plus all-time highs for student and graduate satisfaction and fundraising at DU. We launched more than a dozen new degree programs — mostly at the graduate level — and the new College of Urban Education, which will transform how teachers and leaders are prepared for service in urban school districts. We built a new campus in Lansing, upgraded health and nursing labs statewide and continued development of our W.A. Lettinga Campus in Grand Rapids.

Looking back at the past five years, we can see how far we have already climbed toward status as a premier institution. In 2010, our grad rate was behind all 15 of Michigan’s public universities; today, we’re ahead of five and have our sights set on surpassing another five by 2020. In 2010, we did not guarantee jobs for our graduates. Today, based on our knowledge of the marketplace and the effectiveness of programs we have put in place, we boldly guarantee that qualified accounting graduates will get a job in their chosen field. In five years, we will extend that Employment Guarantee to a quarter of all our degree programs.

Committed to quality, DU will continue to measure and track key performance indicators in order to identify, plan and execute initiatives that will help DU improve upon performance. Through Vision 2020, DU will continue to shape its culture to be more engaged, inclusive, philanthropic and accountable. With high levels of student achievement and a strengthened position across Michigan, including in our largest markets of Detroit and Grand Rapids and through our online Global Campus, Davenport will be viewed and sought out as an influential leader in higher education, serving as a resource for community, legislative and higher education leaders.

Vision 2020 helps ensure accountability to students and all DU stakeholders, assuring that more students will gain the preparation they need to succeed in their careers and to help their employers and communities thrive. We hope you share this exciting Vision for Davenport, and we thank you for your continued support of this University and its important mission!

Sincerely,

Richard J. Pappas, Ed.D.
President

On the cover: Featured rendering for the new Donald W. Maine College of Business building.
More than 650 donors attended Davenport’s annual Excellence in Business Gala held on May 1 at the DeVos Place in downtown Grand Rapids to honor the 2015 Peter C. Cook Excellence in Business Award recipient, Ralph Hauenstein, and to hear best-selling author and newspaper columnist Mitch Albom as the keynote speaker.

The Excellence in Business (EIB) Award Gala, DU’s largest fundraiser, has raised more than $2.2 million, which directly benefits scholarships. This generosity of donors is crucial for students who rely upon the support to help them earn their Davenport degree and start on the path to a successful career.

The Excellence in Business Award was established in 1998 in honor of alumnus Peter C. Cook. Previous award recipients include Peter C. Cook, Frederik Meijer, Richard M. DeVos, Wilbur A. Lettinga, David G. Frey, John Spoelhof, Robert L. Hooker, Betsy DeVos, Donald W. Maine, John C. Canepa, Fred P. Keller, Ambassador Peter F. Secchia, Doug DeVos and Steve Van Andel, Jim Hackett, David and Carol Van Andel, Michael J. Jandernoa and Blake W. Krueger.

For photos from this year’s gala, please visit davenport.edu/EIBphotos.
At 103 years of age, Ralph Hauenstein has lived an extraordinary life that exemplifies service and leadership. He has been a journalist, a war hero, an entrepreneur and a philanthropist.

Ralph Hauenstein moved to Grand Rapids in 1924 at the age of 12. Since then, he has become a high-profile business leader and philanthropist with a vision and dedication to help those not only in his community but also around the world.

He attended Central High School in Grand Rapids where he ran track and played football. On the football field, Hauenstein met and became lifelong friends with the future 38th president of the United States, Gerald R. Ford.

Hauenstein joined the Army in 1935 and fought in World War II, serving under General Dwight Eisenhower. He was among the first Americans into liberated Paris, war-torn Germany, and the Nazi concentration camps. In Paris, Hauenstein advised General de Gaulle to close the French brothels to prevent American soldiers from letting military secrets slip out. He was awarded the French Croix de Guerre with Palm and the Legion of Honor by France, and the U.K. awarded him the Order of the British Empire.

The chaos and damage caused by war was deeply felt by Hauenstein. It inspired him to increase opportunities in international relations and find peaceful solutions to conflict.

“In the 20th century, I saw with my own eyes the worst that leaders are capable of,” stated Hauenstein. “In the 21st century, I want to encourage the best leadership possible so that the world will be better for my children’s children.”

He established an international trade company, Tri-Continental Trading, which provided goods and services where democracies and free-market economies were struggling. He also owned Werner Lehara of Grand Rapids, a food equipment manufacturer that brought snack foods like Goldfish crackers to America.

His work didn’t end there. Hauenstein helped create a bakery in Haiti that provided jobs for hundreds of workers and thousands of individual distributors. He set up a school in Florida that teaches people from developing countries how to run a fully-automated bakery and improve their local economies. His compassion has benefited many organizations across the globe that are devoted to education and medical research. He served on the board that founded Van Andel Institute and helped establish the neurological center at St. Mary’s Hospital in Grand Rapids.

Ralph Hauenstein continues to work almost every day. He is active in many causes and charitable organizations and, by his own admission, has never retired.

When the rock star Bono came to Grand Rapids in 2006 and learned the scope of Hauenstein’s charitable and educational endeavors, he called Ralph Hauenstein “a cool cat.”
Hudsonville student awarded Gerald R. Ford Scholarship at EIB

The 2015 recipient of the University’s most prestigious scholarship — the Gerald R. Ford Memorial Scholarship — is Kelsey Kuiper, a graduate of Covenant Christian High School with a 4.0 GPA. Kelsey played softball, was a member of the First Tech Challenge Robotics Program, played in the concert band and was a member of her church choir. She has volunteered as a wrangler with H.U.G.S. Ranch and with Geoff Haveman’s political campaign. Kuiper accepted this prestigious scholarship from Dr. Rick Pappas during the annual EIB event.

About the Gerald R. Ford Memorial Scholarship

President Ford, who grew up in Grand Rapids and represented West Michigan in the U.S. Congress before becoming President, granted permission before his death in 2006 for Davenport to name a scholarship in his honor. Presented annually to a high-achieving Michigan student pursuing a four-year degree at the W.A. Lettinga Campus, the scholarship covers tuition, room and board, study abroad, fees and books for four years.
In July, Davenport University announced Vision 2020, a long-range strategic plan that sets the direction of the University for the next five years. Building on Vision 2015, the new Vision calls for student outcomes that rank Davenport alongside the upper half of Michigan’s public universities and further establishes DU’s leadership in the field of career-focused higher education.

Since 2010, Davenport’s graduation rate has risen 110 percent, and student and graduate satisfaction scores have achieved all-time highs. A new campus was developed in Lansing, and new science and health labs were developed statewide. More than a dozen new academic programs were launched, most at the graduate level, and Davenport’s first doctoral program — in physical therapy — is in development. This year, classes for the first master’s cohort in the new College of Urban Education began, and the first accounting students covered by Davenport’s groundbreaking Employment Guarantee graduated.

“Through Vision 2015, we put into motion quality improvement programs that will benefit students and their employers for years to come,” said Dr. Richard Pappas, President. “While we are proud of all that we have accomplished so far, we are far from satisfied. Vision 2020 calls for this University to build upon our new competencies in market research, data analytics and process improvement to accelerate improvements in student outcomes and generate national recognition for Davenport as a leader in higher education.”

Developed through the collaboration of University employees and leaders with input from students, donors, alumni and the board of trustees, Vision 2020 establishes a bold direction for the University. The Employment Guarantee currently available only to accounting students will expand to a quarter of DU’s academic programs, signaling Davenport’s confidence and accountability in preparing students for the workforce. Fundraising will exceed current levels which already have established all-time highs for the University. Expanded competencies in online delivery of degree programs plus new competency-based and three-year degrees will help establish DU as a higher education innovator and a model for career-focused higher education in the U.S.

Additional campus expansion at the W.A. Lettinga Campus, where a new Donald W. Maine College of Business building is to be constructed, will help generate new enrollment growth of traditional college students while continuing to serve adult and commuter students with the high levels of service that are a hallmark of Davenport University. Meanwhile, DU will explore the potential for a new campus in metropolitan Detroit, capitalizing on a resurgence of business, technology and health industries and the continuing need for well-prepared teachers who will make a difference in urban school districts.

A game-changing strategy for Davenport is the development of new partnerships with community colleges similar to the one DU has enjoyed for 20 years with Northwestern Michigan College in Traverse City. These partnerships will support Michigan’s community colleges and provide new opportunities for their students to pursue their bachelor and graduate degrees in Davenport classrooms on the partner colleges’ campuses. The first of these new partnerships, announced in July, have been established with Mott Community College and Kalamazoo Valley Community College.

“We remain committed to providing students with the highest quality education at a reasonable cost,” said Dr. Pappas. “We will continue to hold our tuition to the lowest third of all private institutions in Michigan. We also will seek to expand access to our life-changing education through more scholarships and other forms of financial aid.”

More information about Vision 2020 can be found at www.davenport.edu/about-davenport/vision-mission-values, and regular updates will be provided in future issues of DU Review.
2015 Commencement provides memorable moments

On Sunday, April 26, nearly 1,000 graduates from across the state celebrated their new degrees at the 2015 Commencement ceremony that took place at the Van Andel Arena in Grand Rapids. Kevin T. Kabat, Vice Chairman and CEO of Fifth Third Bancorp, served as Commencement Speaker and was presented with an honorary doctorate degree by the University. Kevin shared his experience and knowledge about the business industry with the new graduates and extended his heartfelt congratulations.

“I believe your time at Davenport has provided you with a compass. And I hope that your ‘true north’ will always be something bigger than money, bigger than power, bigger than even yourself,” encouraged Kevin.

Shutaveya Ward, this year’s student speaker, shared her story with her fellow graduates. “Davenport University’s staff left a lasting impression; they taught real-world experiences that guided me, listened to me and walked alongside me as I struggled to find my way. I learned not just how to make a living but how to make a life.”

Shutaveya left her peers with a challenge from American mythologist Joseph Campbell: “The big question is whether you are going to be able to say a hearty yes to your adventure.”

“I believe your time at Davenport has provided you with a compass. And I hope that your ‘true north’ will always be something bigger than money, bigger than power, bigger than even yourself.”

- Kevin Kabat, Commencement Speaker
Students receive top honors at national BPA and DECA competitions

Davenport University students continue to excel at national competitions in business and technology. This year, DU students broke their own national record by earning 21 first-place awards at the Business Professionals of America’s (BPA) Annual National Leadership Conference, held in Anaheim, Calif. Their previous best, earned in 2013, was 16 first-place finishes. At the competition, the 43 students competed against more than 5,500 students from 24 states. Overall, DU earned 105 Top Ten finishes. Over the past seven years, Davenport students have earned first-place awards at 84 national BPA events.

Ron Draayer, DU Faculty and BPA Advisor, was inducted into the 2015 Hall of Fame for his contributions to BPA. He has been the BPA Advisor for Davenport University since 1982, leading more than 600 students to National Leadership Conferences. Draayer has served as a BPA National Board of Trustees member since 2009. In addition, Davenport BPA Advisor Brian Kowalczk received an award for his five years of service to BPA.

In April, 13 members of Davenport’s DECA team competed against 2,000 other state finalists at the international competition in Orlando, Fla. Of DU’s 13 members, nine made it into the finalist round proving Davenport’s academic excellence.

“We are extremely proud of our students’ achievements at the BPA National Leadership Conference. Their participation is helping them become better prepared for successful business and technology careers. Their victories show that Davenport is doing a good job helping them learn the skills they need.”

- Ron Draayer, Davenport University Faculty and BPA Advisor
Andrew Weiss is pitch perfect

Davenport’s Collegiate Entrepreneurs’ Organization (CEO) held its 5th Annual Business Plan Competition on Tuesday evening, April 7. Students wrote and submitted comprehensive business plans for a panel of judges to review before the night of the event. On the night of the competition, the participating students receive an allotted amount of time to present their business ideas and answer questions in front of the judges.

They were graded on categories like viability, feasibility, realistic accounting figures, presentation and many more. Winners received seed money that can be used to form an LLC or build a prototype before approaching potential investors.

The winners were:

- **1st Prize $500** – Andrew Weiss – Green Pumps, LLC, a gas-saving pump handle that eliminates gasoline drips.
- **2nd Prize $300** – Aubrey Kopytko – Polanie Restaurant, an establishment offering unique Polish food and beverages.
- **3rd Prize $200** – Kirk Williams – Colliberum, a virtual stadium sports bar.

The first place winner, Andrew Weiss, went on to compete in the MWest Challenge, a regional business plan competition for West Michigan college students. This past spring, nearly 50 student teams competed to win more than $30,000 in prize money! Andrew won in two categories of the competition and took second place overall!

Students across the state honored at annual recognition awards

On April 15, students, staff and faculty from across Michigan joined together at the W.A. Lettinga Campus to celebrate the contributions of students and organizations during the 2014 – 2015 academic year. Congratulations to all award recipients!

**Michigan Campus Compact Commitment to Service Award**
Tennille Benedict – W.A. Lettinga
Wallace Gaunichaux – W.A. Lettinga

**Michigan Campus Compact Heart & Soul Award**
Tiffany Castro – Flint
Casey Lawson – W.A. Lettinga
Denys Lyubchenko – W.A. Lettinga
Syneira Matthew – W.A. Lettinga
Brittany Van Camp – W.A. Lettinga
Rebecca Veneklase – W.A. Lettinga
RaShard Wells – Lansing

**Student Leadership Award**
Tennille Benedict – W.A. Lettinga

**Student Employee of the Year**
Randi Koogler – W.A. Lettinga

**Student Volunteer of the Year**
RaShard Wells – Lansing

**Campus Diversity Program of the Year**
Holidays Around the World Scavenger Hunt – Holland

**Service Program of the Year**
Elves for Santa – Online

**Social Program of the Year**
Student Government Casino Extravaganza

**Registered Student Organization (RSO) the Year**
Alternative Spring Break, Established RSO – W.A. Lettinga
Student Nurses Association, New RSO – Lansing

On April 15, students, staff and faculty from across Michigan joined together at the W.A. Lettinga Campus to celebrate the contributions of students and organizations during the 2014 – 2015 academic year. Congratulations to all award recipients!
Dr. Susan Gunn named Interim Dean of the College of Urban Education

Earlier this spring, Dr. Susan Gunn was appointed to serve as the Interim Dean of the College of Urban Education. Dr. Gunn was instrumental in the launch of the new college and its first master’s program cohort, which began classes in February. With Davenport since 2010, Dr. Gunn most recently served as Chair of the Science Department in the College of Arts and Sciences helping launch a new program, Bachelor of Science in Biological Laboratory Science for the College of Arts and Sciences, which begins fall 2015.

“We are very excited Dr. Gunn has agreed to take the reins and lead the College of Urban Education,” said Dr. Linda Rinker, Executive Vice President for Academics and Provost of Davenport University. “She is a passionate and dedicated educator whose experiences and expertise make her an ideal candidate to continue the vital work of transforming the way teachers and leaders are prepared to effectively meet the needs of urban school districts in Michigan.”

Dr. Gunn is a Detroit Public Schools (DPS) graduate and secured her first teaching position at her alma mater, Cass Technical High School. Her mother was a school teacher in DPS, and her father was a Civil Engineer for the City of Detroit. She earned her Bachelor of Science in Education and her Ph.D. in Microbiology and Immunology from the University of Michigan. Dr. Gunn often relates how her parents stressed the importance of education and how that has been a driving force in her career and fuels her fervor to educate others.

Davenport launches new academic programs

Davenport University is proud to continue to expand the academic programs offered to its students. Recently, Davenport announced the addition of the Master of Accountancy, the Bachelor of Science in Biological Laboratory Science and a new 30-credit MBA.

The Master of Accountancy is one of only a handful across the country to offer graduate-level concentrations in fraud investigation, managerial accounting and internal auditing. Students entering the program may choose from multiple tracks that culminate in preparation courses for the Certified Public Accountant (CPA), Certified Management Accountant (CMA), Certified Fraud Examiner (CFE) or Certified Internal Auditor (CIA) exams or that focus more broadly on a general accountancy or finance emphasis.

The Bachelor of Science in Biological Laboratory Science degree will prepare students to work in a laboratory setting as a Research Assistant or Technician. The specific focus on preparing students for a career in a biological research laboratory setting is a key differentiator from other bachelor degrees in biology typically offered at other institutions in Michigan.

The new 30-credit MBA will provide features, benefits and points of differentiation that may be attractive to current MBA students. The new MBA will provide strong core coverage of competencies employers and grad see while offering choice, specialization and value-added career development resources.
Board of Trustees welcomes Paula Cunningham

Paula D. Cunningham, State Director for AARP of Michigan in Lansing, joined the Davenport University Board of Trustees earlier this year.

Ms. Cunningham started her role at AARP on July 6, 2015, and is responsible for leading and directing the advocacy and community outreach work of the organization and its 1.4 million members statewide.

“We are pleased to welcome a leader of Paula Cunningham’s caliber to the board,” said Tracy Graham, former Chair of Davenport’s Board of Trustees. “She has proven her leadership in business, in education and in her community. We look forward to the many contributions she will bring to the growth and vitality of Davenport University.”

Previously, Ms. Cunningham was President and CEO of Capitol National Bank (CNB) in Lansing, a community-focused bank serving individuals and small- and medium-sized business, since 2006. She was the first female, African American president of a non-minority-owned bank in the nation and led the institution successfully through the recent recession that affected many of the bank’s clients.

Prior to CNB, Cunningham served as the first female President of Lansing Community College (LCC), where she led a strategic plan implementation that resulted in growth and several new facilities, including the Paula D. Cunningham Administration Building. During her 25 years with LCC, she also served in a number of other roles.

“I hope that my background in business and education will effectively equip the students at Davenport to be marketable and successful in the 21st century’s competitive knowledge economy,” said Cunningham. “I am honored to hold an integral role in preparing students and helping them reach their goals.”

“I hope that my background in business and education will effectively equip the students at Davenport to be marketable and successful in the 21st century’s competitive knowledge economy.” - Paula Cunningham, State Director for AARP of Michigan

Davenport says goodbye to former Board Chairman and Trustee

Following 16 years of devoted service, Trustee James B. Meyer retired from the Davenport University Board of Trustees in June. Jim’s tenure included serving as Chair and Vice Chairman.

Tremendous growth occurred at DU during Jim’s many years of service, including the first 10-year accreditation achieved as one unified Davenport University. Under his leadership, the W.A. Lettinga Campus was established along with the Student Activity Center, offering a more complete residential experience for the students. His support and guidance led to the creation of a bold Vision 2015, and his legacy includes the successful realization of that Vision.

“Jim has been a strong advocate for Davenport University and for quality programs that will help us continually improve and become one of the very best institutions in Michigan,” said Dr. Rick Pappas. “I am proud of the work we have accomplished together and am thankful for Jim’s support and friendship.”
Flint (Photo #2)
DU’s Flint Campus sponsored a fundraising event at McLaren Hospitality House and the Proton Therapy Center. The money raised went to support cancer patients and their families by providing them a place to stay free or at a reduced price. Betty DeLoach represented DU as a volunteer at a spinning wheel for participants to donate and win a prize.

Holland (Photo #1)
On May 22, 2015, 45 kindergartners from Holland Heights Elementary School spent a day learning about careers at the Holland Campus. The program is part of an initiative by Holland Public Schools to have every student visit a college once each year, with the goal of increasing college attendance for Holland Public School graduates. This is the second year the Holland Campus has hosted the event where attendees participated in a series of activities that taught them about careers as chefs, paleontologists, doctors, nurses, historians, computer technicians and artists. They played career bingo and had their pictures taken with DU mascot Pounce.

Kalamazoo (Photo #5)
Once again, the Kalamazoo Campus rallied together to support a student and staff member, Emily Danger, who faces the daily challenges of multiple sclerosis (MS), at the annual Walk MS that was held on Saturday, May 2. Emily and her children, former DU student and employee Racquel Owens, DU employees Sarah Murphy and Judy Bosshart, and Emily’s friend Gina raised funds for MS research and walked the 5K course.

Lansing (Photo #7)
Lansing Campus hosted the Student Government Summer Retreat on Saturday, June 13, 2015. The Student Government Executive Board, Advisors, Campus Governors and Representatives attended from as far away as Ohio to join together to set a solid foundation for the upcoming year.

Livonia (Photo #3)
A Detroit Tigers opening day party was hosted by Student Life at the Livonia Campus. Students, faculty and staff were offered free hotdogs, popcorn and Cracker Jack. In addition, a raffle was held, and the lucky winner received two tickets to a future Tigers game.
Midland

DU’s Midland Campus hosted the Ready, Set, Get Hired! event planned and implemented jointly by Davenport University, the Midland Area Chamber of Commerce, Midland County Educational Service Agency and the Bullock Creek, Coleman, Meridian and Midland public school districts. Hundreds of high school students participated in mock interviews with business professionals from area businesses, teamwork workshops that helped students learn how to work with each other to achieve their goals and a panel discussing life after high school.

Traverse City (Photo #6)

August 26 marks the 20th anniversary of the Northwestern Michigan College (NMC) University Center. Davenport was a founding member of the University Center and has been offering bachelor-completion and MBA programs in the Grand Traverse Region for two decades. We look forward to many more years of collaboration with NMC!

Saginaw (Photo #4)

Saginaw Campus medical assistant students under the supervision of Rebecca Ventura, Associate Chair and Program Director for Allied Health, provided free blood pressure screenings at the second annual Buena Vista Charter Township Miles for Memory 5K Fun Run/Walk for Alzheimer’s. Several students and staff members came out to support the cause and walk the course.

Warren (Photo on page 12)

Members of the Warren staff in partnership with Livonia DU staff participated in the Color Me Rad 5K Run in Detroit on May 9. The charity partner for the Color Me Rad 5K Run was World AIDS Day Detroit: Creating a crowd eager to act. Participants in the 5K ran through color stations leaving them covered from head to toe in powders and gels of pink, yellow, green, blue and violet. Not only did they have healthy amounts of fun, but they also got their daily exercise in the process, all for a good cause!
Payne and Wireman named STUNT Division II Coaches of the Year

Davenport Head Cheer Coach Rachel Nemmers Payne and Assistant Coach Katrina Wireman were recognized by USA Cheer and STUNT the Sport as Coaches of the Year after leading their team to Division II titles this season. “It is an honor to be recognized as Coach of the Year by some of the top industry leaders and coaches,” Payne said. “STUNT is a sport I am passionate about and am excited to see how the sport evolves in the upcoming years.”

“Coaching is always all about your athletes,” Wireman said. “What more can I do for them, what more can I give them to help them succeed not only in the gym, but in life? When your commitments and sacrifices are noticed and awarded, saying it’s rewarding is an understatement. This award isn’t why we coach, but it’s absolutely something to be proud of. I am beyond grateful to be recognized. STUNT is the future for our athletes, and I’m so happy to be a small part of it.”

Panthers earn fifth straight WHAC All-Sports Trophy

It was another fantastic year for Panther Athletics in the Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference (WHAC). Seven sports claimed a WHAC regular season Championship, and 12 finished within the top three of their respective standings to help Davenport win the league’s All-Sports Trophy for the fifth consecutive season.

Women’s Volleyball began the season as the lone sport to claim a WHAC Championship during the fall. During the winter, Women’s Basketball claimed sole possession of an unprecedented ninth straight WHAC Championship while Men’s Basketball shared the title with two others. In the spring, Women’s Lacrosse never trailed in the WHAC standings en route to their second straight WHAC Championship while Women’s Softball shared the championship with another school.

Men’s Soccer, Men’s and Women’s Bowling, Men’s Golf, Men’s and Women’s Tennis and Men’s Baseball all made major contributions to the trophy with top three finishes in their respective standings.

Davenport continues to have the second highest number of All-Sports Trophies in conference history.

Grashorn named WHAC Coach of the Year

Head Coach of the Women’s Tennis team, Patrick Grashorn, was named Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference (WHAC) Coach of the Year for the 2015 season.

Grashorn guided his team to a 16-10 record this season. The team finished in second place in the WHAC regular season and finished as the runner-up in the WHAC tournament to the University of Northwestern Ohio (UNOH). The Lady Panthers lost only five matches against NAIA schools; all five teams were ranked in the top-25 or received votes. Davenport reached a program high of 12th in the NAIA polls this season.
Panther athletics attack the WHAC

**Men's Baseball | Overall: 51-12**
The Davenport Baseball team made program history this past spring in their first appearance at the Avista-NAIA World Series. The team fought hard to keep their extraordinary season alive, but a four-run ninth inning allowed St. Thomas to run away with an 8-3 win to eliminate the Panthers from the Avista-NAIA World Series.

**Women's Softball | Overall: 42-10**
The Lady Panthers won their third straight WHAC Championship and clinched their third straight automatic berth in the NAIA National Championship earlier this spring. The championship win was also the team's 40th win for the season, which is the second time in program history they finished with a 40-win season.

**Cheerleading**
The Cheer squad defended their National Title and brought home the National Cheerleaders Association All-Girl Division III National Championship for the third straight year. In addition to the National Title, the team clinched the College STUNT Association's Division II National Championship.

**Dance**
The Davenport Dance team came out on top at the National Dance Alliance (NDA) Nationals held in Daytona Beach, Fla., this past spring. In the NAIA Small Team Performance, the Lady Panthers qualified for the final round where they grabbed a second-place finish for the second straight season. For the first time in program history, the team made the final round for their Hip-Hop routine where they finished in third, which is their best finish in Hip-Hop Division II.

**Men's Lacrosse | Overall: 10-7**
The No. 23 Davenport Men's Lacrosse team defeated Michigan State (MSU) 11-7 to claim the Central Collegiate Lacrosse Association (CCLA) regular season title. This win sent the team to the CCLA Tournament as the number one overall seed where they were matched up again with MSU but suffered an 11-9 loss.
Women's Lacrosse | Overall: 16-4
The second-seeded Davenport Women's Lacrosse team defeated No. 3 Georgetown and headed to their first-ever National Women's Lacrosse League (NWLL) Championship appearance. The team battled hard, but lost 13-6 to Savannah College of Art and Design.

Men's Rugby | Overall: 11-7
After giving all they had, the Men's Rugby team came up short in the USA Rugby College 7s National Championship last May. The team reached the D1A Semi-Finals for the first time and closed their 2014-2015 campaign with an 11-7 overall record. The team is now 3-2 all time in the D1A National Tournament.

Women's Rugby | Overall: 25-6
In only its second season, the Davenport Women's Rugby team claimed its first-ever national championship after going a perfect 5-0 in the 2015 American Collegiate Rugby Association (ACRA) 7s National Championships. The Panthers claimed the Division II Title after defeating Bloomsburg University for the second time in the tournament with a score of 31-10.

Men's Tennis | Overall: 13-12
The Davenport Men's Tennis team took on Northwestern Ohio in the WHAC Championship, looking to win their first conference title and an automatic bid to the NAIA National Championships. Unable to clinch the win, the team concluded their season with a 13-12 record.

Women's Tennis | Overall: 16-10
The Women's Tennis team entered the WHAC Tournament as the number two seed and fell to Northwestern Ohio after a tough match.

Men's Wrestling
In the first year of the Davenport Wrestling program, two Panthers, Zack Yates and Glenn Geurink, were crowned National Collegiate Wrestling Association (NCWA) National Champions. The two championships for the freshmen close the book on an unbelievable inaugural season for the program.

29 Students earn Daktronics-NAIA Scholar-Athlete honors
The following student-athletes maintain a minimum 3.5 grade point average on a 4.0 scale and have junior academic status.

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<th>Sport</th>
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<td>Baseball</td>
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This issue of DU Review focuses on the new Vision for DU and asks for you to help us inspire minds and ignite careers by investing in that Vision through our new Campaign.

Davenport’s aspirational Vision for 2020 will be achieved through initiatives carried out to support the academic success of our students, the operational excellence of DU, the engagement of our faculty and staff, and our financial performance.

Vision 2020 also calls for a high level of engagement, inclusivity, philanthropy and accountability from its community. That begins with Davenport’s leadership and employees and infuses all interactions we have with students and other key stakeholders. It also extends to all who read this column because our ambitions to excel as a leader in higher education are not possible without the support and involvement of you, our alumni, friends and donors.

Your support is necessary to help us build new facilities, develop new academic programs and grow scholarship funds that will expand student access to DU’s life-changing, career-focused education. Vision 2020 is an inspirational idea for what higher education can and should be — effective and accountable. It positions Davenport to be a national model for what career-focused education should be.

We hope that you respond with a resounding “YES” as we reach out to ask for your support. This includes financial gifts, the investment of your time in students and engagement with fellow alumni and friends of the University at our events. Whatever way you wish to become involved, the most important step is to please reach out and contact your Alumni Association. Check out www.davenport.edu/alumni for more information about how you can become involved and demonstrate your support of this University and its exciting Vision for 2020.

Thank you so much for your continuing interest and support! It is because of you that our students “Get Where the World is Going!”

Alumna Sara Hop joins Alumni & Development Team

It is with great pleasure that we welcome ’09 graduate Sara Hop as the Assistant Director of Alumni Communications and Development. Sara comes from Van Andel Institute where she served as Purple Community Coordinator. In 2008, as an intern, Hop established the grassroots fundraising program Purple Community, which empowers individuals to raise awareness and money for cancer and Parkinson’s disease research. The program has become Van Andel Institute’s premier fundraising platform with more than 300 participants and has raised more than $1.5 million.

Sara holds a Bachelor’s degree in International Business and Sports Management and is pursuing her Master of Education degree with a focus on Higher Education. She was awarded the 2014 Davenport University Outstanding Young Alumni Award. Sara is excited to be back at DU!
For nearly 150 years, Davenport has excelled in developing graduates who contribute to the success of their employers. DU’s Vision is to be renowned as a quality university that exceeds employer expectations, transforms communities and prepares students to achieve their career dreams. The University’s new campaign will help it take the next step in realizing that Vision.

In May, Davenport publicly announced the $25 million Investing in the Vision campaign, which will generate funds for a new Donald W. Maine College of Business facility with a Center for Entrepreneurship, the continued development of the College of Urban Education and increase the scholarship endowment that provides access for deserving students.

“Davenport’s Investing in the Vision campaign and its focus on inspiring minds and igniting careers are exciting,” stated Rich DeVos, Honorary Campaign Chair and Co-Founder of Amway. “This campaign is a vital component of Davenport’s plan to transform education and foster entrepreneurship — two areas close to my heart — while tapping into more of Michigan’s potential by expanding access to education. I have been proud to contribute to Davenport’s past successes, and I am pleased to be able to support the University again as it achieves even greater outcomes.”

Since embarking on Vision 2015 five years ago, Davenport has improved quality measures across every area of operation with the goal of improving student success, leading to ever-greater employer satisfaction. The new campaign will help Davenport continue down its continuous quality improvement path as laid out in Vision 2020, announced this summer.

More than half of the total is provided by lead donors. Gifts from the broader community, including DU alumni, will help achieve the $25 million total that will make a difference for DU students, the future leaders and innovators who will emerge as a result of their own dynamic Davenport experience.

For more information or to make a gift, please visit davenport.edu/invest.
At the heart of it all: Donald W. Maine College of Business building

Entrepreneurship is at the heart of Michigan’s historic success, with industries built upon the bold initiative and inventiveness of the state’s early business leaders. Davenport understands that the state’s continued well-being requires an environment that nurtures and supports emerging entrepreneurs who will create the growth industries of the future.

The new three-story, 60,000-square-foot facility will allow for continued growth of academic programs in the Donald W. Maine College of Business, provide students with a solid business education foundation and serve as a valuable resource for entrepreneurs, investors and service providers. Entrepreneurs will gain access to guidance and expertise as part of a business accelerator program focused on emerging high-value, high-growth companies.

“The business accelerator program is just one of a few in the state of Michigan,” said Donald W. Maine, Chancellor Emeritus and past President of Davenport University. “It will provide guidance and structure to those with ambitions to grow and develop their own business and grow their own markets.”

The new facility will apply the flexibility and collaboration prevalent in progressive business environments to the college campus setting. Classrooms will be organized around a central collaboration hub where students can interact, study and create. Faculty members will be housed in an open office environment that includes permanent offices, stations for use by adjunct instructors and ample private meeting space. Educational spaces also embrace a flexible environment where teaching styles and learning environments can easily change from class to class. This atmosphere, which is modeled more on contemporary thinking for corporate headquarters than an academic building, will immerse the business students — tomorrow’s corporate owners and leaders — in real-world settings similar to that which they will enter upon graduation.
Opening doors to education

As the second-largest private college in Michigan, Davenport annually distributes more than $20 million in scholarships and other types of financial aid to deserving students. Although the University’s tuition is among the lowest of all private universities in Michigan, more than 90 percent of DU students receive some type of financial assistance.

“The scholarships were crucial in getting me into college and allowing me to really focus on my education,” said Ali Irvin, Class of 2014. “It was huge knowing that any scholarship awarded to me was because someone else believed in me.”

An endowed scholarship is truly legacy giving. It allows donors the opportunity to learn about the individual lives that are transformed by their generosity. When the University receives donations for endowed scholarships from alumni, friends, corporations, businesses or foundations, the funds are invested in an endowment fund managed by the University, and a portion of the income earned by the fund creates a yearly student scholarship. The remaining portion of the earned income is returned to the endowment so it can grow and yield additional scholarship support year after year. The endowed fund itself is not spent so the scholarship can live on forever to provide ongoing assistance to deserving students.

Endowed scholarships are an investment in the next generation of leaders. Donors often set up endowments in areas close to their hearts, like nursing, accounting or technology. Davenport Board of Trustees member and President and CEO of Haworth, Inc. Franco Bianchi and his wife Alessandra established The Gabriella Mervic Endowed Nursing Scholarship in memory of her mother.

“Nurses make a difference around the world every day. They advocate for the patient, with their empathy, scientific and medical knowledge,” said Alessandra Bianchi. “My mother, Gabriella Mervic, became a nurse in Italy in the ’70s and discovered it was her true calling in life. She was always available for her patients and gave them her full attention. The profession has evolved, but nursing is foremost about caring for the patients. The nursing profession is critical, and we are thrilled to celebrate Gabriella’s memory with a scholarship for a nursing student.”

“The gap between what a student needs and what that hard-working student can provide in order to fund his or her education has never been greater. And so they look to the rest of us, men and women who have straddled that divide ourselves and come to understand that sometimes we need to reach out to others in need.” - Carol Van Andel, Member, Davenport Board of Trustees; Executive Director, David & Carol Van Andel Foundation
Amazing opportunities exist to support K–12 students in urban settings to gain a better education and to be better prepared to succeed in college. Davenport’s College of Urban Education is helping to meet those needs by transforming the way teachers and education leaders are prepared to serve in diverse, urban schools.

In partnership with Grand Rapids Public Schools and following recommendations of the Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP), Davenport has developed a master’s program that prepares the teachers Michigan’s urban school districts require. Under the leadership of Dr. Susan Gunn, Interim Dean of the College of Urban Education, additional certificate and bachelor’s programs are being developed to expand DU’s offerings for prospective school leaders and teachers.

“Teaching and leading schools in an urban environment require special talent, with enhanced skills, training and relationship building, to ensure all children achieve their potential,” stated Teresa Weatherall Neal, M.Ed., Superintendent of Grand Rapids Public Schools. “This new College of Urban Education is exactly the type of talent development that is needed.”

“By equipping new and existing teachers and education leaders to thrive in urban schools where they can cultivate positive change, the College of Urban Education will meet a vital need in Michigan.”

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“My hope is that by taking this bold and innovative step in urban education, that in years to come, people will look back and point to Davenport University as the pioneer that inspired a movement to literally unlock the potential for millions of our youth.” - Frank Merlotti, Davenport Board of Trustees; Retired President, Design Group, Steelcase, Inc.
Michael Edward (M.E.) Davenport and Davenport University share a long, vibrant history that dates back to 1910, when a new teacher arrived at a business college with a vision to grow the institution statewide and make it a leader in business education. He coined the phrase, “Make a living. Make a life. Make a contribution.” This motto still rings true more than 100 years later. His nearly 50 years of leadership created a legacy that continues to shape Davenport’s path and impact.

In 1986, Robert W. and Margaret Davenport Sneden, M.E. Davenport’s son-in-law and daughter, established the M.E. Davenport Foundation to help sustain endowments for Davenport College and its affiliate schools. Since the late 1990s, the Foundation has expanded its grant-making support into the greater community but still has a special place in its heart for Davenport.

The M.E. Davenport Foundation has supported the Sneden Center at the W.A. Lettinga Campus, the Wynalda Teaching Institute, the Mable Engle Nursing School and the endowed Jenny Engle Nursing Scholarship. The Foundation’s latest commitment, in keeping with M.E. Davenport’s vision for growth and leadership in business, is a $1,000,000 gift for construction of a new Donald W. Maine College of Business building.

Through their generous support, the M.E. Davenport Foundation is Inspiring Minds, Igniting Careers and Investing in the Vision that will help our graduates — the future business leaders — to Make a Living, Make a Life and Make a Contribution.

“Ever since its beginning in 1866, Davenport has built upon its uniqueness. The institution has projected a spirit of restlessness, of adapting its educational mission to the ever-changing needs of business and industry.”

Donald W. Maine,
Chancellor Emeritus, Davenport University
Namesake of the Donald W. Maine College of Business
From sea to shining sea

With the University’s roots dating back to 1866, it’s not hard to believe that Davenport graduates reside in all 50 states. Although the majority live in Michigan, out of curiosity, I decided to research just how powerful the DU footprint is across the country. The following is just a sample of what I found:

In Redmond, Wash., Charlotte Olson, ’96 AS Sales and Marketing, works as the Chief of Staff for Online Business Operations, Program Management and Sales Management at Microsoft. Continuing along the west Michael Mullins is Director of International Benefits at The Walt Disney Company, where he is responsible for an employee population of more than 40,000. Michael received his BBA, Management in ’01 and his MBA, Strategic Management in ’05.

Working our way east, Bryan Austin, ’85 AS Restaurant & Lodging Management, is the Vice President of Hospitality for Vail and Beaver Creek Resorts in Vail, Colo. Nearby in the Denver area is Rob Chipman, ’85 AS Accounting & Computer Programming, who spent 24 years as the Director of Human Resources at McDonalds before becoming Vice President of Recruiting and Talent Management at DaVita.

In Pittsburgh, Penn., resides our 2004 Distinguished Alumni Award recipient, Mary Boland, ’79 BA Accounting. Mary currently serves as the Chief Financial and Administrative Officer of American Eagle Outfitters. Mary’s prior roles include Senior Vice President of Finance and Distribution at Levi Strauss & Co. in San Francisco, Calif. and Chief Financial Officer North America of General Motors.

On the following pages, you will learn more about Dr. Joseph Chalil, ’04 MBA Health Care Management, who is based in Florida and is an Associate Director, Health Science Executives of Boehringer Ingelheim. Headquartered in Ingelheim, Germany, and operating globally in more than 50 countries, it is the world’s largest privately held pharmaceutical company.

Davenport graduates are making life-changing impacts across the United States and around the world. The knowledge and skills they gained in the classroom helped them, and many others, advance their career goals and follow their dreams.

If you’re a Davenport alum and would like for us to tell your story, please contact me at Jason. Madden@davenport.edu.
Prescription for success

Joseph M. Chalil, MD, MBA, FACHE, first earned his MBBS, Medicine and Surgery from JJM Medical College in India in 1998. After practicing as a physician for many years, Dr. Chalil found his true passion was in healthcare management. While working for Providence Hospital in Southfield, Mich., Dr. Chalil enrolled in the MBA program at Davenport University as it was the only program with a focus in Healthcare Management that allowed him to take classes at night. Through the MBA capstone, Dr. Chalil met the CEO of Henry Ford Health System’s Bi-County Hospital who became his mentor. Dr. Chalil completed an administrative fellowship/internship at Bi-County Hospital followed by rotations at Henry Ford Health System in Detroit in the strategic planning and marketing department.

Dr. Chalil credits the faculty at Davenport University for helping him to follow his true passion and encouraging him to take a risk. Today, Dr. Chalil is Associate Director, Health Science Executives of Boehringer Ingelheim, the world’s largest privately held pharmaceutical company.

In addition to his responsibilities at Boehringer Ingelheim, Dr. Chalil is the Chairman of Global Clinical Research and Trial Network of the American Association of Physicians of Indian Origin (AAPI) and the Scientific Advisor to AAPI Cardiovascular, Diabetes and Stroke Network. AAPI is the second largest physician organization in the United States, second only to American Medical Association, and the largest ethnic medical organization in the country.

A veteran of the U.S. Navy Medical Corps, Dr. Chalil is also board certified in healthcare management and has been awarded a Fellowship by the American College of Healthcare Executives, an international professional society of more than 40,000 healthcare executives who lead hospitals, healthcare systems and other healthcare organizations.

Dr. Chalil is an expert on U.S. Healthcare policy and a strong advocate for patient-centered care, and has served as an advisor to various national political campaigns on healthcare issues.

He currently resides in Florida with his wife, Dr. Sumy Chalil, the Rehabilitation Director for Kindred Healthcare. The couple has 14-year-old twin boys, Thomas and Matthew.
Athletics at Davenport

Despite an on-again, off-again history, athletics has played an important part of student life at Davenport for nearly 90 years. While not originally known as the Panthers, teams for men and women existed in several sports, playing at either the intercollegiate or intramural level.

Nothing but Net

Throughout most of the 20th century, basketball anchored Davenport’s sports program, beginning with Davenport-McLachlan Institute’s (DMI) first season in 1928 (1). During the 1930s, DMI competed in the Amateur Athletic Union (AAU) or as part of city recreational leagues. World War II forced the program into dormancy for much of the 1940s; but after Davenport built its new location at Fulton and Division in 1948, basketball returned, along with golf and men’s softball.

At DMI’s four-year sister school, the University of Grand Rapids (UGR), football prevailed. To coach the city’s first (and only) college football team, campus leaders brought in a ringer: former Detroit Lions Coach George ‘Potsy’ Clark. Far less famous at that time was Clark’s assistant: a native son just back in town after graduating from Yale Law School. No one could know that young Gerald Ford would go on to achieve far greater prominence. The UGR Lancers also had women’s basketball (3), baseball, tennis, golf and track teams.

Court to Course

As Davenport College grew during the 1960s and established its first campus in Heritage Hill, sports flourished. With organization came a mascot — the Panthers — along with official school colors: silver and scarlet. Basketball, tennis (4) and golf prevailed, with intramural softball, bowling, and cross-country teams also competing.

Escalating costs and lack of home athletic facilities led to a formal athletics suspension in 1979, putting the Panthers in hibernation for nearly 25 years. During this time, Davenport became a baccalaureate and graduate institution. In its journey toward becoming Davenport University, sports returned in 2002.

Game On: Return of the Panthers

Athletics were reinstated with DU’s first-ever men’s hockey team, along with women’s basketball, both playing in the Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference (WHAC). As the new W.A. Lettinga Campus was developed and a Student Activity Center added (5), the Panthers had a home court for the first time in the school’s history. Additional teams were steadily added along with Pounce the Panther (2) who provides fans with team spirit.

Today, more than 30 women’s and men’s sports are played at DU, and football will return in 2016. Under the leadership of Athletic Director Paul Lowden, multiple national championships fill DU’s trophy cases, while scholar-athletes routinely distinguish the Panthers’ conference performance and reputation.

In January 2016, Davenport University will begin a year-long celebration of its 150th anniversary. To commemorate this milestone, a new Davenport history book is in development. This is an excerpt.
**Professional**

**Deborah L. Beaudrie**, ’01 BBA Health Services Administration, ’06 MBA Health Care Management, is now Physician Liaison at Oakwood Southshore Medical Center, in Trenton, Mich.

**Mark Berlin**, ’11 BBA Accounting, has joined DTS Fluid Power in Grandville as an Accountant.

**Sara Brondsema**, ’07 BBA Marketing, ’12 Executive MBA, accepted a position as a Learning Consultant at Steelcase in Grand Rapids.

**Joseph M. Chalil**, ’04 MBA Health Care Management, was appointed to the Strategic Advisory Board of the medical system and device company Medifocus, Inc.

**Nicole Cook**, ’09 BBA Marketing, accepted a position as the Marketing Manager for the Business and Institutional Furniture Manufacturers Association (BIFMA) in Grand Rapids.

**Delisa Fountain**, ’12 ADA Business Administration, is now the Project Director at NEON Lansing.

**Sara Hop**, ’09 BBA International Business and Sport Management, has joined Davenport University in Grand Rapids as the Assistant Director of Alumni Communications and Development.

**Jim Meyer**, ’66 AS Accounting, retired from the Davenport University Governing Board of Trustees after 16 years of service.

**Christopher Sanders**, ’12 BBA Management, ’14 MBA Strategic Management, recently joined Target in Grand Rapids as an Executive Team Leader.

**Janet M. Shy**, ’97 BBA Business, is now Assistant Manager, Barnes & Noble College – Kendall College of Art and Design Bookstore in Grand Rapids.

**Josh Van Duyn**, ’12 BBA Sport Management, joined Davenport University in Grand Rapids as an Admissions Representative for Athletics.

**Paul Wiersma**, ’10 BBA International Business, is now an Associate Director of Development at David’s House Ministries in Wyoming, Mich.

**Lynnette Wilde**, ’10 BBA Accounting Information Management, is now a Regional Staff Accountant at BDO USA, LLP in Grand Rapids.

**Phil Whitsel**, ’01 BAS Marketing, was recently named the new Area Manager for Chicago Premium Outlets in Aurora, Ill.

**David Wood**, ’11 BBA Leadership and Corporate Governance, ’13 MBA Accounting, was appointed the Head Soccer Coach for an independent men’s soccer team called Muskegon Risers Soccer Club.

**Honors/Awards**

**Laurie Ayers**, ’95 BBA Business Administration, recently received her certification in Statement Analysis Interviewing Techniques. She is a practitioner of nonverbal communication, body language, and deception awareness.

**Lori J. Baker**, ’81 Business Administration & Accounting, has been honored with the 2015 Public Service Award from the Michigan Association of CPAs (MICPA) for her work in the Grand Rapids community with Ele’s Place, the Kent County Parks Foundation, Davenport University and the St. Cecilia Music Center.

**Deaths**

**Edward James De Koster**, ’48 Accounting, passed away on April 12, 2015.

**James N. DeBoer, Jr.**, member of Davenport’s Board of Trustees for more than 40 years, passed away on July 5, 2015.
We want to hear from you!

Did you get married? Score your dream job? Been honored? Let us know so we can share the news in an issue of DU Review.

To submit your news, please email us at alumni@davenport.edu or log on to davenport.edu/classnotes. Please include your full name, class year, major and campus location you attended. We know exciting things are happening to our graduates around the world, and we want to share the news!

Questions? Comments? Want to tell us something over the phone? Call us at 616-233-3420.

Or if you’d prefer, just fill out the handy form below and mail to:

Alumni & Development, Davenport University,
6191 Kraft Ave SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49512

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Your Update

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Keep in touch!

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:

davenport.edu/classnotes
Homecoming Week: September 28–October 3

Inaugural Football Golf Outing
Friday, October 2
Stone Water Country Club
• 9:30 a.m. – Registration
• 10:30 a.m. – Shotgun start
• 2:00 p.m. – Reception
Cost: $95/person
Join Football Coach Lou Esposito and his staff for a day of golf. Outing is open to players’ families, alumni and friends, and proceeds will support DU’s football program. Register online at davenport.edu/FBgolf.

Alumni Awards Celebration
Friday, October 2
Robert W. Sneden Center, W.A. Lettinga Campus
• 6:00 p.m. – Registration
• 6:30 p.m. – Welcome/Ceremony
• 7:30 p.m. – Strolling Dinner and Reception
The celebration continues as alumni are honored at the 2015 Alumni Awards Celebration. Each year, the celebration recognizes deserving alumni for their professional accomplishments, contributions in the community and support of Davenport’s mission, vision and values. Register online at davenport.edu/AAC.

Homecoming Tailgate and Football Game
Saturday, October 3
Farmers Insurance Athletic Complex
11:00 a.m. – Dedication of New Facilities
11:30 a.m. – Tailgate and Lunch
1:00 p.m. – Scrimmage Football Game
Join fellow alumni and friends at the tradition-setting Homecoming Tailgate and inter-squad scrimmage football game. Leading in to their inaugural season, the Panther Football team will only play a few scrimmage games. Don’t miss your chance to be among the first to see the team in action! Register online at davenport.edu/Homecoming.