

Contact: Diana Gonzalez

**FACULTY PRESENTATION AT THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTHERN IOWA:**  
**“SHOWCASING UNI STUDENT SUCCESS”**

**Action Requested:** Receive the presentation.

**Executive Summary:** The presentation will showcase a selection of student organizations/groups at UNI that have garnered national attention and praise. The participation of students in these groups prepares them for success after graduation. UNI has provided support to student groups in several ways, including financially and with faculty guidance that allows students to participate in engaging and often career enhancing opportunities. Student organizations represented are the Physics Club, recently recognized as one of the top 10 student groups in the nation with senior Physics majors Cassara Higgins from Independence and Darian Everding from Waterloo. Their advisor is Associate Professor of Physics Tim Kidd.

The UNI Speech Team finished ninth in the National Forensics tournament out of 86 schools, their highest rank since 1992. This year is the fourth consecutive year in the top 10 for this team since 2012. Representatives for the Speech team are first-year Communication Studies graduate students Ryan Courtney from Coralville and Scott Bredman from Swisher. Their advisors are Communication Studies instructors Sade Barfield and Joshua Hamzehee.

The UNI Chapter of the American Advertising Federation (AAF) took first place at the AAF National Student Advertising District Competition and made it to the semi-finals of the National Competition. Senior Communication/Public Relations major Rhydian Talbot from Cedar Falls and senior Marketing major Jess Petersen from Cedar Falls will present on behalf of the group. Marketing Instructor Matthew Wilson is the group's advisor.

Representing the Sophomore Think Tank class in the University Honors program, junior Chemistry teaching major Nathan Betz from Mason City and junior Math teaching major Julie Kirkpatrick from Waverly worked with their fellow students to research and develop the idea for the Mobile Produce project. The project goal was to provide fresh vegetables in neighborhoods that lack access to fresh produce in the Waterloo community. Their advisors are Kamyar Enshayan, Director of the Center for Energy and Environmental Education and Jessica Moon, Director of the University Honors Program.