Leadership UNK Alumni Spotlight >>>

Jon Watts

Hometown:
Kearney, Nebraska

Department:
Senior Administration

Job Title:
Vice Chancellor for Business and Finance

Job Responsibilities:
I manage the university’s financial operations to support and promote academic excellence, fiscal responsibility, and public accountability. I also advise the chancellor and senior vice chancellor, oversee the operations of the division and work with central administration to plan and carry out financial operations, set rates and fees, and plan for construction and facilities maintenance.

Hobbies:
I enjoy taking advantage of Nebraska’s natural resources, whether it be hunting, fishing, hiking or exploring with my three children. I also enjoy staying active through early morning runs with my twin brother.

In 3 words, describe what true leadership looks like to you:
Vision. Integrity. Communication.

If you could do another job for just one day, what would it be and why:
I’d help the campus grounds crew tackle a snow day with the Toro Groundsmaster Polar Trac. There is something therapeutic about seeing progress as you work. Tackling a large snowfall seems ideal. I’d happily buy the crew lunch if this can be arranged.

Tell us something that might surprise us about you:
I have a strange fascination with all things zombie.

“If your actions inspire others to dream more, learn more, do more and become more, you are a leader.” - John Quincy Adams
The first session for the 2017-2018 Leadership UNK class is in the books! The session today was focused on "getting to know" one another. Jael Roschewski, Jacob McCann, Don Wellensiek, Brette Enz and Tom Knott all presented different ice breaker and team building activities to the group. Thank you to all who attended the luncheon at the Alumni House and were involved with the day!

The focus for the September Leadership UNK session was networking and mentorship. We met at the View that connects the Nester residence halls. It was a great location choice! We started the day by learning how to pitch ourselves with the guidance of Lisa Tschauner. Dustin Favinger shared his tips for networking and then we had a speed networking session with volunteers from UNK. We then learned about the ASSIST program from Kristy Buchmeier, the Loper2Loper program from Anne McConkey, and Bonnie Payne shared information about the International Friendship Program. As you can see in the picture, we were joined by Dustin Newton, Patrick Hargon, and Janice Woods for a panel discussion that was set up late-night-show style and facilitated by Lisa Tschauner. Amanda Andresen spoke about social media and we ended the session with our first discussion of the book "Start With Why". It was a full and fun morning! Thank you to all who volunteered time to join us today!