Upcoming Events:

**Thursday, January 25th:**
TSLC Success Session: How to Interview Effectively at 7:00 PM in Copeland Hall 130.

**Thursday, February 1st:**
TSLC Success Session: How to Search and Prepare for Internships at 2:00 PM in Copeland Hall 130.

**Wednesday, February 7th:**
TSLC Success Session: Scholarship Essay Writing at 3:30 PM in Copeland Hall 130.

**Wednesday, February 7th:**
UNK Career Fair for 2nd-Year DECIDED Thompson Scholars (non-education majors). Academic and Career Services sponsors the event from 12:30-3:30 PM at the Health & Sports Center.

**Thursday, February 15th:**
TSLC Success Session: Study Abroad: Student Panel at 5:00 PM in Copeland Hall 130.

**Sunday, February 18th:**
Engage for Success: Skill Development for Your Future Career presentation for all 1st and 2nd-Year Thompson Scholars. 4:00-6:30 PM at the Holiday Inn; the event will include a workshop and a meal.

---

**UNK TSLC Mentors Participate in All-Campus Mentor Retreat**

On Friday, Jan. 19th and Saturday, Jan. 20th, the UNK TSLC Mentor team participated in the 6th annual all-campus mentor retreat at The Leadership Center in Aurora, NE. The UNK mentor team joined with the mentors from the learning communities at UNL and UNO to develop leadership and teamwork skills, as well as to learn about how their communities differ for Thompson Scholars across NU. The primary theme of this year’s retreat was collaboration.

Dr. Tom Osborne served as a guest speaker at the event, sharing stories about how mentoring has impacted him personally, and how mentorship can provide needed care, affirmation, and vision for students at many academic levels. Professional staff members from UNK, UNL, and UNO led several large group sessions, and mentors also had the opportunity to present and attend breakout sessions. UNK served as the main host this year, with UNK TSLC Associate Director Scott Seeba leading the planning for the event.
Tips for Requesting Letters of Recommendation

Spring semester is a time that many students need recommendations. Scholarship applications, job searches, applications to graduate schools, academic programs, and/or organizations may require you to secure letters of recommendation. While it may seem as simple as dropping off a résumé or sending an email request, there are a few basic steps you should follow to secure a strong letter of recommendation.

*Prepare your résumé, based on your collegiate experiences, as well as a statement of purpose about the reason you are applying. Based on the skills the application lists for interested applicants, generate a list of recommenders who have observed your skills in those areas. Recommenders should be professional in nature, such as faculty, staff, advisors, project mentors or employment supervisors, unless the application specifies other options.

*Don’t ask a professional to write a letter for you who doesn’t know you well or who you do not interact with frequently. Knowing who you are or that you are part of a group is not enough to write a strong recommendation. If you cannot generate a list of enough professionals to write you letters, it may be a signal to you that you need to take a more active role on campus or in the community.

*Ask professionals if they can write a letter of recommendation for you, in a face-to-face, scheduled meeting. A couple of questions you might consider asking are, “Do you feel you know me well enough to give me a positive letter of recommendation?” or “Can you write a strong recommendation for me regarding my skills/abilities with…(be prepared to share a list of skills/abilities)?” It is best to be able to submit letters of that speak very highly of you, and in detailed fashion.

*If someone turns you down, don’t get offended. Asking for a recommendation means someone must take time to draft a detailed letter; they may not feel they know you well enough, or they may simply not have the time to write a letter by the deadline you need. Always have a back up plan of additional professionals you can ask in case someone declines to write a letter for you.

*Give whomever you ask for a letter a minimum of two weeks to complete the recommendation. Include all information needed for the letter, such as whom to write the letter to, what skills could be highlighted in the letter, how to handle the letter when it is finished. If it is to be mailed, provide an addressed envelope with a stamp, and be sure to factor mailing time with deadlines. Never ask for a copy of a recommendation letter so you can read it. It is wise to secure letters of recommendation in advance of final deadlines to be sure you don’t run into challenges.

*If you need more than one letter of recommendation, communicate that information up front to the recommender. Don’t assume that once they have done one letter for you, you can always expect them to do more. If asking for more than one letter, be organized in asking about what you need, as you should never cause your recommenders to have to seek out information from you to complete the letter. Also, send a thank you note to recommenders for writing letters for you.

**TSLC Mentor Applications for the 2018-2019 academic year are due January 31st by 5 PM. Please direct questions to Scott Seeba (seebash@unk.edu) about the position or application process.**

---

**Student of the Week**

Name: Jacey Nutter

Hometown: Thedford, NE

Major: Exercise Science

**What is the best part about being a Thompson Scholar?** The best part about being a Thompson Scholar is having the large community behind you and to push you in your learning and study habits. It is also nice to already have a group of students to be a part of, and as a result it helps you meet many new people and gain new friendships.

**What three words would your closest friends use to describe you?** My closest friends would describe me as genuine, competitive, and reliable.

**What’s the biggest challenge you have ever faced?** One of the biggest challenges I have ever faced was when I broke a bone in my right foot during football season my Junior year. The injury happened our fourth game of the year. I knew I couldn’t sit out the rest of the season, so I had to fight through the pain to play the next eight games and finish the season.

**In your opinion, what is the greatest movie ever made?** In my opinion, the greatest movie ever made is Remember the Titans.

**Who inspires you most and why?** The person who inspires me the most would have to be my mom. She inspires me the most because no matter what she is going through she can put on a brave face and make it through.

**What is your favorite season of the year and why?** My favorite season of the year is definitely summer. My birthday is in July and during the summer I spend a lot of time fishing and wakeboarding at the lake.

**What is the best part about being a Thompson Scholar?** The best part about being a Thompson Scholar is the large community behind you and to push you in your learning and study habits. It is also nice to already have a group of students to be a part of, and as a result it helps you meet many new people and gain new friendships.

**What is the best part about being a Thompson Scholar?** The best part about being a Thompson Scholar is the large community behind you and to push you in your learning and study habits. It is also nice to already have a group of students to be a part of, and as a result it helps you meet many new people and gain new friendships.