2008

Information Systems and Business Education

University of North Dakota

Follow this and additional works at: https://commons.und.edu/departmental(histories

Part of the Business Commons, Computer Engineering Commons, and the Education Commons

Recommended Citation
https://commons.und.edu/departmental(histories/108

This Book is brought to you for free and open access by the Elwyn B. Robinson Department of Special Collections at UND Scholarly Commons. It has been accepted for inclusion in UND Departmental Histories by an authorized administrator of UND Scholarly Commons. For more information, please contact zeinebyousif@library.und.edu.
UNIVERSITY OF NORTH DAKOTA
1883-2008
CELEBRATING 125 YEARS

INFORMATION SYSTEMS
AND
BUSINESS EDUCATION

Department of Information Systems
And Business Education
© 2008
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Department of Information Systems and Business Education has had a long and distinguished history of teaching, research, and service dating back to 1893. It would be impossible at this point to acknowledge everyone who took part in the historical development; however, certain individuals must be noted.

The development of this historical essay was in part contributed by Dr. Jack E. Johnson, East Texas State University, Commerce, Texas, when he completed his Master of Science Thesis entitled IIA Study To Reveal The Historical Development of the Business Education Department at the University of North Dakota, 1884-1967, II in June, 1967. From that beginning, Mrs. Margaret Barr, with 22 years of service to the department, and Miss Dorothy Travis, with 26 years of service to the department, revised and updated the draft to include information from 1967 to 1983.

In addition to these individuals, credit must also be given posthumously to Dr. John L. Rowe, Departmental Chairman from 1955-1975, and Dr. John C. Peterson, with 23 years of service and Departmental Chairman from 1975-1979. In addition to Drs. Rowe and Peterson, several other individuals have provided leadership and dedication for the development and growth of the Information Systems and Business Education Department. They include Dr. Roger Bloomquist with 26 years of service and Departmental Chairman from 1979-1982; Dr. Mark Langemo, 27 years of service; Dr. James Navara, 22 years of service and Departmental Chairman from 1982-1998; Dr. Donald Kohns, 18 years of service; and Dr. Lila Prigge, 28 years of service.

These individuals have given several lifetimes of service to this department, and their effect has determined the direction for future generations. Their example is why we look to the past as a source of inspiration. Their dedication, collegiality, and professionalism are a fount of hope and invigoration as we build a bright and exciting future for this department, this college, this university.

Dr. Timothy P. O'Keefe, Chairman
Information Systems and Business Education
The Department of Information Systems and Business Education at the University of North Dakota originated with the establishment of a Commercial Department in 1893, only nine years after the University opened its doors for the admission of students. The University of North Dakota was one of the first institutions of higher learning in the country to offer courses in business education.

When it opened in 1884, the University of North Dakota consisted of three colleges or departments: 1) the College of Arts, 2) the College of Letters, and 3) the Normal College. In the Normal College, Bookkeeping was the first course to be offered. The Commercial Department opened in 1893, and the course of study covered the entire school year and included Bookkeeping, Penmanship, Commercial Law, Business Correspondence, Business Arithmetic, Phonography, and Typewriting.

During the second half of 1893, it was decided to discontinue the Commercial Department after June 15, 1894. While no explanation was given, it is assumed that the extremely high tuition costs ($25 per semester) were partially responsible for their action. Only Bookkeeping and Commercial Law were offered during the years of 1894 to 1899.

In 1901 a School of Commerce was established to prepare young citizens for commercial work. Commercial work was under the supervision of the School of Commerce. The first published curriculum for Commercial Education was printed in 1901. Gregg Shorthand was offered for the first time in 1901. The tuition that had been charged in 1892 was drastically reduced. The only fee was $.50 a week for the use of the typewriters.

The year of 1904-05 was one of expansion for the School of Commerce. The commercial classes were held both on the third floor and in the basement of Main Building. More than 100 students were enrolled in the Commercial Department.

In the fall of 1908 the old Preparatory Department and the School of Commerce were transformed into a Model High School for Teachers College. The aim of the newly established Commercial Department was purely vocational in nature. That year a curriculum was developed for Teachers College. The Commercial Department was now a separate division of Teachers College. It is interesting to note that the typewriters used in the Department in 1908 were Remingtons, Smith-Premiers, Olivers, L. C. Smith and Brothers, and an Underwood, a total of fourteen.

In the fall of 1910 the Commercial Department moved into its new quarters on the fourth floor of the Teachers College Building, later named Woodworth Hall. The name "Teachers College" was dropped, and the School of Education took its place.

With the change from a college to a School of Education, the admission requirements were also revised. The School of Education required the equivalent of two years' college work for admission. The enrollees had received two years previous training in the College of Liberal Arts. Commercial requirements for a Bachelor of Arts degree with a major in commercial subjects included: Accounting and Business Methods, Stenography, Economics, and Commercial
and Economic Geography. The teacher training course in commercial education was published for the first time in 1911.

A minor in Commercial Education in the School of Education was first offered in 1916. Penmanship was taught in 1917. Stenography and Typewriting were divided into two separate courses so that more attention could be placed on each individual subject. The curriculum in 1922 comprised the following: Beginning and Advanced Typewriting, Shorthand and Advanced Stenography, Bookkeeping, Corporation Bookkeeping and Advanced Bookkeeping, Commercial Law, Theory and Practice of Teaching Commercial Subjects, and Theory and Practice of Teaching Stenography. At this time no credit was given for either course in typewriting.

Tuition had reached the level of $16.25 by 1922. This was necessary to meet the demands for a better education, new equipment, and more adequate facilities. There were now twenty-four typewriters available to students in the department.

Four major changes were made in the Commercial Department curriculum in 1930: 1) all subjects were assigned different course numbers and were divided into junior and senior division courses; 2) credit was given for classes in shorthand; 3) the two methods courses changed titles from Theory and Practice of Teaching Commercial Subjects and Stenography to Special Methods and Teaching in Commercial Subjects and Stenography, additional credits being given these revised methods courses, continued and 4) the course in Commercial Law was discontinued.

In 1936, Bookkeeping was brought back into the curriculum to provide training for high school teachers of bookkeeping. By this time, there were 31 typewriters available to students in the Department.

Special Methods of Teaching Stenography was discontinued in 1938. Special Methods and Teaching in Commercial Subjects was still offered.

Another curriculum revision for the commercial subjects major in the School of Education was made in 1940. The principal change occurred in the requirements necessary for a general education background. Students were required to take more social science, economics, and commercial subjects and to disperse them evenly throughout the four-year program.

After World War II ended, enrollment increased and more attention was given to the efficient operation of the Commercial Department making it necessary to add more staff. At this time a new course called Principles of Office Machines and Filing was added to the curriculum.

In 1948 the Commercial Department had one of its most progressive years. Class enrollments were very large; the Department was very well equipped, and there was promise for further expansion during the year.

Then disaster struck! On the night of March 10, 1949, Woodworth Hall burned to the ground. All the facilities, equipment, and supplies of the Commercial Department were destroyed or damaged beyond repair. The Commercial Department moved to the first floor of the Law
Building until new quarters could be provided.

This was the year that the Commercial Department was renamed the Business Education Department. Students were receiving credit for typewriting classes and Cooperative Business Education was initiated.

That year another “first” was scheduled. In the summer of 1949 the first attempt was made toward international participation in business education at the University of North Dakota. On June 6, the Schools of Education and Commerce sponsored an International Business Education Conference for high school and college educators. Business educators throughout the country participated in the program. Among the speakers were Dr. Ray D. Price from the University of Minnesota, Dr. John L. Rowe from Columbia University, Louis A. Leslie of the Gregg Publishing Company, Professor Warren Meyer of the University of Minnesota College of Education and Clyde W. Humphrey from the U. S. Office of Education. The conference was a definite success, and it attracted business educators from a four-state area and the Province of Manitoba.

The Business Education Department moved from its temporary residence in the Law Building to quarters on the third floor of Science Hall in 1950. During spring semester, 1951, the first electric typewriters were purchased for the department.

Changes in the curriculum in 1952 included the revision of Advanced Stenography which became two separate courses, Advanced Shorthand and Advanced Dictation. The next year two courses, Advanced Bookkeeping and Corporation Bookkeeping, were discontinued.

A new Education Building had been authorized and its construction progressed rapidly. On February 1, 1955, the Business Education Department moved its facilities to the third floor of the newly constructed building.

The course in office machines continued to rise in popularity at the University, and many students from other fields such as management, marketing, and similar majors in the School of Commerce were enrolled in the course.

During the 1954-55 school year, the responsibility for preparing business education teachers was clearly established as one of the primary goals of the Business Education Department at the University. According to the Annual Report of Departments, the greatest demand for teachers came from the areas of English, Home Economics, and Business Education.

In the fall of 1955, the Business Education Department was most fortunate in securing as its new chairman an eminent professor of Business Education, Dr. John L. Rowe, known throughout the country as an outstanding teacher, researcher, and writer. He had authored three textbooks and had served as an officer in many of the national business education organizations before coming to the University.

Dr. Rowe was well qualified to direct the Business Education Department at the University and to develop the graduate program, one of his major interests. His services to the Department and
his personal accomplishments were to lead the Department into its most prosperous years. It was
to become one of the leading departments in the country, offering business education at both the
undergraduate and graduate levels. He served the University until his death in 1975.

During Dr. Rowe's first year at the University, the Department was certified to offer graduate
work on the Master's degree level. The first graduate level courses were offered during the 1956
summer session.

The year 1956 was the year that marked the employment of the first part-time graduate assistants
in business education. In June 1956 the College of Education and the College of Business and
Public Administration sponsored the Eighth Annual International Business Education
Conference. The theme of the Conference was "The Improvement of Instruction in Business
Education." Dr. Rowe was in charge of the Conference which was attended by approximately
160 delegates from fifteen states and Canada.

The following summer, the Ninth Annual International Business Education Conference was held
at the University of North Dakota. It was attended by delegates from Canada, Central America,
and the United States.

Many changes and revisions were made in the curriculum that year. The beginning course in
Bookkeeping was discontinued and a course entitled Records Administration was added.
Orientation to Business Education was also offered for the first time, and Principles of Office
Machines was revised and divided into two separate courses: (1) Principles of Adding,
Calculating and Posting Machines and (2) Principles of Secretarial Office Machines. Dr. Rowe
arranged to offer a course in Honors Work for Business Education majors. One other addition to
the curriculum that year was a course entitled Secretarial Practice.

Dr. Rowe was considered to be one of the leading authorities in the field of typewriting. Because
of his excellent qualifications in this area, the Department of Business Education was awarded a
special grant of $4,000, plus an additional $5,000 for equipment, from a leading typewriting
company. The purpose of the grant was to determine whether touch typewriting could be learned
by elementary school children on electric portable typewriters.

This study was the most publicized event that ever occurred in the Business Education
Department. The participants, 14 boys and 14 girls, eight or nine years old, were tested in
reading, capitalization, punctuation, word usage, and I.Q. They were in the classroom for 50
minutes a day for eight weeks. The results of the experiment were announced in October, 1958,
in New York City. They showed that the grade school students had obtained an average touch­
typing speed of 42 words per minute. In addition, their vocabulary and reading abilities had
improved. According to Dr. Rowe, the experiment provided sufficient justification for offering
typewriting in the early elementary grades, providing electric typewriters were used.

Another event which brought national recognition to the Business Education Department was the
First World Institute on the Teaching of Typewriting. The Institute was conducted in July of
1958 for the purpose of presenting effective methods and techniques in the teaching of
typewriting. Typewriting demonstrations were given by two of the world's fastest typists, Stella
Pajunas and Norman Saksvig. There were twelve lecturers in the field of typewriting invited
from Canada, Panama, and the United States.

Because the field of business education demanded different preparation for varied occupations, the undergraduate curriculum was divided into three separate programs during 1958. Curriculum I was the Comprehensive Curriculum, available to those students wishing to obtain a broader background for teaching in all areas of business education. Curriculum II was defined as the Secretarial Science Curriculum. The third area of specialization consisted of bookkeeping and related fields.

In July of 1959 the First World Institute on the Teaching of Shorthand was held at the University. Sixteen prominent shorthand authorities, in addition to three of the regular staff, presented lectures and demonstrations on the teaching of shorthand. Approximately five hundred teachers and experts in business education and shorthand attended this World Institute.

In May, 1958, the University offered a new degree to students who wished to obtain a diploma for two years of college work. The degree, which led to the Associate in Arts diploma, was offered in the Department of Business Education.

John C. Peterson, a graduate assistant during the 1958-59 school year, assumed the position of instructor in Business Education in 1959.

At the beginning of the 1959-60 school year, a program was initiated enabling Business Education graduate students to pursue advanced study leading to the Doctor of Philosophy and Doctor of Education degrees. The doctoral program in Business Education at the University was an immediate success. During the 1960 summer session, 150 students were enrolled in graduate work, ten of whom were doctoral candidates.

The degree of proficiency obtained by students in the Business Education Department clearly exemplified the quality of instruction offered in the Department. Members of the faculty and graduate students received national recognition for research and professional work conducted in the Department. By way of example: The National Business Education Quarterly selected theses by graduate students in Business Education for publication. The number selected from the Department at the University of North Dakota was surpassed only by the number from the University of Wisconsin and the University of Texas, putting UND among the top graduate schools in the nation. Also, the staff had been extremely productive, as witnessed by the fact that Dr. Rowe had just published his twenty-fourth book. Staff members had held professional state, regional, and national offices and had delivered scores of addresses at local, regional, and state meetings.

The first Doctor's degree ever awarded by the Department of Business Education at the University of North Dakota was earned by Dr. Jimmie D. Morris, who became Chairman of the Department of Business Education at the University of Hawaii, Honolulu.

The Second World Institute on the Teaching of Typewriting was held in July 1961. Approximately 500 business educators attended this World Institute. Fifteen lecturers and demonstrators, in addition to those on the regular staff, participated in the three-day session.
In 1961 Dr. Dorothy C. Grovom joined the Business Education Department staff with the rank of Associate Professor. John C. Peterson resigned his instructorship in order to work on his Doctor's degree and to teach as a part-time graduate assistant.

During the summer session of 1962, there were approximately 120 graduate students on the master's level and 30 at the doctoral level. During the academic year of 1962-63, there were nine full-time doctoral students enrolled. The Department also continued to have a good record of research and publication.

In July 1963 the Second World Institute on the Teaching of Shorthand was held. Prominent business education teachers and publishing representatives were in attendance at the three-day session. The Manpower Development and Training Act enabled the Business Education Department to develop a clerk-stenographer course. The purpose of this course was to provide training for those individuals who were either unemployed or underemployed. The program lasted only three years at the University since the appropriations for North Dakota were not sufficient to allow for its continuance. Fortunately for the Business Education Department, the equipment used by the Manpower Development and Training program was appropriated to the Department in 1967.

The Department obtained an additional room on the third floor of the Education Building in 1963. It was remodeled and re-equipped for use by shorthand classes. That fall, Dr. John C. Peterson rejoined the staff as instructor.

In December of 1963 the Vocational Education Act was passed. When funds from the Vocational Education Act were first appropriated in September, 1964, the Federal government initiated a program that was of substantial assistance to the Department. The passage of this act was partially responsible for the growth and expansion of the Business Education Department at the University in the years that followed. The greatest benefits of this act were realized in the purchase of equipment, such as the addition of a shorthand dictation laboratory.

The Fifth Biennial World Institute in Business Education was held at the University in July of 1965. Many machine and publishing companies exhibited their finest equipment and textbooks at the Institute. Fourteen lecturers, demonstrators, and company representatives participated in the program for the three-day Institute.

In the fall of 1966, there was a total of five full-time instructors. The Business Education curriculum had expanded from only one course in 1893 to thirty-eight in 1966; twenty were undergraduate courses and eighteen, graduate courses. The number of the course entitled Vocational Education was changed to allow undergraduate business education majors to receive credit for it.

In July of 1967 the World Institute on the Teaching of Typewriting was held at the University. The program included discussions on the modern techniques and practices in teaching typewriting as well as on current methodology on that subject.

In the Fall of 1968 the Business Education Department moved into its present quarters on the
third floor of Gamble Hall. Also in 1968, Dr. Roger Bloomquist joined the staff, bringing the total number of full-time staff to six.

In 1971, the department name was changed from the Business Education Department to the Department of Business and Vocational Education. This change was brought about through the support of the State Board for Vocational Education in Bismarck.

On July 7-9, 1971, The Seventh World Institute was held on the UND campus. Nearly four hundred business educators were in attendance. The traditional luau was a success, as were the top-flight business educators who spoke at the institute.

In 1972, Dr. Mark Langemo joined the department. His responsibilities included teaching undergraduate business education and office management courses, supervising student teaching, and teaching graduate business education courses.

During the fall semester, 1972, a total of 48 graduate students were enrolled in the department. Of these, 27 were doctoral students and 21 were master's students.

The World Institute on the Teaching of Business Education Skills was held on July 5-7, 1973. Over three hundred people attended this international conference.

At the 1973 UND Founder's Day Banquet, Dr. John Rowe became one of the first faculty members to be named a Chester Fritz Distinguished Professor. The award included a grant of $2,000.

In 1974, for the second year in a row, Dr. John Rowe, Chairman of BVED, was selected as a Chester Fritz Distinguished Professor at the annual UND Founder's Day Banquet. Also receiving awards at the banquet were Dr. John C. Peterson and Mrs. Margaret Barr, who both received the UND Alumni Association Awards for Distinguished Teaching and Outstanding Service to the University. Mrs. Barr received the Charles De Bruyn Kops Faculty Award and Dr. Peterson received the B. C. Gamble Award.

Mrs. Margaret Barr retired at the conclusion of the 1974-75 academic year. Mrs. Barr had taught in the Business Department for 22 years.

A new major was initiated in the department in 1974. The Information Management major in the Department of Business and Vocational Education was widely regarded as one of the strongest of its type in U.S. colleges and universities. Instituted in 1974, the Information Management major included several specialized courses to prepare graduates for information management positions. Courses in the major included courses in Record Management, Records Management II, Office Management, Office Management II, Information Management Systems, and Senior Seminar in Administrative Services. These courses were taken in addition to the University's general education requirement and the "core" of business administration courses required of all majors in the College of Business and Public Administration. Graduates of the Information Management major earned the Bachelor of Science in Business Administration degree which later evolved into the Bachelor of Business Administration.
The placement record of graduates from the major throughout the late 1970s and early 1980s includes an impressive list of positions now held by former UND students in major organizations.

Dr. Rowe served as chairman until his death on September 21, 1975. Dr. Rowe provided the leadership and direction that brought the department to a level of national prominence. At the time of his death, over 100 doctoral students and numerous master's degree students had graduated from the program and were serving in leadership roles in colleges and universities throughout the United States. The death of Dr. Rowe was the end of an era at the University of North Dakota—an era that coincided with the unprecedented increase in enrollments in colleges and universities. At the same time, there was an increased emphasis nationally on Vocational Education, an emphasis that had a significant impact on the growth and direction of the programs at UND.

Two scholarship loan funds were established in the department after Dr. Rowe’s death. These funds were named the Abbie Erickson Rowe Loan Fund for undergraduate students and the John L. Rowe Loan Fund for graduate students. These loan funds are available for any undergraduate or graduate student majoring in a program in the Department of Business and Vocational Education. They provide a maximum of $600 each calendar year, renewable to a total of $1,800. Several students have furthered their educational goals as a result of these two funds.

After the death of Dr. Rowe, the faculty presented a unanimous resolution to UND President Thomas Clifford requesting that Dr. Peterson be named chairman of the department.

Starting with the spring semester of 1976, a new concept in teacher education became part of the University of North Dakota Department of Business and Vocational Education. This concept included the offering of courses in Vocational Education that appeal to all potential teachers in all service areas of Vocational Education.

To lead this effort, Dr. James L. Navara became a member of the faculty in January 1976. He was a former State Supervisor of Vocational Education and Career Education in Oregon and Missouri, a former university teacher at Central Missouri State and the University of Missouri, and former local administrator of Vocational Education programs at State Fair Community College, Sedalia, Missouri.

In 1977 the Master's degree in Vocational Education was approved by the State Board of Higher Education.

In March, 1977, Dr. Donald Kohns became a member of the BVED staff. He had previously taught at Moorhead State University and Virginia Poly Technical Institute, Blacksburg, Virginia. He brought to the department several years of experience in working with Distributive Education and DECA.

In April, 1978, a retirement party was held for Mr. Oswald Hager, who had devoted years to his work as State Supervisor of Distributive Education and to teacher education at UND.
Dr. Lila Prigge joined the department in 1978.

The O. M. Hager Leadership Award was established in 1979, and Mrs. JoAnn Veum was the first recipient. This award is given to a student pursuing a degree in Distributive Education and exhibiting those qualities deemed most important by Mr. Hager.

After the summer session, 1979, Dr. Peterson resigned as departmental chairman and was replaced by Dr. Roger Bloomquist.

During 1979, Dr. Navara had written a proposal to the State Board for Vocational Education for funding a position to provide in-service and preservice training for vocational educators in working with special needs (handicapped and disadvantaged) students. In January 1980, funds were awarded and Mr. George Zenk, a former Staff Professional of the Grafton State School, joined the department with responsibilities that pertained to in-service and pre-service training in the special needs area.

In January, 1981, tragedy again struck the department with the unexpected death of Dr. Peterson. Dr. Peterson's accomplishments were numerous. Alpha Nu Chapter of Delta Pi Epsilon was established at UND in 1963, and he was elected the first president. He was also chapter advisor from 1975 through 1980. He authored or coauthored nine textbooks and several journal articles. He was presented the B. C. Gamble Distinguished Service Award at UND in 1974 and was named North Dakota's Outstanding Vocational Educator in 1980.

Dr. Peterson taught over fifteen different graduate business education classes and many undergraduate courses. He was major advisor for more than thirty doctoral students, a committee member for an additional sixty doctoral students, and a chairman or committee member for over one hundred master's degree theses.

A memorial fund was established in memory of Dr. Peterson. The John C. Peterson Leadership Award was also created, and the first recipient of the award was Mr. Larry Pagel, a doctoral degree student from Iowa.

In May, Dr. Bloomquist resigned as department chairman, and Dr. Navara was unanimously selected by the faculty to assume the chairmanship beginning June 14, 1982.

Dr. Roberta Barta Mohagen was hired in August, 1987, and left in December, 1995.


Dr. Sandy Braathen was hired August, 1998. Dr. Marcel Robles was also hired August, 1998, and left the department in June, 2002.

Following meetings between the department, dean's office, and the accrediting association, AACSB (American Assembly of Collegiate Schools of Business), it was decided that an Information Systems degree was necessary. The Information Management major was, therefore, terminated and the Information Systems major was approved by the State Board of Higher
Education in April, 2000.

Along with the approval of the Information Systems major, the State Board of Higher Education also approved a department name change to Information Systems and Business Education.

Dr. Mark Langemo retired from UND in May, 1999. The Mark Langemo Information Systems & Business Education Scholarship was established in 2001, and the first recipient was Jeff Cox.

Dr. Timothy O'Keefe was hired to teach Information Systems courses in August, 1999.

Dr. Wayne Haga in August, 1999, and left in June, 2000.

Dr. Assion Lawson-Body joined the department in August, 2001.

Dr. Fazlollah Shirazi taught August, 2002-March, 2006.

Dr. Prigge retired from UND in May, 2003.

Dr. Yanjun "Frank" Zuo joined the department in August, 2006.

Dr. Stuart Schneider was hired August, 2007.

The Department of Information Systems and Business Education has an illustrious history and a legacy of excellence in teaching, service, and research. The faculty in the department, individually and collectively, have felt, and continue to feel intense dedication to quality business, distributive, vocational, information management, and information systems education--and look with enthusiasm toward their leadership roles in UND's second century!

STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS IN THE DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS AND VOCATIONAL EDUCATION/ISBE

The formation of the first Business Education Club at UND took place on May 20, 1949. The purpose of the organization was to encourage scholarship and create fellowship among students engaging in the study of business education. The organization was open to both men and women in business education.

PI OMEGA PI

In 1951 the Business Education Club requested the establishment of a chapter of Pi Omega Pi at the University. On May 12, 1951, the Business Education Club was deactivated and Gamma Epsilon Chapter of Pi Omega Pi was installed. Pi Omega Pi is a national honorary business education society whose aim is to promote scholarship and leadership in business education.

Gamma Epsilon Chapter established a Pi Omega Pi Scholarship Award and in 1954 the Award was presented to JoAnn Mason.
In the spring of 1956 Gamma Epsilon Chapter was deactivated. It was reactivated at the University on November 25, 1957, after approximately a year of inactivity. Dr. John L. Rowe was the Faculty Advisor, and with the cooperation of the business education students and the teaching staff, brought Gamma Epsilon Chapter back to active status.

**BETA**

Students enrolled in the Business Education program met in November 1963 and organized a club which the members voted to call the Business Education Teachers Association, usually referred to as BETA. Its purpose was to promote professional growth in its members through emphasis on service, loyalty, and competence.

BETA existed from 1962-1971 when the members organized a Phi Beta Lambda chapter and became affiliated with its national organization, Future Business Leaders of America-Phi Beta Lambda, Inc.

**PHI BETA LAMBDA**

One of the most active organizations in the Department of Business and Vocational Education has been the Phi Beta Lambda Chapter, affiliated with FBLA-PBL, Incorporated (Future Business Leaders of America). Members of BETA (Business Education Teachers Association) formed the nucleus of Tau Phi Chapter of Phi Beta Lambda when it was installed at the joint installation services with the Mayville State College at the University of North Dakota on February 20, 1971.

Members have judged the Future Business Leaders of America reports for state competition and have served as tabulators for the Statewide Career development Conference for DECA (Distributive Education Clubs of America). A brochure explaining the goals and purposes of Phi Beta Lambda was designed and printed in 1980.

UND Phi Beta Lambda members have participated in many community and university activities. They provided the first "trick and treat" trips for the students at the North Dakota State School for the Blind; recorded on cassette tapes material for the Vocational Rehabilitation Special Services for the Blind on the UND campus; played games, read books, and visited with the elderly residents at Tufte Manor; and corrected papers for the OEA Conference held at the AVTI, East Grand Forks. They have worked with the Chamber of Commerce, Center for Human Development, Mental Health Drive, Blood Bank, North Dakota White House Conference on Handicapped Individuals, March of Dimes, Communiversity, Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program (VITA), and North Dakota Council on Economic Education. They helped Red River High School organize its first parliamentary procedure team and did a study to determine the accessibility of the business classrooms by physically disabled students at the AVTI in East Grand Forks.

Tau Phi Chapter has been represented at every Phi Beta Lambda National Leadership
Conference since the chapter was organized in 1971, and the chapter has received the Hollis and Kitty Guy Gold Seal Chapter Award of Merit each year, beginning in 1972. Sixteen national awards have been won in the following areas: Ms. Future Business Teacher; Mr. Future Business Teacher; Ms. Future Business Executive; Office Procedures; Senior Secretary; Executive Typist; Business Communications Team; Business Administration; Chapter Activities Report.

The hard work and cooperative participation of all UND members in striving to meet the local, state, and national goals of Phi Beta Lambda has resulted not only in chapter achievement but also in personal growth and development of all members.

DELTA PI EPSILON

Official installation of Alpha Nu Chapter of Delta Pi Epsilon, graduate honorary society in business education, took place in December 1963. Members have participated in national council meetings (odd-numbered years), national research conferences (even-numbered years), national research studies, and in numerous other ways. There have been four different sponsors during this time. Dr. John Rowe served as the first sponsor, Dr. John Peterson as the second sponsor, and Dr. Roger Bloomquist as the third. The last sponsor was Dr. James Navara. Since the department has suspended enrollment in the Master in Career and Technical Education, it is likely the Alpha Nu Chapter of Delta Pi Epsilon will be dark from this point forward.

DISTRIBUTIVE EDUCATION CLUBS OF AMERICA

The University of North Dakota Distributive Education Clubs of America (DECA) was officially organized in 1969. The major objective of the organization was to provide learning experiences and professional development for future teacher-coordinators and advisors of high school and/or junior collegiate Distributive Education Clubs of America chapters. Chapter members assisted North Dakota teacher-coordinators in conducting leadership training workshops and North Dakota Leadership Development Conferences. Members were especially active in assisting North Dakota Distributive Education Clubs of America with the competitive events program.

The UND Chapter has provided leadership training conferences for high school and junior college Distributive Education Clubs of America officers at the Red Willow Bible Camp and the Lake Metigoshe Conservation Camp. Fall chapter officer training and program of work planning conferences for state high school and postsecondary officers have been conducted by the UND chapter on an annual basis. Chapter members have assisted with the Muscular Dystrophy Danceathons at UND. In addition, the chapter has conducted social intelligence and civic consciousness projects for needy children and senior citizens during the Christmas season. As of November 1982, fourteen arts and crafts shows have been conducted to assist area craftspeople.

The UND Chapter was awarded the top national collegiate Distributive Education Clubs of America "Golden Diamond Award" at the National Collegiate Distributive Education Clubs of America Conference in Miami, Florida, in 1980. This award was earned for completing a variety of local, state, and national leadership, civic, and professional activities.

ASSOCIATION OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY PROFESSIONALS
The Association of Information Technology Professionals (AITP) is a national organization which charters regional chapters with the objective of bringing information technology professionals together to foster professional growth through networking and chapter sponsored activities. The Bismarck Chapter of AITP has graciously sponsored an AITP Club at the University of North Dakota since 2002. The first advisor was Tim O'Keefe, followed by Brad Rockstad, who was followed by Yanjun Zuo.