



annual report

2013
14

advancing economic and financial literacy throughout nebraska

future impact

OUR MISSION

The mission of the Nebraska Council on Economic Education is to act as a catalyst and lead a statewide initiative to advance economic and financial literacy.

OUR VALUES

We believe that students should develop economic ways of thinking and problem solving that they can use in their lives as consumers, savers, investors, members of the workforce, responsible citizens, and effective participants in a global economy.

OUR VISION

To ensure that all students from kindergarten through high school have an ongoing education in economics and personal finance. Further we work to enhance teachers' understanding of the subject matter and their ability to teach these important concepts to their students.

For over fifty years, the Nebraska Council on Economic Education has been providing world class economic and financial literacy education for both students and teachers throughout our state. This year's annual report gives us the opportunity to memorialize our latest contribution to this impressive legacy. As always, our objective is to build better consumers, wise investors and productive workers who will advance good community citizenship and a healthy economic climate. The combined effort of our Center Directors, teachers, and students has made this past year very successful.

This past year has also been one of transition for the Council as we welcome Jennifer Davidson as our new President. With a bachelor's degree in economics from California State University - Bakersfield and a master's degree in economic education from the University of Nebraska Lincoln Jennifer's activity based teaching initiatives along with her past experience with the Council will be a great asset for the Council's future efforts.

Thank you for taking a moment to read our annual report.



Mark Winkler
NCEE Executive Chair
General Director - Budget Services
Union Pacific Railroad



Jennifer A. Davidson, M.Ed.
NCEE President
Assistant Professor of Practice in Economics
University of Nebraska - Lincoln

Advancing Economic and Financial Literacy



Mary Lynn Reiser, Director, of the UNO Center, since 1986 offering professional development to all metro area school districts and k-12 teachers. In 2013, she received the Paul Beck Award from the Nebraska State Council for the Social Studies recognizing her support in writing the NE state social studies standards. She has edited several publications for the Council on Economic Education, most recently the Financial Fitness for Life, Grades 3-5. In 2004, Mary Lynn received the John C. Schramm Leadership Award from the National Association of Economic Educators (NAEE) and she recently served as Co-Chairman of the NAEE's Publications Committee. She is currently completing her term as center representative on the national board of directors of the Council on Economic Education.



Dr. Tammie Fischer has been the Director of the UNL Center for Economic Education since 1992. She teaches the undergraduate economics courses for education majors at UNL as well as graduate courses and workshops for teachers. Her student programs include Econ Day for high school students, Economics is Everywhere! camp for middle school students, and several in school savings programs.



Mary Rittenhouse, Director of the UNK Center, returned in 2004 after previously serving as the Economic Education Specialist for the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago. She has been involved in community outreach programs to increase financial literacy in the south central Nebraska region. SmartMoney Week has provided personal financial information to more than 10,000 community members in the Kearney area over the past six years. In 2007, Mary earned the State of Nebraska Women in Business Champion Award. She is currently a full-time instructor in the department of Economics at UNK.



Dr. Chuck Parker has been involved with the Wayne State College Center for Economic Education since 1995. In addition to his teaching load at Wayne State, Chuck conducts workshops for area teachers and visits K-12 classrooms to discuss economic concepts with students. He has also coauthored a curriculum guide on Nebraska Entrepreneurs.



Dr. Yvonne Moody joined us in 2014 as the acting center director for the Chadron State Center for Economic Education. Yvonne is an applied sciences professor whose research interests and published works include topics in family economics. She was the 2007 recipient of the American & Nebraska Association of Family and Consumer Sciences NAFCS Leader Award. Yvonne is very excited to join the team and work with the Council to provide economic and personal finance professional development for teachers in Western Nebraska.

Other Center Staff include: Jim Dick and Kim Sosin at UNO
Pat Arneson and Meena Dalal at WSC

what we do

The Nebraska Council on Economic Education was established in 1963 as a not-for-profit organization by university, civic, and business leaders.

Our mission is to ensure that all students from kindergarten through high school receive a useable education in both personal finance and economics. This work is of vital importance because it helps students become more effective consumers, workers, savers, investors, and citizens in the complex economies of Nebraska and the United States.

The Nebraska Council fulfills its mission by offering professional development programs for elementary and secondary teachers and administrators; conducting undergraduate courses in economics for education majors; preparing and providing instructional materials for use by teachers in Nebraska schools; sponsoring programs in economic and financial literacy for Nebraska pre-college students; and providing expert assistance to teachers, school administrators, and educational organizations.

This statewide program is conducted through five Centers for Economic Education located at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln (UNL), University of Nebraska Omaha (UNO), University of Nebraska Kearney (UNK), Wayne State College, and Chadron State College.

Thanks to some special designed grant funding, for the first time in decades, most of the Nebraska Council and Center personnel were able to attend the National Council for Economic Education's annual economic and financial literacy conference held in Baltimore in October 2013. This annual conference is attended by 500+ people and is an amazing learning and networking opportunity to see what other state councils and centers are doing to advance economic and financial literacy in their states. Keynote speakers included: Richard Cordray, director of the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB), Richard G. Ketchum, chairman and CEO of the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority, Inc. (FINRA), Jeffrey M. Laker, president of the Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond, and George Washington University professor and noted financial literacy expert Annamaria Lusardi.

The Nebraska contingent came back inspired with a wealth of information that will increase the depth, breath, and effectiveness of our programs.

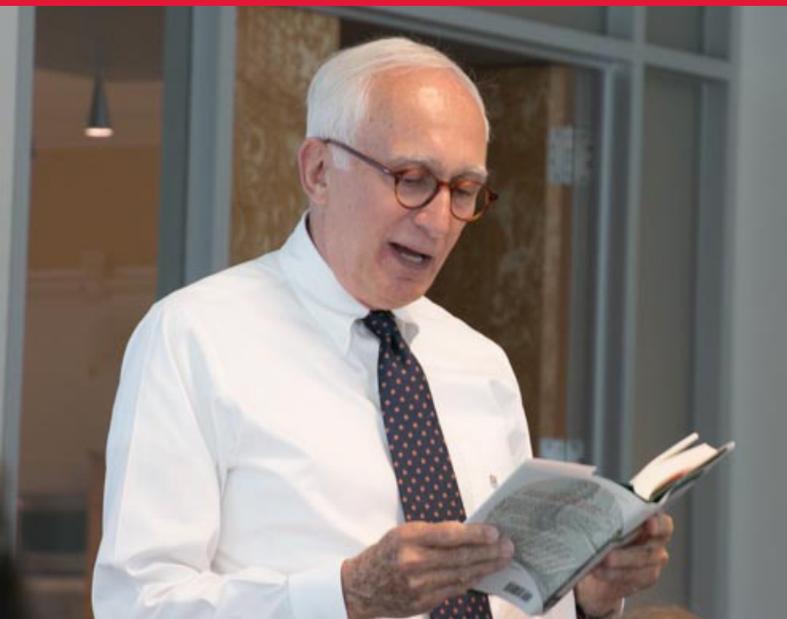


From left to right:
Roger Butters; Wayne State Center: Chuck Parker, Pat Arneson; UNO Center: Mary Lynn Reiser; Jennifer Davidson; UNK Center: Mary Rittenhouse; UNO Center, Jim Dick, Kim Sosin; sponsored teacher attendee: Aaron Sages.

Council and Center Director's attend 52nd annual Economic and Financial Literacy Conference in Baltimore.



summer seminar series



Economics of Health Care

June 10 and 11, 2014 - The Nebraska Council on Economic Education, in conjunction with the UNO Center for Economic Education and Union Pacific, hosted 25 Nebraska teachers for a two day look at the Economics of Health Care.

The event was held at the Union Pacific Center and began with two sessions by Jennifer Davidson, President of the Nebraska Council on Economic Education, and Jamie Wagner, Ph.D. candidate. Sessions covered reasons behind the increasing costs of health care, an introduction to the Affordable Care Act, state exchanges, insurance, and adverse selection issues.

Steve Martin, President and CEO of Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Nebraska, discussed, in detail, health care reform and the insurance industry.

Participants also heard from John Levy, Director of the Heart Ministry Center in Omaha. This Center delivers health care and other needed social services in low income areas in Omaha. Levy's presentation allowed participants to compare government funding of health care to entrepreneurial private sector solutions.



“The workshop was OUTSTANDING! All the speakers were well-informed and open to answering questions. The content covered helped me learn and reinforced that what I am teaching is relevant.”

2014 Seminar Participant

Other sessions included health care policies at the national level, research and health care in the future, and promoting healthy lifestyles as a way to reduce costs.

The seminar concluded with a discussion of Medicaid reform in Nebraska. Participating in the discussion were Senator Jeremy Nordquist, coauthor of the bill for medicade expansion, and Richard Clark, Director of Research for the Platte Institute.

Many overarching issues were discussed over the course of the two days, for example, “Is health care a right?”

The Economics of Health Care was the 6th annual Summer Seminar for teachers event coordinated by James Dick and the UNO Center for Economic Education.



summer camps for students



Stock Market Investment Camp

The UNO Center for Economic Education and UNO College of Business co-hosted a weeklong Stock Market Investment camp for representatives of all the Boys and Girls Clubs of the Midlands clubs this June. Tom Dickey, Omaha North Academy of Finance teacher and UNL graduate student Jamie Wagner facilitated the camp which included lectures and activities about stocks and the importance of investing in a successful financial life. Megan Manning, Public Affairs Specialist from the Federal Reserve Bank, and Stephen Ethan, Nebraska Council board member, were guest instructors during the week and donated support materials to the students in the camp. The students made final presentations analyzing local publically traded companies for parents and guests.



Econ Camp

The “Economics is Everywhere!” day camp was hosted June 17 -21 for middle level students, grades post 6 to post 8, and gives students the opportunity to journey into the exciting world of economics as it relates to money, entertainment, government, sports, and the global economy.

Participants from the 2013 camp investigated how money is created, spent, and saved. To add an aspect of reality to the camp, students earned, spent, and saved the camp’s own currency, “Eco-Bucks.”

Campers were on the move each day with field trips to Marcus Theater, the State Capitol, City Hall, and Memorial Stadium.

LPS middle school teachers Dani Fusco and Lori Ludtke facilitated this engaging experience for area students.



Thanks to Jamie F. Wagner, PhD Candidate

Our sincerest thanks to Jamie for her countless hours of volunteer work at the Council, the UNL Center, and UNO Center. She has been a valuable asset. We are especially thankful for her contributions to the Economics of Health Care seminar and the Stock Market Investment Camp projects, among others. We wish her luck on her dissertation and graduation in May 2015.

financial report FY 13-14

Income

Government Grants	\$127,321
Other Contributions/Gifts	\$43,311
Program Service Revenue	\$92,325
Investment Income	\$10,361
	\$273,318

Expenses

Grants to Teachers/Others	\$16,737
Personnel	\$97,740
Payroll taxes	\$7,960
Memberships/Dues	\$195
Advertising/Promotion	\$999
Office expenses	\$8,706
IT expenses	\$1,072
Travel	\$12,628
Conferences/Meetings	\$23,600
Payments to Affiliates	\$7,351
Other-Fees for services	\$7,470
Curriculum	\$9,191
Awards/Prizes	\$7,702
	\$201,351

NET **\$71,967**

Sincere Thanks to Our Investors

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Kurt T. Yost
President
Nebraska Independent Community
Bankers

Upcoming Events

November:

1st

Money Smart Tailgate
UNL

3rd – 12th

Fall Finance Challenge Online

6th

Movie Screening and panel
discussion – Inequality for All
Location: Ross Theater, Lincoln

10th - 16th

Money Smart Week

24th – Dec 4th

Fall EconChallenge ONLINE!

January:

5th - April 17th

Spring Stock Market Game

March:

27th

Econ Challenge State Finals
Location: UNL

April:

18th

Regional Finance Challenge
Competitions
Location: UNL, UNO, UNK

29th

Stock Market Game Banquet of
Champions
Location: UNL

Please visit nebraskacouncil.unl.edu
for complete details and to register for
any upcoming event.





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