

# Greetings from the College of Journalism and Mass Communications!

We wanted to give you an update on what's going on in the college – and ask for your help with an alumni-student mentoring program we are launching. But first up: the latest big news!

- The college finished second in the national [Hearst Journalism Awards competition](#), which includes 112 accredited journalism schools. That was the best finish in our history and was based on students placing in a series of competitions during the year, including a first place finish in broadcast news. We beat all of our Big Ten colleagues.
- Advertising students placed seventh in the [2011 National Student Advertising Competition](#) in San Diego, Calif., after taking first place in the April district competition. This is the third year that a J school team has won its district and has competed for the national title.
- Journalism professor [Joe Starita](#) was honored by the National Education Association (NEA) with the Leo Reano Memorial Award, which acknowledges his work toward the education and achievement of equal opportunity for American Indians.
- [Adam Wagler](#), an advertising and public relations professor, has been selected for the Apple Distinguished Educator program, joining 76 newly selected members for the class of 2011.
- We are planning to hire two new professors in public relations, starting in 2012.

Now we'd like to ask your help for a new program to benefit the 18 students who will be members of the Journalism Learning Community in the fall. We're looking for alums who would be willing to mentor these students during their college career at Nebraska. We're not expecting this program to be structured and time-consuming for you; rather we envision an informal relationship established primarily through periodic emails. The goal is for students to know that they have supporters in their fields with whom they can seek college and career advice should they want it. If you'd like to be considered as a mentor, please send us

an email with a brief career bio (including your hometown), so we can match you up with a student with similar interests. Send your information to Michelle Hassler at [mhassler3@unl.edu](mailto:mhassler3@unl.edu) by Wednesday, Aug. 31. As always, thank you for your support. Be sure to keep up with the latest news about the college by following us on [Facebook](#) or [Twitter](#).

Sincerely,  
Dean Gary Kebbel