

UNITED FACULTY

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United Faculty Announces Faculty Award Winners

Two win Above and Beyond Awards for exemplary non-tenure track faculty



Amanda Barr



Kim Mashek

Cedar Falls, Iowa – United Faculty, the faculty labor union at the University of Northern Iowa, awarded two Above and Beyond Awards, worth \$1000 each, in honor of exemplary non-tenure track faculty members. The 2025 winners:

- **Amanda Barr**, Assistant Adjunct Professor from the Department of Art, has been teaching ceramics and foundations art courses such as drawing and 3-D concepts at UNI for three years. In that time, she has shown exceptional leadership, especially with the ceramics program and the essential operations of the studio, such as mixing clay, glazes, firing and overseeing kilns, and ensuring student safety.
- **Kimberly Mashek**, Adjunct Faculty Member, Rod Library, has worked at UNI since 2021. Mashek is recognized for her outstanding librarianship work. She initiated and developed a new, self-paced, asynchronous topics course, BUS 3000: Digital and Data Literacy. This course, created in collaboration with Wilson College of Business (WCOB), helps students work toward a

Data and Digital Literacy badge that Mashek also developed. Mashek conceived of the course in her role as a business liaison librarian, to address unmet needs and support student skill development as well as college accreditation.

United Faculty also recognized two others:



Robert Earle



Carissa Froyum

- UF Member of the Year: **Robert Earle** (Dept. of Philosophy and World Religions), UF Executive Board member and Interim Vice President. “Robert has performed outstanding service in role of interim vice president of United Faculty this term, but he’s been a leader in so many other ways, including the Faculty Handbook Committee, the United Faculty Teach-In and on the UF executive board,” Christopher Martin, United Faculty president, said.

- UF Department Head of the Year: **Carissa Froyum** (Dept. of Sociology, Anthropology, and Criminology). “Carissa’s skills in managing the Department of Sociology, Anthropology & Criminology through the past year have been amazing. She sets the highest model for how a faculty member should be, and now how a university administrator should be,” Martin said.

The awards were presented at UF’s annual “Sunday Fun Day” for faculty and their families at UNI’s Wellness and Recreation Center on May 4.

United Faculty, established in 1976, is the chief negotiating agent for the University of Northern Iowa’s faculty, and is affiliated with the American Association of University Professors/American Federation of Teachers (AAUP/AFT).

For more about United Faculty, see <https://ufaculty.uni.edu/>.

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