



BUILDING OUR FUTURE

I'm thrilled to bring you the first views of Tippie's building expansion project—a facility for the future, built on foundations of the past.

Much has changed since 1994 when we left Phillips
Hall and moved into the Pappajohn Business Building (PBB),
or, as many alumni call it, "the new business building."
Change was already afoot, with the need to immediately
begin retrofitting spaces to integrate a burgeoning new
technology—the internet.

Back then, the building served 1,600 undergraduate students and 200 MBA students. Today, the Iowa MBA is a top-ranked, mostly online program, and our undergraduate population has skyrocketed, having topped 4,000 students, and likely to reach 5,000 by 2028.

To address this need, we are designing a state-of-the-art business campus that brings together PBB with a modernized Gilmore Hall, the historic building that shares our courtyard. Students will enjoy spaces focused on their key needs—advising, learning, teaming, communicating, and job seeking. Faculty and Ph.D. students will collaborate in academic neighborhoods and experience new modalities of teaching. Alumni, prospective students, and visitors will gather in event spaces that foster connection and celebration. Corporate and university partners can even hold board meetings in the executive conference room with iconic views of the Pentacrest.

Keep reading this special issue to experience the journey toward the Tippie of tomorrow!

Warmly,

Amy Kristof-Brown, Henry B. Tippie Dean





Early conceptual design rendering of connector between the Pappajohn Business Building and Gilmore Hall.

FEATURES

Meet Our 2025 Alums of the Year

Q&A with George Hiller (BBA80/MBA82) and Santino Morena (BBA17).

Econ Is Everywhere

What are Alexandra Nica's macroeconomics students doing at the Stanley Museum of Art?

Two Fates, Intertwined

For Ethan Wattleworth, study abroad was a chance to meet the man who saved his life.

COVER STORY

The Tippie of Tomorrow

Introducing the newly reimagined business campus at the University of Iowa.

DEPARTMENTS

- - Wrestling champs, prominent speakers on campus, kids' inventions, and a lost class ring.
- DISCOVERY

Fighting Cancer with Data

Professor Patrick Fan and the analytics revolution in cancer care.

ALWAYS A HAWKEYE

Hawkeye Pride

Tailgating tips from Kiernan Cavanagh (BBA16), alumni updates, and how it feels to high dive.

In Memoriam

HOW TO...FLY

Shamik Banerjee (MBA07) is vice president of JFK Airport Operations for Delta Air Lines in New York City.

CONNECT WITH US





in Tippie College of Business



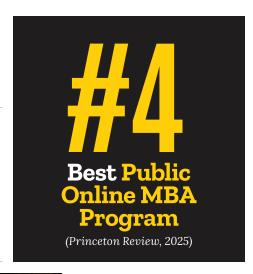








319 has been the Iowa City area code since 1947





KHAN ACADEMY ON GAMPUS

Tippie sponsored a lecture by Sal Khan, founder of Khan Academy, who spoke at the IMU about gamifying education and their new, AIpowered tutoring service, Khanmigo. Khan Academy is a popular online platform that offers free math, science, and humanities lessons for all ages.



After decades of wear, a beloved University of Iowa class ring slipped off at a Cedar Rapids grocery store one cold winter day. It was engraved with "WRS BBA 1968," but without contact information, it sat in the store's safe for around two vears. That's when ALDI District Manager Charlie Duncan (BBA20) saw it and recognized the BBA, identifying the owner as a fellow business school alum, and reached out to Tippie to help reunite the ring with its owner. Happily, the university was able to triangulate Wayne Shaw (BBA68) by searching his initials, grad year, and location where it was lost. "I was elated." Shaw told the local media.

Hawkeyes help Hawkeyes!



QUOTED & NOTED

"Someday you will be the one in the room when a critical decision needs to be made. Stakes will be high, information incomplete, and all eyes will be on you. In that moment, your ability to think critically, understand complex systems, and ask the right questions—especially of data—will be your advantage."

-ARMY COLONEL SEAN MADDEN (BA02)
Speaking to economics students



Several classrooms in the Pappajohn Business Building have had a "glow up" ... or should we say "gold up"?





HOTMONES

Associate Professor Nick
Westergaard, shown here
regretting his decision to
participate in Tippie's version
of "Hot Ones," answering
questions about the Iowa
MBA while eating increasingly
spicier wings. Worth the watch!









Have you subscribed to the Tippie Leads podcast yet?

Seasons 1 & 2 streaming now.

Season 3: "Al at Work" coming soon!

Available on Apple, Spotify, & YouTube

MEET OUR

ALUMS of the YEAR

BY TORY BRECHT



TIPPIE

ALUM of the YEAR

GEORGE HILLER (BBA80/MBA82)

President and CEO | Hiller & Associates (the largest beverage consulting company in North America)

Al: In August, coming back to lowa City and experiencing the energy/excitement of another school year. Even today, every time I drive past Mayflower and into lowa City, that special feeling always comes back. Also, seeing and experiencing the transformation of Hawkeye football under Hayden Fry. Finally, having the opportunity to play twice at halftime at an lowa men's basketball game in front of 15,000-plus people for the campus one-on-one basketball championship. (One turned out very well... the other not so much.)

HOW DO YOU INSPIRE OR MENTOR YOUNGER COLLEAGUES AND CONNECTIONS?

A2: Following the premise that actions speak louder than words, showing that I care. For example, talking directly with students and sharing my life experiences by frequently being a guest speaker in business and entrepreneurial classes, being actively involved in a number of university boards, and providing financial support to first-generation Tippie students.

A3: Playing golf, watching and supporting Hawkeye athletics along with the Green Bay Packers, working in the yard, and spending time with my wife, Jayne (Tometich) Hiller (BBA82), my three daughters and their spouses, and my five grandchildren.

A4: So much of what I have been able to achieve professionally, both directly and indirectly, was because of the University of Iowa. As a result, I want to do everything possible to give back to the university for what it did for me (and my wife) and to also help current and future students realize their potential.

A5: In the end, your life legacy will not only be defined by what you have achieved but, most importantly, the impact these achievements have had on others.





WHAT'S A FAVORITE MEMORY FROM YOUR COLLEGE DAYS?



WHEN YOU'RE
NOT WORKING,
WHAT
ARE SOME
OF YOUR
FAVORITE
ACTIVITIES
AND WHY?

Q.4:
WHAT
MOTIVATES
YOU TO STAY
CONNECTED
TO THE
COLLEGE?

WHAT'S THE BEST PIECE OF ADVICE YOU'VE EVER RECEIVED?

TIPPIE

YOUNG ALUM of the YEAR

SANTINO MORENA (BBA17)

Associate Director | MorrisAnderson (a part of JS Held, a financial and operational consulting firm in Chicago)

Al: As someone who loves Hawkeye football, the undefeated season in 2015 was undoubtedly a key memory.

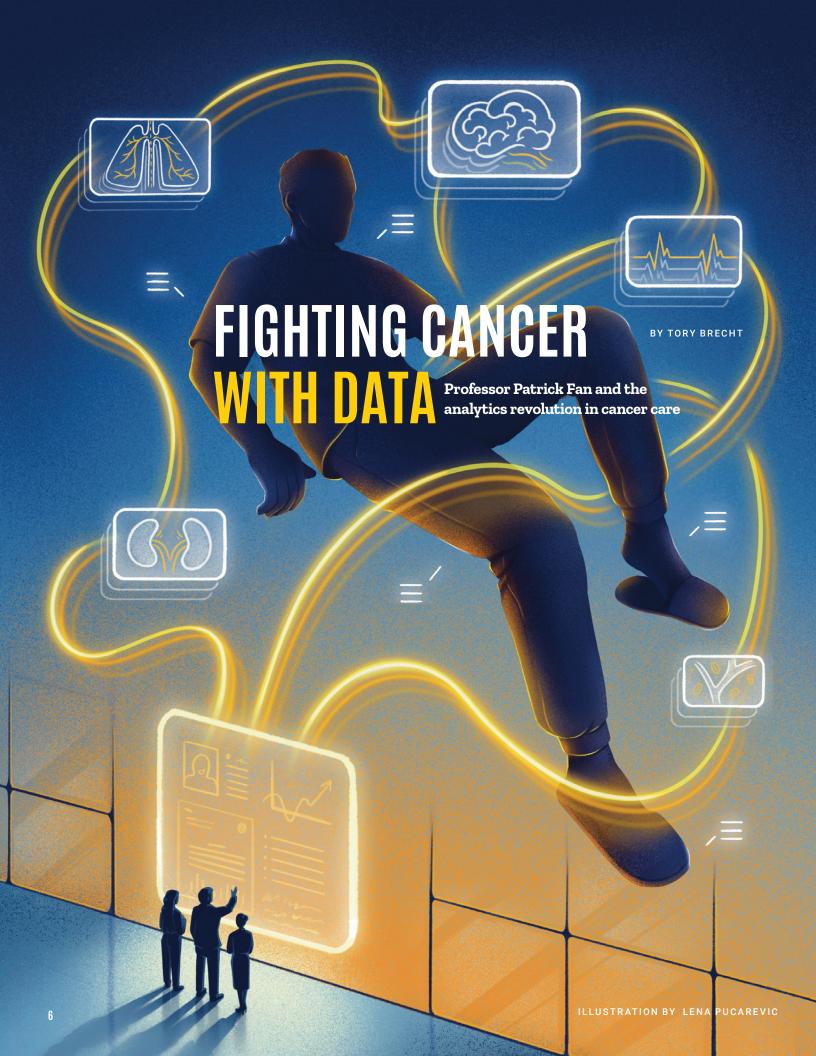
WHO HAS BEEN ONE OF YOUR MENTORS AND HOW HAVE THEY HELPED YOU?

M2: One of the most influential mentors was my first manager at EY, Alex Nolting. She played a critical role in shaping how I approach both technical work and professional development. She had a unique ability to break down complex tax concepts and, most importantly, she encouraged asking questions, thinking critically, and taking ownership of my work. Alex also modeled how to lead with integrity, remain calm under pressure, and encouraged taking care of yourself, which is a quality many people in the corporate world lack.

A3: My three favorite activities outside of work would be golf, cooking, and travel. Golf allows me to be active in the summertime and stay competitive with friends. Cooking is a newfound passion. Eating together connects people, and I love bringing happiness to those who try my food. And finally, traveling has always been a love, and one that allows me to continue developing as an individual. Part of this stems from having parents who didn't grow up in the U.S. I have traveled to 19 countries to visit family and explore different cultures.

A4: I want to be a person who can lead and inspire the next generation. There have been many people in my life who have made lasting impacts and who I am forever thankful for. I want to pay it forward.

A5: College should not be the best time of your life. It may have some of your favorite moments, but it should set you up so that eventually you have the best time of your life.





Nothing in Patrick Fan's resume hints that his work could vastly improve cancer patient outcomes.

He's a business analytics professor, not a doctor or clinician. His wheelhouse is using natural language processing and AI to better understand financial risk assessment and improve search engine optimization.

Yet Fan is at the forefront of an exciting revolution in health care—one powered by AI, machine learning, and advanced analytics—in collaboration with University of Iowa Health Care.

Fan uses cutting-edge technology to analyze medical data like notes from a doctor's visit, patient symptoms, prescriptions, and treatment plans. His models can compare thousands of patients' data to forecast risks, assist with early diagnoses, and prevent complications during cancer care.

The ability to pull meaningful data from patient records using machine learning and analytics tools has reduced the formerly massive amounts of time and manpower to do so, Fan said. All data used by researchers is HIPAA compliant and de-identified to protect patient confidentiality.

This transformation allows researchers to take a holistic view, connecting dots that were once hidden in isolated files. It also helps boost clinician productivity and reduces doctor burnout.

"It helps doctors focus on what matters most—their patients instead of getting bogged down in paperwork," he said.

Not everything in the fight against cancer is about finding cures and unearthing new drugs, Fan said. Just making patients more comfortable—even those with terminal diagnoses—is a worthwhile effort, another thing made easier with advanced technology.

One way Fan is doing this is by working closely with Stephanie Gilbertson-White, associate professor and director of the Ph.D. program at the College of Nursing.

Their work has already made a difference in patients' lives through the creation of "person-level" models that allow physicians to predict with more accuracy what types of adverse symptoms patients may face as they progress through their cancer journey, and try to stay a step ahead of them.

Gilbertson-White said one of the strengths of using large patient information datasets is the sheer volume.

"If I had five years and a \$2 million grant to do a study, I could probably recruit around 500 people," she said. "Whereas one of the smaller projects I've done with Patrick and his team included more than 20,000 patient records. It's orders of magnitude higher."

Using medical datasets is also preferable because all patients who were treated for a particular cancer are analyzed. In contrast, study participants sometimes opt out if they feel too ill to participate, which injects bias because researchers are only collecting data from patients feeling well enough.

"If I want to understand how people are feeling, having those who feel the worst not participate is a huge gap," Gilbertson-White said.

This matters because severe symptoms often hamper effective treatment of the cancer itself. If patients are struggling with uncontrolled dehydration or fever, they may have to delay treatments like radiation or chemotherapy, which can lead to potentially grave outcomes.

Fan said cross-campus collaboration is not only something the university encourages, it also makes him feel like his work makes a difference.

"Business analytics is about using technology to solve real-world problems," Fan explained. "As a faculty member at the University of Iowa, I have a responsibility to do research that transforms society and benefits people."





ECON IS everywhere





A student in front of Jackson Pollock's "Mural" in the Chris and Suzy DeWolf Family Gallery at the Stanley Museum of Art.

The students walk past busts, African masks, urns, and famous paintings. They quietly follow a curator, turning through a labyrinth of galleries and stop in front of a surreal painting in a corner of the Stanley Museum of Art.

WELCOME TO INTERMEDIATE MACROECONOMICS.

While it may seem an odd setting for a macro class, it all makes perfect sense to **Professor of Instruction Alexandra Nica**, who has long blended economics and art in her own life as a business instructor and concert pianist.

When the opportunity arose to meld the two worlds for her students, she jumped at the chance.

"It started when the UI Center for Teaching and the Stanley Museum put out a call to University of Iowa faculty to submit proposals for ArtInfuse, a teaching program designed to help instructors refresh their courses by integrating the arts," Nica said.

Her idea to bring macroeconomics students to the museum to hone their observational skills was one of five projects ultimately selected from across the university. Other disciplines included audiology, education, studio art, and Swahili.

"It was really exciting to have somebody from business wanting to use the Stanley," said museum curator Kimberly Datchuk.

"Many of her 55 students had never been here."

"We liked Alexandra's project a lot because she was willing to be creative about identifying a strategy that would improve students' learning," said Anna Flaming, director of the Center for Teaching.

More than just a field trip, Nica pursued ArtInfuse because she had noticed students struggling to give concise analyses of macroeconomics graphs. Working in collaboration with the Center for Teaching, the Frank Business Communication Center, and museum curators, Nica created a project where students were coached to look closer.

"I wanted them to learn to slow down and look at the details," Nica said.







Students were grouped and began by playing "Art Boggle," where they simply looked at a painting and wrote down whatever words came to mind. It could be as easy as a color or as complicated as an emotion.

Their next challenge was blind contour drawing, where they put their Iowa-branded pencils to work drawing the lines and shapes they saw without looking at their paper.

Next, they were asked to participate in "close looking," where they gazed at a painting for three minutes, talked about it, then studied it for three minutes more.

That's where it got good.

"If you try to look closely, things aren't always as simple as they seem," graduate assistant Agnes Harry Mills told one group of students.

Will Sheely, a junior economics major, illustrated the point of the exercise when he said, "The first time I looked, I was trying to memorize details, but the second time around I was trying to see what the message was."

One of the group leaders, curator Isabel Cazares, told students, "You may notice you gain confidence to describe the piece after close looking."

Exactly what Nica was after, along with a playful sense of curiosity.

"THINGS AREN'T ALWAYS AS SIMPLE AS THEY SEEM."

"Part of this exercise is trying to get them out of the anxious brain and into the curious brain," she explained. "I want them to always be curious, especially when looking at graphs. They need to be able to move past a basic reading and provide concise interpretations—something they'll soon be asked to do in their careers. Their boss is not going to want to see two pages, they'll want two or three

sentences explaining what a visual says and importantly, what it actually means."

To tie these concepts more clearly to the classroom, the students' last activity at the museum was to link at least three economics concepts from class to an artwork of their choosing.

One student noted how an African tapestry's patterns illustrated statistical discrepancy, as well as the convergence to steady state in the Solow growth model. Another student saw links to human capital, industrialization, and importance of trade in an Asante-style mid-20th century sculpture. Jackson Pollock's "Mural" sparked ideas regarding the division of labor, creative destruction, and marginal utility for one student, while another thought it illustrated the concepts of scarcity, store of value, and the importance of emotions in the decision-making process, as explored in behavioral economics.

"I wanted to completely take them out of the context of a regular











economics classroom because then they see that economics is indeed everywhere," Nica said.

Sophomore Lily Severson said,
"I thought this was a really unique
take on an economics class. The
trip to the art museum really
homes in on how observation skills
and analysis play a part in the way
we interpret the world. I think it
also highlighted that the same data,
or same artwork, can be seen from
multiple perspectives."

After the museum experience, Nica reports that students were able to write clearer paragraphs with better in-depth analysis than before, even when the graphs were more complicated.

To wrap up the project, Nica asked for feedback to see if the students felt the trip to the museum helped them with visual observation, problem solving, and communication skills.

Most students reported that the exercises at the museum

helped them feel less overwhelmed and more confident when reading graphs.

"After this experience, I started thinking of the story the graph was trying to tell instead of just looking at the data points," said senior Alina Silwal.

"I WANTED TO COMPLETELY TAKE THEM OUT OF THE CONTEXT OF A REGULAR ECONOMICS CLASSROOM BECAUSE THEN THEY SEE THAT ECONOMICS IS INDEED EVERYWHERE."

"Given the number of variables, nuances, and other things that can be involved with graphs, sometimes things can get overlooked," said senior Jake Udovich. "It was a valuable lesson to learn."

But the students weren't the only ones gaining insight from this project.

"I learn from them, and they learn from me. It's all a big learning experience," Nica reflected.

"At the Center for Teaching, I have noticed that Alexandra is always interested in being better for her students every time she teaches. I really admire that," director Flaming said.

Would she take students to the Stanley again?

"Definitely, maybe with my 600 Principles of Macro students next...," Nica said.

When asked how the Stanley would accommodate hundreds of students from a single course, curator Datchuk said, "It's a good problem to have. I think we can figure it out—it will just take a little creativity."





Alexandra Nica won a 2025 President and Provost Award for Teaching Excellence, given to outstanding faculty at the University of Iowa. She has previously been honored at Tippie as one of the most innovative professors.



For most students who study abroad, the semester away is one that changes their life. For Ethan Wattleworth, study abroad was a chance to meet the man who saved his.

Wattleworth was 10 and a fourth grader in his native Gurnee, Ill., when he was diagnosed with severe aplastic anemia, a disorder where the body fails to produce enough blood cells. Without a stem cell transplant, it would be fatal.

Aplastic anemia is extremely rare, afflicting only about 200 to 400 people a year globally, so finding a suitable match can take years—time patients don't often have.

His name was added to a global registry maintained by bethematch.com. Everyone hoped.

"We were desperate," he said.

Around the same time, Hannes
Weissensteiner was having a beer
with a friend in Berlin. The friend
had put his name on the same
registry and half-jokingly urged
Weissensteiner to sign up, too. So he
did, thinking it would lead to nothing.

Two weeks later, he was shocked to get a call that he'd matched for a kid in the United States. Soon, he was in a Cologne hospital to make the donation, and his stem cells were on the next flight to Chicago.

"The nurse told me I could save the life of a 10-year-old boy, and I called my wife and started crying," he said. "That's not something I normally do."

Wattleworth's family was stunned it happened so quickly.

"I realize now how lucky I was," he said.

The transplant worked and a year later, Wattleworth was back living something close to the normal life of an American kid, going to school and playing football and lacrosse. He and Weissensteiner started a correspondence after two years of confidentiality and signing waivers. They exchanged letters and texts. Wattleworth filled him in on his life and later told him he was studying business at the University of Iowa. He thanked him for his sacrifice.

"I survived because of you."

"I still cry a little today about that," said Weissensteiner. "When I need a pick-me-up, I'll read some of his letters. He turned out to be a pretty good boy. He jokes that it's because he has my blood."

Wattleworth's experience played a big role in his decision to come to Tippie. First was The Wave, which he looks forward to at every Hawkeye football game because he knows what it's like to be a sick kid in a children's hospital not knowing what tomorrow brings. He knows how something as simple as a wave from a crowd can give kids hope.

There's also CIMBA, Tippie's study abroad program in Paderno del Grappa, Italy. The small town is only a short drive from Bolzano, the city where Weissensteiner now lives with his family and works in sales, marketing, and digitization for one of Germany's largest educational providers.

Wattleworth asked: "Was it close enough that they could someday meet?"

Weissensteiner couldn't say yes fast enough. Wattleworth started his CIMBA program in January 2025 and a few weeks later, they met for the first time.

"It was super emotional,"
Wattleworth said. "We embraced
with open arms, and it was one of
the best moments of my life."

There would be more meetings. Wattleworth spent some weekends at Weissensteiner's home. They skied in the Alps and bonded over pizza (it's Italy, after all). His parents came for a visit. Wattleworth felt like a part of the family.

"He's not old enough to be my dad, so he's more like my cool uncle," Wattleworth said.

He plans to become an on-campus voice for marrow donation during his remaining years at Iowa, telling his story to encourage students, faculty, and staff to sign up as donors, and volunteering at Stead Family Children's Hospital.

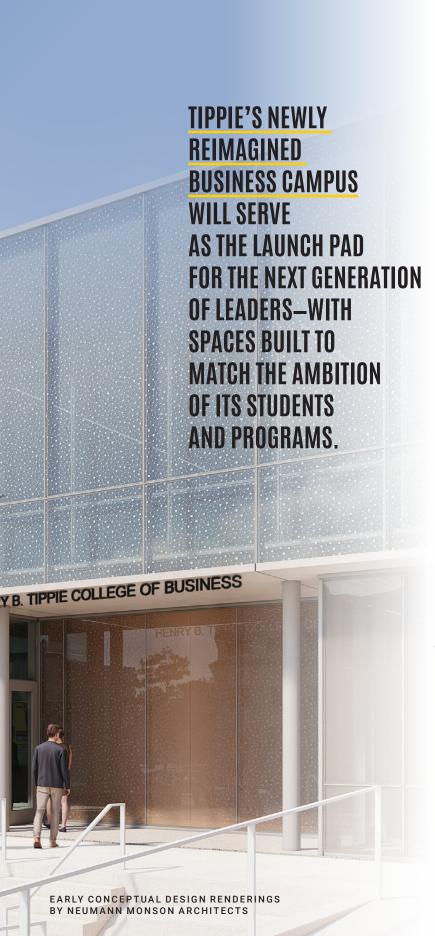
"Anything I can do to help others," he said.

As for Weissensteiner, he plans to travel to Iowa City for Wattleworth's commencement ceremony in 2027—something that wouldn't be possible without his own generosity.

Expect a few tears.







In recent years, Tippie's focus on campus has undergone a strategic shift to its undergraduate education program: Classes are more hands-on and immersive. Career support is more customized. And communication skills and resiliency are more integrated throughout the entire student experience.

The approach has worked: U.S. News & World Report named Tippie a top-20 public business school, and the college has nearly tripled its enrollment since the Pappajohn Business Building (PBB) first opened its doors in 1994.

And soon, Tippie will have a gorgeous, updated campus occupying an entire city block, translating its latest ambitions for the future into glass, light, and flow.

With the help of Iowa City's Neumann Monson Architects, Tippie is planning to renovate PBB, take over and improve the adjacent, historic Gilmore Hall, and connect the two with a striking glass atrium that will function as the vibrant, living heart of the business campus.

The changes will make the school's priorities visible, says Dean Amy Kristof-Brown.

"A student will be able to see—by standing in the new atrium—advising, the Frank Business Communication Center, career services, and student success resources," she says. "These thoughtful features are going to help pull their academic journey together and translate it into an effective internship, first job, and later, a fulfilling career."

While design elements are still taking shape and require Iowa Board of Regents approval, we couldn't wait to give you a sneak peek.



HOW STUDENTS WILL BENEFIT

When the upgrades are completed, Tippie students will have spaces that amplify the impact of their classes, programming, and opportunities.

"Before, you had to modify the programming to the building," says Associate Dean for Undergraduate Programs Charles Keene. "The new campus will be designed to support the curriculum and programming."

Early conceptual design renderings of connector interior and atrium.





CAREER PLANNING AND PREPARATION

BEFORE

Tippie students used the university's main career center, located across Market Street in the Pomerantz Center.

AFTER

The new Tippie Career Services Center. housed in PBB off the atrium, will provide an additional layer of specialized services for business students through staff members with deep expertise in business needs and major-specific recruiting cycles. The space will make it easier for Director of Tippie Undergraduate Career Services Cindy Meis to arrange for employer recruiting visits and events hosted by industry leaders. "There are a lot of employers who want to connect with our students," says Meis. "The new space helps move us forward with this professional development focus."

COMMUNICATIONS TRAINING

BEFORE

Tippie offered the Big Ten's first businessspecific writing and communications center when the Frank Business Communication Center opened in 2006 (and the Accounting Writing Program even before that in 1998). Tucked into a hidden hallway on the third floor, its directors and tutors supported students who needed help with everything from drafting papers for economics classes to creating presentations for marketing courses.

AFTER

In addition to traditional support for papers and presentations, the new, highly visible Frank Business Communication Center and Communications Lab will take full advantage of today's technology, says Center Director Carl Follmer: Students might use a virtual reality tool to walk into a "boardroom" filled with AI-generated board members who are sleepy, combative, or skeptical. Students will learn not just to map out their talking points-but how to manage their own reactions when their ideas don't gain immediate buy-in.

IMMERSIVE LEARNING

BEFORE

Many classrooms were designed with "sage on the stage" lecture-style teaching in mind, with tiered seating and chairs bolted to the floor.

AFTER

Two new classrooms with flexible, techfriendly spaces are being designed for hands-on teaching and learning so students can engage with their education instead of "watching" it. Students might mingle at a simulated networking event, work through a crisis communications scenario, or collaborate on team projects with partners around the world. Their most important presentations may move from the classroom to the executive conference room overlooking the green. "As much as possible, we try to simulate in our classes the experience of the first job that students might have right after graduation," says Follmer.

HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

BEFORE

PBB has always had a lot of windows and a collection of tables outdoors where people could sit during months of the year when it wasn't too hot or cold.

AFTER

A recent survey told us some students spend up to 14 hours a day in our building, so we wanted to provide a variety of healthy spaces on the new business campus. The new design brings additional seating into the light-filled atrium, which can be used year-round. The design also revitalizes the courtyard, creating a business green with new seating areas to help busy students recharge in fresh air and natural light.

ACADEMIC SUPPORT

BEFORE

The many services that contribute to a successful student experiencesupplemental instruction, tutoring, applied learning such as research and internships, and an array of other enriching opportunities like participation in student organizations and study abroad programs, were available to students, but spread across PBB, and even beyond it.

AFTER

The Undergraduate Program Office will be prominently located at one end of the atrium, bringing together many offerings, including academic advising and career services, that students need in a single, highly visible hub. Additionally, a new configurable space dedicated to student success will provide maximum flexibility for supplemental instruction, tutoring, student group meetings, case competition practices, and Tippie Thrive activities focused on building resiliency. "The reconfiguration will contribute to enhancing the quality of programming that we're already so good at delivering," says Keene.





WHAT'S INSIDE: A NEW ERA FOR TIPPIE

From a striking new event space to cutting-edge labs, every corner of Tippie's transformed campus is designed to support connection, innovation, and real-world learning.

TAKE A LOOK INSIDE

the spaces that will shape the next generation of business leaders.



PREMIER EVENT SPACE

Designed for up to 150 people, Tippie's first-ever dedicated event space will accommodate student and faculty conferences, lectures, and upscale social gatherings. On "off" days, the space will be available as student study space.



ATRIUM

Dubbed "the heart of Tippie," this light-filled space will be a meeting place and a gathering spot, with comfortable seating, tables, and study spaces.



ACTIVE LEARNING CLASSROOMS

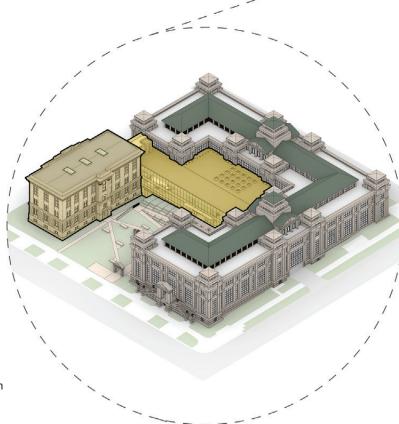
event space and building plan.

Two new 40-60 student classrooms are being designed with flexibility in mind to support a range of different activities including group work. A third, 90-person classroom will also be added.



LABS

Analytics, AI, sales, and communications lab spaces will be outfitted with future-focused technology such as augmented and virtual reality tools to give students opportunities to practice business skills for today and tomorrow. The spaces identified are for the communications and business analytics labs.





EXECUTIVE CONFERENCE ROOM

A 24-seat boardroom overlooking the "Natural Pearl" sculpture on the business green and the iconic Pentacrest will be a premier meeting space for strategic planning sessions, dissertation defenses, and professional gatherings with leadership teams and visiting executives.



STUDENT SUCCESS HUB

A centralized home for students will offer expanded academic support, a home for student organization activities, and Tippie Thrive resilience coaching.



CONNECTOR

A new entrance from the T. Anne Cleary Walkway will include a lobby on the ground floor. The four-story space will also include upper-floor bridges that integrate Gilmore Hall to the Pappajohn Business Building.



ENTREPRENEURIAL LEARNING HUB

The hub will be a home for students from across campus as well as students in Tippie's newest major, entrepreneurship. Hosting co-working spaces, coaching rooms, and speaker events for some of today's most successful entrepreneurs, it will be a place where new business ideas launch.



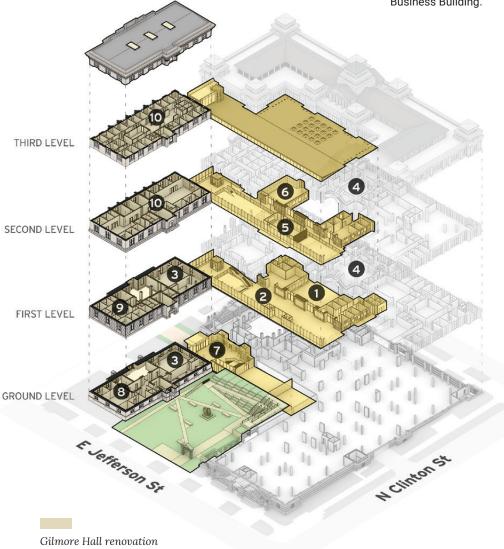
FINANCE INSTITUTES SUITE

Several industry-specific institutes in finance (e.g. Hawkinson Institute and Vaughan Institute for Risk Management and Insurance) will have dedicated space for executives in residence, events, and activities.



DEPARTMENT NEIGHBORHOODS

New department suites will bring together previously scattered faculty with adjacent offices and common areas, allowing for more interaction and collaboration with each other and Ph.D. students, as well as serving to help attract top faculty. The finance and economics departments are currently penciled in for the identified locations.



Pappajohn Business Building addition



PURPOSE RENEWED



Gilmore Hall has links to some of America's most distinctive history: It's an example of neoclassical style, an architectural movement that gained notice at the influential 1893 World's Fair in Chicago. Built in 1910, Gilmore was created as part of a larger campus master plan by the Olmsted Firm, a company best known for its design of New York City's Central Park. The building extended the Pentacrest's classical grandeur and was the first dedicated home of the University of Iowa College of Law. It also served as a signal of the university's growing ambitions. With this project, it will again.

SUSTAINABILITY, BUILT IN FROM THE START

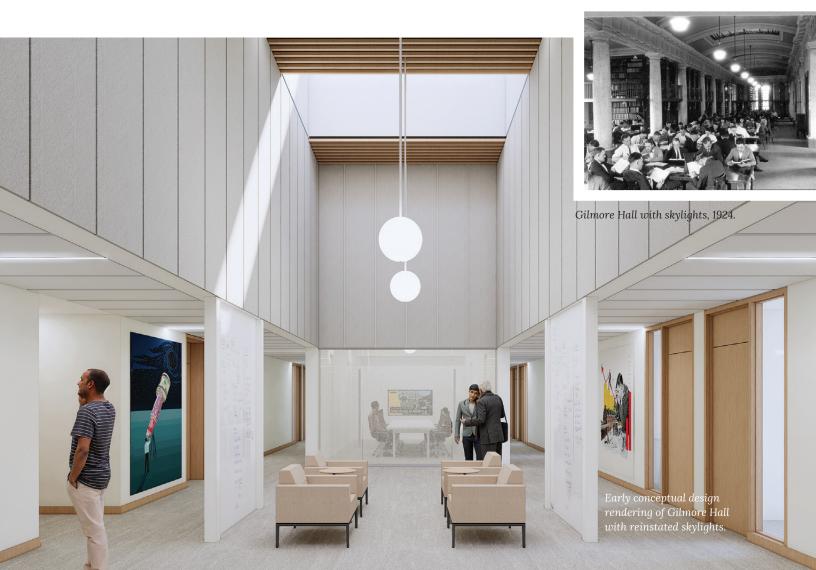
While Tippie's enrollment growth and curricular advances necessitate updates, UI Senior Vice President and University Architect Rod Lehnertz says these improvements will be done with intention. "The care and stewardship of our facilities is an important responsibility that we have to the university and the people of Iowa," he says. "We have looked at many alternatives for how we can maximize the space that we have and do it in a way that is sustainable, coherent, and honors current buildings."

For example, the renovation paves the way for significant functional updates, says UI Senior Design Project Manager Martha Stoakes, who notes that Gilmore will gain updated windows, mechanical and electrical systems, plumbing, and insulation, which will support improved energy efficiency.

At the same time, the renovation will maintain and even restore some of the building's most beautiful original elements, including its striking limestone and marble exterior. Fire escapes and an elevator lobby that were added to the exterior of Gilmore to

meet accessibility standards will be relocated inside to restore the building's original silhouette. Also, skylights that were removed from the building will be reintroduced during the renovation.

Early plans have already earned the backing of some of the college's biggest champions: The Tippie family has invested \$20 million to support the efforts, and the school is well over halfway to its fundraising goals. Groundbreaking on the work could begin as soon as fall of 2026, with a goal of getting into the new space in 2028.





MAXIMUM IMPACT

The new business campus is being designed for the students in its programs, the faculty who teach them and pursue groundbreaking research, and the staff who support this essential work in myriad ways. But it will serve a much wider audience, too.

Early conceptual design renderings of the atrium as seen from the green space and the executive conference room.





66 HNI is excited for the opportunity to utilize the executive conference room for future off-site meetings, and I can imagine a lot of other businesses taking advantage of the space, too. There's a powerful energy on the University of Iowa campus that can provide fresh perspective, spark innovation, and drive decisions.

-JEFF LORENGER (BBA87/JD91/MBA01)
CHAIRMAN, PRESIDENT, AND CEO, HNI CORPORATION

BUILT FOR ALUMNI

66 I think about our Homecoming barbecues as one example of the ways that alumni can return to be enfolded in the heart of business. We also want this to be a space where alumni can bring their families, and where they can say, with pride, 'Look at all the experiences you can have when you're part of the Tippie community.

-DEAN AMY KRISTOF-BROWN

BUILT FOR THE UNIVERSITY

The University of Iowa is known for Hawkeye football, its famous Writers' Workshop, University of Iowa Health Care, and increasingly, the Tippie College of Business. The new business campus will help cement Tippie as one of the defining strengths of the university.

E Jefferson St

BUILT FOR IOWA BUSINESSES

Ranked by U.S. News & World Report as the #1 business school in Iowa, Tippie is continually responding to business community needs by training thousands of career-ready students for important industries across the state, including the booming entrepreneurial sector and insurance, which expects 50% of its workforce to retire by 2036.

"The guiding light behind the building expansion is to better prepare increasing numbers of undergraduates, so they have the professional, technical, and personal skills to make an immediate impact in local economies," says Kristof-Brown.

BUILT FOR THE NATION

The statistics prove it:

With a 97 percent job placement rate, Tippie punches above its weight. Iowa companies clamor for our graduates, and the new campus will help widen our reach, providing a vibrant hub for recruitment, collaboration, and innovation that reaches far beyond our state borders. Tippie graduates will be poised to lead some of the biggest and most influential companies in the country.



Early conceptual design rendering of the site with the atrium as the "heart" of the new business campus.



2020s



CAITLIN CLARK (BBA24) was named to *Forbes* magazine's list of the World's 100 Most Powerful Women for 2024.





TAYLOR COLE (MSBA24/MBA24) welcomed a new baby, Collins Rose Cole, on Feb. 25. She was 7 lbs., 3 oz., and 20 inches long.



CHRISTIAN HUTZLER (PhD25) graduated with his doctorate from Tippie and will join the accounting faculty at UT Austin.



KRISTIN MATHIS (BBA20) was promoted to manager of partnership strategy and activation for the Minnesota Vikings.



ADRIENNE MAXWELL (MBA25) earned her MBA and a leadership certificate in May. She is associate director of student success at Tippie.



ELLE MCCORMICK (BBA20) has matched with Kansas University-Wichita where she will complete an orthopedic surgery residency.





AMY MILLER (BBA20)
was promoted to business
development specialist at
Bubble Skincare in New York.



courtney mohr (BBA24) was promoted to buyer for men's and women's fragrance and specialty beauty at Von Maur headquarters in Davenport, lowa.



STEPHEN REID (PhD25), shown here with Professor Stephen Courtright, graduated with his doctorate from Tippie and will join the management faculty at Florida Atlantic University.



LAUREN (LAVEN) ROBERTS (BBA21) and JEFFREY ROBERTS (BBA22/ MSBA23) were married in

October 2024. The couple, who met at Tippie, now live in Champaign, III., but remain Hawkeyes at heart.



KATE ROTHENBERGER (MBA23), along with her team at Toporowski, Clark & Romans Financial Group in Bettendorf, Iowa, were named by Forbes magazine as one of the 2025 Best-in-State Wealth Management Teams.



MARY VOSS (BBA23) and Seth McClaren got engaged and were married in July in Tiffin, Iowa.



ISABELLE WILCOX (BBA23) has been accepted into the University of Virginia School of Law.

2010s



SPENCER ANDERSON (BBA09/MBA13) was promoted to vice president, basketball analytics and strategy with the Indiana Pacers.



CHIP CHAON (MBA18) has been named CEO and managing principal of LattaHarris, LLP in Washington, Iowa. Chaon previously served as the company's CFO.



TIFFANY CLEMENS (BBA10/MBA24) was promoted to marketing director for Lifetime Inc. in Chanhassen, Minn.





DAVID ENGLER (BBA16) and his wife, Ann Parker Engler, welcomed their daughter, Nora Joan, on Nov. 13, 2024. She was 5 lbs., 9 oz.

JENNIFER HANSON

(BBA16) began a new role

Business at the University of Colorado-Boulder.

as an academic advisor

in the Leeds School of



JUSTIN BLOCK (MBA10) and MOSAH GOODMAN (MBA11/JD11) recently founded and launched Job Lasso, a cutting-edge career search platform designed to simplify and accelerate the job-search process for legal professionals, in the Omaha, Neb., area.





LAUREN HEDRINGTON (BBA14) accepted a position with Humana in its Kansas City office as organization effectiveness lead, enterprise talent strategy.

MATTHEW MCSWEENEY (MBA11) was named manager of continuous improvement engineering for John Deere Power Systems.



NAVIN MUKRAJ (MBA12) was promoted to a director at Dell Technologies.

"The Iowa MBA, Master's in Business Analytics, and Innovation Certificate prepared me with the

tools and

confidence to

solve difficult

customer

problems

and help Dell

Technologies lead the AI revolution."





QUINLAN RISER (MBA19), founder and CEO of the Riser Property Management Group, was named to the 2025 Des Moines Business Record 40 Under 40 list.



KATELYN SAMBOURSKIY (BBA16) welcomed new baby Behkor (Bek) Ollie to her family on Jan. 18, 2025.

JAKE SCHAFER (BBA19) started a new position as accounting advisory manager at Highspring.

ANNA SCHUCHERT (BBA18/MAc20) was promoted to tax manager at Deloitte in Chicago.



JASON PIERCE (BBA18) married his high school sweetheart and fellow Tippie classmate **HARMEET HANJRA** runs her own trading firm, Cloud. The couple live in



(BBA19) in August 2024 in Lake Como, Italy. Harmeet QuantumKaur, and Jason is a partner leader at Google Wayne, III.







CANDICE LONG (BBA10/

Winthrop & Weinstine in

MAc11) joined the law firm

Minneapolis as a specialty

tax advisor in its specialty

tax credits and incentives

practice.



MBA25) completed his

MBA at Tippie. He is

regional manager for

Health Resource Services

in Colorado Springs, Colo.

New job? New grand/baby? Retirement?

It's ok to brag a little. Send your update to: tippie.uiowa.edu/update

2000s



CHERYL DAVENPORT (BBA05) was promoted to vice president and general manager, Nike Kids (Asia Pacific/Latin America).



Like any self-respecting
Hawkeye football fan,
when the cool breezes of
autumn roll in, **Kiernan Cavanagh (BBA16)**'s
thoughts drift toward
delectable tailgating fare.

However, unlike most fans, Cavanagh has an "in" for the freshest tips and tools in the world of grilling. As Weber's new product development finance manager, he gets to test drive (grill?) the latest and greatest in the world of outdoor cooking.

We asked him for a couple of quick tips for aspiring grillmasters looking to be tailgate heroes.

Here's his hot take:

Plan your menu

What time is the game? For those crisp, 11 a.m. kickoffs, Cavanagh likes breakfast ham and egg sandwiches. For late games, he prefers sweet and spicy chicken wings. Detailed grilling instructions for both can be found at weber.com/US/en/recipes.



Prep early

Prep the ingredients the night before so all you have to do is throw the food on the grill once you arrive at Kinnick (or your watch party).



Bring your tools

If you're going old-school charcoal, try a charcoal chimney to help light and heat coals consistently and evenly. For your griddle, pack a scraper and water to keep your cooking surface clean and squeeze bottles for easy oil and sauce application. One of his favorite new products is the basin with cutting board lid, which allows you to cut up your meat or veggies right at the grill.



Ready your grill

Whether using a portable charcoal or gas grill, clean your grates and empty the drip tray before you head out. Instead of using a wire grill brush that can leave metal shards in your food, try burning the residue off for 15 minutes prior to grilling—or get a Weber "T" brush designed with safe bristles.



Be safe!

Keep burns away by using essential tools like a spatula, tongs, and grill gloves.



"I made this move for two reasons:

 Thomson Reuters is helping transform industries, and I want to be a part of that.

And 2) It was time for a new adventure."

JESSE FINCH GNEHM (MBA05) has joined Thomson Reuters as vice president of pricing and has moved to Zug, Switzerland, from Scotland.



PATRICK FERNANDEZ (BBA07) started a new position as managing director at Golub Capital in New York City.



JUSTIN MEANY (BBA03) was named head of non-

profit health care for U.S.
Bank. Based in Chicago,
he leads a national sales
team focusing on providing
debt and treasury solutions
to large, multi-state health
systems, regional health
systems, and children's
hospitals.



CHUCK MERSCH (BBA07/ MBA09) was appointed CFO at First Security Bank & Trust in Charles City, Iowa.



MATTHEW SEARS (BBA07) was promoted to area sales manager for Intuitive in Los Angeles.



JUSTIN WIECK (BBA06) received a contract extension from the University of Minnesota-Duluth to continue as head basketball coach through the 2028-29 season. Wieck was a member of the 2006 lowa Big Ten championship team and got his start coaching with the Hawkeyes.

1990s



chris dewolf (BBA94)
received the Ivan D. Combe
Lifetime Achievement
Award, the highest
honor bestowed by the
U.S. consumer health
care industry. He was
recognized for business
excellence, leadership,
and commitment to giving
back. DeWolf is co-owner,
president, and CEO of Lil'

Drug Store Products and Forefold Ventures and a member of the Tippie Advisory Board.



kimberly erwin (BBA93) is principal of Lotus
Marketing, a Chicagobased marketing agency
supporting the hotel
industry. She launched the
marketing venture during
the height of COVID after
working for Marriott as
director of new builds.



NICOLE OTTO (BBA93)
was appointed CEO of the
washable rug company
Ruggable, headquartered in
Gardena, Calif. Previously she
was global brand president
for The North Face.



JOEL PITZ (BBA94) was appointed executive vice president and CFO of Principal Financial Group.



curtis reed (BBA95)
was named Chicago
region manager and head
of JPMorgan Chase's
government banking
and health care, higher
education, and not-forprofit banking teams.

1980s



CHARLES M. CURRENT (BBA88) was named executive director of Meals from the Heartland, a nonprofit based in West Des Moines, Iowa.



NICHOLAS HENTGES
(BBA81) was inducted into
the Captive Review Hall
of Fame, established to
celebrate the contributions
of those who have helped
the captive insurance
industry develop, evolve,
and progress over the past
50 years.



TOWA HAW

<u>I do not</u> like heights.

And when you're at the edge of the 10-meter diving platform, you are at the highest point in the whole pool, three stories up.

Before executing a Gainer 2 1/2 from the tallest platform, I put tac on my legs and shins to help keep from slipping out of the tuck when I dive. I've already done the build-ups—the easier dives to prepare. Climbing up the ladder, I go over the corrections coach has given me: swing all the way through for momentum and make a sharp confident kick out.

Then I'm at the edge of the platform, facing the pool 32 feet below. I take a few calming breaths. I remind myself of the spotting—peeking to see the water twice as I'm tumbling—then kick out.

I'm still dead terrified. It's a scary sport and I've hurt myself before. I missed the Big Ten finals last year because I was concussed from a Back 3 1/2 that didn't go to plan.

I have to force myself to jump.

Once in the air, muscle memory takes over and my body knows what to do. It goes pretty fast. I'm in the tuck waiting for the second spot and then it's just—fire out.

I hit the water. If it's a good one, I know immediately, because it hurts my hands pretty bad. If your palms hurt, you crushed it.

Then I swim up and see what coach says.

-GENEVA PAULY

Hawkeye diver & Tippie marketing major As told to Tory Brecht Photo illustration by Justin Torner



PATTI HUMBLE (BBA86), the recently retired CAO of UPS, delivered the Tippie undergraduate commencement address in May 2025.

ROGER SMITH (BBA83)

is a senior regional advisor consultant for Independent Financial Group in San Diego.

MARIA TURNER (BBA86)

was honored with a lifetime achievement award at Consulting Magazine's 2024 Women Leaders in Consulting awards. She was recognized for her excellence in leadership that helped AArete achieve 20% growth in its health care payer practices and involvement in the company's Women's Initiative Network.

BILL WIRZ (BBA89)

celebrated the launch of his new footwear brand, Amento, at Active Endeavors in Davenport, Iowa, in April. The brand features sandals geared for outdoor and athletic activities.



ROBIN THERME (MBA00), president of CIVCO Medical Solutions, delivered the commencement address to Iowa MBA graduates in May 2025. She offered three pieces of life advice:

- Take ownership of your life.
 Remember the mantra:
 If it is to be, it's up to me.
- 2 Embrace persistence in the face of setbacks.
- Cultivate a robust support system.

ARE YOU A published author?

Let us know! It's ok to brag a little.

Update your info at: tippie.uiowa.edu/update



Henry B. Tippie Dean AMY KRISTOF-BROWN was named to the Corridor Business Journal's 2025 Women of Influence list. According to the CBJ, Kristof-Brown influences more than 6,000 lives daily at the college and creates meaningful, positive change in the lives of the students she serves. It also lauded her philanthropic work with her husband, Professor Kenneth Brown, for the United Way of Johnson and **Washington Counties** in Iowa.



WE LOVE TO SEE HAWKEYE GEAR in the wild!

SEND US YOUR PICS: tippie-magazine@uiowa.edu



A couple of Hawk fans in their Saturday best. Even though **LARRY AND LOU JONES** now live in The Villages, Fla., they still watch games and enjoy supporting Tippie through the Greg and Lou Meyer Fund for Ethics and Leadership.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Alumni updates are submitted by alumni and are not verified by the editor. While we welcome alumni news, *Tippie Magazine* is not responsible for the information contained in these submissions.

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MEMORIAM



David Bates March 9, 1965 - Feb. 5, 2025

C. Woody Thompson Professor of Finance and Economics

David Bates, professor of finance and economics, passed away in February at age 59. Bates held degrees in mathematics, public affairs, and economics from MIT and Princeton. He was an eminent and prolific researcher, winning multiple grants during his career. He also served as associate editor for the *Journal of Financial Econometrics*. He was named Master of Finance Instructor of the Year in 2023 and received the Career Achievement Award at Tippie shortly before his passing.



Gregory J. Bentler (BBA88) Feb. 10, 1966 - July 23, 2025

Marketing Alum, Hawkeye Announcer

Gregory Bentler of Iowa City, passed away on July 23, 2025, aged 59.
Bentler was the event voice for many Hawkeye sporting events over the past two decades, including baseball and gymnastics. In recent years, Bentler was the lead public address announcer for men's basketball. He was particularly known for walking through Carver-Hawkeye Arena, greeting attendees with a friendly wave.



Warren J. Boe Nov. 22, 1938 – June 14, 2025

Emeritus Professor of Management Sciences

Warren Boe, a pioneer in management and computing at the UI, passed away at the age of 86. Boe was the college's first-ever chair of management sciences and IT director. He helped open the college's first computer lab and was instrumental in establishing the university's wireless network. He was also a member of the Faculty Senate and served on many committees across campus. A research fellowship as well as an excellence in service award at Tippie were named in his honor.



Richard Grimlund Sept. 13, 1937 - July 5, 2025

Emeritus Professor of Accounting

Richard Grimlund passed away in July at the age of 87. Grimlund joined the faculty in 1977 as an assistant professor shortly after earning his Ph.D. in accounting. He was promoted to associate professor in 1983 and retired in 1998. He served on numerous university and departmental committees and was an editorial reviewer for several prominent accounting journals. In his personal life, he loved traveling, mountaineering, and was a passionate environmentalist.



Wagner A. Kamakura Feb. 3, 1950 - March 11, 2025

Former Professor of Marketing

Wagner Kamakura, who taught and was marketing chair at the Tippie College of Business from 1998 to 2001, passed away in March at the age of 75. Most recently, he was a professor of marketing at Rice University until his retirement. Kamakura was cited as an influential leader in the field of marketing science and served as editor of the Journal of Marketing Research, area editor of Marketing Science, and associate editor of the Journal of Consumer Research.



John Leo Miclot V (BBA81) March 12, 1959 - March 21, 2025

Marketing Alum, Tippie Society Member

John Miclot, former executive in the medical technology industry, passed away in March at age 66. Miclot served as CEO of Respironics, CCS Medical, and LinguaFlex during his career. He was also an avid supporter of the college with both his time and funds, having served on the Tippie Advisory Board as well as donating for programs including entrepreneurship and the college's Sales Lab. He was also the benefactor to the new "Business Herky" statue at Tippie.

HOW TO

Shamik Banerjee (MBA07) | Vice President, JFK Airport Operations, Delta Air Lines, New York City



LET ME EXPLAIN... [1] I am an absolute dreamer. Leadership is about passionately pursuing a vision, inspiring the team to believe in it, and tirelessly working together to turn that dream into a tangible reality. [2] Delta has the best on-time bags stats among all the carriers, so I would encourage you to check your bags, but carry-on only does make it easy to get in and out of the airport. [3] Although I am introverted, my role requires me to lead a team of nearly 3,000 individuals! [4] Listen, for sure. As a leader, I prioritize creating an environment where every team member has a voice. I believe that those on the front lines—whether they are loading bags onto airplanes, pushing aircraft back, or boarding our customers—have invaluable insights into the real concerns and needs of our operations. [5] FUN FACT: I went to work every single day during the COVID lockdown. We held daily operational briefings and conducted business as usual, even when we were only flying 10% of our flights. It felt like running a full orchestra with only the triangle player showing up. [6] I travel almost every week, so I have it down to a science. I hit parking about 60 minutes before departure and board my flight just in time. Never missed a flight in my life.

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one last thing...

When he's not finding ways to help cancer patients manage symptoms through machine learning (see page 6), you might find Professor Patrick Fan with his Canon R5 Mark II camera down by the Iowa River, capturing stunning eagle photos.

Fan has long loved the majestic birds and is thrilled the University of Iowa is one of the best campuses in the country for eagle spotting. He began photographing them in earnest around two years ago. This eagle shot, taken near the Benton Street Bridge, features a bird he named Henry.

Yes, after that Henry.

"I am holding the title of Henry B. Tippie Excellence Chair, and this seemed like a fun way to honor him for his generosity to the college," Fan said.

See more of Fan's nature photography at facebook.com/patrickwfan.





108 John Pappajohn Business Bldg. Iowa City IA 52242-1994 **tippie.uiowa.edu**

GOLD 1910

CORNERSTONE

The future of Tippie will build on 115 years of history.

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