Goal-setting basics

When establishing goals, make sure employees know:
• What they need to do
• When they need to do it
• How much help they can count on from you
• How much help they can count on from their co-workers
• What authority they have to act on their own
• What will happen if they fail to meet the goal—or the deadline
• How the goal fits into the department’s overall strategy.

— Taken from Communications Briefings, April 2004

McDowell Accepts New Position

By Tad McDowell
Former UAAD President

As many of our members know, I have accepted a new position at the University of Nevada–Las Vegas starting November 1, 2004. This is an exciting time for me, and my family, as we will now be closer to three of our children and several grandchildren who reside in the Idaho and Utah areas. I realize the timing could have been better as it relates to many of my current committee assignments and organizational responsibilities, but I guess there is never a perfect time for this kind of decision.

In our last executive committee meeting I passed the gavel to Russell Bartholow, president-elect of UAAD. Russell accepted the responsibility of president for the remainder of the year and I am sure he will do a great job in this position.

I thank everyone for their kindness and support while I’ve been in office and wish you all the very best in the coming years.

Bartholow Committed to Success of UAAD

Russell Bartholow
Incoming UAAD President

Fellow UAAD members, with pride I have accepted the position of President. Please join me, the UAAD Executive Board and others in bidding Tad McDowell a bountiful farewell. He has been a steadfast UAAD member and a great Director of University Parking Services, especially in these trying times.

I am very excited about the new direction UAAD is headed. Our executive board and committee chairs & members are eager to produce successful (bling-bling) results for our organization and the campus community. Starting with our new logo, our goal is to complete the projects Tad McDowell began, including a new Web site redesign, developing a new UAAD strategic plan for the future and concentrating on professional development and community awareness.

I am deeply committed to the success of UAAD. We are an integral part of the University of Nebraska–Lincoln community. As members of UAAD I guarantee you will be pleasantly surprised by what the future holds for us.
Seeing and Following Your North Star

Many of us may remember bright, clear nights as children spent outside looking at the stars and identifying the constellations. One of the first things we learned as stargazers was how to locate the North Star. We learned that early mariners relied upon the stars to chart their direction. It was the North Star that was most critical to pinpointing all other directions and assuring they were staying the course.

How many of us today look at the sky regularly to find the North Star? Or have we become too distracted by other matters—blinded by streetlights to take the time to check our direction? This same metaphor applies to how we live our lives. Are we too preoccupied with everyday tasks, or random activities that we fail to check that we are staying the course of what is most meaningful in our lives? Or, have we even consciously charted our course?

Jane McClure, an independent consultant from Moorhead, Iowa, will present a program at the next UAAD general meeting that focuses on finding your personal North Star. The program takes an active approach to get people thinking about the direction their lives are taking—Are you following your star? Have you drifted off course?—and methods that can help them identify their way.

Join UAAD for a period of reflection and activities that can help you begin to take control of your own life direction. The meeting is Oct. 20 at 8 a.m. in the East Campus Union. The program is free to UAAD members; $10 for non-UAAD members, which will go toward membership. No refreshments will be offered; you may bring your own breakfast. Please RSVP to Marilyn Fenton at mfenton1@unl.edu.

Bring in the Harvest—of Books, for Kids

Each year the Lincoln Educational Association expands its dream of providing every first and second grade child in Lincoln public and private schools with a brand new book to keep as his or her own. Since Harvest of Books began nine years ago, nearly 60,000 books have been distributed free to local children. This year the LEA needs the help of the community to collect 13,000 new books, and we’re ready to help. At our Oct. 20 UAAD meeting UNL’s University Bookstores will set up a special sale table where we can buy a book—for as little as $5—to donate to this wonderful cause.

The Bookstores at UNL also are pitching in by offering us a 40 percent discount on books bought and donated to the Harvest. They’ll be set up to accept cash, checks and Visa and Mastercard. Unless computer glitches are fixed though, our NCards won’t be usable at this time. Donations are tax deductible. Love kids’ books? Come to our next meeting prepared to browse and smile at the Harvest of Books sale table!

Scott Young, Executive Director of the Food Bank of Lincoln, reported that at our September UAAD meetings we collected 58 pounds of food. Thank you all!

Margaret Koczan
Social Consciousness Committee