

The Noon News

August 11, 2008

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Waterloo Exchange Club

UNI Student Business Incubator – Laurie Watje stopped by to give us an overview of the Student Business Incubator (SBI), one of the dozen or so programs offered through the John Pappajohn Entrepreneurial Center (JPEC) at the University of Northern Iowa. In 1996, Iowa entrepreneur



UNI's Laurie Watje makes a point with Lynnette Fitzgerald & Sharon Droste

John Pappajohn launched five centers throughout the state to enhance the effectiveness of Iowa's entrepreneurs. The brochure Laurie gave us offers this explanation of the role of the UNI center: *"The primary mission of the UNI JPEC is to foster the development of entrepreneurship throughout Iowa by providing or facilitating support for a variety of direct educational, consultative, and other services. The UNI JPEC focuses on three primary areas of entrepreneurship: (1) capital programs, (2) student/faculty/staff entrepreneurship, and (3) technology transfer. JPEC capital programs are open to all qualifying businesses and individuals."* Of course one of the major underlying goals of all of this work is to retain student businesses in Iowa after the students graduate from UNI.

In 2004, the UNI JPEC received funding from the Small Business Administration to establish the Student Business Incubator. The SBI, located in the new Business and Community Services Building, provides well-equipped facility where students interested in entrepreneurship and small business ownership can go for special educational offerings, consultation with experienced professionals, technology resources as well as office space that can be used.

Laurie explained that most of the nine or so student businesses participating in the SBI are involved in some sort of e-commerce. She went on to describe (in probably more detail than we needed) about one student's navel ring business that has grown to dominate the market. Check out the website [here](#) for all the details. Actually, it's very well done.

Another great facility at UNI. Check out the website [here](#) for more info.

Wouldn't it would be wonderful if we could have resources like this for High School students at Waterloo's new Tech Works...

NEXT MEETING LOGISTICS

Program : Closed Business Meeting
Prayer : Bill Wilharm
Pledge : Sandy Goldsberry
Menu : Chicken Fried Steak

PROGRAM SCHEDULE

Aug 18: Closed Business Meeting
Aug 25: Sculptures Throughout Waterloo
Sep 01: No Meeting—Labor day
Sep 08: Superintendent - Waterloo Schools
Sep 15: Closed Business Meeting

WHAT'S FOR LUNCH

Aug 18: Chicken Fried Steak
Aug 25: Orange Roughy
Sep 01: No Meeting—Labor Day
Sep 08: Grilled Chicken Sandwich
Sep 15: Tuna Croissant with Fruit Cup
Order Chef Salad one week in advance

BIRTHDAYS

Aug 16 : Brittany Jungck

THOUGHT OF THE WEEK

President McGriff offered the following quote from Henry David Thoreau: *"Goodness is the only investment that never fails"*

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Guests - Lori McNamee came back again and has decided to join us as a member. Lori is a realtor with the REMAX Home Group. Welcome Lori. DeLon Gobeli is Lori's sponsor.

Health Issues - Ivan Miller is home now recovering from heart surgery. Ivan had a by-pass procedure and a valve replacement.

Great to see Arlan Hamer back from his painful bout of shingles affecting his eyes and ears.

Let's keep our ailing Exchangites and their families in our thoughts and prayers.

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