



**Buena Vista
University**

FALL 2022

HANDBOOK FOR ADMISSIONS



**For high school counselors, teachers,
and community organizations.**

bvuv.edu/counselors

MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR



Hello from Storm Lake, Iowa

Our Admissions team at Buena Vista University is excited to collaborate with you to help your students find the college that fits them. I am honored to be the Director of Admissions since November 2019 and have had the pleasure of getting to know BVU and Iowa. Your feedback, support, and commitment to helping students are greatly appreciated.

What is the Handbook for Admissions?

Given these times of uncertainty, we wanted to keep our high school colleagues informed in a better and more up-to-date way. This Handbook serves as a guide to helping any of your students that might be interested in BVU. We hope that you will find this guide helpful and a resource to share with others.

This is only the first step – we are preparing online resources that will be updated throughout the year at bvu.edu/counselors as well as monthly email communications. If you do not receive communication from us via email, or want to share with others, let us know at admissions@bvu.edu.

Our Admissions Counselors are ready to help and can be easily reached at 712.749.2235.

Exciting updates from BVU:

- BVU's free application for the 2022-23 academic year opened July 1, earlier than ever before, to allow students more time to apply.
- We became test optional Fall 2020 and beyond. Based on our mission of Education for Service, we decided to break down barriers to a college education by helping all students through a holistic application review. BVU is committed to helping first-generation students achieve their dream of a college education.
- Students can also apply with the Common Application opening Aug. 1. Every year, just like our main application, this will be free for students.
- During Summer 2022, BVU approved the establishment of two new co-ed club sports: archery and trap shooting. These two join the ranks of the already growing list of club sports on campus including rodeo, livestock showing, esports, and robotics! The newcomers are set to begin practice in the Fall of 2022 with student interest already at a high.
- Our renovated Library opened in September 2020 and features new spaces for our Center for Academic Excellence, 24x7 IT support services, and more spaces for student success.

This is only a small sample of everything that is going on at BVU. We look forward to the collaboration between your school and your students and their parents. Thank you for all that you do in helping us support students on their college search journey.

Conner Ellinghuysen

Director of Admissions

Buena Vista University
office: 712.749.2078 | mobile: 507.429.7960
610 West 4th St., Storm Lake, Iowa 50588

TABLE OF CONTENTS

SECTION	Pg. #
About BVU	4
Admissions Staff	5
Admissions Counselor Territories	6
Important Dates	7
Visits	8
Application Process	9
Scholarships	11
Cost of Attendance	13
BVU Overview - Athletics and Extracurriculars	14
Academic Support	15
Other Programs	17
Programs	18
School of Business	19
School of Liberal Arts	20
School of Education	22
School of Science	23

ABOUT BVU

BVU is a community of doers, cultivators, and creators who believe in a transformative higher education. At BVU, we possess an innate instinct to build. It's rooted in our identity as Beavers and in our belief that we can and should better the world around us. We are an institution forging new ways of learning and serving. We are committed to empowering our students and know that their work does not just stay in Storm Lake. Beavers carry it with them as they build throughout the region and across the globe.

Buena Vista University Quick Facts

- Founded in 1891
- Sponsorship: Presbyterian Church
- Mascot: Buford T. Beaver
- Private, residential, co-ed, liberal arts university
- Students come from 27 states and six countries
- Storm Lake, population: 11,269, located on the shore of Storm Lake, a 3,000-acre lake
- Size of campus: 60 acres
- Enrollment: 800 undergraduate students on the Storm Lake campus, 1,900 total enrollment
- Over 28,000 connected alumni
- Colors: Navy and Gold
- Student to faculty ratio: 11:1
- 52% participate in intercollegiate athletics
- 1 in 3 students travel as a part of their college experience
- 75% participate in student clubs, organizations, and activities
- More than 50 student clubs and organizations
- 500+ internship opportunities
- 100% of students who file for financial aid receive it
- 65+ academic programs
- Ranked "Best Value School- Midwest"- U.S. News & World Report 2022
- Placement for Class of 2021: 99% (employment, graduate school, volunteer work, or military)
- 19 NCAA Division III intercollegiate athletic teams in the American Rivers conference
- Club Sports include esports, rodeo, livestock showing, and robotics
- Retention rate: 73.9%
- Four-year graduation rate: 52%, six-year graduation rate: 60%

ADMISSIONS STAFF

ADMISSIONS

Conner Ellinghuysen	Director of Admissions	ellinghuysenc@bvum.edu	712.749.2078
Deb Willer	Office Manager	willerd@bvum.edu	712.749.2235
Jenelle Martin	Assistant Director of Admissions	martinj@bvum.edu	712.749.2069
Tania Toj Lopez	Senior Admissions Counselor	tojlopezt@bvum.edu	712.749.2077
Cara Griesenauer	Senior Admissions Counselor	griesenauerc@bvum.edu	712.749.2067
Michael McCauley	Senior Regional Admissions Counselor	mccauleym@bvum.edu	712.749.2079
Mary Barnes	Admissions Counselor	barnesm2@bvum.edu	712.749.2076
Annika Patton	Admissions Counselor	pattona@bvum.edu	712.749.2080
Hannah Pheifer	Admissions Counselor	pheiferh@bvum.edu	712.749.2068

PROCESSING

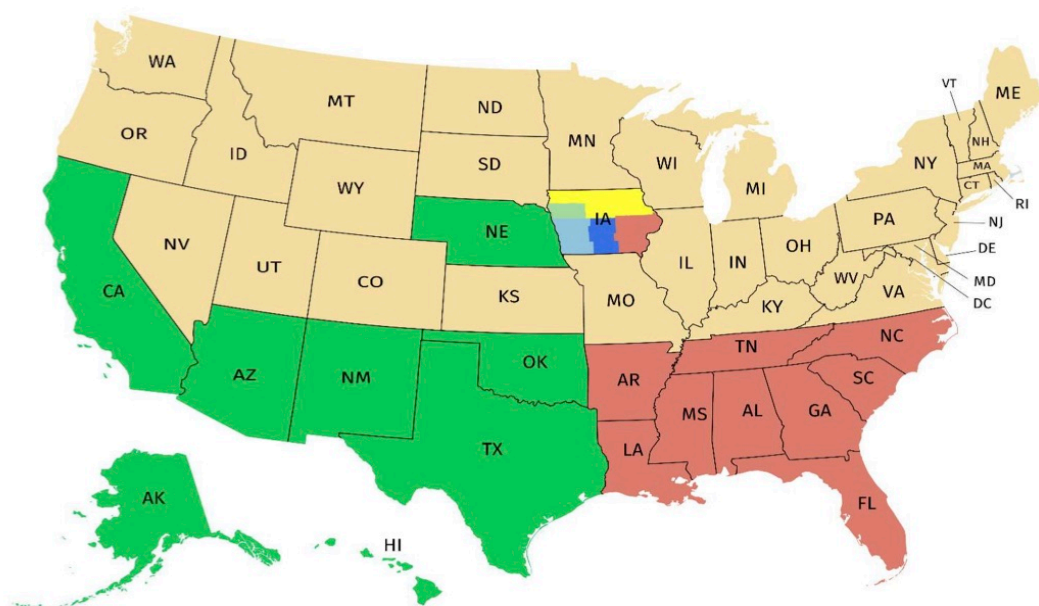
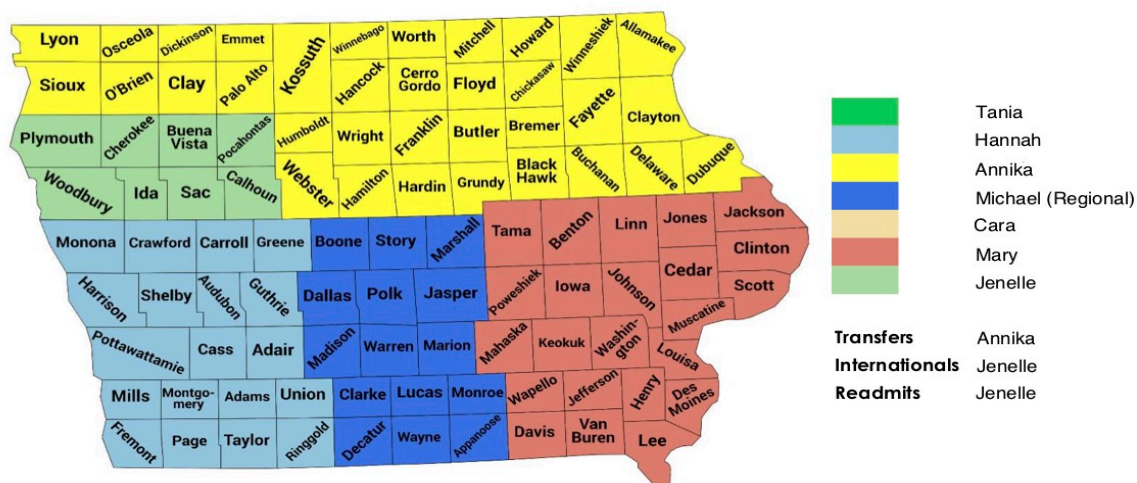
Karianne Franzmeier	Associate Director of Admissions Processing	franzmeierk@bvum.edu	712.749.2072
Brandy Ripke	Assistant Director of Admissions Processing	ripkeb@bvum.edu	712.749.2074
Kourtney Mundt	Admissions Processing Coordinator	mundtk@bvum.edu	712.749.2087
Tristan Khounlo	Admissions/Registrar Processing	khounlot@bvum.edu	712.749.2199

ACADEMIC LIAISONS

Dan Anderson	School of Business	anderson9@bvum.edu	712.749.2416
Michaela Mason	School of Science	masonm@bvum.edu	712.749.1811
Kristen Fox	School of Liberal Arts	turnquistk@bvum.edu	712.749.1553
Ben Clark	School of Education	clarkb@bvum.edu	712.749.2221

ADMISSIONS COUNSELOR TERRITORIES

Storm Lake Undergraduate Territories Fall 2023



IMPORTANT DATES

June 1: Seniors can sign up for a visit at bvuv.edu/visit. Receive a Beaver Visit Grant for \$1,000 per year just for visiting campus.

July 1: Our free application opened. Seniors can apply at bvuv.edu/apply.

Aug. 1: The free Common Application opens. Students can select BVU as a school to submit their application using this method.

August: Application decisions will be mailed out and will include any merit scholarships the student may initially receive.

Oct. 1: Students can fill out the Free Application for Federal Aid (FAFSA) at [FAFSA.gov](https://fafsa.gov) using BVU's school code: 001847

November & Beyond: After a student is accepted and completes the FAFSA, we will send a financial aid offer to them. Once they receive their offer, it is important the student talks with their admissions counselor to review it.

Anytime: Students can also look for other scholarships at bvuv.edu/scholarships.

May 1: Students can deposit to save their spot any time before May 1 which is our 'save your spot' deadline. This lets us know if the student will be joining the Beaver family in the Fall of 2023. Students can make their deposit any time after they are accepted at bvuv.edu/deposit.

VISITS

Individual Visits

On-Campus Visits: Monday-Friday from 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. and select Saturdays.

Virtual-Visits: Monday-Friday from 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. and select Saturdays.

In order to be eligible for the Beaver Visit Grant funded through Admissions, students must:

- Attend an Admissions session
- Receive a tour by an Esprit de Corps member

Other individual visit options:

- Individual academic sessions with a professor in the student's field of interest
- Lunch with sports team members
- Attending a practice, game, or training session
- Meeting with coaching staff

Events

2022-23 Events- Updated 9/14/2022

Sept. 17.....	Admissions Family Weekend Event
Oct. 1.....	Fall Visit Day & Homecoming
Oct. 11	Digi and Music Production Day
Oct. 12.....	Ag Expo
Oct. 14.....	Multicultural Visit Day
Oct. 20.....	Minnesota Visit Day
Oct. 24.....	Spanish Fair
Oct. 25.....	Business Visit Day
Oct. 28.....	Creative Writing Day (Invite Only)
Nov. 7	Speech Visit Day
Nov. 12.....	Corporate Math Finance & Accounting Visit Day
Nov. 17.....	Computer Science Day
Nov. 18.....	Health Sciences Visit Day (Invite Only)
Nov. 17.....	Computer Science Day
Nov. 21 - 22	IDo Art
Dec. 4 - 5	Early Accepted Student Day
Jan. 6.....	Spring Orientation
Feb. 18.....	Scholarship Recognition Day
Feb. 26.....	Regional Accepted Student Day
March 18.....	Sophomore/Junior Visit Day
April 16-17.....	Accepted Student Day

APPLICATION PROCESS

Students will have the choice to apply through Regular Admissions or Test Optional:

- **Regular Admissions:** Students submit their transcript and ACT/SAT to BVU for review.
- **Test Optional:** Students submit their transcript to BVU for review. If a student is accepted and then enrolls, they will be asked to submit any tests scores they may have for class placement. If the student has no test scores to submit, they may need to take a placement exam during Registration to determine what classes are best for them.

Based on the information that the student provides, we will make a holistic decision for admission and scholarships based on the classes they have taken, extra curriculars, and overall involvement in the communities they call home. If we feel we do not have enough information from a student, we may request more information to make a fair and equitable decision.

The average GPA for the incoming class of 2020 was 3.45 and the average ACT score was 21.5.

Recommended high school coursework

- 4 years English
- 3 years math through algebra II
- 2 years history and/or social sciences
- 3 years sciences (including at least 2 lab courses)
- 4 units of academic electives (religion, philosophy, or additional units of mathematics, science, foreign language)

Advice for students

1. **Meet with their high school counselor.** Students can work with counselors to develop an action plan to prepare for college.
2. **Visit college campuses.** Select a variety of institutions which could include a large university, a smaller, more personal college, one located in an urban area, and one in a rural setting. We recommend visiting a school that is close to home as well as one that is more than 200 miles away. Many colleges today use the campus visit as a signal of a student's interest in their school. If XYZ College is their top choice, it's a good idea to visit or arrange for a regional meeting, attend college fairs or college night programs. Talk about college with people they respect—teachers, counselors, family members.
 - a. Students should not rule out a school because of costs. Scholarships and financial aid are designed to help meet educational expenses.
 - b. Begin to narrow their choices down to a few schools that are high on their list.
3. **Take the ACT/SAT.** Most colleges encourage students to take the ACT/SAT twice. If students don't get the score they anticipated, they can take it again.
 - a. Some colleges are test optional, but testing can help with placement into classes.

4. **Complete a Net Price Calculator.** The net price calculator can help a student and their family determine their eligibility for assistance at a number of schools in which they have an interest.
5. **Don't slack off during your senior year.** Scholarship decisions include a student's senior results. By continuing to work hard, they might end up with a larger academic award.

TIP: We encourage students to take as many challenging courses—Advanced Placement, Honors, or International Baccalaureate—as they can comfortably handle. Most colleges encourage students to take challenging courses. We often get asked if taking a challenging curriculum and getting lower grades is better than taking “easier” classes and getting all A's. The reality is colleges do encourage students to take challenging courses and we also expect them to do well in those classes! That isn't to say a B is awful, but we want you to take challenging courses and earn good grades in these classes. But many schools do accept weighted GPA, which can help with scholarships.

2022-2023

ACADEMIC SCHOLARSHIPS AND AWARDS

Below you will find the minimum scholarship awards for incoming Fall 2023 first-year students. Awards are based on high school CGPA.*

Freshman	Scholarship	CGPA
President's Scholarship	\$27,000	3.9+
Heritage Scholarship	\$20,000	3.67-3.89
Arch Scholarship	\$19,000	3.43-3.66
Blue Award	\$18,000	3.10-3.42
Gold Award	\$16,000	3.09 or below

Transfer	Scholarship	CGPA
President's Scholarship	\$25,000	\$25,000
Heritage Scholarship	\$23,000	\$22,000
Arch Scholarship	\$21,000	\$20,000

*Students who live off campus will have their scholarship reduced by \$5,000. Students who provide test scores or class rank could increase their scholarship.

Legacy scholarship:

- \$1,000 per year
- Award for any student beginning enrollment at BVU who has a parent or grandparent with a degree from BVU

Beaver Visit Grant

- \$1,000 per year
- Award available to students who attend an individual or group visit any time between June 1, 2022, and May 31, 2023

Invest in Rural Iowa Scholarship

- Up to \$5,000 per year for four years
- Award available to first-year Storm Lake campus students
- Students must hail from one of the following 19 Northwest Iowa counties: Buena Vista, Calhoun, Cherokee, Clay, Dickinson, Emmet, Humboldt, Ida, Kossuth, Lyon, Palo Alto, Plymouth, Pocahontas, O'Brien, Osceola, Sac, Sioux, Webster, and Woodbury. Preference given to students who have demonstrated financial need
- Have a strong academic record
- Have been an active participant in school and their local community through organization involvement and volunteering

Fine and Media Arts Scholarships

- \$2,000 per year
- Awards available for animation, art, art therapy, graphic design, scientific illustration, digital media, or music production, instrumental or vocal music; both those majoring in these disciplines or participating in the associated cocurricular program
- Students must complete an audition or provide a portfolio by Feb 28, 2023 or within 30 days if accepted after Feb. 28.

Education for Service (EFS) Scholars

- Engage in a supportive cohort with staff and faculty mentors and peers to foster your success through service, mentorship, leadership, professional skills, and educational
- opportunities including priority to participate in an annual alternative week of learning trip.
- To be eligible: Students must graduate from a high school located in Buena Vista County, earn a minimum 3.0 high school GPA, be a first-generation college student, and have a dedication to service or leadership. Students must be admitted to BVU and apply for the scholarship by Nov. 1.

Honors Institute

- The Honors Institute encourages Buena Vista University's best and brightest students to develop their academic talents beyond the regular curriculum through specialized courses and an extensive research project under the direction of a faculty mentor. Participation in the program cultivates critical thinking skills and the development of a sophisticated intellectual disposition.
- Required: 3.75 GPA and top 10% class rank
- Brief application
- Benefits include:
 - \$2,500 travel stipend
 - Priority class registration
 - Research and conference funding

Multicultural Scholarship

- Required: 3.25 or greater GPA. Students must also demonstrate abilities in and/or desire to be engaged in campus multicultural-based activities and organizations.
- Will interview with the Center of Diversity & Inclusion
- \$4,000 additional award stacked on top of the merit scholarship
- Students admitted before Jan. 30 must interview by Feb. 28. Students admitted after Jan. 30 must interview within 30 days of admission. Students admitted after May 1 are not eligible.

Cocurricular Scholarships

- Available to first-year Storm Lake campus students
- Awarded to students based on talent and individuals who are dedicated to continued improvement in their respective areas of activity
- Scholarships awarded in marching band, dance & cheer, rodeo, livestock showing, and esports
- Award amounts vary
- Ask your admissions counselor how you may qualify

Out-of-State Grant

- Available to any U.S. resident who resides outside of Iowa
- \$2,000 per year

Cost of attendance (Fall 2022)

On campus living in a standard residence and the unlimited meal plan

**Full-time
tuition**

\$38,644

**Room and
board**

\$10,680

\$5,266 room, \$5,414 Board

Total

\$49,324

Buena Vista University Overview

Athletics and Extracurriculars

Athletics at Buena Vista University has something for every student, from NCAA Division III varsity competition to friendly-but-competitive intramural games to a wide variety of fitness and recreational opportunities.

Men's

Baseball
Basketball
Cross Country
Football
Golf
Soccer
Tennis
Indoor Track & Field
Outdoor Track & Field
Wrestling

Women's

Basketball
Cross Country
Golf
Soccer
Softball
Tennis
Indoor Track & Field
Outdoor Track & Field
Volleyball
Cheer
Dance
STUNT
Wrestling

Club Sports

Esports
Rodeo
Livestock Show Team
Robotics
Archery
Clay Target Sports

Intramurals

Intramural sports are a great way to stay active, meet friends and explore a new interest. BVU offers a variety of activities for students and faculty to engage in some friendly competition. Choose from flag football, 5-on-5 basketball, volleyball, dodgeball, 3-on-3 basketball, futsal, racquetball, softball, sand volleyball, tennis, pool, ping pong, bean bags, and more.

Clubs and Organizations

There are more than 50 student organizations. Three out of every four students are involved in at least one. That's not too surprising when you look at the variety of organizations available, ranging from the Society of Collegiate Journalists, BVU Marketing Association and Student Senate, to Outdoor Adventure Club, Brazilian Jiu Jitsu Club and African American Student Association.

Marching and Pep Bands

Buena Vista University's marching and pep band program allows students to participate in an intercollegiate athletic band experience like no other in the American Rivers Conference.

Outdoor Recreation

Students also have many opportunities to participate in fun outdoor activities on campus or in Storm Lake including, but not limited to, cardboard boat races, jack-o'-lantern carving, camping, cross-country skiing, kayaking, canoeing, and snow tubing. We aim to give back to the environment and community while spreading an appreciation for the outdoors.

Academic Support

Center for Academic Excellence

The Center for Academic Excellence (CAE) offers free academic support, such as tutoring and study skills enhancement for all Buena Vista University students. Whether students are in need of extra help or simply want to enrich their educational experience, the CAE can help.

The CAE works with students who, due to a disability, are seeking academic accommodations. BVU policy, in accordance with state and federal guidelines, calls for reasonable accommodations to be made for qualified students. To assure that this policy is upheld the director of the CAE serves as coordinator for the appropriate and reasonable accommodations and is available to assist students in the student accommodation process.

Math Shop and Writing Lab

The CAE houses the math shop and the writing lab, which accommodate drop-in visits or pre-arranged appointments to help students with coursework. The math shop provides tutoring for students in science, math, and business courses. The CAE also offers one-on-one tutoring upon request for specific courses other than those covered by the math shop's regular schedule. The tutors at the CAE are BVU students who have been chosen because of their academic and teaching skills. The writing lab has adopted the motto "continuous improvement, not instant perfection" and provides tutors who guide students through the writing process from brainstorming a topic to creating an outline to revising a completed draft. Students use this service while enrolled in writing courses or while taking courses that require a variety of papers.

CAE Skills Courses

The CAE also works with students to improve certain academic skill areas, such as vocabulary building and speed reading, or to build general study skills, including test preparation, time management and scheduling, note-taking and listening, critical thinking and reading, and basic learning strategies. Each semester, the CAE offers semester-long courses designed to improve students' skills regardless of their academic ability. Students register for these courses just as they would for any course at the University, and then in the first week of classes, students arrange a meeting time with the Director to go over the syllabus and discuss the work and schedule for the semester. All CAE courses are graded pass/no credit.

Travel Opportunities

BVU brings the world to our students, and our students out into the world. With our travel and global engagement experiences students will graduate as well-informed, culturally competent, and confident individuals. In the last decade, more than 100 students have studied in over twenty countries on six continents.

Through the program, our students become more confident, more articulate, more adventuresome, and more reflective. They make new friends, develop new skills, and become new and better versions of themselves. Each year, students find the perfect placement matching both their life and academic goals.

Lamberti Center for Rural Entrepreneurship

The potential to create a prosperous community lies within the power to cultivate economic growth, and the Lamberti Center for Rural Entrepreneurship strives to serve as the catalyst to revitalize our rural communities. Through the Center, new businesses will be launched, jobs will be created, individuals will be

empowered to define their future, and the ethical business leaders of tomorrow will be educated. The Center's applied programming teaches the skills to build a prosperous future for students and their communities. The Center's idea incubator, called the Foundry, supports local businesses and entrepreneurs by providing the training and resources for success and prosperity. Our goal is to help rural America not only survive—but thrive.

Institute for Agriculture

The future of the world's food and energy resources is being built right now, and students can become a part of it with an agriculture degree from BVU. Located in the heart of Midwest farming country, students have opportunities at BVU that can't be found at any other institution. Gain access to industry experts and world-renowned businesses through experiential learning, internships, and research opportunities. As an agriculture major at BVU, students have the uncommon training and knowledge needed to run a family farm, trade commodities internationally, or pioneer new science that changes the way global resources are grown or raised.

Other Programs

Army ROTC

Army ROTC (Reserve Officers' Training Corps) is one of the best leadership courses in the country available to students with two, three, or four years of college remaining, as well as a program for graduate students. Army ROTC offers classes students can take as electives within their normal college curriculum and they can take up to the first two years of the program without having to contract to serve in the Army. The program offers not only scholarships, but an experience that students won't find anywhere else on campus. Most training takes place in the Storm Lake area combined with training twice a year at Camp Dodge in Johnston.

Student Activities Board (SAB)

BVU's Student Activities Board's (SAB) is an organization, run by students, that brings diverse social and recreational activities to campus. SAB will provide free, fun entertainment to meet the varied interests of the student body. It is hoped that these shared experiences will help students connect to each other and the BVU community. The SAB ten-member executive board leads a committee of members at large in efforts to plan multiple activities for all students each month including Midnight Movies, comedians, and bands. SAB also coordinates a weeklong Homecoming celebration each fall.

Student Senate

Student Senate is the student government organization on the BVU campus. The organization's purpose is to express the student body's concerns to the faculty and staff. The mission of the Student Senate is to act and serve as the governing body and voice of our students. The Student Senate can influence policy in the BVU community. In the past, the Senate has developed the co-ed suite option and neutral gender bathrooms.

Buenafication Day

Since its origins as "Hobo Days" in 1913, originally a relaxed and unstructured day of spirits, games, and festivities, Buenafication Day has evolved into a serious, but fun, undertaking of civic responsibility. On this day of service, which has been an annual event since around 1980, classes on our Storm Lake campus are suspended and all Beavers give back to their community.

Center for Diversity & Inclusion

The Center for Diversity & Inclusion (CDI) assists domestic students of color and international students with the transition to student life by fostering an environment that supports both personal and professional growth through Educational Outreach, Social Justice & Cultural Programming, Support & Advocacy, and Community Building. By developing opportunities for students to learn and understand the importance of multiculturalism, the CDI supports all students in broadening their perspective of diversity. The CDI enhances the visibility and awareness of diversity within our campus community by creating opportunities for students, staff, and faculty to come together for cultural exchange and celebration.

PROGRAMS

- Accounting
- Accounting: Professional Licensure
- Agricultural Business
- Agricultural Education (9-12)
- Agricultural Science
- Agricultural Science: Agronomy
- Agricultural Science: Animal Science
- Animation
- Art
- Art Education (K-8)
- Art Education (Secondary)
- Art Therapy
- Arts Management: Vocal or Instrumental Music
- Arts Management: Visual Arts
- Biology
- Biology: Forensic Science
- Biology Education (Secondary)
- Biomedical Sciences
- Business
- Business: Financial Decision Making
- Business: Management
- Business: Marketing
- Business: Sport Business
- Business Education (Secondary)
- Communication Studies
- Computer Science: AI/Robotics
- Computer Science: Information Technology
- Computer Science: Mathematics
- Computer Science: Systems
- Criminology & Criminal Justice: Criminal Justice
- Criminology & Criminal Justice: Criminology
- Criminology & Criminal Justice: Forensic Science
- Digital Media
- Distributive/Undecided
- Education: Educational Studies
- Education: Elementary Education (K-6)
- Education: Physical Education
- Education: Secondary Education
- Education: Special Education
- English
- English Education (Secondary)
- English Language Arts (Secondary)
- Exercise Science
- Graphic Design
- History
- History Education (Secondary)
- Mathematics
- Mathematics: Corporate
- Mathematics Education (Secondary)
- Music Production & Technology: Business
- Music Production & Technology: Film Scoring Audio for Video
- Physics Engineering
- Political Science: Legal Studies (Pre-Law)
- Political Science: Politics Policy
- Pre-Allied Health Sciences
- Pre-Athletic Training
- Pre-Chiropractic Medicine
- Pre-Dentistry
- Pre-Medical Technology
- Pre-Medicine
- Pre-Occupational Therapy
- Pre-Optometry
- Pre-Pharmacy
- Pre-Physical Therapy
- Pre-Veterinary Medicine
- Psychology
- Rehabilitation Health Sciences
- Scientific Illustration/Pre-Medical Illustration
- Social Work
- Spanish
- Spanish Education (Secondary)
- Strategic Public Relations

SCHOOL OF BUSINESS

To help students get where they want to be in the working world, the Harold Walter Siebens School of Business offers a variety of majors and minors that provide students with core and transferable knowledge so they can be effective business leaders in any field or profession.

Five concentrations: management, marketing, agricultural business, sport business, and financial decision making.

Unique Features

- Electronic trading table

Travel Opportunities

- Phoenix Sport Business Interim Trip
- Chicago Board of Trade
- New York City Business Interim Trip
- Disney World and Disney Cruise Line Interim Business Trip

Fast Facts

- All alumni who majored in accounting graduated with a double major in business and accounting.
- Four students each year are chosen to attend the Okoboji Entrepreneurial Institute.

Notable Internships:

- John Deere
- Minnesota Vikings
- PepsiCo
- Minnesota Twins
- Iowa Cubs

Notable Alum:

Zach Anderson '19 from Emmetsburg High School came to BVU to earn a degree in business with a concentration in marketing while playing football. Anderson went on to work with Midwest Land Management & Real Estate in Spencer where he specialized in Northwest Iowa farm real estate.

Alexis Keller '20 wanted to attend BVU for its business and accounting programs. The Underwood High School grad interned for Linn & Associates in Chicago, Lincoln Savings Bank in Hudson, and Well's Enterprise in Le Mars. Through these experiences, Keller was able to land an accounting position with RSM, an international accounting firm in Omaha.

SCHOOL OF LIBERAL ARTS

Through classes in the School of Liberal Arts, students discover and deepen their talents, explore new and invigorating ideas, encounter new people, and gain the confidence and knowledge to tackle the challenges of the 21st century. Courses focus on three areas: fine arts, humanities, and social sciences—disciplines that form a firm foundation upon which all majors are built.

Unique Features

- Crime scene simulator
- 24/7 access to art and recording studios
- BVTV
- KBVU Radio Station
- Virtual Reality Music Practice Rooms
- Mac Labs

Fun Facts

- We are the only school in Iowa to have our own crime scene room and simulator.
- We have an agreement with Sioux Falls Police Department where they come and recruit BVU students.
- Choir was chosen to perform at Carnegie Hall
- BVU's pre-law students who receive faculty recommendations have a 100 percent law school acceptance rate

Travel Opportunities

- Chicago
- St. Louis
- Ireland
- Costa Rica
- Spain
- Kennedy Center of American College Theatre Festival
- England
- France

Notable Internships

- Washington Center Internships in D.C.
- College World Series
- Boys and Girls Club
- Des Moines Parks and Recreation
- Dream Works
- Green Bay Packers
- Levi Strauss & Co.

Notable Alum:

Hannah Appleseth '19 earned her bachelor's degree in psychology in three years all while playing basketball. She then stayed for her fourth year to finish out her basketball career while working toward her master's degree. She now continues to pursue her master's on the clinical-counseling track at the University of Minnesota-Duluth.

Jerrian Ritter '99 came to BVU to study mass communication. While at BVU she stood before the cameras of BVTV giving updates on the weather and how that may affect any campus festivities or sporting events. She interned at a business newsletter agency and WHO-TV. Jerrian has worked on various stations and for the past 15 years has been the trusted meteorologist on WHO-TV in Des Moines.

SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

Few professions provide greater opportunities for significant contributions to the future than those in education. The School of Education offers undergraduate and graduate level programs focusing on elementary, secondary, and special education. Upon graduation, students are prepared to obtain teaching licensure.

Unique Features

- BVU uses an eight-week course model to provide more time for students to get into the K-12 classroom
- SMART Boards
- 3D Printers
- Group-work monitors
- Ability to substitute teach while student teaching

Fast Facts

- We are the third-leading producer of teachers in the state of Iowa.
- BVU is a leading producer of special educators in the state of Iowa
- Only school in the state with a special education major
- We require the most field hours of any school in the state with more than 100 hours
- 98% placement rate within six months of graduation
- Every professor in the school of education has taught at the K-12 level

Travel Opportunities

- Alternative Week of Learning (AWOL) will allow you to experience a week-long immersive trip volunteering in different cultural contexts.

Notable Internships

- Student teaching in other countries such as Thailand and Spain

Notable Alum

Nate Bjorkgren '98 came to BVU to study education and exercise science. He is a local graduate of Storm Lake High School as well where he played basketball for the Tornadoes, then for BVU. Nate went on to become the assistant coach for the Toronto Raptors and his team went on to win an NBA title.

Kit Tykkila '20 earned her bachelor's degree in elementary education, with endorsements in pre-school/kindergarten and reading in May 2020. She currently works as a preschool special education teacher at Johnson Elementary School in Spencer and completed her master's in special education through BVU.

SCHOOL OF SCIENCE

The School of Science provides advantages and facilities one would expect from a larger school. Students can choose from majors focused in mathematics, science, agriculture, and engineering and have regular access to the 70,000 sq. ft. Estelle Siebens Science Center which houses 18 state-of-the-art labs and three research facilities—not including the natural lake, mere yards away from traditional labs.

Unique Features

- \$110,000 of research money granted each year to students to make advancements in their field and further research
- 3rd floor lab with animal testing
- Buena Vista Regional Medical Center Partnership
- Cadaver lab
- 3+4 Program with Drake University
- One of the first programs in the nation to require a course in computer security

Fast Facts

- Only school in American Rivers Conference to offer an Institute for Agriculture
- Research is student designed and student led
- At least seven BVU alum have gone on to practice medicine right here in Storm Lake—ranging from general practice physicians to optometry, to physical therapy
- Pre-pharm students have a 100% placement rate into pharmacy school the last 11 years.

Travel Opportunities

- Tanzania
- A select group of Computer Science students participated in the “Startup in Seattle” Interim trip, where they lived in Seattle for three weeks and formed a tech startup.

Notable Internships

- First Cooperative Association
- Anytime Fitness
- Tampa Bay Buccaneers
- Sanford POWER
- Walt Disney Studios
- Microsoft
- NASA
- USDA
- Omaha’s Henry Doorly Zoo

Notable Alumni

Jessica Warneke '09 studied biology at BVU. As a student, she traveled to India to improve her bedside manner as well as Jamaica to work in an orphanage. She played softball during her time at BVU then went on to medical school. Jessica graduated and has since served in the U.S. Army as a flight surgeon, serving in Alaska, Hawaii, Alabama, and Colorado.

Paul Buccheit '04 pursued a degree in athletic training at BVU. He connected with one of our athletic training professors who landed him an internship with the Boston Red Sox. Paul worked in the minor leagues earning his position in the major leagues in 2015 working as the Red Sox' assistant athletic trainer. Paul has earned three World Series rings during his time as a member of the organization.