

UIAA DIRECTORS OUTSIDE OF IDAHO PROFILES

Tina Anton '91, Western Region

Degree/major(s): Bachelor of Science Criminal Justice; Minor, Sociology

Hometown: Meridian, Idaho

Favorite or most rewarding class? My favorite and most challenging class was Constitutional Law. I remember all the hours I spent reading out of an enormous textbook, so I would be prepared to debate and defend once I entered the classroom. We had about 10 students in class which allowed us to really talk and share different viewpoints.

How did U of I prepare you for your career/life after college? Going away to college is such a time of growth! Learning how to live with peers, yet living independently of parents. Being on my own meant learning how to manage fun with being studious, how to be creative with a budget and how a desk calendar can be so helpful. I made mistakes for sure, but I made them in a safe place. Academically, I left Idaho with a much deeper understanding of the criminal justice system, which led to my work within the Department of Corrections.

Why do you choose to serve the Alumni Association? Moscow is like a second home for me. I moved to Washington in 1994 but made my way back for football games or to visit my niece and nephew who were attending U of I. When my two sons were younger, it was harder to stay involved with the alumni association. They are now 23 and 18 and my time is becoming more of my own. I have the flexibility now to explore new paths and, for me, my first choice is to support my university any way I can.

What faculty or staff member was integral to your time at U of I? Ray Miller was my advisor in the Criminal Justice Department. He was the first professor I sought out when I considered changing my major from accounting to criminal justice. His encouragement made that transition easy. Professor Miller always had an open door for his students, including me. It wasn't easy to get a high grade in his class, but he made you want to work for it.

Share a treasured Vandal memory, either from when you were a student, or after graduating:
Watching Idaho beat BSU in football from 1987-1991!



Annie Averitt '00, Western Region



Shelby Kerns '97, Eastern Region

Degree/Major(s): B.S., Political Science

Hometown: Potlatch, Idaho

Why I serve: U of I and its alumni have given more to me than I could ever repay: an education, a professional foundation, lifelong friends and incredible memories. Serving is an opportunity to give back and help provide that for others.



Favorite class: For more than 25 years, I've continued to think and talk about Lisa Carlson's Political Violence and Revolution course. The course opened my eyes to the world and gave me a framework to evaluate events. In addition, her interest in the world was infectious and she explained why a kid from small-town Idaho should care about events around the globe.

Why U of I: U of I provided me with both my academic and professional foundations. The education I received, the lessons I learned working at U of I and the support I received from Vandal alumni have been large parts of any success I've had.

Favorite faculty or staff: While attending U of I, I worked part-time for the UI Foundation and Development Office. I will be forever grateful for all I learned from Linda Davidson, Vicki Boone, Diane Gregg, Ed McBride and Caroline Troy. The opportunity to work with such dedicated professionals provided me with a foundation that has served me well in my career.

Favorite Vandal memory: It's hard to beat the memories of winning bowl games! As our Vandal Family has grown, it's amazing to share the experiences with new generations. Screaming the fight song and storming the field after a nail-biting victory can't be beat!

Kimberly Lynn '12, Northwestern Region

Degree/Major(s): B.S., Family and Consumer Science - Clothing, Textiles and Design

Hometown: Coeur d'Alene, Idaho

Favorite faculty or staff: Erica liams's dynamic teaching approach made lectures and sewing studios easier to understand and enjoyable to learn. Her passion for fashion was infectious, and her support for her students always went above and beyond.



Why U of I: University of Idaho provided me with an education by equipping me with the knowledge and skills needed for my career in the apparel industry. Through coursework and hands-on projects, I gained a deep understanding of textiles, the history of fashion and the industry's business side. I also gained life skills and lifelong friendships being a part of the Greek Life system. Overall, U of I was pivotal in shaping and preparing me for my life after college!

Why I serve: Being part of the Alumni Association board allows me to connect with fellow alumni and show pride in my alma mater. Homecoming is one of my favorite weekends of the year, and I'm excited for the opportunity to give my support wherever needed.

Favorite Vandal memory: Homecoming! I grew up going to every U of I homecoming with my family. Getting to be a part of Homecoming as a student will forever hold a special place in my heart. Going back to Moscow feels like coming home. I love walking around the campus, Hello Walk and Greek Row. It always brings back amazing memories of my time at U of I. Go Vandals!

Emily Rasch, '16, Eastern Region

Degree/Major (s): Advertising

Hometown: Portland, OR

Favorite or most rewarding class? My early classes in the Journalism and Mass Media (JAMM) program at University of Idaho have been the most rewarding and continue to impact my day-to-day work. Learning how to shoot, edit and produce video content has been one of the most valuable skills in my career, especially in marketing and event management. It's something I still use regularly to tell stories, promote experiences and bring ideas to life.

How did U of I prepare you for your career/life after college? U of I taught me the true value of community and relationships. When I look back on my time at University of Idaho, I think about the student organizations I was involved in, the support from my advisors, and the special events that brought people together. As an out-of-state student, I arrived not knowing a single person, but I fully embraced the Vandal community, and those connections have continued to impact my life and career today. My time on the Palouse is where I really developed independence and confidence in myself. Through my involvement with the Homecoming Committee and the Student Alumni Relations Board (SARB), I gained hands-on experience in event planning and execution, which ultimately laid the foundation for my career in event management. Those early experiences shaped not only my professional path but also my approach to life — centered around connection, community and creating meaningful experiences.

Why do you choose to serve the Alumni Association? I choose to serve the Alumni Association because I owe so much of my personal and professional growth to University of Idaho. Now that I'm more established in my career, it feels like the right time to give back to a community that had such a lasting impact on me. I also recognize that new challenges have emerged post-COVID in how people connect, build community and stay engaged. I'm excited by the opportunity to help navigate those shifts and contribute in a meaningful way.



What faculty or staff member was integral to your time at U of I? The faculty and staff who had the greatest impact on my time at University of Idaho were my advisors for Homecoming Committee, SARB and Vandal Entertainment: Marie Duncan, Katie Dahlinger, Lauren Hamilton and Tim Helmke. They supported me from my very first semester and helped shape both my confidence and leadership style. Their work ethic and dedication to students is something I still carry with me today

Share a treasured Vandal memory, either from when you were a student, or after graduating. Standing on stage at the 2015 Homecoming bonfire, looking out at the massive crowd. All the hard work I had put in as Homecoming Chair led up to that moment, and I remember feeling so proud and grateful. I was surrounded by people who had a meaningful impact on my life. It was one of those “pause and take it all in” moments. Emceeding the event and being crowned Homecoming royalty felt like everything had come full circle as a special way to celebrate that chapter. And to top it off, later that night at The Corner Club I climbed on top of the bar with friends and sang the fight song – an unforgettable, joy-filled moment that perfectly captured the spirit of being a Vandal.