

# NORTHERN TIER UNISERV

## PAST AND PRESENT

In its infancy, Northern Tier UniServ was known as Northern Educators Committed (NEC), a UniServ unit that came into existence in the fall of 1973. The director hired that fall was RA Arends, a Hayward teacher. Later that year, WEAC and NEA gave permission for NEC to divide into two sparsity UniServ units (units with a potential for a high number of bargaining units, but low membership). Northern



Educators Committed became the western service half and the United Teaching Profession became the eastern half, determined by Highway 17. Mr. Arends was given the choice of which unit he wanted to work with. He chose the United Teaching Profession. On February 14, 1974, Northern Educators Committed hired Gene Degner, a teacher at Bloomer, as their director. Cindy Brown was hired as the associate staff to work for both directors.

In 1974, when the two units split, eleven teacher locals stayed (Arbor Vitae-Woodruff, Butternut, Eagle River, Hurley, Lakeland Union High School, North Lakeland, Minocqua-Hazelhurst-Lake Tomahawk, Park Falls, Phillips, Prentice, Tomahawk) and one, Crivitz, went to United Northeast Educators (UNE). The Rhinelander office remained housed at 217 S. Pelham Street (trivia--part of the Downtown Motel in Rhinelander).

In 1976, both organizations changed their names. Northern Educators Committed became WEAC UniServ Council No. 18 and United Teaching Profession became WEAC UniServ Council No. 21. Those names were derived from the computer numbers that WEAC had assigned to each UniServ unit. The reason for the name change was the acronym given to the United Teaching Profession (UTP) unit. UTP was also designated by the NEA as the United Teaching Profession. WEAC UniServ Council No. 21 relocated to Crandon until 1985. In 1985, the WEAC UniServ Council No. 21 office was moved to Marinette where it remained until it closed in 1994.

The first ESP local was organized in 1976. This local consisted of the cooks and custodians at Northland Pines. Since that time, educational employes have been organized in AVW, Lac du Flambeau, Mercer, Tomahawk, Nicolet, North Lakeland, MHLT, LUHS, CESA No. 9 (formerly CESA No. 2), Phelps, Hurley, Phillips, Park Falls, and Rib Lake. In 1987, Rhinelander teachers reaffiliated with WEAC and the ESP employes switched from the Federation. Three Lakes joined the Council 18 family in 1993.

In December, 1979, WEAC UniServ Council No. 18 associate staff, Cindy Brown, left and Bonnie Breivogel was hired. In 1980, WEAC UniServ Council No. 18 computerized to accommodate the expanding workload. In May, 1981, the Pelham Street rental changed owners and WEAC UniServ Council No. 18 moved to 25 E. Rives Street, Rhinelander. As the number of locals increased, WEAC UniServ Council No. 18 outgrew its Rives Street facility and in September, 1987, moved to 719 W. Kemp Street, Rhinelander. In July, 1993, the office relocated to 900 W. Kemp Street (trivia--the former office was turned into a liquor store!!). In 1994, Council 18 built their own office building at 1901 W. River Street.

On September 1, 1995, WEAC UniServ Council No. 18 officially became Northern Tier UniServ-Central when they merged with Chequamegon United Teachers (now known as Northern Tier UniServ-West) and Northeast Education Council (now known as Northern Tier UniServ-East) to form the Northern Tier UniServ.

In March, 2001, NTU-C and NTU-E officially approved consolidation. The NTU-E moved to the Rhinelander office following an addition that was completed March 1, 2002. After consolidation, the -C and -E were removed and the unit was renamed Northern Tier UniServ (NTU). Carol Nelson, Director, and Renee Ison, joined the existing Rhinelander staff and brought with them all the locals from the former NTU-E unit. NTU-W remained a separate office located in Hayward. The NTU-W office was staffed by Barry Delaney, Director, and Diana Delaney and Sue Ahrens.

In June, 2003, Carol Nelson resigned NTU to take a job with the National Education Association (NEA), Washington DC. NTU hired Ted Lewis, an attorney, from Brooklyn, New York. In October, 2005, Barry Delaney retired and Al Manson was hired as interim Director. Diana Delaney also retired and Sue Ahrens went to full time. Peter Gust was hired as the NTU-W Director in January, 2007. In December, 2006, Ted took a position with the Rock Valley United Teachers in Janesville, WI. On January 2, 2007, Fred Andrist joined the NTU team and returned to the UniServ that helped him organize his local when he was a teacher in Rib Lake. He was an active member of both his local and the UniServ over the years. In April, 1996, he left teaching and took a position as a UniServ director with West Central Education Association in Monomomie, WI. Fred came to NTU with a wealth of experience. In March, 2009, Josh Skubal, a former Northland Pines teacher in Eagle River, was hired to replace Gene Degner, who would retire in August, 2009. Peter Gust also left the Hayward office to take a position with the WinnebagoLand UniServ and Steve Perala was hired to replace him.

To date, Northern Tier UniServ has organized all teacher locals in their area and ESP locals in all but six districts (Prentice,

Three Lakes, Florence, Goodman/Armstrong Creek, Pembine, and Wausaukee).

**The Northern Tier office in Rhinelander represents:**

**eight K-8 units**

Lac du Flambeau (teacher & ESP)  
North Lakeland (teacher & ESP)  
Arbor Vitae-Woodruff (teacher & ESP)  
Minocqua-Hazelhurst-Lake Tomahawk (teacher & ESP)

**two Union Free High School units**

Lakeland Union High School  
NEST/LUHS

**two CESA No. 9 units**

CESA No. 9  
NEST/CESA No. 9

**three Wisconsin Technical College units**

Nicolet Area Technical College Faculty Association  
Nicolet Area Technical College Support Personnel Unit  
NEST/NATC Maintenance

**thirty-six K-12 units**

Hurley (teacher & ESP)  
Mercer (teacher & ESP)  
Northland Pines (teacher & ESP)  
Park Falls (teacher & ESP)  
Phelps (teacher & ESP)  
Crandon (teacher & ESP)  
Florence  
Goodman/Armstrong Creek  
Laona (teacher & ESP)  
Pembine  
Three Lakes  
Phillips (teacher & ESP)  
Prentice  
Rib Lake (teacher & ESP)  
Rhinelander (teacher & ESP)  
Tomahawk (teacher & ESP)  
Elcho (teacher & ESP)  
Niagara (teacher & ESP)  
Wabeno (teacher & ESP)  
Wausaukee  
White Lake (teacher & ESP)

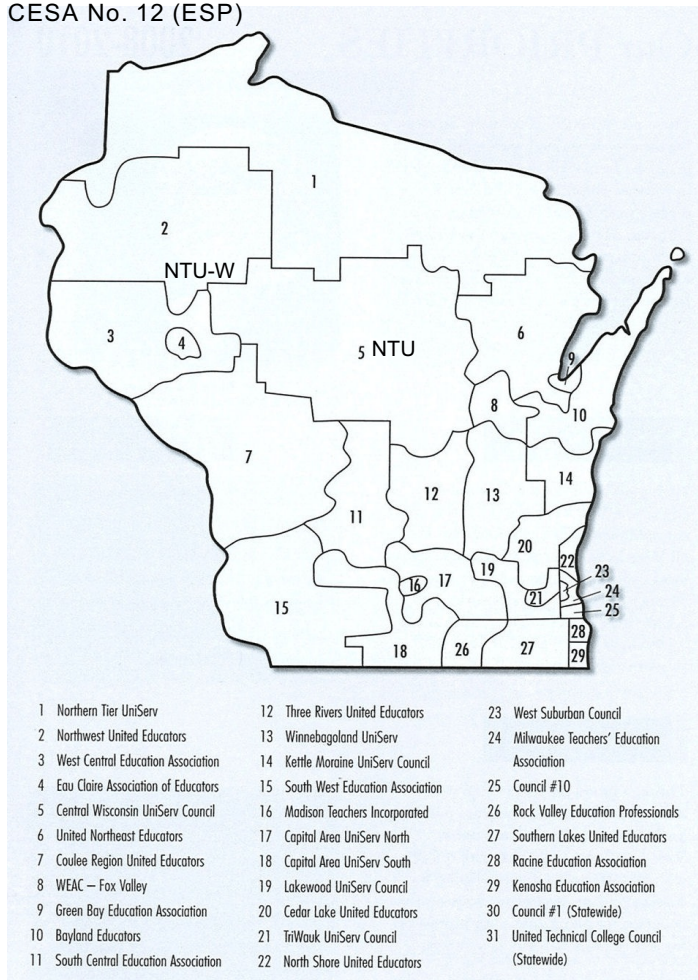
**The Northern Tier-West office in Hayward represents:**

**eighteen K-12 units**

Bayfield (teacher & ESP)  
Butternut ESP  
Drummond (teacher & ESP)  
Mellen (teacher & ESP)  
Northwood (teacher & ESP)  
Siren (teacher & ESP)  
South Shore (teacher & ESP)  
Washburn (teacher & ESP)  
Webster (teacher & ESP)

**one CESA unit**

CESA No. 12 (ESP)



As you can see, Northern Tier has one of the largest geographic areas for a single UniServ in the state.



1974-75	Roy Jones
1975-76	Gene Berg
1976-77	Steve Prah
1977-78	Steve Prah
1978-79	Steve Prah
1979-80	Steve Prah
1980-81	Steve Prah
1981-82	Steve Prah
1982-83	Steve Prah
1983-84	Carol Smart
1984-85	Carol Smart
1985-86	Carol Smart
1986-87	Carol Smart
1987-88	Carol Smart
1988-89	Carol Smart
1989-90	Fred Andrist
1990-91	Fred Andrist
1991-92	Fred Andrist
1992-93	Fred Andrist
1993-94	Kathy Bertolino
1994-95	Gerry Cadotte
1995-96	Vita Smith
1996-97	Vita Smith
1997-98	Vita Smith
1998-99	Vita Smith
1999-2000	Jackie Cody
2000-01	Jackie Cody
2001-02	Jackie Cody
2002-03	Jackie Cody
2003-04	John Fox
2004-05	John Fox
2005-06	Teri Hanson
2006-07	Teri Hanson
2007-08	Teri Hanson
2008-09	Teri Hanson

Northern Tier UniServ members that went on to become UniServ Directors:

1. Barb Tauber (Tomahawk EA)
2. Fred Andrist (Rib Lake EA)
3. Steve Smith (Park Falls EA)
4. Steve Glandt (Northland Pines EA)
5. Josh Skubal (Northland Pines EA)

## Gene

While I was updating the NTU history, I thought it would be kind of fun to pull together all of the Presidents over the years. My best source was to see who signed the UniServ agreements each year because we had them way back to the inception. However, sometimes it was hard to tell where transitions took place.

Can you give this a look and see if it looks right to you. Also, I could not find who was the very first president in 1974.