UNI has many student organization and clubs, including TEECA, which stands for Technology and Engineering Education Collegiate Association. TEECA is an organization for undergraduate and graduate students who want to develop content knowledge, continue professional development, and be involved with a professional organization. Ryan Anderson, President of TEECA, has been a member since 2012. “I joined because I was new on campus and was looking for ways to meet people and get involved. This organization allowed me to meet other students in my major and get involved with professional development opportunities. I was also excited about how we got to travel when we attended the regional and national conferences.”

TEECA currently has 12 members, but Ryan says they are always looking for new students to join, “membership is not limited to technology and engineering education majors. However the conferences and competitions we attend generally cater to technology and education majors. But anyone with interests in Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics (STEM) or education is likely to find something we do interesting. If someone is interested in joining TEECA all they need to do is come to one of our meetings or contact anyone from the club and we can get them started.”

Scott Greenhalgh has been the faculty advisor for TEECA for four years. In March, he will become the national advisor for TEECA for the next two years. Scott says many of the things the club does involves integrating the STEM concepts in deeper ways than are normally found in the classroom. “Students should join the organization for the experiences it provides. Prospective teachers can gain experiences with running extracurricular organizations, provide service in the field, and have fun with challenging competitions. TEECA is open to all UNI students, and we would like to especially let elementary education, science education, and math education students know they are welcome in the organization.”

TEECA is gearing up for their national competition this spring which will take place in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. At this competition, their club will compete against other colleges across the United States. “We plan to compete in the Technology Challenge (Quiz Bowl), Vex Robotics, Transportation, Problem Solving, Manufacturing, and Communications competitions. We currently are preparing by arranging trip details and once our meeting time gets finalized we will be meeting about twice a week to design, construct and program our vex robot. Once that robot is ready we will begin preparing our manufacturing and communications projects, which have to be completed on site at the conference,” says Ryan.

Ryan has gained many experiences and leadership skills from TEECA. “TEECA has provided me with the opportunity to learn how to manage multiple activities while developing my leadership skills. I have also been able to meet several of the leaders in the field and network with other students and teachers across the country.”

If you are interested in joining TEECA or want to find more information visit ITEEA.org or TEECA.org.

TEECA meets Tuesdays at 6:00 PM in ITC Room 14.

Email Ryan Andersen with any questions at: anderraq@uni.edu

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