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CSBS Kudos, December 2013

University of Northern Iowa. College of Social and Behavioral Sciences.

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Bye, Bye, Baker Hall

Although the newly renovated Bartlett Hall will be home to a cross-section of campus entities, the college is excited that two of our departments have a beautiful new space to call their own.

The Department of Psychology and the Department of Sociology, Anthropology, and Criminology are settling in to their new space—one they can all be proud of.

Kudos to all staff, faculty, and students who helped with the renovation and move!
**In Celebration of Creativity**

The new CSBS center held a new kind of party in early December. The Creative Life Research Center, led by Gary Gute from the School of Applied Human Sciences, and his Honors section of the course Creativity and the Evolution of Culture offered the Creative UNIversity Conference & Celebration. The day-long event included expert panels, exhibits, performances, research posters, presentations, maker demonstrations, and a keynote by Dr. Steven Tepper of The Curb Center for Art, Enterprise & Public Policy at Vanderbilt University. Over 200 people pre-registered for the conference, held in the Maucker Expansion, with scores more registering that day and impressive student traffic.

Although the day was an interdisciplinary celebration that included faculty, students, and staff from across campus—and experts throughout the community—several CSBS faculty participated:

- **Andrey Petrov (Geography)** served as a panelist for “Developing and Sustaining Creative Economies in Small and Mid-Sized Communities.”
- **Scott Peters (Political Science)** served as a panelist for “What Does it Mean to be a Creative Teacher? Creativity and Student Engagement at UNI.”
- **Marybeth Stalp (Sociology)** and **Gowri Betrabet Gulwadi (Interior Design)** presented a poster and an activity [see facing page].
- **Gary Gute (Family Studies)** was part of a research poster “Complexity as a Catalyst for Flow and Creativity in the Family Lives of Creative People.”

**Geography Welcomes Guest**

The Department of Geography hosted a guest lecture earlier this month. With the support of the Dr. Jonathan J. Lu and Sayoko Lu Biblical Geography Endowment Fund, the department welcomed Steven Collins to present “Finding Sodom: A Study in Biblical Geography.” Dr. Collins is dean of the College of Archaeology and Biblical History at Trinity Southwest University in Albuquerque, New Mexico, as well as the chief archaeologist and director of the Tall el-Hammam Excavation Project in Jordan. The site is located near the Dead Sea and is believed by many scholars to be the location of the biblical city of Sodom.

On the web site dedicated to the excavation project, Dr. Collins recently wrote the following synopsis of his trip:

“The lecture was on the UNI campus in the John Deere (yes, it’s farming country!) Auditorium, and it was a full house. I have to say that it was one of the most attentive audiences I’ve spoken to. There were quite a number of students and faculty, as well as people from the surrounding community. Dr. Patrick Pease, head of the UNI Department of Geography, was a terrific host, and I had a great time.

“But for me, the most important part of my time at UNI was the afternoon I spent with Dr. Pease touring the laboratories of the Geography Department and talking to professors and graduate students about the Tall el-Hammam Excavation Project.”

We’re glad—but certainly not surprised—that a guest to our campus was given such a warm welcome!

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**Legacy Family**

Dr. Jonathan Lu joined UNI’s geography faculty in 1974 and lead the department from 1987 until his departure in 1991 to become the president of Holy Light Theological Seminary in Taiwan.

Today, Lu’s granddaughter, Emily Pei (below), is a student making a name for herself in the college’s Textiles and Apparel program.

Emily Pei
Mark Dobie, Matt Gordon, and Tom Turner (CSBS Tech) will have moved nearly 100 computers plus peripherals from Baker to Bartlett Hall. Long-time student assistants Ben Huber and Cody Vander Veen also helped make a smooth technological transition to the new space.

Elaine Eshbaugh (Gerontology and Family Studies) presented a recent community seminar, “Hope for Dementia Caregivers: How to Win the Day.” The event focused on caregivers of those with Alzheimer’s disease and dementia—including strategies for dealing with behaviors and life after diagnosis.

Faculty continue to contribute expert opinions in the media. Recent appearances:

Clemens Bartollas (Criminology) contributed to a Des Moines Register piece: “Gangs no longer have same allure to youths.”

Annette Lynch (Textiles and Apparel, CVP) was featured in a Huffington Post interview about her book, Porn Chic: “Porn Chic, Gender Performance and Halloween Fashion.”

Gary Gute (Family Studies) is quoted in the Washington Post: “Creativity can last well into old age, as long as creators stay open to new ideas.”

John Johnson (History) and Donna Hoffman (Political Science) served as panelists for “Reflecting on the 50th Anniversary of the Assassination of President John F. Kennedy.” The event was sponsored by the Departments of History and Political Science and the American Democracy Project.

Gowri Betrabet Gulwadi (Interior Design) and Marybeth Stalp (Sociology) presented a poster at the recent Creative UNIversity Conference. “Establishing and Extending UNI Memories through Symbolic Fabric” focused on the potential value of UNI-themed fabric. The two also hosted a table at the conference at which visitors could create their own purple-and-gold fleece coaster.
Erin Bracey, a major in Family Studies and a minor in Women’s and Gender Studies, presented along with Center for Violence Prevention directors Annette Lynch and Alan Heisterkamp at the Heartland Campus Violence Prevention Summit in Kansas City in November. The CVP partnered with Jana’s Campaign, a national group dedicated to reducing gender and relationship violence, to plan the conference, which served 42 different campuses throughout the Midwest and attracted over 150 registered participants. Bracey’s portion of the presentation focused on how she contributed to curriculum infusion of gender violence prevention strategies in both the textiles and apparel area and family studies area within the School of Applied Human Sciences.

UNI Army ROTC had ten personnel compete for the German Armed Forces Proficiency Badge in November at Western Illinois University. All personnel successfully achieved gold, making it the second year in a row all UNI participants achieved the highest standard for the competition. Over 150 Cadets from seven universities attended the three-day regional competition, which only 75% of participants completed. The successful UNI Cadets and Cadre include Bryce Meier, Nathan Rouse, Margaret Maher, Thomas Madsen, Gaitlin Meador, Chris McIntyre, Lucas Tenner, Kenneth Voorhees, Karlee West, and Daniel Yehiele.

In other news, the department’s first-ever all-female team competed at the 2013 Ranger Challenge Competition in Dubuque in October. Five female teams and 13 male teams from Nebraska and Iowa competed at different locations throughout the state. The male team placed 3rd overall and the female team placed 4th. The Ranger Challenge includes the Army physical fitness test, a 10K foot-march carrying 35lbs of equipment, an overall knowledge exam, and two mystery events. Competing members of the male team included Thomas Madsen, Lucas Tenner, Kenneth Voorhees, Daniel Yehiele, Chris McIntyre, Luke Ostrander, Cameron Griffith, Mark Wieneke and Tyler Jensen. Competing members of the female Ranger Challenge team included Karlee West, Margaret Maher, Catherine Maher, Taylor Julander, and Miranda Pleggenkuhle.

Tim Tolliver and Ron DeVoll, social work graduate students, were cited in the Waterloo-Cedar Falls Courier in an article about student veterans at UNI. Both Tolliver and DeVoll have successfully lead efforts to increase awareness of student veteran needs across campus and participate in presentations to make classrooms more trauma-informed.

Jennifer Jorgensen and Sydney White, both from social science teaching, and Annalee Hollingsworth, history, presented a poster and curricular materials for the National Council for the Social Studies annual conference in St. Louis, Missouri, in November. In addition, the students were recognized by the chair of curriculum and instruction at the University of Louisiana-Lafayette as models for teacher education students in the area of research presentation and conference attendance.

Molly Franta, a graduating senior in history and theatre performance, has been selected as the Fall 2013 commencement speaker.

Keely Kangas, along with fellow anthropology majors Ariel Williams, Jacque Dinnes, and Laura Brinkema, presented to and worked with local Boy Scouts on their archaeology merit badge at the merit badge college held at Hawkeye Community College in November.
Jonathan Weiland (Textiles & Apparel ’10) works for Target corporation’s product design and development team. He recently won an internal competition to develop an exclusive fall menswear collection.

Scott Gardner (Political Science ’85) has been named the president of the International Hot Rod Association, the second-largest sanctioning body in drag racing. Gardner is the longtime owner and promoter of Illinois’s Cordova Dragway Park, the management of which now passes to the park’s vice president—Gardner’s wife Laura (Home Economics ’85).

Elizabeth Kellner-Nelson (Family Services ’00) is an attorney specializing in family law. After UNI, Kellner-Nelson earned a master’s degree in family education and consultation and then graduated from Drake Law School.

Anastasia Osbeck and Chris Madigan, both family services majors, presented a poster at the recent Creative UniVersity Conference. “Are Students Without Roommates Lonelier Than Students With Roommates?” The pair worked on the project with family studies faculty member Bill Henninger.

Other student contributions from CSBS included lamps created by interior design students, a dress constructed from plastic agricultural sheathing by textiles and apparel student Melody Nichols; a project on the chair throughout history by interior design student Kylie Richmond; and a poster on predictors of Alzheimer’s knowledge among families by gerontology student Lauren Stratton (with faculty member Elaine Eshbaugh).

ALUMNI Kudos

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The Semester in Pictures

1. Faculty, staff, and students answered the call to represent their programs and talk to students and families during this fall’s Panther Open Houses.

2. The SABRs student representatives have been engaging in the community this semester, including the local Western Home.

3. A Psych Club team won the best-dressed award at the UNI Homecoming 'Amazing Race,' which found students traversing campus using picture clues to direct them to their next location.

4. Marybeth Stalp’s Intro to Sociology class enjoyed being creative at the recent Creative UNIversity Conference and Celebration.

7. UNI Army ROTC’s male team for the 2013 Ranger Challenge.

CSBS Kudos, published twice every semester, is meant to highlight accomplishments of faculty, students, and alumni of the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences and to make colleagues in the college and across campus aware of the great things being done in CSBS. By sharing these ideas, interests, and contributions, we hope to sustain a sense of community.