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## Political Science Department Newsletter, v8n1, June 2013

University of Northern Iowa. Department of Political Science.

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## Greetings from the Department of Political Science

As I reflect on the 2012-13 academic year, I am reminded of the busy and eventful year we have had in the Department of Political Science. We'd like to share with you some of the highlights of this past year. As this newsletter goes to press, we are welcoming the new UNI President, Bill Ruud, to campus. I think I speak for everyone on campus when I say that we are excited to see what this new chapter in the life of the University of Northern Iowa will bring. A few changes are afoot in the Department for next year. Professor Laura Janik has taken a new position as assistant professor at Western New England University in Springfield, Massachusetts, which allows her to be closer to family. We wish her and her husband Greg much success as they move to the east coast. After many years at the University of Northern Iowa, Professor Al Hays will be retiring this summer. As the long-time director of the public policy program (as well as member of the political science department), Professor Hays' shoes will be difficult to fill. We thank him for his many years of service to the department and wish him well in retirement.

We graduated almost forty political science, public administration, and political communication majors during the 2012-13 academic year. This year's edition of the Department of Political Science's newsletter highlights a few of our newest alumni. In addition, we'll hear about the law school experiences of a recent alum from 2009 who has just earned a prestigious clerkship on the U.S. Tax Court in Washington, D.C.



The members of the Department of Political Science love to hear of the activities and careers of our former students. Please keep in touch with us and let us know periodically about your career paths, awards, significant life events, and any news of interest. You can visit our website (<http://www.uni.edu/polisci>) and go the alumni link where you can send an update to us. If you come to campus, please visit us on the third floor of Sabin Hall.

Donna R. Hoffman, Ph.D.  
Associate Professor and Department Head

## Iowa Politics Students Visit State Capitol



TOP: From left to right, Representative Bob Kressig, Alexander Peters, Kelley Paustian, Jamie Yowler, Colton Willey, Professor Chris Larimer, Nathan Wiemers, Tyler Campbell, and Representative Anesa Kajtazovic

RIGHT: From left to right, Jamie Yowler, Colton Willey, Alexander Peters, Governor Terry Branstad, Tyler Campbell, Kelly Paustian, Professor Chris Larimer, and Nathan Wiemers



## Recent Graduate: Charles (Chaz) Gustafson

Law Student,  
*University of Iowa*



My freshman year I switched from majoring in history to political science—I liked the focus on historical events and people, and political science puts that to practical use. I made the change after I had taken a few entry-level political science courses, and realized how diverse and interesting the field can be. Entering college, I knew I wanted to major in either history or political science, and I initially chose history. I took two courses that eventually led me to choose political science as my major: International Relations and Introduction to Political

Theory: Freedom, Justice, and Power. These courses intrigued me, and political theory remains my favorite area of political science. My honors thesis is in this field, focusing on the political theory of Thomas Jefferson in relation to the current system of education in the United States. Some of the classes I took have prepared me for law school in ways that some other fields of study simply could not. For instance, courses such as Constitutional Law, International Law, and Civil Rights & Liberties required that I read legal cases decided by the Supreme Court, something I will spend numerous hours studying in law school.

During my time at UNI, I studied a variety of topics in political science ranging from political theory to international relations to the American court system, and nearly everything in between. I had a great experience in the political science department, due in large part

to my professors and my fellow students. One thing about political science courses that is, in my experience, unique, is that the courses are often structured around class discussion and participation. The issues we covered were often far from concrete, leaving the door open to interpretation and varying opinions. The professors in the political science department genuinely cared about my success, and made that very clear. Several professors in the department wrote me letters of recommendation for law school, and helped me tackle some of the difficult decisions I was faced with during the application process.

My plan throughout my time at UNI was to go to law school, and I feel that majoring in political science helped me form habits conducive to success throughout the law school application process, and led to my eventual acceptance to the University of Iowa College of Law. Majoring in political science has immensely improved my reading, writing, critical thinking, speaking, and other communication-related capabilities. Reading complex material, discussing it in class, then writing about the material is a common occurrence in political science classes, and it really makes a difference. When I look back at papers I wrote for classes my first and second years in the department, then look at papers written my senior year, I can see an enormous leap in quality of the finished product.

The political science department at UNI provides a special combination of individual attention, caring professors, lively debate, diverse topics, a great student body, and so much more, resulting in a top-notch education. The department helped me grow not only as a student, but as a person, too. I developed skills that will prove vital to success in law school and throughout my career and built lasting relationships with classmates and professors. My experience with the UNI political science department played a large role in shaping the person I am today, and for that I am grateful.

## Recent Graduate: Erica Zimmerman

Masters Student,  
*Iowa State University*

There are a multitude of reasons why I chose the University of Northern Iowa to acquire my undergraduate degree in political science; however, my main justification that weighed so heavily on my ultimate decision was the size of the classrooms. Graduating from a rather large high school such as Ankeny, it was very vital for me to choose a college where I was more than just a number or name on their roll call. Having smaller classroom sizes afforded me the opportunity to get to know my professors on a more interpersonal level. They made themselves available through phone calls, e-mail and even face-to-face appointments. It was very apparent throughout my years at UNI that the professors in the political science department showed a great interest in all of their students' well-being, as well as our futures. That is why smaller classroom sizes weighed so

heavily in my decision to receive my education, particularly my undergraduate degree in political science from the University of Northern Iowa.

You might be asking yourself, why get a BA in political science? For me, that question is simple as I have always been very passionate about both foreign and domestic policy all around the world. It continually fascinates and appalls me at the same time how much control large corporations have on mainstream media and how significant and vital information goes unreported each and every day. I strongly believe that as a part of the youth it is our responsibility to know what is going on around the world and not be reliant upon the media. That being said, taking political science courses out of pure



interest helped me realize that I could take what I was truly passionate about and make it into a successful lifelong career.

Now having graduated this past May, I am thrilled to turn my love and passion for politics into a professional career. On June 4th I will officially be a government employee at the Polk County Attorney's Office in Downtown Des Moines. I will be assisting state attorneys in the discovery phase, as well as

extensive pre-trial work for homicide cases within the Polk County jurisdiction. In addition, I will also be continuing my education in the fall at Iowa State University, where I plan to get my master's degree in political science. After receiving my master's degree, I plan to further my education yet again, by going to law school somewhere in the south.

Furthermore, I couldn't be more ecstatic about the opportunities that have been presented to me and I am even more thrilled to be able to have one of my greatest passions turned into a professional career. I certainly feel as though the professors in the political science department at the University of Northern Iowa provided the fundamental tools necessary to be successful in whichever path I have chosen, and for that I will be forever grateful. Their hard work and dedication does not go unnoticed and I truly appreciate each and every single one of them. Lastly, I wouldn't be who I was or where I am today without the unconditional love and support of my parents! I will forever be grateful for everything they have done!

## Recent Graduate: Brett Kim

MPA Student,  
*San Diego State University*

Two weeks after graduation and I do not think the fact that I am done at UNI has sunk in yet. I am probably not the normal guy who would be in an "alumni spotlight" piece as school was never my strong suit. That was, of course, until I switched my major to public administration. It was not until I started taking my classes in the political science department that I started looking forward to the readings, the discussions, and the assignments.



Through all four of my years as an undergrad, I never knew exactly what I wanted to do; all I knew was I wanted to help people who were less fortunate than I was. I came to UNI as a political science major, dreaming of going to law school. With a law degree my dream was to become an immigration lawyer to help people through the process of citizenship.

After thinking better of law

school and doing some research, I ended up deciding that public administration was the right fit for me. The fact that it is essentially a business degree that focuses on the nonprofit and public sectors made this the best option for me. What made the switch to public administration so easy for me was that mostly everything that you do with that type of degree is helping people.

The best part about public administration and political science classes is that they are not all theoretical. Everything that is talked about is related directly to current events in the world. Every Dr. Donna Hoffman and Dr. Chris Larimer class started off with a simple question, "What is going in the world and how does it relate to class?" This brought all the book readings from class to life. After taking classes and talking to friends in other departments the relation of course materials to real life scenarios is not a part of every curriculum. This is what makes the whole political science department and all three majors in their department so beneficial.

With my degree in hand, I will be attending San Diego State University in San Diego, California in the fall to pursue my Master's of Public Administration with an emphasis in city planning. The opportunity to study in a place as diverse and as heavily populated as Southern California is the next challenge that I hope to overcome. After completion, I hope to become a city manager one day or run a policy-based nonprofit agency.

The significance of my time in the political science department goes beyond what I learned. It is about the relationships I built and finding out for myself what path I need to take with my life. I could not have asked for a more supportive and challenging department at UNI to push me to do my best not only on assignments, but in real world scenarios as well.



## Recent Graduate: Jerry Hageman

### *My Thirty-Six Year Journey*

It must have been the trip to Boys State back in 1969 that gave me my first taste of the inner workings of American government and planted the seed of the idea of a degree in political science. I grew up on the opposite side of the metro area from the UNI campus, but I knew back then that it was a special place and when the time was right that I would get to wander those hallowed halls and enjoy the open, tranquil green spaces on campus.

In the Spring of 1977, after four years of “volunteer” service in the Vietnam era Navy, I signed on at UNI to earn a degree in political

science and business. Already, I was a non-traditional student as a twenty-five year old. I dove right in and joined UNISA (a previous name for the student government organization). Soon, the club sport of UNI rugby was consuming a good share of my free time. It was more fun than a man ought to be allowed to have in one place. Well, my first two years at UNI were fun, fast, and enjoyable, but in the spring of 1979, I started work at the phone company to earn a living and start a family.

Certain events in 2008 allowed me the time to take a class at UNI called Labor History with Brian Roberts. I found out that I could survive in a college classroom again and it was very enjoyable. My company was helpful with a program called Pathways which paid for tuition and books, so I figured it was good karma to come back and finish what I started. During the entire five years that I took classes part-time, I parked five blocks straight east of Seerley Hall and picked up trash in both directions. I was getting walking and deep knee bends as exercise; plus the residents along 26th street did not have to look at as much litter. I really enjoyed my classes with Professors Kogl, Hoffman, Larimer, McNeal, Agbese, Cohn, Basom and Peters. My goal was to take a class with all the political science instructors but scheduling did not allow it. Thanks to all of you for expecting much of me and making me do it. I believe classroom discussion is very valuable and gets the young students off their phones and computers. I did not have the time to take part in as much of the extracurricular activities as I would have liked...maybe when I retire and come back for an advanced degree?



## Alumni Profile: Maggie Stehn

University of San Diego School of Law,  
JD 2012, LL.M. 2013

*UNI (Political Science 2008)*

There's a saying about law school, “the first year they scare you to death, the second year they work you to death, and the third year they bore you to death.” That was completely true for me. Growing up, I thought I was smart. Then I got to law school. I was surrounded by self-perceived smart people, and I fought to be average. In addition to regular coursework, I volunteered at a domestic violence clinic through the Legal Aid Society, where I prepared restraining orders. At the end of my first year there was the annual law review/law journal write-on competition, where we were assigned to prepare a memorandum and citations to be invited to join a publication. I was invited to a new journal on campus, The San Diego Journal of Climate and Energy Law.

During my second year, in spite of having a heavier course load, my classmates and I were expected to add internships, law journal, and moot court. After spending my first year taking the pre-assigned classes where we discussed what is reasonable in a given set of circumstances, I took another class my school required: tax. What a welcome relief actual rules and code were after a year of studying case law! Even though I never took an accounting class before, tax

quickly became my favorite class as a break from the ordinary. At the same time, I got an internship helping indigent taxpayers with state income tax appeals. At the end of my second year, I was chosen to be Managing Editor of my law journal, a job where I would help prepare the journal for publication during my third year.

During my third year, academics took a backseat to work experience and job searching. I had an internship where I got to argue motions and even first-chaired my first trial before the Tax Court. While this was great experience, my classmates and I struggled to find jobs for after graduation. I sent out scores of applications and had several interviews, and was eventually offered a part-time position with a sole practitioner while I finished an LL.M. degree and waited for bar results, with the expectation it would become full-time when I passed the bar exam.

The bar exam is a different beast than law school. It is the final hurdle in allowing you to practice law. The last three years of class and work experience culminate in this exam. Depending on the state, the bar exam is 2-3 days long. It is the single most unifying thing in all of law school. Everyone basically lost their minds during these



10 weeks and survived primarily on caffeine, pre-made food, and support from loved ones. Then you wait months until it is graded and you find out whether you can do the job you've been training to do for years.

After the bar exam, I began my job and completed my LL.M. degree, which includes additional coursework in tax. I took the advice of my former professor and applied to clerkships with the U.S. Tax Court. I received an interview with the judge I argued my trial before during my third year. Three weeks later he offered me a two-year clerkship in his chambers in Washington, D.C., which will begin in August 2013. I am looking forward to the move and what direction life will take me next.

Law school is extremely trying and some of my classmates still do not have legal jobs. It challenges your mind, your body, and your relationships. Law school is not for those who crave stability. Still, law school can be highly rewarding. It changed the way I think and speak. It helped make me who I am, and who I will be.

## Al Hays, Professor in the Department of Political Science and Director of the Graduate Program in Public Policy Retires

After thirty-four years of service to the University of Northern Iowa, its students and the community, Professor Richard Allen Hays, Jr. will be retiring at the conclusion of the 2012-13 academic year. His retirement will leave a void difficult to fill in the Graduate Program in Public Policy. His colleagues in the Department of Political Science will miss his contributions to department governance, and his students will miss his passion in the classroom.

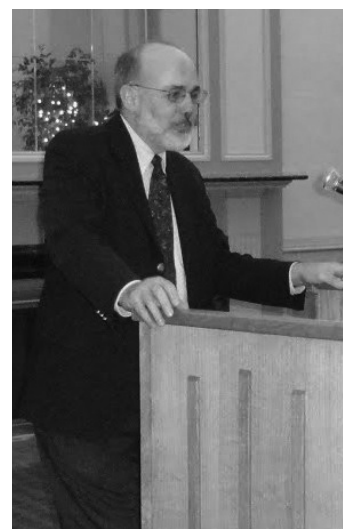
During his time at UNI, Professor Hays helped design and implement the undergraduate public administration degree, led the graduate program in public policy for nineteen years, and gathered many awards, grants, and fellowships along the way. He is a nationally-recognized scholar and his commitment to community service is unequalled at the University of Northern Iowa.

Professor Hays joined the Department of Political Science in 1979 as an assistant professor. He was promoted to associate professor in 1985, and attained the title of professor in 1994. Professor Hays became Associate Director of the Graduate Program in Public Policy in 1989, and Director in 1994. Under his leadership, the Graduate Program in Public Policy has educated policy leaders who have

gone on to serve in government positions at the local, state and national level.

Professor Hays was recognized with the Nielsen Outstanding Faculty Service Award in 2001. He was presented with the Board of Regents Award for Faculty excellence in 2002, the Governor's Volunteer Award in 2004, and the Veridian Community Service Award in 2006.

The community gathered on May 15 at a reception honoring Professor Hays. At the reception, the members of the Department of Political Science presented him with a UNI cycling jersey. We hope to see him on the trails!



Professor Al Hays addresses the crowd at a recent retirement reception held in his honor.

## Cohn named Council on Foreign Relations Fellow

Assistant Professor Lindsay Cohn has been selected for a 2013-2014 International Affairs Fellowship with the Council on Foreign Relations. This highly competitive fellowship is designed to strengthen the public, private, and academic sectors through exchange. Professor Cohn will be spending her fellowship year with the Department of Defense in the office of Special Operations and Combating Terrorism, under the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Special Operations and Low Intensity Conflict, in the Policy division of the Office of the Secretary of Defense. She says of her upcoming experience, "I am looking forward to learning more about how defense policy is produced and carried out, and I hope that my background will be useful to the office. After the fellowship period

is over, I expect to return to academia with a lot of new material for research projects and a fresh approach to teaching about security and defense issues."

Alumni of this program include some very well-known political scientists and public figures, such as Graham Allison (Harvard), Andrew Bacevich (Boston University), Ivo Daalder (US representative to NATO), Zalmay Khalilzad (former US representative to the UN and ambassador to Iraq and Afghanistan), Robert Keohane (Princeton), Robert Putnam (Harvard), Condoleezza Rice (former Secretary of State and National Security Advisor), and James Stavridis (former Supreme Allied Commander, Europe).

## News from Faculty



### Chris Larimer

My family was thrilled to welcome our newest edition, a baby girl named Nora, born on September 27, 2012! On the academic front, I finished my term as President of the Iowa Association of

Political Scientists while my research remains active in the areas of public policy and voter turnout. In 2012, I had a co-authored article published in *Policy Studies Journal*, and in 2013 the second edition of my co-authored book, *The Public Policy Theory Primer*, was released. In 2013, I also had a co-authored article on voter mobilization techniques accepted at the journal, *Political Behavior*. I continue to enjoy working with public administration majors and teaching an array of courses, particularly the Iowa Politics class. Finally, I continue to serve as the Political Analyst for KWWL News and I am looking forward to another exciting year of politics in Iowa.



### Ramona McNeal

It has been a productive year for publications and other research activities. During this period, I have continued my long-term commitment to research on e-government and state-level health policy. Among

these projects are two book chapters and a journal article. The first is a book chapter on President Obama's broadband access policy in *Public Sector Transformation through E-Government: Experiences from Europe and North America* (Routledge). The second is a co-authored journal article on state-level laws that require medical facilities to maintain interpreters for patients with limited English proficiency published in *Administration and Policy in Mental Health and Mental Health Service Research*. Finally, I have a forthcom-

ing co-authored book chapter on the impact of Medicare and Medicaid e-government reforms in *E-Government Success around the World: Cases, Empirical Studies, and Practical Recommendations* (IGI Global).

Recently I have started several new projects. The first is being supported by a 2013 Pre-Tenure Summer Fellowship and looks at state-level efforts to regulate Internet pharmacies. The second looks at how family members, taking care of sick loved ones, use the Internet for assistance ranging from searches for healthcare information to seeking out health-related communities on social networking sites. Finally, I have joined several other researchers to conduct an outcome evaluation of a re-entry court program recently adopted in Ohio. Re-entry Courts are problem-solving courts that work to help high-risk offenders make the transition from the jail system to the community. I also presented a conference poster at UNI's Scholars in Action: the 2013 UNI Symposium on Research, Scholarship, and Creative Activity on factors that influence the dispositional outcomes in juvenile courts.



### Dhirendra Vajpeyi

I have been busy this year with numerous research projects. I have completed editing two books. The first one is titled, *Climate Change, Sustainable Development and Human Security*. The second is, *Civil-Military*

*Relations in Developing Countries* (co-edited with Glen Segell). Both are forthcoming from Lexington Press. In addition, my paper "Shadowdancing in the Indian and Pacific Oceans: China, India and America" will be published by Air University Press in a volume on *The Asia-Pacific Century*. At the end of the summer, I will be traveling to London to present a paper on Civil-Military Relations in Developing Countries (with Segell) at the Annual International Conference, Royal Geographical Society.



### Allison Martens

I greatly enjoyed my first year here as a faculty member at UNI. Everybody was extremely welcoming, especially the students who kindly brought me up to speed on all things UNI and Iowa, including the wise

advice that the arrival of Spring Break does not mean the end of coat and gloves season. Brrrr. Some highlights of my first year on campus included reintroducing the Women in Politics course to the UNI curriculum, getting involved with the Daniel Webster Law Society, and speaking on a panel about women in political office with the distinguished founders of 50-50 in 2020. I also took over as Political Science's Facebook Administrator. So be sure to "Like" us to keep up on all the latest about our events and faculty.

It was also a busy year of research and writing. I published in *Social Science Quarterly*, with my co-author Jason Gainous from the University of Louisville, the second article in our series on the effectiveness of civic education. In this piece, we find that teachers that encourage robust discussion and student agency in the classroom get the best results in promoting citizenship capacity. We also began working on our third article in the series, which examines the political ideology of teachers to explore whether liberal or conservative teachers are more likely to use the most effective teaching methods for civics. We presented our work in April at the Midwest Political Science Association's annual meeting in Chicago and hope to see it in print soon. I have also been working on my own project on social movements and constitutional development, and I am grateful to have been awarded a Dean's Summer Research Grant by the CSBS to assist me. This summer I will be studying how feuding over constitutional interpretation between the labor movement and progressive reformers contributed to the failure of health insurance reform in the early twentieth century. Thanks again to everyone in political science and at



## News from Faculty continued...

UNI for a great first year. My family and I feel right at home here in Iowa.



### Scott Peters

Research I completed with a former student, Andrew Clopton, was recently accepted for publication in *Justice System Journal*. The project, which began as Andrew's honors thesis, examines the 2010 retention elections for the Iowa

Supreme Court. Andrew has recently completed his first year at St. Thomas School of Law in Minneapolis. I was grateful to receive the Department's Vajpeyi Fellowship for research with students in recognition of this work. In addition to this, I made significant progress on a book manuscript that explores ethical regulations that guide judicial candidates in state elections. I presented one chapter of the book at the Midwest Political Science Association meeting in Chicago in April.

This spring I received an Outstanding Faculty Advising Certificate of Merit from the National Academic Advising Association in recognition of my academic and prelaw advising. Prelaw advising continues to be a central part of my job. These days, with the legal job market still suffering from the financial crisis, law schools are cutting back on admissions and applications are down nationally. But we had a particularly strong set of applicants this year, with eight majors or minors being admitted to schools of their choice.

I also served during the year as the Chair of the University Faculty Senate and also had the opportunity to serve on the Presidential Search and Screening Committee, which resulted in the successful hire of William (Bill) Ruud as the 10th President of the University of Northern Iowa.

My girls, now 5 and 3, keep me busy away from work. I started coaching U6 soccer and became a dance dad when my oldest started dance lessons.



### Justin Holmes

I continue to teach a mix of Introduction to American Politics and political behavior classes. This year, I was excited to teach an Honors section of the Intro course. In April, I presented the paper "Bloody Dictators and Bleeding

Hearts" with Professor Cohn at the Midwest Political Science Association. The study explores effects of type of regime (dictator vs. democracy) on public opinion towards military intervention in a country abusing its citizens. We are currently preparing a second round of online experiments to supplement the project. In my spare time, I have two kids in diapers, which means there isn't really any spare time.



### Lindsay Cohn

This has been a productive year. I have had two articles published, one on how labor markets shape military personnel policy in advanced democracies (in *Res Militaris*), and one on relations be-

tween contractors and uniformed personnel in the field (in a special issue of *Small Wars and Insurgency*). I also have a book chapter currently under review for a volume on European transitions away from conscription, edited by Cindy Williams and to be published by the Harvard Belfer Center for Science and International Affairs. I've been working with several co-authors on various projects, and have two other papers under review – one on U.S. military attitudes towards various mission types, and the other on the causes of a state's choice of conscription vs. voluntarism as a manpower policy. I also began work with Justin Holmes on a project looking at how

U.S. attitudes towards humanitarian intervention are affected by target state characteristics.

I had a fantastic time teaching a senior seminar in the fall. I did a course on the Politics of the Middle East with a great group of students, and when we did our strategy game (on intervention in Syria), my students managed to predict the placement of American Patriot missiles along the Turkish border. With my International Relations classes in the fall, we did a strategy game focusing on the civil war in the Democratic Republic of Congo, and many students cited the exercise as making them more aware of the things they buy and where the materials come from. In the spring, all three of my courses did their strategy game on the North Korean Nukes problem. Not only did everyone enjoy it, but because of the participation of a few upper-class students in both game sessions, we got to have a discussion about the specific factors that made the difference between war in one simulation, and peace in the other. My upper-class International Security class used a debate format for much of the semester, and we had some particularly rousing discussions about nuclear deterrence, energy security, and other issues of very current interest.

Laura Janik and I continued to serve as co-directors of CIPSS, and we hosted or co-hosted several interesting speakers as well as our usual movie nights and discussions. We also held a student-expert roundtable on Foreign Policy in an Age of Austerity.

I continued to serve on the Veteran Student Services Committee and work with the UNI Veterans' Association, which screened the documentary *The Invisible War* on campus in October.

I was fortunate to be selected as a Council on Foreign Relations International Affairs Fellow, and will be on leave next academic year, working at the Department of Defense.



## Students Take Road Trip



In February, students from Professor Justin Holmes' Public Opinion and Honors American politics class went to the Harkin Institute at Iowa State for a presentation on modern campaigning by Sasha Issenberg, author of *The Victory Lab*, and Ryan Lizza, political reporter for *The New Yorker*. Issenberg and Lizza discussed ways presidential campaigns have incorporated insights from political science research. This has led campaigns to focus more resources on mobilizing voters through direct contact, and to a more scientific strategy of testing the effectiveness of campaign messaging.

## Former Student Speaks on Egypt in Transition



On February 13, 2013, the Department of Political Science and the Center for International Peace and Security Studies hosted a talk by former UNI student Hillery Roach. Ms. Roach has lived in Cairo since 2009 and is currently working on a master's degree in Middle East Politics at the American University in Cairo. She lives near Tahrir Square, site of many of the protests that began in 2011. Her talk addressed the politics of Egypt in transition and her personal experiences with the uprising and transition period.

## Second Annual Hunger Banquet

For the second year in a row, the Political Science Society and the Center for International Peace and Security Studies brought the Oxfam Hunger Banquet to UNI's campus. Participants are assigned to a high, middle, or low income group and their meal reflects the group in which they find themselves randomly placed. The low-income group sits on the floor and is given a meal of rice and water, which they eat

without benefit of silverware. The middle-income group gets to sit on chairs and is served rice and beans. The high-income group sits at formal tables and is served a three course dinner. Because only 15% of the world is high income, only about 15% of the attendees at the banquet are placed in this group. The event is designed to help educate people about world hunger.

## Center for International Peace and Security Studies

This year CIPSS continued to offer students a forum for discussion of international security, economic and development issues, as well as adding a Facebook group and co-sponsoring a number of events with other university organizations. CIPSS held student discussions on events in the Middle East and North Africa – especially the ongoing crisis in Syria; viewed and discussed films on the U.S. involvement with the Mujahideen during the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan and on fossil fuel dependency issues; held workshops on how to look for and apply for government jobs and internships; co-hosted an Oxfam Hunger Banquet with the UNI Political Science Society; co-sponsored a talk on the Euro-zone crisis by Austrian Consul-General Thomas Schnoell; and organized a student-expert roundtable on The Spectrum of Security, including presentations on traditional security, cyber-security, human security, food security and water security. As co-directors of CIPSS, Professor Laura Janik and Professor Lindsay Cohn also encouraged the students to attend a number of other related events this year, such as the talk by Dr. Andrew Bacevich on the

future of the U.S. military; the visit of Stephen Rapp, Ambassador-at-Large, on promoting accountability for war crimes; the visit of Carl Wilkens, the only American to remain on the ground during the Rwanda genocide, on stories of how individuals can make a difference against genocide; and many others. One of our most successful initiatives this year has been the creation of a Facebook group, where students can post relevant news stories and discuss their meaning and significance. This group currently has 64 members, and there is active discussion almost every day. Professors Cohn and Janik hope that this group will also serve as a way to connect current students with alumni who are interested in international affairs.

We are very proud of our members' enthusiasm and engagement, and our plans for next year are to continue expanding our offerings and encouraging students to become interested and involved in international issues.

## CSBS Distinguished Alumni Features Two Political Science Graduates



Every spring, the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences honors several distinguished alumni and hosts them on campus. This year, two of the four distinguished alumni were political science grads, Larry McKibben (1970) and John Cacciatore (1984). Mr. McKibben is a partner at the law firm Moore, McKibben, Goodman & Lorenz, LLP in Marshalltown. He also served in the Iowa Senate from 1997 until 2008. At the time of his retirement from the Senate, he served as minority leader. Mr. Cacciatore serves as Senior Vice President for PolicyWorks in Des Moines. He provides strategic counsel for clients in the areas of public affairs, grassroots advocacy and government affairs. Prior to joining PolicyWorks, Cacciatore served as the director of the State of Iowa's Federal Relations Office in Washington, D.C., as well as chief of staff, policy director and campaign manager for Gov. Tom Vilsack. While on campus, distinguished alumni are able to interact with students and faculty and a dinner is also hosted in their honor.

Left: John Cacciatore and Larry McKibben honored as CSBS Distinguished Alumni

## Campbell Speaks on VAWA

Bonnie J. Campbell was selected by President Clinton in 1995 to head the Justice Department's newly created Violence Against Women Office. Campbell was recognized as a national leader for her work to bring victim rights reform to the country's criminal justice system. Her effectiveness led Time magazine in 1997 to name her one of the 25 most influential people in America. Prior to heading the Violence Against Women Office, Campbell was the attorney general for the State of Iowa. Campbell visited campus on April 24 and spoke to faculty, students, and community members about the original Violence Against Women Act (VAWA), passed in 1994, and its recent re-authorization. The talk was sponsored by the Center for Violence Prevention, Department of Political Science, Women's & Gender Studies Program, Department of Sociology, Anthropology, and Criminology, and the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences.



## Scholarships and Awards

**Jared Parker**  
Purple and Old Gold Award

**Chad Heiman**  
Black Hawk County Bar Association Pre-Law Scholarship

**KaLeigh White**  
Glasener Political Science Scholarship

**Tyler Shuck**  
Charles Ray and Ada May Hoxie Scholarship

**Elizabeth Sullivan**  
Women in Politics Scholarship

**Victoria Hurst**  
Vajpeyi Scholarship

# Congratulations Graduates!

Fall 2012 and Spring 2013 Graduates

## **B.A., Political Science**

Christopher Apling  
Rachel Baum  
Andrew Casper  
Devin Davis  
Lucas Draisey  
Jerdell Graf  
Charles Gustafson  
Gerald Hageman  
Austin Hall  
Andrew Miller  
Ryan Moon  
Adam Neeley  
Jared Parker

Charles Peters  
Nicholas Phillis  
Andrew Scherf  
Travis Sitzmann  
Mallory Weiser  
Kelsey Whiting  
Jamie Yowler

Andrew Miller  
Kelly Paustian  
Brenda Roberts  
Arlene Samona

## **B.A., Political Communication**

Christina Bettini  
Joshua Betts  
Taylor Christiansen  
Samantha Jackson  
Jaynie Rickel  
Evan Schares  
Christine Schick  
Nhung Vo

## **B.A., Public Administration**

David De-Makuei  
Nicholas Elliott  
Ashley Johnson  
Brett Kim  
Mathew Knight

## Election Forum Held

Shortly after the November 2012 elections, several faculty members of the Department of Political Science conducted a forum entitled, "Election 2012: What Did it Mean?" Each faculty member focused on a different aspect of the election. Professor Scott Peters examined the judicial retention elections in the state, while Professor Chris Larimer examined the state and local races. Professor Donna Hoffman focused on the presidential and congressional election returns. Finally, Professor Justin Holmes examined the campaign communications that various candidates, parties, and interest groups used. Audience members could also ask questions and add their own insight into what they thought the 2012 elections meant.

**Right: Professor Chris Larimer goes over exit poll results from Iowa.**



## Women in Politics Scholarship Benefit Dinner

Mississippi and Iowa are the only states that have never elected a female governor or member of Congress. At the state level, approximately 21% of our Iowa legislators are female, yet 50% of Iowans are women. With these statistics in mind, several years ago former state representative Doris Kelley established the Women in Politics scholarship that goes to one outstanding female political science or public administration major at UNI with an interest in pursuing a public service career. In September, the Department of Political Science helped host the 3rd

annual Women in Politics Scholarship benefit dinner. The featured speaker for the evening was Kathie Obradovich, political editor of the *Des Moines Register*. In addition, Former Lt. Gov. Joy Corning provided an update on 50/50 in 2020, a bi-partisan effort in the state of Iowa to assist women running for political office. Net proceeds from the dinner went to the Women in Politics Scholarship. The winner of the scholarship for the 2013-14 academic year is Beth Sullivan, political science major from Peosta, Iowa.







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The Department of Political Science at the University of Northern Iowa offers degrees in political science, public administration, and political communication. We are one of the few undergraduate institutions in the country to offer majors in public administration and political communication. We feature student-focused education with small class sizes, research opportunities, and internships. Our distinguished teacher-scholars turn excellence in research into excellence in the classroom. Visit us at: [www.uni.edu/polisci](http://www.uni.edu/polisci) or on the Cedar Falls campus in Sabin Hall.

