Winter 2014


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communique
College of Humanities, Arts & Sciences Alumni Magazine
University of Northern Iowa

plus:
Inari and a Land Between Two Rivers
3D Printer: Dimensional Opportunities
Americorps: Iowa Energy Efficiency

The North American Review:
THE OLDEST LITERARY MAGAZINE IN THE COUNTRY

Volume 3, Winter 2014
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CommUNIQUE is published annually by the College of Humanities, Arts and Sciences at the University of Northern Iowa.

Joel Haack, Dean
Sarah Pauls, Designer/Editor
Rachel Routier, Writer/Copy Editor
Sara Heffernen, Cover Photography
I’ve used this theme before in one of my columns, having borrowed it initially from a collection of addresses to the UNI faculty by former President Constantine Curris (1983-1995). But it is fitting once again, as we think about our continued commitment to the mission of UNI and CHAS, even as the leadership of UNI changes.

Our past twelve years were marked by a great decline in financial support from the state of Iowa, so that our base state appropriations are only $2 million higher this year than in 2003. To put this in perspective, the cost of providing higher education has increased by more than 20% during that period. Had the state of Iowa matched this rate, UNI’s appropriation this year would be $16 million higher than in 2003, rather than just $2 million.

Clearly some action had to be taken in the recent past to deal with this shortfall. Past President Benjamin Allen (2006-2013) had the integrity and courage to make the cuts before his retirement this past spring. Not surprisingly, however, this led to a loss of morale on our campus and some public relations issues off campus. President Allen helped convince the state legislature and Board of Regents of the value of UNI to the state, but this has not yet led to funding that would have allowed us to avoid having to make those hard decisions.

With the installation of our new President William Ruud, there is a renewed spirit of optimism on our campus. His efforts have created a sense of goodwill toward UNI across the state. Of course, it remains yet to be seen if this results in additional state funding for UNI, but we have made the case for it. Last year’s state legislature did provide UNI a one-time appropriation of $10 million. UNI’s request to the legislature this year includes converting this one-time appropriation to be instead a permanent part of our annual base budget. There are other, smaller requests as well that would assist UNI in carrying out its mission to the state. The Board of Regents is also reexamining the distribution of money among the state universities; this may favor UNI as well.

In terms of continuity, we remain firmly committed to providing the best affordable education to our students. There is no question in my mind that, for an undergraduate student, UNI is the best institution of higher learning in the state.

The faculty in the departments hardest hit by the budget cuts have made revisions to their programs that will continue to serve our students well. Physics has streamlined its majors and redoubled its efforts to recruit strong undergraduate students to its program. We presently offer a strong Spanish program as well as introductory courses in Chinese. Additionally, we’re reintroducing introductory courses in German and Italian and a minor in French. We are completing an arrangement with a university in France so that interested students can obtain a double-bachelor’s degree in French literature and humanities from UNI and our partner institution. The majors in Philosophy and World Religions have been redesigned to focus on the desired student outcomes for those programs, providing a model for other programs on campus. Earth Science now offers an exciting new undergraduate major in Environmental Science, with emphases in air quality, water quality (hydrology), land quality (geoscience) and the overall physical environment.

You will learn of some of our accomplishments this past year throughout this journal—we are very proud of them. We continue to work closely with students in our majors to provide them the mentoring that UNI students have come to expect. We continue to offer a significant portion of the courses in the liberal arts core, which I would choose to call “essential education” rather than “general education.” And we continue to emphasize the importance of our teacher education programs, developing teachers who will provide the next generation of students the education that will equip them to succeed in an ever more rapidly changing world.

Many of you have provided continued support to us by encouraging your legislators to support UNI, or suggesting UNI to prospective students, or making gifts to CHAS or our departments. Thank you so much, and please continue to do so! Finally, please do continue to take pride in your alma mater.

Joel Haack
Two hundred years ago, America was in the midst of the War of 1812 (1812-1814). The British had just captured Washington DC, and set fire to the White House and Capitol. Frances Scott Key wrote the “Star-Spangled Banner,” and finally, the Treaty of Ghent was signed that ended the war in 1814.

In the midst of the bombs bursting in air and rockets’ red glare, an idea, by Nathan Hale and a group of journalists, sparked to create a collaboration of literature, that would foster genuine American culture within a single source. This idea marked the birth of the North American Review in Boston 1815.

The ownership of the NAR changed hands several times over its 200-year lifespan. It has been published continuously except during a span of 22 years from 1941 to 1963, when the editor and owner, Joseph Hilton Smyth, was charged and plead guilty to using the magazine for the purpose of spreading Japanese propaganda. Poet and Cornell College professor, Robert Dana, rescued the magazine in 1964, and it resided at Cornell until it moved to the University of Northern Iowa in 1968.

The current editors are Dr. Grant Tracey, fiction, and Dr. Vince Gotera, poetry, both UNI professors in Languages and Literatures. The two editors have overseen the NAR with the help of employees, volunteers, graduate students and interns since 2000.

Despite its historic heritage, the NAR is not a magazine to fall behind the times. With the rise of social media, the NAR manages an active Facebook, website, twitter and blog. The website contains links to podcasts with interviews, editor discussions, talks about writing and what’s new in the North American Review. All editions from 1815-2009 are available through the JSTOR database. The 1815-1900 NAR editions are also available online courtesy of Cornell College.

The NAR receives thousands of submissions of poetry, fiction and creative nonfiction from around the world. The magazine boasts works published by well-known figures such as Abraham Lincoln, John Adams, Joseph Conrad, Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Chief Joseph, John Steinbeck, Mark Twain, H.G. Wells, Walt Whitman and Woodrow Wilson. Thomas Jefferson was even a subscriber.

Associate editor Jeremy Schraffenberger says of the collaboration of literature through the NAR, “We’re conscious, I think, of presenting a range of different kinds of literary voices in the magazine. We’re the North American Review after all, and there’s a lot of great and diverse writing happening in North America.”

The NAR doesn’t have themed issues as such, but they do celebrate, for instance, Women’s History Month, Hispanic Heritage Month, African American History Month, Asian-Pacific American Heritage Month, Native American Heritage Month and National Poetry Month.

Publishing the magazine is a highly involved process. First, submissions are reviewed for certain qualities that vary from genre to genre. The NAR seeks stories that start quickly and have a strong narrative arc; poems with passionate qualities.
of subject, language and image; and nonfiction that combines fact and art with the finest writing. When the issue is planned, it is laid out on the computer and endures a thorough editing and proofreading process. Reviews of books, movies and poetry books are selected. The cover art editor, local artist and UNI alumnus, Gary Kelly, selects or creates art for the cover. Mary Ann Blue Gotera, the pages art editor, commissions artists to illustrate for the stories, or occasionally, she illustrates some herself. Then the productions coordinator, Brian Pals, ’12, and editors Tracey and Gotera oversee printing and production.

Gotera describes his favorite thing about editing, “I love seeing the entire process in action, from my decisions in selecting work (along with everyone else’s selections and commissions) to the finished product. So for me, it’s not just about reading manuscripts, selecting work and helping to shape that work into the best it can be; the pleasure is also in the production of the issue, particularly in the visual design we do in layout.”

Schräffenberger says the NAR plans to celebrate the upcoming bicentennial with a conference and possibly a book. They haven’t made any final decisions yet as to what the four issues in 2015 will hold.

On six occasions, the NAR has been a finalist for the National Magazine Award, which is the magazine equivalent of the Pulitzer Prize. It has twice won the top award in the Fiction category.

The NAR is published four times a year and is known for its early discovery of young, talented fiction writers and poets. The magazine also publishes creative nonfiction, with an emphasis on increasing concerns about environmental and ecological matters, multiculturalism and exigent issues of gender and class. Contact Schraffenberger at Jeremy.Schraffenberger@uni.edu to learn more or become involved with the NAR.

See Back Issues of The North American Review by Clicking Here.
Professor Chris Merz and the Jazz Band One members stared in confusion at the tuk-tuk driver. He spoke to them in Thai and gestured for them to get in the tuk-tuk, a motorcycle cab. They clamored in, and the driver sped off with his charges. After fifty minutes of lost bewilderment, the driver gathered information from his tuk-tuk brethren, and the group arrived at their destination. The harrowing ride, in an open cab with no seatbelts, only cost $10.

While Thai and English speakers may have a little trouble communicating, there is one universal language: music. Music, like many forms of art, can be translated across languages or cultures because of the thoughts and emotions it inspires. Words are not needed to touch people’s hearts, and inspire the way people think about their surroundings.

Jazz music is extremely popular in Thailand. The king is a saxophone player and frequently requests American jazz musicians to visit and perform at the palace. While UNI’s Jazz Band One unfortunately did not play for the king, they still played for a number of Thai people on their nine day trip.

“Our students were able to bring their music to audiences that don’t often hear American jazz live,” explained Chris Merz, director of Jazz Band One and chair of the Jazz Studies Division. “We played for three enthusiastic audiences and presented workshops on jazz performance at each site. We visited Srinakharinwirot University in Bangkok, Nakhon Pathom Rajabhat University in Nakhon Pathom and Burapha University in Chonburi.”

In one workshop, the band played Thai music side-by-side with Thai musicians. In another, they played American jazz with Thai students. Another workshop illustrated some points about how jazz arrangements for large ensembles are constructed. The final workshop involved the band listening to Thai jazz musicians and giving comments for improvement.

“The music heard from Thai musicians varied a great deal. “The Thai music we heard performed included stringed instruments, flutes and a type of xylophone that is played with both hands locked together in octaves, playing very fast runs,” said Merz.

As for other adventures on the trip, the members saw palaces, pagodas and even a giant, golden Buddha. One evening was spent in a late night market where students sampled scorpion, maggot and cockroach, which Merz said he declined to try. They also visited a floating market, which is an area along the river with boats brimming with goods. Merz said, “Every meal we had in Thailand was incredible, and the people were the most gracious hosts imaginable. And some of the students tried their hand at catching ‘flying ice cream’ in their mouths.”

Senior Music Education major Leah Schmidt plays trumpet with Jazz Band One and traveled with the group on tour. “I feel incredibly blessed to have been able to tour with a group of such high caliber as Jazz One. Each of the three concerts were amazing in a different way, but the [Thai] people were what truly made the tour. Constantly hospitable, they were always willing to help and go out of their comfort zone to try and converse with us in English. The sights were beautiful, and I couldn’t have asked for a better group of people to have toured with.” Schmidt reflected on the trip further and noted the experience as “something I will remember for the rest of my life.”

Merz also offered his feelings on going abroad, “International tours present an opportunity for students to interact with students who are studying the same things they are, in a completely different cultural setting. These tours provide a different perspective for the things our students are learning, as well as giving them a taste of another part of the world.”

Upon their return from Thailand, Merz and the ensemble presented a concert featuring much of the repertoire from their tour, as well as the music of guest artist, John Clayton. Clayton is a Grammy award-winning bassist, composer and arranger. Though the art of music, the group was able to connect and communicate with the Thai people on a higher level than they ever could have achieved with words. The band members shared their art, and in return, received an experience they will never forget.

SEE THE JAZZ BAND IN ACTION BY CLICKING HERE.
BRIEFS: Humanities and Fine Arts

What’s the Buzz?

The electronic media industry is ever changing. The media of the future will require leaders who are smart, capable and innovative to stay ahead and provide fresh ideas in this competitive industry.

The Iowa Broadcaster’s Association (IBA) came to UNI seeking these leaders. Leadership opportunities are available, but it wasn’t clear how to guide students on those career paths. Therefore, UNI’s Department of Communication Studies, with the help of the IBA, created a new program to prepare for the trends that dramatically transform the electronic media industry and provide a career track for future generations to prepare for those changes.

The Electronics Media Industry Leadership Program, an emphasis within the Electronic Media major program, began its second year this past fall. It emphasizes media trends, economics, marketing and strategic planning, as well as a comprehensive core in electronic media. The program is unique because it’s a mix of different curriculums. Students take media business courses, but also take classes such as consumer behavior and digital advertising.

Paul Torre, assistant professor, was hired to lead the new program. “I’m really excited to be here and to be building this program that’s already in process, but really launch it officially. I’m excited to be a part of a new program that has generous industry participation. That is a really great factor.”

The program currently has 22 enrolled students, who fall into career paths not only as public faces such as a DJ or news reporter, but also careers that focus on the behind-the-scenes and leadership side of the media industry. This encompasses media sales, marketing, advertising, film, TV, radio, general manager of a local station, which could be a career for these majors. The learned skills are transferable across the media industry.

Department head, Christopher Martin, says, “We are thinking, how do we take radio or TV and extend it to mobile phones and tablets, and what are those businesses going to be like. That’s the really fun part right now, is just trying to respond to the disruption that the Internet created, but also to make the business better and different in a certain way in the future.”

With the support of the IBA and an internship coordinator, internships are being designed to start in the summer of 2014. Besides internships, the IBA offers scholarships to students and funding for the Fast Forward workshop, an event where alumni and working professionals come to UNI to speak about various careers and media industries.

Torre sums up the new program, “On the course level, the program is distinctive, but again it’s the IBA support, internship opportunities and alumni base. It’s the sense that you’re going to be able to take an advantage of an alumni network, but also you’re with people who are going to be in your network who will be resources in the future as well.”

Kaleidoscopic Experiences

Each April, Iowa teachers wait at the ready for Kaleidoscope tickets to go on sale. It’s a big day for teachers since the majority of the shows sell out within the first few hours of availability.

The Kaleidoscope Series for Youth program at Gallagher-Bluedorn Performing Arts Center (GBPAC) offers an experience for youth to learn through art, exposure to theatre and the enjoyment of a good show. Through the Buck-a-Kid payment option, schools are able to offer this fun and unique opportunity to students around the state of Iowa.

National theatre companies that tour the country throughout the school year present each performance. The companies choose the artist, design and story of each show. Some are musicals, while others are straight dramas.

Amy Hunzelman, GBPAC Director of Education and Outreach, said, “I am lucky to greet the 1,500 students for each show with an on-stage welcome. They are so excited to be at the Gallagher-Bluedorn to see a show. For some, it’s their first experience seeing a play, while for others it’s their sixth time.”

This year, the Kaleidoscope program sold thousands of tickets within minutes and came close to selling out on all shows the first day.

When asked about the program’s growth, Hunzelman replied, “For the past five years, we’ve expanded the Kaleidoscope Series for Youth to rural communities throughout the state of Iowa. We’ve developed ‘On the Road’ and have hosted performances in Oelwein, Spirit Lake, Fairfield, Marshalltown, Grundy Center, New Hampton and Red Oak.”

A study guide is provided to each student before the performance, and UNI education students lead a lesson before and after the theatre experience as part of the Kaleidoscope Connections. The lesson and study guide help the students prepare to enjoy the performance and aid in class discussion and reflection. It also contains background information and cross-curricular activities to implement before and after the performance.

These lessons are well received by educators across the state. One teacher said, “It was a well-planned lesson. The students made connections between acting and content that directly relates to our curriculum. The students got to move around and apply what they learned. I was so
impressed! The team did a great job teaching the lesson.”

The Kaleidoscope Series for Youth program is supported by UnityPoint Health–Allen Hospital, Friends of the Gallagher-Bluedorn and several individual donors.

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From One End of Campus to the Other

The time for Baker Hall has come to a close. In 2011, it was determined the renovation costs would be as much as constructing a new building, and so it was recommended that Baker Hall be demolished and Bartlett Hall be converted from residence halls to offices and laboratories, much like what happened with Baker in 1971.

George T. Baker Hall for Men opened in 1936 as dormitories. One could rent a double room for $27-$30 per term. Signature Art Deco architecture danced across stairways and doorways.

On the other side of campus, Bartlett Hall housed the women’s residencies. The building served as university dormitories for 97 years. The last student residents moved out in the spring 2012 semester.

Languages and Literatures Department Head, Julie Husband, said, “Our faculty at Languages and Literatures are pretty excited about the move. This building is getting older and has been decaying for a while now. The new building is fresh and newly renovated. The common spaces are really nice. So overall, I think we are all really excited.”

She said they will miss the large offices in Baker and the quaint art deco features. However, a piece of Baker has followed them to Bartlett. The beautiful stained glass rose window that once hung in Baker now resides in the faculty presentation room in Bartlett.

The Department of Philosophy and World Religions also laments the loss of large offices, but are excited to transport the Thompson Commons and the Fox Seminar Room. Department head, Jerry Soneson, said “We are excited to bring our history with us.”

Soneson also stated about the move, “I think it’s an exciting opportunity for our department. Having been renovated, it’s like brand new, although it has the wonderful character of an older building. When viewed from the outside, it has the neocolonial look. It’s a beautiful building from the outside, and it’s brand new on the inside.”

He offered his hopes with the new building, “The most important benefit of the move is our department area will be more inviting to the students. Our deepest hope is that we will have a lot more student visitors to see us and spend more time in our area.”

Along with students, Soneson also extended an invitation to Philosophy and World Religions alumni to visit and view the new space.
Japanese people are highly religious: one just needs to bring a trained eye

Dr. Martha Reineke, Philosophy and World Religions, traveled to Tokyo to attend the 2012 International Conference on Colloquium Religion and Violence. She arrived four days before the conference to spend time in the low city area and explore religious life in the neighborhood where she stayed.

“Contrary to the perceptions of some visitors to Japan and a number of Japan scholars, the Japanese people are highly religious: one just needs to bring a trained eye to the streets of Tokyo, and one can see religion everywhere,” said Reineke.

A mischievous trickster god of protection, Inari, traditionally portrayed as a fox, can be found around Tokyo if one looks hard enough. The fox wears a red bib and is known to help or hinder a person. Reineke discovered an Inari shrine directly below her hotel balcony.

“It’s crazy to think that Japanese people aren’t religious. Look out your hotel room, you’re going to see people doing religious stuff.”

Reineke used Steve Heine’s book, “Sacred High City, Sacred Low City: A Tale of Religious Sites in Two Tokyo Neighborhoods,” to travel through the low city and immerse herself in the culture. She said she didn’t care for tourist activities, but mainly sat and observed the everyday life of the people. Through these observations, she found many aspects of religious practice Heine wrote about in his book.

Back in Iowa, Reineke invited Heine, one of the most noted scholars of Japanese religion, to co-lecture with her this fall at a presentation on religion in contemporary Japan. The purpose of the lecture was to encourage travels to Japan, prepare students for future occupations in global interactions and promote mutual respect among all people through religious understandings.

“Japan is a highly sophisticated society, and yet they have these still, very powerful, ancient beliefs.”

UNI had the honor to host this summer’s International Conference on Religion and Violence, the conference Reineke previously attended in Tokyo. Reineke organized and oversaw the conference and said “to have an international conference around the world, makes your university visible to the world. It’s a very big deal.”

The conference was subtitled “A Land Between Two Rivers” and focused on the mimetic competition in Iowa land. Mimetic theory states that human beings are attracted to
others and desires to imitate them. Imitation tends to lead to competition, which is why the saying “keeping up with the Joneses” is a prime example of mimetics.

The mimetic theory can be applied anywhere from a competitive employer to Chinese technologies to land. Reineke offered an example of Iowa farmland as a finite resource. Because of competition to make the most money, the land is being overplanted and is not given a chance to rest and replenish minerals. If farming continues as it is, 100 years from now the land will be depleted and will not be able to sustain crop growth as it currently runs.

“Everyone participates in a global agriculture economy. No matter where persons live, they are impacted by American agriculture. It’s in everyone’s interest to think about whether we can continue to have the kind of agriculture that we do. What’s going to happen in 100 years when Iowa can no longer produce at this rate?” Reineke asked.

The conference speakers also discussed other mimetic subjects such as money and capitalism; hell and movies; gas, water and child brides; since it can be applied to many situations beyond religion and agriculture.

From Iowa to Tokyo and back, there are many observations through which one may draw. One just needs to sit quietly and observe. There’s no telling what can be found outside a window. Whether it’s a little fox deity or a cornfield, much can be learned from the world. • • •
When you see the black and white images, your mind immediately responds with awe. Each photo is a breath-taking reconstruction of an underwater cave. The light captures rock faces and shadows darken recesses. The beauty lies in the perfect balance of what is and isn’t revealed.

UNI Assistant Professor Noah Doely manipulates light in his latest collection of photographs, *Noah Doey: By the Light*, which are on display at the San Diego Museum of Art from Nov. 2, 2013, through Feb. 25, 2014. Doey’s dramatic light work creates an intricate interplay within the caves. These peaceful underwater scenes were created through the use of a pinhole camera. However, the process of these seemingly natural forms deceives the eyes. Doely’s caves are man-made. He explains his process as making molds of aquatic rocks, casting them and reconstructing into various formations. He then places the rocks in a glass tank full of water. By playing with light, he creates the different, and dramatic, seascapes. Doely explains, “Sculpture is an important component of my work.” He has created his own environments for many years. It is a consistent component, but not immutable.

When asked about his inspiration for this environment, Doey replies, “My interest began when I was reading about the evolution of the eye. I learned that the shelled nautilus, an organism that has retained the same form over millions of years, possesses a primitive form of eye very similar to the makeup of a pinhole camera. That was the starting point, and the project developed from there. The initial concept was that I would create views of simple underwater landscapes recorded through the equally simple lens of a pinhole camera. Using caves as source material, the images I’ve created are formations much like the pinhole camera and the nautilus eye: light entering through a simple open hole into an otherwise dark space, creating a reciprocal relationship between the subject and the recording mechanism.”

For a long time, Doey’s work focused on a strong narrative basis. Over this last year, he has removed the narrative elements and focused on creating views of spaces with no specific time. “I have a number of projects that I’m working on now, all of which are fairly different in material and approach but all of which involve reimagining or reorganizing elements of the natural world.”

Doey finds artists like Mark Dion, whose notions of natural history are visualized, inspiring. He also responds to the poetic and experimental sensibilities of photographers such as Hiroshi Sugimoto and Abelardo Morell, and he closely follows the sculptor and painter, Vija Celmins.

When you behold the images created by Doely, remember you are looking through the eyes of an ancient creature. Remember where the beauty lies.

Doely received his MFA from the University of California San Diego. The exhibition is his first solo presentation at a museum.

Visit Doely’s site by Clicking Here.
When Cornerstone, a first year course designed to introduce freshmen to the college experience, was introduced at UNI, the Theatre Department voiced that the course was a natural place to provide a creative connection by adapting original content to a stage creation. Eric Lange, Theatre Department Head, said, “After each of the first two projects, we heard from the students and teachers in the class that the theatrical treatment had allowed them to access ideas in the book in ways that that had not done when reading the book.”

The department productions were presented as workshops and utilized only the barest physical elements of scenery and costumes. The students and community members involved had multiple duties: writers, performers, costuming, prop construction, program designers and scenery movers. Each student-led work took place in a classroom setting.

This year, the Theatre Department decided to include a Cornerstone show as part of the UNI Theatre season. The common read was a book by Tracie McMillan called The American Way of Eating: Undercover at Wal-Mart, Applebee’s, Farm Fields and the Dinner Table. This explored her undercover journalist discoveries through three layers of the food market: harvesting lettuce and garlic in California, working in a produce department of a Wal-Mart and preparing food in an Applebee’s restaurant. She aimed to answer the question of “why do working Americans eat the way they do?” The book made it onto “The New York Times” best-selling list and has been included in a variety of university curriculum around the country. McMillan also lectured at UNI this fall to speak about her book and explore the social and economic impacts of food.

McMillan’s book was adapted into a play by professor Matt Weedman and the students in the cast. Lange explains the two challenges that arose from the adaptation:

“First, the American Way of Eating is very journalistic; Tracie McMillan’s personal experiences in the food landscape of this country brought to light realities of which many might be unaware, but it’s not a story with a beginning, middle and end. Without a strong story arc, Matt Weedman had to find a way to illustrate McMillan’s message while finding the personal moments that could be staged and used to tie together a narrative.”

“Second, taking a devised work and giving it the larger resources we regularly devote to our productions was also challenging. By its nature, the piece continued to evolve and change more than one might encounter with an existing script. The advantage of that is there is a broader group of creative minds to contribute ideas. Now, every element could be fully developed to strengthen the story telling. With fuller budgeting and the resources of student crews to support the run of the play, we were able to reach well over 1,100 students, faculty and community members.”

The play further introduced McMillan’s ideas by allowing the audience to see the detrimental sides of America’s current way of eating, but also elaborated on the idea of eating fresh and local produce instead of a box dinner. The idea of trading convenience for good health was explored, meaning opting for fast food instead of cooking something fresh.

Lange also said another benefit of the play is in the value of “students who are new to UNI discovering right away that there is a theatre department on campus that provides a variety of staged performances with professional production values.”

SEE MORE SHOW PHOTOS HERE
On the night of November 9, 1938, Nazis stormed Jewish neighborhoods, arrested men, destroyed homes and businesses and burned over 250 synagogues. The two days of violence became known as Kristallnacht, the “Night of Broken Glass,” from the store windows’ shattered glass glittering on the streets.

This year marked the 75th anniversary of Kristallnacht. In commemoration, Gallagher-Bluedorn Performing Arts Center collaborated with the Iowa Arts Council, the National Endowment for the Arts, UNI’s Center for Multicultural Education, Theatre Department and Center for Holocaust and Genocide Education (CHGE) to create a striking performance to honor those who endured Kristallnacht.

At a preconcert address, hosted by the Hearst Center for the Arts, Jason Weinberger, conductor, artistic director and CEO at the wcfsymphony, recounted how both sets of his grandparents survived the Holocaust. While none of them shared their story directly with him, his parents shared this thread of his history, which he, in turn, shared with the audience. Weinberger related his memories of his grandmother’s arm tattooed with numbers from Auschwitz, and his parents’ renditions of escapes from the Nazis, how his grandparents entered America, started a new life and how his parents met.

One grandfather starved himself and over-exercised on his bike to weigh less than the draft requirement, to stay to protect and support his family. The time came when the Russians took everyone for the army, and he became a barber for the commanders. When the Nazis overtook the town in Russia where he was stationed, he had a choice to surrender as a Russian soldier or a Jew. He chose the latter and was sent to a concentration camp days before it was liberated.

Weinberger spoke not only of threads of memories, but threads in music as well. Even though the Jewish population was broken and scattered, he can still find threads of his heritage in music containing Germanic influences. Weinberger conducted a portion of the performance as well as performed himself on the clarinet with a small ensemble.

The hauntingly beautiful music at the Kristallnacht performance began with the sounding of a shofar, a horn instrument of ancient origin used for Jewish religious purposes, across the theatre. The Cedar Valley Youth Honor Chorale sang a simple blessing before the Metropolitan Chorale, Wartburg Choir, wcfsymphony, soloist Brian Pfalzgraf and conductor Lee Nelson performed songs with pieces of the Nuremberg Race Laws interwoven with the theme of “you shall love your neighbor as yourself.” UNI theatre students related survivor stories collected from people still living today around the Midwest. The commemoration concluded with the shofar sounding. After a pause, an awed audience rose to their feet for a standing ovation.

Theatre department head, Eric Lange, said of the performance, “I was pleased that our department had a part in this ambitious project. The talent gathered for the performance was quite amazing. The Theatre students who were involved had the unique opportunity to work in spoken word performance in the context of a musical concert. The fact that they were working with actual testimonials from survivors of Kristallnacht had a meaningful impact on the students. Several audience members stated that they found the personal reflections of the survivors to be an extremely powerful contribution.”

The purpose of the performance was not to bring sadness, but to honor the remembrance of those lost during the Holocaust. It is a thread of memory that should not be forgotten. The threads tie everyone together through the stories of survivors and those lost. Threads of memories and music find its way into hearts to never forget lessons learned from history and the phrase, “you should love your neighbor as yourself.”

Missed the Kristallnacht performance? Be sure to listen to it on IPR: Feb. 23 at noon or Feb. 24 at 7 p.m. ◊ ◊ ◊
Finding A VOICE

Find a voice, a statement that could apply to many outlets. Some people find their voice in music, or writing, while others speak with their bodies through athletics and sports. Finding a voice could be as simple as speaking, but some lose their voice or need a little extra guidance to find it in the first place. This is where the Roy Eblen Speech and Hearing Clinic steps in to help.

The clinic, found on UNI’s campus within the Communication Sciences and Disorders department, is a wonderful opportunity for students, as well as patients, to partake and benefit by offering a learning center for students and a healing center for patients. The clinic serves as a model for student education and training in the field of human communication disorders. Nationally accredited and state-licensed speech-language pathologists and audiologists supervise all clinical activities.

Director of the clinic, Theresa Kouri said, “The clinic offers a variety of highly specialized services that give our students an edge when it comes to their clinic training qualifications. These include an intensified early language classroom, teletherapy options, cognitive-memory senior prevention program, a large arsenal of electrophysiological assessment-treatment equipment, augmentative speech technology and state-of-the-art otolaryngeal scoping equipment, among other highly developed clinic practices and technologies. The clinic is a huge asset for our student training efforts, as well as for the Cedar Valley community.”

Alumna Sarah Murty, ’09 and ’11, elaborated on her personal experience on the benefit of the clinic, “I learned how to do therapy with a wide variety of people. I was able to have a lot of experience with kids and adults with various disorders. I can’t imagine gaining the quality of education I received without the clinic there. I felt a lot more confident when I graduated because I was able to gain a lot of experience. It was always nice to know that there was a supervisor overseeing my sessions, so that I could look at their notes on what I was doing right or what I should try next time.”

Murty also reflected that she loved the small size of the department because she was able to know all her professors and classmates. This created a great learning environment.

She graduated with a bachelor’s in Communication Sciences and Disorders and a master’s in Speech-Language Pathology. After graduation, she worked in the medical setting in skilled and long-term care facilities. She found this wasn’t quite what she wanted, so she decided to try the school setting. Now, Murty works for the Area Education Agency (AEA) 267 in Clear Lake, Iowa.

Murty said of her new job, “The people at the AEA 267 are wonderful to work with, and I enjoy the teachers, staff and children I work with in the schools. I have a lot of challenges, but that’s what keeps me on my toes. The job is truly rewarding, especially when helping children with complex communication disorders and helping them find a voice.”

As for advice to future students, or “speechies” as they call themselves within the department, Murty said, “This is a great major to be in. It takes a lot of hard work and dedication, but it’s completely worth it. It’s a very good job field out there, and most people don’t have any trouble finding a job.”

“The job is truly rewarding, especially when helping children.”

“The job is truly rewarding, especially when helping children.”

“Finding A VOICE”

Communique | 2014 Edition 12
Humanities and Fine Arts

Sons of Jacob Synagogue, a documentary directed by Francesca Soans [Communication Studies] and Dr. Robert Neymeyer received the Award of Excellence for Directing by the Iowa Motion Picture Association. The film was also recognized for the Award of Excellence for Soundtrack Audio Mix to Tom Barry, School of Music; Award of Achievement for Original Music Score to Rebecca Burkhart, School of Music; Award of Achievement for Visual Effects to electronic media students Brandon Poll and Grant Atherton; and Awards of Achievement for Editing and for Documentary to Soans and Neymeyer.

Elizabeth Sutton [Art] is a recipient of this year’s University Service Award.

Rebecca Buel [Communication Studies] was awarded the 2012 AFA-NIET Outstanding New Forensics Coach Award.

Jeffery Byrd [Art] has work featured in “Insider/Outsider”, an exhibition displayed at Lincoln Arts Project in Waltham, Mass. Byrd’s work recorded an eight-year performance in which he inconspicuously left sheets of gold leaf in 15 cities in 10 different countries.

Mary Frisbee Johnson [Art] exhibited artwork in the international metals exhibition FERROUS, a collaborative exhibition between Velvet Da Vinci Gallery and the organization crafthaus in San Francisco, Calif.

Susan Hill [Philosophy and World Religions] was elected to the American Academy of Religion Board.


Bettina Fabos [Communication Studies] and Tammy Gregersen [Languages and Literatures] were named Fulbright Scholars for 2012-2013. Fabos conducted research in Hungary. Gregersen taught at the University of Santiago in Chile.

Pyllis Carlin [Communication Studies] was awarded the 2013 New Outstanding Coach Award by the American Forensics Association at the 2013 National Individual Events Tournament.

Grant Tracy [Languages and Literatures] Paul Siddens [Communication Studies] Carl Thurman [Biology] and Catherine Zeman [Director of the RRTTC] were recognized with the 2013–2014 Regents Award for Faculty Excellence.


Adrienne Lambert [Languages and Literatures] along with Anne Richards of Kennesaw State University, were named editors of a new book series, Engineering Transformation: Conflict, Crisis, Adaptation. Lambert also received the Iowa State University Alumni Recognition Award, an honor reserved for ISU’s most accomplished graduates. Lambert received her MA and PhD from ISU.

Robert Washut [Music] was inducted into the Des Moines Community Jazz Center Hall of Fame on Sunday, Oct. 19.

Stephen Gaies [Center for Holocaust and Genocide Education] was selected by The National Institute for Holocaust Education of the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum to participate in the Conference for Holocaust Education Centers, 2014.

Angeleita Floyd [Music] received the National Flute Association’s Distinguished Service Award in New Orleans and the Class of 1943 Faculty Award for Excellence in Teaching. Floyd has achieved more than 50 international and 83 national residencies in her career and is a past president of the National Flute Association.

Pianist Sean Botkin [Music] was invited to perform in Rome, Italy on Oct. 10, with the Academia Nazionale di Santa Cecilia, one of the oldest musical institutions in the world. Botkin performed Sergei Rachmaninoff’s Concerto No. 4 under the direction of Sladkovsky, the principal conductor of the Russian National Orchestra.

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Martha Reineke [Philosophy and World Religions] received the Class of 1943 Faculty Award for Excellence in Teaching. Reineke has led a number of workshops for...
the American Academy of Religion and the Wabash Center for Teaching Theology and Religion.

Roy Behrens (Art) gave the opening keynote address at an international camouflage conference in Sydney, Australia, on August 9. He was also interviewed on Australian national public radio.

Rebecca Burkhardt (School of Music) was invited to conduct the Chengdu Symphony Orchestra of Sichuan, China, in an all-Mendelssohn program, Nov. 11-16.

Gayle Pohl (Communication Studies) was the Keynote Speaker for the Omicron Delta Kappa National Honor Society induction ceremony on Nov. 3.

Sciences

Congratulations to Ken Bleile (Communication Sciences and Disorders) who was awarded the Fine Arts Dean’s Award for Teaching Excellence. This is the third consecutive year that a Communication Sciences and Disorders faculty member has won this award.

Angela Burda (Communication Sciences and Disorders) was named Fellow at the 2013 American Speech-Language-Hearing Association’s Annual Convention in Chicago. She was recognized for her contributions to the Iowa Speech-Language-Hearing Association’s executive board as the current Past President. Burda’s research also provided information about older adults with communication disorders can have differences understanding accented speech.

Chad Heinzel’s (Earth Science) short-term program in Italy was named a Top Pick in the 2012 Abroad101 Study Abroad Rankings presented by STA Travel.

Mary McDade (Biology) received the Beta Beta Beta “Excellence in Teaching” Award in spring of 2013.

Faculty member, Jeff Tamplin (Biology) won the 2013 College of Humanities, Arts and Sciences Dean’s Award for Teaching Excellence.

Vicki Oleson (Mathematics) was awarded two grants, Making Sense of Mathematics and Teaching II for $48,924 and Making Sense of Mathematics and Teaching in Waterloo for $372,540.

Congratulations to Scott Giese (Technology) for receiving the FEF/AFS Distinguished Professor Award in recognition of his knowledge of the industry and demonstrated academic interest in his students. He also received AFS Award of Scientific Merit and AFS Copper Alloy Division Service Award.

Mark Myers (Biology) was awarded the Fulbright Fellowship in Colombia. Myers plans to teach a course in Conservation Biology, collaborate with ASE faculty, participate in research on the impacts of development projects and deliver public lectures.

transitions

New faculty

ART

Noah Doely, Asst. Professor Ph.D., Lamar University-Beaumont

COMMUNICATION SCIENCES AND DISORDERS

Catherine O’Brien, Asst. Professor Ph.D., Lamar University-Beaumont

Joffrey Brand, Asst. Professor Ph.D., Indiana University

Sergey Golitsynsky, Asst. Professor Ph.D., University of Maryland

Danielle McGough, Asst. Professor Ph.D., Louisiana State University

Paul Torre, Asst. Professor Ph.D., University of California, School of Cinematic Arts

COMPUTER SCIENCE

Sarah Diesburg, Asst. Professor Ph.D., Florida State University

EDUCATION

Alexa Sedlacek, Asst. Professor Ph.D., Ohio State University

LANGUAGES AND LITERATURES

Tania Carrasquillo, Asst. Professor Ph.D., University of Iowa

BIOLOGY

Kenneth Elgersma, Asst. Professor Ph.D., Rutgers University

Jill Maroo, Asst. Professor Ph.D., University of Southern Mississippi

CHEMISTRY and BIOCHEMISTRY

Josh Sebree, Asst. Professor Ph.D., Purdue University

COMMUNICATION SCIENCES AND DISORDERS

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CHEMISTRY and BIOCHEMISTRY

Josh Sebree, Asst. Professor Ph.D., Purdue University

TECHNOLOGY

Junyong Ahn, Asst. Professor Ph.D., University of Florida

Renewable Term

Joseph Gale, Instructor, M.S., Iowa State University

Retirements

Thomas Barry – June 2013
Edward Brown – May 2013
Cherin Lee – August 2013
Glenn Nelson – May 2013
Kevin O’Kane – May 2013
John Swope – June 2013
Donna Wood – July 2012

Position change

Mohammad Fahmy was appointed Head of the Department of Technology.

Julie Husband was appointed Head of the Department of Languages and Literatures.

Catherine McGillivray was appointed Director of Women and Gender Studies.

Paul Shand was appointed Acting Head of the Department of Physics.

Laura Strauss was appointed as the Head of the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry.
Iowa Gallery of Art

The advertising projects at the University of Northern Iowa (UNI) took home 15 awards for design and communications for the 2014-2015 academic year.

Enrollment Projection

UNI's total fall 2013 enrollment is 12,159, which exceeds UNI's budgeted enrollment projection by 359. Highlights of the enrollment report include:

- An increase of 3.3 percent in new student enrollment.
- An increase of 1.1 percent in new students direct from high school.
- An increase of 20.8 percent in new graduate student enrollment.
- An increase of 11.4 percent in new international student enrollment.
- Total minority enrollment held steady at 8.1 percent.

Faculty, staff and students in the College of Humanities, Arts and Sciences took home 15 awards for design and advertising projects at the Cedar Valley ADDY Awards.

The University of Northern Iowa Gallery of Art presented the Lawrence Auld Collection: Ceramics from the UNI Permanent Art Collection. Auld graduated from UNI with a BA in English in 1955. He is a North Carolina–based collector and donated nearly 160 works for the exhibit and plans on giving more. The exhibit was co-curated by JoAnn Schnable, art, and gallery director, Darrell Taylor. The exhibit features work by Richard Aerni, Tara Dawly, Doug Hanson, Mark Hewitt, Shawn Ireland, and Ben Owen III among others. “This gift by Dr. Auld is the largest and most significant gift of ceramics to the UNI Permanent Art Collection in about 50 years. We are very happy and extremely proud that the collection has been enhanced in this way,” said Taylor.

UNI’s Panther Marching Band is the largest in history with more than 280 members, led by associate professor Danny Galyen. The highly accomplished marching band consists of students from 79 different majors leading the Panther spirit and pride.

The Department of Music’s first two undergraduates with Arts Administration concentrations landed successful jobs right after graduation. One grad, Brannon Fells, found employment at the Omaha Symphony. Fells spends his days managing, creating, overseeing and brainstorming on various areas of the education department. He said of the arts administration minor, “I strongly believe that this particular program is extremely relevant and important today. It is important for art students to be armed with as many skills as possible in order to literally survive and hopefully thrive with great success while working in the arts. This program, coupled with one’s artistic passion (music, theater, visual art, etc.), can help one to be prepared when they leave the university setting and be able to work and hopefully earn their living doing what they love.”

Women's and Gender Studies (WGS) new MA opened Fall 2013. The program offers two new non-thesis tracks, in gender and wellness, and gender and violence prevention, to choose from, in addition to the traditional thesis track. The applied tracks will provide students with knowledge, skills, and experience to prepare for completing an internship, and to explore specific interests by completing a culminating research project. The program is currently accepting applications for the 2014-2015 academic year.

Sciences

Science Education’s Earth Science Update Conference ran April 2013. Teachers were updated on the latest information about geology and geological resources available. Participants concluded the day with a trip to local Steinbron Quarry.

Congratulations to the Department of Physics for being recognized as one of 11 outstanding top programs in the nation for the physics teacher education program. The program was recognized for developing summer institutes that enable physics programs to be offered in small rural schools.

Receiving the Farm Bureau Grant for STEM Career Conferences has allowed the Science Education program to offer four conferences a year for counselors and teachers to raise student and parent awareness of STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) opportunities and careers.

The Physics Department reconstructed the BS Physics degree, added an Honors option and introduced teaching certificates. The Honors option provides pathways to formal recognition of the extended research projects that many physics majors already undertake. This provides an easier way for transcript recognition for these projects, and also may make the student more favorable for graduate school admission. The teaching certificate allows students to more easily obtain the endorsement to satisfy the state of Iowa requirements for 5-12 grade physics teaching, and students will receive formal recognition by the department upon completion.

Paul Shand, acting head of physics, said, “The Physics Department looks upon the restructuring of the physics degree programs as an opportunity to make these programs more attractive and relevant for current and future students… We have created a variety of tracks for students who wish to concentrate in higher-level areas. Concentrations in such growth areas as biomedical science, computational physics, and business have been added. The built-in flexibility of the BS program will facilitate having physics as a second major. With our new programs, we can look forward to significant enrollment growth over the next decade.”
Members of UNI’s Metal Casting Center (MCC), an extension of the Technology Department, and the crowd watched in anticipation while the new $1.5 million 3D printer was slowly hoisted by a crane into the air and through a window on the third floor of the building. Just days earlier, the printer arrived on a Boeing 747 from Germany to be placed in the care of an excited staff.

The printer, an ExOne machine, is the largest 3D sand mold printer available in the Americas, one of only two commercially available units in the United States. Jerry Thiel, Director of the Metal Casting Center, described the mechanics, “A 3D printer works pretty much the same way as a bubble jet printer. A bubble jet printer sprays ink on the paper in a pattern in the form of letters. A 3D printer will spread a layer of material, print down binder to hold the material together in certain sections and then build that layer by layer into a solid object.”

The printer uses a refractory sand material to develop a mold (or negative) that can actually be used to pour usable parts with liquid metal. The previous 3D printers at UNI only printed little plastic parts that could be held. The ExOne printer can actually produce usable, functioning parts. With student workers producing the parts, the MCC has already begun to work with prominent companies like John Deere to produce some parts.

When asked about the significance of the new printer for UNI students, Thiel said, “It’s huge. UNI students now get access to advanced manufacturing that no other university in North America has. This is a tremendous opportunity for our students, for them to be able to take
Students now have access to advanced industry tools.

electronic files, in which they create parts in electronic format, and then make actual parts from those visualizations. It’s an excellent opportunity for learning.”

Dr. Mohammed Fahmy, Department Head of Technology, said there were three great things coming from the new printer. First, it will assist UNI students in experiencing and creating technology. Second, the industrial outreach occurring in Iowa will have access to the best technology. Third, the MCC is now even more of a unique entity nationally.

Fahmy says, “The Metal Casting Center is one of the best, if not the best, educational-research outreach and industrial partnership, not only in the State of Iowa, not only in the Midwest, but in the nation. We’re very proud of that, because it gives our metal casting and manufacturing students opportunities that no other institutions have available for their students.”

The MCC has a customer database of over 200 clients. Part-time students are hired from departments all over campus such as technology, physics, biology and chemistry, because metal casting incorporates all the basic sciences. The graduates from the UNI manufacturing technology program fall among the top earners for starting salaries among recent UNI grads. In the past three or four years, students have accepted starting jobs at $60-70 thousand a year. The MCC is such a unique center, that its success has caught the attention of others. MCC staff is working with an agency and college from Youngstown, Ohio, to develop similar programs around the country to assist manufacturing through university partnership. Thiel said, “It’s successful and unique. People want to copy what we’ve done here and replicate it across the US.”

The printer is located at the Cedar Valley TechWorks in Waterloo. Funding was provided through the State of Iowa’s Department of Economic Development and the Iowa Innovation Council.
The Center for Energy and Environmental Education’s (CEEE) Green Iowa AmeriCorps strives to empower communities through energy education, weatherization and outreach. Started in 2009, the program has provided service opportunities to nearly 150 members who have dedicated over 130,500 hours of service.

Green Iowa helps Iowans achieve better energy efficiency in many ways. First, they provide energy efficiency improvements in people’s homes. The program also provides basic weatherization services that can help save money, energy and increase the overall home comfort. Green Iowa also provides kindergarten through adult educational classes through workshops and presentations. Additionally, group members engage community volunteers in energy efficiency or environmentally focused service projects.

The program helps Iowans learn to create a sustainable future for their communities through activities such as racing solar cars with third graders or engaging with a local church group to assist in starting a community garden. Green Iowa also has a residential weatherization program that focuses on populations-in-need such as low-income, 65 and older, persons with disabilities or veterans. These residents receive labor and material costs free of charge. Green Iowa simply asks for all other residents receiving their services to pay for the cost of the materials used in their home.

Program director Ashley Wolter describes the program’s two primary accomplishments, “As a program, we engage young people, usually recent graduates, from across the country to come to our program. They gain valuable job skills and an increased sense of community through service. On the flip side of member experience, I believe the services our members provide reach a real unmet need in our communities. They are doing the work that no one else is doing, especially in the residential weatherization service.”

When asked about the most successful event for the program, Wolter describes a specific event from 2011 when two members teamed up to create an event focused on promoting water conservation through a rain barrel project. They gathered rain barrels, facilitated local artists to decorate them, asked Main Street businesses to sponsor them and displayed the barrels for a few weeks so shoppers could vote for their favorites. A silent auction was held for the community to bid on their favorite barrel, which resulted in raising nearly $1,000 to put towards materials for low-income weatherization. Wolter says, “The reason I love this event so much, is because of all of the great collaboration that took place within the community. It involved members, businesses, local artisans and community members. It ultimately served low-income families and promoted rain conservation.”

The AmeriCorp’s current program consists of 25 members, all of whom are college graduates. Two this year are UNI alumni. Over the course of the program, there have been 15 to 20 UNI alumni to participate in the program. • • •
Two UNI alumni were recognized with the Dr. Robert E. Yager and Phyllis M. Yager Exemplary Science and Mathematics Teaching Award. Recipients were Iowa City West High School physics teacher, Matthew Harding, and West Liberty High School mathematics teacher, Slade Hovick. They each received a $3,000 honorarium with the award.

Science Education Professor Emeritus Robert Yager holds a passion for relevant, innovative science and math instruction. This passion extends to his annual award established through the Dr. Robert and Phyllis Yager Science Education Fund for Excellence.

Frank Esser, ’73, Vice President for Development, UNI Foundation offered a few thoughts. “Dr. Robert Yager has been internationally recognized for his long service to the field of science education. The University of Northern Iowa is proud to celebrate him as a UNI graduate, a distinguished leader in education over many years, and as a philanthropic partner in advancing and elevating the profession of teaching at UNI through the Robert E. Yager and Phyllis M. Yager Exemplary Science and Mathematics Teaching Awards program.

We are honored to work with Dr. Yager in this important effort of publicly valuing excellence in education.”

Nominees for the award are selected by UNI faculty and are UNI alumni in the fifth or more year of K-12 teaching. The awardees’ selection is based on teaching materials and student performance. Each nominee is asked to submit a video of his or her teaching, and explain how the UNI faculty member has had an influence reflected on the nominee’s teaching.

Professor Larry Escalada, nominated Harding, who worked with him in his undergraduate, graduate careers and various workshops since graduation. “I nominated Matt for the award because he is passionate about teaching physics. He cares about his students, and he utilizes research-based interactive engagement techniques in all aspects of teaching including curriculum, instruction and assessment that are consistent with national and state education initiatives.”

Harding graduated from UNI in 2000 with a BA in physics teaching and an MA in science education with a physics education emphasis in May 2010. His video showcased a lesson on Physics Resources and Instructional Strategies for Motivating Students activity involving Hot Wheels® cars and tracks. Escalada considers Harding “a master and model teacher who is able to connect theory to practice and reflect on what changes need to be made to be more effective.”

Professor Doug Shaw nominated Hovick, who worked with him during his time as an undergraduate, as well as a participating member of Shaw’s improv troupe, Half-Masted. “While I know many UNI alumni that have become outstanding math and science teachers, the Yager committee requested teachers whom I’ve learned from as well as taught, and with whom I’ve had a close relationship. Not only have I become a better teacher from my association with Slade, I’ve become a better person as a result of his example.”

Hovick graduated magna cum laude from UNI in 2008 with a Master’s in Educational Psychology. His BA in secondary mathematics education was received in 2006. He specializes in helping students apply and internalize math content and concepts through engaging projects.

Shaw added that Hovick is “an excellent, innovative teacher, with a unique and strong character, and that is why I nominated him for this award.”

The award was previously restricted to science and mathematics teachers, but next year exemplary teachers in both STEM fields and/or in the humanities and fine arts will be eligible. The award will then be named the Dr. Robert E. Yager and Phyllis M. Yager Exemplary Teaching Recognition Award.

An emeritus professor, Robert E. Yager, who taught for 50 years at the College of Education at the University of Iowa, received his BA in biology from UNI in 1950. He then earned his MS and PhD in plant physiology from the University of Iowa. Yager dedicated his life to education and still continues to do so today.

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An emeritus professor, Robert E. Yager, who taught for 50 years at the College of Education at the University of Iowa, received his BA in biology from UNI in 1950. He then earned his MS and PhD in plant physiology from the University of Iowa. Yager dedicated his life to education and still continues to do so today.

Hovick graduated magna cum laude from UNI in 2008 with a Master’s in Educational Psychology. His BA in secondary mathematics education was received in 2006. He specializes in helping students apply and internalize math content and concepts through engaging projects.

Shaw added that Hovick is “an excellent, innovative teacher, with a unique and strong character, and that is why I nominated him for this award.”

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Deep in the Appalachian Mountains of West Virginia, beneath the overhang of the forest, a scattering of students overturn rocks and logs. The occasional call of excitement rings through the air, “I caught a red one” or “I found one over here.” It’s been a long trip to West Virginia with 14 students, two vans, piles of camping gear, one professor, a field assistant, and one 130-pound Great Dane. But the reward of the students finding creatures is worth it to Biology professor Jeff Tamplin.

Welcome to Reptiles and Amphibians of West Virginia, a three credit, summer field experience class. Students begin by studying Iowa reptiles and amphibians and then travel to the Appalachian Mountains. The Iowa counties the students survey contain only 54 different types of species, while the counties in West Virginia have 87 types of species.

Tamplin explains the difference in numbers, “One of the lessons that we learn is that, not only is there more diversity [in West Virginia], but also the abundance is very different. And that’s because Iowa is one of the most disturbed states. I think we have less than 2 percent of our natural land, and that’s not just prairies, that percentage is even lower. Only about 2 percent of our land is in a natural state because it’s converted to farmland.”

After the struggle to find species in Iowa, the abundance seen in the Appalachians is a welcome effort. The class spends a week camping and hunting for reptiles and amphibians. Students show each organism to Tamplin, who then describes them how to determine the gender, age, habitat and other characteristics. Eventually, he makes them discover these characteristics on their own.

Over the week, students examined wood turtles, red salamanders, frogs, rattlesnakes and other animals. At the end of their time in West Virginia, Tamplin, who is originally from the area, invites the students for a barbecue at his parent’s house. At the barbecue, a competition ensues for who had the “coolest catch.” This past trip, the vote favored a timber rattlesnake with pure, bright yellow coloring and darker yellow stripes. Tamplin awards a nonsensical prize to the winner. One year, he had a sleeveless “Simpson’s” T-shirt he bought in ’85. He said the students were the most competitive he’d ever seen.

On a day when the weather is predicted to be rainy, the class hops in the vans and tours the Smithsonian in D.C. The students also have a paper due over a creature they caught and a final exam after they return to Iowa. Tamplin says he wants to continue taking students to West Virginia, and spoke of creating more classes like that in the department. He also hinted at creating a spring break class that heads south and focuses on alligators.
Dr. Josh Sebree’s career focuses on Titan, Saturn’s largest moon. Throughout his career, he has examined and studied the various layers of the moon: from the atmosphere to the surface. His journey has taken him to NASA in Washington D.C., and now to a position as assistant professor in his first year in the department of Chemistry and Biochemistry at UNI.

He has created aerosol-generating chambers to produce aerosols that scientists believe are in Titan’s atmosphere. Imagine the smog in Los Angeles or Beijing covering the moon to make it look like a big, orange, fluffy ball of smog. Dr. Sebree is trying to determine the components that comprise this smog. Titan is unique in that it is the only moon in the solar system with a dense nitrogen atmosphere. The moon’s environment is mainly driven by methane photochemistry; there are methane clouds, lakes and rain.

At UNI, the chamber Sebree is developing generates aerosol particles from atmospheric gases and “trap” them in a cryotrap. The cryotrap is a super cold system that recreates the lakes of liquid ethane on Titan’s surface. In an attempt to replicate some features seen on Titan, Sebree will see how these aerosol particles dissolve in super cold solvent systems.

Dr. Sebree isn’t just interested in outer space, his other interests include growing plants hydroponically. The hydroponic garden in his office is a hobby farm. The plants vary between herbs and vegetables and sit in a mixture of water and nutrients, no soil. He is growing cherry tomatoes, jalapeños, basil, mint, as well as an avocado. Everything is grown for cooking and snacking, and he even grows his own “zero calorie” sweetener. Sebree has created a video of his plants growing by taking photos of his garden every half hour for thirty days and compiled them as a time-lapse video. Sebree likes to show off both of his interests in his office: with planets hanging from his ceiling to the hydroponic garden in the corner. He wants to create an interesting and welcoming atmosphere for students when they visit.

Sebree received his BA from the University of Kansas and his PhD from Purdue University. He taught general chemistry during his first semester at UNI in the fall and will be teaching a new astrochemistry course this summer. ◊ ◊ ◊

Click here to visit Sebree’s Facebook page and catch his garden growing.
The bumping beats called from a block away. The chitchat and laughter beckoned. Upon arrival, one found a crowd of smiles, fun and food. Scrumptious hors d’oeuvres tempted, while the scent of pulled pork made mouths water. Welcome to UNI’s first ever Harvest Fest, a celebration of homegrown produce from the Panther Plot, and the hard work of nine UNI students.

Last year, a group of sophomore Presidential Scholars in the Think Tank class realized a need for a campus produce garden when it was discovered that many UNI students didn’t know where their food originated. After planning, organizing, petitioning and enduring an extensive approval process, the scholars were given a one-third acre of land for their garden. They called it the Panther Plot.

The primary overseer of the project, Local Food Manager of the Center for Energy and Environmental Education (CEEE) Rachel Wobeter, said of the plot, “For just the few people who have been touched by it so far, I feel like it’s been really worth it. The students have been able to be involved and the campus is so excited about it. The cool thing is there is so much more we can do. We had a great first year.”

The culmination of the plot’s first year was celebrated with the Harvest Fest. Free and open to the public, it introduced the Panther Plot to UNI and the community, raised awareness and provided fun activities for the attendees. The hors d’oeuvres were made using produce grown in the plot. The mouth-watering pulled pork was from a local farmer, Carl Edgar Blake II, who created a special, award-winning breed of pig known throughout the country, and has even discussed the breed on “The Colbert Report.”

Thus far, 600-700 pounds of food have been harvested from the plot. UNI student Kara Poppe, (Geography) one of the visionaries of the plot, said, “The Panther Plot is a beautiful place that facilitates healthy lifestyles and food system responsibility. It has been fun to incorporate fresh and healthier foods into my everyday food choices.”

Another student visionary, Britney Bockstahler, (Elem. Ed.) said of the experience, “One of the most important lessons I learned was just how much a team of young people can accomplish in such a short-time period if you believe in yourself. Besides just having the confidence that you will succeed, and putting in the effort to make it happen, I truly came to know the value of networking and having support from the larger entities.”

Bockstahler and Poppe, as well as the other seven students, have big plans for the future of the plot. Their main goal is for the Panther Plot to continue to grow, reach out and educate UNI and the community as a student-centered organization. Look for produce from the Panther Plot in UNI’s cafeterias, indicated by signage near the food. Also, the students sell the harvested food at a produce stand every Friday in front of the Maucker Union from 10:30-12:30. Find out more about the Panther Plot or volunteer opportunities.
The American West and its Disappearing Water

You probably do not think about where water originates when you turn on the tap or start the shower. It’s something that is there, ready and accessible to you. In Iowa, it snows copious amounts, it thaws, it rains; water is abundant. In Arizona, it’s a little bit drier. People have to irrigate to grow things.

The Great Basin was a massive lake that covered half of Utah, basically all of Nevada, and extended a little into Oregon, Idaho and California. Now, the Great Basin is a sandy desert surrounded by mountains that casts a rain shadow, which prevents many Pacific storms from reaching the area.

The Earth isn’t going to run out of water, but it could run out of water that is fresh and clean enough to drink. The falls of great civilizations could possibly be linked to a lack of natural resources such as water because resources are not infinite.

“It is important to support student travel to broaden minds, whether it’s through studying abroad or some of the programs such as from the Earth Science department,” Heinzel said, “There’s a lot of benefit to expanding your horizons and seeing things. You can learn so much from a textbook, but you don’t really grasp things until you get out there and experience it yourself, and you remember things a lot better.”

The algebraic content will now appear earlier to students.

Webb offered his feelings on pre-service teachers learning the new class content, “As a father and a member of our society, you want your teachers to be as well prepared to teach that content as possible, and math is a huge piece. We need our teachers to be well prepared. It’s been fantastic for our program because we have more time to help them develop those mathematical ideas.”

The course encourages pre-service teachers to introduce algebra to students at a younger age. Thus, the algebraic content will appear earlier to students. This doesn’t necessarily mean students will be solving for “x” in the second grade, but aspects of algebra will begin to be introduced.

Webb offered an example of how young children can be taught algebra. He held out his empty hands full of ten imaginary marbles. “If I have ten marbles, and I put four over here and six over here. If I take one from this group of six and put it over here with the group of four, this
group increases by one and this group decreases by one. This is a pre-algebraic piece that our first graders can solve."

This new curriculum came about because of a new state mandate to add algebra content to the curriculum. Coincidentally, something UNI Mathematics Department has long desired for many years. Webb acknowledged the struggle to get the course added. "One of my colleagues, Ed Rathmell, said they’ve been asking for it since the time he came to UNI, which was in 1972."

The course is ready and in place for the 2013-14 school year. All incoming students will now take the third content seminar. Students previously in the program have the option to follow the original requirements or switch to the new.

"We are happy to have finally gotten the content course in. We see it as a huge benefit to our students. They have more opportunity than ever before to understand the content that they need to understand," said Webb. • • •

CedarLUG LAN Party

The Cedar Valley Linux Users Group (CedarLUG) is an organization for the Cedar Valley and the University of Northern Iowa campus. The group consists of both college students and community members that hold a common interest in the GNU/Linux operating system.

A LAN [Local Area Network] party is a place where people with common interests gather to game. PC gaming is usually a solitary thing, because people interact with others online, but at a LAN party, everyone can see and interact with the people around them while gaming on the computer. Computer Science professor Paul Gray offers further explanation, “These days, when people are playing computer games, chances are they’re playing other people using the network. A LAN party offers these players a high-speed network that really helps the gaming experience by providing a very responsive network for gameplay.”

At a LAN party, everyone can interact.

The CedarLUG has now hosted two successful LAN parties, and plans are underway for one on February 22, 2014 in the Cedar Falls library. Everyone is invited to the LAN parties. Members will even help set up computer systems if a person doesn’t have a cutting-edge computing system or doesn’t feel like hauling a computer to the event. The CedarLUG LAN parties support games that require lots of player interaction. All games are freely available.

Gray said of hosting the parties, “A well-hosted LAN party supports a solid network infrastructure and game server. This is what CedarLUG brings to the table that’s often missing from normal online gameplay. Our LAN party infrastructure consists of a lot of gear—both for the network and the server infrastructure. The goal is to make the network communication between players as fast as possible. This involves a lot of attention to the server and network infrastructure. Once that is in place, then the hosting duties fall back on the more familiar aspects of hosting any gathering: communicating invitations, making the environment accessible and the all important food choices.”

For more information on the next LAN party, contact Gray at gray@cs.uni.edu. Participants will be playing Minecraft. • • •

MAKING SENSE AND MAKING a DIFFERENCE

The Center for Teaching & Learning Mathematics

Who doesn’t like making sense of things? When we can make sense of what is going on around us, real learning can and does occur. The top priority at the Center for Teaching & Learning Mathematics (CTLM) is helping teachers and students make sense of mathematics.

CTLM achieved this through the delivery of research-based professional development courses. The Making Sense of Mathematics and Teaching (MSMT) courses, developed at the center, continue to be enhanced and expanded as needs arise. The ultimate goal is to increase the content knowledge of elementary teachers in the area of math, as well as improve instructional practices, so the teachers, in turn, can help children gain a deeper and more real understanding of mathematics.

This is all done under the leadership of the center’s director, Dr. Vicki Oleson. Along with her CTLM team, Oleson has been able to bring together teams of researchers, educators, consultants, technology experts and creative business partners, to ultimately have a significant impact on Iowa’s teachers and student achievement.

To date, approximately 235 teachers in over twenty school districts have been impacted by the MSMT courses. These K-8 grade teachers serve both rural and urban districts as well as parochial schools. Three of these schools have been designated as “high need” in these services.

One of CTLM’s top-notch partners and course facilitators is Connie Terry, math consultant at Green Hills Area Education Agency. Terry has been facilitating the MSMT courses with teachers in both Southwest Iowa and Waterloo.

"Although it is very early in implementation, we are already seeing improvement in student achievement on the Iowa Assessments. We are also seeing very significant growth in teacher content knowledge, which should result in further improvements in student scores," Terry states.

CTLM also works collaboratively with the UNI Math Department to play a vital role in the coaching of elementary teachers in the Waterloo Community School District. This MSMT in Waterloo project is a three-year program designed to increase the teachers’ content knowledge, improve their instructional practices and increase student achievement. The Center for Teaching & Learning Mathematics thinks that makes sense.

The CTLM TEAM

Director, Dr. Vicki Oleson, leads a team of contributors to successfully achieve the Center’s goals. Working alongside Oleson are:

Karla Townsand, ext. director of operations; Renell Richter, account clerk; Dana Lichtenberg, art director; Jon Chamberlain, multi-media producer; Julie Creeden, writing coordinator; Brooke Argotsinger, student assistant; and Lester Ng, webmaster

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Last summer, in addition to the usual UNI students walking on campus, there were quite a few middle and high school students roaming the halls of UNI buildings. These students participated in several summer camps co-sponsored by the Iowa EPSCoR [Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research] program and UNI’s College of Humanities, Arts and Sciences.

According to Kavita Dhanwada, CHAS Associate Dean and director of the UNI EPSCoR camps, these summer camps were designed to excite, encourage and inspire students’ interest in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) fields. “By getting students engaged in STEM early on, the goal is to expand or broaden the pipeline of K-12 students going into the sciences.

“By making science fun throughout the camps, students may see there’s more to science than the stereotypes and, also learn how science plays a part in their daily lives. We want it to be accessible and we don’t want the kids to be afraid of it,” said Dhanwada.

Several UNI departments hosted summer camps including the Department of Computer Science and the Department of Physics. The Physics of Mario Kart and Mini-Sumo Robotics camps had Physics faculty members guiding students in go-cart racing and developing fighting sumo robots while faculty from Computer Science helped students build LEGO robots.

Physics professors, Tim Kidd and Andrew Stollenwerk, arrived at the idea for the Mario Kart camp when they saw videos of people dressing like the characters and racing karts and thought it would be a way to show physics is fun. “Sometimes people think physicists are always at the board, solving equations, but most of the time they are actually doing the experiments. It would be good to dispel that stereotype.”

High school students assembled their karts and tweaked software code to make them function during the week-long camp. On the last day, parents came to watch their student race around the track. Next year, the professors plan to incorporate objects to be picked up around the track like in a video game.

The Physics department also hosted the Mini Sumo Robotics camp. Each camp participant constructed a unique, functioning robot with on-board computer controls that was designed to “push” an opponent off a 30-inch arena. Robots acted like Japanese sumo wrestlers. The campers also went on field trips to the Iowa Laser Technology, a laser-based cutting and welding manufacturing company and the worksite of the Cedar Falls High School First Robotics team.

Camp director Dale Olson said “Students learned the essentials of autonomous vehicle robotics, currently in heavy use for military vehicles, such as the John Deere Gator. Like a “driverless” car, the robot must “stay on the road/in the arena,” and it must be aware of other vehicles/objects moving nearby.”

Also this summer, 32 fifth through eighth graders learned how to construct, design and program LEGO MINDSTORMS® robots which they navigated around a track using light and touch sensors during the week long Introduction to Robotics summer camp.

Camp director, Mark Fienup of the Computer Science department said “The goal of the camp is to interest younger children in STEM fields, so they might consider STEM careers later.” He concluded, “Overall, the camp was very successful with students learning through hands-on building and programming of the robots.” At the end of the week, students held a competition similar to the FIRST LEGO League Robotics contests.

The goal of Iowa’s EPSCoR program is to build research capacity and increase competitiveness for the state of Iowa through investments in infrastructure and human capital by working with a variety of participants across the state. The ultimate goal is to stimulate lasting infrastructure improvements across the state. Thus, expanding the pipeline and having more people involved in STEM fields, helps to achieve this goal.

Plans are underway for summer camps in 2014 with a continued focus on bringing in more underrepresented groups, such as women and minorities into the STEM pipeline. Additional middle school camps are planned next summer to catch students’ interest at a younger age. Other EPSCoR sponsored camps offered last summer included: Smart Art and Camp Multimedia.
Students in the News

Humanities and Fine Arts
Kelsey Delap, student in Philosophy and World Religions, earned the Purple and Old Gold Award.

Congratulations to the participants in the 2013 6th Annual Graduate Student Symposium. CHAS first place winners of Oral Presentations include Katherine Beane, music; Nicholas Chizek, Spanish; Poster Presentations include Junu Shrestha, environmental health; Creative Performances include Alissa Cornick, English; Xingzimin Pan, music; and Brittany Lansing, music.

The UNI Speech team competed at the AFA–NIET in Hutchinson, Kansas. Ten students qualified to AFA, but did not reach elimination rounds. The following students qualified and/or placed for one or more events: Heather Kelley, Jordan Lukehart, Maddison Jansen, Scott Bredman, Harrison Poster, Mandy Paris, Michael Taylor, Ryan Courtney, Zoe Russell and Keegan Bosch.

The UNI Printmakers Society of America attended the Southern Graphics Council International Printmaking Conference in Wisconsin, Madison in spring 2013. Students in attendance included: Jeff Bast, Ashlie Coady, Desiree Dahl, Ashley Fisher, Dana Potter, Derek Steffens, Zach Schnock, Randy Timm, Ben Uhl and recent graduate, Jesse Parrot. The conference featured lectures, demonstrations and exhibits by contemporary artists specializing in printmaking. Students were also given feedback on their own printmaking.

UNI participated in the 19th Annual Iowa Collegiate Mathematics Competition in February 2013. Six students represented UNI: Ben Castle, Wes Keene, Huy Nguyen, Emily Stumpff, Mark Sabotta and Derek Hofland. Castle, Hofland and Keene’s team won third place and the honor of UNI hosting the competition in the spring of 2014.

Daryl Veatch and Kyle Talbot, Languages and Literatures students, submitted separate proposals to the prestigious International TESOL Arabia Conference that will be held in Dubai in March, and both were accepted. Talbot and Dr. Tammy Gregersen will be presenting on affective alternative assessment, and Veatch will be presenting on creatively engaging young learners.

Sciences
Tim Beiderman, Technology student, is the recipient of a scholarship from the National Society of Manufacturing Engineers.

The Technology and Engineering Collegiate Association (TECCA club) traveled this weekend to Indianapolis to compete in the Midwest TECCA competition. Of the four competitions they entered, the students won two of them including the transportation challenge and the problem solving challenge. Congratulations to Ryan Anderson, Alex Reams, Dustin Smith, Jorge Esquivel and Andrew Hauptmann.

Lucas Joers won first place for his poster presentation at the 1st Annual Iowa EPSCoR All Hands Meeting in Iowa City.

Edgar Guzman, Technology student, won second place award in the Vahradian Technology National Competition for Technology Students during the Annual Conference of the Association for Technology, Management and Applied Engineering (ATMAE), which was held in New Orleans this November 2013. The competition is named in honor of one of our DIT graduates Dr. Haig Vahradian who was instrumental in developing this competition. Dr. Vahradian passed away last year.

Brad Friend, Physics student, presented an American flag to the Physics Department. The flag flew on a Blackhawk helicopter during a MEDEVAC mission on March 20, 2013 in western Afghanistan. Friend was deployed during 2012-2013 in Afghanistan as a member of the Iowa National Guard’s 211th Air Ambulance unit.

Jeffrey S. Copeland (Languages and Literatures) published a novel, Shell Games; The Life and Times ofPearl Mccall, Industrial Spy and Pioneer Labor Activist, a novel of murder and intrigue in the button industry.

Elizabeth Zwanziger (Languages and Literatures) co-wrote APrenons with Britanny Seldon. The French textbook includes a teacher’s edition, website and audio program.


Tammy Gregersen (Languages and Literatures) co-wrote Capitalizing on Language Learners’ Individuality: From Premise to Practice with Peter D. MacIntyre. The book examines the theoretical basis for significant learner characteristics and provides practical activities for language classrooms at all levels.

Jolene Zigarovich (Languages and Literatures) published Sex and Death in Eighteenth-Century Literature. Within, Zigarovich studies the Gothic attitudes towards death, and the links made between sexuality and death.

from the Passover Haggadah’s exciting action through the air drawn by Marc Chagall. The golem, the mystically created artificial superhuman from Old World traditions. He demonstrates how integrated their Jewish identities and their creativity.

Many of us know that the history of Jewish assimilation into the mainstream reveals the links between sexuality and death. And, as we’ll see, the shift between them reflects the evolution of Jewish life in the American century. It aims to kill two birds with one stone by offering an up-to-date theoretical and practical basis for significant learner characteristics and provides practical activities for language classrooms at all levels.
HOLD EVERYTHING
RACHEL MORGAN

Hold everything with an open palm: the spoon to stir sugar in morning coffee, the morning, especially work that follows morning.

Hold everything with an open palm: the face of someone you greet, the cat before feeding, washing your own face over the bathroom sink.

It will occur to you an open palm holds nothing, which is why, this morning I slip into my pocket a gravel my daughter assures me fell from the moon.

RELOCATION
JEREMY SCHARFFENBERGER

Never mind the pigs, and forget about the corn: Observe the sky turn green with debris, the river Restless and rising, as from sleep, where its motion is born. To know a place, know what ancient dangers live there, Harvest every native species of violence and grief; Every cruel drought, every untamed coil of wind, and then Recall that all this wildness relies on our belief: Nature is a faith we’re afraid to abandon.

Imagine the slow black halo of hawks spiraling Out from this unlikely center: imagine some— Where your body rooted in tallgrass, the final arrival, Another locus of our going, a semblance to home.
A top a hill in the country north of San Antonio, lives a Texan who left his roots for a spell to study at the University of Northern Iowa. This Texan was hooked by UNI’s recruitment efforts and the positive experience he had here. When he left Iowa, he took with him memories and experiences to last him a lifetime.

Tom Rust arrived at UNI on the offer of a National Science Foundation Academic Year grant and the promise of an engaging education. He graduated UNI in ’67 with an MA in Biology. Rust received his BA from Trinity University in San Antonio.

Rust returned to Texas after graduation and taught at San Antonio College for 20 years before retiring in ’87. While at San Antonio College, he taught General Biology, Invertebrate Zoology and Man and His Environment. During that time, he also published two laboratory guidebooks on biology and anatomy that have sold over 1.5 million copies to date. His books included his own photography featuring dissections, photomicrographs of slides and other images. At one point, more than 700 of the 3,200 colleges and universities in the United States used his books. Thirty years later, his texts are still used across the nation.

Retirement life has allowed Rust to travel the world. He has visited 54 different countries while pursuing his photography hobby. His favorite destination was India, where he said everything from the clothes, religions, food, architecture, sacred cows, elephants, and tigers was “exotic and different.” He also saw the Taj Mahal and the Ganges River.

Rust returned to UNI for his 30th class reunion and is looking forward to his 50th. “Sadly, all of my professors have passed away, so I’ll only be able to visit old campus haunts and buildings.”

Aside from travels, Rust also enjoys bird watching. He described it as a treasure hunt. “You never know what you’re going to find or photograph. Once the image is captured, you can enjoy it for years.”

Rust has included UNI in his planned giving decisions, which will benefit Biological Science majors. He sees it as a way to repay the opportunity he was given at UNI. “I’d like to give someone else the chance that was given to me. It made a world of difference in my life.”

Dr. Cliff Chancey received his B.S. at Miami University in Oxford, Ohio, in 1977 and his M.A. (1980) and Ph.D. (1985) at Johns Hopkins University. From 1985–1988, he held a postdoctoral research position at Oxford University in England. He went on to hold academic positions at Amherst College and Purdue University-Calumet. He held a Senior Visiting Fellowship in Theoretical Physics at Oxford in 1996. In 2001, he joined UNI.

In a letter to the university, President Bill Ruud and Executive Vice President and Provost Gloria Gibson said, “Chancey had significant accomplishments and positively impacted the lives of numerous students, faculty and staff. One of his many successful scholarly efforts was launching and coordinating all the Professional Science Masters programs at UNI. He was also a true public servant.

“We will always remember Cliff for his kindness, humility and his devotion to academe. His research, teaching and service to the discipline of physics will impact many future Physics researchers, teachers and scholars.”

A scholarship has been established in Cliff’s name to honor his memory and service at UNI.

Dr. Cliff Chancey III, professor and department head of Physics, since 2001 passed away October 19, 2013. Dean Joel Haack stated, “Cliff was a strong academic leader. His interests extended beyond his department to include service to the university. He also provided service to the national discipline, creating the American Journal of Undergraduate Research and serving as an officer in the science honorary society Sigma Xi. And, he was involved in our community, leading the campus portion of the United Way campaign.

Personally, he was kind, generous and patient, with a strong sense of justice. He was diverse in his interests, enjoying Baroque opera, classical theater and fine dining. I will miss him.”

Dr. Cliff Chancey

SEE MORE OF RUST’S PHOTOGRAPHY HERE

SEE MORE OF RUST’S PHOTOGRAPHY HERE
UNI's Imagine the Impact campaign ended on December 31, 2012, raising nearly $158,000,000. The primary goal of the campaign was to raise funds for scholarships, faculty support and academic programs. More than $62 million was raised to support scholarships. With the creation of 321 new scholarships, more students will have access to a UNI education. Students will also have more opportunities to participate in internships throughout Iowa and the world, study abroad, present at professional conferences and conduct research. As scholarship endowments grow, these gifts will create even more scholarships for UNI students.

Nearly 35,000 UNI alumni and friends contributed to the campaign, as well as 1,600 UNI current and retired UNI employees. The generosity of UNI's alumni and friends is a reflection of their commitment to the university, and most importantly, to the success of UNI's students.

- Cassie Luze & Deb Umbdenstock, CHAS Directors of Development

Make a difference this moment. Your financial gifts make it possible for us to offer students scholarships and support for their research projects, provide them equipment for their classrooms and support the ongoing professional development of their instructors.

The success of many of our students relies heavily on the contributions, involvement and guidance of our alumni.

We extend a heartfelt thank you to all our CHAS alumni who have so generously given of time, treasure and talents to ensure the success of our students.

To further assist in the achievements of our students, please visit www.uni-foundation.org or contact one of our CHAS Directors of Development:

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Jenise S. Fuess
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Virginia Hollings-Dillson
Peter & Mary Deneen
Jack & Ann Dodd
David & Lorna Drewelow
Gene & Judith Driscoll
Marshall & Kathryn Duke
Katie B. Joseph Fitzgerald
Susan A. Foster
Jenise S. Fuees
Elizabeth & James See
Virginie Granger
Wayne & Donna Granneman
Kevin & Liz Graves
Keith A. Haan
Adrienne A. Hallett

$100-249.99 Humanities and Fine Arts
Moses & Chantelle Aimable
Mary M. Anderson
Sandra J. Anderson
Claudia & Bob Applegate
Lawrence W. Auld
Daniel T. Baier
Arthur & Betty Beckman
William Becvar
Laurel B. Fred Blackwell
Deborah K. Brandt
Michael & Diana Brinsko
Neil D. Bulke
Leslie & Gay Carmean
Jeffery L. Carmichael
Erwin & Linda Christianson
Daniel & Shireen Claes
John & Sharon Cowlin
Janet Crouse
Virginia Hollings-Dillson
Peter & Mary Deneen
Jack & Ann Dodd
David & Lorna Drewelow
Gene & Judith Driscoll
Marshall & Kathryn Duke
Katie B. Joseph Fitzgerald
Susan A. Foster
Jenise S. Fuees
Elizabeth & James See
Virginie Granger
Wayne & Donna Granneman
Kevin & Liz Graves
Keith A. Haan
Adrienne A. Hallett
Sharon B. & Bruce Hann
Nancy B. Hanna
Cynthia Hanson
Juanita B. James Hargrave
Gordon B. Audrey Henry
Eric B. Donna Higgin's-Frisee
Charlotte B. Robert Hinson
Ruth & David Hunt
Nancy & Bob Justin
Stevan & Elaine Kahler
Audrey Kiddway
Connie S. King
Joyce & Robert Koch
Renee & Todd Labarge
Anita & David Landess
Michael & Kristin Lee
Jay Lees
Christopher & Kelly Leonard
Laura & Glenn Leonberger
Steven Lindaman
Ryan & Rachel Major
Rachel Martin
Christine & Steve Meahoures
Bernice Miller
Robert & Barbara Mittman
Judith A. Moody
Douglas & Sharon Norris
Shawn & Karen North
John T. Nutt
Gabriella Obearyes-Cubah &
Daniel Cuhat
William & Melanie Palo
Eric & Pamela Petersen
Dana & Neil Phillips
Paul & Carla Renaud
Diane & Dale Repass
Allison & Nick Rickels
Jenise S. Fuess
Janet Crouse
Virginia Hollings-Dillson
Peter & Mary Deneen
Jack & Ann Dodd
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Susan A. Foster
Jenise S. Fuees
Elizabeth & James See
Virginie Granger
Wayne & Donna Granneman
Kevin & Liz Graves
Keith A. Haan
Adrienne A. Hallett

$100+ Humanities and Fine Arts
Bruce & Ruth Bengston
Judith & Dean Funk
Betty & Robert Hyde
Doris B. Lynn Sloud
Confidence Stimpson
Debora Blume & Eric Woolson

Sciences
Timothy C. Christian
Robert & Charlene George
Gary & Myrna Floyd
Rich B. Dorr
Mike B. Dito
Lewer Marjorie E Nystrom
Robert & Eileen Youds

$500-999.99 Humanities and Fine Arts
Phil P. Carver
James & Judith Conrad
Roberta & Gary McLeod
Douglas & Marjorie E Nystrom
Betty & Robert Hyde
Judith & Dean Funk
Bruce & Ruth Bengston
Doris B. Lynn Sloud
Confidence Stimpson
Debora Blume & Eric Woolson

$1000+ Humanities and Fine Arts
Lois Sellon
Dara & Gary McLeod
James & Judith Conrad
Philip H. Carver
Humanities
$500-999.99 Humanities and Fine Arts
Conrad & Jeannette Baumlner
Georgia & David Demers
Suzanne & Todd Dickey
Carl E. Hermanson
Angela Johnson
Gary & Linda Kelley
Marc & Colleen Klett
Deborah & Harlan Lundquist
Richard & Delores Lynch
Christopher Mailler &
Elizabeth Brooks
Robert L. Moeller
Roger B. Betty Moore
David B. Patricia Naffziger

Donald F. Van Duyn
Marcella & John Bradford
Donald & Janet Clough
Marshall & Kathryn Duke
Katie B. Joseph Fitzgerald
Susan A. Foster
Jenise S. Fuees
Elizabeth & James See
Virginie Granger
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Wayne & Donna Granneman
Kevin & Liz Graves
Keith A. Haan
Adrienne A. Hallett

Kathryn & Edward Ebert
David & Paulette Eekhoff
Kathy & Carl Frank
H. E. Ewing
Robert & Mary Ewing
Mrs. Effie Ewing
Betty & Robert Hyde
Doris B. Lynn Sloud
Confidence Stimpson
Debora Blume & Eric Woolson
"39 Mary Jean [Landgraf] Hovey, BA, died 3/1/2013 in Kingston, PA.

"40 Duncan Lampman, BA, died 12/28/2012 in Carterville, IL.

"50 Ted Herbst, BA, Germantown, WI, retired and is enjoying golf, travel and a summer home on Lake Thompson in Rhinelander, WI, maintained a small practice as a family law attorney.

"50 Robert Allender, BA, MA ’59, died 9/10/2013 in Oskaloosa, IA.

"50 Paul Kollasch, BA, died 11/12/2012 in Phoenix, AZ.

"51 Mary Jeanne [Landgraf] Hovey, BA, died 3/1/2013 in Waterloo, IA.

"52 Wanda [Ponder] Wehner, BA, MA ’66, died 6/31/2013 in Cedar Falls, IA.

"53 Irmgard (Schaefer) Foy, BA, died 3/4/2013 in Hideaway, TX.

"54 Ed Capesius, BA, died 1/25/2013 in Cedar Falls, IA.

"55 Robert Morris, BA, MA ’59, died 6/30/2013 in Evansville, IN.

"56 Patricia Peterson, BA, Fort Collins, CO, retired from piano teaching, day-care and raising five children.

"57 Daniel Edler, BA, Cedarville, IL, as a "pioneer" in the American glass movement, he has hand-blown glass worldwide. He also taught on a National Endowment for the Arts fellowship during which time he developed an interactive "Reach & Teach" program, which gives visitors an opportunity to "experience" blindness. In retirement, he teaches ESL, works to acclimate immigrants to American culture and travels to visit her six grandchildren.

"58 Marilyn [Dostal] Kelley, BA, Minneapolis, MN, retired from The Blake School, a preK-12 independent school in Minneapolis, in 2011. The last 15 years she was director of information support service.

"59 Robert Burkgren, BA, MA ’69, La Porte City, IA, retired in 2010 after 50 years as a driver education teacher.

"60 Richard Sorensen, BA, Monmouth, OR, is the retired conductor of the Western Oregon University Band and the current conductor of the Willamette Valley Concert Band and the Reconstructed Band of Monmouth and Independence.

"61 Donald Darrow, BA, MA ’65, died 3/17/2013 in Waterloo, IA.

"61 Richard Fish, BA, Hazelwood, MO, has published 6 books under the pen name Gregory Pike, including So Help Me God.

"61 Patricia [Ervin] Wilson, BA, Columbia, OH, retired June 2012 after teaching English at the Ohio State University for 23 years. During which time she developed an interactive "Reach & Teach" program, which gives visitors an opportunity to "experience" blindness. In retirement, she teaches ESL, works to acclimate immigrants to American culture and travels to visit her six grandchildren.

"62 Daniel Edler, BA, Cedarville, IL, as a "pioneer" in the American glass movement, he has hand-blown glass worldwide. He also taught on a National Endowment for the Arts fellowship during which time he developed an interactive "Reach & Teach" program, which gives visitors an opportunity to "experience" blindness. In retirement, he teaches ESL, works to acclimate immigrants to American culture and travels to visit her six grandchildren.

"63 Mary Jeanne (Landgraf) Hovey, BA, MA ’59, died 3/1/2013 in Cedar Falls, IA.

"64 Yvonne [Schroeder] Gaudes, BA, MA ’87, Delwina, IA, completed her 25th consecutive RAGBRAI in July 2013.

"65 Richard Bachman, BA, Willimantic, CT, was inducted into the Waterloo East High School Hall of Fame for 2012. After earning his MA from Cornell University, he became the first African American radio/television reporter for KWWL-TV in Waterloo in 1967 and later moved to the East Coast and led a distinguished career as a reporter, editor and news producer at several major-market TV stations. Bachman has worked as public relations officer at Eastern Connecticut State University for the last 23 years.

"66 Lyle Morrison, MA, West Bend, WI, wrote a novel, Rainbows in Fall Colors. It is an e-book with 300+ photos of brilliantly colored leaves and other fall objects, some are from Iowa.

"67 Katie [Sullivan] Mulholland, BA, MA, PhD ’78, Cedar Falls, IA, retired in 2010 after 40 years of teaching at Peet Jr. High.

"68 Marilyn [Dostal] Kelley, BA, Minneapolis, MN, retired from The Blake School, a preK-12 independent school in Minneapolis, in 2011. The last 15 years she was director of information support service.

"69 Carolyn (Vance) Jensen, BA, MA ’78, Cedar Falls, IA, retired May 2012 after 43 years of teaching math at Peet Jr. High.

"70 Myron Linn, BA, MA ’77, Pella, IA, was elected as chair of the Iowa Association of Business and Industry’s board of directors.

"70 Harlan Schuck, BA, Parkersburg, IA, retired as an instructor of civil and construction engineering at Hawkeye Community College. Prior, he was a registered land surveyor for over 30 years.

"70 Dwight Bachman, BA, Willimantic, CT, was inducted into the Waterloo East High School Hall of Fame for 2012. After earning his MA from Cornell University, he became the first African American radio/television reporter for KWWL-TV in Waterloo in 1967 and later moved to the East Coast and led a distinguished career as a reporter, editor and news producer at several major-market TV stations. Bachman has worked as public relations officer at Eastern Connecticut State University for the last 23 years.

"71 William Georgou, BA, died 1/28/2013 in St Paul, MN.

"71 Steven Ainsworth, BA, MA ’75, Wilson, NC, is beginning his 43rd year of teaching. He is assistant administrator and band director at Wilson Christian Academy.
71 Cherin (Young) Lee, BA, MA ’82, Cedar Falls, IA, is completing her second year as coordinator of secondary teacher education at UNI. She also completed her twelfth year as chair of Science Education and retired in August 2013.

72 Barbara [Dunn] Kellogg, BA, Mason City, IA, was recently appointed by Governor Branstad to the Iowa Council on Homelessness.

73 JoEllen (Mueller) Christians, BA, MA ’75, Milwaukee, WI, is the instructional chairperson of the department of English as a Second Language at Milwaukee Area Technical College and launched a writing practice website for English language learners.

73 Norma (Wefel) Thiese, BA, Guttenberg, IA, was appointed by the governor of Iowa to the Northeast Regional STEM [Science Technology Engineering & Mathematics] Advisory Board.

73 Dennis Erpelding, BA, Baxter, IA, retired from teaching industrial technology classes after 37 years in several schools in Iowa, including 12 in the Saydel District.

73 Anna Nicholas, BA, Shell Rock, IA, published her novel Chrysalis, which is set on the UNI campus in 1968.

74 Donald Clausen, BA, MA ’83, died 5/14/2013 in Mulvane, KS.

75 Larry Anderson, MA, died 5/8/2013 in Davenport, IA.

74 Mary (Heffner) Oelmann, BA, MA ’91, Greene, IA, retired after 15 years as elementary principal and curriculum director at North Butler Community School District.

74 Linda (Rasmussen) Voss, BA, Waterville, ME, retired in June after 38 years of teaching. Her many awards and recognitions include being named the Maine Teacher of the Year, receiving fellowships to travel internationally and being named a Fulbright exchange teacher in Germany.

75 Debra [Weaver] Shopman, BA, MA ’84, Waterloo, IA, retired from the Waterloo Community Schools as a family support worker June 2013.

77 Scott Davis, BA, Des Moines, IA, retired June 2012 after 32 years in public education, finishing at East High School in Des Moines. He is an active musician in the Des Moines area with Freestyle Variety Band and the Scott Davis Jazz Quartet, and was inducted into the Community Jazz Center Hall of Fame in Oct. 2012.

78 Dalene [Smith] O’Brien, BM, Boone, IA, retired from Boone Middle School in 2013 after a 34-year teaching career as a band director. She will continue to be active in Iowa Bandmasters, having served as a mentor, judge, honor band conductor and Major Landers Scholarship coordinator, as well as church music.

80 George Nicholas, BA, Cedar Rapids, IA, is director of engineering for Cedar Rapids based NRG Media, licensee of 45 radio stations in WI, IL, IA and NE.

81 Gary Schwartzhoff, MM, Eau Claire, WI, conducted a concert at the Kennedy Center in Feb. 2013. The concert honored President John F. Kennedy.

81 David Takes, Waverly, IA, president and CEO of Doerfer Companies, received a multi-year contract with NASA [National Aeronautics & Space Administration] to provide the main assembly and material handling transporters for NASA’s new Space Launch System; the largest and most powerful rockets ever built. A group of UNI alumni designed and created the transporters as part of Doerfer’s Wheelift Division.

82 Scott Ketelsen, BA, Cedar Rapids, IA, was named Director of University Relations at UNI.

82 Frank Kruger-Robbins, BA, MA ’85, Boca Raton, FL, 2015 President–Elect of the Florida Foreign Language Association, is chair of the world languages department at Pine Crest School in Fort Lauderdale. The school will be the largest and most powerful rockets ever built. A group of UNI alumni designed and created the transporters as part of Doerfer’s Wheelift Division.


83 Sheri (Moran) Henschel, BA, Dubuque, IA, obtained CPSM certification in Dec. 2012.

85 Diane [Crane] Bridgewater, BA, Johnston, IA, was presented one of eight 2013 Women of Influence awards by the Des Moines Business Record in Aug. 2013. She is currently executive vice president, chief administrative officer and chief financial officer for Life Care Services (LCS). Previously, she was with DuPont Pioneer for 18 years rising to vice president and CFO before moving to LCS.

85 Jeffrey Kaplan, BA, Addison, TX, has a new position as national account manager with NEC Display of America, responsible for all US and Canadian sales in digital cinema.

86 Dan Rouse, BA, Cedar Rapids, IA, is the creative services manager at OnMedia Ad Sales and celebrated 20 years with the company in Feb. 2013. He continues to hire UNI interns and speak to classes at UNI and other area colleges.

86 Sharon [Junod] McKimpson, MA, Marshalltown, IA, retired from K-12 education and is now working with post-secondary students.

89 Ronda [Kardell] Sternhagen, BA ’94, MA ’09, Holland, IA, is a middle and high school art teacher at Grundy Center Schools. She received the 2012 Art Teacher of the Year award from the Art Educators of Iowa and the Western Region Art Educator Award from the National Art Education Association.

89 Jennifer [Segura] Hill, MA ’04, Fort Lauderdale, FL, 2015 President of the Florida Foreign Language Association, is chair of the world languages department at Pine Crest School in Fort Lauderdale. The school will be active in Iowa Bandmasters, having served as a mentor, judge, honor band conductor and Major Landers Scholarship coordinator, as well as church music.

91 George Nicholas, BA, Cedar Rapids, IA, is director of engineering for Cedar Rapids based NRG Media, licensee of 45 radio stations in WI, IL, IA and NE.

92 Suzanne [Parrish] Bartlett, BA, Cedar Falls, IA, is a physician, the mother of a 12-year-old with autism and is currently President of the Autism Society of Iowa. She published a children’s book about autism titled, A Friend Like John; Understanding Autism, which won a national Indie Excellence Award and was named Honorable Mention in the Los Angeles Book Awards and London Book Awards.

92 Bradley Buck, BA, Urbandale, IA, was named director of the Iowa Department of Education by Governor Branstad on Aug 6th. Buck has served as superintendent of Saydel Community School District since July 2011, and previously held administrative
positions in the Waukee, Hudson and North Mahaska school districts from 1997–2011. He began his education career in 1992 as a science teacher at Parkview Middle School in Ankeny and is a past president of School Administrators of Iowa.

'92 Daniel Beatty, BA, Hickory, NC, wrote a second novel Scared of My Own Shadow. His first novel was entitled Battle for My Spirit.

'92 Thomas Christopher, BA, Verona, WI, wrote a book Never Too Far. His short stories have appeared in The Louisville Review, The MacSuffin and Redivider. He was awarded an Irving S. Gilmore Emerging Artist Grant and was a finalist for the Matthew Clark Prize in Fiction.

'92 Laurie Johnston, BA, Seattle, WA, is director of global legal service-employment with Expeditors International.

'93 Todd Little, BA, MA ‘96, Indiana, IA, earned a Doctor of Science in information systems with an emphasis in decision support, data and knowledge management from Dakota State University in May 2013.

'93 Darcie [Novotny] McGee, BA, MA ’96, Indianola, IA, is a Spanish teacher and academic support developer at Minnesota Online High School. She enjoys being able to cross time and space boundaries to make connections with and inspire students.

'93 Mark Schnurstein, BA, Ankeny, IA, will be teaching 7th grade science at Hiatt Middle School in Des Moines. It is his 8th year teaching in Des Moines.

'94 Kathleen (McLean) McGrane, BA, Nixa, MO, is a science teacher at Glendale High School in Springfield, MO. She earned the highest credential available to American educators by recently becoming a National Board Certified Teacher through the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards.

'94 Tyann (Sheldon) Row, BA, Cedar Falls, IA, her story “ Convenient Care” was published in the book Chicken Soup for the Soul: Raising Kids on the Spectrum.

'95 Karisti Cormier, BA, Shanghai, is a Grade 8 humanities teacher at Shanghai, China American School.

'95 Thy Nguyen, BA, MA ’01, Chicago, IL, graduated with a Master’s of Science in industrial and organizational psychology from Eastern Kentucky University in May 2012. He started working at the University of Kansas Career Center in Sept. 2012 as the program manager.

'95 Ben Petty, BA, Conrad, IA, was recently appointed by the governor of Iowa to the North Central Regional STEM Advisory Board.

'95 Daniel Specht, BA, died 7/8/2013 in McGregor, IA.

'98 Andrew Christianson, BS, Knoxville, TN, was named winner of a 2012 Young Scientist award by the International Union of Pure & Applied Physics (IUPAP). He works for Oakridge National Laboratory’s Neutron Sciences Directorate and was the winner for the IUPAP Commission on the Structure and Dynamics of Condensed Matter.

'96 Marsha (Dunn) Talley, BA, Fergus Falls, MN, was named Ferguson Falls Teacher of the Year.

'96 Angela (Vlask) Hilbert, BA, Urbandale, IA, was named one of Des Moines 40 under 40 for 2013.

'97 Kelli (Townsley) Olson, BA, De Soto, IA, was promoted to manager of the instructional design team at Wells Fargo Bank. Her team of designers develop and implement the training for teller and service managers at Wells Fargos across the US.

'98 John Sutter, BA, Dubuque, IA, has been elected president of the Eastern Iowa Tourism Association Board of Directors and vice chair of the Dubuque Convention and Visitors Bureau Board of Directors. He is the director of marketing and sales at the National Mississippi River Museum & Aquarium.

'98 Adrianne Hallett, BA, Washington, DC, was named majority clerk of the US Senate’s appropriations subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services and related agencies. She will be responsible for advising Senators Harkin and Mikulski on how to allocate more than $110 billion a year in discretionary appropriations. Adrienne joined the subcommittee as a professional staff member in 2001.

'98 Melissa (Dooley) Barber, BA, Waterloo, IA, is one of The Courier’s Class of 2012 Twenty-Under-Forty in the Cedar Valley. The award program honors outstanding young people who are making a difference in their work and personal lives to make the area a better place. She is owner of Melissa Barber Marketing LLC in Waverly.

'98 Joseph Hinke, BA, Waukee, IA, was named one of Des Moines 40 under 40 for 2013.

'98 Larry Telkamp, BM, Britton, SD, has enjoyed 15 years of teaching since graduation. Some of his students inducted him into the Who’s Who Among America’s Teachers in 2004 and his bands have earned numerous awards and accolades both during his 12 years in Iowa and now in South Dakota.

'99 Jaime Copley, BA, Clear Lake, IA, was on the team that received an Upper Midwest Regional Emmy Award in 2013 in the category of NewsCast–Evening. She is currently the news director at KMTV in Mason City.

'99 Kristine Diers, BA, New York, NY, moved to New York City in 2009 after 10 years at the Civic Center of Greater Des Moines in their marketing department. She is the director of national marketing for Broadway Across America, overseeing the Broadway marketing efforts for six cities in the Midwest.

'99 Paul Frederick Huxom, BA, Sioux City, IA, won an Upper Midwest Regional Emmy Award in 2013 in the category Weathercast. He is currently a meteorologist with KCAU-TV in Sioux City.

'00 Matthew Harding, BA, MA ’10, Iowa City, IA, received the 2012 Yager Award for excellence in science teaching.

'00 Mary [Meyer] Lestina, BA, Iowa City, IA, won the 2013 National Association of Geoscience Teachers Outstanding Earth Science Teacher Award for both the state of Iowa and for the entire central region. Ten national finalists are selected, one from each NAGT regional section.

'00 Jared Brinkmeyer, BA, and Patricia [Noteboom] Brinkmeyer, BA ’01, Johnston, IA, started a tabletop game business in Johnston called redbug games, LLC.


'00 Kyle Klingman, BA, Cedar Falls, IA, is one of The Courier’s Class of 2012 Twenty-Under-Forty in the Cedar Valley. The award program honors outstanding young people who are making a difference in their work and personal lives to make the area a better place. Klingman is director of the National Wrestling Hall of Fame Dan Gable Museum in Waterloo.

'00 Emily Kate [Chesshire] Thompson, BA, published a novel The Fine Line.

'01 Allison Rickels, BA, Executive Director/CEO of The FarmHouse Foundation, was recognized with the NICF William D. Jenkins Outstanding Professional Award on August 2013 at The Foundations Seminar. Rickels is the first woman to hold such an executive position of a men’s fraternity organization. The organization raised a record-breaking 2012-13 fiscal year.

'01 Eric O’Brien, BA, MS ’04, Cedar Falls, IA, was named one of the Cedar Valley’s 20 under 40 for 2013. He is currently university sustainability coordinator at UNI.

'01 Allison [Cink] Rickels, BA, Kansas City, MO, received the North American Interfraternity Conference Foundation Outstanding Professional award.

'02 Angela Dethlefs-Trettin, BA, MA ’11, Des Moines, IA, was named one of Des Moines 40 under 40 for 2013.

'02 MacKenzie Hoambrecker, BA, MA ’05, Kansas City, MO, spent one year as a kicker on the San Diego Chargers practice squad, followed by five years traveling from team-to-team and injury-to-injury before hanging up the cleats. He landed a job with Stryker, a leading medical device company, in their neuro, spine & ENT division. He has been with Stryker for four years and currently ranks No. 1 in total dollar sales for his division.

'02 Cheryl [Ritz] Meller, BA, Waterloo, IA, is one of The Courier’s Class of 2012 Twenty-Under-Forty in the Cedar Valley. The award program honors outstanding young people who are making a difference in their work and personal lives to make the area a better place. Meller is marketing and development director at Family YMCA of Black Hawk County.

'02 Dussadee Oeawpanich, MA, Yellowstone National Park, WY, was selected as one of the 12 finalists for the first television series of Apprentice Asia.

'02 Jennifer Young, BM, Evanston, IL, became business manager of Pick-Staiger Concert Hall at Northwestern University in August 2012. This is her sixth year playing French horn in the Northshore Concert Band and is currently serving on their board of directors.

'03 Anna [Pratt] Golden, BA, Seattle, WA, was accepted to the Master of human-computer interaction + design program at the University of Washington.

'03 Carmelita [Tyson] Guse, MA, MM ’08, Minneapolis, MN, is an adjunct voice professor at North Central University. She is also a member of the Bravo Singers a group that performs opera education programs for elementary schools in the Twin Cities area.

'03 Chris Schmitz, MM, Warner Robins, GA, accepted the position of associate professor of music theory at Mercer University in Macon, GA, where he’ll teach theory and composition as well as coordinate the theory department.

'03 Mavis [Njoo] Njoo Lau, BA, San Rafael, CA, was promoted to Research Administrator at California Social Work Education Center (CalSWEC) based at the School of Social Welfare at the University of California, Berkeley.

'03 Lisa Voleisky, BA, Chicago, IL, was named the 2011 recipient of the NABT Ecology/Environmental Science Teaching Award. She is in her ninth year with the Chicago Public Schools, currently at Northside College Preparatory High School, one of the highest performing high schools in Illinois.

'04 Matt Harris, BA, Des Moines, IA, was named one of Des Moines 20 under 40 under 40.

'04 Nicholas Jedlicka, BA, Cedar Falls, IA, was named one of the Cedar Valley’s 20 under 40 by the Waterloo/Cedar Falls Courier for 2013. He is currently director of Lakeview Lodge at Friendship Village.

'05 Marcia [Schwaiger] Powell, MA, Strawberry Point, IA, is a finalist in science for the Presidential Awards for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching for 2013.

'06 Ben Chadwick, BA, Grimes, IA, won the Prometheus Awards’ Innovation in Teaching Award.

'06 Alyssen Lovstuen, MA, was selected as one of three finalists from Iowa State University for the 2014 Presidential Awards for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching. She was recognized at the ICTM in October 2013, and will find out in June is she is selected for the national award. Lovstuen teaches at Decorah High School.

'06 Michael Staebell, BA, London, relocated in Aug. 2013 to accept the role of leading TESK system’s outsourcing services expansion internationally. He is responsible for establishing a team across Europe, the Middle East and Asia.

'06 Brenda Liddle, BM, Waterloo, IA, teaches Zumba at the YMCA as well as full time the orchestra.

'07 Michael Verlo, BA, West Branch, IA, won the Midwest Region Regional Emmy Award in 2013 for News Producer and was also part of an Emmy award-winning team in the category of News – Television – Daytime. He is currently a producer at WCCO- TV in Minneapolis, MN.

'07 Stephen Fish, BM, Cedar Falls, IA, won the Midwest Region Metropolis Opera district auditions in Jan. 2013.

'08 Ashley Gottschalk, BA, Minneapolis, MN, won the Midwest Region Metropolitan Opera district auditions in Jan. 2013.

'08 Jenny [Thompson] Poehls, MM, Fargo, ND, has served as lecturer of flute at North Dakota State University since 2010 and performs with the NDSU Faculty Woodwind Quintet. She is also a collaborative pianist for both student and professional musicians and maintains a private piano and flute studio in the Fargo-Moorhead area.

'09 Joshua Mahoney, BA, Sioux Falls, SD, a former football player and recipient of the NCAA Walter Byers Postgraduate Scholarship Recipient He graduated from the University of Chicago Law School in May, 2013 and is now clerking for Judge Brian Schwartz in Cedar Rapids for one year then he will clerk in Chicago for one-year. He has already secured a position with a law firm.


'09 Easton Stuard, MM, Eureka, CA, was appointed director of jazz studies at Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis effective Jan. 2013.

'09 Drew Van Woert, BA, Grimes, IA, completed the Chartered Property Casualty Underwriter designation and will attend the conferment ceremony in New Orleans in Oct. He is with Farm Bureau Property & Casualty as a senior claims service adjuster.
‘09 Michael Goudy, MA, Montezuma, IA, received the 2012 Excellence in Science Teaching Award from the Iowa Academy of Science.


‘10 Bonnie Alger, MM, Abu Dhabi, was one of 12 conductors selected to participate in International Masterclass- es Berlin for Orchestral Conductors. In the course focused on repertoire of the Viennese School.

‘10 Kelly Drue, Associate Professor of Music Education, served as Nicole’s graduate advisor. Nicole received the award at a ceremony in April 2013, and is currently Director of Bands for the Wapsie Valley Community Schools in Fairbank.

‘10 Brittany Harp, BA, Colorado Springs, CO, is the marketing and communications manager with the Colorado Springs Regional Business Alliance.

‘11 Katie Berge, BS, Washington, DC, after serving an internship in the Washington, D.C. office of Senator Tom Harkin, is now employed there on a permanent basis as a staff assistant.

‘11 Cassandra Hayne, BS, Fairfield, IA, was awarded a fellowship through The National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship Program.

‘11 Eva Andersen, BA, New York, NY, was one of the top three contestents in the Mar. 2013 Amateur Night at the Apollo Theater in New York City, the only instrumentalist (saxophone) among many vocalists. She goes by the stage name Eva Diva.

‘11 Alexander Stines, BM, Waterloo, IA, became co-director of bands at Waterloo West High School in 2013, after receiving a MM in Jazz Composition & Arranging from Eastman School of Music in May 2013, where he was nominated for the Teaching Assistant- ship Prize, and received the Ray Wright Prize and the Jack L. Frank Teaching Award. In addition to performances and presentations, he was commissioned by West Point Army Jazz Knights, Penfield Music Commission Project, CNY Jazz, and the New York Youth Symphony Jazz Band Classic, and released a CD entitled COLOSSUS in June 2013.

‘11 Casey Turner, BM, Centered, IA, was hired by Twin Cedars Community School District as K-12 music teacher, where duties include band and choir director and elementary music teacher for 2011-12.

‘11 Jacci Linn, BA, Cedar Falls, IA, is back at UNI working in the administrative office of the Governor’s STEM Advisory Council and is happy to call Cedar Falls home again.

‘12 Megan O’Brien, MM, Iowa City, IA, has opened O’Brien Studios, a private voice studio in Iowa City. O’Brien opened her studio in 2012 after returning from a summer opera performance with San Diego’s Opera NEO.

‘12 Stephanie Wharton, BA, Polk City, IA, is working as a web designer at Webspec Design.

‘12 Alexander Stines, BM, Waterloo, IA, became co-director of bands at Waterloo West High School in 2013, after receiving a MM in Jazz Composition & Arranging from Eastman School of Music in May 2013, where he was nominated for the Teaching Assistantship Prize, and received the Ray Wright Prize and the Jack L. Frank Teaching Award. In addition to performances and presentations, he was commissioned by West Point Army Jazz Knights, Penfield Music Commission Project, CNY Jazz, and the New York Youth Symphony Jazz Band Classic, and released a CD entitled COLOSSUS in June 2013.

UNI Welcomes President Bill Ruud

William E. Ruud arrived on campus at the end of May 2013 to become UNI’s tenth president after concluding the previous school year as president of Shippensburg University of Pennsylvania. Interviews occurred at the beginning of the year for UNI’s next president in light of President Benjamin Allen’s retirement. 

President Ruud offered a letter of thanks to all, as well as some advice, “UNI has a remarkable and academically rich university community, and I am pleased to be your advocate. The intellectual vigor on campus is engaging, and I appreciate the viewpoints and contributions of others. I encourage each of you to broaden your capacity for knowledge and exploration. We are a student-centered learning organization, and we need to leverage our strengths, be more nimble and innovative and seek to embrace future opportuni- ties.” He concluded the letter with a declaration of “Purple for life!”

Ruud grew up in Grand Forks, N.D., and earned his bachelor’s degree at the University of North Dakota before later earning his master’s and doctorate from the University of Nebraska–Lincoln. “I used to tell my mother, ‘I went to college in 1970, I’m having a good time; I haven’t left yet,’” Ruud recounted recently to the Des Moines Register.

President Ruud has been the leader at several colleges and universities for more than 30 years. He came to UNI from Shippensburg University of Pennsylvania, where he had served since 2007. President Ruud and his wife of 36 years, Judy, now live in the President’s House off College Street with their two-year-old cockapoo, Fuzzy.

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FEBRUARY
RAIN - A Tribute to the Beatles
February 9, 2:00 p.m.
Gallagher-Bluedorn

The Ugly Duckling &
The Tortoise and the Hare
February 15, 1:00 p.m.
Gallagher-Bluedorn

Graduate Student and Faculty Per-
formance Hour Featuring
Yaw Kyeremateng
February 20 & 21, 7:30 p.m.
Interpreters’ Theatre, Lang Hall

Beers to You & Gourmet Too
February 23, 3:00 p.m.
Five Sullivan Brothers

Mauritius, Strayer-Wood Theatre
February 27, 7:30 p.m.
Bertha Martin Theatre

FINAL THURSDAY: Vince Gotera
February 27, Open Mic 7:15 p.m.,
Author 8:00 p.m.
Hearst Center for the Arts

Moulin Rouge – The Ballet
February 28, 7:30 p.m.
Gallagher-Bluedorn

MARCH
Mauritius
March 1, 6, 7 & 8, 7:30 p.m.
March 2 & 9, 2:00 p.m.
Bertha Martin Theatre

Wasted: How Much is Enough?
March 6, 7 & 8, 7:30 p.m.
Interpreters’ Theatre
040 Lang Hall

APRIL
Macbeth
April 1, 10:00 a.m.
Gallagher-Bluedorn

The Hit Men
April 4, 7:30 p.m.
Gallagher-Bluedorn

(Re)Orientation
April 10 & 11, 7:30 p.m.
Interpreters’ Theatre
040 Lang Hall

August: Osage County
April 10 – 12, 17 – 19, 7:30 p.m.
April 13, 2:00 p.m.
Strayer-Wood Theatre

14th Van Cliburn International
Piano Competition Gold Medalist
April 13, 3:00 p.m.
Gallagher-Bluedorn

UNI Varsity Men’s Glee Club
April 21, 10:00 a.m.
Gallagher-Bluedorn

Lisa Loeb
April 24, 7:30 p.m.
Gallagher-Bluedorn

FINAL THURSDAY: Larry Baker
April 24, Open Mic 7:15 p.m.,
Author 8:00 p.m.
Hearst Center for the Arts

Bring It On: The Musical
April 27, 2:00 p.m., 7:30 p.m.
Gallagher-Bluedorn

BFA Group Exhibition
April 28 – May 10
UNI Gallery of Art

MAY
Crème de La Crème 14
May 2, 7:30 p.m.
Gallagher-Bluedorn