

2014

CSBS Statements, v16, 2014

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Recommended Citation

University of Northern Iowa. College of Social and Behavioral Sciences., "CSBS Statements, v16, 2014" (2014). *CSBS Statements*. 7.

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Statements



**The value of
staying connected**

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Volume 16 2014 edition

CSBS Statements is published annually by the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences at the University of Northern Iowa for its alumni and friends.

The College of Social and Behavioral Sciences encourages correspondence from alumni and friends. Send letters to:

CSBS Office of the Dean
319 Sabin Hall
Cedar Falls, IA 50614-0403

FROM THE DESK OF THE DEAN



Greetings from CSBS!

As I reflected upon the past year, I noticed connections and collaborations abound across the work being done by our faculty, students, alumni, and community partners. These efforts include a strong interdisciplinary thread and vital partnerships with community agencies, organizations, and businesses.

The connections expand the knowledge about our world as we cross disciplinary lines, such as the geography student project with the Grout Museum exploring historical patterns of ethnicity in Grundy County, or the master class presented by a Russian visiting scholar who taught our textile and apparel students about cultural trends and beading techniques of Russia's indigenous peoples.

Collaborations built with our community partners also enhance students' education, such as through the GeoBridge program established with Kirkwood Community College, or the Trauma Informed Care conference organized by the social work department that drew over 200 participants from the professional community.

And as you'll read in the alumni profiles included within this magazine, these types of connections and collaborations provide a strong foundation for our alumni to successfully achieve fascinating and meaningful careers in all sorts of fields that perhaps they didn't know existed while they were in school.

This past year, we started an annual tradition of inviting our emeritus faculty to campus for a discussion, to stay connected and continue to gain insights from their valuable perspective of the university and their disciplines. As we say 'best wishes' to our 2014 retirees, we know that it is not 'good bye' since we will remain in touch and still gain important insights from their range of expertise.

We were also reminded how our present is closely connected to our past during the celebration of life held in honor of our former dean, Aaron Podolefsky, who paved the way for many of our current successes through his development of a student honors program, a global focus, and a collaborative culture within CSBS.

Additionally, we have increased efforts to connect with alumni. This past year, Nate Clapham (our CSBS development director) and I have met with alumni in Iowa, Arkansas, California, Illinois, Indiana, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Oregon, Texas, Washington, and Washington, D.C. We also hosted numerous alumni on campus for a variety of events, including the annual Distinguished Alumni Day.

Help us stay connected with YOU—please send us updates on where life has led you. Your experiences help inspire our current students and also reinforce our faculty's passion for teaching.

Thank you for your support, and please feel free to contact me with thoughts or questions.

Brenda Bass

Dean, College of Social & Behavioral Sciences
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*Congratulations to Dr. Bass—
named the sixth dean of the
College of Social and Behavioral Sciences*

Well Connected

Social and Behavioral Sciences alumni can be found all over the globe. Just as our varied programs are connected by the human element, so are we all. Meet three alumni maintaining connections in our own backyard.



Jeff Kurtz

Jeff Kurtz graduated in 1996 with a degree in history. Raised in the small town of Manson in northwest Iowa, he's now the executive director of Main Street Waterloo, whose mission is to maintain and enhance the vitality of the city's downtown area. As the primary advocacy group for that part of town, the organization creates programming, seeks out new businesses, and acts as advocates. Of his position he says, "I enjoy connecting with other people who share my goals for downtown Waterloo. Ultimately, we are building community."

CSBS: How did you get from a history undergraduate degree to Main Street Waterloo?

Kurtz: After graduating from St. Cloud State with a master's degree in public history, I worked in the museum field for ten years, most recently for the Cedar Falls Historical Society. I served as a member of the Design Council in Cedar Falls, and was reasonably familiar with the Main Street program. Since their mission is in part centered around historic preservation, it has felt like a good fit.

CSBS: What are the challenges in your work?

Kurtz: The challenges of non-profit work could fill entire books, but then, so could the rewards. Most people I know in the non-profit field are there because they love what they do. In my specific case, downtown Waterloo is growing and changing very quickly, and we at times struggle to adapt and change with it as an organization. Generally, though, the energy entering downtown is also entering Main Street Waterloo, so that is gratifying.

CSBS: What are the rewards of your work?

Kurtz: I see downtowns as a purposeful alternative to suburbs. In downtown Waterloo specifically, I have attempted to market our community as an urban center within a state dominated by small towns and suburbs. There are not all that many urban centers in Iowa, when you really think about it. So it has been fun to see our community become a sort of beacon for people who want this type of experience: artistic, eclectic, urban. There is nothing wrong with living in a small town or suburb, but when we try to overly cater to these demographics and their tastes, we lose our unique identity—or so I would argue.

CSBS: What is a memorable part of your undergraduate experience in history?

Kurtz: I still remember my internship at the UNI Museum vividly. It really motivated me to pursue a graduate degree, and ultimately devote my career to the idea that a community's history (including its buildings) are worth preserving.

CSBS: What is your advice to current students?

Kurtz: Travel as much as you can. While I was at UNI, I participated in Camp Adventure three different summers. This had a huge impact on me as a person. I really can't overstate the impact it had on me as a 19-year-old kid, who had never been anywhere, to be walking around Tokyo. This, as well as subsequent travels, infused within me an appreciation for humanity, in all of its various corners of the globe. Mark Twain once said, "Travel is fatal to prejudice, bigotry, and narrow-mindedness, and many of our people need it sorely on these accounts. Broad, wholesome, charitable views of men and things cannot be acquired by vegetating in one little corner of the earth all one's lifetime." These are words every student should read and ponder, in my opinion.

CSBS: What skills did you learn in your undergraduate degree that are helpful in your career?

Kurtz: My undergraduate degree taught me to value a broad-based skill set. Trying to specialize too much in one area is often not realistic in today's economy. Having a thirst for learning, being able to adapt, and being able to work with people of all backgrounds... these are all important attributes in a successful person, and they were all honed in me during my pursuit of a B.A. at UNI.

CSBS: What advice do you have for those just starting out in the social and behavioral sciences?

Kurtz: I am a firm believer in following your passion. I ultimately majored in history because I enjoyed it, and was thereby motivated to work hard and try to succeed within that field. Take time to explore, and take time to examine what makes you tick.



Tabatha Cruz

Tabatha Cruz is a 2008 graduate of family services who went on to earn a master's degree in college student personnel administration from Illinois State University. Currently the program coordinator at UNI's Center for Multicultural Education (CME), Cruz helps the center foster the success in racial and ethnic minority students, contribute to the cultural competence of the campus community, and promote an appreciation for diversity. Cruz grew up in Bronx, New York; Arecibo, Puerto Rico; and Floresville, Texas—but she's now at home at UNI.

CSBS: Why did you choose family services?

Cruz: There was a part of me that really wanted to be a teacher. I was looking for a program that would allow me to teach, but not be confined to lesson plans and such. Through my internship at the YWCA of Black Hawk County I was able to teach about life skills in the various programs I had an opportunity to work with. Family services gave me an opportunity to also pursue my passion of working with youth. My goal was to become an adoption case worker. I was adopted as a child, and

I hoped that someday I would be able to help other kids find a loving home to go home to. I was also very attracted to family services because it would allow me to work with a variety of populations from children to the elderly. I liked the flexibility in that.

CSBS: How did you get from a family services undergraduate degree to your current position?

Cruz: While I was in college, I was heavily involved in different student organizations on campus. It was

(continued on page 4)

through my leadership role as a resident assistant that I learned about the field of higher education. I really enjoyed working with youth, plus I love human development...college students seemed like a great population to work with to do both. During my graduate studies, I interned at the University of North Texas, working parent orientation. I presented a project about changing the name of the department from Parent Programs to Parent & Family Programs. I knew from experience that not everyone has the same family structure, and it was clearly evident during that summer. It's not just parents who accompany our students through this process of beginning college, but siblings, aunts and uncles, grandparents, god parents, step-parents.

CSBS: To you, what is the main focus of the CME?

Cruz: I think we are a hub for information for the campus, as well as a place where students can just be themselves. Often times, people think that the CME is just for racial minorities, but in reality it is for everyone. We are all part of the multicultural picture, and how we interpret the picture is what incites such great conversations at the CME. We all view things with different lenses due to our experiences. That's what makes us unique.

CSBS: What do you enjoy most about your job?

Cruz: I LOVE working with the students! That has always been and will be the highlight of my work. I work closely with our multicultural students on a variety of different transitions: academic, social, personal, professional. I serve as a student organization advisor to three student groups on campus. I do a lot of leadership development activities and have conversations about what it means to be a leader with all of my executive board members. However, I also wear many different hats at the CME. Some days I'm a mentor, others a counselor. The CME also works a lot with the Cedar Valley community, and I find myself engaging in conversations with our community members who attend our events regularly. I love that they are life-long learners at heart.

CSBS: What skills did you learn as a student at UNI that are helpful in your career?

Cruz: I learned that listening is different than hearing. To listen means you are actively engaged in what the other person is saying. It is a key skill to have, in particular when you are getting to know

your client (or in my case, the students) and trying to identify what their needs are and what support they have or what is in place in order to meet those needs. Being open to new experiences is also very important. I think that whatever situation you encounter (*i.e.*, new job, career change, going to college), you need to be open to that experience. That is something I share with my students a lot. If you are open to what is happening, it might change your perspective on the situation. It's important to always keep learning and challenging yourself.

CSBS: What are the rewards of your work?

Cruz: Seeing the students learn something new, take risks, challenge themselves, and exploring – that is usually reward enough for me. The ultimate goal is to get the students to graduate, but I enjoy the process of helping them get to that point the most. I want the students to be successful, however they choose to define what success is to them.

CSBS: How do you stay involved with the family service program at UNI?

Cruz: Whenever I encounter a student who is a family services major or minor, I always ask what classes they are taking and with whom. I ask how they are enjoying the class and what projects they have coming up in that class. I have been very fortunate to have been invited several times to speak with the seniors in family services to talk about life after graduation. Some students go directly to the work force, others go on to do a master's degree in human development or family therapy, and some of us go in a completely different direction—like me. The flexibility is the beauty of the family services degree...any population and a variety of different settings allows for a multitude of opportunities to do meaningful work and be an agent of change in whatever you choose to do.

CSBS: What is a memorable part of your undergraduate experience?

Cruz: One of my favorite classes was *Adulthood & Aging* with Dr. Elaine Eshbaugh. I felt that I had a lot of experience being around older people because when I was a baby I was adopted by a couple in their late 50s, so I grew up around aging adults. But the class really challenged me to see beyond the aging process and to realize that just because you grow older doesn't mean the fun has to stop.

Mike Isaacson

Mike Isaacson earned his bachelor's degree in social work in 1996 and a master's of public policy in 2003. As the chief executive officer of Northeast Iowa Area Agency on Aging, he directs services to help older adults in 18 northeast Iowa counties remain in their homes and communities for as long as they desire.

A former council member and mayor of Denver, Iowa, Isaacson is active in the service community. He's been recognized by the Iowa Finance Authority for his work in developing supportive housing options for individuals with disabilities and seniors; by the adjutant general of the state of Iowa for his work with children and families; by the Older Iowans Legislature as the 2012 Professional of the Year; and by the National Association of Area Agencies on Aging for innovations in service for seniors.



CSBS: What was your trajectory from social work to public policy to your current position?

Isaacson: My degree in social work provided me with numerous opportunities to learn and grow in the field. From my first job working with kids in a group home, to my current roll as CEO of Northeast Iowa Area Agency on Aging (NEI3A), the foundation I obtained through the social work program has proved to be invaluable. Along the way I have enjoyed several career opportunities in program development, community building, leadership training, and much more. Early on I was being asked to advocate for consumers and services, which often times took me to the state capital and put me in contact with legislators statewide. In an effort to more fully understand the policy-making process and to lend credibility to my work, I decided to go back to UNI and earn my master's in public policy. For the past 15 years I have had the opportunity to work with communities, and state/federal elected

officials to create, draft, and pass legislation that benefit Iowa's most at-risk populations. The "inside knowledge" and connections that I gained through the public policy program allow me to be a better advocate for those I serve.

CSBS: How has your connection with our Social and Behavioral Representatives (SABRs) and our gerontology program been a positive one for your organization?

Isaacson: Our agency benefits greatly from its relationship with these programs. We are able to gain access to great students that bring energy and enthusiasm to their role. Utilizing students in "real world" activities, our agency is able to accomplish a great deal of work. From surveying to case management, from work in our senior centers to legislative advocacy, the increased production and professional-level output we receive from the students allow us to expand upon our mission.



Left: The spring 2014 cohort of student Social and Behavioral Representatives (SABRs). In addition to promoting the college to future students, the SABRs participated in many service activities—including at the Northeast Iowa Area Agency on Aging (NEI3A).



Runway design show

Catwalk 22

The textiles and apparel program's 22nd annual runway design show was held in April. Titled "**Catwalk 22: Stripped**" for its minimalist theme, the event showcased the original designs and garments that the students have produced. Students are also entirely responsible for the production of the show itself—including designating a theme, designing the set and choreography, and promoting the event. The student directors for this year's show were **Elizabeth Sedlacek** and **Samantha Frederick**.

Public History Efforts Expand

This academic year marked a shift in the Department of History's public history program. The program's new coordinator, assistant professor of history **Leisl Carr Childers**, expanded the program and reconfigured the history internship to include semester-length, collaborative project-based experiences within a traditional course context. The Grout Museum District and Silos & Smokestacks National Heritage Area provided students with their first projects. The team of students who worked at the Grout worked with collections personnel Lorraine

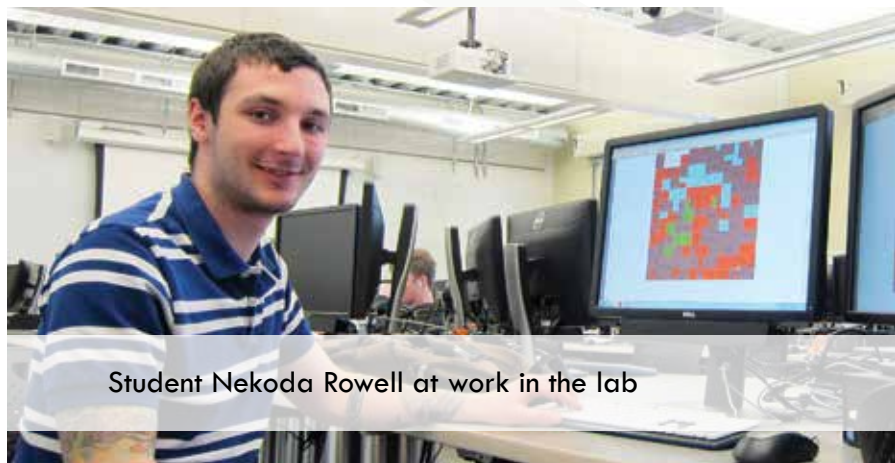
Ihnen and Catreva Manning cataloging objects and entering data into the museum's database. In particular, students helped work through a backlog of material documenting the spring 2013 flood. The team with Silos & Smokestacks researched and produced an exhibition plan entitled "Iowans Feeding the World," which was designed to travel throughout the heritage area and interpret the ways in which Iowans in agriculture and other related fields have supported global food production. Historical figures such as Herbert Hoover and Norman Borlaug featured prominently in the plan, as did a number of oral histories conducted with Iowa farmers. Both the Grout and Silos & Smokestacks were highly satisfied with the performance of UNI students and the internship products.

As the public history program becomes more interdisciplinary by partnering with such programs as geography, anthropology, interactive digital studies, art history, outdoor recreation, and tourism, these project-based experiences will provide critical student training on real-world projects and provide valuable services to community partners.

The Geography of History

Nekoda Rowell, a senior in geographic information systems, has been involved in a project with the Grout Museum in Waterloo that has used GIS to bring geography and history together. The focus of this collaborative project was to identify ethnic families in Grant Township of Grundy County, Iowa, and to see how the ethnicity of the township changed and dispersed over time. By using cutting-edge GIS software and some good old-fashioned plat maps, Rowell was able to analyze and display the change of these families—of mostly German, Irish, and Danish descent—from 1900 to 2000. Although much of the project used sophisticated technology, some of it was completed with simple arithmetic and a ruler.

Rowell says, "By looking at the finished maps over time, one can watch as the ethnic clusters change in size, disperse, and combine over the decades, as well as see other aspects of rural landscape change like the abandonment of some farmsteads and the rise of corporate-owned—rather than family-owned—farms." He adds, "While the area that was covered in the project was small, I think that geographers and historians have a lot to learn from this. Every town has old documents that are degrading and if we are able to digitize these now, who knows what kind of research may be done in the future. In fact, the Grout Museum would like to use the Grant Township Project as a template with the expectation that the process can be repeated across northeast Iowa."



Student Nekoda Rowell at work in the lab

Master Class Connects Textiles & Apparel and Geography



Creative Design Foundation master class

In March the Department of Geography welcomed an indigenous rights and culture activist from the State Polar Academy in St. Petersburg, Russia. Ms. Varvara Korkina is the director of the Indigenous Cultures Center at the academy, the only minority-serving institution for indigenous peoples in Russia.

Ms. Korkina visited textiles and apparel professor **Annette Lynch's Creative Design Foundation class** in order to present "Russia's Indigenous People's Fashion and Apparel: A Beads Sewing Experience," in which the students practiced master beading techniques. She also presented a campus-wide talk "Indigenous Culture in Russia: Livelihoods, Tradition and the Future of the Indigenous Peoples of the Russian North."

The event was supported in part by donors James and Connie Schuerman.

Arctic-FROST

CSBS is proud to welcome the new project entitled **Arctic-FROST: Arctic Frontiers Of SusTainability: Resources, Societies, Environments and Development in the Changing North**. Funded by the National Science Foundation, the project is under the direction of **Andrey Petrov** of geography and is based at the Arctic Social and Environmental Systems Research (ARCSES) Laboratory housed in CSBS. The program will serve as the national center of Arctic sustainability science research for the next five years.

Visit www.uni.edu/arctic/frost/ for more information.

Left: GIS student Nekoda Rowell credits geography professor Alex Oberle for providing mentorship, guidance, and feedback for his project.

UNI's 2013 Graduate Report indicates that 100% of GIS graduates are working in their field.



Andrey Petrov and ice from Lake Baikal in Siberia

GeoBridge

In April, the Department of Geography hosted a research exchange between UNI and Kirkwood Community College students as part of the **Kirkwood-UNI GeoBridge program**. Students from the Kirkwood geographic information systems (GIS) class visited students in a UNI GIS class to observe research presentations by the UNI students and to display their own research for UNI students and faculty.

The GeoBridge is a comprehensive intellectual exchange between the GIS programs at UNI and Kirkwood. Faculty and students regularly visit each other's campus, share research projects, and exchange ideas—which ultimately helps facilitate student transfers to UNI.

COLLEGE OF SOCIAL & BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES

LOYALTY ROSTER

On behalf of the students of the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences, we express our sincere appreciation for all the alumni and friends who have contributed to the Dean's Fund for Excellence and allowed our students opportunities they otherwise might not have had. We are profoundly grateful for their support.

Below is the CSBS Loyalty Roster—those donors who gave \$100 and above to the Dean's Fund during the previous year. Please consider joining this special group of donors during the upcoming year.

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**CSBS thanks 337 alumni and friends who gave gifts from \$1 to \$99.
Gifts of every size make a difference!**

reflects gifts between July 1, 2012, and June 30, 2013

DEAN'S FUND INNER CIRCLE

The Inner Circle recognizes alumni and friends who give \$1,000 and above to the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences Dean's Fund.

We are proud to announce this year's Inner Circle members.

**Kelly Van Veldhuizen Post & Arlin Post
Randolph & Ruth Lyon
Jessica Moon
David & Barbara VanSickel**

FROM OUR DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT

Over the last year, I had the great fortune of traveling the state of Iowa and across the country to meet with alumni from the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences. I'm always amazed at the generosity of our graduates who give back and help provide the margin of excellence allowing students and faculty to achieve great success.

On May 3, 2013, UNI celebrated the successful conclusion of our "Imagine the Impact" campaign after raising nearly \$158 million. This amount surpassed our goal by \$8 million and we did it one year ahead of schedule! Thank you, College of Social and Behavioral Sciences alumni and friends, for your generous and loyal support through this campaign.

Your gifts to the CSBS Dean's Fund, scholarships, and specific department programs make the educational experience at UNI accessible to students who might otherwise face serious financial barriers. Your support helps students attend a national conference or competition, study abroad, and helps reduce student loan debt.

As we look to the upcoming year, I hope that you will continue to partner with us to impact CSBS students and faculty. To learn more about establishing a scholarship, including UNI in your estate plans, or supporting the Dean's Fund, please contact me at (800) 782-9522, (319) 273-5468, or nathan.clapham@uni.edu.

Purple For Life,
Nate Clapham
Director of Development
College of Social and Behavioral Sciences





Faculty, staff, students, and friends of CSBS at the Capitol

Panther Caucus

The second annual UNI Day at the Iowa Capitol was held in February. The event allows UNI the opportunity to showcase to Iowa legislators our state-wide contribution.

CSBS has been well represented at the statehouse in a number of other ways this year. Research in the Capitol showcased the quality work of undergraduate students; Visit the Hill drew school counseling graduate students representing student issues; Legislative Day at the Capitol gave

social work students the opportunity to lobby state lawmakers about social policy; and political science professor Chris Larimer took students from his *Iowa Politics* class to meet with state legislators and media, giving students a first-hand look at the legislative process in action.

The Emerging Treatment of Trauma Informed Care

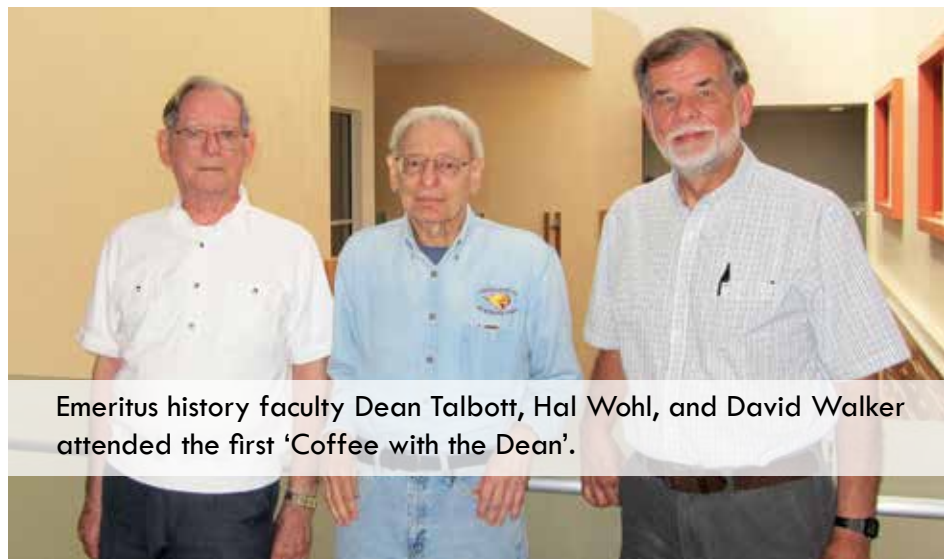
The Department of Social Work held a two-day conference in early June. “Understanding Trauma & Responding in a Trauma Informed Way” offered a foundational training designed to familiarize participants with the impact (neurological, psychological, and moral-cultural) of toxic stress and trauma exposure, explain the interplay between secondary trauma exposure and organizational distress, and learn how to incorporate mindfulness and other self-care techniques to avoid or mitigate trauma and re-traumatization. The presenters included social work faculty Steve Onken, Bill Downs, and Peter Cote; Jeff Devine, director of residential services at Lutheran Services in Iowa (LSI); and Sharon Wise, a nationally recognized artist who uses the visual and performing arts as a healing tool, who gave the keynote address. There were over 200 attendees both days of the conference, which was part of a series of events hosted this year by the Department of Social Work focusing on trauma-informed care.

Earlier in the academic year, the department also offered their annual colloquium, open to agencies who accept placement of the department’s field practicum students. “Closing the Gap: Strategies for Addressing Health Care Disparities among LGBT Older Adults” featured Dr. Kimberly Acquaviva, an associate dean and associate professor at George Washington University School of Nursing and an authority on aging among those identifying as lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT). Additionally, the department partnered with a number of university entities to co-host Iowa’s Statewide Military and Veterans Conference, “Uncamouflaging Campus Diversity: Creating Transparency through Cultural Competence,” held on campus in September. In its fourth year, the event’s purpose is to discuss issues that face service members and veterans.

Coffee with the Dean

A new event in the college was last summer’s emeritus faculty coffee. The day was designed to allow continued communication between current faculty and those campus resources who have retired from classroom teaching—but not, as our first group proves, from scholarly activity.

The college hopes to make this event into an annual one and encourages all emeritus faculty to keep in touch.



Emeritus history faculty Dean Talbott, Hal Wohl, and David Walker attended the first ‘Coffee with the Dean’.

2014 CSBS Distinguished Alumni Named

The college's annual Distinguished Alumni Day was held in April. This year's guests spent the day meeting with Dean Bass, development director Nate Clapham, President Ruud, and students and faculty from their respective departments. The 2014 College of Social & Behavioral Sciences Distinguished Alumni are **Thomas Jennings**



Distinguished alumni Jennings, Benzing, Starr, Thilges, and Van Sickel

(*General Studies, Criminology '97*), retired Waterloo police chief; **Sarah Benzing** (*Political Science '00*), campaign manager for U.S. Representative Bruce Braley's 2014 U.S. Senate campaign; **Anne Starr** (*Psychology '80*), chief executive officer of Orchard Place in Des Moines; **Emily Thilges** (*Family Services, Sociology '02; Master of Social Work '04*), school counselor for K-7th grade for Denver, Iowa, Community Schools; and **David VanSickel** (*History '74*), attorney and partner at the Davis Brown law firm in Des Moines.

Dr. Jackson Katz visits UNI Center for Violence Prevention

Jackson Katz—an educator, author, and internationally acclaimed lecturer who is a pioneer in the fields of gender violence prevention education and critical media literacy—presented on campus in April. Katz has been collaborating with the directors of UNI's Center for Violence Prevention (CVP) for over a decade, leading to systematic implementation of his program, the Mentors in Violence Prevention (MVP), on college campuses and in high schools throughout Iowa. Most recently, Katz and the CVP trained Cedar Falls high school students to implement the program.

MVP has been widely influential in the U.S. and abroad and has been implemented in schools, community organizations, and all branches of the U.S. military. Soon after the lecture, in May 2014, the center's MVP director Alan Heisterkamp traveled to Sweden to assist in implementation in schools in that country.

Katz is a filmmaker and an author, and he lectures across the U.S. and around the world on violence, media, and masculinities. MVP is also the most widely utilized sexual and domestic violence prevention initiative in college and professional athletics in North America.

Funding for Dr. Katz's appearance was provided, in part, by Northern Iowa Student Government, the office of the provost, the College of Social & Behavioral Sciences, Wellness & Recreation Services, Women's & Gender Studies, the Department of Social Work, and the local Cedar Valley Friends of the Family.



Katz presented to a standing-room-only audience in Sabin Hall



Katz and Cedar Falls high school MVPs

For more information
visit www.uni.edu/cvp

In Celebration of Creativity

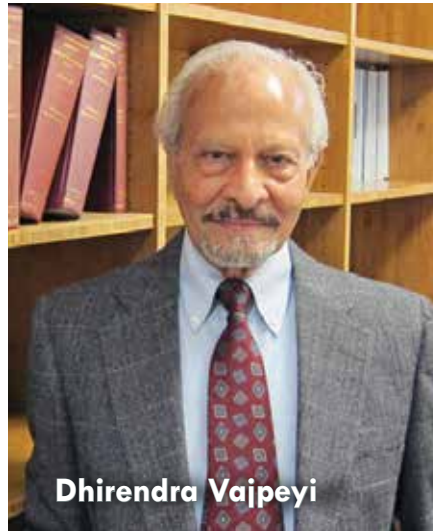
The **Creative Life Research Center**, led by Gary Gute from the School of Applied Human Sciences, and the honors students in his course *Creativity and the Evolution of Culture* offered the **Creative UNiversity Conference & Celebration** in December. The day-long event included expert panels, exhibits,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

The day was an interdisciplinary celebration that included faculty, students, and staff from across campus—as well as experts throughout the community.

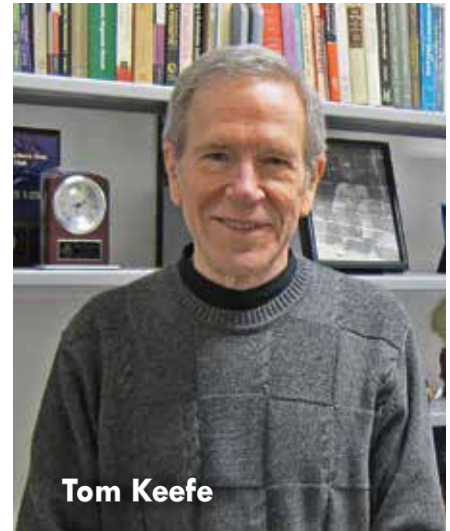
Fond Farewells

With much gratitude for their many years of service to the university and the college, CSBS sends our fondest wishes with the CSBS faculty and staff retiring this year.

Among them they have 203 years of service to campus, ensuring that their departures will be deeply felt.



Dhirendra Vajpeyi



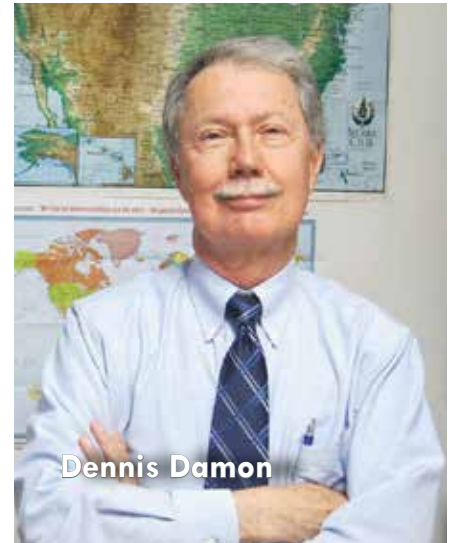
Tom Keefe



Gene Lutz



Jane Hunter



Dennis Damon

Dhirendra Vajpeyi, professor of political science: 45 years at UNI

Tom Keefe, professor of social work: 41 years at UNI

Gene Lutz, director of the Center for Social & Behavioral Research and professor of sociology: 41 years at UNI

Jane Hunter, secretary in political science: 24 years at UNI

Dennis Damon, instructor of political science: 16 years at UNI—plus a long career in law enforcement and counterterrorism intelligence

David Pruin, area mechanic with campus operations and maintenance: 36 years of service to UNI, during which time his expertise kept many CSBS facilities running smoothly

From Baker to Bartlett

The campus landscape changed dramatically over spring break, when Baker Hall was demolished. It served CSBS well, as it had many other campus departments and entities in its nearly 78 years. (Before the building opened for use as a dormitory in June 1936, it was projected that rent for a double room would be \$27-\$30 per student per term.) The building had long since been converted to departmental and office space, and it was vacated in late fall 2013.

Among the tenants relocating to other parts of campus were the college's Departments of Psychology and Sociology, Anthropology, and Criminology. They are now at home in the recently renovated Bartlett Hall, which has provided improved and additional spaces for student learning and faculty research.

Photos, from top:

Baker Hall's demolition makes the campanile visible from the south entrance to campus.

The updated interior of Bartlett Hall includes spaces for both the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences as well as the College of Humanities, Arts and Sciences.

Bartlett's renovation honored several of the building's original elements but also incorporated a few nods to Baker's art deco past—like the round window originally at the bottom of its circular staircase.



Aaron Podolefsky

In Memoriam

Aaron Podolefsky, former dean of the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences, passed away in August 2013.

Podolefsky came to UNI in 1990 to serve as dean of the college. In 1998 he became UNI's provost and vice president of academic affairs, a post he held until 2005 when he became president of the University of Central Missouri. Most recently he was the president of Buffalo State in New York.

Podolefsky earned his bachelor's degree in mathematics from San José State University and master's degrees and a doctorate in anthropology from Stony Brook University in New York. Among his many scholarly pursuits, he and his family spent a year in Papua, New Guinea, in the 1970s.

A celebration of Dr. Podolefsky's life was held on campus in November, where he was remembered as a scholar, a teacher, a colleague, a friend, a mentor, and a family man. The event also included the announcement that the CSBS dean's conference room would be re-named "The Aaron Podolefsky Dean's Conference Room" in his memory.

Student Highlights

Zach Owens (*right*), a textiles and apparel major, spent eight weeks in China last summer interning for the high-end shoe manufacturer ECCO. Fellow student **Emily Pei** interned in Hong Kong last summer with Cabela's quality assurance team. She is the second student from the major to participate in the internship program established by textiles and apparel alumna Melissa Ilg.



Zach Owens and professor Annette Lynch



KaLeigh White

KaLeigh White (*left*), a graduating senior in public administration and sociology, was the spring 2014 commencement speaker for CSBS.

From Ottumwa, Iowa, White has been extensively involved on campus. In particular, she has served as vice president and senator of Northern Iowa Student Government and has held a number of other campus leadership positions. Her service has extended to the larger Cedar Valley community. As a member of the UNI Service and Leadership Council, White was chair of the Days of Service committee, which engages over 600 UNI students each year for various service projects in the community. This year she led the Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service, which involved organizing of and fundraising for a meal packaging program that produced over 25,000 meals for area residents. White has also served internships with the World Food Prize in Des Moines and the court administrator's office for the 8th Judicial District of Iowa.

White was accepted to pursue a master's degree in public administration at the Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs at Syracuse University.

Precious Mseba, Megan Vogt, and Xia Wang (*right*), social work graduate students, attended Legislative Day at the Capitol—a nationwide social work effort to lobby state lawmakers about social policy—in February. The students met with state representative Bob Kressig and talked about the Iowa Juvenile Home and the State Training School for Girls in Toledo, Iowa. Several school counseling graduate students from the School of Applied Human Sciences attended their own Visit the Hill event in February (*below*). The focus of the day was helping students and practitioners learn how to lobby for issues that affect students transitioning from high school to college.



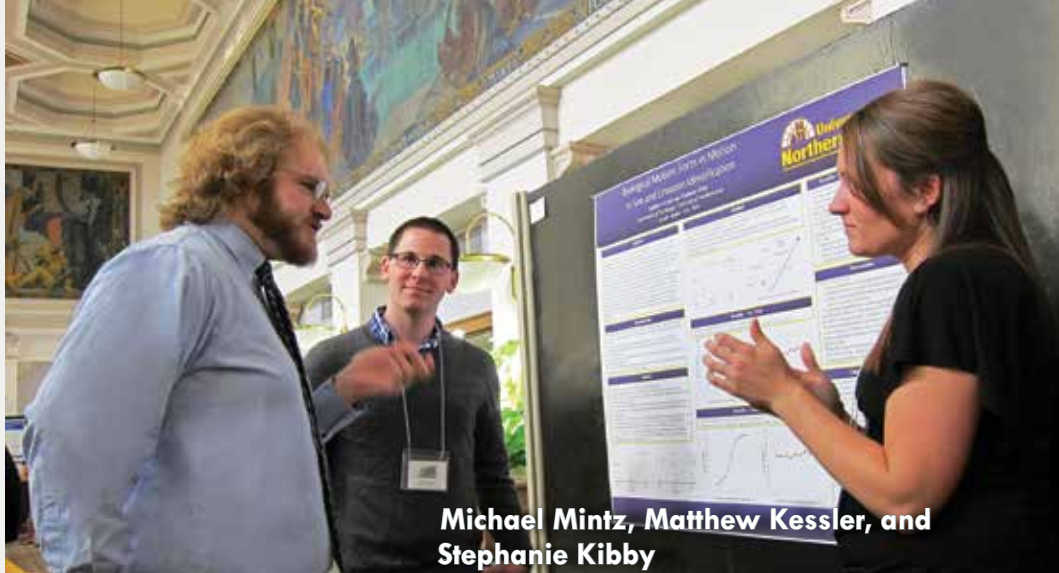
Legislative Day



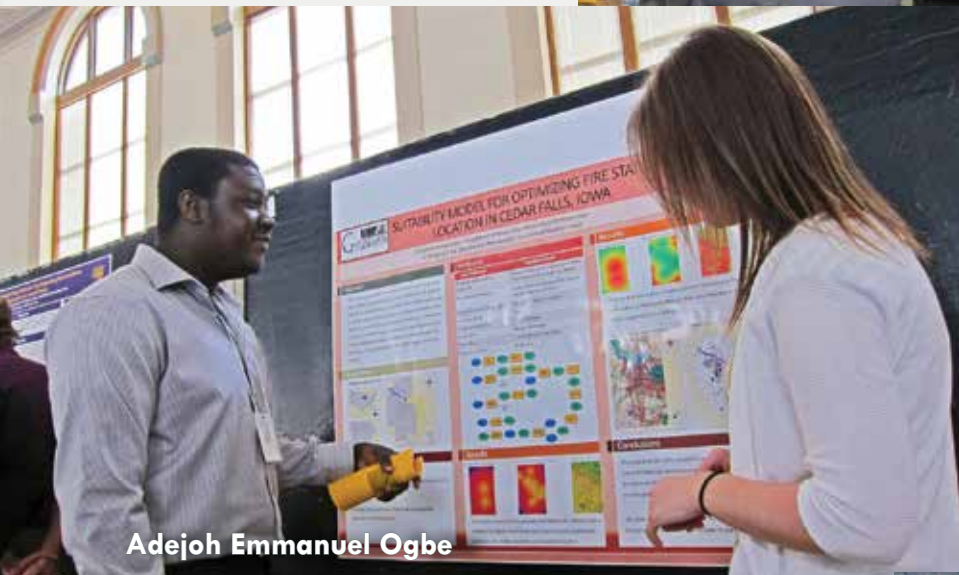
Visit the Hill

The **21st Annual CSBS Student Research Conference** was held on campus in April. The event continues to provide students from the college, as well as other regional institutions, the opportunity to present their research in the social and behavioral sciences.

This year's conference coordinator was Monica Ehn, a graduate student in psychology.



Michael Mintz, Matthew Kessler, and Stephanie Kibby



Adejoh Emmanuel Ogbe

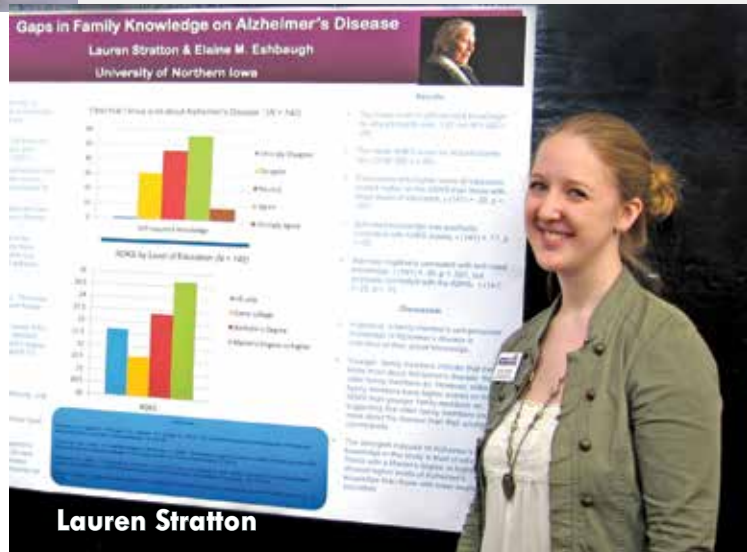
Above: Michael Mintz (left), psychology graduate student, talks to undergraduates Matthew Kessler (anthropology and psychology) and Stephanie Kibby (psychology) about their research.

Left: Adejoh Emmanuel Ogbe, geography graduate student, and a fellow presenter from Iowa State discuss his research on a suitability model for optimizing fire station location in Cedar Falls.

Below: Gerontology student Lauren Stratton also represented the college at February's Panther Caucus at the Capitol and April's Research Day at the Capitol.

Congratulations to the students nominated for the 2014 Purple and Old Gold Awards, given every spring to a noteworthy graduating student in each discipline.

- Alexandra Christensen:** Anthropology
- Shawna Schrock:** Global Studies
- Brian Covington:** Criminology
- Lauren Stratton:** Applied Human Sciences
- Dwain Caldwell:** Geography
- Heather Greel:** History
- Kevan Hudson:** Political Science
- John Leister:** Psychology
- KaLeigh White:** Public Administration & Sociology
- Alyssa Holt:** Social Science Education
- Jude Buchheit:** Social Work



Lauren Stratton

Zac Lamb of criminology and **Alec Lovin** of criminology and sociology met weekly with twelve young men at the Iowa Boys' State Training School in Eldora, also known as Midland Park High School. Through a collaborative partnership between the UNI criminology faculty, UNI's Center for Violence Prevention (CVP), and the school's transition coordinator, a handful of criminology students have benefited from this "hands-on" learning as a formal part of their academic experience at UNI. "Our students are well received at the school by the young men who reside there. They are viewed as role models and leaders within the broader community," says Alan Heisterkamp, director of the CVP's Mentors in Violence Prevention Leadership Institute.

Alumni Updates

Don Hofsommer (*History BA '60, History MA '66*) is a professor at St. Cloud University. His professional achievements include two degrees from UNI and a Ph.D. from Oklahoma State University; teaching in the public schools and higher education for half a century; and publishing more than a dozen books. He says, "Howard Jones, Leland Sage, Erma Plaehn, and William Koll all had a monumental and positive impact on my personal and professional life. I am eternally grateful to each one."

Bill Hood (*Social Science '62*) was a 2013 Iowa African American Hall of Fame Inductee. Hood began his career as a secondary teacher and later became the first black teacher at Mount Mercy College.

Richard Brauhn (*History BA '68, History MA '70*) retired from Dickinson State University in the fall of 2013 after serving at DSU for 21 years as Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, Vice President for Academic Affairs, and President. Brauhn's career in higher education spanned over 40 years and included serving as an instructor at Clinton Community College in Iowa, Dean of Instruction at Wabash Valley Community College in Illinois, Vice President for Academic Affairs at Mt. Marty College in South Dakota, and Chancellor of the West Plains Campus of Missouri State University. He resides in Dickinson, North Dakota, and is a professor emeritus of history at Dickinson State, where he teaches part-time.

Rosemarie Skaine (*Sociology MA '77*) presented the keynote speech, "Suicide Warfare and Violence Against Women," at the *United Nations Commission on the Status of Women 57: Elimination and Prevention of All Forms of Violence Against Women and Girls*, held in March 2013 in New York.

Bob Hensley (*Psychology BA '90, Psychology MA '92*) has been granted tenure at The College of Saint Scholastica in Duluth, Minn., and promoted to associate professor of psychology.



2008 alumnus Ben Hammes

Andy Pattee (*Social Science Education '98*) is the superintendent of Cedar Falls schools. He was most recently superintendent in Charles City.

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

Kaimee (Klein) Martelli (*Interior Design '01*) is a kitchen and bathroom designer for Thomas Sattler Homes, a Colorado builder specializing in luxury custom homes. She resides in Denver, Colo., with her husband and son.

Ellen Fry (*Textiles & Apparel '08*) is head of men's and women's materials for ready-to-wear apparel with Phillip Lim, an American fashion designer.

Ben Hammes (*Political Communication '08, left*) is director of boards and commissions as well as policy analyst for Gov. Terry Branstad and Lt. Gov. Kim Reynolds. He is also active in Young Variety, a charity that helps underprivileged, at risk, and special needs children in Iowa; Bull Moose Club, a forum for Iowa Republicans aged 40 and under; the West Des Moines Chamber of Commerce; and the Republican Party. In his free time he enjoys golf, traveling, and spending time at the lake with family and friends.

Andrew Morse (*Psychology '09*) is an assistant director of academic and student affairs with the Board of Governors, State University System of Florida. In 2012 he completed his Ph.D. in higher education administration, with an emphasis in educational policy, from the University of Tennessee, Knoxville. Morse is a former vice president of Northern Iowa Student Government.

Jonathan Weiland (*Textiles & Apparel '10*) works for Target corporation's product design and development team. He recently won an internal competition to develop an exclusive fall menswear collection.

As this is an annual publication, information in the Alumni Updates may have been submitted up to a year ago. We apologize if any information is incorrect or outdated.

50-Year Honor

Each spring, the university's commencement ceremony honors those alumni marking the 50th anniversary of their graduation. This year, the Class of 1964 of the State College of Iowa also honored the memory of classmate **Robert J. Hibbs**.

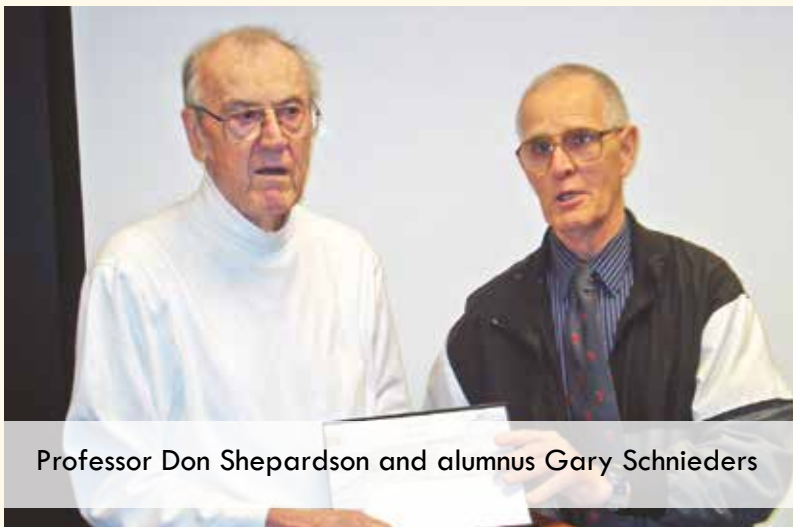
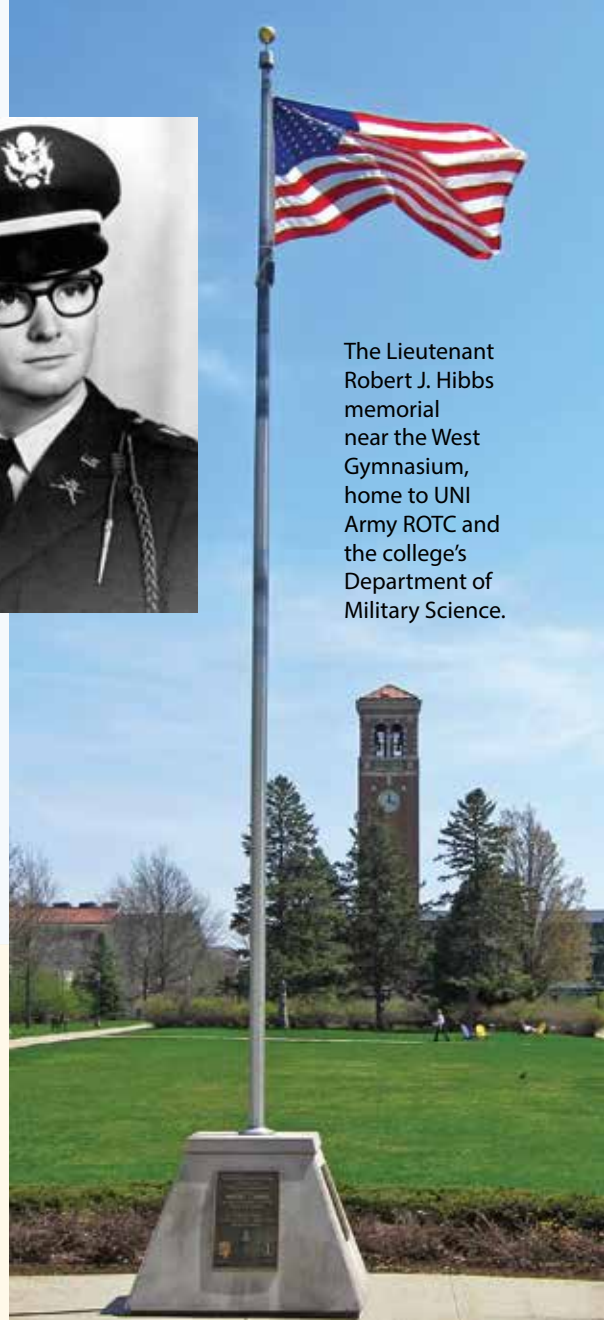
A graduate of history, Hibbs planned to study law after his service with the U.S. Army, which began in August 1964. On March 5, 1966, Hibbs was leading a patrol that discovered enemy companies on their way to attack his own unit. After two rounds of combat, Hibbs and another soldier learned of a wounded member of their patrol left in enemy territory. Returning together to rescue the man, Hibbs provided the covering fire for the other men to escape to safety. Before succumbing to the wounds he received charging two machine gun emplacements, Hibbs destroyed his equipment so that it would not fall into enemy hands.

In 1966, Hibbs's family accepted his Medal of Honor, the nation's highest military award. Hibbs remains UNI's only Medal of Honor recipient and is one of just 261 posthumous recipients in all American conflicts since the beginning of the Civil War.

Photo and information courtesy of Rod Library's Special Collections and University Archives



The Lieutenant Robert J. Hibbs memorial near the West Gymnasium, home to UNI Army ROTC and the college's Department of Military Science.



Professor Don Shepardson and alumnus Gary Schnieders

Making an Impact

Professor of history **Don Shepardson** was surprised on the final day of the semester when former student and current Columbus High School social studies teacher **Gary Schnieders** visited Shepardson's military history class.

Schnieders presented his former instructor with an American flag and certificate of recognition. Each year, Schnieders leads a group of high school students to Europe, and he had the flag flown at the cemetery Colleville-sur-Mer, France, where many Americans who fought at Omaha beach are buried. Schnieders addressed the class and wanted Shepardson to be recognized for making such an impact on his life. Schnieders graduated from UNI and began teaching in 1976.

Non-Discrimination Statement

No person shall be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination in employment, any educational program, or any activity of the University, on the basis of age, color, creed, disability, gender identity, national origin, race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, veteran status, or on any other basis protected by federal and/or state law.

The University of Northern Iowa prohibits discrimination and promotes affirmative action in its educational and employment policies and practices as required by Title IX of the Educational Amendments of 1972, the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and other applicable laws and University policies. The University of Northern Iowa prohibits sexual harassment, including sexual violence.

The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies and serves as the University Title IX Officer: Leah Gutknecht, Assistant to the President for Compliance and Equity Management, Office of Compliance and Equity Management, 117 Gilchrist Hall, UNI, Cedar Falls, IA 50614-0028, 319-273-2846, leah.gutknecht@uni.edu.

UNI's Northern Iowa Student Government and the Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning presented the 2014 Above & Beyond Awards in April. Congratulations to those honored for excellence in teaching and advising/service to students!

In the category of Excellence in Teaching, the three campus recipients were **Chris Larimer** (*Political Science*), **Jay Lees** (*History*), and **Scott Peters** (*Political Science*). Of the 21 nominees for the award, nine are from CSBS. In the category of Excellence in Advising/Service to Students, recipients were **Kim MacLin** (*Psychology*), **April Chatham-Carpenter** (*CHAS/Communication Studies*), and **Jessica Moon** (*Honors Program—as well as adjunct instructor in CSBS's School of Applied Human Sciences and an alumna of Family Services*).



2014 "Above & Beyond" award winners, students, and dignitaries. With their award certificates, from left: Scott Peters, Jessica Moon, Jay Lees, Chris Larimer, Kim MacLin, and April Chatham-Carpenter.