CSBS Kudos, April 2011

University of Northern Iowa. College of Social and Behavioral Sciences.
The 18th Annual College of Social and Behavioral Sciences Student Research Conference was held April 9. Each year, this conference has provided undergraduate and graduate students the opportunity to exchange ideas, present research, and learn more about developments in the social sciences. We are very proud to host faculty and students from institutions across the Midwest and to attract talented researchers from several areas of study.

This year’s keynote speaker was Dr. Christopher Uggen, the Distinguished McKnight Professor and sociology department chair at the University of Minnesota, whose research interests include punishment and reentry, citizenship, substance use, discrimination, and, most recently, health inequalities. Other conference events included poster sessions, oral presentations, student panels on careers and graduate education in the social and behavioral sciences, and an opportunity for students to chat informally with the invited speaker.

Select student presentations from the conference included:

- **Jon Pedersen** and **Adam Livengood** (Psychology)—You've probably never heard of it: Hipster identity in Cedar Falls
- **Emily Wesely** (Criminology and Psychology) and **Sedona Loy** (Psychology)—Aggressive music and the roadway: How song lyrics affect your driving
- **Andrew Wille** (Geography)—Spatial temporal analysis of crop yield variability at the field level
- **Lauren Peters** (Anthropology)—Artificial cranial deformation and its potential implications for affecting brain function
- **Addison Wright** (Sociology)—Crime in today’s society: Applying Marx’s theory of class and capitalism to explain reasoning for crime
- **Katelyn Rohlf**, **Matthew Nelson**, and **Melissa Nation** (Psychology)—Effects of gay-straight alliances on social support in college students
- **Susan Meerdink** (Geography)—Long-term implications of the “ethanol boom” for American agriculture: Iowa case study
- **Chelsea Miller** (History)—Raising good Soviets: Media depictions of Soviet education and upbringing under Krushchev
- **Sydney Hibler** (Sociology)—The gendered division of labor and sexuality in The Office: Where’s the joke?
CSBS hosted two major conferences recently, continuing its commitment to service in the community.

Rural Aging Conference

The Rural Aging Conference was held on campus April 7. Hosted by the gerontology program in the School of Applied Human Sciences, the conference drew over 100 faculty, practitioners, students, and advocates from across the state. From Research to Practice offered sessions on centenarians, cultural aspects of Alzheimer’s and dementia, and consumer fraud. Speakers included CSBS faculty Mark Grey, professor of anthropology and director of UNI’s Iowa Center for Immigrant Leadership and Integration, who spoke about preventing medicare fraud, and Gowri Betrabet Gulwadi, associate professor of interior design, who presented her research on the use of memory boxes in dementia care centers.

The conference also allowed students to present posters on gerontology-related research projects, which included a study by UNI students and faculty that investigated pet attachment among the elderly. As part of the project, Psychology students Quinn Bullis, Kayla Nalan, Claire Wilson, Elizabeth Perez, and Justina Kotek paired with faculty advisers John Somervill (Psychology) and Elaine Eshbaugh (Family Services and Gerontology) to visit area retirement communities with a canine companion.

The conference was part of the programming for the Iowa Consortium of Aging Programs, a collaboration between UNI, Iowa State University, University of Iowa, Wartburg, and Des Moines University to promote aging education across the state. UNI continues to offer the only gerontology BA program in Iowa, providing unique opportunities for our students in a growing field.

Community and Inequality: Moving towards Racial Justice in Local Communities

The college’s Graduate Program in Public Policy hosted a conference on racial inequality at the community level on April 15. Keynote speakers included Dr. Todd Swanstrom, University of Missouri, who spoke on the impact of inequality on community decisions and community life, and Dr. Gregory Squires, George Washington University, on the subject of housing discrimination, particularly the use of new media to exclude people of color from housing. The event drew a cross-section of students, faculty, and community leaders and was co-sponsored by the Department of Political Science as well as the Waterloo Commission on Human Rights, as part of its celebration of April as National Fair Housing Month.

Belinda Creighton-Smith of Faith Temple Baptist Church; Rev. Abraham Funchess, director of the Waterloo Commission on Human Rights; Robin Means, Waterloo’s fair housing coordinator; and speaker Gregory Squires. Among the panelists for the day’s other sessions were Mayor Jon Crews of Cedar Falls and Mayor Buck Clark of Waterloo.
Jillissa Moorman (Interior Design) has won 3rd place in the professional category of the Durkan Carpet Design Competition. Her submission to the manufacturer’s national competition focused on sustainable components to carpet design. Several of her students also submitted designs; of the nearly 1,000 entries, 8 of her students placed in the top 12 and 2 of received honorable mention.

Carolyn Hildebrandt (Psychology) and Alan Heisterkamp (Center for Violence Prevention) were interviewed by KCRG Channel 9 News for a half-hour special on bullying to be aired in late May. Psychology students Katelyn Rohlf, Indrani Thiruselvam, and Ashley Lynch were also interviewed by KCRG about research they are doing with Hildebrandt on cyberbullying in college-age students.

Xavier Escandell (Sociology), with a colleague from the University of Florida, is publishing an article entitled “Path to citizenship? Public views on the extension of rights to legal and second-generation immigrants in Europe” in the June edition of the British Journal of Sociology. He also gave a public talk in March, as part of the new Forum for National and Transnational Identities, regarding attitudes toward immigrants, immigration, and welfare state regimes in Europe.

Gowri Betrabet Gulwadi (Interior Design) was selected from a nationally competitive pool to attend a summer workshop on teaching lighting. This week-long workshop sponsored by the industry will result in more ideas for integrating the School of Applied Human Sciences’ new lighting laboratory into Interior Design courses.

Bill Downs (Social Work) and John Johnson (History) were selected for the 2011 Regents’ Awards for Faculty Excellence.

Tara Opsal (Criminology) has a new publication: “Women Disrupting a Marginalized Identity: Subverting the Parolee Identity through Narrative” in Journal of Contemporary Ethnography.

Donna Hoffman and Christopher Larimer (Political Science) served on a panel of political analysts at ISU discussing President Obama’s first term. The program was broadcast on Iowa Public Radio in April.

Kudos to the following for their success in the Office of Sponsored Programs’ recent internal seed grant competition. Selected by peer review, the seed grants will support research and creative activities leading to external funding proposals:

John DeGroote (Geography): Investigating spatial relationship between adult obesity and the built and natural environment

Trudy Eden (History): The Introduction of the Soybean to the United States

Mel Gonnerman (CSBR): A Pilot Study of Pastors’ Attitudes and Church Practices Related to Adoption

Elizabeth Lefler (Psychology): Needs Assessment of College Students with ADHD at UNI

Patrick Pease (Geography): Feasibility Study of Using Fused Glass to Improve Calibration Standards for Quantitative Laser-Induced Breakdown Spectroscopy of Geologic Materials

Mary Losch (CSBR): A Pilot Study of Pregnancy Ambivalence and Development of a Reproductive Life Planning Model

Helen Harton (Psychology): Dynamic Social Impact and the Emergence of Health Norms Within a Social Network

The following faculty have been awarded PDA for the coming academic year:

Richard Featherstone (Criminology): From the Halls of the Academy to the Streets of the City: Introducing Crime Mapping and Crime Analysis in a Medium Sized County Sheriff’s Office, Spring 2012

Rob Hitlan (Psychology): Toward a better understanding of the psychobiological responses to social exclusion across Caucasians and Hispanics, Fall 2011

Li Jian (Anthropology): Rural-to-Urban Migration and Its Major Socioeconomic Impacts: An Ethnographic Study in a Mountain Village in Rural Southwest China, Spring 2012

Congratulations to the CSBS faculty who have earned promotion! Pending Board of Regents approval, the following have received tenure and are promoted to Associate Professor effective with the 2011-2012 academic year:

Darcie Davis-Gage (Counseling)
Xavier Escandell (Sociology)
Elaine Eshbaugh (Family Studies & Gerontology)
Christopher Larimer (Political Science)
Alex Oberle (Geography)
Gayle Rhineberger-Dunn (Criminology)

Recommended for promotion to full Professor were:

Catherine DeSoto (Psychology)
Wallace Hettle (History)
Kristin Mack (Sociology)
Kimberly MacLin (Psychology)
Otto MacLin (Psychology)
Elizabeth Wiedenheft (History) was accepted to Harvard Divinity School but has chosen to pursue a doctoral program in history at the University of Connecticut. With a second major in philosophy and world religions, she is also finishing her honors thesis on the subject of early propaganda against female rulers in Medieval chronicles from the 12th and 15th centuries. Liz is an SBS Scholar and has been a student assistant in the Dean’s Office this year.

Rich Jackson (Counseling) was recently featured in the Cedar Rapids Gazette for his work as an intervention counselor with a local program called Link. With the goal of keeping youthful offenders out of the juvenile justice system, it works by assigning a counselor to youth within 24 hours of their arrest in order to work with the offender and their family to investigate the issues that caused the offense.

Emily Wesely (Criminology) was selected to present her research, “Patterns of Recorded Alcohol Violations at the UNI Campus,” at the Research in the Capitol event held in Des Moines in March. Now in its sixth year, the event allows students to display and present their research to Iowa lawmakers and Board of Regents representatives. This year’s theme was “Research for a Healthy Iowa.” Wesely also presented this project, along with two others, at the recent CSBS Research Conference.

Carl Beck (Criminology, Sociology, and Military Science) has been selected to receive the Governor’s Award for being UNI’s outstanding Army ROTC cadet. He was honored by Governor Branstad at a ceremony earlier in April and will be commissioned this spring as a Second Lieutenant in the United States Army. Beck is among four cadets being commissioned this spring—the first cohort since Military Science joined CSBS—including David Bohnstengel (Criminology), Benjamin Ditri (economics), and Drew Hingtgen (nursing).

Jenna Miller and Leah Devries (Interior Design) received honorable mention for their designs in the student category of the recent Durkan Carpet Design Competition.

Johnanna Ganz (Women’s & Gender Studies) is the recipient of the program’s Outstanding Graduate Research Paper award. She presented her paper, “Impossibly Hot Moms: Media and the Construction of the ‘Good’ Mother’s Body,” at the April meeting of the Current Research on Women (CROW) Forum Series. Ganz also had a recent article published in The Hennepin History magazine on the subject of The Violet Study Club of Minneapolis, a twentieth-century women’s club focused on a love of learning.

If you have a notable achievement you’d like published in an upcoming edition of CSBS Kudos, send the information to holly.bokelman@uni.edu. Then watch for the next edition!

UNI Catwalk 2011: Mixtape

The Textiles and Apparel program’s 19th annual student design show was held April 9 in Lang Auditorium. This yearly event consistently draws a packed house and allows students to both showcase their designs on the runway and participate in the planning and execution of a large-scale production.

Photo by Mitchell Strauss
The College of Social and Behavioral Sciences hosted its 2nd Annual Distinguished Alumni Day April 22. This year’s theme was “Law and a Democratic Society” and included alumni who have been successful in the field of law and justice.

This year’s distinguished alumni:

**John Benton** (Political Science ‘81)—Partner at California Strategies & Advocacy LLC, Sacramento, Calif.

**Peter Fagen** (Political Science ‘83)—Founding Partner of Fagen Friedman and Fulfrost LLP; San Marcos, Calif.

**Habbo Fokkena** (History ’72)—United States Trustee for Region 12; Clarksville, Iowa

**Randy Hefner** (History ’75)—District Court Judge for Iowa 5th District; Adel, Iowa

**Angel Robinson** (Political Science ’02)—Consumer Advocate for the Iowa Insurance Division; Des Moines

**George Stigler** (History ’72)—District Court Judge, District 1B; Waterloo, Iowa

CSBS continues to explore means of strengthening the college and its programs by establishing a new Alumni Advisory Board. The goal of the board is to make CSBS a premier college at UNI, enhancing the quality of education for its students and promoting leadership, innovation, and service to the campus, community, state, and nation. Board members will be entrusted with offering advice on programs and initiatives; advocating for CSBS within the community, state, and nation; increasing the visibility of CSBS; and facilitating the acquisition of resources needed for the development of programs, student scholarships, and faculty research and teaching, as CSBS positions itself to be a leader in the social and behavioral sciences.

Inaugural members of the board are:

- **Jerry Glazier** (Psychology ’77), Chair of the CSBS Board of Advisers—former Director of Community Affairs, Sprint; and retired from EMBARQ Corp. (retired); Kansas City, Missouri.
- **Sue Caley** (History ’81)—Communications, Wells Fargo Home Mortgage; Des Moines, Iowa
- **Maria Cameron** (Political Science ’86)—Brazil Desk Officer, U.S. Department of Commerce; Washington, D.C.
- **Ellen Habel** (Public Administration ’90)—Assistant City Administrator; Coralville, Iowa
- **Jerry Kramer** (History ’63)—Teacher (retired); Waterloo, Iowa
- **Larry McKibben** (Political Science ’70)—Attorney; Moore, McKibben, Goodman, Lorenz & Ellefson, LLP; Marshalltown, Iowa
- **Tom Newton** (Political Science ’94, Public Policy ’02)—Director of Network Engagement, Wellmark Blue Cross/Blue Shield; Des Moines, Iowa
- **Steve Quirk** (Political Science ’92, Public Policy ’94)—Executive Director; Youth Emergency Services & Shelters; Des Moines, Iowa
- **George Stigler** (History ’72)—District Court Judge, District 1B; Waterloo, Iowa
- **David Van Sickel** (History ’74)—Attorney; Davis, Brown, Koehn, Shors & Roberts PC; Des Moines, Iowa

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**Maria Wharff Cameron**

(Political Science ’86) is the Brazil Desk Officer at the Market Access and Compliance Division of the US Department of Commerce International Trade Administration, where she manages the commercial dialogue between the US and Brazil and counsels US exporters who encounter trade barriers there.

Cameron visited campus in April to speak to Professor Vajpeyi’s senior political science seminar in environmental issues and international security.

**Richard Kaplan**, MD, (Social Work ’75) is a nationally known physician specializing in pediatrics and issues related to child abuse and neglect. Dr. Kaplan will speak this fall at the annual symposium for community field instructors hosted by the Department of Social Work.

**Beth Cox** (MPP ’04) has joined People for Quality Care, a new Cedar Valley-based organization that advocates throughout the country for seniors and people with disabilities, particularly about health policy changes, freedom of choice in healthcare, and remaining independent in their own homes.

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The Women’s & Gender Studies program has received a bequest of over $500,000 from Dr. Edra Bogle. Dr. Bogle is an ISTC alumna who earned a BA in library science and education before completing a PhD in comparative literature from the University of Southern California. A lifelong educator, she has been a librarian in two small teachers colleges, the associate librarian for public services at USC, and a professor at the University of North Texas for 36 years until her retirement in 2002. Dr. Bogle is also an activist who has been an advocate for LGBT rights. Her gift will immediately create opportunities for supporting graduate students in Women’s and Gender Studies.

In other WGS news, director and professor of sociology Phyllis Baker has been named an American Council on Education (ACE) Fellow for the 2011-2012 year. ACE Fellows work with their nominating institutions to design an off-campus learning experience built upon a placement for a year at a host institution. The program is intentionally designed to help fellows enhance concrete skills, acquire information, and observe firsthand how another institution and its senior administrators lead. The ACE Fellows Program is the only national, individualized, long-term professional development program in higher education to provide on-the-job learning opportunities.

Mr. Fatih Yildiz, Consul General to the Turkish Consulate in Chicago, visited campus in March to speak on Turkish foreign policy and Turkish-American relations. The event was co-sponsored by the Department of Political Science, International Programs, and the Turkish American Society of Iowa.

From left: Fatih Yildiz, Kurt Meredith of International Programs, and Dean Mauceri. In addition to Mr. Yildiz’s address, a reception in his honor was held in the Great Reading Room of Seerley Hall.

UNI hosted its first US Citizenship Naturalization Ceremony on March 4. The ceremony was organized by The Iowa Center for Immigrant Leadership and Integration under the leadership of Mark Grey, center director and professor of anthropology, and sponsored in part by CSBS. Seventy-one people from 33 nations became US citizens in the Maucker Ballroom, with over 450 from on and off campus attending. The ceremony involved collaboration with the US District Court for the Northern District of Iowa, the US Marshall Service, and the Department of Homeland Security Citizenship and Immigration Services office in Des Moines.

The Department of Geography recently welcomed German Kuroshev, head of cartography and geoinformatics at St. Petersburg State University in St. Petersburg, Russia. Kuroshev has authored several books on geodesy and cartography and directed geo-engineering surveys for construction of major hydroelectric power plants in the USSR. His public lecture while here covered the latest achievements in Earth precise measurements using space technology. The visit was sponsored by the Program in Research and Outreach in Geography between Russia and the United States (PROGRUS), directed by the department’s Andrey Petrov.


The faculty of the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences continually distinguish themselves in quality teaching, scholarship and service. CSBS Kudos, published twice every semester, is meant to highlight these accomplishments and make colleagues in the college and across campus aware of the great things being done in CSBS. By sharing the ideas, interests and contributions of faculty, we hope to sustain a sense of community among the teacher-scholars of UNI.