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CSBS Kudos, October 2011

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

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CSBS Kudos

A publication of the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences

October 2011

Rededication of Sabin Hall

On September 23, after several years of planning, working, and waiting, Sabin Hall was officially rededicated.

The ceremony was hosted by Dr. Philip Mauceri, Dean of the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences, and included remarks by Dr. Benjamin Allen, UNI President; The Honorable Kim Reynolds, Lieutenant Governor; Craig Lang, President of the Iowa Board of Regents; Dr. Donna Hoffman, Head of the Department of Political Science; Spencer Walrath, President of the Northern Iowa Student Government; and Jessie Nicholson, CSBS alumna.

The rededication, which also included a reception, building tours, and a jazz trio, drew many students, faculty, staff, community members, and friends of the college and university.

1) Spencer Walrath, NISG president, welcomes guests on behalf of students. Walrath is a senior from Cedar Rapids double-majoring in psychology and music.



2) The Sabin atrium makes an impressive environment for the official reception.



3) Jessie Nicholson, a 1974 graduate of sociology, represented the college's alumni.



4) The Cory Healey Trio, comprised of UNI music students (left to right) Jon Snell, Riley Sheetz, and Cory Healey, welcomed guests to the building.



5) UNI President Allen (right) talks with distinguished guests Regents President Craig Lang (left) and Lieutenant Governor Kim Reynolds (center).



Criminology Articulation Conference

The Department of Sociology, Anthropology, and Criminology hosted the first state-wide criminology articulation conference on September 14.

This conference brought together faculty and administrative representatives from Iowa's three Regents universities and the state's fifteen community colleges. The goal was to facilitate a dialogue among criminology instructors regarding how the Regents universities and the state community colleges can have a better working relationship and whether we can improve the articulation agreements that now exist. The conference also served as an opportunity to examine how post-secondary educators can improve the workplace preparedness of students.

The conference was a resounding success with 87% of the attendees requesting a follow-up meeting next year. Richard Featherstone, interim head of the Department of Sociology, Anthropology, and Criminology, co-chaired the conference with colleagues from Iowa State, the University of Iowa, and Kirkwood Community College.



Above: Plenary speaker Thomas H. Miller, Iowa Deputy Attorney General in charge of the criminal law division, presents on the topic of criminal justice in Iowa. Left: The conference panel included (left to right) Tony Thompson, Black Hawk County Sheriff; Arlen Ciechanowski, Director of the Iowa Law Enforcement Academy; and Karen Herkelman, Director of the First Judicial District of Correctional Services.

Photo credits: Lindsay Cayton

International Exchange

The college welcomed an international guest this summer in order to explore further exchange opportunities for faculty and staff.

Ruey-Ming Liao, Ph.D., professor of psychology and neuroscience at National Chengchi University in Taipei, visited campus in July. His time here included meetings with the college, the Department of Psychology, and the Taiwanese students he had accompanied to UNI for a similar exchange opportunity with another department.



The visit forged new connections but also extended a June 2010 outreach initiative in which a UNI contingent traveled to Taipei.

Left: Ruey-Ming Liao (left) with Psychology Department Head Carolyn Hildebrandt (center) and Associate Dean Brenda Bass

Above right: Brenda Bass (left) and Marybeth Stalp of the Department of Sociology, Anthropology, and Criminology visited Taiwan and China in 2010.



Alumni Kudos



History alumnus Kevin Boatright has established a grant to support student research.

Kevin ('84 History M.A.) and **Deb Boatright** have donated \$5,000 to the Department of History to support undergraduate research.

The department has used the gift to create the Undergraduate History Research Grant, which will help students with the cost of research projects and presentations—expenses such as travel to conduct research, the costs to prepare presentations, and

attendance at academic conferences.

“I hold a number of Northern Iowa history faculty—past and present—in especially high regard, such as Leland Sage, David Walker, Howard Jones, Dean Talbott, and Glenda Riley,” Boatright says. “This gift is motivated by my appreciation for their service to students, the university, the department, and the history profession.”

Kevin is Director of Communications, Research and Graduate Studies, at the University of Kansas, Lawrence, and his wife, Deb, is a speech pathologist.

Bruce Bernard (Sociology '73) is a management consultant who received the first “Better Together” award from the Greater Des Moines Community Foundation in April 2011. The award is given to individuals who work within the community to build bridges between people and organizations to accomplish community building. He received the award for his work with the Urbandale Community Action Network.

Jim Lee (Social Work '88) is a 6th grade math and science teacher, high school girl's track coach, and 9th grade football coach for the Mason City Community School District.

Shannon Risk (History '94) is an assistant professor of history at Niagara University in New York, having earned her M.A. and Ph.D. in American History at the University of Maine. She just published her second work of fiction, “The Madame,” about a time-traveling historian.

Marina Filonenko Mateski (Public Policy '04) is the research & business development manager at NUMARK Associates, an energy and environmental consulting firm in Washington, DC. The firm provides technical, research, and management services to governments and private sector clients.

Chris Sparks (MSW '09) is the executive director of Exceptional Persons (EPI), the local non-profit agency supporting individuals with disabilities and families with child care needs. This month he celebrates 20 years of service with the organization.

Jessie Nicholson ('74 Sociology) is the executive director of Southern Minnesota Regional Legal Services, Minnesota's oldest legal aid program which provides free civil legal assistance to low-income persons in thirty-three of the state's counties.

Nicholson has devoted over 25 years to SMRLS, having served as a staff attorney specializing in housing and in immigration law, the senior leadership attorney for the refugee, immigrant and migrant services, and as the deputy executive director of the organization. She is the first African American woman to direct a civil legal aid organization in the Upper Midwest—and one of just a handful in the nation.

Nicholson also earned an M.A. in Spanish from UNI and taught Spanish until the late 70s. She then enrolled in the William Mitchell College of Law in St. Paul, Minn., graduating in 1985.

In her spare time, she enjoys exercising, gardening, volunteer work, and singing in her church choir.

Jessie Nicholson (*right*) with Dean Mauceri at the Sabin Rededication ceremony in September. Ms. Nicholson was an honored guest at the event, speaking on behalf of CSBS alumni.



Faculty Kudos

Laura Janik (Political Science), **John Johnson** (History), and **Dean Philip Mauceri** participated in the “9/11: A 10-Year Retrospective” panel at the GBPAC on September 13. The panel was part of UNI’s “Reaching for Higher Ground: Community After 9/11.”

Brenda Bass (Family Services) is co-author of one of the 10 most frequently cited articles in the last decade from the *Journal of Marriage and Family*—the most prominent family research journal in the world: “Work, Family, and Mental Health: Testing Different Models of Work-Family Fit,” *JMF* 65 (2003): 248–261.

Andrey Petrov (Geography) established the Arctic Social and Environmental Systems Research Lab (ARCSSES) at UNI. The Lab is funded by NSF and NASA projects and is housed in the Department of Geography.

Kenneth Atkinson (History) delivered two papers to the International Meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature at King’s College, London, England, in July—each involving Qumran and the Dead Sea Scrolls.

Right: Kenneth Atkinson joined the Department of History after having served many years in Philosophy and World Religions.



Dhirendra Vajpeyi (Political Science) has been invited to serve as a panelist at an upcoming conference hosted by Air University at Maxwell Airforce Base in Alabama. The conference will focus on key issues for the Asia-Pacific and will include his paper “Shadow Dancing in the Pacific and Indian Ocean: China, India, and the U.S.”

Marybeth Stalp (Sociology) and **Annette Lynch** (Textiles and Apparel) have co-authored a book chapter. “Give me a boa and some bling!': Red Hat Society members commanding presence through ritual dress and appearance in the public sphere” appears in *Embodied Resistance: Breaking the Rules in Public Spaces*, edited by Chris Bobel and Samantha Kwan.

Wallace Hettle (History) published an article on George Mason University’s *History News Network* on “How Stonewall Jackson Became a Hero to the Religious Right.” He was also a guest on the September 9 edition of “Civil War Talk Radio” on World Talk Radio, the podcast of which is available online, to promote his new book.



Ga-Young Choi (Social Work) published an article in *Smith College Studies in Social Work* entitled, “Secondary traumatic stress of service providers who practice with survivors of family or sexual assault.” Choi is in her second year as an assistant professor in the Department of Social Work.

Justin Holmes (Political Science) presented the paper *Perceptions of Extreme Voices: The Impact of Citizen Evaluation on Groups, Parties, and Policies* in July at the annual meeting of the International Society of Political Psychology in Istanbul, Turkey.

Xavier Escandell (Sociology) is co-publishing a chapter in the *International Handbook of Migration Studies* entitled “Immigration and the Welfare State in Western Societies: Ethnic Heterogeneity, Redistribution and the Role of Institutions”. He also has a forthcoming article in the *Journal of International Migration Review* with two colleagues from the University of Alberta and George Washington University.

Jack Yates (Psychology) and Carole Yates (CEEE) took a group of students to Spain this summer as part of a new capstone course called “Climate Change in Spain.” The course sought for students to better understand their own lifestyle, to observe an environmentally respectful lifestyle, and to learn about successful government policies that promote conservation and renewable energy.

New Faculty

Augustina Naami has joined the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences as an assistant professor of Social Work.

Naami earned her Ph.D. in social work from the University of Utah. She also holds an M.A. in social service administration from the University of Chicago and a B.A. in economics from the University of Ghana. Her research interests include gender, disability, poverty, social policy, and international social work.



Linda Walsh (Psychology) serves on the steering committee of the Iowa Teachers of Psychology Conference. Now in its 12th year, the conference includes teachers from Iowa high schools and community colleges, faculty from colleges and universities, graduate students preparing to teach, and even some of UNI's secondary education psychology-teaching majors.

Gene Lutz and **Mel Gonnerman** (CSBR) have published studies of Internet poker and statewide gambling attitudes and behaviors. The reports have garnered mass media interest, including the *Des Moines Register*, Radio Iowa, KGAN TV, KWWL TV, and the Associated Press. The projects were completed for the Iowa Department of Public Health's Office of Problem Gambling Treatment and Prevention.

Award-winning Faculty

Several CSBS faculty have been honored recently for excellence in teaching, research, and service. Faculty were recognized at the campus-wide ceremony on September 7 and the State of the College on October 3.



From left: **Bill Downs** (Social Work) and **John Johnson** (History) were among those selected for the 2011 Regents Award for Faculty Excellence. **Kristin Mack** (Sociology) was awarded the Class of 1943 Faculty Award for Excellence in Teaching as well as the CSBS Outstanding Teaching Award. **Marybeth Stalp** (Sociology) received the Excellence in Liberal Arts Core Teaching Award. **Kent Sandstrom**, former head of the Department of Sociology, Anthropology, and Criminology now serving as dean of the College of Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences at North Dakota State University, was the recipient of the James F. Lubker Faculty Research Award.

Faculty Profile



by **Elaine Eshbaugh, Associate Professor, School of Applied Human Sciences**

For as long as I can remember, I have enjoyed working with older adults. When I was a child, my mom was an activity director at a nursing home. She was always having me do fashion shows and dance recitals for the residents. They thought I was the most talented girl in the world, and this contributed to my inflated sense of self-importance as a child.

I eventually pursued a psychology undergraduate degree at UNI and masters and doctoral degrees at Iowa State. Although I studied development and family interaction throughout the lifespan, my interest in older adults always found a way to sneak into my research. For instance, my dissertation was on teen mothers, but I was most fascinated with the relationships between a teen mother, her own mother, and her grandmother.

When I came back to UNI as a faculty member in August 2006, my primary focus was family studies rather than gerontology. However, I jumped at the opportunity to coordinate the gerontology program. I find working in an area that does not garner a lot of initial interest from students to be challenging but rewarding. I enjoy it when a student does not think they will find aging-related content interesting but then realizes that aging is an exciting field with tremendous opportunities. Iowa has the 3rd highest rate of individuals over the age of 65, and I see our program as a key state resource in supporting this aging population.

I am proud to work at UNI and call the Cedar Valley my home. There is always something to do here, and the campus and local communities are exactly that—"communities." I teach aerobics at the Cedar Falls Rec Center and enjoy the personal connections this has brought me. In addition, I enjoy running on our wonderful trail system. My husband, Bill Henninger, also works in the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences, and we are frequently spotted doing the "Interlude" dance at UNI sporting events.

Student Kudos

Esthella Kamara (Political Communication), **Gene Morales**, **Michael Perez**, **Ramon Cantu**, and **Raul Munoz** (History) each participated in a summer research internship supported by the McNair Scholars Program. The program requires nine weeks of field research and a research project completed under the guidance of a faculty mentor.

Leah DeVries, **Lacey Walther**, **Jenna Miller**, and **Emily Riebkes** (Interior Design) attended the Hospitality Design Expo in Las Vegas earlier this year. DeVries and Miller had received honorable mention in the student category of a carpet design competition and Riebkes had won first place the year before. On behalf of professor Jillissa Moorman, the students accepted the third-place award for the professional division of the competition.



Above: Interior Design students Leah DeVries, Lacey Walther, Jenna Miller, and Emily Riebkes



Michelle Remold (Gerontology) completed a summer internship at Faribault Area Senior Center in Faribault, Minnesota. As part of her internship, she developed a pilot program at local nursing homes to help participants share special memories with others. Remold has now brought her “memory trunk” project to the Waterloo/Cedar Falls area this fall.

Left: Gerontology major Michelle Remold’s (center) summer internship included coordinating activities for older adults.

Twenty-two graduate students in school counseling attended the education town hall meeting at Waterloo’s Central Middle School in July. The events were part of a series leading up to the governor’s Iowa Education Summit in July and encouraged educators and community members to participate in a discussion on school reform.

School Counseling students and faculty with Governor Branstad and Lt. Governor Reynolds.



Student Profile

Sydney Hibler is a senior sociology major originally from Ottumwa, Iowa.

This year she is serving as president of the Sociology Club and is concentrating on club meetings and events such as graduate panels, conference presentation panels, movie viewings and discussions, as well as bringing guest speakers to campus.



She chose sociology as a major after taking an introductory class her sophomore year and falling in love with the material. Hibler says, “Dr. Stalp has been a great help in preparing me for presentations at various conferences, as well as advising me during different research projects and applying for scholarships. Dr.

Froyum has also helped me with different scholarship applications and has advised me throughout my undergraduate education. However, each faculty member in the department has always been willing to help anytime I have had a question and I really appreciate all of them for their help and challenging me to earn my education.”

Hibler is also among the college’s Alderman Scholars. The scholarship has helped her by allowing her to work only one part-time job instead of two and to have been able to reinvest her time in extracurricular activities such as Sociology Club. “Mostly,” she says, “the scholarship has encouraged me to continue my hard work and to be appreciative of others who have put their trust in me to do well and have believed in my abilities to do so.”

Hibler enjoys working with the public and would ultimately like to work for the government or a non-profit organization. She also plans to attend graduate school to earn her master’s degree in sociology.

CSBS Student Recognition Event

As part of the 2011 Family Weekend, the college held a ceremony and reception to recognize students who have achieved distinction by demonstrating high standards of academic accomplishment. The following students were recognized by Dean Mauceri for their success as CSBS students.

Ryan Alfred	Social Studies Education	Johnston, IA	Alderman Scholar
Emily Bruns	Social Studies Education	Waverly, IA	SBS Scholar
Zachary Carney	Criminology	Hiawatha, IA	SBS Scholar
Kristin Conrad	Social Work	Marshalltown, IA	Alderman Scholar
Kelly Cunningham	deciding	Montgomery, AL	SBS Scholar
Kaitlyn Dirth	Criminology & Psychology	Burlington, IA	SBS Scholar
Alison Fox	Social Work	Goldfield, IA	Alderman Scholar
Molly Franta	History	Elkader, IA	SBS Scholar
Taylor Goetzinger	Psychology	Ankeny, IA	SBS Scholar
John Gogola	Social Studies Education	Cedar Falls, IA	Alderman Scholar
Victoria Heisterkamp	Family Services	Sioux City, IA	SBS Scholar
Bailey Herrstrom	Family Services	Luther, IA	High GPA
Sydney Hibler	Sociology	Ottumwa, IA	Alderman Scholar
Elizabeth Messerli	Psychology	Fairfield, IA	SBS Scholar
Margaret Nervig	History	Waukee, IA	SBS Scholar
Emily Pei	TAPP	Cedar Rapids, IA	SBS Scholar
Alexa Pomerenk	Psychology	Boone, IA	High GPA
Daniel Quinby	Political Science	Cedar Rapids, IA	SBS Scholar
Annette Scherber	Social Studies Education	Clear Lake, IA	SBS Scholar
Laysa Shreves	Social Work	Minden, IA	SBS Scholar
Andrew Sorge	Social Studies Education	West Des Moines, IA	SBS Scholar
Erin Stonner	Psychology	Newton, IA	SBS Scholar
Danielle Stuck	Psychology	Council Bluffs, IA	Alderman Scholar
Rachel Suckow	Psychology	Maynard, IA	Alderman Scholar
Mollie Ullestad	Social Studies Education	Jewell, IA	SBS Scholar
Tricia Wisniewski	Psychology	Pella, IA	SBS Scholar



Dean Mauceri congratulates (*left*) Ryan Alfred on his success as a high-achieving Alderman Scholar and (*below left*) Annette Scherber for maintaining the high standards of an SBS Scholar.

Below : Students were honored by the dean with their families and CSBS faculty there to congratulate them.



Public Policy: 20 Years of Service

This year marks the 20th anniversary of UNI's Graduate Program in Public Policy. A number of events were held to commemorate the milestone, which included a panel of alumni who hold leadership positions in community and economic development speaking on the topic of current issues in community development.

The MPP program continues to be heavily engaged in the community. In June, it was awarded a grant from the Guernsey Foundation to conduct study circles for residents of low income neighborhoods in Waterloo. A study circle is a structured conversation in which residents express their hopes and ideas for neighborhood improvement and come up with concrete strategies to pursue their ideas. Five study circles have been held to date, involving approximately 60 people, and at least three more are planned. The grant will also fund a community-wide planning conference on November 12 in which study circle "graduates" will meet with community leaders to arrive at a joint vision of how to move forward on issues of concern to the neighborhoods. Additional funding for the project has been provided by New City Ministries, Inc., a program of the United Methodist Church.



Above: MPP Director Al Hays (center) with anniversary celebration guests Marina Filonenko Mateski (left), MPP alumnus, and Vincent Chukwuemeka (right), current MPP student.



Above: Serving as panelists for "Current Issues in Community Development" were MPP alumni (from left) Kevin Blanshan, Iowa Northland Region Council of Governments; Joe Raso, Iowa City Area Development; Drew Conrad, UNI Institute for Decision Making; and Shinita Crawley, Common Bond Housing, Inc.



Donna Hoffman (left) and Chris Larimer narrowly miss television stardom.

One recent Friday, Larimer answered his cell phone to find Stephen Colbert on the line. Larimer relates that Colbert was in character and wanted to get Larimer to say that if one extrapolated our survey results, clearly 600 people would have written in "Parry." Wisely, Larimer would not substantiate that. Colbert indicated the show had moved on from this story, but he was glad to hear his campaign had some effect.

Research Report

Chris Larimer and Donna Hoffman from the Department of Political Science have been conducting research on the Iowa Straw Poll. Part of this research was carried out in Ames in August where Hoffman and nine students administered surveys to participants.

In the aftermath of the Straw Poll, the Comedy Central television program *The Colbert Report* prompted the Republican Party of Iowa to release data from the write-in portion of the Straw Poll ballot in an attempt to gauge whether Colbert's widely publicized "Parry with an A" campaign was successful. Larimer contacted *The Colbert Report* because some respondents had indicated a preference for "Parry." The show, however, was on a two-week hiatus shortly after the Straw Poll.

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