

2017

CSBS Statements, v19, 2017

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statements

COLLEGE OF SOCIAL & BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES

University of Northern Iowa | 2017 EDITION



LEAVING OUR MARK

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CSBS Loyalty Roster



Volume 19 | 2017 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. Please send to:

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Greetings from CSBS!

As I reflected on the past year, the word “legacy” came to mind. This year has been one of both exciting anniversaries and bittersweet farewells, all of which point to the lasting impact of our faculty and staff through our past, present and future students.

Among many exciting events, we observed two milestone anniversaries this year within the college. The Textile and Apparel program celebrated their 25th Annual Catwalk Fashion Show. The annual event is run entirely by students, from development to implementation, providing them with real-world experience melding the design, business and science aspects of the textile and apparel industry. This year also marked the 50th anniversary for the Center for Social and Behavioral Research. Through the many research projects they complete for state and federal agencies, the center reaches all 99 counties within the state of Iowa and provides national leadership for quality survey research. They also provide excellent employment and internship opportunities for our students.

In addition to numerous faculty and staff retirements, we also marked the sudden passing of two colleagues who leave a strong legacy behind. In history, Don Shepardson was one of the longest serving faculty on campus, having arrived 47 years ago, and taught thousands of students over the years. Furthermore, his financial gifts have established scholarships that will support future students. In geography, Ramanathan “Sugu” Sugumaran had remained connected to the department through research projects after accepting a job with John Deere. During his time at UNI, Sugu established the GeoTREE Center, which continues to provide students with real-world training on projects that range from city planning issues to water quality. While we miss them, we also recognize and celebrate their continued impact on our current and future students.

As always, your support as alumni and friends is crucial for our continued success. Your financial contributions, as well as your gifts of time and expertise, have allowed us to provide the best possible experiences and mentoring for our students.

We love to hear your updates so that we can stay connected and share your experiences with our current students. Thank you for your support, and please feel free to contact me with thoughts or questions.



Brenda Bass | Dean

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CSBS PLAYS CRITICAL ROLE IN Teacher Prep

UNI has always been known as a teacher's college, and the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences has recently been recognized for contributing to that reputation with two 2016 Gilder-Lehrman History Teacher of the Year Awards recently awarded to CSBS alums: Iowa U.S. History Teacher of the Year **James Heithoff** (history, 1998) and New Mexico U.S. History Teacher of the Year **Julie (Bartlett) Ornelas** (social science, 1996). The academic rigor of the undergraduate education majors for social science and history teaching, in addition to the interdisciplinary master's program for teachers across the state, have helped students in CSBS gain not only the knowledge necessary to be effective scholars and practitioners but also influential educators.

"Without the courses offered in CSBS, UNI students would lack the knowledge, skills and endorsements required to teach social science courses in the middle and secondary schools of Iowa," said Robert Martin, department head and professor of history. "Our goal is to see that our students leave UNI with a broad knowledge base in the social sciences and as thorough training in teaching skills as possible."

Chad Christopher, instructor, adviser and field experience coordinator for CSBS, echoed this sentiment.

"CSBS plays a couple of different roles for teacher preparation," said Christopher. "First, our college provides instruction for all majors in the humanities, Capstone, natural, physical and social sciences courses that make up the foundational knowledge and skill base for teacher preparation. Additionally, our dean is an active member within the teacher preparation board and supports many activities surrounding opportunities for teacher candidates to be highly prepared." Christopher also serves as the secondary coordinator of Teacher Preparation, which keeps CSBS in the role of leading changes surrounding teacher preparation.

CSBS' involvement in education extends into the community as well, through the We The People Showcase. The showcase, coordinated by Christopher, brings together groups of high school students to act as constitutional experts before a panel of judges serving as a hypothetical congressional committee to score the groups through a performance-based assessment. Each hearing begins with a four-minute opening statement followed by a six-minute period of follow-up questions, in which judges probe students' depth of knowledge, understanding and their ability to apply constitutional principles.

"The We the People competition had been dormant in Iowa for several years," said Christopher. "With help from CSBS alums, the State of Iowa Bar Association and Iowa Department of Education, we were able to revive the competition."

With community engagement opportunities like the We The People Showcase and coursework that trains students to be successful teachers, CSBS is committed to educator preparation. "CSBS is a college of service," said Christopher. "We want to prepare high-quality, service-minded and community-engaged teachers."

CSBR CELEBRATES 50 YEARS

In 2017, the Center for Social and Behavioral Research (CSBR) celebrates 50 years of service to the University of Northern Iowa and the broader community, state and region. CSBR's commitment to applied social science and rigorous survey methods research dates back to that first year, which included the "Study of Mailed Questionnaire Validity." In the last decade, CSBR has continued to spread its methodological wings and has embraced new modes of data collection, including cell phones, online and SMS (text) surveys. To date, CSBR has completed over 760 projects ranging in size from less than \$100 to over \$11 million (many with UNI faculty partners) which have resulted in interviews and data collected from more than 550,000 Iowans by telephone interviews, face-to-face interviews, mailed questionnaires, focus groups, in-depth and Web interviews.

As CSBR celebrates their 50th anniversary, they'd like to honor those who laid the solid social and behavioral science research foundation and moved them along their journey. The center looks forward to the next 50 years of academic excellence as they dedicate themselves to the mission of advancing, applying and facilitating high standards of social and behavioral research practice that informs scholarship and public policy decision-making.



- 1967** CSBR founded by Robert E. Kramer, Asst Prof of Sociology, housed in the basement of Sabin Hall
- 1969** 1st externally funded study - Knowledge of social services in Black Hawk County (\$500)
- 1970** 1st study funded by State of Iowa - Attitudes toward drug abuse in Iowa (Office of the Governor)
- 1971** 1st federally funded subaward - Airline passengers' origin and destination survey
- 1972** 1st social impact study of a planned urban development
- 1974** CSBR moves to an off-campus house on 23rd and Campus Street
- 1987** Riverboat Gambling Study – Citizen attitudes toward legalized gambling in Iowa before it became legal
- 1989** Gene Lutz, Prof of Sociology appointed Director
- 1991** 1st collaboration with other state universities – Iowa Consortium for Substance Abuse Research and Evaluation
- 1993** CSBR returns to Sabin Hall and partners in 1st international collaboration, Institute for Sociology in Klagenfurt, Austria - University education in relationship to work
- 1994** CSBR surpasses \$1 million from external funding
- 1999** 500th study – Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System
- 2009** CSBR moves to current location on College Hill
- 2014** Mary E. Losch, Prof of Psychology appointed Director
- 2017** 50th Anniversary of CSBR



PANTHERS ON THE

RUNWAY

The annual Textiles and Apparel (TAPP) Catwalk fashion show is a fierce spectacle where TAPP students can showcase their work for the campus and community. While Tyra Banks wasn't there to crown America's Next Top Model, this year's show marks the 25th anniversary of the TAPP Catwalk, and executive director **April Torney** and her team prepared a show of global proportions.

The TAPP Catwalk 25 was on April 22, and this year's show also supported a good cause, the Out of the Darkness Suicide Prevention Walk. This year's theme was "Around the World in 60 Minutes," and the stage team for the show went above and beyond to create sets that captured the essence of three exotic categories: Japanese Jewel, Egyptian Energy and Paris Passion. This is the first year that the Catwalk has featured set changes, and the students didn't shy away from the challenge — which included creating an 18 ft. replica of the Eiffel Tower.

The TAPP Catwalk was organized by a group of 17 TAPP students on three committees. The promotions committee, chaired by **Madi Luke**, publicized

the event, while the model committee, chaired by **Kennedy Elliot**, recruited and prepared models, and the stage committee, chaired by **Dennis Arteaga**, took care of props, lighting, music and more. **Abby Burds** oversaw the budgeting for the event, which included finding ways to utilize on-campus resources to bring the show to life. As executive director, Torney helped bring everything together.

"The biggest challenge was definitely being a full-time student and making sure everything for the show was completed on schedule," said Torney. "But seeing everyone work together to get things done has helped make this an amazing experience."

This is Torney's third year as a designer for the show, and she knows firsthand how valuable this experience is for TAPP students. "It gives us the experience of putting pieces in a show, a better idea about the construction of garments and high-resolution images for our portfolios" she said. "Plus it's fun to invite friends and family to see our work."



ENGAGING STUDENTS BEYOND THE

Classroom

In the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences, student engagement takes place inside and outside of the classroom. For **William Downs**, professor of social work, **Laura Parker**, assistant professor of social work, and **Jayme Neiman**, assistant professor of political science, out-of-classroom engagement has become a foundational aspect of their courses.

Downs' students work with Amani Community Services in Waterloo and Cedar Rapids to develop a Culturally Specific Victim Service Agency for African-Americans in addition to working with Social Action Inc. in Waterloo to provide services and education field trips for at-risk youth. Downs' courses also use integrative service projects that work to develop educational programs and collaborative services with victim service and substance use disorder treatment agencies in Iowa for women with safety and sobriety needs.

"I have enjoyed all of it," said Downs in regards to his student engagement activities. "There have not been challenges because of the agency administrators and

staff as well as the teams with whom I have had the pleasure to work on these projects."

Parker's Introduction to Social Work and Social Services students are required to do 30 hours of volunteer service in an agency setting and write a reflection paper about the experience. She teaches two sections of this course each semester, reaching over 60 students. "These students gain exposure to populations and problems in a way that book learning cannot duplicate," she said. "They gain experience that is good to have on their resumes. They also begin gaining small bits of practical wisdom."

Like Parker, Neiman uses her introductory course, Introduction to Public Administration, to get students out of the classroom and into the community. The students break into small groups to complete Capital Improvement Projects from a list of potential projects put together by the city of Cedar Falls. The groups research the project to learn what would be necessary to bring the project to life, including budgetary and personnel needs and potential obstacles. They develop written and oral

icipate |



presentations to deliver to Stephanie Sheetz, director of community development for Cedar Falls. She takes the information back to the city to help inform decisions about what projects should be undertaken.

"I loved seeing the students engaged in local politics and projects. Getting involved and informed about your town is so important and can lead to future involvement," said Neiman.

"Many people do not understand what it is that government actually does on a day-to-day basis. They only know that tax money gets taken from their paychecks and that there is a bunch of negativity on the news each night. This does not make people want to get involved to help their communities through their

government," Neiman continued. "Exposing students to the actual work of government – helping them understand that the city does more than give parking tickets and tear up the street – helps them to have a more positive attitude about the government moving forward. And the more positive they feel about their communities, the more likely they will be to help it out."

Parker and Downs both shared her sentiment. "Community engagement gets students out of their comfort zone and gives them exposure to the agency experience and the opportunity to learn about specific populations, problems and areas of practice. Community giving helps them to realize that the giving they do gives back," said Parker.



William Downs
Professor of social work



Laura Parker
Assistant professor of social work



Jayme Neiman
Assistant professor of political science

A SEMESTER IN THE

Instytut Psychologii



Elizabeth Lefler (psychology) headed to Krakow, Poland, for the spring semester as part of her Fulbright Award, teaching two classes at Uniwersytet Jagiellonski in the Instytut Psychologii (psychology department). Lefler is teaching one of her regular UNI class offerings under a slightly different title, Abnormal Child Psychology, and a specialty seminar called Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD being her primary area of research). Lefler is also in the process of obtaining ethics committee approval to collect data while in Krakow on Polish perceptions of mental illness, including ADHD, and hopes to compare it to an American sample upon

coming home. She has additionally been invited to speak at the U.S. Consulate in Krakow, to medical students at a med school conference, for a “Women in Science” series and in the Instytut Psychologii at her host university.

All psychology students in Poland are on a 5-year MA-track and thus, both of Lefler’s classes are upper-division electives, taught in English. She primarily has Polish students but also several Spanish exchange (Erasmus) students. Lefler commented that all of her students speak English very well, and their knowledge of the field is



impressive. "I am teaching my courses in my own 'American style' (i.e., more discussion than they're used to and more assignments due throughout the semester) and they have been receptive and flexible."

Lefler's husband, Tony, and daughter, Ramona, have joined her on the trip and are enjoying their experiences abroad. Being in a Polish preschool three days a week, Ramona is reportedly learning the language much faster than her parents. Pierogi, zurek (sourdough soup), paczki (Polish donuts) and obwarzanki (Krakow's pretzels) are among their favorite Polish foods.





HAVE GIANT IOWA MAP, WILL TRAVEL

Last year, the National Geographic Society (NGS) and its UNI CSBS-based affiliate, the Geographic Alliance of Iowa (GAI), took 977 Iowa elementary students into local parks and natural areas to explore and learn about native species. This year, the GAI is back in the classroom, allowing students a chance to journey across their state's geography features, in about 10 steps.

A National Geographic State Giant Traveling Map was the new national initiative put forth by NGS for the 2016-17 school year. For the GAI, that meant a 15 x 20 foot map of Iowa, complete with NGS-provided materials, activities and lessons. UNI students working within the GAI created their own curriculum to accompany the map across the state, helping area teachers implement their curriculum.

Sophomore **Alexandra Mens** (biology-teaching) remarked, "I loved watching the kids light up with recognition for a town/city as they shouted, 'Oh! I know where that is!' and run to the map. It was such a great reminder and encouragement as to why I am going into the education field!"

"A highlight from the day was being able to see activities we had been putting together on paper come to life with kids of all ages," stated **Olivia Mutchler** (English teaching).

Iowa elementary teachers, like Cathy Stakey from South Hamilton ES, appreciate the support the GAI and traveling map have provided. "Teachers are

always looking for strategies and learning activities that connect with all students," said Stakey. "Most recently, South Hamilton has been investigating best practices for teaching with poverty in mind. Research suggests that while using visuals, incorporating movement and creating mental models are best practices for all students, they can be especially effective when working with students of poverty. The Giant Traveling Map of Iowa allowed us to incorporate all three within several lessons."

The young elementary students also seem to enjoy the map and activities the GAI and UNI students brought to help highlight their state in new ways. From one student in South Hamilton, "I loved the giant traveling map. It really helped me learn about my hometown. It was a shocker [to learn] that we produce honey here in Iowa! I would want it to go on for generations, so please bring it back."

As of late March 2017, around 1,000 Iowa elementary students in seven Iowa school districts have interacted with the map, and the GAI expects to nearly double that number by the end of the school year.



Army ROTC Receives First Place for Midwest Recruiting and Retention

The University of Northern Iowa Reserve Officers' Training Corps (ROTC) Panther Battalion achieved first place for Recruiting and Retention out of 42 Army ROTC programs throughout the Midwest.

This is the third year in a row that the UNI ROTC achieved recognition for Recruiting and Retention. The program received second place in the previous two years. The program was also recognized as the third best overall program in 2013 and first place for administration in 2015 out of the ROTC programs in the Midwest. This award recognizes the health and culture of a successful ROTC program that brings in the best students to become cadets and retains them as cadets while ensuring their success as college students, college graduates and future Army officers.



New Faculty Business Leads to CSBS Scholarships

When **Marybeth C. Stalp** and **Gowri Betrabet Gulwadi** saw a need for more scholarship opportunities for students in the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences, they stepped up to create a product that would not only represent the legacy of UNI but that could help develop additional financial opportunities for their students. They created Fabricate, LLC in January 2015, and designed a UNI licensed product that could embody the spirit of UNI and be sold to the public. Their design uses a modernized image of the instantly recognizable Campanile and can be used on a multitude of items, including a note card and postcard.

Stalp and Gulwadi worked with Copyworks to print the cards, Doug Johnson at University Book and Supply to sell them, and Leslie Prideaux with the UNI Alumni Association to advertise to alumni and students as part of their mission to support the UNI and College Hill communities. While part of the sales go back to the university and towards royalty fees, a portion of the proceeds goes to creating student scholarships for students in CSBS. Stalp and Gulwadi's commitment to UNI and students has given the community a way to connect with the campus on a symbolic level, while providing valuable scholarship opportunities for current and future CSBS students.

UNI Campanile postcards are available for purchase at University Book and Supply in the Alumni Collection.

RETIREEES

MARY BOES (social work) Mary Boes received her DSW in social work in May 1990 from the University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia. She began teaching as an assistant professor in the department of social work at UNI in fall 1994 and received tenure with promotion to associate professor in 1998-1999. Mary served as director of the undergraduate program from fall 2007 until January of 2015. She retired December 2016.

TRUDY EDEN (history) Trudy A. Eden, who joined the Department of History in August 2000, retired from UNI in December 2016. Her primary research focus was in the cultural history of food, with secondary interests in the history of science, medicine and material culture. While at UNI, she offered several courses in the Liberal Arts Core as well as a variety of challenging undergraduate and graduate courses in the history of the United States. She also served the department for a time as graduate coordinator and as coordinator of the public history tracks in history's undergraduate and graduate curricula. In her leisure time she enjoys spinning textile, gardening and involvement in the Cedar Falls arts community.

LT. COL. GLEN KEITH (military science / ROTC) Lieutenant Colonel Glen Keith, UNI Professor of Military Science will retire after 20 years of service as an officer in the Army. Glen graduated from Tennessee Tech University in 1997 and entered the Army as an officer in the Transportation Corps. He served in Germany, Fort Drum, New York, and Fort Carson, Colorado and had operational deployments to both Afghanistan and Bosnia. In 2007, LTC Keith received his Masters of Military Studies at the Marine Corps Command Staff College and Masters of Administration from Central Michigan University in 2008. Keith has had tremendous impact as a developer and educator of future leaders

not only in his program here at UNI but across Cadet Command. Thanks for four great years, LTC Keith!

PAT GROSS (family services) Patricia Gross will be retiring in July 2017 after a total of 13 years of service to UNI. Teaching and top-notch student advising are hallmarks of Pat's 20 years of contributions to UNI. Her colleagues in the school will miss her service contributions to leadership of the student organizations, the scholarship committee, and her mentorship of young faculty. We will all miss Pat and wish her all the best in her retirement.

ANN THILL (social work) Ann Thill began her career at UNI in 1982 serving as a secretary in the Department of Psychology. She joined the Department of Social Work as the departmental secretary in 1989. Ann retired in January of 2017 after serving approximately 28 years in the Department of Social Work.

KAY WELLER (geography) Kay Weller came to UNI as an assistant professor of geography in 1996. During her years as Geographic Alliance of Iowa director, she worked with teachers from across the state to develop curriculum and improved geographic education. Kay also brought over \$2 million of external funding to UNI and received two Fulbright awards. She always says that her love of travel and curiosity about the world is what led her to study geography. She has pursued that love with enthusiasm, having visited over 50 countries. Following retirement Kay plans to catch up on writing, continue traveling and devote time to her other passion as a church organist.

FACULTY PROMOTION & TENURE

PROMOTION TO FULL PROFESSOR:

Brian Roberts (history)

Donna Hoffman (political science)

Gayle Rhineberger-Dunn
(criminology)

NEW FACULTY

Laura Parker (social work)

Evan Renfro (political science)

IN MEMORIAM



RAMANATHAN SUGUMARAN

Professor Ramanathan Sugumaran, who most people knew as “Sugu,” professor of geography, passed away unexpectedly on Wednesday, Jan. 25, 2017, at his home.

Sugu was born into a wonderful and loving family in Nathavadi, India, on March 25, 1968. He was a dedicated and caring son, father, husband, brother and friend. He graduated with Ph.D.s from Baroda University in 1996 and from the University of Edinburgh in Scotland in 2000. Sugu had developed his passion for research when working as a research faculty at the University of Missouri - Columbia from 2001-2002. He then became a faculty member in the Department of Geography at the University of Northern Iowa in 2002. During his time at UNI, he created and led the GeoTREE center, which was a deep source of pride and fulfillment for him, and served as professor and director of the NASA-Iowa Space Grant Consortium. Later, he was briefly at the University of Iowa as a professor of geography from 2012-2013. Since 2013, his transition to a position with John Deere in Moline, Illinois, where he was responsible for defining and promoting the Strategic Innovation Roadmap for the company in Big Data and Analytics, strongly resonated with his love for farming and technological innovation.

As an educator, author, colleague and mentor, he was well known for his creative ideas, wit, excellent and persuasive presentation skills, and zest for innovation. He was most happy when he shared his vision for a brighter and better future, whether it was at work or at home with his family. He enjoyed life, connected with people in unique ways and deeply cherished his friends. He was an avid gardener who tended to his plants with deep care. He also enjoyed reading, cooking and spending time with his family and friends. He was especially attached to his grandfather in India with whom he enjoyed his childhood.



DONALD E. SHEPARDSON

Professor Donald E. Shepardson, of the Department of History, passed away unexpectedly on Thursday, March 2, 2017.

Don graduated from Mattoon High School (Illinois) in 1954, received his B.S. degree from Eastern Illinois University in 1961 and his M.A. from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign in 1964, where he also received his Ph.D. in 1970.

Don joined the faculty of the University of Northern Iowa in 1970 and was very proud of the fact that he was in his 47th year as a professor of history. He taught Humanities as well as a wide range of upper-level history courses, most recently Military and Diplomatic History. Don received the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences Outstanding Teaching Award in 1995 and the Regents' Award for Faculty Excellence in 1999.

Don cared deeply about his students and his colleagues in the department and across the university. He said on many occasions how lucky he felt to have been a part of the UNI community. Don also observed now and then that “nobody is irreplaceable,” but for many of us who worked with him or had him as a teacher, he will be irreplaceable.

From Dean Bass, “In addition to being an excellent faculty member, Don was a kind and generous soul. I know that I have personally been enriched through knowing him and will greatly miss my hallway and periodic office-visit chats with him. I could always count on Don for an insightful observation on life, education or the university. He will be missed.”

Don demonstrated his generosity and commitment to history students by making a bequest that established an endowed scholarship that will live on in perpetuity.



Sarah Rudy



Characteristic of Sarah Rudy, a senior public administration major, and a testament to the spirit of the UNI Servant Leader Award she earned this year, Sarah focused her college career on working for the common good and putting the needs of others first, all while humbly acknowledging her gratitude for the opportunities available for her rather than the indelible impact she has had.

“I think that UNI has provided more for me than I have for it.”

“Being one of the recipients of the UNI Servant Leader Award means the world to me. UNI has provided so many role models within the faculty, staff and my peers that are on this campus. This award, the experiences and the people at UNI

encourage me to continue pursuing what I love to do, for the university that has given me so much.”

Across campus, many people jump at the opportunity to talk about the extraordinary impact Sarah has had, whether by volunteering two years for UNI Summer Orientation, taking a leadership role as a Peer Mentor, a program that enlists outstanding students to serve as class mentors for first-year students who are brand new to UNI, or serving with CATS (Connecting Alumni to Students) for multiple years.

“When I met Sarah, I had just started in my position as an adviser for CATS and STAT (Student Today Alumni Tomorrow) and she was serving as the CATS VP of Traditions. I was new to the programs and she took me under her wing and helped me truly understand what these great organizations were about,” said Channing Lawson, student engagement and philanthropic education coordinator for Alumni Relations. “Sarah is absolutely selfless. She is one of those rare people you



meet in life who are truly amazing. She is always willing to go above and beyond with a smile, and that's truly what sets her apart. Anyone that works with her in the future will be lucky."

"I have never worked with a student like Sarah, somebody who, day in and day out, wholeheartedly believes they will have a positive impact and is so committed to creating student success," Alex Oberle, associate professor of geography. "She doesn't leave anybody behind and never gives up on people. I am confident that there are students who will walk across that stage, diploma in hand, a year from now because Sarah did not let them fall through the cracks during their first semester of college."

Kristin Woods, director of student success and retention, was also impressed with Sarah's work as part of the Peer Mentor Program. "Sarah consistently helped her students organize study groups in order to prepare for upcoming exams, met with

them outside of class to talk through academic and personal concerns, and sent reminders about upcoming campus opportunities – even during her Thanksgiving break."

Sarah's impact extends to her academic program as well. "Because of her high level of involvement on campus and in the community, Sarah brings a very unique and beneficial perspective to classroom discussions," said Chris Larimer, associate professor of political science.

Sarah's plans after graduating this spring include attending the Student Affairs M.A. program at Iowa State University starting this fall, where she has an assistantship in the Student Activities Center. "Looking past graduate school, I hope to continue to assist students through the transitions that come along with all the steps of college and to be there to encourage them as well," said Sarah.

A Voice for the *Voiceless*

Vanessa McNeal, a social work graduate student, has always had a passion for helping people. Her passion and personal experiences led her to filmmaking as a medium for giving a voice to the voiceless – specifically, survivors of sexual violence.

Vanessa started producing films before coming to UNI, and her first film focused on personal life experiences. “Film is so powerful because people can really connect with what they’re hearing and seeing,” she said. “It really gets people to notice your message and it was the best way to share my truth.”

Her second film, “We Are Survivors,” featured eight survivors of sexual violence comprised of seven women and one man. In this 15-minute film, the survivors shared their stories and talked about the impact of their experiences. Her third film, “The Voiceless,” premiered at the Gallagher Bluedorn Performing Arts Center on April 5 and had additional screenings at the other Regent universities.

“The Voiceless” focuses on male survivors of sexual violence and the impact of their experiences. One by one, each man shares their story of sexual violence and how societal messages about manliness affected their ability to heal. Vanessa connected with the subjects of the film by word-of-mouth and spoke with each of the men over the phone before filming began. “I worked with each of them for their day of filming to get used to talking about it out loud,” said Vanessa. “Many of them had waited their whole lives to share something like this.” Bringing “The Voiceless” to life was the most challenging project yet for Vanessa, who

collaborated with PLVTO Productions in Des Moines to film and edit the documentary. “The process of finding people to share their stories and finding funding for the film was definitely a challenge, but I’m very grateful to the provost’s office, Board of Regents and the Gallagher Bluedorn for their support.”

Vanessa also shared her insight on supporting survivors of sexual violence. “On a micro level, people need to validate and listen when people have that experience. It’s emotionally draining to overcome, and telling people ‘I believe you’ can really aid in the healing process,” she said. “On a macro level, especially in regards to male survivors, there aren’t many services available for men who experience sexual violence. We need to acknowledge that this is happening to men and women because men are often excluded.”

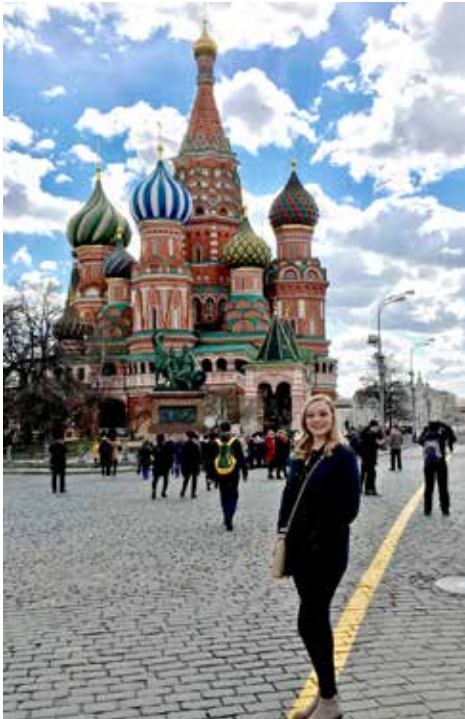
After screening “The Voiceless” and graduating in May, Vanessa plans to work toward becoming a full-time public speaker and thinking of ideas for her next film. For now, she’s excited to premiere this film and proud to be on a campus willing to share the stories of these survivors. “The support from UNI and the other universities speaks volumes about the importance of this topic,” said Vanessa. “They are leading the way for the state by making this a priority.”



“The process of finding people to share their stories and finding funding for the film was definitely a challenge, but I’m very grateful to the provost’s office, Board of Regents and the Gallagher Bluedorn for their support.”

- Vanessa McNeal

A CROSS-CULTURAL Collaboration



Fashion is an art form that can break boundaries and bring people together. The collaborative fashion line created by April Torney, Madeline Meyer and Varvara Korkina did exactly that.

The Arctic Chic project informally launched in 2014 when geography professor Andrey Petrov contacted School of Applied Human Sciences director Annette Lynch about having Varvara, who was a visiting scholar, do a beading workshop for a beginning level design class in the textiles and apparel program (TAPP). Based in part on the relationships forged during that visit, Varvara committed to graduate school at UNI. Dr. Petrov and Dr. Lynch now both serve on Varvara's MA committee.

In the spring of 2016, Varvara spoke to a textile print design class about the cultural traditions of indigenous people living in the tundra of Russia and how the way they dressed made it difficult for them to be taken seriously when speaking with local officials. Dressed for tundra conditions, the indigenous people utilized natural resources such as reindeer and fish skin to create durable and warm clothing suitable for their environment. However, their appearance often distracted and dissuaded officials from hearing their concerns. This dilemma became the foundation for a class project to create modern textile print patterns inspired by Russian indigenous culture.

Varvara provided the class with images of traditional dress including beading patterns, fish skin and other decorative techniques. Using these traditional patterns, the students used computer-aided design to create modern textile print patterns. In the summer of 2016, Varvara took swatches of the new modern prints to Moscow to get market feedback. Based on that research, as well as a brand empowerment project completed by April, print patterns were chosen. Many of the designs were created by marketing major and TAPP minor Madeline, who then joined the team.

In the creation of the collection, Madeline and April shared their ideas with Varvara, who provided feedback on what would appeal to their target market of indigenous youth and teenagers. "We

wanted the clothes to express a sense of self-identity that accurately represented their culture," said Madeline. "Varvara's insight made that possible."

The team created five garments that combined aspects of indigenous culture, including print patterns inspired by traditional handwork and fish skin, combined with up to date fashion trend elements, including off-the-shoulder sleeves, kimono-styling and fringe.

In February, the entire research team traveled to New Mexico for the Southwest Popular American Culture Association Conference, where they presented their designs. They also presented at the CSBS Research Conference and the TAPP program's 25th annual Catwalk show.

During the last week of spring semester, Varvara and Madeline traveled to Moscow to show their collection on the runway at the Treasures of the North: Masters and Artists of Russia Exhibition, and won a first place design award in the category of Modern Indigenous Fashion. While in Moscow, they also presented at a cultural economy and sustainability research symposium. While in Moscow, they also presented at a cultural economy and sustainability research symposium, and Madeline conducted focus group research to support the next step, a marketing plan for the collection.

The trio started this project with the intention of making a cultural impact. "Many indigenous artists told me this project changed their views and approaches to their development," said Varvara. "It's the best example of how scientists' collaboration can work for the local communities and help make their lives better." The project had a personal impact on the team as well. "Right now, I'm thinking of starting my own brand or going into technical design," said April, who graduated this past May. "This project changed what I want to do after graduation," said Madeline, who is now looking into strategic marketing research on culture. "It truly opened my eyes to looking at culture and marketing differently."



Katie Brooks
STUDENT ADMISSIONS
AMBASSADOR

Cara Luchtefeld
PSYCHOLOGY

Get to Know the CSBS **SABRs**

Did you know the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences was the first college at UNI to launch its own student ambassador program? The SABRs, or Social and Behavioral Representatives, are a distinguished group of students who work directly with the dean's office to promote college-related programs and serve as ambassadors for prospective students and external constituents.

Led by their fearless faculty adviser, Bill Henninger, this 2016-17 school year the SABRs:

- Participated in over 15 on-campus recruiting events
- Recruited for prospective transfer students at Iowa community colleges
- Phoned prospective students and organized college recruiting materials
- Presented to the Dean of CSBS's Advisory Board
- Assisted in the annual CSBS Student Research Conference
- Assisted the CSBR in their 50th anniversary conference/celebration
- Were the top on-campus supporters for the UNI Foundation's "Love A Donor" day
- Represented CSBS students at Foundation events for CSBS alumni and friends
- Led campus tours for social work faculty candidates
- Were the face of CSBS and their respective departments!



Liz Fitzgerald | SOCIAL WORK



Megan Kennedy
FAMILY SERVICES

Ella Daft
POLITICAL SCIENCE

The College of Social and Behavioral Sciences was pleased to host the **24th Annual CSBS Research Conference** on Wednesday, April 12, 2017.

The annual conference serves as an opportunity for students to present their scholarly research projects, exchange ideas and learn about recent developments in the social and behavioral sciences. This year, more than 60 graduate and undergraduate students delivered 16 oral presentations and 41 poster presentations. The conference also offered two discussion panels on student internships and student research opportunities.



LUX SERVICE AWARD

Megan Kennedy
(family services)



OUTSTANDING STUDENT LEADER AWARD

Diksha Ojha
(psychology)



LUX SERVICE AWARD

Micah Zeimetz
(social science – teaching)



SERVANT LEADER AWARD

Sarah Rudy
(public admin: human resources)

A STUDENT OF *Sustainability*



"A common life philosophy that I go back to is, 'We live with the consequences of our actions.' When we treat our planet poorly, sooner or later we will feel the effects of our actions," said Kara Poppe, a 2015 graduate of UNI with more than a little experience in sustainability. With a major in geography, a minor in global health, and certificates in sustainability and global health and health disparities, it's no secret that Kara is passionate about sustainability and the environment. While at UNI, her passion helped create Panther Plot, the on-campus and student-run vegetable garden.

After taking a course about sustainability in the United Kingdom and seeing fresh produce being sold on campus at the University of Birmingham, Kara was inspired to grow produce at UNI. "We sprang into action and turned an unused plot of land on campus into a student vegetable garden," she said. "This garden allows students to become more actively aware of their food system through attending an annual harvest festival, taking a class tour, harvesting produce as a volunteer or working as a garden manager."

For Kara, her involvement both inside and outside the classroom gave her valuable lessons that she'll use in her career and personal life. "For other students looking to start their own organizations, I recommend gaining support from multiple areas of the university, such as other students, professors and departments," she said. "UNI is incredibly supportive

of student ideas. Starting something new is never easy, but perseverance and hard work pay off."

Kara has also used her passion for sustainability through humanitarian trips to Africa. As an undergraduate, she spent two summers there working on social entrepreneurship and research projects.

After graduating, she participated in a yearlong fellowship program through Princeton in Africa, where she lived and worked in Nyumbani Village in rural Kenya, a sustainability-focused children's home that cares for over 1,000 orphans and 100 elderly people affected by the HIV pandemic. Kara coordinated the volunteer program and worked on sustainability projects, which included hosting over 600 guests from 20 countries and managing a 1.4 million liter rainwater harvesting program in addition to supervising the high school's environmental club and running programs for waste management and conservation for children.

Caring for the planet is a local and global effort, and Kara seeks to do both. The effects of not taking care of the planet have consequences, particularly in lower-income countries, and Kara wants to work to minimize those effects throughout her career.

"Oftentimes though, where we can make the most difference is right here at home in our own communities. Throughout my life, I hope to educate and inspire others to spend more time outdoors and live a simpler, healthier lifestyle."

DREAMING & SUCCEEDING IN IOWA FASHION

Aspiring to be a shoe and clothing designer in Iowa is not a simple ambition. But ordinary dreams are not for Textiles and Apparel (TAPP) alumni Zach Owens.

Owens set his sights early on in high school to be a shoe designer. "Seeing other people's designs on Nike Dunks and in sneaker books inspired me to start designing sneakers." This dream drew Owens to UNI's TAPP program, where he would have an opportunity to explore the broader world of textile design. Owens established close allies in the director of the School of Applied Human Sciences, Annette Lynch, as well as TAPP faculty Sharon Mord and Mitchell Strauss. It was his professors who helped ensure, even though TAPP wasn't a shoe-design focused program, that the dream remained a possibility throughout Owen's education. "My professor and adviser, Dr. Lynch, saw my aspirations and made sure I achieved them. She helped me [secure] my life-changing internship at ECCO (a high-class shoe company) in Dongguan, China. She also helped me look for employment when I was getting ready to graduate. She helped me connect with other alums who would be an asset to me in the near future. Everything she did for me is the reason why I'm successful today," states Owens.

The skills he harnessed during that intense eight-week summer internship would eventually come

to help Owens launch into his current career. The experience he gained working side-by-side with Ecco staff, creating a shoe from mold to form to stitching, fit and production, gave Owens the skills to be noticed by Powers Manufacturing, a Waterloo clothing manufacturer. Getting his foot in the door in October 2015, Owens quickly moved up into his current role as product developer.

While the reliability of a steady career within his field pays the bills, it also allows Owens the opportunity to continue to explore his own fashion line. Owens has developed close ties with the Iowa Fashion Project (IFP), a Cedar Rapids organization dedicated to elevating, connecting and growing Iowa's fashion community. Their connections have helped Owens place his own custom line of jackets into local boutiques as well as secure an eight-page spread in and back cover of national Dye magazine. IFP also helps motivate Owens by showcasing his fashion line at their seasonal runway shows.

Overall, it's support from family and friends that has kept Owens in Iowa after graduation. He continues to be a bright light in the Iowa fashion scene, a tribute to UNI and those who have supported him along the way.



O. JAY & PAT TOMSON

Kathy Calvin, CEO & President of the United Nations Foundation once said:

**“Giving is not just about making a donation.
It is about making a difference.”**

O. Jay and Patricia ('86 M.A.-counseling) Tomson certainly embody that quote. The Center for Violence Prevention (CVP) is just one of the many benefactors of the Tomsons' generosity. The mission of the CVP is to build capacity among community and PreK-16 stakeholders for sustainable prevention work in an effort to create safer homes, schools and communities across Iowa. O. Jay and Pat were asked to assist us in making an academic connection between College of Social and Behavioral students and the CVP. Their gift enables the center to provide meaningful and impactful internship opportunities to CSBS students while continuing to meet the increasing needs of their mission.

O. Jay and Pat have resided in the Charles City/Mason City area for many years, raising a family and building a thriving financial institution with branches in several communities. Both O. Jay and Pat received their undergraduate degrees from St. Olaf College in Minnesota. From St. Olaf, O. Jay went on to further





his banking education at Stonier Graduate School of Banking. O. Jay began his career in the banking industry as an examiner for the Federal Reserve and the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency. He served as Executive Vice President at the Marquette National Bank in Minneapolis before purchasing controlling interest in the Citizens National Bank of Charles City. Over the years, Citizens National Bank has grown into a financial institution with several branch offices in Iowa and Minnesota, now known as First Citizens Bank. O. Jay has provided leadership to many boards, including serving as president for the Independent Community Bankers of America and as a Regent of St. Olaf and Wartburg Colleges for a combined total of 25 years.

Pat returned to college once the couples' three daughters, Kristine Tomson Schultz ('80 B.A.-marketing), Martha (Martii) Tomson Rodamaker ('84 B.A.-economics) and Sara Tomson Hooper were raised. She secured her master's in counseling from UNI in 1986. Upon graduation, Pat established a private practice and served as executive director of Parents United, an international organization dedicated to breaking the family cycle of child sexual abuse by providing group therapy for each family member, led by professionally trained therapists. During this time until her retirement, Pat not only helped individuals and families by providing therapy, but also by serving as a strong advocate in the judicial and legislative systems.

It was Pat's extensive work and activism in the field of domestic and sexual violence that led to a gift request to enhance CSBS and the CVP's work. The opportunities this gift gives students also aligns with the university's goal to have students become productive members of their communities.

In addition to the generosity shown to UNI, private colleges St. Olaf, Luther and Wartburg have been recipients of their support and dedication, as have many local charities in Northern Iowa.

Currently, the Tomsons are leading an active retirement filled with family, travel and philanthropy. Thank you O. Jay and Pat for providing an impactful experience to our students!

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 231 alumni and friends who gave gifts from \$1 to \$99. Gifts of every size make a difference!
Reflects gifts between July 1, 2016 - May 7, 2017

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Winston Burt
Troy & Deann Cook
Timothy & Judith Kniep

Susan M. Moore
Norman & Rebecca Ryan

TOTAL RAISED FOR DEAN'S FUND - \$42,705.83

**THANK
YOU!**



FROM THE DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR

It seems the phrase “I can’t believe...” has become a very common way for me to begin a sentence. I can’t believe I have been here a year. I can’t believe the dedication of our faculty and their amazing knowledge and talents. I can’t believe some of the programs being offered by CSBS. I can’t believe what our students are accomplishing. I can’t believe the things our alumni have done with their lives. AND, I can’t believe the generosity and support our alumni and donors give to the college.

I am here to tell you BELIEVE IT! One of the greatest joys I have in my position is matching people’s passions with the needs of our college. Many of you have been incredibly generous in establishing endowed and non-endowed scholarships for our students. The cost of obtaining a college education is increasing, and many of our students would not be able to access college were it not for the generosity of our donors.

You may be thinking that you do not have the means to endow a scholarship or make a major gift at this time. When developing your giving plans, there are a number of vehicles that will allow you to make an impactful gift. Most of you have received a phone call from a student or a letter asking you to consider a gift to the Dean’s Fund. The gifts made to this fund are used to further the work of CSBS. Dean Bass has historically earmarked the bulk of this fund to assist students financially when they study abroad.

Another option may be to earmark your gift for a specific department or program like Siqin Yang, ‘00 M.A.-women’s studies, and UNI parents, Allen and Sarah Hansen. Siqin returned to campus earlier this spring to attend the 40th anniversary of the Women and Gender Studies Program. Before arriving, she reached out to the foundation to say that she would like to establish a fund to assist

students wishing to travel to China to study and/or research women and gender studies. Siqin relayed that her experiences as an international student studying at UNI had been life-changing, and she wanted to honor her professors by helping other students access a life-changing experience.

Allen and Sarah Hansen were asked by their son to consider helping the campus LGBTQ* community. They did so by starting a fund that they and others could contribute to that will assist students who are members of the LGBTQ* community. These are only two wonderful stories of how people have reached out to help our students.

Designating the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences as a beneficiary in your will, IRA or other investment account is a way of ensuring that our students continue to receive the best education possible.

I am looking forward to the many “I can’t believe...” moments of the next year at UNI. Please know that your gifts, large or small, make a tremendous difference. I would be happy to assist you in matching your passion with a need of the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences.

For information on how to establish a scholarship, to make a gift to the Dean’s Fund or make provisions for a legacy gift, contact me at 800-782-0522 or 319-273-5985 or by emailing Dianne.campbell@uni.edu.

With Gratitude,

Dianne Campbell, ‘91
Director of Development
College of Social and Behavioral Sciences



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