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UNI Grad Student News, v11n7, October 2014

University of Northern Iowa. Graduate College.

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Message from the Dean



How did you know that you wanted to go to Graduate School? I remember those days where I was making the decision whether to go to graduate school or not, and how important it was to have conversations with those who had gone ahead of me.

As a faculty member and now as Interim Dean of the Graduate College, I also have conversations with undergraduate students who are asking similar types of questions. But this time, I am on the other side – having completed two graduate degrees and able to look back on the decisions I made and assess the results of those choices.

On Wednesday, November 5, you will have the opportunity to share your own experiences with those who are interested

in attending graduate school. We are asking faculty and graduate students from all of the programs to support the Beyond Your Bachelor's: UNI Graduate Programs Open House from 5-7 p.m. in the Common's Slife Ballroom. We need your help to welcome what we believe will be many interested potential graduate students.

You can help support this program in two possible ways: (a) invite people in your social network to come, who may be interested in graduate school programs by directing them to the following site: <http://www.grad.uni.edu/openhouse>, and/or (b) volunteer to be one of the representatives of your own graduate program at the event, sharing your experience about your program with those in attendance. Contact your program coordinator if you are interested in participating in this event.

Thanks for helping us promote UNI as a great place for graduate education!

PSYCHOLOGY GRADUATE STUDENTS ACCEPTED TO PRESENT AT CONFERENCE IN CALIFORNIA

Four social psychology graduate students' original research posters have been accepted for presentation at the Society for Personality and Social Psychology (SPSP) Conference in Long Beach, Calif., Feb. 26-28, 2015. The SPSP Conference invites leaders in the field of Personality and Social Psychology to network, collaborate, and celebrate their studies. Below are the student presenters, poster titles, and contributing authors for the accepted presentations:

Kristin Broussard (presenter): Branded: The Influence of Social Identities on Judgments of Tattooed Individuals. Authors: Kristin A. Broussard & Helen C. Harton

Brock Rozich (presenter): Moderating Effects of Judgment of Ethical Transgressions Based on Religious Label. Authors: Brock Rozich & M. Kimberly MacLin

Michael Mintz (presenter): Effects of Consent Form Presentation on Study Knowledge and Attitudes. Authors: Michael Mintz, Helen C. Harton, Asha Ganesan, Kristin A. Broussard, Anita Gordon, Danielle Stuck, and Wayva Lyons

Peng (Evan) Zheng (presenter): The Effects of Personality and Social Influence on Risky Sexual Behaviors in College Students. Authors: Peng (Evan) Zhang, Helen C. Harton, Nicholas Terpstra-Schwab and Brooke Ammerman

Good luck to Kristin, Brock, Michael, and Peng as you prepare for the SPSP Conference!

ROD LIBRARY OPENS NEW CAFÉ AND UPDATES SERVICES



Rod Library has made various building and service updates to accommodate the needs of students and faculty. The first major change made available to students was the opening of a new west entrance. The opening enhances Rod Library's connection to the central campus. Along with the entrance, Rod Library has incorporated a new Book Bistro Café with associated seating on the west side of the second floor. The Book Bistro features specialized gourmet grilled cheese sandwiches, tomato bisque soup, hot/cold tea, and Starbucks coffee. Students can now enjoy a good book or a cup of coffee from the Book Bistro Café while sitting outside on the new patio. When interviewing Chris Cox, Dean of Library Services, about the Rod Library updates he said "Students have been requesting these changes for years and the addition of the new entrance and Book Bistro were noted both in the Learning Commons surveys, LibQual+, and the Building Feasibility Study

conducted last fall by OPN Architects." Some other notable changes taking place in the library include relocating the Maps Collection and Government Publications collection down to first floor, renovating the first floor to include the UNI Museum's display, adding a new research consultation desk near the reference offices, and integrating "RodScheduler" onto the library home page for reserving group study rooms.

To welcome all these new changes, Rod Library held a Grand Opening on Oct. 1. At the event, TC and the Waterloo East High Drill Team made special appearances to kick off the event. Dr. Cox conducted a short presentation and ribbon-cutting ceremony, while free samples from the Book Bistro were given out to students and faculty. Rod Library hopes all students and faculty at UNI will take full advantage of the recent updates provided to them so the library can continue to make updates in the future. For more information about Rod Library visit: www.library.uni.edu/



CURRENT STUDENT PROFILE:

SAMANTHA BILLING



Samantha Billing is a second year student pursuing a Master of Arts degree in the UNI History department where she also holds a graduate assistantship. Billing attended North Dakota State University for her undergraduate degrees, earning

bachelors' degrees in zoology in 2010 and in history in 2013. While Billing was researching graduate programs, John Deere offered her significant other, Matt Sandbakken, a promotion in Waterloo and UNI fit her educational needs. Billing enjoys working with her advisor Dr. Fernando Calderon, the smaller class sizes, and the funding opportunities available to UNI graduate students that allowed her to take a research trip to Mexico. Her research, and culminating thesis, focuses

on the Aztec Empire (the Mexica people) and how it compared to Spanish society around the year 1521. Billing said, "Like many capital cities in Europe at the time, the Mexica had a very structured class society, a hereditary nobility and a royal court with courtly practices resembling those seen in Europe." Many scholars who research this topic utilized documents with a Spanish perspective. During her recent research trip to Mexico, Billing visited the Archivo General de la Nación (General Archive of the Nation) to study documents with an indigenous perspective that will help her form an original interpretation for her thesis. Billing is currently filling out applications to doctoral programs all over the country. She plans to focus her doctoral research on the decades immediately following the conquest and use the information from her graduate research to explain the relative ease with which these two cultures, Mexica and Spanish, merged. The merge resulted in the mestizo nation that Mexico and other parts of Latin America are today.

GRADUATE FACULTY PROFILE:

DR. MARY CHRIST



As the Interim Head in the Department of Accounting, as well as the Halverson Professor of Accounting, Dr. Mary Christ focuses on providing students with a solid understanding of material as well as engaging them as active participants in the learning process. Dr. Christ is a Certified Public Accountant and holds a Bachelor of Business Administration Science degree in Management Systems from the

University of Iowa (1977). She completed her Master of Science degree in accounting at the University of Wisconsin-Madison in 1979. Prior to earning her doctoral degree in accounting from the University of Texas at Austin in 1988, Dr. Christ spent three years as the audit staff/senior at Arthur Young & Company in Milwaukee. Dr. Christ was previously on the faculty at Penn State University, Bryant College, Texas A&M University Corpus-Christi, and Valparaiso University. Dr. Christ was attracted to the UNI accounting program for its outstanding reputation. In 2007, both Dr. Christ and her husband were offered positions as accounting faculty members. Joining the UNI program felt like “coming home” according to Dr. Christ, who grew up in Clinton, Iowa but was born in Cedar Falls

and has strong family ties to the area. In 2012, she became the Director of the Master of Accounting program (MAcc). In August 2014, Dr. Christ assumed the position of Interim Department Head. Her goals are to continue to promote the UNI accounting programs and encourage top undergraduate students to pursue the MAcc program. Dr. Christ’s early research focused on the development of expertise in the accounting profession. Her interests have evolved to studying how students learn in developing accounting knowledge and expertise. Additionally, she is interested in studying changes in the accounting professions and how accounting programs have adapted their curricula in response to changes in the environment and profession. Aside from her work at UNI, Dr. Christ enjoys spending time with her husband, traveling, attending concerts and performances, and biking and hiking. She also enjoys digital scrapbooking and puzzles of all kinds. As an avid traveler, Dr. Christ has taught for UNI in the Hong Kong MBA program and in Moscow. In recent years, her personal travels have led her to Western China and Tibet, Argentina, Norway, Rome, and London, to name a few. She is looking forward to continuing to add to the list of places she has visited. When in Cedar Falls, she attends all the performances at the Waterloo-Cedar Falls Symphony and the Gallagher-Bluedorn Performing Arts Center. She is also a member of the Board of the Friends of the Gallagher-Bluedorn and thoroughly enjoys supporting the excellent facility.

GRADUATE ALUMNI PROFILE:

MEGAN STULL



A 2008 graduate of the Postsecondary Education: Student Affairs program, Megan Stull has spent her entire professional career working in higher education. Prior to her current appointment as Assistant to the President at Clarke University, Stull completed her Bachelor of Arts degree in Communication and English at Luther College in 2000, and was the Assistant

Director of Admissions from 2008-2012 at Clark College. As the Assistant to the President, Stull is involved in a great deal of writing, committee coordination, strategic planning implementation, event planning, and assisting with special projects sponsored by the President’s Office. Much of Stull’s higher education career has involved working in college admissions and her strengths in writing, public speaking, event planning, and institutional awareness have led her to her current position. Stull believes the Postsecondary Education: Student Affairs program at UNI offers great extensive practicum experiences. As a graduate student, she took advantage of the opportunity to immerse herself in a variety of student affairs opportunities including Admissions, Academic Advising, Athletic Academic Advising, Alumni Relations, and the Graduate College.

While in her practicum experiences, Stull was treated as a valued member of the team and gained invaluable experiences. These experiences were excellent previews of what her professional field would entail. “I had the benefit of working for six years in an admissions office before starting graduate school but I thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity to explore other areas of student affairs,” Stull said. “The trust and responsibility given to graduate students at UNI is outstanding practice.” In addition to her notable practicum experiences, Stull was influenced by several faculty and staff members at UNI. While difficult to name only a few individuals, Stull is grateful for her opportunity to work alongside Dr. Michael Waggoner, Dan Schofield, Jean Neibauer, and Dave Marchesani. Stull encourages current graduate students at UNI to explore their options. Taking advantage of resources, getting to know the professors, and finding an ideal study and writing environment are all endorsed by Stull as well. Finally, Stull strongly encourages students to enjoy life as a student and make time to attend athletic events, concerts, lectures, and more. She also stays connected to UNI through her involvement on the UNI Alumni Association Board of Directors. Stull and her husband, Kevin, live and work in Dubuque, Iowa. As a graduate student and in her current position, Stull feels fortunate to live close to her parents and family members and enjoys spending time with her sister’s family in Minneapolis, especially her niece and nephew. She enjoys running and writing letters in her free time as well.

THINKING ABOUT GRADUATE SCHOOL (TAGS) RECAP

The Eighth Annual Thinking About Graduate School (TAGS) event was held Tuesday, Sept. 23 from 3:30-4:45 p.m. in the Maucker Union Ballroom. One hundred and seventy-eight students attended the event. Highlighted in the program was valuable information and campus resources available to undergraduate students considering graduate or professional school. Dr. April Chatham-Carpenter, Interim Dean of the Graduate College, welcomed the students to the event and introduced Dr. Shoshanna Coon, Associate Dean of the Graduate College. Dr. Coon's presentation "The Ins and Outs of Applying to Graduate School," provided information on the application process. Dr. Chatham-Carpenter then moderated the graduate faculty panel. Dr. Kerri Clopton (Educational Psychology & Foundations), Dr. Tom Hall (Communication Studies), Dr. Cindy Jubay (Social Work), Dr. Kim MacLin (Psychology), and Dr. Ira Simet (Chemistry & Biochemistry) discussed ways to develop a strong application, including personal statement development, selection of references, and graduate programs acceptance criteria.

To conclude TAGS, the UNI Graduate Programs Fair showcased opportunities for further education, and door prizes, donated by local business, were awarded after the event.



APPLYING FOR FALL 2014 GRADUATION

Graduate students who plan to graduate in Dec. 2014 need to apply for graduation by Nov. 10 in order to avoid late fees. Graduate students can register for graduation as late as Dec. 19, but you will be charged a late fee and may not be included in the commencement booklet. You can find the application through your Student Center in MyUNiverse.

Check out the "Important Dates" page on the UNI Graduate College's website for more information <http://www.grad.uni.edu/important-dates>.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITY: LINKEDIN WORKSHOP

The Graduate College held a LinkedIn Professional Development Workshop on Wednesday, Oct. 22, 2014. This free and interactive workshop was conducted in the Maucker Union College Eye Room from 4:00-4:50 PM. All registered attendees had the opportunity to have their head shot taken. Students were then given tips on how to maximize their profile, along with how to conduct a well-prepared and professional LinkedIn account. For more information regarding the workshop, please visit www.grad.uni.edu and click "LinkedIn Workshop" under News and Announcements.



Graduate College Social Mixer

Would you like to meet graduate students or faculty from graduate programs across campus in an easy-going, social setting? The Graduate College will host a social mixer for all graduate programs on Monday, Nov. 17 in the Maucker Union Ballroom from 4:30 to 6:00 p.m. All graduate students and faculty are encouraged to attend. The event will also serve as a Graduate Student Symposium kickoff, as registration will be opened and former symposium winners will be recognized. April Chatham-Carpenter, the Interim Dean of the Graduate College, will address the audience and refreshments will be provided.

CALL FOR ALUMNI

Do you know a former UNI graduate student who is continuing to further their education or is recognized as an outstanding professional in their respective field? If so, we would like to feature these individuals in our upcoming newsletter issues. Please email gradlife@uni.edu with your recommendations of alumni to recognize in UNI Grad Student News or fill out the submission form at <http://www.grad.uni.edu/uni-grad-student-news-submission-form>. If emailing, please include the name of the individual, graduate program while at UNI, and current contact information. Please include details and examples regarding why the individual should be recognized for their outstanding work as a graduate student and their notable contributions as current professionals. All students, faculty, and staff are invited to recommend distinguished alumni from all fields of study.

OUTDOOR RECREATION FOR GRADUATE STUDENTS

If you enjoy the outdoors and have some free time after class or on a weekend, UNI Outdoors offers exciting trips and enjoyable adventure activities for all. Whether you have lots of outdoor experience or are just getting started, you can find something to enjoy from UNI Outdoors. During the fall 2014 semester, students can enroll in outdoor skills clinics and learn about rock climbing gear and basics, cross country skiing, or beginning kayaking skills. Clinics are available at a low cost (\$5-\$15) and equipment is provided. The Outdoor Recreation Services (WRC 174) also offers low-priced

equipment rental for students who are more comfortable venturing out on their own. Equipment rentals include kayaks, paddleboards, tents, and many more options. Bicycle tune-ups and basic repairs are available at the UNI Outdoors office. Finally, if you are looking for an adventurous weekend trip, let UNI Outdoors do the planning for you. Whether you are on a tight budget or are able to save up for a once-in-a-lifetime trip, there are plenty of trips to choose from. The 2014-2015 trips include rock climbing in Clear Creek Canyon, Colo., Grand Canyon backpacking, local mountain biking, and the Machu Picchu Adventure in Peru. For all your equipment rental needs or to plan your next trip, visit: https://www.uni.edu/wellrec/outdoor_recreation or call 319-273-7163.

GRADUATE STUDENT ADVISORY BOARD 2014-2015

The mission of the Graduate Student Advisory Board (GSAB) is to create a platform that will encourage continuous relationships and open communication between all graduate students at the University of Northern Iowa. This group also serves to represent the interests of all graduate student communities by advising the Graduate College administration and staff on policies and procedures that directly affect graduate student life. The first 2014-2015 GSAB meeting took place on Wednesday, Sept. 17, 2014. The GSAB is chaired by Dr. April Chatham-Carpenter, Interim Dean of the Graduate College. Sixteen graduate students attended the first meeting representing a variety of graduate

programs. Following introductions, Dr. Chatham-Carpenter facilitated a discussion on graduate student orientation and new ideas for 2015. Members shared their ideas on helping future graduate students from other institutions transition to UNI successfully. Students also discussed the importance of a campus tour for new graduate students who are unfamiliar with UNI as well as the importance of Graduate College communication efforts with newly admitted students. The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, November 12, from noon to 1:00 pm in the Center for Multicultural Education.

GSAB Members 2014-2015:

Ashley Heffern
Social Work

Kristen Buldhaupt
Postsecondary Education: Student Affairs
NISG Graduate Senator

Elizabeth (Liz) Marie Johnson
English: English Studies

T.J. Johnson
Public Policy

Heather Place
Postsecondary Education: Student Affairs
NISG Graduate Senator

Scotti Hagensick
School Counseling

RaeAnn Swanson
History

Minh Nguyen
Business Administration

Michelle Hovenga
Accounting

Tanner Sandrock
English: English Studies

Theophile Muhayimana
Educational Leadership

David Coltrain
Postsecondary Education: Student Affairs

James Martin
Accounting

Abbie Gacke
Speech-Language Pathology

Rachel Gregory
Public Policy

Michael Mintz
Psychology: Social Psychology

SCHOOL OF MUSIC UPDATES



Several School of Music students and alumni recently attended trainings and presented at area conferences. Nichelle Probst, a second year Master of Music in viola performance, attended the Intermountain Suzuki Institute during the summer months. She completed Book 1 of Suzuki teacher training and will be a student assistant this year in the UNI Suzuki School. Two alumni, Holly Gaunitz, Master of Music: Piano Pedagogy, who graduated in May 2014, and Jiamin Liao, Master of Music: Piano Pedagogy, who graduated in August 2014, were invited to present at the Minnesota Music Teachers Association State Conference in June 2014. The presentation was entitled, "Looking Outside Your Piano Studio: Consider Developing an Outreach Program." Congratulations to Nichelle, Jiamin, and Holly on your exciting accomplishments!

For more information on the School of Music, visit <http://www.uni.edu/music/>

GRADUATE STUDENT TO PRESENT AT MID-ATLANTIC POPULAR & AMERICAN CULTURE ASSOCIATION CONFERENCE

Elizabeth Collins, an English Studies graduate student, will present her research paper, "American Monster: The Naturalization of Frankenstein, 1910-1931," at the 25th Annual Mid-Atlantic Popular & American Culture Association Conference. The conference will be held in Baltimore, Nov. 6-8, 2014. Collins' paper is a result of a research paper written for a history seminar on popular culture for the 2014 spring semester. Her work explores Mary Shelley's novel, "Frankenstein," which reached a high level of popularity in the United States during the early twentieth century. Collins is very excited and proud to represent UNI at the upcoming conference.

The Graduate College would like to congratulate Elizabeth on the acceptance of her paper and wish her good luck at the conference!

GSAB Introduces Subcommittees

The 2014-2015 GSAB members will also participate in specific subcommittees during the academic year. The three subcommittees focus their efforts on the 8th Annual Graduate Student Symposium, Graduate College social media, and student recruitment. GSAB members interested in any of the subcommittees have the opportunity to attend monthly meetings and voice their opinions and offer suggestions for each of the three areas. Specifically, the Recruitment Subcommittee has been developing ideas for Welcome Week activities and discussing new additions and improvements to the Graduate College website for prospective students. The Symposium Subcommittee is designing a new event, "The Graduate College Social Mixer," to encourage more participation in the Symposium and offer a networking opportunity between UNI graduate programs. More information about this event is included in the pages of this newsletter. Finally, the Social Media Subcommittee has developed a new public Graduate College Facebook page. Please "Like" this new page to stay up-to-date on events and news.

IRB AND ACADEMIC ETHICS TRAININGS

The Office of Research and Sponsored Programs offered Institutional Review Board (IRB) training on Sept. 29 for undergraduates, and on Sept. 30 for graduate students. Students interested in or planning on conducting human participant research were strongly advised to attend the training. During the meeting, information on human subject's protections and the UNI IRB process was presented. Handouts were provided regarding specific procedures and documentation that will need to be prepared in order to conduct such research. To conclude, certificates of attendance were handed out to the students for proof of completed IRB training. For those students unable to attend, IRB training is available online as well.

In addition to IRB training, the Education and Training Committee of the new Center for Academic Ethics hosted a workshop on scholarly integrity for graduate students on Oct. 22, 2014. Through faculty presentations and interactive discussions, integrity in authorship, qualitative and quantitative data management and interpretation, and identity and power implications in designing and disseminating research was addressed. This session concluded with students receiving certificates of attendance. For more information regarding these trainings visit: <http://www.uni.edu/rsp/>.

UNI at a **Distance**

Graduate programs available

20+ cohorts begin in 2015

See us at the

UNI Graduate Programs Open House

Wednesday, Nov. 5, 2014 from 5–7 p.m.

UNI Commons Lounge/Ballroom

RSVP at www.grad.uni.edu/openhouse

distance.uni.edu

800-648-3864

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES: INTERCOLLEGIATE ACADEMIC FUND

A funding opportunity readily available to students at UNI is the Intercollegiate Academic Fund (IAF). This fund exists to promote and support intercollegiate academic experiences for University of Northern Iowa undergraduate and graduate students. The fund is designed to encourage individual students and student groups with direct links to academic programs and departments to participate in academic competitions and present original research scholarship, or creative work at state, regional, national, and international conferences. Specifically, the IAF supports students in two ways. The first is through a travel fund for students who participate in intercollegiate academic competitions and presentations at professional conferences. The maximum award for a student presenting in this category is \$650, unless traveling outside the United States, which will be considered on a case-by-case basis for individual awards up to \$1000. The second way to receive funding is through a research and creative activity fund that supports student research and creative activities. The maximum award for this category is up to \$650 per person or \$1,500 per group. There are specific eligibility and criterion lists along with an IAF application available online at <http://www.uni.edu/vpaa/iaf/>. The IAF Committee is the deciding body for accepting or declining student's applications and is housed in the Office of the Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs.

The Intercollegiate Academic Fund is accepting applications for the 2014-2015 school year. Please take note of the important deadlines and expected review schedules available on the IAF website.

GRADUATE COLLEGE STAFF AND CONTACT INFORMATION

To submit articles for consideration in the UNI Grad Student News contact gradlife@uni.edu.

With any questions or concerns feel free to contact the Graduate College staff listed below.

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