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CSBS Kudos, February 2012

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

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CSBS *Kudos*

A publication of UNI's College of Social & Behavioral Sciences

February 2012

CSBS sponsors guest speakers

The College of Social and Behavioral Sciences remains at the forefront of promoting dialogue on a variety of timely topics. Mark your calendars now for these upcoming events.

Wednesday, February 29 - 7:30pm - Sabin 2

The US Military in the Post-9/11 World

Andrew Bacevich, an expert on U.S. foreign policy and military affairs, talks about the forces that have shaped U.S. national security and the rise of a “perpetual war” that affects the economy, society and politics of the United States, and our place in the world. What is the proper role of the U.S. military in the world? Can terrorism be defeated militarily? Can the aspiration of unchallenged global dominance be sustained?



Friday, March 2 - 11:30am - Sabin 2

The Invisible Weight of Whiteness: The racial grammar of everyday life in contemporary America

Dr. Eduardo Bonilla-Silva from Duke University addresses the concept of racial grammar, a system that sets white supremacy as the standard for many social events and transactions. Join us for a discussion of why we must understand it.



Tuesday, March 6 - 7:00pm - Curris 109

You Are What You Shop: Women Against the Sweatshops, Past and Present

Dr. Eileen Boris, Hull Professor and chair of the Department of Feminist Studies and an affiliate professor of history and black studies at the University of California, Santa Barbara, will present this lecture as part of Women's History Month. This year's theme is “Women and Global Capitalism.”



Wednesday, March 7 - 3:00pm - Schindler 130C

Aging in Iowa: Who Cares?

Donna Harvey, director of the Iowa Department on Aging, will speak as part of the Iowa Consortium of Aging Programs Spring Colloquia Series, sponsored by UNI's Gerontology program. Harvey will discuss the efforts of the Iowa Department on Aging to improve health services and ensure the best possible care for all older Iowa residents.



Monday, March 26 - 7:00pm - Maucker Union, University Room

The War on Drugs: Is It Time to Reconsider?

Major Neill Franklin, executive director of Law Enforcement Against Prohibition (LEAP), addresses whether the results we are achieving are worth the resources we're spending.

Thursday, March 29 - 7:00pm - Sabin 2

Buying into Empire: U.S. Consumption at the Turn of the Twentieth Century

Dr. Kristin Hoganson, professor of history at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, will present this lecture as part of Women's History Month.

Counseling program continues 100% pass rate

Programs in the School of Applied Human Sciences continue their excellence record of student preparation.

The graduate programs in counseling utilize the Counselor Preparation Comprehensive Exam (CPCE) as an exit requirement. Since the requirement was put in place in 2007, the programs have maintained a 100% pass rate, and the most recent cohort all scored above the national mean.

CPCE is used by over 290 universities and colleges to assess students' knowledge of counseling information based on eight content areas assigned by the Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs: human growth and development; social and cultural foundations; helping relationships; group work; career and lifestyle development; appraisal; research and program evaluation; and professional orientation and ethics.

Kudos to the most recent counseling graduate students who passed the exam: Sveltana Jovic, Christopher Kelly, Erin Klug, Jaelyn Schultz, Karin Schwarz, and Tyler Strodtman.

Guest lecturer welcomed to campus

**Ruth Chananie-Hill, Assistant Professor,
Department of Sociology, Anthropology, and Criminology**

In October, Dr. Gail Dines presented her lecture, "Supersexed: Pop Culture Images of Women in a Porn Culture," to a standing-room-only crowd in Sabin Hall.

Not knowing exactly what to expect, students, faculty, and staff members were riveted by Dr. Dines' discussions on the hyper-sexualization of images of women in mainstream pop culture, which she argued filter down directly from hard core pornography's misogynistic representations of women. Holding nothing back, she connected with audience members through her lucid and disturbing explanations of how women in our culture are constructed as objects to be sexually dominated, as well as how men are 'groomed' from an early age through exposure to increasingly available hard-core pornography to desire women as objects rather than persons.

Through her often explicit multi-media presentation, Dr. Dines argued that pornography is not about 'individual fantasies,' but is rather a multi-billion dollar global industry that thrives by luring paying customers and addicting them to images of increasingly violent, debasing sexual treatment of women by men. She further claimed that the porn industry harms all involved, including the sex workers themselves (especially women) who suffer from physical and psychological injury through the making of hard-core porn, and by misshaping young women and men's ideas of human sexuality and possibly preventing them from making truly intimate connections. A vigorous question and answer session followed, as did many classroom and interpersonal discussions on the topic for weeks after her visit.

Dr. Gail Dines is a professor of sociology and women's studies at Wheelock College in Boston, an internationally acclaimed speaker and author, and a feminist activist. Her work on media and pornography has appeared internationally in academic journals, books, newspapers, magazines, and film documentaries. Her radio and television appearances include CNN, FOX, MSNBC, and Showtime. Her most recent book is entitled *Pornland: How Porn has Hijacked our Sexuality* (2010), and she is a discussant in Media Education Foundation's film documentary *The Price of Pleasure: Pornography, Sexuality, and Relationships* (2008). She recently received the Myers Center Award for the Study of Human Rights and is a founding member of Stop Porn Culture, an educational and activist group of antiviolence experts, community organizers and anyone concerned about the increasing pornification of the culture.

Dr. Dines' visit was made possible by the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences, Women's and Gender Studies, Department of Sociology, Anthropology, and Criminology, YWCA of Black Hawk County, Wheaton Franciscan Healthcare, College of Humanities, Arts, and Sciences, College of Education, Violence Intervention Services, Dean of Students' Office, and the Executive Vice President and Provost's Office.



Dr. Gail Dines (center) with Women's and Gender Studies graduate students Kristen McNutt (left) and Gloria Sumpter (right).

ALUMNI Kudos

Nadia Korobova (Public Policy '01) was one of the Waterloo-Cedar Falls Courier's 2011 "20 Under 40," which honors young leaders who are working to improve the quality of life in the area. She is assistant director of UNI's Office of International Programs.

Jess Elder (Geography BA '02, MA '04) is product manager of digital mapping and interactive publishing at the National Geographic Society, having worked on applications for the iPhone/iPad, Android and Windows phones, and the Nook. Before joining National Geographic in 2006, he had been a cartographer with the National Aeronautical Charting Office in the Federal Aviation Administration.



Atun Wardatun (W&GS '06) has received an Australian Leadership Award, a prestigious scholarship that will support four years of doctoral study and leadership development at the University of Western Sydney Australia. Wardatun earned

her MA in Women's and Gender Studies while at UNI on a Fulbright Fellowship. Her doctoral research topic will be gender relations in religious leaders' families in a province in Indonesia where women's quality of life in the province is particularly low.

Jeni Wilford (Interior Design '07) has returned from a faith-based humanitarian effort in Zambia. The purpose of the trip was building homes for child-headed families—families in which older children are raising younger siblings due to the loss of their parents. Wilford blogged about her experience at zambiahopeshelter.tumblr.com/.

Kyle Kuehler (Psychology, Family Services '09) is pursuing a master's degree in social work from the University of Iowa. He is also a youth counselor at Four Oaks in Monticello, Iowa, a campus within one of Iowa's largest child service agencies. Kuehler's site works with girls aged 13-17 who have behavioral or psychological disorders.

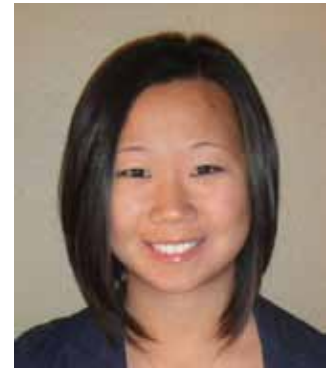
Kuehler says, "What I enjoy most about the work I do is that every day is different. There is a variety of clients we serve, all from different backgrounds, areas of the state, and all types of



family backgrounds that allow many different levels of experiences. Each day offers a new set of challenges and experiences."

Kuehler pursued degrees in psychology and family services because of his struggles as a teenager. He knew from the time he was 16 that he wanted to be a counselor of some sort who could mentor teenagers facing daily struggles, family problems, or substance issues. He says studying family services prepared him for his profession by providing a solid foundation of knowledge on which to build. Kuehler also credits his involvement with such organizations as Relay for Life, the after-school program at Logan Elementary in Waterloo, Big Brothers Big Sisters, and the State Training School in Eldora, where he completed an internship. Each allowed him experience in the field and gave him the opportunity to apply the skills he was learning in his classes.

Robin Summers (Sociology '10) recently received a "Seasons of the Child" award from the Family and Children's Council of Black Hawk County. She is a volunteer with the council's Parent to Parent Program, designed to serve as a social support system for local mothers.



Tom Dirth (Psychology MA '11) is currently an adjunct instructor in the Department of Psychology. He has recently been an invited speaker or panelist for the Iowa Youth Leadership Forum for Persons with Disabilities, the AmeriCorps Inclusion Conference, the Iowa Rehabilitation Association, and the "In My Shoes" event through UNI's student disability services.

Josh Wilson (Political Communication '11) is a communications intern in the Iowa governor's office, where he assists the governor's communication and scheduling directors, among other duties.

Recently he's been able to meet broadcasters Scott Pelley of *CBS Nightly News*, Brett Baier host of *Special Report* on Fox News, and legend Tom Brokaw (above left). Wilson was also able to spend some time with the campaign of presidential candidate Sen. Rick Santorum.



FACULTY Kudos

Elizabeth Lefler (Psychology) has been consulting with the Black Hawk County “1st Five” program, an initiative of the Iowa Department of Public Health that promotes developmental screening in the first five years of life at pediatric screenings. She has also aided the local YWCA with its planning and programming.

Robert Dise Jr. (History) is founder, coordinator, and moderator of the Canterbury Forum. Launched in 2005, the forum has offered over 55 programs to inform and educate the community about how religion, culture, and society interact with one another. January’s event hosted Michael Blackwell, director of UNI’s Center for Multicultural Education, who spoke about gays and lesbians in the black church, and February’s includes Frances Degrin of philosophy and religion, exploring the ethics of torture.

Katherine van Wormer, Laura Kaplan, and Cindy Juby (Social Work) have a contract and have submitted the first draft of a book for editing to Council of Social Work Education Publications: “Confronting Oppression, Restoring Justice: From Policy Analysis to Social Action. 2nd edition.” **Juby** and **Kaplan** co-authored the article, “Postville: The effects of an immigration raid” in *Families in Society*, and **Juby** co-authored “Child malnutrition and current United States policy” in *Journal of Social Work*. **Kaplan** also served on the panel “Queer Eye on the Academy” on LGBT faculty concerns and research at the Council of Social Work Education Annual Meeting.

Gary Gute (Family Studies) delivered the keynote address “What is Creativity?” and led the session “The Early Lives of Highly Creative People: Are There Any Patterns?” at the Art Educators of Iowa Fall Conference in October.



Darcie Davis-Gage (Counseling, *above*) presented “Women and Group Counseling: A Unique Connection,” at the December Current Research on Women (CROW) Forum, sponsored by Women’s and Gender Studies. The presentation included the involvement of women in both formal and informal groups and the variety of applications for groups, in addition to information on a qualitative research study that explored participants’ experience in women-only group counseling.

Cyndi Dunn (Anthropology) is author of a new article, “Formal Forms or Verbal Strategies? Politeness Theory and Japanese Business Etiquette Training” in *Journal of Pragmatics*. She also created an online LAC course on the cultural anthropology of Korea for UNI anthropology students participating in the “Talk and Learn in Korea” program. Students in the program teach English 20 hours per week in Korean schools while taking the online class for study abroad credit.

Kenneth Lyftogt (History) participated in the area Boy Scouts’ Civil War Camporee this fall, where he presented several sessions on the topic of Jefferson Davis.

Dhirendra Vajpeyi (Political Science) has two new edited books: *Water Resource Conflicts and International Security* and *Global Governance, Conflict Resolution, and Sustainable Development*. He has also been named an associate editor of *Social Science Journal*.

Elaine Eshbaugh (Family Services and Gerontology), **Carissa Froyum** (Sociology), and **Chris Larimer** (Political Science) served on the panel for the CSBS Brown Bag Lunch in January. All are recent winners of campus teaching awards and facilitated a discussion of active learning strategies in the classroom.

Otto MacLin (Psychology, *left*) presented “How the Brain Lies and Misrepresents the ‘Real World’” at a recent American Democracy Project event. MacLin, who provides workshops for jurors and frequently serves as an expert witness in criminal cases, discussed how the brain causes misperceptions, including errors in eye-witness identification.



Congratulations to the CSBS faculty who have been awarded Professional Development Assignment for 2012-2013.

Barbara Cutter (History): *"The Alps of America": American Mountains, Identity and Empire in a Transnational Context: 1850-1920*, Spring 2013

Joanne Goldman (History): *Atomic Energy Education, 1947-1957*, Spring 2013

Marybeth Stalp (Sociology): *Gendered Cultural Production: Caring for the Self through Quilting and Knitting*, Spring 2013

Katherine van Wormer (Social Work): *Writing of a text: Social Welfare Policy for a Sustainable Future: The U.S. in Global Context*, Fall 2012

Annette Lynch (Center for Violence Prevention, *right*) received a "Helping Students Succeed" commendation" at the January student affairs staff recognition event. Together with director of public safety Dave Zarafis, Lynch was honored by VP Hogan for the gender violence prevention work done in collaboration with student affairs over the past decade. Examples of this collaboration include the installation of the blue light emergency phone system on campus and the surveillance camera systems that monitor remote parking lots. Lynch's current grant also provides funding that supports an online education program for new students, a live theatre performance delivered in all oral communication courses, and infusion of the Mentors in Violence Prevention program into curricula throughout the university.



FACULTY Profile by Donna Maier, Professor, Department of History



Professor Donna Maier and Massai women

In my sophomore year of college my life was changed by a professor of African history. In those days African countries were just embarking on their exciting new post-independence adventure and everyone had such optimism that African nations, finally out from under the boot heel of colonialism, would now be freed to achieve international economic, political and social equality. Historians were especially eager to rediscover the buried heritage of African history which had been denied by the authoritarian needs of the European rulers. A whole new world of scholarship and research was opening up and I became eager to engage.

Thus I went to graduate school and received a PhD in African history. It was all I hoped: years of personally enriching field work in Ghana, exciting discoveries in previously neglected archives, and opportunities to write on topics no one had ever written about before. Although the optimism we all had for the flourishing of the post-colonial state soon foundered on the reality of military dictatorships and natural disaster, the excitement of communicating the "always something new out of Africa" (Pliny the Elder c. 70A.D.) has never left me. Imparting to students the enlightenment that comes from seeing new ways of advancing, ruling, and yes, destroying, different cultures and societies is the most rewarding aspect of teaching at UNI. There are challenges to this phenomenon

of newness: I can never teach my Africa classes the same from year to year. There is always some seismic shift—a new country, a new tragedy, even a new technology (cell phones this year) sweeping the continent.

Over time I have also shifted my focus of research, originally specialized in pre-colonial West African history. However in 2001 my husband accepted a position to prosecute perpetrators of the 1994 Rwandan Genocide for the United Nations International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda and my life changed again. I was thrilled to move to East Africa with my family for the next 7 years and to begin new research there, returning periodically to teach at UNI. Initially I studied Massai women, then worked in the evidence unit of the Tribunal. I have since become dedicated to the cause of justice for the victims of state-sponsored violence by researching and evaluating eye-witness testimony, survivor accounts, and court records that tell the history of the Genocide. Every year now I travel to Rwanda and Tanzania for a few months to advance my research and consult for the UN, give public lectures on the topic in Iowa, and teach courses at UNI on genocide.

STUDENT *Kudos*

Susan Meerdink (Geographic Information Science) has been awarded the highly competitive Association of American Geographers' "International Geographic Information Fund Student Travel Grant" for the AAG 2012 annual meeting in New York, NY. Meerdink presented at the meeting last year in Seattle and will again be presenting original research results. She has also been active in the Arctic Social and Environmental Systems Research Lab (ARCSES), located in the Department of Geography and directed by Andrey Petrov, which conducts and analyzes research related to modeling wild reindeer migrations in northern Russia.

Kelsey Hood (Social Work) volunteered earlier this fall for the home-building project by the television program *Extreme Makeover: Home Edition*. She helped with the laying of the foundation and other tasks in her 2:00am-8:00am shifts at the building site.

Ramon Cantu (History Education) is a member of Iowa's Latino Affairs Commission, which serves the needs of Latinos in the fields of education, employment, health, housing, welfare, and recreation. Cantu, a first-generation college student from Texas, also uses his own history of gang involvement and personal hardship in working with a variety of programs focused on intervening with at-risk youth, building strong communities, and promoting diversity understanding.

Lauren Reader (Psychology) volunteers at Allen Hospital in the psychiatry department. Reader is also one of the college's Alderman scholars, which promotes personal involvement in the community.

Philip Cavin (Geography) received an award from the National Science Foundation Office of Polar Programs to travel and present at the International Polar Year Conference in Montreal, Canada, in April 2012. He will present his research on creative capital and cultural economies in arctic communities.



Above: Social work student Kelsey Hood (right) and UNI student Sydney Bodie at the *Extreme Makeover: Home Edition* project for a deserving family in West Union. Many of the college's interior design students also volunteered their efforts.



Wes Hunt, a senior criminology major, spent the summer as an intern with the United States Marshals Service (USMS) Tactical Operations Division Special Deputation Unit, a special unit of the USMS that allows law enforcement agencies to enforce authority outside their jurisdiction.

Hunt's internship location was an unmarked building, and he was not allowed to even divulge the address of the building. Outside his internship responsibilities, however, he was able to participate in a variety of other experiential learning opportunities: the USMS K9 training facility to learn how dogs sniff out bombs; the FBI and DEA training facility in Quantico, Virginia, to tour the base, try on gear, break down doors, and learn the methods for manufacturing a particular illegal drug; the DC courthouse to tour the jail cells and watch court cases; the Pentagon; INTERPOL; and myriad other interesting experiences.

The internship also required Hunt to attend an academic class once a week (his was on the topic of white collar crime, and was often held in Congressional buildings) and a meeting each Monday at the Department of Interior for a guest speaker.



Hunt says, "The program really got us involved and to interact with a lot of people. I made some great contacts, not just within the USMS but with other federal agencies. On top of that, all of the friends I made out there are a strong network of people. With this under my belt, and already having a security clearance for government work, I should find getting a job with the federal government a lot easier and less stressful than those who haven't done something like this."



Wes Hunt's internship through The Washington Center afforded him many unique opportunities.

Study Abroad in Nicaragua

by Bryan Coffey, senior social work major from Allerton, Iowa. He participated in the course "Community and Individual Development" held in Nicaragua in May 2011 with social work field experience coordinator Carol Cook.

This was a study abroad trip which was a wonderful opportunity for me to broaden my world outside American society. This trip allowed me and the other students to meet face-to-face with many people of a struggling society. The experiences that we had are difficult to fully understand by reading or by simply being told the stories. For a person to really understand the amazing experiences that we as students had during this trip, that person would really have to experience it for themselves.

As for me, I had my eyes opened to the extreme poverty within the Nicaraguan culture. But even more amazing, I was really struck by the love from one person to another within certain impoverished communities.

We visited many different social service facilities throughout the country. One area that really allowed me to notice the love within that



culture was in a housing

community that was structured by the Rotary Club projects. The people were so welcoming to us even though they had no idea we were coming to visit. They showed us around the small community, including their homes (some of which were structured of plastic) and lifestyles. Just before re-boarding the bus, a young girl came to our faculty leader and put a necklace around her neck. This was her way of thanking us for spending time with them. This was one of the most amazing and sweet moments of the trip.

I would suggest that every student should take a study abroad trip somewhere. Not only has UNI given me what I consider a great opportunity to travel, but they have also provided me with a quality education while studying here on campus.

Be encouraged in all that YOU do!

Above: Nicaraguan children and Bryan Coffey

Below left: Social Work graduate student Andrea Lansing helps a child with physical therapy.

Below right: The May 2011 Nicaragua class. The 2012 class is already enrolled at capacity.



CSBS establishes new organization for multicultural students

The College of Social and Behavioral Sciences continues to emphasize diversity and equality with the formation of a new organization to promote success specifically among our Black and Latino students.

Dean Mauceri and ChaValier Sharps, a clinical psychology graduate student from Shreveport, Louisiana, have begun a peer mentoring program in the college. Though in the beginning stages, the effort has drawn the interest of a number of students as well as Provost Gibson. Students participating in the last session were Brandon Ross, Chad Franson, Latashia Sheets, Tanyi Okie, Vincent Chukwuemeka, and Jesse Lozano.

For more information on this new initiative, contact the Office of the Dean.

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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.