CSBS Statements, v20, 2018

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

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Greetings from CSBS!

Change maker... you make the difference. Trailblazer... innovation pioneer. These newly coined slogans for our work in the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences summarize the core of what I see when I reflect upon the past year’s achievements of our alumni, students, faculty and staff. I continue to be amazed at the impact we have collectively on the world. Together, we truly are change makers and trailblazers.

The innovations our alumni, students and faculty have developed and implemented are extensive. Articles in this year’s publication highlight just of few of these efforts, including:

- Utilizing drone technology to monitor prairie grass ecosystems and river restoration
- Delivering high-impact violence prevention training across the state
- Interning in Washington, D.C. senators’ offices and the Department of Justice’s Civil Rights Division
- Motivating women to run for all levels of elected office
- Utilizing fashion as a conversation for societal perceptions

Our alumni portrait this year examines the many contributions of Ambassador John Dinger. His story highlights the crucial role our faculty play in mentoring students: even as John’s career took him around the world, he continued to remain in contact with his faculty mentor. John continues to give back to the university through his own mentorship of current students who are interested in pursuing careers in the Foreign Service and diplomacy.

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. I have created the inaugural Amethyst Society this year to further extend our recognition for a wider variety of ways that your gifts support the college.

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
Topography is all about the rise and fall of the land and how we navigate it. You need a wide range of views to tell the whole story, and UNI’s Department of Geography is working on the front edge of mapping land in a whole new way.

While aerial photography is hardly a new practice, it hasn’t always been easily accessible. With the recent surge of small unmanned aerial systems (UAS), known as drones, equipped with digital cameras, it is now feasible to use the procedure more freely in research and practice. When professor James Dietrich took over direction of the Iowa Low Altitude Remote Sensing Lab (I-LARS) at UNI almost one year ago, he brought an appreciation of technology combined with a love of the beauty of nature, melded into research on how drones can enhance the work of geographers.

Dietrich is building on the UNI geography department’s history in geographic information systems (GIS) and reputation for being on the forefront of computer-based mapping, remote sensing and satellite imagery. Geography professor and former department head Patrick Pease founded I-LARS in 2015 to take advantage of the rapidly growing UAS industry and establish the University of Northern Iowa as a leader in teaching students UAS technology.

Equipped with a US Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) UAS pilot’s license, Dietrich utilizes a fleet of six drones, each with its own unique characteristics and capabilities, for teaching and research. All drones carry sophisticated onboard cameras, as I-LARS faculty/students leverage the high-resolution aerial imagery for environmental research and monitoring.

Since coming to campus, Dietrich and his team have worked on projects monitoring prairie grass ecosystems at the Cedar River Natural Resource Area and used 3D and multi-spectral monitoring of an Iowa Department of Natural Resources dam removal and river restoration project in Manchester, Iowa. The technology is also being utilized for on-campus mapping, allowing future students the opportunity to virtually tour the UNI campus. Dietrich’s research will focus on how to improve accuracy of the maps created from drone footage.

For more information, including aerial footage and mapping by I-LARS faculty/students, visit ilars.uni.edu.
Our 20s are a time of change, growth and exploration. So it’s only natural that as the annual CSBS research conference neared the quarter century mark, organizers would look for new ways to help the conference evolve.

On April 9, after 24 years, the annual CSBS research conference became the CSBS Student Research & Engagement Conference. With this name change, students in majors across campus were invited to showcase the wide variety of experiential activities in which they participate on our campus, in our community and around the world.

Helen Harton, professor of psychology and conference coordinator, stated that the goal of this year’s conference was to build

“The conference is a great way for students to let their peers and faculty know what they are doing outside of the classroom, to get feedback from those experiences and to gain professional development.”

- HELEN HARTON
excitement around the incredible work our students are doing, both in research as well as through discipline-related volunteer, work or internship experiences. This year’s conference also included interactive activities, including a mock crime scene put together by the UNI Criminology Club.

Students participating in the conference commented that they enjoyed the new opportunity to highlight their internship experiences, which several chose to present in addition to research projects.

“A lot of freshmen don’t realize that many volunteer experiences apply for internship credit, or realize too late,” noted student Natasha Peterson (psychology, junior). Because of this, she was eager to talk with her peers about her experience and help encourage new students to reach out about opportunities for themselves.

More than 75 graduate and undergraduate students participated this year with poster and oral presentations. Conference coordinators are looking forward to showcasing an even larger variety of student experiences in years to come.

Ashley presented her psychology cooperative education internship with Panthers for DREAM Iowa. The UNI collegiate chapter is an extension of the nonprofit DREAM Iowa, started in January of 2017 to advocate for the undocumented student population at the University of Northern Iowa. Serving as president of Panthers for DREAM Iowa has allowed Ashley to gain first-hand experience with immigration public policy and has paved her path to pursuing a master’s degree in sociology.

Ashley Sánchez (psychology, senior)
Weapons of Mass Inclusion

This year our country has continued to experience the horrifying and deadly realities of school violence throughout communities large and small. While debates and discussions continue to polarize us as a nation, the director of UNI’s Center for Violence Prevention, Alan Heisterkamp, posed a non-partisan solution: Weapons of Mass Inclusion.

Today, at this very minute, hundreds of professional educators and student leaders around the country—and in Iowa—are working side-by-side with public and private partners to infuse and institutionalize programming and practices that serve to include and engage ALL youth in the quest to build caring and supportive school environments and communities. These are weapons of mass inclusion and they work.

One of the center’s programs, Mentors in Violence Prevention (MVP), is designed to train and engage upper class high school students to serve as peer mentors with younger students, typically ninth graders. During weekly or bi-weekly small group breakout sessions, student mentors facilitate activities and discussions to help identify the early warning signs and characteristics of gender violence and bullying. Students learn how (and why) to be empathetic to those who are being targeted by abusive language, comments, degrading remarks, bullying, or racial or homophobic slurs. To date in Iowa, more than 2,200 high school student leaders have been trained to serve as mentors in the MVP model and have subsequently facilitated prevention strategies to over 23,000 high school freshmen.

Another CVP implemented program, Coaching Boys into Men™ (CBIM), is designed by coaches, for coaches, to engage young male athletes in discussions around healthy relationships, and discuss the problematic and harmful behaviors used by some men and boys to hurt others. In addition, coaches teach strategies that can be utilized to hold teammates and peers accountable in situations where violence and bullying may occur. This model helps reinforce the message that a young person’s strength and aggression during competition has no place in relationships with others. Young men need the permission of older male role models to challenge and confront sexist, racist and homophobic language which is oftentimes excused as “locker room talk.” Without these weapons of mass inclusion, some boys and young men will increasingly feel isolated and angry when they come face to face with moments of rejection, loss of control, embarrassed or shame. Both MVP and CBIM help boys and young men feel included and supported. They are effective in reducing and eliminating the harm and abuse that boys and young men both experience and perpetrate onto others.

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For more information on CVP, and to learn how you can help implement an MVP or CBIM program in your community, visit cvp.uni.edu.
During field orientation meetings, I share with students my hope that they will end up with a career they love. That said, I know that their field experience might be the most challenging and rewarding component of their social work education. They are moving into a professional role, no longer thinking of themselves as just students, but as emerging social work professionals.

Being able to practice in the field of social work is one of the best aspects of our social work program. In fact, it is what we call our signature pedagogy. Our students experience a first-person account of what it is like to advocate for the oppressed, treat the vulnerable and help raise up those who have stumbled along the way.

Having a successful field experience program is a result of many collective efforts. We continue to be blessed with wonderful agency partners who provide excellent field experiences for our social work students. This past school year, the field program also experimented with the use of adjuncts as field liaisons. The switch from classroom instruction and agency supervision (many of them also supervise intern students in their own agencies), to overseeing student field experience from the lens of a faculty member, provides this select group a unique perspective.

“It has been a very rewarding experience for me to be a part of the social work program on this side of the desk. Being a graduate myself from the program at UNI, it is so great to feel like I can play a small part in training the next generation of social workers to repay in a small way all of the mentors I have had in the past from the instructors at UNI (Dr. McCullaugh is still there!) to my social work mentors in the Cedar Valley.”

-Nathan Schutt, MSW, Cedar Valley Hospice
For new students heading off to college, gerontology might not stand out as their first program of choice. Maybe it’s the fact that UNI got its start as a teacher’s college, and those young, bright-eyed school-aged children seem like the natural population to nurture and support. But for a select group of up-and-coming students, there is another burgeoning population who needs their help: those tackling the unavoidable psychological, sociological, behavioral and other social aspects of aging.

The University of Northern Iowa currently offers the only four-year degree in gerontology in the state of Iowa. Heading the program is associate professor Elaine Eshbaugh, a renowned expert on aging with a focus on Alzheimer’s and related dementias.

Elaine’s model for teaching students and the general public about how to interact with people with dementia veers away from the idea of “reality orientation” advocated in the past (and still often used today). Instead, Elaine draws upon her own experience growing up as a “nursing home brat,” hanging out in the nursing home while her mother, an activities director, was at work. She found that while she was having fun playing “make believe” with her aging playmates, they were very much at ease. Her mother on the other hand, utilized the more common practice of, “if we correct enough, we can keep them in our world.” This was a technique that was widely utilized, but has been found to be frustrating for residents and caregivers alike. More importantly, “it just didn’t work.”

There are a lot of aging experts who agree with Elaine’s perspective of understanding and interacting with people with dementia. But she finds that the industry is still not doing a great job of getting that information out to the people directly working with aging populations. In her blog, Welcome to Dementialand, Elaine recently covered tips on communicating with someone with dementia, with number one being to: connect, don’t correct. “I have seen many families be so insistent on making sure their loved one knew they were wrong that they destroyed their ability to have a positive interaction,” stated Elaine.

Another area of consideration is the physical surroundings of those with dementia. Something many also don’t think about, but a topic that peaked the interest of fellow professor Gowri Betrabet Gulwadi, head of the UNI interior design program.

Gowri asked Elaine to help her students understand a better way to design memory care units. After talking through considerations, this group of students learned that while care facilities are doing a great job of designing more inviting, open and beautiful spaces, many of those same features can be frustrating or even anxiety inducing for people living with dementia. Elaine instead advocates for the creation of spaces where people with dementia can be successful, independent and comfortable in their surroundings.

For instance: many assisted living facilities will install mirrors in their lobbies and common areas to help reflect light and make the space look larger and more inviting. But for someone with dementia, these open, unidentified spaces can be frightening. Others can be startled by their own reflection, expecting to see a much younger version of themselves.

Through these lessons and more, UNI’s gerontology program is helping students, in and
outside of its major, make significant improvements to how we help support aging populations and those struggling with the effects of dementia.

For more tips, topics and discussions on interacting with people with dementia, visit Elaine’s blog at welcometodementialand.com. Interested in more about the gerontology program? Visit csbs.uni.edu/gerontology.
In 2009, Maggie Tinsman, former Republican State Senator from Davenport, and Jean Lloyd-Jones, former Democratic State Senator from Iowa City, joined forces to create an Iowa Campaign School for women. At the time, Iowa was one of two states that had never had a woman governor nor sent a woman to the U.S. Congress. So in 2010, the nonprofit, non-partisan, issue-neutral organization “50-50 in 2020” was formed. Its goal: to have women be equally represented in all Iowa political arenas by the year 2020—the 100th anniversary of Woman Suffrage. In 2016, the first campus chapter of 50-50 in 2020 was started at UNI.

Through the 2017-2018 year, the Department of Political Science hosted two events that celebrated Iowa women in politics and helped support those who intend to one day run.

The Bipartisan Women in Politics Scholarship Benefit, held annually in the fall, helps celebrate the contributions of Iowa women in public service. The event also raises money for a scholarship fund, awarded to UNI undergraduate students studying political science or public administration who have an interest in public service. This year’s keynote speaker was Bonnie Campbell, Iowa’s 32nd attorney general, former U.S. Department of Justice official and practicing attorney.

“This event is important for me because, as a woman who will be entering the educational policy field, it’s inspiring to listen to the stories of women who have succeeded in the political field. I also believe this event is an important opportunity for the people in our community to connect with students—to learn about us and what we hold for the future of politics,” said Natalie Dean (political science/elementary education, junior).

In January, the political science department also hosted a “You’re Next Conference,” in partnership with 50-50 in 2020 and Northern Iowa Student Government (NISG). At the conference, a bipartisan mix of female-elected officials, professors and students discussed the importance of women in politics. They called attention to the underrepresentation of women currently in elected office and encouraged college-aged women to consider running. Attendees were shown some of the tools necessary to be a successful candidate and received assurances that many already possess the skills and qualifications to run.

“Electoral politics is often an arena women don’t consider entering. It is important for students to have examples of women in elected positions and to be encouraged to see themselves in that arena. In addition, not having women in the political arena affects public policy because women bring a diverse perspective,” says Donna Hoffman, head of the Department of Political Science.

For more information about Iowa women in politics, visit 50-50in2020.org.
The historical assets held by Iowa’s museums, historical societies, archives and other collecting organizations are a wealth of knowledge not only for the general public, but also for K-12 classrooms across the state.

Thanks in part to UNI history, social science education and geography faculty, a National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) grant was secured this past spring to fund the Teaching Iowa History Project.

This project will align with Governor Kim Reynolds’s initiative to elevate Iowa’s history and provide the opportunity to embed the teaching of Iowa history in grades K-12 for the first time in over a decade. The Iowa Museum Association (IMA) will be working with project partners to provide Iowa history content and instructional resources to support Iowa’s teachers in meeting the new standards.

Key partners invested in the development and facilitation of the project include, along with University of Northern Iowa and the Geographic Alliance of Iowa: IMA, Simpson College, Graceland University, Iowa Public Television, Iowa Department of Education and the University of Iowa Museum Studies Program.

“This is a chance for the state’s premier teachers college to develop resources in Iowa’s history for Iowa’s teachers,” said Leisl Carr-Childers, assistant professor of history at UNI. “What this really does is demonstrate to Iowans the importance of disciplines like history and institutions like museums.”

The project thus far has identified 120 Iowa historians, crowd sourced a 20-page bibliography of Iowa history resources and developed templates for lesson plans, text sets, professional development and best practices in local history projects.

Next steps will include research and writing of instructional materials, development of instructional videos on how to teach with artifacts, and a series that will focus on artifacts and the stories they tell. Professional development offerings will begin this summer. A new website, TeachingIowaHistory.com, will launch in late 2018 or early 2019 and offer access to all of the project’s tools and resources.
This May, a small and tight-knit class of six seniors graduated from the interior design program. Being found in the middle of a shift in curriculum, the class was much smaller than normal, but displayed a dynamic group of students. And so, seniors Mohanad Al Saif, Taylor Beatty, Rachel Enabnit, Sidney Edge, Hayley Mork and Erin Trunell prepared to launch into their new careers this spring, recalling the different routes each took to find their path with interior design.

Mohanad, an international student from Saudi Arabia, knew interior design was exactly where he wanted to be, and went through great lengths to learn English and tackle entrance exams in order to step into UNI’s program.

Rachel found her calling for interior design in fifth grade and interned with a designer in a Cedar Rapids paint store between her junior and senior year in high school. After graduation, she went to DMACC to play basketball and get her coaching authorization and liberal arts degree. From there, she transferred to UNI and graduated this May with an interior design major, business administration minor and a certificate in sustainability. “So six years, five titles, all worth it,” said Rachel with a proud smile.

Taylor, Erin and Hayley came to UNI declaring majors very different from the interior design program. Something didn’t quite fit, and the students found themselves later realizing their passion for design could be turned into a career. “Why am I not doing something that I love and could get paid for,” remembered Hayley, who found herself one Thanksgiving break watching HGTV and designing spaces and building houses online.

All spoke highly of the depth of their experiences while at UNI. The program’s faculty include experienced, licensed design professionals who prepare their students for a variety of future careers within hospitality, residential, commercial or the increasingly popular “resi-mercial.” The student’s capstone project centered on this blended area: designing a memory care unit. “You’re designing a space for residents with dementia and for them, this may be their home for a significant amount of time, yet you still have to adhere to commercial codes and regulations,” said their professor Gowri Betrabet Gulwadi.

With the project, they worked closely with gerontology program coordinator and professor Elaine Eshbaugh, as highlighted on page 6. The students also did an incredible amount of research, with help from Rod Library librarian Angela Pratesi. “We really focus on the human-based experience, through empathetic and research-based design,” stated Erin. Through this focus, student projects additionally included designing a women’s transitional home, taking considerations from Waterloo’s House of Hope. They also tackled a room adaptation project, exploring “long life, loose fit” or how to design...
a space that can be used across generations and integrated for changing abilities to allow homeowners to ‘age in place.’

As the students set off for their summer internships and future careers, there was a proud confidence in what they’ve achieved and what opportunities are in front of them.

“It is always wonderful to see the growth of each student as they realize and develop their potential to launch their future. The interior design program offers them multidimensional, hands-on and rich opportunities to engage with the community (at UNI and beyond) for realizing the holistic and sustainable aspects of design. Projects like the design for a memory care unit, or adaptive reuse of aging neighborhood buildings, or designing for the lifespan of spaces and people helps them develop into better listeners, researchers, designers and life-long learners,” said Gowri.

“I feel prepared. Gowri and Gloria (Stafford) are awesome professors. They both have really good experiences to share with us and they definitely prepare us. It’s a lot of work but it’s worth it in the end”

- Erin Trunell
An important question any future social services professional has to ask themselves is: **what population do I want to work with?**

After declaring a major, that just may be the top question running through many students’ minds, and for psychology juniors Natasha Peterson and Kaitlyn Fox, that certainly rang true.
For Kaitlyn, it was a little easier. She knew before coming to campus that she was passionate about helping veterans. Her grandpa was a WWII Marine, and growing up she loved his outlook on life. “They’ve sacrificed so much. I wanted to do something and try to help.” So when she discovered UNI Military and Veteran Student Services as a freshman, she started volunteering straight away.

“They are such a great group of people, they’ve always made me feel included. If I ever had any problems, they were the first ones to offer help,” remembered Kaitlyn. When an internship opportunity opened up her sophomore year, they reached out to her directly to apply.

Although Kaitlyn was initially hesitant to do an internship before her senior year, she now agrees it was beneficial in helping her find her niche. “I’ve been conflicted about graduate school and what population I wanted to focus on. I was considering kids and teens, but really prefer working with PTSD victims and veterans,” said Kaitlyn. To be sure, she plans on interning in a youth home setting next year to get a well-rounded experience with both populations.

Natasha entered UNI as a psychology student, but was in the dark about what her focus or future career ambitions might be. In high school, she had worked as a dietary aide, greeter and CNA in a local nursing home, but started working in a more administrative, student-facing office at UNI. Realizing that office work was not quite her calling, she jumped at an opportunity to be a home health aide with atHome at Western Home Communities. Shortly after she became aware of the gerontology program and quickly added it on as her minor.

Looking for more hands-on experience, Cedar Valley Hospice stood out to Natasha from a list provided by psychology internship coordinator Carolyn Hildebrandt. Throughout the opportunity, she has learned a lot about herself and found a greater sense of gratitude for life. “I feel like I get a lot more out of it than they do,” Natasha commented about her interactions with hospice patients. She also knows there is a strong demand for more people to go into fields that work with aging adults, so hopes this opportunity might help her get into a geropsychology grad school program down the road.

Both students advise their fellow students to not be afraid of going after what they’re passionate about and to reach out directly to faculty or organizations about internship opportunities. “I was worried when I came to UNI. I like a lot of things, but there wasn’t anything I was passionate about. I’m so happy I found this,” said Natasha. “It’s nice knowing you might have made an impact on someone’s life.”
Each year, School of Applied Human Sciences department head and textiles and apparel professor Annette Lynch asks her Dress and Human Behavior class to discuss how fashion can play a part in evoking stereotypes. The class has always been a powerful learning experience for her students, but this year, Lynch sought to extend this lesson to the greater UNI community.

With the support of Rod Library librarian Angela Pratesi, this past year’s class culminated with an interactive fashion show, held in the library’s common area and open to the greater campus community. Coined “UN(Dress) the Stigma,” the show was an eye-opening look at the various ways fashion dictates opinion, and covered topics ranging from victim blaming to gender conformity.

The students took much of their inspiration from Jason Sole and Andre White, keynote speakers at this past fall’s Engage, Empower, Act conference. Sole, a professor at Hamline University and president of the Minneapolis National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, gained attention this past fall when he posted on Facebook that he would teach all of his criminal justice courses that semester while wearing a hoodie, tagging #humanizemyhoodie.

That caught the attention of Iowa City’s Born Leaders United (BLU) founder Andre White, who reached out to Sole about expanding the project. Out of their collaboration came a line of BLU clothing branded “Humanize my Hoodie,” with a goal to utilize the apparel to start more positive conversations about biases. The project has since expanded, gained national attention, and started conversations even beyond race about how clothing can carry either positive or negative biases.

After participating in White and Sole’s Humanize my Hoodie workshop during the conference, Lynch’s students dove head first into their class projects, many using their own personal experiences with bias. One student chose to share her own sexual assault story with the class, the first time she had spoken publicly about the incident. When she later walked the show, it was in the type of clothes she was wearing that day—sweatpants and a sweatshirt—helping showcase that what a victim is wearing has nothing to do with the crime. One’s choice of outfit does not dictate consent.

Other students focused on gender binarism, encouraging a conversation around how fashion can dictate or transform traditional masculine and feminine roles. Another section, “At Work,” looked at how someone’s workplace uniform can also elicit certain biases and expectations. Several students found ways to extend their projects beyond the class, from helping update the sexual assault prevention videos shown at UNI orientation, to helping a Waterloo health clinic support transgender identities.

Lynch is excited for UN(Dress) the Stigma to grow throughout the next academic year, and be part of a larger university-wide collaboration and conversation.
RETIREES

HOWARD BARNES (SAHS)  
Hired as the department head for design, family and consumer sciences (DFCS), Howard Barnes joined the UNI community in August 1997. With a doctorate in marriage and family therapy and a master’s degree in family life education, Howard taught in family studies and gerontology during his tenure at UNI. During his years of leadership, programs within the department changed significantly and eventually, with substantial growth, the department evolved into the School of Applied Human Sciences (SAHS).

MARY JANE CREW (CSBR)  
began her career at the Center for Social and Behavioral Research (CSBR) on Jan. 3, 1993. Over the past 25 years, Mary Jane moved from interviewer supervisor to field supervisor as her duties and job responsibilities increased and the Computer-Assisted Telephone Interviewing (CATI) facility expanded. Over the years, she has been actively involved in questionnaire development, assistance with testing, debugging and programming questionnaires. During her career, she has supervised and scheduled over 1,500 student employees. We are grateful for Mary Jane’s many contributions to the success of CSBR and for her work with the students over the many years.

JAY LEES (history) joined the Department of History as a European Medievalist in August 1987. At UNI, Jay’s career has demonstrated a commendable balance of scholarship, service and teaching. His skill in the classroom was recognized in 2004 when he received the Class of 1943 Faculty Award for Excellence in Teaching, which led to his receipt of the Regents Award for Faculty Excellence in 2005. Jay will be retiring from UNI at the end of June 2018 and will be greatly missed by students, colleagues and friends across campus. He has admirably served the University of Northern Iowa for the last 31 years.

JANETTE MCCULLEY (social work) began teaching at UNI in 1990 and was promoted to full professor in 1997. She served on Faculty Senate for many years and played an active role as a United Faculty representative. Her research interests are restorative justice, addictions treatment, social oppression, domestic violence, environmental sustainability, women and criminal justice, and international social welfare. She has published books in all these fields and received scholarship awards from the CSBS and university. Her major contribution to the state of Iowa, in her opinion, is her co-authorship of “The Maid Narratives: Black Domestic and White Women in the Jim Crow South” (LSU Press, 2012).

JACK YATES (psychology) came to UNI as an assistant professor of psychology in 1975 after receiving his Ph.D. in cognitive psychology from Johns Hopkins University. For many years, he was the co-advisor for the student Psychology Club and was instrumental in organizing the department’s annual student research conference. Jack’s early research focused on cognitive processing of language, and he later studied mental representations. Later in his career, Jack explored psychological solutions to the problem of energy consumption. This field research, funded by the National Science Foundation and Iowa Energy Center, focused on community action for change and was responsible for a 15% reduction in energy use in four rural Iowa communities. Jack and his wife Carole won a national Tools of Change Landmark Award in 2016 for this work.

DEBRA LANEVILLE (social work) has been with UNI for over 25 years, starting in the Center for Adolescence in 1992. She joined the Department of Social Work in 1999 as the MSW secretary (when the MSW program began) and served in that position until her retirement on May 1, 2018. Debbie is looking forward to spending more time with her husband, three children and four grandchildren, as well as traveling, gardening and scrapbooking.

JAMES HANSON (social work) came to the University of Northern Iowa in 1990 after serving on the faculty of Minot State University. He received his Ph.D. in social work from the University of Kansas and his master’s in social work from the University of Georgia. His most recent publications focused on the satisfaction levels of new social work professionals in the field.

KATHERINE VAN WORMER (social work) began teaching at UNI in 1990 and was promoted to full professor in 1997. She served on Faculty Senate for many years and played an active role as a United Faculty representative. Her research interests are restorative justice, addictions treatment, social oppression, domestic violence, environmental sustainability, women and criminal justice, and international social welfare. She has published books in all these fields and received scholarship awards from the CSBS and university. Her major contribution to the state of Iowa, in her opinion, is her co-authorship of “The Maid Narratives: Black Domestic and White Women in the Jim Crow South” (LSU Press, 2012).
FACULTY PROMOTIONS

DILBUR ARSIWALLA
Granted tenure & promotion to associate professor of psychology

FERNANDO CALDERÓN
Granted tenure & promotion to associate professor of history

WILLIAM R. HENNINGER
Granted tenure & promotion to associate professor of family studies

JUSTIN HOLMES
Granted tenure & promotion to associate professor of political science

CHRISTOPHER LARIMER
Promoted to full professor of political science

C. SCOTT PETERS
Promoted to full professor of political science; named department head, political science

TIM STRAUSS
Named interim department head, geography

NEW FACULTY

JIUQING CHENG
Assistant professor, psychology

JAMES DIETRICH
Assistant professor, geography

LT. COLONEL MICHAEL HARRIS
Department head, military science-ROTC

CAPTAIN MICHAEL HARRISON
New professor of military science

ASHLEIGH KYSAR-MOON
Assistant professor, sociology

LISA MILLSAPS
Assistant professor, geography

MATTHEW VASQUEZ
Assistant professor, social work
IN MEMORIAM

PROFESSOR HARRY BROD (sociology), age 66, passed away on June 16, 2017, in Cedar Falls, Iowa. Professor Brod received his Ph.D. in philosophy at the University of California, San Diego in 1981. After working at the University of Southern California, Kenyon College, Mount Saint Mary’s College, University of Delaware and Temple University, he joined the UNI faculty in 1999 as an associate professor in the philosophy and world religions department, was promoted to full professor in 2003, and moved to the Department of Sociology, Anthropology and Criminology in the fall of 2013.

Professor Brod’s research, teaching and service efforts have focused on masculinity studies, Jewish studies, sexual consent, and anti-racism and privilege. On the UNI campus, he was heavily involved in the Women’s and Gender Studies Program, the Center for Violence Prevention and the National Coalition Building Institute. He directed the humanities major from 2000-01 and 2012-13 and the University Honors Program from 2001-03. Professor Brod was also involved in the local community, serving on the Iowa Humanities Board of Directors, as well as nationally in the discipline as co-editor of “Men and Masculinities.”

Professor Brod was considered a founding figure of the field of men’s studies, which applies theories and concepts derived from women’s studies to examine men and masculinities, and as a spokesperson for the pro-feminist men’s movement. His leadership was recognized in moving the field away from a monolithic concept of “masculinity” to embrace diversity at its core, to study men and masculinities as they vary by race, ethnicity, class, sexual orientation, religion, able-bodiedness and other categories.

Because of his leadership, Professor Brod was a frequent consultant and speaker across the country in his area of expertise, and was the first Distinguished Visiting Scholar of Masculinity Studies at St. Norbert College (DePere, Wisconsin) in fall of 2016 where his estate has made a groundbreaking donation to the Miriam B. and James J. Mulva Library of the “Dr. Harry Brod Masculinities Collection.”

Professor Brod dedicated his professional and personal life to issues relating to diversity and inclusion. We will miss his thoughtful and deep examination of issues that impact us all and his ability to engage students in discussions of challenging topics.

DR. FRANCIS J. “DOC” WINTER (political science emeritus), age 85, of Waterloo, died on Wednesday, Sept 20, 2017, at Lakeview Landing of Friendship Village.

He was born on Sept 3, 1932, in Maynard, Iowa; the son of Charles A. and Lydia E. Busse Winter. He served in the U.S. Army from 1955 until his honorable discharge in 1957.

Doc married Dorothy E. Zlobik on June 26, 1965 in Iowa City; she preceded him in death on June 16, 2015.

Doc received his B.A. from University of Dubuque; was a Fulbright Scholar at University of Heidelberg; he then earned his M.A. and Ph.D. from the University of Iowa.

He was a professor of political science for 32 years, teaching at University of Iowa, University of Wisconsin and University of Northern Iowa until retiring in 1996.

Doc was a member of Alpha Pi Omega, Fulbright Scholar Program, Sertoma Club, Cedar Falls Rotary, Elks Lodge No. 290; he had been a consultant to the U.S. State Department and served as President of Iowa Political Science Association.
What do you do in your current position?
What do you enjoy about it?
In my current position I am the USDA’s Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) liaison on legislative matters. I establish and maintain close and continuous lines of communication between FSIS and congressional staff and other federal government agencies. My position also entails developing and writing reports on proposed and pending complex legislation concerning the operating needs of FSIS and the Department of Agriculture. Additionally, I prepare responses to complex legislation when requested by Members of Congress or Congressional committees.

As a former Hill staffer continuing to work for a body of government that influences the daily lives of Americans and the safety and confidence in the nation’s food supply, I feel lucky to be able to put everything I learned at UNI to work doing something positive for so many people. I enjoy going to work every day and still being influential in legislation and the political process.

How did your program of study help prepare you for your current role?
UNI’s political science department taught me humanistic perspectives and scientific skills to examine the United States and all countries and regions of the world. I was able to hone my writing, communications, analytical and computer skills that are critical today. The courses prepared me to think critically and independently, with tolerance for others and concern for current affairs.

What were some key takeaways from the D.C. alumni gathering?
Having your alma mater travel a thousand miles and make time for its former students shows its first-class commitment to life after UNI. It was terrific to see old classmates, meet other alumni in the area and to see the bright future UNI has ahead.
What do you do in your current position?
What do you enjoy about it?
I work at a nonprofit that promotes building credit in order to expand financial inclusion and access to opportunities for people across the country. I assist our nonprofit members with reporting their loan portfolios to the credit bureaus. I additionally lead our credit reporting training program and help develop resources for our website.

I really enjoy working with a great group of people, both within my office and among our 500+ members, all of whom genuinely care about helping their communities and expanding access to credit. I also enjoy getting to do a little bit of everything in my office, with the nice perk of traveling across the country to attend conferences and lead trainings multiple times a year!

Any advice for current students?
When you start looking for a job, don’t forget to think about what type of environment you work best in and would feel most comfortable being in every day. There are many differences between small and large organizations and between the private and public sector, and every person has different preferences. Don’t be afraid to ask questions to people currently in these fields about their work and what to expect in different types of office environments. Think about what you liked and didn’t like in previous jobs or internships. And when you’re interviewing for a job, make sure to ask about office setting, the organization’s values regarding work-life balance, and general dynamics in the office because all these things really do matter – and can turn a good job into a great one.

What were some key takeaways from this year’s D.C. alumni gathering?
The UNI D.C. alumni gatherings are always fun. They’re a nice chance to catch up with friends and to connect with others in the area. This year I had the chance to meet people I knew of by name or through mutual UNI friends, so it was a great to hear how everyone ended up in the area and see how we were all connected.

Mary Jo Halder

UNI DEGREE:
B.A. in Political Science, 2010
HOMETOWN:
Carroll, Iowa
CURRENT OCCUPATION:
Manager of Membership & Special Projects at Credit Builders Alliance

The University of Northern Iowa Alumni Association can help connect UNI alum through meet up events across the United States. The alumni featured here attended one of our Washington D.C. alumni gatherings. Interested in helping put together an event close to you? Contact info@unialum.org or visit unialum.org/alumni-clubs to see if a UNI Alumni Club is already established for your area.
Graduating with a degree in political science in 1974, Dinger remarked in a 2013 interview with the Association for Diplomatic Studies and Training’s Charles Stuart Kennedy that he, “didn’t have the slightest idea what to do” after college.

Dinger did have some experience traveling abroad, backpacking around Europe with his college roommate and staying with a family pen pal in Alsace, France. He also spent a little time in London with his brother, Larry Dinger, who was interning with a law firm at the time. Interestingly enough, Larry would also end up in the Foreign Service, and the brothers share the distinction of being the first siblings to rise through the career ranks of the United States Foreign Service to become Ambassadors (Larry to Micronesia and Fiji). Still, John Dinger wasn’t originally thinking about an international career.

It was his advisor, UNI professor Robert Ross, who suggested he think about going into the Foreign Service. Not quite knowing what that entailed, Dinger took the required tests and a little over a year later was in London, a part of the Foreign Service.

Dinger now looks back upon an accomplished career. He has held leadership positions in the Department of State as Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for Intelligence and Research, Chair of State’s Cyber Policy Group, Deputy Coordinator for Counterterrorism, Ambassador to Mongolia and Director of the State Department Office of Press Relations. Most recently, he was the Senior Inspector in the State Department’s Office of the Inspector General, leading inspections of American diplomatic posts and State Department offices.

He also graciously donates his time to UNI, speaking to students about his career. Like his advisor before him (who he is still close with to this day), he encourages new students to explore the Foreign Service and mentors those interested through the application and testing process. This past semester he revisited the UNI campus, talking to political science professor Evan Renfro’s Terrorism and Insurgency class, speaking to a standing-room
Recent alumna Taylor Herr is steadily excelling after receiving her B.A. in criminology/psychology in May 2017. With one year of law school at the University of Iowa now under her belt, she’ll be interning this summer in Washington, D.C., with the Department of Justice’s Civil Rights Division.

She recounts that although law school has been very different than her undergraduate experience, it has been a rewarding challenge. Looking back, she is thankful for criminology professor Gayle Rhineberger-Dunn’s courses, noting she was one of the few students not panicking over law school exams. She is also grateful for her time working with UNI’s Center for Social and Behavioral Research, which gave her a “better grasp on the process and outcome of legal research.”

In her internship this summer, Herr will also be focusing on research, using it to help people who have been discriminated against in their employment by government and private employers. Having dreamed of a career in the federal government since high school, she is excited to be, “finally achieving that dream and getting to help people in the process.”

Her advice to current UNI students is to, “not be scared that you don’t have a set plan for after graduation,” remembering that she was also panicking up until the summer before her senior year. But once she realized what she wanted and started making plans to attend law school and pursue a career as a criminal investigator, “the pieces seemed to fall together.” Although she admitted she was still a little nervous until she was thoroughly engrossed in her first semester.

Now, she is fully confident in her decision and knows she is truly where she is supposed to be.
CSBS Advisory Board Names Three New Members

ANGELA CARNAHAN (psychology, 1999) is currently with EMC Insurance in Des Moines as a senior consultant for business innovation where her role involves business transformation, solution innovation, and change management. She was formerly employed by Nationwide Insurance as a business consultant: portfolio management, where she oversaw a budget of $111 million, helping to ensure that new projects were integrated and strategically aligned. Among her numerous volunteer and charitable activities, Angela provides marketing and communication expertise for the Ronald McDonald House of Central Iowa, mentors a fourth grader through the Everybody Wins! Iowa project, and has actively mentored professional working women in Nationwide and the community. Angela was recently recognized as an exceptional young professional when she was honored with the Des Moines Business Record’s “40 Under 40” award.

DYLAN KELLER (history and political communication, 2014; M.A. history, 2016) was previously employed in the Iowa Senate majority leader’s office and is newly employed as director of fundraising for the Senate Majority Fund in the Republican Party of Iowa. Dylan was one of the original SABRs in CSBS and was very engaged as a student in Glee Club, NISG and many other organizations. He has remained involved with UNI through his volunteer work with the Les Hales Society and as a Glee Club Kingpin. He is currently serving on the Les Hale Endowment Fund Board and is active in the Central Iowa Alumni Club Executive Board.

Upon graduation, MICHAEL WRIGHT (American history, 1969) taught high school history in Waterloo before serving our country in the Vietnam War and returning a highly decorated veteran. Michael is an experienced advocate with nearly 40 years of legislative and regulatory experience. Previously, Michael was the senior lobbyist for Hoffmann-La Roche for 37 years and is currently the executive director for the Texas Pharmacy Association. Michael served on Health & Human Services Committees with the National Governors Association, National Council of State Legislators, the American Legislative Exchange Council and the Medicaid Directors Association. Michael has been a member of TPA for 25 plus years, serving on the Board of Directors and as vice chairman of the TPA Foundation as well as being active in multiple Austin area organizations, serving as president of Great Hills Country Club, president of Great Hills Homeowners Association, Dell Hospital NW Circle of Friends, the University of Houston College of Pharmacy Dean’s Advisory Council and RxWiki Corporate Advisory Board.
Both Jerry and JoAnn Kramer, we think of a couple with many interests. Jerry is an alumnus, educator, student, board member/advisor, donor, and most importantly a family man and friend. He began his relationship with UNI as a student, graduating in 1963. A few years later, he returned to UNI to obtain his masters degree in history. JoAnn received her B.A. in health, physical education and recreation from the University of Iowa in 1962 and received her masters in physical education at UNI in 1965. She then continued on to earn her special education certification in the 1970’s.

Both Jerry and JoAnn are lifelong educators, teaching 30 plus years in the Waterloo Community School District. Jerry taught social sciences, JoAnn physical education and special education until their retirement. While for many, completion of their degree(s) is the end of their learning relationship with a university, Jerry and JoAnn continue to attend many guest lectures, campus activities, athletic and cultural events.

Just as their personal interests are not limited to one thing, the Kramers support several initiatives at the University of Northern Iowa. Because they are committed to supporting student education, an endowed scholarship was established. Meeting “their” student(s) is always a highlight. Their passion for history has led them to supporting the UNI Museum and the Teaching Iowa History project. The Kramers love of their farmland and concern for our environment made supporting the UNI Tallgrass Prairie Center vital. And, after a chance discussion with fellow donors at a scholarship luncheon, they added the Women In Politics Scholarship Benefit to their list.

Jerry has graciously lent his wisdom and advice to the CSBS Advisory Board since 2011. Our spring 2018 meeting was his last and we will be forever grateful for the time and energies he has given us through his service.

Thank you Jerry and JoAnn for the countless ways that you embody Purple for Life!
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. The Dean’s Fund allows our students to participate in educational and career enhancing 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 224 alumni and friends who gave gifts from $1 to $99. Gifts of every size make a difference! Reflects gifts between July 1, 2017 - May 25, 2018

CSBS would like to extend our sincere sympathies and appreciation to the families of George Hermann, ‘42 and Sandra Shill, ’77. George and Sandra bequeathed scholarship support to our students.

DEANS FUND INNER CIRCLE ($1000 AND ABOVE)

Bruce & Ruth Bengtson
Troy & Deann Cook
Robert & Carol Deppe
Cheryl & Greg Myhr
James & Eileen Sanders

TOTAL RAISED FOR DEAN’S FUND - $42,550

THANK YOU!
Amethyst Society

The College of Social and Behavioral Sciences benefits greatly from the philanthropic giving by alumni and friends. They have designated their gifts towards scholarships, student internships, program support and study abroad, to name a few.

The decision was made this year to begin a recognition program for annual donations of $1,000 or more. The name Amethyst was selected because this purple jewel is one of the world’s admired gems. Ancient civilizations placed a high value on the stone, believing it would bring forth the highest, purest aspirations and deepest wisdom of humankind. These are qualities our donors also embody, so it seems fitting to establish this recognition program as the Amethyst Society. Founding members are:

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- Donald E Shepardson
- Sandra Jo Shill
- Vanitha Sugumaran
- Patricia & Jay Tomson
- Michael & Lynn Wright

When I think about the accomplishments of the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences, I can’t help but think of this quote by Mother Teresa, “I alone cannot change the world, but I can cast a stone across the water to create many ripples.” The faculty, staff and students of CSBS are constantly creating ripples. Many of these ripples are done very quietly, but carry huge impact.

The same thing can be said of our alumni, friends and donors. Each of you are casting a ripple when you choose to support CSBS. Your ripple may be in the form of a student scholarship, programming support or study abroad and internship stipends.

Each of us has a different ability to cast a stone. I would be honored to work with you to determine what method might work best for your situation. Please feel free to contact me at 800-732-0522 or 319-273-5985 or by emailing Dianne.Campbell@uni.edu to explore the many options.

FROM THE DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR

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