The Update, April/May 2013

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Recommended Citation
University of Northern Iowa. College of Humanities, Arts and Sciences., "The Update, April/May 2013" (2013). The Update. 16.
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CONRAD L. STANITSKI, PIMENTAL AWARD RECIPIENT

During his long career, Conrad L. Stanitski has had a significant impact on the way chemistry is taught.

“He has made substantial contributions to all the areas of chemical education identified in the criteria for the Pimentel Award: teaching, organization and administration, influential writing, instructional methodology, standards of instruction, educational research, and public enlightenment,” according to A. Truman Schwartz, DeWitt Wallace Professor Emeritus at Macalester College in St. Paul, MN, who received the award in 2007.

Stanitski, a visiting scholar at Franklin & Marshall College in Lancaster, PA, has applied his broad teaching experience to national chemistry curriculum reform projects for more than five decades.

Demonstrating a commitment to high standards of instruction, Stanitski served as chair of a National Research Council committee to evaluate the Advanced Placement Program in chemistry in 2005. “Conrad often says that educators should strive to ‘uncover course material rather than simply cover it,’ and this message is clear in the report generated by the committee,” notes Jerry A. Bell, Professor Emeritus at Simmons College in Boston and the 2000 Pimentel Award recipient. Partly because of Stanitski’s influence, the College Board has worked to revise its Advanced Placement exam so that it clearly assesses students’ conceptual understanding of the material, according to Henry W. Keikkinen, Professor Emeritus at the University of Northern Colorado, who received the Pimentel Award in 2009.

Stanitski served as chair of the ACS Division of Chemical Education in 2001 and has contributed administrative skills to groups including Project Kaleidoscope, the National Science Foundation, the Chemical Heritage Foundation, and numerous ACS committees, Schwartz says.

An influential writer, Stanitski was a coauthor or lead editor of numerous textbooks, including ACS’s Chemistry in the Community and Chemistry in Context.

Stanitski earned a B.S. in Science Education at Bloomsburg State College in 1960, before teaching high school for four years. After receiving an M.A. in Chemistry Education at the University of Northern Iowa in 1964, he became an instructor at Edinboro State College. He earned a Ph.D. in Inorganic Chemistry at the University of Connecticut in 1971 and then

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Courtesy of Susan J. Ainsworth at Chemical & Engineering News
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Students and faculty members presented research at the Spring 2013 Meeting of the American Chemical Society. The presentations included the paper, “Making the Science Writing Heuristic Work” by Dr. Dawn Del Carlo. The following posters were also presented: “Search for the Catalytic Subunit of DNA polymerase in Thermomyces Lanuginosus” by Sonia T. Han, Chelsea E. Meier, and Dr. Ira M. Simet, “Generating New Protein Models for Thiolate-Ligated Heme Ligand Switch Proteins Using Cytochrome C” by Lindsey M. Ludwig, and Dr. Melissa M. Cherney, “Influences of Life Experiences on Women’s Science Career Decision-Making Across Generations” by Tori Quist and Dr. Dawn Del Carlo, “Beyond Octanitrocubane: A Theoretical C-8 Octanitro Compound Having an Oxygen Balance of Zero” by Jesse L. Hansen and Dr. John A. Bumpus, “Liquid Sorption Properties and Structural Changes of Metal-Organic Frameworks of Cobalt Nitrate and 4, 4’-Bipyridine” by Kathryn Mauguer-Sonnek and Dr. Colin L. Weeks, “Organic Synthesis of a Photo-Activated Localized Drug Delivery Molecule” by Shane D. Lies, Meghan May and Dr. Jeffrey Elbert, and “Expressed Sequence Tag for DNA Polymerase Alpha” by Rebecca Krewer and Dr. Ira M. Simet. Dr. Curtiss Hanson and Dr. Kirk Manfredi are recipients of 2013 Regents Innovation Fund Grants for “Optimization and Commercialization of a Novel Ion Trap Mass Spectrometer,” and “Development of Botanical Based Topical Antibiotics,” respectively.

David M. Grant was selected as one of a handful of professors to participate in the Rhetoric Society of America’s Summer Institute, “Rhetoric in/between Communication and Composition,” June 3-7 in Lawrence, Kansas. This week-long seminar brings together teacher-scholars of college level speech and written composition to improve the articulation between first-year programs in written and spoken communication by examining the histories of speech, writing pedagogy and “inquiring into the basic questions of rhetorical theory and teaching for the purpose of developing joint understandings of what is essentially a cultural difference born of our differing contexts - intellectual, institutional, and labor - within the academy.” Dr. Grant was selected for his work on UNI’s Cornerstone program. This institute is co-led by Professor of Composition, Dr. Roxanne Mountford and Professor of Speech, Dr. William Keith.

The Department of Art will host Envisioning Design: Education, Culture, Practice, a symposium for design professionals, educators, alumni, students and others. Events will begin Friday, April 26 at 5:00 p.m. in the ground floor hallway of KAB South with a presentation of graphic design student portfolios, followed by keynote speaker, Sang-Duck Seo, at 7:00 p.m. in KAB 111. The symposium will resume 8:15 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. on Saturday, April 27, and will include an opening presentation followed by various panel discussions and other events. This event is free and open to the public. For more information, visit www.uni.edu/artdept/EnvisioningDesign2013.html

Recent Communication Studies/Electronic Media graduate Beau Batterson and current students Anthony Mitchell, Nedzad Muhamedagic, and Jacob Meade had their films competitively selected to screen at the Cedar Rapids Film Festival on Saturday, April 6. The selected films were Jacob Meade’s “Snowfall,” Beau Batterson and Anthony Mitchell’s web series “Ewoks Don’t Blink”, about a video store where Star Wars meets Star Trek, Beau Batterson’s short fiction “Call Me Crazy”, a love story in a mental asylum, and Nedzad Muhamedagic’s short fiction “Silhouette Man”, about a man’s relationship to consumer culture. Nedzad Muhamedagic’s film “Silhouette Man” received an Award of Achievement at the 2012 Iowa Motion Picture Awards.

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Congratulations to Dr. Elizabeth Sutton for having been chosen as one of the recipients of the University Book and Supply Outstanding Untenured Teaching Award. Since 2009, as a Visiting Professor in the Department of Art, and then from 2010, as Assistant Professor of Art History, Dr. Sutton has brought energy, breadth of knowledge, enthusiasm, humor, and high standards for her students and herself, which have complemented and expanded the Department of Art’s strengths and offerings. She is a wonderful colleague and instructor who inspires and challenges students to do their best work. One of her nominating students writes:

Dr. Sutton pushes students to take initiative of their own learning, stimulates quality discussion, and utilizes a variety of learning strategies and materials. Without her contribution to my education, I may have never considered art history as a career path to follow.

Many students noted in the class assessments how pleased and proud they are of the amount they learn in Dr. Sutton’s classes. One student confessed that s/he was not earning a very high grade, but was nonetheless very satisfied with the experience and had learned much. Many comments mention Dr. Sutton’s high expectations regarding grammar and writing. She has a passion for Art History which she shares with her students and which is reflected in her own work.

In addition to changing most of the courses that fall within her teaching responsibility (the Renaissance, aka, the Early Modern Period, to the current period), she has also developed a new course, Arts of Africa. A hallmark of Dr. Sutton’s teaching is direct engagement with art. As such, she collaborated with me and the Department Head, Jeffery Byrd, in organizing numerous field trips to regional museums. She has encouraged students to enter art history competitions and then accompanied those who were selected to present their research at other institutions, and arranged to bring guest lecturers to UNI, including Nani Agbeli, an expert on batik and African drumming, who worked with students enrolled in Art Education and the Arts of Africa course in addition to giving an open campus presentation.
Shared Senior Recital from the studio of Randy Hogancamp and Matt Andreini: Brannon Fells and Nic Addelia, percussion  
Friday, April 19, 2013 at 6:00 p.m.  
Davis Hall, GBPAC  
Senior music students Brannon Fells and Nic Addelia will present a shared degree percussion recital with Gabe Scheid, saxophone. This event is free and open to the public.

Spotlight Series: Opera Scenes  
Friday, April 19, 2013 at 7:30 p.m.  
Bengtson Auditorium, Russell Hall  
UNI School of Music professor Sandra Walden and vocal coach Korey Barrett will direct an opera scenes performance featuring current opera students. This event is ticketed. For tickets, call (319)273-4TIX

Community Music School Spring Recital Weekend  
Saturday and Sunday, April 20 and 21 at various times  
Russell Hall  
The UNI Community Music School will host their spring recitals. For more information on this event, contact Cindi Mason at cynthia.mason@uni.edu.

UNI Suzuki School Northern Iowa  
Junior Orchestra Concert  
Sunday, April 21, 2013 at 6:00 p.m.  
Davis Hall, GBPAC  
The UNI Suzuki School will present the spring Northern Iowa Junior Orchestra concert. This event is free and open to the public.

UNI Viola Studio Recital  
Monday, April 22, 2013 at 6:00 p.m.  
Graham Hall, Russell Hall  
Under the direction of UNI School of Music professor of viola Julia Bullard, the UNI Viola Studio will offer a spring concert. This event is free and open to the public.

Spotlight Series: UNI Varsity Men’s Glee Club  
Monday, April 22, 2013 at 7:30 p.m.  
Great Hall, GBPAC  
Under the direction of UNI School of Music professor and conductor John Len Wiles, the UNI Varsity Men’s Glee Club will offer a spring concert as part of the Spotlight Series. This event is ticketed. For tickets, call (319)273-4TIX.

Clarinet Studio and Ensemble Concert  
Tuesday, April 23, 2013 at 6:00 p.m.  
Davis Hall GBPAC  
Under the direction of UNI School of Music professor of clarinet Amanda McCandless, the UNI Clarinet Studio and Ensemble will offer a spring concert. This event is free and open to the public.

Jazz Band III and Combos  
Tuesday, April 3, 2013 at 7:30 p.m.  
Bengston Auditorium, Russell Hall  
The UNI Jazz Band III and jazz combos will present a spring concert under the direction of Chris Merz and graduate student conductors. This event is free and open to the public.

Senior Student Recital from the studio of Angelita Floyd: Rocio Lima, flute  
Tuesday, April 23, 2013 at 8:00 p.m.  
Davis Hall, GBPAC  
Senior music student Rocio Lima will present a degree flute recital. This event is free and open to the public.

Senior Student Recital from the studio of Jeffery Brich: Sarah Draffen, soprano  
Wednesday, April 24, 2013 at 6:00 p.m.  
Davis Hall, GBPAC  
Senior music student Sarah Draffen will present a degree vocal recital with Oxana Khramova, piano. This event is free and open to the public.
Jazz Band One spent ten days touring Thailand prior to and during spring break. In addition to performances and workshops given at Srinakharinwirot University (Bangkok), Nakhon Pathom Rajabhat University (Nakhon Pathom) and Burapha University (Chonburi), the band toured cultural and historic sites around the country, including the Grand Palace, the Great Pagoda, and the floating market. Performance repertoire included many student and faculty compositions and arrangements as well as compositions by His Majesty, King Bhumibol of Thailand and a collaboration between traditional musicians and the band on a special arrangement of a traditional Thai song.

Jazz Band One’s spring concert on Friday, April 5 at 7:30 p.m. in Bengtson Auditorium, Russell Hall featured James Coffin Visiting Artist, composer/arranger/bassist John Clayton, as part of his two-day residency on campus. The concert program features six of Clayton’s arrangements and compositions as well as a new original piece by band member Brian Martin. Rounding out the concert were works by Dan Gailey, Benny Carter, Alan Baylock, and a special piece by His Majesty, King Bhumibol of Thailand.

Professor of Music and Director of Jazz Studies Christopher Merz will travel to Tuscaloosa, Alabama with his quartet, Equilateral, for a two-day residency. The band will play four arrangements of their repertoire with the UA big band, as well as perform a separate concert of their music as a quartet. Members of the band include Merz (saxophones), UNI alum Brent Sandy (trumpet), Greg Mazunik (bass), and Eric Thompson (drums). In addition to the concerts, the band will interact with the students in workshops and private lessons.

Professor of Music and Director of Jazz Studies, Christopher Merz, directed this year’s Nevada All-State Jazz Band, April 17-20, on the campus of UNLV. Students are selected by audition.

Hunter Capoccioni, Adjunct Professor of Double Bass, traveled to Texas during spring break to present master classes at both the University of Houston and Baylor University.

Congratulations to the UNI Physics Club on receiving an Honorable Mention as an outstanding chapter of the Society of Physics Students. This honor is given to only the top 20 percent of university physics clubs in the United States.

She also takes advantage of the riches of the UNI Permanent Art Collection by having students work directly with those materials for their own research and thereby developing skill sets suitable to a variety of career paths.

With the support of the Department Head, Jeffery Byrd, and the Dean of CHAS, Dr. Joel Haack, Dr. Sutton and I worked together to establish the Department of Art’s new Art History Symposium. This yearly event showcases student research presentations with awards selected by an outside scholar and provides a much-needed equivalent to our Annual Juried Student Art Exhibition which recognizes student work in Studio Art and Graphic Design. The Symposium, launched two years ago, has been a tremendous success.

Dr. Sutton’s passion for her own research is reflected in the numerous national and international conferences she attends, as well as her many publications. Her most recent scholarly achievements include her book *Early Modern Dutch Prints of Africa* in the series *Transculturalisms, 1400–1700*, published by Ashgate, December 2012, and her article “Possessing Brazil in Print, 1630-54” in the online *Journal of Historians of Netherlandish Art* 5:1 (2013), describing ways in which maps of Brazil conveyed Dutch ownership, http://www.jhna.org/index.php/volume-5-issue-1/181-possessing-brazil-in-print-1630-54.

As if these achievements were not enough, Dr. Sutton is also a very nice and dynamic individual. We at UNI can all be very pleased that she is part of our community.
Northern Iowa Symphony Orchestra
Wednesday, April 24, 2013 at 7:30 pm
Great Hall, GBPAC
Under the direction of School of Music professor and conductor Rebecca Burkhardt, the Northern Iowa Symphony Orchestra will offer their spring concert. This event is free and open to the public.

Jazz Panthers ftg. Tom Barry Retirement Celebration
Thursday, April 25, 2013 at 6:00 pm
Davis Hall, GBPAC
Under the direction of conductor Robert Washut, the UNI Jazz Panthers will offer a spring concert. The concert will feature a special celebration and tribute to retiring School of Music professor and artist, Tom Barry. This event is free and open to the public.

Graduate Student Recital from the studio of Jeffry Birch:
Valeria Kishkunas, soprano
Friday, April 26, 2013 at 6:00 pm
Davis Hall, GBPAC
Graduate student, Valeria Kishkunas, will present a degree voice recital with Robin Guy, piano. This event is free and open to the public.

Concert Band
Friday, April 26, 2013 at 7:30 pm
Bengtson Auditorium, Russell Hall
Under the direction of UNI School of Music graduate student conductors, the Concert Band will offer a spring concert. This event is free and open to the public.

UNI Cantorei Concert
Friday, April 26, 2013 at 8:00 pm
First Presbyterian Church, Waterloo, IA
Under the direction of UNI professor and conductor John Len Wiles, the UNI Cantorei will present an outreach performance at First Presbyterian Church in Waterloo. The performance will also feature visiting artist Randall Harlow, organ. This event is free and open to the public.

Senior Student Recital from the studio of Dmitri Vorobiev:
Zach Gignac, piano
Monday, April 29, 2013 at 6:30 pm
Bengtson Auditorium, Russell Hall
Senior music student, Zach Gignac will present a degree piano recital. This event is free and open to the public.

Percussion Department Concert
Monday, April 29, 2013 at 8:00 pm
Davis Hall, GBPAC
Under the direction of UNI percussion faculty, Randy Hogancamp and Matthew Andreini, the UNI Percussion and West African Drum Ensembles will offer their final spring concert along with UNI’s Taiko drum ensemble Kaji-Daiko and the UNI Marimba Ensemble. This event is free and open to the public.

Senior Student Recital from the studio of Jeffery Birch:
Ashley Armstrong, mezzo-soprano
Tuesday, April 30, 2013 at 6:30 pm
Davis Hall, GBPAC
Senior music student Ashley Armstrong will present a degree voice recital with Korey Barrett, piano. This event is free and open to the public.

Non-degree Student Recital: Holly Botzum, tuba
Tuesday, April 30, 2013 at 6:30 pm
Bengtson Auditorium, Russell Hall
Graduate music student Holly Botzum will present a non-degree tuba recital and presentation. This event is free and open to the public.

Concert Chorale and Northern Iowa Symphony Orchestra
Tuesday, April 30, 2013 at 7:30 pm
Great Hall, GBPAC
Under the direction of UNI School of Music professor and conductor Rebecca Burkhardt, the Northern Iowa Symphony Orchestra will join with the Concert Chorale, conducted by professor Dylan Meyer, to offer a spring concert. This event is free and open to the public.

UNI New Horizons Band Spring Concert
Monday, May 6, 2013 at 7:30 pm
Great Hall, GBPAC
The New Horizons Band will offer its spring concert. Under the direction of Diana Blake, the New Horizons Band features...
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Davis Hall, GBPAC
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Great Hall, GBPAC
Under the direction of UNI School of Music professor and conductor, Rebecca Burkhardt, the Northern Iowa Symphony Orchestra will join with the Concert Chorale, conducted by professor Dylan Meyer, to offer a spring concert. This event is free and open to the public.

UNI New Horizons Band Spring Concert
Monday, May 6, 2013 at 7:30 pm
Great Hall, GBPAC
The New Horizons Band will offer its spring concert. Under the direction of Diana Blake, the New Horizons Band features musicians of 55 and older who travel from all over Iowa. This event is free and open to the public.

UNI Children's Choir Spring Concert
Friday, May 10, 2013 at 7:30 pm
Bengtson Auditorium, Russell Hall
The UNI Children's Choir will offer their spring concert under the direction of Michelle Swanson. This event is free and open to the public.

UNI Suzuki Spring Concert
Sunday, May 19, 2013 at 2:00 pm
Great Hall, GBPAC
The UNI Suzuki School will offer a spring concert. This event is free and open to the public.

Suzuki Honors Recital
Tuesday, May 21, 2013 at 6:00 pm
Graham Hall, Russell Hall
The UNI Suzuki School will offer their spring honors recital. This event is free and open to the public.

CONRAD L. STANITSKI, PIMENTAL AWARD RECIPIENT CONT.

joined Georgia State University as an Assistant Professor of Chemistry.

Stanitski was a Chemistry professor at Randolph-Macon College from 1976 until 1985. He then became a lecturer in Chemistry at Franklin & Marshall, while serving as an American Council on Education fellow in Academic Administration.

In 1988, he moved to Mount Union College, where he was a professor of chemistry, vice president for academic affairs, and dean of the college. In 1992, he was appointed Professor of Chemistry and Department Chair at the University of Central Arkansas (UCA). He retired from UCA as a distinguished Professor Emeritus in 2005 and became a visiting scholar at Franklin & Marshall.

A recipient of many awards, including the Catalyst Award from the Chemical Manufacturers Association (now the American Chemistry Council), Stanitski says he is, “excited and humbled” by receiving this year’s Pimentel honor from ACS. “George Pimentel, through his work in the 1960s on the Chemical Education Materials Study, was an early professional role model for me,” he says. As a result, “the award had added dimension and very special meaning to me.”

Stanitsky, who is 73, will present the award address before the ACS Division of Chemical Education.
Hayley Rinehart is a senior Biology major, emphasizing in Biomedical Honors Research. Next year, she will be attending the University of Iowa College of Dentistry. She was a member of the dance team her first two years at UNI, and her hobbies include exercising, listening to music, dancing, cooking, scrapbooking and reading.

My first impression of UNI was a positive one. I couldn’t help but notice how friendly and student-focused the university was. I definitely hold the same high opinion now. After my four years, I have been able to find my niche in a department that constantly challenges and inspires me.

These challenges and inspirational moments have been fostered by the faculty in the Biology department.

I have been absolutely astonished throughout my entire time here at UNI at how dedicated the professors are to student learning. I have made lifelong connections to very intelligent and professional people and it always amazes me how professors here treat their students with such respect.

Through her involvement in class and research, Rinehart has been able to form close relationships with her professors.

My research advisor, Pete Berendzen, has been absolutely integral to the positive experience I’ve had in the Biology department. I’ve taken several classes from him and gotten to know him on both a work and personal level, and he constantly motivates me to always be curious and ask questions. His enthusiasm and encouraging attitude has urged me to work harder than I ever have before. He is also just a really cool guy, approachable, and easy to get along with. He constantly inspires me to be passionate about my work and think about things on a deeper level.

During her first two years at UNI, Rinehart was involved with the UNI Dance Team. She served as a captain her sophomore year, which taught her leadership and communication skills. One of the highlights of her college career was taking home two national championships with the team.

Another highlight would be the research I did this previous summer. I got to go out in the field and collect fish specimens for my project from rivers in Northeast Iowa. I absolutely loved getting my hands dirty and getting to do science outside of the classroom and lab for once. I also bonded with my advisor and coworkers and got to enjoy the great outdoors.

In addition to field experience, Rinehart has gained valuable skills through her research in a laboratory setting.

My second two years I have been heavily involved in research for the Biology department. I’ve loved getting to apply the
The UNI Printmakers Society of America (UNIPSA) attended the Southern Graphics Council International (SGCI) Printmaking Conference, Print MKE in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, March 20-23. The conference featured lectures, demonstrations, and exhibits by contemporary artists specializing in printmaking. Students also participated in the SGCI Member Portfolio Exchange and open portfolio, which allows students to get feedback on their work and network with other artists in the printmaking community. Printmaking professors, Tim Dooley and Aaron Wilson, also attended, selling works from their collaborative, Midwest Pressed in the Publisher’s Fair. Students in attendance included Jeff Bast, Ashlie Coady, Desiree Dahl, Ashley Fisher, Dana Potter, Derek Steffens, Zach Schnock, Randy Timm, Ben Uhl, and recent graduate, Jesse Parrot.

“My favorite part was meeting people with similar interests. The whole time I was talking to strangers about the most minor aspects and inside jokes of printmaking. Not many people really understand what printmaking is, so it felt good to bond on common knowledge. I loved the sense of community and shared purpose. Also, seeing all the great art gave me motivation to make new work,” said Ashley Fisher, UNIPSA President.

First-time SGCI conference attendee, Dana Potter also noted the atmosphere of community.

“The conference brings together a wide range of enthusiastic printmakers dedicated to the success of the printmaking field. Almost all the printmaking professionals I spoke with have worked or most often work collaboratively on projects or in co-ops and presses. This sense of community and humble artistry that comes with printmaking is best summed up by the recipient of this year’s SGC Lifetime Achievement Award in Printmaking, Lesley Dill; in accepting her award she refused to take full responsibility for the accomplishment and continuously gave thanks to the endless list of people she had helping her along the way,” said Potter.

Potter and the other attendees expressed that they found the conference to be an all-around rewarding experience.

“Printmaking conferences are an extremely valuable experience for students because they immerse you in an accelerated learning environment,
offer networking opportunities, offer competitive/interactive experience in the portfolio exchange and open portfolio, and are immensely enjoyable,” said Potter. “The conference offers a huge networking opportunity that art students are otherwise not quite as capable of accessing. The SGCI Print Conference puts you in direct connection with hundreds of art professionals eager to speak with you about your work and your future.”

UNIPSA was an organization originally created with the intent of bringing interested students together to organize and fundraise for the conference. However, in the last year, the group has attempted to expand their accessibility by hosting more events and community-based projects. Their goal is to increase awareness of what printmaking is and teach those interested about processes that may benefit their artwork.

“We’ve learned how to make a lot of different products in the last year. We had a Halloween fundraiser in which we learned to print masks. We also learned how to make calendars. We hosted a community printmaking workshop last fall, in which the public was allowed to come into the print shop and print their own shirts, records, or random belongings with our assistance. I think our goal for the future is to host more community workshops and engage ourselves more with the art community outside of UNI,” said Fisher.

While the club’s focus has shifted over time, they have no intention of abandoning the conference that originally brought them together.

“I will most remember the rich amount of knowledge that was shared,” said Potter. “‘This is where the Magic Happens’ was the beginning note for a speaker I listened to. He was very keen to say that printmaking conferences are a beautiful occurrence, in which many highly intelligent individuals come together in bursting enthusiasm to share new advancements and ideas. After having attended SGCI, I completely agree, that the magic of knowledge with excitement certainly happens.”
ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT: DANIEL FICK

Since graduating from the University of Northern Iowa in May of 1985 with a BA in Biology, Dan Fick has moved on to become a faculty physician at the University of Iowa Carver College of Medicine. He attended medical school in 1989, attended his residency in Family Medicine until 1992, and completed a sports medicine fellowship in 1993.

Fick currently spends most of his time working in Medical Administration. When asked about his current position, he expressed enjoyment in his ability to help others.

I have the opportunity to help patients at the individual level and the health system level.

While attending UNI, Fick was an active athlete.

I was a member of the Cross Country and Track Teams and I still run. More importantly my wife and I have the privilege of watching our two children, Allison and Ben, run for the Panthers.

It’s not just Fick’s children who have brought him back to UNI. He also visits UNI to share his own experience with students.

I had the great pleasure to come and talk to UNI Biology Students in February. Dr. Seager was my mentor while at UNI, so it was very special to have him in the audience.

Since leaving UNI, Fick has achieved a lot, but his greatest accomplishment is something which he completed fairly early on in his career.

I think the best accomplishments are all the babies I have delivered. I retired from obstetrics years ago and the last baby I delivered is a college freshman this year.

Although Dan Fick has attended other universities, he remembers UNI most fondly.

I realized while in medical school that UNI provides the best undergraduate education in the state, something I still believe to this day.

In fact, Fick is so fond of UNI, that when asked what he would be doing in five years, he answered, cheering on the Panthers at athletic events and attending the Annual Men’s Glee concert.

Hayley Rinehart
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knowledge I’ve learned in my classes to real life research that is making a difference. Through these experiences, I’ve grown so much in developing professional relationships with faculty and students, learning the trials and tribulations of original research, and communicating my results using the standards of the field.

This research has had a significant impact on her education within the department.

Working in a lab is the most enjoyable experience I’ve had in the department. It makes my coursework come to life and strengthens my problem-solving skills. It’s also just fun to work with faculty who are passionate about their field and eager to help students learn useful lab techniques.

Rinehart feels that these experiences have prepared her to move on to dental school next year. She is confident in her ability to comprehend and interpret the material she will encounter.

I’m incredibly grateful for UNI and the Biology faculty for giving me such an incredible education. I can’t wait to see what the future brings.
ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT: DANIEL FICK

The UNI School of Music has been nominated for two Cedar Valley Tourism Awards!

We are nominated in the following categories:
- Event of the Year: UNI Opera Gala
- Local Business/Organization of the Year: UNI School of Music

To vote, take the voting survey found here: https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/CVTourismAwards

The survey is very brief and your vote could help to earn the School of Music one of these awesome awards! Please share the link with friends, colleagues, family, etc. The ballot will be available through April 30, and each voter may vote only one time.

NEW COURSE ON SUSTAINABILITY FOR FALL 2013

The University of Northern Iowa will offer “Introduction to Sustainability” (TECH 1015, a Liberal Arts Core course) in the fall 2013 semester. The 3-credit course will meet on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9:30 to 10:45 a.m. in Room 115 in the Center for Energy and Environmental Education (CEEE) on the UNI campus.

The course begins with definitions of sustainability, and understanding it from the perspective of “systems thinking.” Then, the course covers threats to sustainability owing to climate change and ecosystem degradation. The major focus of the course, however, is on opportunities for sustainable solutions. They cover the areas of sustainable energy systems, sustainable corporations, employing “biomimicry” for designing sustainable products, qualities and examples of sustainable cities, and options for sustainable agriculture.

According to Bill Stigliani, course instructor and advisor to the Provost on sustainability curriculum, “Sustainability is a way of development that seeks to meet the needs of the present generation without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their needs. Our hope is that this course will provide students with the skills, inspiration, and habits of mind to help make sense of our rapidly changing world, and promote opportunities in the offing for recreating a world built on a sustainable vision.”

The course has no prerequisites. For more information, contact Stigliani at 319-273-7150 or william.stigliani@uni.edu
Once at the university, Davenport was not disappointed by what he found.

I was surprised by how small my classes were in general, and that my professors have been able to get to know me personally.

After his freshman year, Davenport tackled the tough task of deciding what he wanted to study for the next three years. Once the decision was made, he never regretted it.

I am very glad that I chose the All-Science Major as a sophomore. It gave me a change to take a wide range of science courses that I have really enjoyed from biology to chemistry and earth science to physics.

Davenport remembers one professor in particular which helped him with his decision.

Dr. Del Carlo, my advisor, has helped me through my transitioning major choices and has always been a great person to talk to when having challenges at school.

Davenport’s time at UNI wasn’t just enjoyable because he liked his classes and professors. He has also met some great friends and shared good memories at UNI.

I have enjoyed being at UNI and attending various athletic, musical, and theatrical events. These choices have helped me make a group of friends at UNI, and they will be some of my best friends for life. UNI is a great place to discover what you want to do with your life and prepare for a rewarding career while having fun with friends and learning to be part of a close community.

In fact, Davenport enjoyed UNI so much that he only had one regret.

[If I could go back] I would try to enjoy some classes more and not take for granted the time I had in college.
Sigma Alpha Iota (SAI) is the largest professional international music fraternity for women. SAI promotes interaction between those who share a love for and commitment to music. This bond of musical interest and understanding is shared by students, teachers and professionals throughout the world. Established in 1936, the Alpha Upsilon chapter is active in ushering concerts and recitals in UNI performance halls and for the Waterloo/Cedar Falls Symphony Orchestra. This chapter also provides receptions and sponsors the Contemporary and American Composers Concerts. All women, regardless of major, are invited to be members.

In addition to the ushering duties and reception planning listed above, SAI assists with volunteer work related to the School of Music audition days and helps to organize festivals, workshops, and other activities.

“There are seven main purposes of SAI: to form chapters of women college students and alumnae who have a sincere interest in music, to uphold the highest standards of music, to further the development of music in America and throughout the world, to give inspiration and encouragement to members, to organize the cultural life of Sigma Alpha Iota members as a contributing factor to their educational growth, to support the ideals and goals of the member’s Alma Mater, and to adhere to the highest standards of citizenship in school, community, and fraternity life,” said Heidi Supple, sophomore Instrumental Music Education major.

The fraternity has participated in many on and off-campus events, including pizza and game nights, a camping trip with fellow music fraternity Phi Mu Aplha Sinfonia, “Instrument Petting Zoos” for children interested in music, School of Music audition days and tours, and a “Practice-A-Thon” with three other music organizations at UNI. They have also organized fundraising activities, such as a School of Music fleece blanket sale and “Mr. School of Music.”

“This group is great for women with a passion for music. We are sisters and try to respect, love, and support one another in our musical endeavors. We pride ourselves on helping in the community, contributing as much as possible to the School of Music, and maintaining a great level of organization and effective communication.”
The University of Northern Iowa Speech team competed at the AFA-NIET in Hutchinson, Kansas. This is the most selective and competitive collegiate national speech tournament.

This year, the team qualified ten students with a total of thirty-four events, which is one of the largest contingents UNI has sent to AFA-NIET in the tournament’s thirty-five-year history. The team was tenth out of seventy-eight teams in team sweepstakes.

Four students qualified to AFA, but did not reach elimination rounds. Three students qualified two events each to AFA-NIET: Sophomores Heather Kelly and Jordan Lukehart, and First Year Maddison Jansen. Junior Scott Bredman qualified one event. Senior Harrison Postler qualified six events. He was the champion in Impromptu Speaking and second in Dramatic Interpretation. He was a semifinalist in After Dinner Speaking. Overall, he was sixth in Individual Sweepstakes out of 198 eligible competitors. Senior Mandy Paris qualified three events and was a quarterfinalist in Duo Interpretation with Senior Harrison Postler. Senior Michael Taylor qualified six events and was a quarterfinalist in Program Oral Interpretation, as well as a semifinalist with Ryan Courtney in Duo Interpretation. Junior Zoe Russell qualified five events and was a quarterfinalist in Impromptu Speaking. Sophomore Ryan Courtney qualified five events and was a quarterfinalist in Dramatic Interpretation and Duo Interpretation with Senior Harrison Postler. First-Year Keegan Bosch qualified five events and was a quarterfinalist in Dramatic Interpretation.

This is Harrison Postler’s third year in a row reaching the finals at AFA-NIET. During his career at UNI, he has placed six events in three years in the top six at nationals. He is the first event champion for UNI Forensics at a National Speech tournament since 1992, and the first AFA-NIET event champion since 1988.

Rebecca Buel directs the Individual Events Team. Graduate students Yaw Kyeremateng and Sarah Taylor assist the team, along with Sade Barfield and Josh Hamzehee. The team will send the seniors to the NFA National Tournament the third weekend in April. Overall, the team qualified forty-eight events to NFA.

SCOTT GIESE RECEIVES AMERICAN FOUNDRY SOCIETY SCIENTIFIC MERIT AWARD

Congratulations to Scott Giese, associate professor in the Department of Technology, on being one of only 100 foundrymen ever to receive the American Foundry Society Scientific Merit award in the last 100 years. This national award is second only in prestige to the Society’s Gold Medal Award. He was also awarded the Copper Division service award for his success in educating future industry leaders.