

1-2014

The Update, January/February 2014

University of Northern Iowa. College of Humanities, Arts and Sciences.

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Recommended Citation

University of Northern Iowa. College of Humanities, Arts and Sciences., "The Update, January/February 2014" (2014). *Update*. 20.

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2013
2014

THE UPDATE

College of Humanities, Arts and Sciences
UNIVERSITY OF NORTHERN IOWA

NAME THAT! APP

It was fate, or that's how Dr. Angela Burda, Communication Sciences and Disorders (CSD), explains it. "I happened to go to Campus Connexus and met Dr. Stephen Hughes, John Pappajohn Entrepreneurial Center. None of us could have ever pictured us at this point in time creating a suite of apps."

UNI is proud to announce the launching of its first app, *Name That!* The app is a tool used to help Aphasia patients. Aphasia is the loss of the ability to understand speech or speak, and is caused from brain damage, most commonly from a stroke. Speech-Language Pathologists (SLP) use Semantic Feature Analysis to help patients recover. The patient is guided to build associations with a word through related concepts, which creates neural connections. With these neural

connections, vocabulary can be accessed more easily.

Beth Agrimson, a team member and a CSD graduate student, said, "There's definitely a need for it. Therapy with kids is so multi-dimensional. You have toys, apps and games. You have everything. All I really have for my adults are worksheets and cards."

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COMMUNICATION SCIENCES & DISORDERS

• Katie O'Brien, American Sign Language Instructor in Communication Science and Disorders, and Steven Onken, Associate Professor in Social Work, are recipients of UNI's 2013-2014 Capacity Building Student-Faculty Collaboration Grant for the project entitled "Border Crossings of the Heart - Navigating the Transition from Minority to Majority Cultures: A Pilot Study of Young Hearing Adults of Deaf Parents and Young Heterosexual Adults of Gay/Lesbian Parents."

• Angela Burda, Professor, was named Fellow of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA) and was recognized at the 2013 Annual ASHA Convention in November. She was also an inaugural recipient of the University of Minnesota-Duluth's Distinguished Alumni Award.

LANGUAGES & LITERATURES

• Siegrun Wildner has had the following article accepted for publication in *Holocaust and Genocide Studies*, a journal published by the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in collaboration with Oxford University Press: "Hybrid Testimony and Moral Indictment – A Survivor's Poetic Response to the Mauthausen Nazi Concentration Camp Experience."

• Tammy Gregersen and co-author, Peter MacIntyre, published their new book, entitled *Capitalizing on Language Learners' Individuality: From Premise to Practice*.

• Jesse Swan's new book, *Editing Lives: Essays in Contemporary Textual and Biographical Studies in Honor of O. M. Brack, Jr.* is being published by Bucknell University Press.

• Professor Tammy Gregersen with graduate students, Kyle Talbot, Kate Hein and Shelby Claman have been invited to present a paper at the International Conference of Language and Social Psychology to be held in Hawaii this June. "They've worked very hard on this research project and we need to be very proud of their efforts," said Gregersen.



MUSIC

• Robert Washut, recently completed three commissioned jazz compositions and arrangements: 1) *Bolivia* - Glen Kostur, University of New Mexico; 2) *Darn That Dream* - North High Jazz Band, Sioux City, IA; and 3) *La Nevada Wade* - Nevada High School Jazz Band, Nevada, IA.

• Rebecca Burkhardt, conducted the Chengdu Symphony in November 2013. Burkhardt is pictured above with concert violinist Wei Wen (left) and music director of the Chengdu Symphony, Jiang Liu after their performance of Mendelssohn's Italian Symphony and the Concerto for Violin.

PHILOSOPHY & WORLD RELIGIONS

• Bill Clohesy presented a paper, "Neoliberalism and Service: A Call for Education in Altruism and Civic Engagement," at the 42nd Annual Meeting of the Association for Research on Nonprofit Organizations and Voluntary Action in Hartford, CT. on Nov. 22, 2013.

RRTTC

• Join UNI faculty in reading *Histories of the Dustheap*. *Histories of the Dustheap* uses garbage, waste, and refuse to investigate the relationships between various systems and shows how this most democratic reality produces identities, social relations, and policies. Register at www.rrttc.com by Feb. 14. The first 25 registrations received by Feb. 1 will receive a free copy of the book.

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NAME THAT! APP

So it's expanding what's available for half the population because 90% of what's out there is for the other half."

The *Name That!* app displays images of target words, and asks the patient relevant questions about the image. After semantics have been explored, the app asks the patient to name the pictured item.

Hughes said, "the app is really integrated into what SLPs do. While the functionality isn't going to change the world of computing, it's going to change the lives of some people who use this app. I'm confident of that. If they pick

it up and use it, it will help them. And that makes us feel pretty good to put something out there that is actually going to be effective."

The *Name That!* app is intended for at home use by patients in between visits to the SLP to create an extended treatment. The app has even gone international in China, Australia, Great Britain, Canada, Finland and Brazil. An expanded clinic-based app is set to launch this spring for SLPs to use in hospitals and long-term care settings.

"We could not do this if our paths hadn't crossed, and if we hadn't just decided to take a chance and do this. All of our students have to do a master's research project as a graduate requirement, and this was a cool thing for student

involvement," Burda concluded. "It's been a really cool experiment. So far, lucky for us, it doesn't show any signs of slowing down."



Northern Festival of Bands
Thursday-Saturday, Feb. 6-8
Concerts: Friday, Feb. 7, 7:30 p.m.; Saturday, Feb. 8 at 2:00 p.m.
GBPAC and Russell Hall

The Northern Festival of Bands, an annual honor band festival for high school band students, which typically hosts over 40 schools and over 250 individual students, will be held February 6-8, 2014. The event will feature performances by the UNI Wind Symphony and UNI Symphonic Band on Friday evening as well as Saturday afternoon's performance featuring solo competition winners, the festival's percussionist groups, Festival Concert Band and Festival Symphony Band. *Friday's concert is free and open to the public. Saturday's concert for this event is ticketed. For tickets, call 319-273-4TIX. For more information, call 319-273-2028.*

Northern Iowa Bach Cantata Series
Friday, Feb. 7, 12:15 p.m.
McElroy Lobby, GBPAC

Members of the UNI Cantorei, Wind Symphony and Northern Iowa Symphony Orchestra will collaborate under the direction of conductor John Len Wiles to present Bach's *Schweigt stille, plaudert nicht*, BWV 211. *This event is free and open to the public.*

UNI Concert Band
Monday, Feb. 10, 6:00 p.m.
Great Hall, GBPAC

The UNI Concert Band will present a winter concert under the direction of Daniel Galyen. *This event is free and open to the public.*

Faculty Artist Recital: Amanda McCandless, clarinet and Matthew Andreini, percussion
Monday, Feb. 10, 8:00 p.m.
Davis Hall, GBPAC

School of Music faculty artists Amanda McCandless and Matthew Andreini will collaborate to present a clarinet and percussion recital. Repertoire and additional collaborators to be announced. *This event is free and open to the public.*

Guest Artist Recital: Brass Quintet, US Marine Band San Diego
Wednesday, Feb. 12, 8:00 p.m.
Davis Hall, GBPAC

The Brass Quintet from the United States Marine Band, San Diego, will present a concert. The Brass Quintet has an extensive repertoire, including standard classical literature, Dixieland favorites and even pop hits from the '80s. *This event is free and open to the public.*

Suzuki Faculty Recital
Tuesday, Feb. 18, 6:00 p.m.
Davis Hall, GBPAC

The UNI School of Music Suzuki School will present a recital featuring Suzuki faculty artists. *This event is free and open to the public.*

Faculty Brass Quartet
Tuesday, Feb. 18, 7:30 p.m.
Bengston Auditorium, Russell Hall

This new ensemble featuring Randy Grabowski, trumpet, Matt Gaunitz, trumpet, Yu-Ting Su, horn and Anthony Williams, trombone, will collaborate to present a recital featuring a varied program of brass quartet literature including works from the Renaissance through modern times. *This event is free and open to the public.*

Flute Choir & Flute Studio Concert
Wednesday, Feb. 19, 8:00 p.m.
Davis Hall, GBPAC

Under the direction of UNI professor of flute Angeleita Floyd, the Northern Iowa Flute Choir and Flute Studio will present its annual concert. *This event is free and open to the public.*

Tallcorn Jazz Festival and Sinfonian Dimensions in Jazz Concerts
Friday & Saturday, Feb. 21 & 22
Bengston Auditorium, Russell Hall
Concerts: Friday, Feb. 21 and Saturday, Feb. 22 at 7:15 p.m.

The Beta Nu Chapter of Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia and the UNI School of Music invite you and your band to the 59th Annual Tallcorn Jazz Festival and 63rd Sinfonian Dimensions in Jazz Concerts to be held on Feb. 21 and 22, on the UNI campus. Nachito Herrera, salsa pianist, will be the featured guest artist at this year's event. For more information, click here. *Concerts for this event are ticketed. For tickets, call 319-273-4TIX, or visit nmw.uni.edu/tickets.*

Faculty Artist Recital: Heather Peyton, oboe
Monday, Feb. 24, 8:00 p.m.
Davis Hall, GBPAC

School of Music faculty artist, Heather Peyton, will present an oboe recital. Repertoire and collaborators to be announced. *This event is free and open to the public.*

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UNI STUDENTS WRITE “The World of Kurt Vonnegut”

UNI student writers have begun publishing parallel stories (a.k.a. “fan fiction”) for Amazon Kindle’s “World of Kurt Vonnegut.”

Last semester, as part of Professor Jim O’Loughlin’s Craft of Fiction course in the Department of Languages & Literatures, students read novels by noted author Kurt Vonnegut, and then wrote their own stories making use of the characters and details from Vonnegut’s books.

“This was a valuable exercise for gaining an appreciation of an author’s style and the many decisions that go into a work of fiction,” said O’Loughlin. “It was a bonus that there is a mechanism now for publishing these stories legally, and mastering the process of electronic publication is an important skill to acquire for anyone who desires to be a writer.”

Amazon.com’s “World of Kurt Vonnegut” started in August when an agreement was reached with the estate of Kurt Vonnegut to allow writers to use copyrighted elements of Vonnegut’s work for stories exclusively published for the Kindle.

All students in the Fall 2013 Craft of Fiction class read either Kurt Vonnegut’s *Slaughterhouse-Five* or *God Bless You, Mr. Rosewater* and then took on the task of writing a parallel story. Students then had the option of revising and publishing their stories as part of the “World

of Kurt Vonnegut.” Currently, four students have published their fiction, all of which reached the best-seller spot in the Kindle World – Contemporary category.

“It’s been great that students have been able to publish and share these stories,” said O’Loughlin, “And I take particular pleasure when one of the stories from the class knocks a Vampire Diaries fan fiction story out of the top slot.”

“The World of Kurt Vonnegut” is one of a dozen fictional worlds that are part of the Kindle program. Other texts as part of the series tend to be less literary, including *The Vampire Diaries* and *Gossip Girl*. Stories as part of this project can be purchased for \$0.99 and read on a Kindle or a Kindle-capable device (such as an iPhone). There is also a Kindle cloud reader that can be used on any computer browser.

Stories published as part of this project include:

- Megan Gregorsak’s “Her Father Believed in Aliens Shaped Like Plungers” (with original cover art)
- Carter Brown’s “Messiah”
- Amanda Blanche’s “The Flibbertigibbit’s Truth”
- Brian Pals’s “Unmanned, or the Passion of Frenchie”
- Jim O’Loughlin’s “What Valencia Knew”

Jazz Combos Concert
Tuesday, Feb. 25, 7:30 p.m.
Bengtson Auditorium, Russell Hall

Under the direction of faculty artist Chris Merz and graduate student conductors, the School of Music will present a jazz combos concert. *This event is free and open to the public.*

Guest Artist Recital: Kevin Sanders, tuba
Wednesday, Feb. 26, 6:00 p.m.
Davis Hall, GBPAC

Visiting artist, Kevin Sanders, will present a tuba recital with UNI faculty artist, Robin Guy, piano. Kevin Sanders joined the faculty of the Rudi E. Scheidt School of Music at the University of Memphis in the fall of 2008. Sanders has been a performer and clinician in Europe, Asia, and North and South America. He has performed with the American Brass Quintet, Memphis Symphony, New Mexico Symphony, Macau Orchestra (China), Spoleto USA Festival Orchestra, New World Symphony, Chicago Civic Orchestra, and the Jeunesse Musicales World Orchestra for their North American and European tours. Sanders released his debut solo CD in the fall of 2013. *This event is free and open to the public.*

Spotlight Series: Northern Iowa Symphony Orchestra
featuring guest conductor **Manfredo Schmiedt**
Wednesday, Feb. 26, 7:30 p.m.
Great Hall, GBPAC

The Northern Iowa Symphony Orchestra will offer a performance featuring guest artist and conductor Manfredo Schmiedt. Schmiedt is currently the Chief Conductor and Music Director of the Symphony Orchestra of UCS – University of Caxias do Sul in Brazil and conductor of the OSPA Symphony Choir. He received his masters in conducting from the University of Georgia (USA) and a graduate degree from Federal University of Rio Grande do Sul. *This event is ticketed. For tickets, call 319-273-4TIX, or visit www.uni.edu/tickets.*

French Art Song Recital
Thursday, Feb. 27, 6:00 p.m.
Davis Hall, GBPAC

Under the direction of faculty artist Corey Barrett, UNI vocal students will present a recital of French art songs. *This event is free and open to the public.*

Faculty Artist Recital: Ann Bradfield, saxophone
Thursday, February 27, 8:00 p.m.
Davis Hall, GBPAC

School of Music faculty artist, Ann Bradfield, will present a saxophone recital. Repertoire and collaborators to be announced. *This event is free and open to the public.*

JUST ANN

A Musical about the Life and Times of Former Texas Governor, Ann Richards

Article by: Cynthia Goatley, Professor of Theatre

After the staged reading of *A Scotch Verdict*, our first musical, in 2007, Becky and I began to consider a subject for our next musical. Ann Richards, the former governor of Texas, seemed to be the perfect candidate. A political pioneer and openly recovering alcoholic, Governor Ann Richards continues to loom large on the Texas landscape.

Ann Richards, known for her trenchant wit and fiery humor, rose to national prominence at the 1988 Democratic National Convention. Her best-known quote from this convention is about George H.W. Bush: “Poor, George. He can’t help it. He was born with a silver foot in his mouth.” When she became governor of Texas in 1991, it seemed as if nothing could stop her, but George W. Bush managed

a successful challenge to her bid for reelection in 1995. Richards continued her active political life up until her death from esophageal cancer in 2006.

In the summers of 2008 and 2009, we pursued archival research in the Dolph Briscoe Center for American History, which houses all of Richards’s personal and political papers. In the fall of 2010, we received Professional Development Assignments to organize the materials, write the book and begin the music. We finished a first draft of the musical in time to have an in-house reading/singing of it in May 2012, lead to revisions and a tighter musical which again was read and sung in May 2013 in front of an invited audience. We continue to hone the book and music with the goal of sending it out for workshops and/or performance. Then on to our next project: an opera about explorer Isabella Bird.



Former Texas Governor, Ann Richards

Interpreters Theatre Productions SCHEDULE

GRADUATE STUDENT & FACULTY PERFORMANCE HOUR*

February 20 & 21
7:30 p.m. Curtain

Performance Studies faculty and graduate students take the stage.

WASTED*

Conceived, Written and Directed by Danielle Dick McGeough, Ph.D.
March 6, 7 & 8
7:30 p.m. Curtain

This ensemble e(co)-production takes a tour through trash to explore, criticize, and recuperate the habitual practices of “throw away culture.” Using playful costumes, Image Theatre, poetry, art installations, and dance, this serious and silly performance examines the relationship between performance and environmental activism.

(RE)ORIENTATION*

Conceived, Written and Directed by Amandajean Nolte, MA with the students of SAVE (Students Against a Violent Environment)
April 10 & 11
7:30 p.m. Curtain

A performance/dialogue mash up examining our responses to violence, and exploring the assumptions that underlie Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month.

PERFORMANCE POWER HOUR

April 17
7:30 p.m. Curtain

See the “best of the best” performances from our beginning and advanced level performance classes.

*Denotes world premier production

CLAUDIA RESTREPO

School of Music

A second year graduate student, Claudia Restrepo, chose UNI because of the quality of the faculty. "The school of music faculty at UNI is nationally renowned, and, as I was doing my research for schools, one of my mentors recommended Dr. Rebecca Burkhardt, who is my principal teacher right now."

Restrepo studies orchestra conducting while at UNI and expects to graduate this May. She is also an Industrial Engineer. A native of Colombia, she describes her impressions of Iowa, "At the beginning, I had a hard time due to the culture shock of living in a new country. However, I noticed how most of the people in Iowa really care about others and are willing to help you in any ways possible."

She explains that as a music major, she doesn't have a lot of free time, but enjoys spending time with her friends and host family when she can.

When asked about a funny or interesting experience at UNI, Restrepo says, "My first experience with real winter was here since we don't have snow in Colombia. As the fall semester was getting colder and colder, I was getting worried, especially listening to all of the frightening stories about winter everyone seemed to enjoy sharing with me. I think it is funny how now, a 32°F temperature seems to be warm to me, after I used to complain about days in the lower 50s."

Aside from becoming a seasoned veteran to Iowa winters, Restrepo explains she is also applying for doctorate programs. She hopes for acceptance to one of the programs so she can further her music education.

She says, "as a conductor, the most challenging thing about academic life is gaining hands-on experience. I have been fortunate to conduct numerous times and diverse ensem-

bles, thus developing real experience in my field. Probably this is one of the things that I like the most about the UNI School of Music."

She loves the multiple opportunities she shares with people in the Department of Music through the ensemble rehearsals, classes and lessons.

"The faculty at UNI is great. Besides their amazing capabilities, they are always eager to help and challenge you at the top of your skills; they absolutely care about you, and they want to make the best musician of you."



Restrepo is a part of two of the most prestigious ensembles at UNI, the Northern Iowa Wind Symphony and the Northern Iowa Symphony Orchestra.

She offers one last thought, "The thing I love the most about UNI is the fact that you are not considered a 'number;' you are not 'student X.' People at UNI really care about you, and they want you to succeed. For that reason, I think it will be a challenge for me to leave. I definitely am going to miss UNI."

BENJAMIN CASTLE

Mathematics

Ben Castle is a junior studying math and music with an expected graduation date of May 2015. He is a Cedar Rapids native and went to Jefferson High School. Castle took an interest in music and math early in life.

"I've been obsessed with math for most of my life, and have participated in various math competitions as well as Academic Decathlon," said Castle. "I also love classical and jazz music; I've played trumpet for nine years, and play in the Symphonic Band and Jazz Panthers here at UNI."

Initially, Castle was drawn to UNI because of its combination of proximity to his home and its reputation as one of the best music programs in this region of the country. He also liked that UNI is a school large enough to have a variety of strong programs and also small enough to "feel" like a smaller college.

"UNI doesn't seem quite as large. The academic opportunities are still there, but they seem more accessible and approachable," said Castle. "I was relatively surprised by the amount of opportunities there are here for students to actively participate in their fields of study. I've been given an increasing level of freedom and responsibility in learning both math and music; for me, this has made my education much more fulfilling."

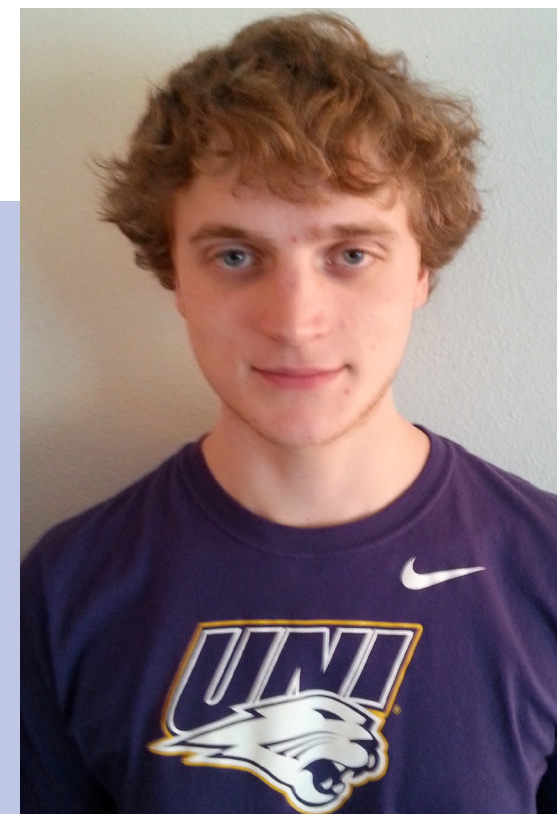
Being a math/music double major doesn't allow for a lot of free time; most of his time is spent listening to music and reading (generally

math related articles). One organization Castle has been a part of is Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia.

"I have been a member of Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia, a music fraternity, since my first semester at UNI," said Castle. "Sinfonia has produced some of the strongest bonds I've been able to make with fellow students at UNI, and has introduced me to a national network of like-minded people as well as numerous opportunities to advance music in our society. More recently, I became a member of Kappa Mu Epsilon, a math honor society which has helped connect me to others motivated by the power and elegance of mathematical reasoning."

Castle's biggest aspiration for a career is to practice math in a university setting. To help achieve this goal, it has been very beneficial to work closely with the professors in the math department.

"I've been able to take independent study classes, conduct original research, and give talks related to my fields of interest in math," says Castle. "The UNI Math Department provides a great environment for undergraduate math study: it is small enough to be able to provide students with individual attention and opportunities to develop their own mathematical ideas; at the same time, there is a variety of mathematical interest in the department, so that it is relatively easy for students to locate professors who share their interests."



Castle's involvement with both math and music have created many memorable experiences for him.

"Some of my highlights include two math research projects over the last year, as well as countless musical performances in various jazz band, concert band, and athletic band settings," said Castle. "I was also part of a think tank group that started the Panther Plot, an on-campus student garden. Also, the semester-long process of becoming a member of Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia is about as positive and memorable as a college experience could get. Participating in the Iowa Collegiate Math Competition (and beating everyone but ISU last year) was also a great experience."

Both inside and outside of the classroom, Castle has a passion for math and has many positive things to say about the Math Department.

"The pure logical rigor and elegance of math have always been very appealing, and I have been fortunate to have many opportunities to work in the 'purest,' most abstract parts of math during my time in the UNI Math Department. Some of the math professors here prefer to teach classes in an 'inquiry based' setting, in which the students are guided through the process of discovering the ideas of the topic themselves. This provides a very fun and effective complement to more traditional lecture courses."

After graduating, Castle wants to go immediately into graduate school, hoping to research mathematical logic and related fields. Ideally, he would also like to play in musical ensembles at whatever school he attends.

UNI Women's & Gender Studies Presents

CROW FORUM

Current Research on Women & Gender

2013-2014 Schedule

All forums start at noon in the Center for Multicultural Education, Room 109A Faculty, staff, students and members of the wider community are invited!

317-273-7102 wgs@uni.edu
www.uni.edu/csbs/womenstudies

MAR 3

21ST CENTURY JUNGLES

REPRESENTING WORKPLACE ABUSES AGAINST MIGRANT WOMEN

Jennifer Cooley, Associate Professor,
Languages & Literatures

APR 7

UNI WGS

OUTSTANDING GRADUATE PAPER ON GENDER AWARD

CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT CLUB

Article by Alexa Weilein

On Nov. 6, the University of Northern Iowa's Construction Management Club competed in Las Vegas at the Associated Builders and Contractors National Student Construction Management Competition. The Construction Management Club placed second in the Safety Division of the competition and fourth overall after many rigorous assignments and presentations.

In September, the club began Round 1 of the competition, in Orlando, FL in which their

assignment was to build an 80,000 sq. ft. three floor medical cancer center building. After passing Round 1, the club successfully completed Round 2 and 3 in Las Vegas from Nov. 2-6. Cody Vander Veen, (senior, Project Manager) stated that he and the other five team members entered the competition with the goal of placing in the top three. Along with the challenges of the competition, the club was able to network with recruiters and expand their knowledge.

Vander Veen said the best part of the competition was "the real world

experience." Fellow team mate Jack Bradley (senior, Quality Control Manager) stated, "the best part was the opportunity to compare our skills and knowledge of construction to other college students in similar programs at larger schools." Other universities represented included: Ohio State, Auburn and Louisiana State University.

Apart from the competitions, the Construction Management Club regularly volunteers throughout the community with great causes such as Habitat for Humanity. They also holds fundraisers to raise money for traveling expenses

to conferences, social events and host networking opportunities with corporate presenters/recruiters. The Construction Management club strongly urges other students to join. As a member, a student will gain real world experience, gain exposure to industry representatives and enhance their skills.

For more information on the club, head on over to the Department of Technology to pick up a brochure.



ALICIA JESSIP Receives Diversity Matters Award

Alicia Jessip has worked diligently to enhance diversity on UNI's campus since she was a first-year student in UNI's Jump Start program. She always has a smile on her face and is ready to welcome all community members into the UNI fold, viewing it as her responsibility to be both a role model and a guide. She has served on the summer orientation staff, worked as a Student Alumni Ambassador, and openly shared her experiences as a member of an underrepresented population in an attempt to help others find their way.

Jessip has worked as a member of UNI Proud, the Black Student Union, and the Hispanic/Latino Student Union.

For her willingness to advocate for diversity at the student level, impacting our community in significant and meaningful manners, the Diversity Matters Award was presented to Jessip.

Among her achievements are the following:

- Serving as a member of the Disability Advisory and Action Committee
- Serving as a member of the LGBT Advisory and Advocacy Committee
- Becoming a trainer for the National Coalition Building Institutes (NCBI)
- Being a member of the Military and Veteran Students Committee



COMING UP AT THEATRE UNI

Mauritius DIRECTED BY: Steve Taft

7:30 PM
2:00 PM

FEB 27 28 1 2 6 7 8 9

August: Osage County DIRECTED BY: Angie Toomsen

7:30 PM
2:00 PM

APR 10 11 12 13 17 18 19

FOR TICKETS, VISIT UNI.EDU/TICKETS OR CALL 319.273.4TIX

CHLOE BOZORGOMID

Art

Senior Chloe Bozorgomid explains how she arrived at UNI, “I really just wanted to be an artist; I have my whole life. I knew the department was very active, so when I visited UNI for a college visit I was in love.”

She further elaborates upon that love, stating, “I’m surprised at how fantastic the art community is. There are always so many things going on, as well as various club activities, student galleries to show work in and artist visits. The gallery inside Kamerick is phenomenal, and the current faculty show was a joy to see. I also enjoy the relationships I’ve made with my professors. They all want us students to grow and learn for our future careers, and I love it. The study abroad office has also allowed me to use my knowledge of traveling to learn more and help others study in other countries.”

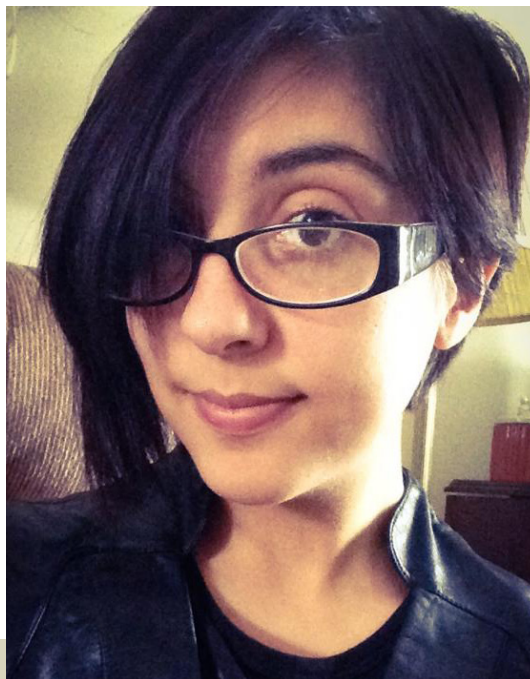
Bozorgomid describes herself as a world traveler. She has visited eight different countries, her favorites being Switzerland and Japan. She hopes to learn Japanese when she’s done with her undergraduate career.

Besides traveling, she enjoys painting. “[Painting] takes a lot of spare time, but when I paint I feel so at ease. I also enjoy working with glass

(though, I haven’t done it lately.) I love Nintendo, and it’s no secret I’m a bit of a nerd. I also enjoy being with my boyfriend and family.”

Because Bozorgomid is a transfer student, she says, “My biggest challenge was that I was a transfer student. I didn’t know anyone, and felt that coming in as a Junior made it a little hard to blend in. Coming from the home of the University of Iowa, my first impression of UNI was that it was going to feel much smaller compared to UI, with fewer opportunities. This worried me a little in the beginning, but now as I’m nearing the end of my undergrad career at UNI, I know it’s not true. The campus is always very lively, and I can’t say I’ve disliked any of the events I’ve attended.”

Bozorgomid stays busy on campus working as a Teaching Assistant. She loves helping the students, and is excited for a classroom of her own. She also belongs to the UNI Study Abroad Center as a peer advisor for Japan, as well as being a member of the International Cultural Exchange. “These two organizations have allowed me to experience a world outside of Iowa. I’ve learned about organizing events, meeting international students and making



them feel comfortable in Iowa, as well as participating in fundraisers. Being in these groups has made me want to reach out to other students and try to get them to study abroad as well.”

When asked about the Art Department, Bozorgomid offers some insight, “The department rocks. The professors want you to succeed. Don’t be shy to talk to them and to ask them for advice. Also, try everything! There are so many different production classes that I had a hard time picking what to take. I really enjoyed Photography.”

Bozorgomid graduates in May and plans to take a year off of school to obtain work experience. She hopes to work at the UI art gallery.

After a year off, she desires to attend grad school to be able to teach at the college level.

“UNI has done a great job of preparing me for this upcoming summer and next fall. I have better ideas now as to how to get a job in my field, and my relationships with my professors and bosses are molding me into being a more professional, experienced art historian. I feel as though I can aim high, UNI helped me find my calling in wanting to teach Cartoon History and previously, I wouldn’t have known what exactly I wanted to do with my career.”