

4-2014

## The Update, April/May 2014

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

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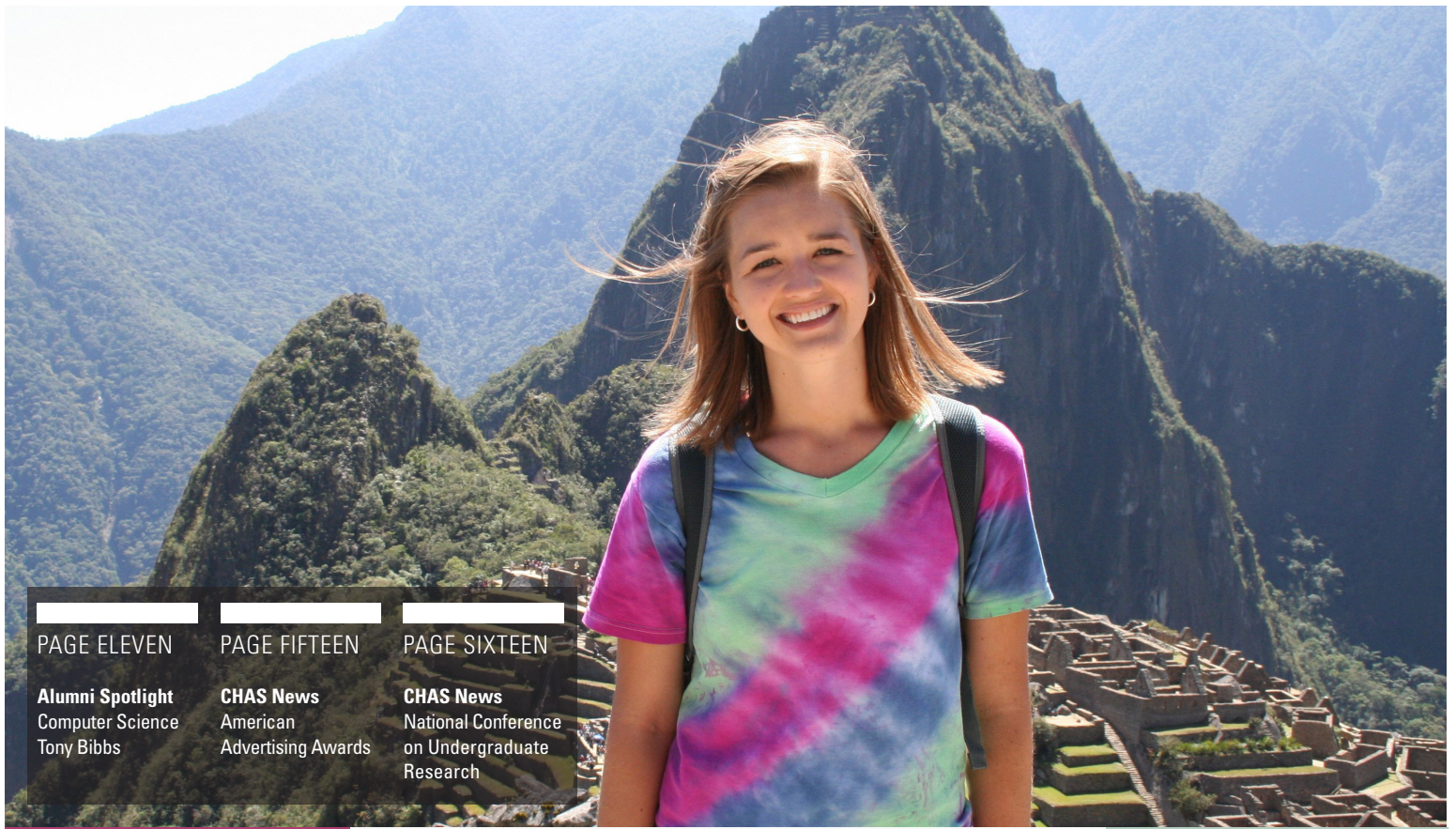
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# THE UPDATE

College of Humanities, Arts *and* Sciences

**UNIVERSITY OF NORTHERN IOWA**

## SUSAN GRAVES

Susan Graves knew she wanted to study Biology since high school. Now, four years later, she will graduate college this May with a major in Biology and a minor in Chemistry. Besides studying Biology, Graves keeps busy with the Student Nature Society, of which she has served as president for the past two years. She has also worked

in the UNI Botanical Center and was an assistant coach for the local swim team, BLAST. During her free time, she enjoys volunteering at Hartman Reserve, spending time with family and friends, photography, traveling, running and being outdoors. Graves also has traveled to Europe, South America, Australia and New Zealand.

Graves chose to study Biology at UNI because of the size and location. She also liked the teacher to student ratio. When asked about

her initial thoughts of UNI, she said, "My first impression of UNI was that it had a beautiful campus. Now, my impression of UNI is that it's still a beautiful campus, but filled with amazing professors, students and opportunities."

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## ART

• Art Department Head Jeffery Byrd performed as part of the exhibition *Lightning Speed of the Present/ Accumulation Phase 2* at Boston University's Gallery 808 (below).



• Art Education students in the Issues and Theories class received a Veridian Community Engagement Fellowship Award to create the Quakerdale art exhibit (below).



• Students taking Elementary Methods as part of the art education program held a STEAM Arcade workshop with twenty home school students (below).





## COMMUNICATION STUDIES

• Electronic media graduate Cassandra Milbrandt won the Award of Excellence at the Iowa Motion Picture Awards for 2014 for her student documentary *NOLAN*. The documentary is a poignant exploration of a family's experience with autism. The Award of Excellence is the highest award in a category.

Electronic media student Isaac Campbell won five Awards of Achievement at the IMPA Awards for his documentary *ASPIRE* (co-directed with Electronic Media graduate Glenna Goldman) and for additional videos "Ghosts," "Bravi", "Such Men Lived," and "Colts Recruitment." *ASPIRE* tells the story of one family's use of horse therapy to address disability challenges.

The Iowa Motion Picture Awards recognize outstanding creative and technical achievement in Iowa's moving image production industry, in all its forms.

• Laura Terlip will present a panel on visual communication to the Popular Culture Association in Chicago in April. Six graduate students will also present. Laura Terlip and Tom Hall will present on a panel in April at the Central States Communication Association (CSCA) in Minneapolis.

• Chris Ogbondah, professor of journalism presented two papers at the following internationally-focused conferences:

"Crisis in Nigeria's education sector: ASUU. Federal government and failed communication," presented at the International Communication Division (ICD) of Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication (AEJMC) Mid-Winter conference, University of Oklahoma, Norman, Feb. 28–Mar. 1.

"Photo ethics in Nigerian press: Will the watchdog please watch itself," presented at the Africa Council for Communication in Education (ACCE) 16th Annual conference, University of Nigeria, Nsukka, Mar. 10–12.

## COMPUTER SCIENCE

• The Cedar Falls Public Library co-hosted a Minecraft LAN Party on Feb. 22 with the Cedar Valley Linux Users Group (CedarLUG). There was a large turnout, which included many non-UNI participants as well as UNI students. Dr. Paul Gray helped organize and run the event.

## LANGUAGES & LITERATURES

• Siegrun Wildner, Professor in the Department of Languages & Literatures, presented "Auctorial Authenticity and Fictional Representation of the Holocaust" on Mar. 16, 2014 at the conference, "The Holocaust in Hungary, 70 Years on: New Perspectives," hosted by the Florida Gulf Coast University.

• Siegrun Wildner, Professor in the Department of Languages & Literatures, has published an invited contribution, "Das Fremde als Grenzgänger," in *39NULL: Magazin für Gesellschaft und Kultur* (2/2014) Berlin, Germany; a journal on contemporary issues in society and culture.

• Vince Gotera, professor of English, and two students in the Languages and Literatures Department, published poems in the book *Surges: Outpourings in Haiyan/Yolanda's Wake*, a literature and art anthology published in December 2013 in the Philippines as a fundraiser for disaster relief after Typhoon Haiyan.

Monica Clark, an undergraduate English major and Creative Writing minor, published her poem "If I Knew You By Your Name."

Rachel Routier, a graduate student in English with a specialization in Creative Writing, published the poem "Five Senses."

Vince's poem was titled "News from Typhoon Yolanda," a hay(na)ku sonnet.

• UNI TESOL graduate students, Kyle Talbot and Daryl Veatch presented at their first international conference in Dubai, United Arab Emirates.

## MATHEMATICS

• Benjamin Castle, an *Update* "Student Spotlight" from the February 2014 issue, was selected to participate in the Budapest Semesters in Mathematics (BSM) Program in Fall 2014 held in Budapest, Hungary. Ben is the first student in the math program to be admitted to the BSM program.

## TECHNOLOGY

• The University of Northern Iowa partnered with the Cedar Valley Society of Women in Engineering (SWE) to host eighty female middle school students on Saturday, Mar. 29. The mission of Expanding Your Horizons is to "inspire girls to recognize their potential and pursue opportunities in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM)."

Girls from local middle schools were invited to participate in the day long program in the Industrial Technology Center. Participants chose from a variety of hands-on workshops including: building a solar car, food chemistry, metal casting and computer aided design, Lego League and capturing and analyzing DNA. Participants received a gift bag, t-shirt, lunch, a commemorative medallion and took home their projects.

UNI students were involved in the planning and implementation of the seminar. Student organizations in the Metal Casting Center and Grafx Club created and produced products for the event. For more information about Expanding Your Horizons, please visit the website at: [www.eyhreg.org](http://www.eyhreg.org).

## THEATRE

• Four Theatre students were selected to participate in the Research in the Capitol day.

"Research in the Capitol" is a collaborative effort of the honors programs of the three Regents universities and is intended to celebrate undergraduate research in a variety of fields. Students from the three state institutions presented their research in poster format on Tuesday, Apr. 1, 2014 in the First Floor Rotunda of the Iowa Statehouse. State senators, representatives, and other key officials were invited to view students' poster presentations and talk with them about their research and education. The four students from Theatre who presented were Sam Card, Sean Klippel, Tyler Gracey and Mackenzie Roth.

• Dr. Steve Taft (Department of Theatre) presented a paper focusing on online teaching entitled: "Turn-in, Log-on and Avoid Burnout" at the Mid-America Theatre Conference in Cleveland, Ohio on Mar. 8.

## UBS OUTSTANDING TEACHER AWARD RECIPIENTS

- **Sarah Vander Zanden**  
College of Education  
Curriculum & Instruction
- **Sheila Benson**  
College of Humanities, Arts and Sciences  
Languages & Literatures
- **Nicholas Schwab**  
College of Social and Behavioral Sciences  
Psychology
- **Russell Guay**  
College of Business  
Management

**Senior Student Recital from the studio of Angeleita Floyd:  
Magdalen Peña, flute  
Friday, April 18, 2014, 6 p.m.  
Davis Hall, GBPAC**

Senior music student Magdalen Peña will present a degree flute recital featuring faculty artist Serena Hou, piano. *This event is free and open to the public.*

**Spotlight Series: Northern Iowa Wind Symphony  
Friday, April 18, 2014, 7:30 p.m. Great Hall, GBPAC**

Under the direction of UNI School of Music professor and conductor Ronald Johnson, the Northern Iowa Wind Symphony will offer a spring concert as part of the Spotlight Series. *This event is ticketed. For tickets, call (319) 273-4TIX.*

**Student Chamber Music Concert  
Monday, April 21, 2014, 6 p.m.  
Davis Hall, GBPAC**

Coordinated by UNI School of Music faculty artists, student musicians will offer a chamber music concert. *This event is free and open to the public.*

**Spotlight Series: UNI Varsity Men's Glee Club  
Monday, April 21, 2014, 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.*

**Guest Artist Recital: Michael Krajewski, guitar  
Monday, April 21, 2014, 8 p.m.  
Graham Hall, Russell Hall**

Visiting artist Michael Krajewski, guitar will present a recital. Michael J. Krajewski earned his Bachelors of Music at Berklee College of Music (1998) in Professional Music and Master of Music at Georgia State University (2007) in Jazz Studies, and a Doctor of Musical Arts degree with a secondary area in Music Education at the University of Minnesota (2013). Michael is on the guitar faculty at Minnesota State University Moorhead, and at St. Cloud State University in Minnesota, and maintains an active private studio in Woodbury, MN. *This event is free and open to the public.*

**Women's Chorus and Glee Club Camerata  
Tuesday, April 22, 2014, 6 p.m.  
Davis Hall, GBPAC**

Coordinated and conducted by UNI School of Music faculty artists Dyan Meyer and John Len Wiles, the UNI Women's Chorus and the Men's Glee Club Camerata will present a spring performance. *This event is free and open to the public.*

**Jazz Panthers  
Tuesday, April 22, 2014, 7:30 p.m.  
Bengtson Auditorium Russell Hall**

Under the direction of faculty artist and conductor Robert Washut, the UNI Jazz Panthers will offer a spring concert. UNI alumnus Mike Conrad will be the featured guest artist and will be a jazz piano and trombone soloist as well as a composer/arranger from whom the Jazz Panthers have commissioned a special piece. *This event is free and open to the public.*

**Senior Student Recital from the studio of Jean McDonald: Kayla Kjeldseth, soprano  
Tuesday, April 22, 2014, 8 p.m.  
Davis Hall, GBPAC**

Senior music student Kayla Kjeldseth will present a degree vocal recital with faculty artist Korey Barrett, piano. *This event is free and open to the public.*

**Guest Artist Recital: Karel Keldermans, carillon  
Wednesday, April 23, 2014, 12:00 noon, Campanile**

Guest artist Karel Keldermans, carillonneur, will perform at 12 noon at the Campanile on the UNI Campus. Bring your lunch and join us outside for a one of a kind musical experience! *This event is free and open to the public.*

**Senior Student Recital from the studio of Gretchen Brumwell:  
Acacia Scott, harp  
Wednesday, April 23, 2014, 6 p.m.  
Davis Hall, GBPAC**

Senior music student Acacia Scott will present a degree harp recital featuring student musicians Elizabeth Anderson, Kayla Becker, Hannah Carr-Murphy, Hayley Graham, Megan Grey, Isaak Sund and Nick Wills. *This event is free and open to the public.*

**Jazz Band III and UNI Concert Band  
Wednesday, April 23, 7:30 p.m.  
Bengtson Auditorium, Russell Hall**

The UNI Jazz Band III and the UNI Concert Band will present a shared spring concert under the direction of Chris Merz, Daniel Galyen and graduate student conductors. *This event is free and open to the public.*

**Guest Artist Recital: Karel Keldermans, carillon  
Thursday, April 24, 2014, 12:00 p.m., Campanile**

Guest artist Karel Keldermans, carillonneur, will perform at 12 noon at the Campanile on the UNI Campus. Bring your lunch and join us outside for a one of a kind musical experience! *This event is free and open to the public.*

**Junior Student Recital from the studio of Angeleita Floyd:  
Stephanie Thimmesch, flute  
Thursday, April 24, 2014, 6 p.m.  
Graham Hall, Russell Hall**

Junior music student Stephanie Thimmesch will present a degree flute recital featuring faculty artist Polina Khatsko, piano. *This event is free and open to the public.*

**Percussion Studio Concert  
Thursday, April 24, 2014, 8 p.m.  
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 Amanda McCandless:  
Madeline Young, clarinet  
Friday, April 25, 2014, 6 p.m.  
Davis Hall, GBPAC**

Senior music student Madeline Young will present a degree clarinet recital featuring student musicians Jessica Schick, piano, and Kayla Kjeldseth, soprano. *This event is free and open to the public.*

**Senior Student Recital from the studio of Yu-Ting Su: Emily Linder, horn  
Friday, April 25, 2014, 8 p.m.  
Davis Hall, GBPAC**

Senior music student Emily Linder will present a degree horn recital featuring faculty artist Polina Khatsko, piano. *This event is free and open to the public.*

**Community Music School Spring Recital Weekend  
Saturday & Sunday, April 26 & 27, 2014, 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](mailto:cynthia.mason@uni.edu).

**UNI Suzuki School Northern Iowa Junior Orchestra Concert  
Sunday, April 27, 2014, 6 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.*

**Oboe Studio Recital  
Monday, April 28, 2014, 6 p.m.  
Davis Hall, GBPAC**

Under the direction of UNI School of Music professor of oboe Heather Peyton, the UNI oboe studio will offer a spring concert. *This event is free and open to the public.*

**Senior Student Recital from the studios of Robert Washut and Sean Botkin: Jon Snell, piano  
Monday, April 28, 2014, 7:30 p.m.  
Bengtson Auditorium, Russell Hall**

Senior music student Jon Snell will present a degree piano recital. *This event is free and open to the public.*

**Clarinet Studio & Ensemble Concert  
Tuesday, April 29, 2014, 6 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.*



**Spotlight Series: Brahms' Ein deutsches Requiem, op. 45**  
**Tuesday, April 29, 2014, 7:30 p.m.**  
**Great Hall, GBPAC**

Under the direction of UNI School of Music professor and conductor John Len Wiles, the Northern Iowa Symphony Orchestra will join with the Concert Chorale and UNI Singers to present Johannes Brahms' Ein deutsches Requiem, op. 45 as part of the Spotlight Series. This event is ticketed. For tickets, call 319-273-4TIX.

**UNI Children's Choir Spring Concert**  
**Friday, May 2, 2014, 7:30 p.m.**  
**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 New Horizons Band Spring Concert**  
**Monday, May 5, 2014, 7:30 p.m.**  
**Great Hall, GBPAC**

The New Horizons Band will offer its spring concert. Under the direction of Diana Blake, the New Horizons Band features musicians 55 and older who travel from all over Iowa. *This event is free and open to the public.*

**Northern Iowa Youth Orchestra Chamber Music Concert**  
**Monday, May 12, 2014, 7 p.m.**  
**Graham Hall, Russell Hall**

The UNI Suzuki School will sponsor the Northern Iowa Youth Orchestra's Chamber Music spring concert. This ensemble features area high school musicians and is conducted by John Chiles. *This event is free and open to the public.*

**UNI Suzuki Spring Concert**  
**Sunday, May 18, 2014, 4 p.m.**  
**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 20, 2014, 6 p.m.**  
**Bengtson Auditorium, Russell Hall**

The UNI Suzuki School will offer their spring honors recital. *This event is free and open to the public.*

# CELEBRATE EARTH WEEK

## with the RRTTC

The Recycling and Reuse Technology Transfer Center (RRTTC) is celebrating Earth Week with a wonderful collection of events:

**YOGA, Monday, April 21**  
 5:00-5:30 p.m. Session 1 in WRC 85  
 5:30-6:00 p.m. Session 2 in WRC 85

Students are invited to participate in a free yoga event to celebrate Earth Week at UNI. All participants will receive a free water bottle following the event.

This event has limited space. To learn more and register for one of the sessions, please contact the RRTTC at [rrttc@uni.edu](mailto:rrttc@uni.edu) with any questions.

**EARTH DAY CELEBRATION, Tuesday, April 22**  
 10:00-2:00 p.m. at NW courtyard of Maucker Union

Stop by for a few minutes or hang out for a couple hours and enjoy the UNI Earth Day Celebration. 30 booths will be displaying different ways to go green, live sustainable, and celebrate Earth Day.

\*FREE bike tune-ups

**HIGHWAY AND CAMPUS CLEANUP, Tuesday, April 22**  
 3:30 p.m. Highway Cleanup  
 5:30 p.m. Campus Cleanup

Register with UNI Volunteer Tuesdays. Transportation will be provided for the Highway Cleanup.

**FILM SCREENING: Troubled Waters, Tuesday, April 22**  
 7:00 p.m. in WRC 252

There will be a showing of the Emmy Award-winning *Troubled Waters: A Mississippi River Story*. It tells the story of the unintended yet severe consequences of farming along the Mississippi, and the efforts being taken to reverse this damage.

**BIKE RIDE, Wednesday, April 23**  
 6:00 p.m. leaving from Mulligans

Join the RRTTC for a bike ride on local trails in honor of the UNI Earth Week Celebration. Cyclists will meet at Mulligan's on 18th St. and ride as a group. All participants will receive a FREE t-shirt.

Helmets are required for all cyclists. For more information and to register, contact the RRTTC at [rrttc@uni.edu](mailto:rrttc@uni.edu).

**CHEW'N'VIEW, Thursday, April 23**  
 11:00 a.m. in CEEE 115

The RRTTC will be showing the film, *In Organics We Trust*. Lunch will be provided.

# WILLIAM & STEPHANIE CLOHESY

## Documentary Film Series

The William and Stephanie Clohesy Documentary Film Series returns in September, bringing America's most distinguished documentary filmmakers to the campus of the University of Northern Iowa. Filmmakers spend several days in Cedar Falls lecturing, interacting with students and screening films.

Documentary filmmaker, Lucy Walker, will be visiting Cedar Falls, Sept. 29-30. Lucy Walker is a British film director who has twice been nominated for an Academy Award. Her films include feature documentaries *The Crash Reel* (2013), *Waste Land* (2010), *Countdown to Zero* (2010), *Blindsight* (2006), *Devil's*

*Playground* (2002) and short films including *The Tsunami* and the *Cherry Blossom* (2011) and *The Lion's Mouth Opens* (2014). Her films have also been nominated for seven Emmys, an Independent Spirit and a Gotham Award and have won over eighty other film awards.

The Clohesy series is sponsored by the University of Northern Iowa Department of Communication Studies, the College of Humanities, Arts and Sciences, numerous Friends of the Series, and directed by Documentary Filmmaker-in-Residence and Adjunct Instructor David O'Shields.

### Screening Schedule:

September 29, 2014, 7 p.m.  
*The Lion's Mouth Opens*  
 (Runtime: 15 minutes)

September 29, 2014, 8 p.m.  
*The Crash Reel*  
 (Runtime: 109 minutes)

September 30, 2014, 7 p.m.  
*The Tsunami and the Cherry Blossom*  
 (Runtime: 39 minutes)

September 30, 2014, 8:30 p.m.  
*Waste Land*  
 (Runtime: 100 minutes)

# SUSAN GRAVES

## Continued from Cover

Graves also noted that the only thing that surprised her about UNI was the vast amount of activities and student organizations offered on campus. "There are so many great opportunities at UNI," Graves said.

As mentioned above, Graves is a member of the Student Nature Society. She said of her time there, "My involvement in this club has enhanced my leadership and communication skills. I have gained many friends and have had great volunteer opportunities while being a part of this club." Graves is also a member of the Omicron Delta Kappa National Honor Society.

Now, faced with graduation and future plans, Graves plans on attending graduate school. When asked how the Biology Department helped prepare her for the future, she said, "The Department of Biology has provided me with

wonderful opportunities to visit graduate programs I am interested in. UNI Career Services has also been very helpful in helping me perfect my resume and preparing me for job interviews."

She offered advice to future students, and said, "Get to know the professors in the Biology Department sooner rather than later. All the professors are extremely friendly, interesting and want to help you succeed!"

During her time at the Botanical Center, Graves made many memories including the time her boss had to spend a half hour removing cactus spines from her hands after she accidentally touched a cactus fruit. That memory doesn't deter her from claiming the Botanical Garden, including the UNI Prairie Preserves, as her favorite spot on campus. She also taught Colombo, the African Gray

parrot in the Botanical Gardens how to "meow."

If Graves could do anything in the world, she would travel the world and take photographs. Her most memorable experience from UNI "was traveling with a professor and group of students to study amphibians in both Iowa and West Virginia."

Besides the trip to West Virginia, Graves also highlighted other events from her college career including: receiving 7th place in the women's division in the UNI Run for the Preserves 5K, assisting Jeff Tamplin's graduate student in her research, cleaning up a section of the Cedar River on an SNS canoe trip, camping with the SNS and organizing a plastic bag exchange for her Capstone class.

*By: Rachel Routier*



# UNI BOTANICAL CENTER

## to Hold Its 15th Annual Spring Plant Sale

UNI's Botanical Center is holding its annual Spring Plant Sale on Thursday, May 1 from 7:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the Botanical Center in classroom 26. Manager of the Greenhouse, Billie Hemmer, reports that "We will have a large variety of tropical plants, blooming bulbs; such as lilies and begonias, a few hanging baskets and a wide selection of herbs as well as some heirloom vegetable plants."

The prices range from \$1.50 to \$10.00. All proceeds go into a special fund for the purchase of new species for the Botanical Collection and to the Student Nature Society.

Hemmer offers her thoughts on the event. "This will be the 15th

year of the Annual Spring Plant Sale. It has become a spring event that many people on campus look forward to each year. Student Nature Society students will help shoppers select plants and even help to carry their boxes. Although weather can sometimes be an issue, the sale is truly a lot of fun and everyone who attends has a good time. Last year's sale was successful despite the snow and rain. We are hoping for a sunny spring day this year and I have no doubt it will again be a great success."

The event is co-sponsored with the Student Nature Society.

By: Rachel Routier



# TONY BIBBS

## Computer Science

Tony Bibbs graduated from UNI in 1997. Now, he's the CEO/President of The GForge Group based in the Des Moines area. Bibbs explains his company, "Our flagship product is a web-based project management and collaboration suite focused on technology companies many of which are Fortune 500." He currently lives in Urbandale with his wife and their three girls.

Bibbs elaborated on his career path and how it led to his current success, "While still a full-time UNI student, I worked in the admissions office running UNI's enrollment system and maintaining their website. After graduation, I spent the early part of my career in software consulting where I gained a lot of experience with a number of different technologies. This eventually led me to the world of open source software and in 1998, in my free time, I launched Iowa Outdoors, a hunting and fishing website. While running Iowa Outdoors, I gained real-world experience with open source software like Linux, Apache, PHP and MySQL. About that same time, I became the lead contributor to Geeklog (geeklog.net), which is a content management system I used to power Iowa Outdoors. During my time with Geeklog, I collaborated with a large team across the globe and eventually got our project accepted into the Google Summer of Code program where our team mentored college students under paid summer internships by Google.

"Iowa Outdoors started out as a way to expand my expertise in open source technology, but it ended with me selling the site to Heartland Communications in Ft. Dodge in 2007. They have since re-branded Iowa Outdoors to Iowa Sportsman (iowasportsman.com).

"After doing software consulting for a number of different companies, I did short stints with start-ups and other small businesses before joining the State of Iowa's Department of Administrative Services as a software architect. In that role, I was responsible for maintaining a number of key services such as the state's electronic payment system, single sign-on system, sex offender registry and many others. I also served as an interim co-CIO for Iowa Workforce Development where I was tasked with keeping many high profile projects running smoothly and for hiring a new CIO and team lead.

"In 2011, I bought The GForge Group, a company originally founded by another UNI graduate, Tim Perdue. The GForge Group has employees both here in the US and South America and our customers are located throughout the globe."

Currently, Bibbs is focused on growing and expanding his business. He hopes to gain market share and would like to hire UNI graduates. He is also interested in expanding his business overseas.



Outside of business, Bibbs also loves the outdoors. He enjoys spending time with family and friends hunting, camping, fishing and canoeing. He also can be found golfing with his wife and kids.

Since UNI, Bibbs has given a number of talks at technology conferences such as the DC PHP Conference, ZendCon, php[tek] Conference, PHP Argentina and the National Association of State CIOs (NASCIO). He also returns to UNI to speak to computer science students.

During his time at UNI, Bibbs was part of the Student Alumni Ambassadors (SAA) and was eventually President. In addition, he participated in the Ethnic Student Promoters (ESP), Student Telecounseling Admissions Representatives (STARS) and even had a short stint on the UNI Wrestling team. He also received the UNI Lux Service Award.

He explained that his time at UNI in the Department of Computer Science was crucial to his success. "With the educational and social opportunities at UNI I learned that being able to understand a wide range of technologies and being able to deliver how they work to people wearing suits and ties is important. While not unique to me, being able to describe how low level IT decisions impacts the bottom-line of a business isn't a common skill and I owe that to UNI."

Bibbs concluded with some advice to future and current students, "All the best memories I have from UNI come from the fact I stayed engaged and picked up a number of great mentors and friends. The best advice I can give is to get involved with an organization or two on campus. It can be organizations within your college of study or one of the many of the campus-wide programs. Make the most of it!"

By: Rachel Routier





## THERESE KUSTER

### Communication Studies/ Languages & Literatures

During her free time, Kuster enjoys spending time with her boyfriend and their two dogs, Buck and Max. She also enjoys home improvement projects, reading, hanging out with friends and family, and going to the dog park.

Kuster has been a guest speaker at several class and student organizations at UNI and community organizations. She is considering pursuing an MBA to teach adjunct at a college to help current students learn more about digital marketing.

At UNI, Kuster was a member of the local chapter of the Public Relations Student Society of America (PRSSA) and served as the National Vice President of Professional Development for PRSSA for a year. When asked about any positive memories at UNI, Kuster replied, "I have a ton of positive memories at UNI. Being a panther was a great fit for me and I'm glad to have spent four years at UNI. I love working with current students to help them achieve their goals and have the same positive experience that I did."

Many of her positive experiences took place within the Spanish department. She continues to find practical applications for her Spanish minor at TargetClick.

"I'm very appreciative of my time spent in the Spanish department. I was able to learn a lot about speaking/writing in Spanish, as well as the linguistics behind the

language. That has certainly been helpful as we work with multi-lingual clients here at TargetClick," she said. "In fact, I was able to reach out to my contacts (Jennifer Cooley) and organize a Spanish/English focus group to research better ways to market to Spanish-speaking customers on behalf of one of our clients. We learned a lot from those students, and used their expertise to launch a Spanish campaign, which is doing very well. I am thankful that my Spanish education has given me the confidence to pursue those multi-lingual opportunities, and that my relationship with the department resulted in a practical application for our business."

Her future goals include expanding the company and sharing Digital Marketing with students. Kuster said, "I want to continue to grow TargetClick as much as possible and help everyone on our team meet their professional goals as well. I also strive to continue to work with students at UNI to help them learn more about Digital Marketing and the career opportunities available to them."

*By: Rachel Routier*

Therese Kuster, a 2012 graduate, used her degree in public relations with a minor in Spanish to found a company called TargetClick Marketing with two other people in 2011. One year later, the company merged with a local advertising company and became TargetClick Powered by Mudd Advertising. Kuster is the Director of Operations for the digital team.

Since graduating, Kuster has spent a lot of time growing and expanding TargetClick from just three founders to a 26-member team. Kuster said, "I love the way we get to continue to grow TargetClick as though we're still an independent business, but with the backing and support of a 33-year-old company. My favorite part about my position now is helping the rest of our team grow in their careers and serve our clients."

TargetClick was founded in the R.J. McElroy Student Business Incubator at UNI.



## BEN WADSLEY

### Mathematics

Ben Wadsley began his career right here at UNI. Now, ten years later, as the Chief Actuary, Employer Solutions and Pensions division of Transamerica Life Insurance Company in Cedar Rapids, IA, he contributes much of his success to his time at UNI and the UNI Actuary Club.

Wadsley graduated from UNI in 2004 with a major in Mathematics: Statistics/Actuarial Science. While at UNI, he participated in the Actuarial Club. Wadsley said, "[The Actuarial Club] was a great experience where we were able to learn about different companies,

different tracks of actuarial science, and able to bond as a group. I'm still in touch with several members of the Actuarial Club from my days at UNI."

He even obtained his current job through the club. Wadsley explained, "I had two internships with Transamerica while still at UNI that I found out about through the Actuarial Club that led me to Transamerica in Cedar Rapids, and I've been here ever since."

Wadsley further explained his love for the area as well, "I've lived in Cedar Rapids for ten years now, and

I really enjoy the area. It's a great place to raise a family. My two kids love things like visiting the Science Center, visiting parks and working on home science projects."

When asked how his experience at UNI and the Math Department helped him, he answered, "It was great to get the theoretical background behind many of the mathematical concepts that are used in actuarial science. Those types of backgrounds really help understand what our calculations are telling us. I really enjoyed Syed Kirmani's classes, which did a great job of teaching us practical applications of actuarial techniques, as well as preparing us

for actuarial exams. The way that Dr. Kirmani sets up his curriculum really helps to prepare a student for life as an actuary. Another great part about the Actuarial Science major is that it is large enough that it has all of the topics needed to be successful, but small enough that you knew nearly all of the other actuarial science majors, so it made for a very tight knit group."

Since UNI, Wadsley has spoken on several topics at the Society of Actuary meetings across the country and has written several articles. He is also currently the Chairperson of the Actuary of the Future Section of the Society of Actuaries as well as a past chairperson of the Forecasting and Futurism Section of the Society

of Actuaries. Wadsley said, "This is a great opportunity to volunteer to help shape the future of the actuarial profession, and work on some really interesting projects, including things like Genetic Algorithms."

Wadsley concluded, "Being an actuary is great! Every year, Actuaries show up as one of the top careers in the country according to sources like CNN Money and [www.beanactuary.org](http://www.beanactuary.org) has a ton of information about the profession and why it's so great. But the best part from my prospective is, it is a career where you are able to take the skills you learn, apply them to real life situations and make a real difference."

*By: Rachel Routier*



# GEORGE WALKER SOCIETY OF MUSIC

## School of Music

The George Walker Society of Music, a UNI School of Music student organization founded in 1997, is also a college branch of a national music society: The National Music Association of Negro Musicians Inc. The national organization is a historic music society of musicians, composers, music educators and musicologists. The primary goal of the George Walker Society is to promote the fine art of African Americans.

This year Malcolm Burke, UNI Honors student and GWSM member presented his student recital of solo and chamber works entirely of African American Composers. Malcolm's research, lecture and presentation was a

part of his UNI Honors project requirement and it featured both classical and jazz works. Malcolm is the student of both Dr. Jonathan Chenoweth (cello) and Dr. Anthony Williams (trombone).

In advocacy and promotion of outstanding compositions by African Americans, a spotlight on a few works and composers from Malcolm's recital included:

### 1. *Sonata for Cello and Piano* **George Walker (1922 - )**

Composer was born in Washington DC. Graduated from Oberlin College at the tender age of 17. Career of collegiate teaching positions.

Walker recipient of the 1997 Pulitzer Prize in music for his piano work, *Lilac*.

### 2. *Spiritual Fantasy No. 12* **Frederick Tillis (1930 - )** piece for string quartet

Composer born in Galveston, Texas. Received masters and doctorate in composition from University of Iowa. He composes both in the classical and jazz mediums.

### 3. *Songs* **William Grant Still (1895 - 1978)** arr. **Alexa Still** piece for trombone

Composer was born in Woodville, Mississippi. Studied composition and violin at Oberlin College. W.G. Still was an influential figure in the Harlem Renaissance of the 1920s and 30s.

The George Walker Society continues to acquire African American composition for use as

additional repertoire for learning and performance.

Additionally this year, GWSM sponsored a student event, Monologue Madness, whereby notable African American playwrights such as August Wilson (*Fences*, *Piano Lessons* and *Ma Rainey's Black Bottom*) and Lorraine Hansberry (*A Raisin in the Sun*) were presented and their works performed to the UNI community and the general public.

## GOLD PROFESSIONAL AWARDS

- **Gold & Judges' Citation for Illustration**  
UNI College of Humanities, Arts and Sciences  
Gary Kelley
- **UNI Gallery of Art**  
Phil Fass

## SILVER PROFESSIONAL AWARDS

- **UNI College of Humanities, Arts & Sciences**  
Sarah Pauls
- **UNI Gallery of Art**  
Phil Fass

## GOLD STUDENT AWARDS

- **Best of Show**  
Rob Wirtjes
- **Gold & Judges' Citation for Awesomeness**  
Andrew Engelbart  
Brooke Holst  
Sarah Hedeem  
Meghan Rankin

## SILVER STUDENT AWARDS

- Rachael Bair
- Kimber Bates
- Sarah Dunegan
- Olivia Hottle
- Valyn Reinig
- Eric Benson (3-time silver award winner)

# PROFESSIONALS AND STUDENTS

## Awarded 19 American Advertising Awards

The College of Humanities, Arts and Sciences received 18 American Advertising Awards between professional and student awards, with the University of Northern Iowa receiving the 19th. CHAS would like to send out congratulations to all winners.

The 2014 American Advertising Awards were held at the Waterloo Center for the Arts.

The ceremony had a theme of "Out with the Old, in with the New," because of the change in name from the ADDY Awards to the American Advertising Awards. The event was sponsored by AAF-Cedar Valley.

Awardees of the gold award will advance to district judging. District winners proceed to the National American Advertising Awards Competition.

*By: Rachel Routier*

# GRAFX CLUB

## Technology

The University of Northern Iowa Grafx Club is a modern student organization that brings the print and design processes of today to the public for fast and economical printing and design solutions. The Grafx Club does a variety of work for many customers around the community including:

- Screen printed t-shirts and sweatshirts
- Screen printed koozies and bags
- Dye-sublimation shirts and mugs

- Everyday sheet printing
- Vinyl stickers and decals
- Dynamic graphic design solutions

Grafx club provides numerous opportunities for its members by allowing them to put forth their creative skills and apply those skills to various services. The market that they work with involves UNI faculty, staff and students as well as local businesses and organizations in the Cedar Valley. Members have the chance to gain real-world experience outside of the classroom, which

helps them to enhance their resumes and gain a better understanding of the industry.

By working hands on with the local businesses of the Cedar Valley area, Grafx club is able to associate and familiarize themselves with professionals in the industry and community.

Grafx club is an organization that is focused on creating an atmosphere dedicated to teaching others about design services offered in the field of graphic communication. They

take pride in producing advertising and marketing materials that are both visually strong as well as versatile to the UNI student body. They are a dedicated to a simple goal: be creative.





## 2014 NCUR PARTICIPANTS

- Francis Chabotte
- John Chesley
- Brett Copeland
- Randall Fisher
- Jon Macomber
- Christopher Breja
- Maren Finsand
- Mikayla Freese
- Olivia Hottle
- Courtney Keiser
- Morgan Kosar
- Nicole Miller
- Allie Simpson
- Katherine (Kate) Thomas
- Celeste Underriner
- Victoria Arreola

# NATIONAL CONFERENCE on Undergraduate Research

Sixteen students from UNI participated in the 2014 National Conference on Undergraduate Research (NCUR) on Apr. 3-5. The conference is held annually at the University of Kentucky campus in Lexington, Kentucky.

The conference highlights undergraduate research. Students submit papers that are then competitively reviewed by academics in their fields. The papers chosen for presentation represent the best undergraduate research from across the nation.

CHAS Associate Dean, John Fritch further explained, "Participants present their research in poster sessions, formal presentations, and artistic and creative performances. In addition, they view the work of other students at the conference. Also, many graduate schools are represented at the conference and seek to recruit potential graduate students."

There were over 4,000 attendees at the conference including the sixteen students and five faculty members. The faculty included: Chad Heinzl, Darrell Weins, Jeff Nie, Jeff Funderburk and Carl Thurman. UNI was represented by more students than all other Iowa colleges and universities.

Fritch offered his thoughts on the conference, "The NCUR is a very positive experience for UNI students. It provides them an opportunity to present research and to see how that research stacks up with the research of other students from a variety of universities throughout the U.S. In addition, the students' research is evaluated by professors at institutions from across the nation. This gives UNI students a rare chance to see how faculty from other universities are instructing students on how to do research. Also, attending the conference

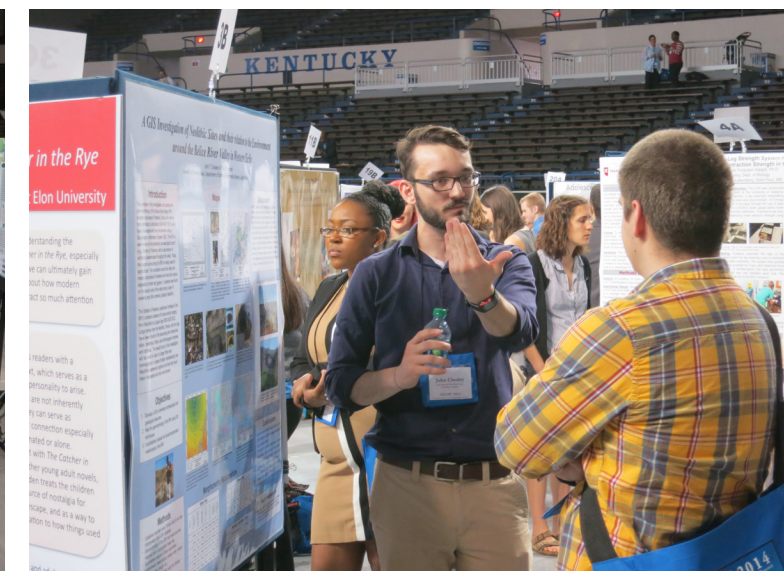
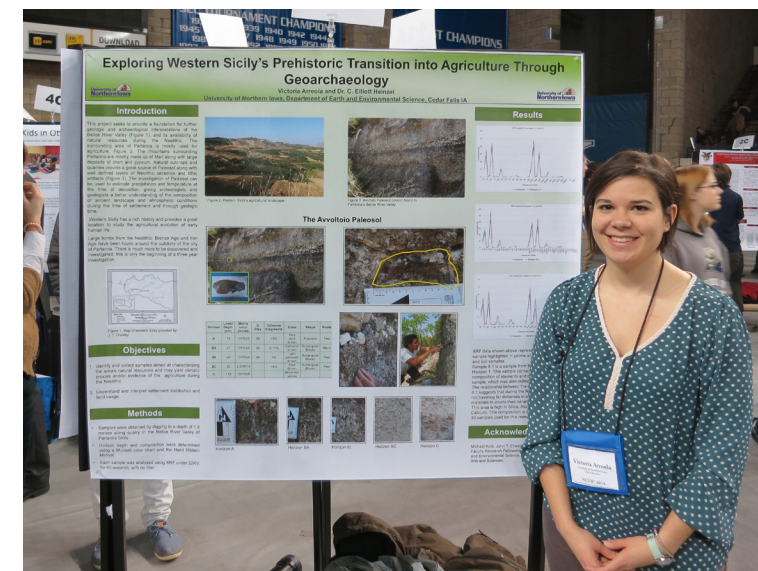
gives our students confidence as they learn that they are just as good, if not better, than students from all across the nation."

The students were sponsored by the College of Humanities, Arts and Sciences. Earth Science Department faculty member, Chad Heinzl served as the faculty sponsor of the trip.

Heinzl said, "NCUR 2014 was an amazing experience for myself and UNI's participating students. We had the opportunity to share our research with 4,000 students and faculty from across the nation and globe. Some of the greatest learning opportunities came from students sharing their ideas with others from very different backgrounds and research perspectives. For example, a conversation initiated by a music major who built her own drum kit from propane tanks, to an earth

science major describing where the natural resources originate to make the propane tanks, to a physics major describing sound waves, and eventually, the discussion how resonance is applied to each of their fields."

He concluded, "NCUR 2014 was a beautiful melting pot of knowledge, passion and hope. Our world is full of many complex/wicked problems. The students I spoke with acknowledged the world's problems, but were confident that there are solutions and in their growing ability to address them. NCUR 2014 has facilitated an exponential growth of hopefulness."





# CHAS AWARD WINNERS

## Seventh Annual Graduate Student Symposium

### POSTER PRESENTATIONS

- **First Place, Poster Presentation: Literature Review**  
Ranjana Joshi, Technology (DT)  
Harvesting Ambient Energy to Power Wireless Sensor Nodes  
Advisor: Dr. Jin Zhu
- **Second Place (Tie), Poster Presentation: Research**  
Lingxiu Chen, Technology: Engineering Management (MS)  
Enhanced Pulse-Position Modulation (PPM) in Ultra-Wideband (UWB) Systems  
Advisor: Dr. Jeffery Nie

### ORAL PRESENTATIONS UNIVERSITY ROOM

- **First Place,**  
Melanie Abbas, Technology (DT)  
Development of a Multi-Mode Self-Adaptive Traffic Shaping Algorithm for an Efficient Network  
Advisor: Dr. Jin Zhu
- **Second Place,**  
Darshak Dodiya,  
Technology: Industrial Management (MS)  
Analysis of Use of Automated Tools for Improving the Process of Software Verification and Validation in a Midwestern Company  
Advisor: Dr. Ali Kashef

### ORAL PRESENTATIONS ELM ROOM

- **First Place:**  
Not Awarded
- **Second Place (Tie),**  
Sandra Flikkema, Communication Studies:  
Organizational Communication (MA)  
Ritual Interrupted: Getting 'Fired' Gets Laughs and Shifts Power in Organizations On and Off Television  
Advisor: Dr. Laura Terlip

### CREATIVE PERFORMANCE: MUSICAL

- **Katherin Kneisley, Performance: Voice (MM)**  
Come scoglio from *Così fan tutte* by Mozart  
Advisor: Dr. John Hines

### CREATIVE WRITING

- **First Place,**  
Xavia Publius, Women's and Gender Studies (MA)  
"Looking Glass"  
Advisor: Dr. Danielle McGeough
- **Second Place,**  
Rachel Routier, English: Creative Writing (MA)  
"Roots of Green"  
Advisor: Dr. Vince Gotera

# UNI PRINT SOCIETY

## Attends Nashville Print Revival

Members of the UNI Print Society, a student organization dedicated to printmaking, attended the Nashville Print Revival Feb. 17-22 in Nashville, TN. The students attended artist lectures, demonstrations, workshops and exhibitions throughout the city of Nashville. Students also participated in Open Portfolio at Watkins College of Art, Design and Film, and toured the famous Hatch Show Print, one of the oldest letterpress shops in the United States.

In addition, students Ashlie Coady and Dana Potter exhibited work in the Nashville Print Revival Invitational Print Exhibition at Middle Tennessee State University in Murfreesboro, TN.



(Top) Student Dana Potter pulls a screenprint at Turnip Green Creative Reuse in Nashville, TN.

(Bottom) Open Portfolio at Watkins College of Art, Design and Film in Nashville, TN.



# CRÈME DÈ LA CRÈME 14

7:30 P.M. / MAY 2



- The fabulous **Independence High School Jazz Orchestra**, under the direction of David Lang, making an encore appearance
- **Amanda McCandless**, clarinetist, performing with Northern Iowa Clarinet Quartet, Nicholas Carlo, Molly Fewell, Hayley Graham, and Laura Rodriguez
- The **UNI Men's Varsity Brass Quintet**, featuring Cory Schmitt and Matt Gaunitz on trumpets, Nick Wills on horn, Brian Crew on trombone and Brett Copeland on tuba; Yu-Ting Su, faculty advisor
- **Jean McDonald**, mezzo-soprano, **Julia Bullard**, viola, and **Korey Barrett**, piano
- **George Jazz Trio of Cedar Rapids**, Nick George, leader, drums, Craig Dove, piano and vocal, Bob Dunn, electric bass
- **The Five Grands**, consisting of Dmitri Vorobiev, Polina Khatsko, Sean Botkin, Serena Hou, and Korey Barrett; five great faculty artists playing together on five grand pianos

GET TICKETS: [WWW.GBPAC.ORG](http://WWW.GBPAC.ORG)  
Prices: Adults: \$20 / Youth: \$5

**GALLAGHER BLUEDORN**  
PERFORMING ARTS CENTER  
University of Northern Iowa