CSBS Kudos, Spring 2018

University of Northern Iowa. College of Social and Behavioral Sciences.
While considering the collective 2017-2018 accomplishments within the college, a strong theme of student engagement continues within CSBS. These engagement opportunities take many forms, such as student research, internships, service learning projects, study abroad and/or leadership within student organizations. Through engagement, students expand their education through application. The majority of these experiences would not be available without the expertise and active engagement of our faculty and staff.

The re-envisioned and faculty-organized CSBS Student Research and Engagement Conference highlighted this theme. Large numbers of students were able to professionally present on their research projects or internships under the mentorship and guidance of a faculty member. During my visits to conference sessions, I was impressed by the depth of student learning that was evident in the outcomes from their projects.

Another highlight included a successful “You’re Next Conference” organized through the political science department and the student chapter of the 50/50 by 2020 organization. This conference focused on encouraging gender parity in elected office by mentoring and encouraging young women to consider running for office.

This year’s Diversity Colloquium series, sponsored by the sociology, anthropology, and criminology department, ended on a strong note with a panel discussing “How Do We End Mass Incarceration?” that drew an audience of over 100 students and community members. This series continues to explore the many ways diversity shapes us, and the issues that still confront us.

Thank you for all that you do to provide these hands-on experiences for our students. Education is a transformational process, and faculty mentorship in these experiences outside of the classroom help deepen and expand what our students learn while also contributing to the larger community.
KENNETH ATKINSON (history) spoke at the recent meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature in Boston and participated in a workshop sponsored by the International Organization for Septuagint and Cognate Studies. The session was for scholars invited to contribute to an international linguistic project devoted to uncovering the lost text of the Bible. Atkinson also published articles in academic journals on history in the Hebrew and Aramaic Dead Sea Scrolls, as well as a study of the earliest accounts of the prophet Muhammad preserved in Hebrew, Syriac and Judeo-Arabic documents.

BARBARA CUTTER (history) published the essay, “Why an American Woman Who Killed Indians Became Memorialized as the First Female Public Statue” on the “What it Means to Be American” website hosted by the Smithsonian and Arizona State University.

GARY GUTE (family studies) was interviewed about creativity in later life for the series “Chronologically Gifted” on KHSU Radio, the California Public Radio station of Humboldt State University.

DONNA HOFFMAN and CHRISTOPHER LARIMER (political science) have recently published three book chapters in edited volumes, all having to do with Iowa politics. One chapter examines the religious right in the state, another analyzes the 2016 presidential nomination contest in the state, and the final one is an updated chapter on Iowa as a swing state.

ASHLEIGH KYSAR-MOON (sociology) and MATT VASQUEZ (social work) received a Capacity Building Seed Grant through the Office of Research and Sponsored Programs for a new collaborative research project. Kysar-Moon additionally had an article accepted for publication in Armed Forces and Society, “Race/Ethnicity and Traumatic Brain Injury: Are there Disparities in Positive Screenings and Diagnoses among Service Members Returning from Afghanistan and Iraq?”


QINGLI MENG (criminology) completed the Teach UNI program through the Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning. Additionally, the Research Center on Violence at West Virginia University has invited her to be a research associate.

GAYLE RHINEBERGER-DUNN (criminology) had an article published in Criminal Justice and Behavior. “Comparing Demographic Factors, Background Characteristics, and Workplace Perceptions as Predictors of Burnout Among Community Corrections Officers,” was additionally highlighted during a panel at the American Correctional Association conference in August 2017.

MARYBETH STALP (SAC) is the newly elected Awards Committee Chair for the national organization, Sociologists for Women in Society. She is also the UNI liaison to the IOWA Women in Higher Education organization (IOWAWHE), serves on the Board of Directors, and is serving as secretary of the organization.

BRIAN WARBY (political science) has a forthcoming article, “Long-term Societal Impacts of Conditional Cash Transfers: Bolsa Familia a Decade In,” in the International and Multidisciplinary Journal of Social Sciences.
GAYLE RHINEBERGER-DUNN (criminology), along with co-author Nicole Rader, was awarded the 2017 Best Paper Award from the Journal of Ethnicity in Criminal Justice for their publication, “Race, criminal justice professionals, and intellectual authority in fictional crime dramas.”

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT ASSIGNMENTS

THOMAS CONNORS (history), Spring 2019
DENNIS DAHMS (geography), Spring 2018
KIM MACLIN (psychology), 2018-2019 Academic Year
ALEX OBERLE (geography), Spring 2018
GAYLE RHINEBERGER-DUNN (criminology), Spring 2018
BRIAN ROBERTS (history), Spring 2018

SUMMER FELLOWSHIPS

PITA AGBESE (political science), June/July
SEONG-IN CHOI (psychology), June/July
LOUIS FENECH (history), June/July
ELIZABETH LEFLER (psychology), June/July
KIM MACLIN (psychology), July
GAYLE RHINEBERGER-DUNN (criminology), June/July
HOWARD BARNES (SAHS) Hired as the department head for design, family and consumer sciences (DFCS), Howard Barnes joined the UNI community in August 1997. With a doctorate in marriage and family therapy, and a master’s degree in family life education, Howard taught in family studies and gerontology during his tenure at UNI. During his years of leadership, programs within the department changed significantly and eventually, with substantial growth, the department evolved into the School of Applied Human Sciences (SAHS).

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

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

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

JANETTE MCCULLEY (social work) Janette started working at the University of Northern Iowa in March 1989. She worked in the Department of Residence, the Department of Curriculum and Instruction, the Department of Geography and the Department of Social Work, until her retirement May 2, 2018. She is looking forward to spending more time with her family and friends.

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

JACK YATES (psychology) Jack Yates came to UNI as an assistant professor of psychology in 1975 after receiving his Ph.D. in Cognitive Psychology from Johns Hopkins University. For many years, he was the co-advisor for the student Psychology Club and was instrumental in organizing the department’s annual student research conference, which grew into a regional conference featuring student work from nearby colleges. Jack’s early research focused on cognitive processing of language, and he later studied mental representations. Later in his career, Jack’s interest in energy conservation led him to explore psychological solutions to the problem of energy consumption. This field research, funded by the National Science Foundation and Iowa Energy Center, focused on community action for change and was responsible for a 15% reduction in energy use in four rural Iowa communities. Jack and his wife Carole won a national Tools of Change Landmark Award in 2016 for this work. Finally, we would be remiss to ignore Jack’s reputation around campus as the crazy guy who rides his bike to work, even in the winter.
After twenty-four years, the annual CSBS research conference refreshed its name and its format. Monday, April 9, marked the inaugural CSBS Student Research & Engagement Conference. The name change reflected a new opportunity to open the conference to majors across campus and to invite students to present not only their scholarly research findings, but also to showcase the wonderful variety of experiential activities in which our students participate on campus, in our community and around the world.

Helen Harton, professor of psychology and conference coordinator, said the goal of this year’s conference was to “get more excitement and knowledge of the interesting things students are doing across all departments.” Harton also explained that students and professors often get caught up in the disciplinary aspects of education, so the conference is a nice reminder that great things are also achieved outside of the classroom.

“The conference is a great way to let others know what you are doing outside of the classroom that excites you, to get feedback from others and to gain professional development,” said Harton.

75 graduate and undergraduate students participated with both oral and poster presentations. The conference also included interactive activities such as the CRIM Club’s mock crime scene.

On Friday, January 19, CSBS hosted the statewide We The People Showcase. The showcase, coordinated by Chad Christopher, CSBS social science education advisor and instructor, brought groups of elementary and high school students to campus to participate in simulated congressional hearings. Students testified as constitutional experts in front of panels of judges (including CSBS faculty) who acted as congressional committees. Seven total groups from East Buchanan, Van Buren and United Community were on campus for three hours, interacting with each other and faculty.

On Saturday, January 27, the Department of Political Science hosted the You’re Next Conference, in partnership with NISG and 50/50 in 2020, a non-profit, non-partisan, issue-neutral organization dedicated to achieving political equity for women in Iowa.

At the conference, a bipartisan mix of female elected officials, professors and students discussed the importance of women in politics. They called attention to the underrepresentation of women currently in elected office and encouraged college-aged women to consider running. Attendees were shown some of the tools necessary to be a successful candidate, and received assurances that they already possess many of the skills and qualifications to run. Members of NISG also shared advice on how to run for student government at UNI.
COUNSELING

TAIPEI STUDENT EXCHANGES

The counseling program (SAHS) is in the initial phases of a collaboration agreement with National Chenghe University in Taipei to promote faculty and student exchanges.

As the first phase of this process, ROBERTO SWAZO (counseling) was invited by the National Chenghe University's counseling program to deliver a series of workshops on multiculturalism, internationalization of campuses and wellness approaches. The workshop presentations were well received by the student body and faculty. Swazo also had the opportunity to meet with faculty, administrators and students in order to promote the collaboration process.

Thanks to the support of Annette Lynch (SAHS), Phil Plourde (international programs) and Olivia Chen (counseling), a student exchange will take place in the fall of 2018. Similarly, a NCCU faculty member will visit UNI to promote collaboration between both institutions and cement future projects.

INTERIOR DESIGN

PANEL DISCUSSION

The interior design program (SAHS) hosted a panel discussion on Monday, March 19, for students in the interior design and construction management programs. Seven local professionals from various areas of the construction industry - including interior design, architecture, engineering, construction management and specification writing - discussed how they collaborate in the workplace to successfully design and build.

MILITARY SCIENCE

UNI ROTC RECEIVES 3RD ROTC BRIGADE AWARDS

The Panther Battalion was recently recognized as the 3rd ROTC Brigade’s best overall program for Recruiting and Retention for the second year in a row. The battalion was also recognized as the most improved program overall. Areas of improvement included Administration, Training/Operations, Recruiting and Retention, and Logistics.
Alex Oberle, associate professor of geography and director of the National Geographic Alliance of Iowa, was recently named a National Geographic Education Fellow by the National Geographic Society (NGS) for the 2017-18 academic year. Oberle was one of five fellows selected worldwide to receive this fellowship and the only representative from higher education.

Oberle hopes to bring what he learns back to Iowa to provide opportunities for Iowa teachers, UNI pre-service teachers and geography majors. Oberle is also a National Geographic Explorer, which gives him the opportunity to work with other Fellows and Explorers to collaborate on research and assist each other throughout the fellowship period.

For more information about National Geographic’s commitment to education and other opportunities to get involved, visit nationalgeographic.org/education.
CSBS STUDY ABROAD PROGRAMS

The College of Social and Behavioral Sciences would like to acknowledge the continued success of our Capstone Study Abroad programs. For those unfamiliar with faculty-led study abroad programs, they are great opportunities for students to study or conduct research abroad short of a semester-long or academic year commitment.

CAP 3123 – GREECE: FROM THE “CRADLE OF DEMOCRACY” TO TODAY
Course Leaders: Gregory Bruess (dean’s office, history) and Isabela Varela (ISSO director)

CAP 3125 – BRAZIL: GLOBALIZATION, CULTURAL PLURALISM AND INTERNATIONAL SECURITY
Course Leader: Brian Warby (political science)

CAP 3130 – LONDON: SCIENCE AND PSEUDOSCIENCE: CRITIQUING THE WORLD AROUND YOU (NEW!)
Course Leader: Carolyn Hildebrandt (psychology)

COUN 6256 – GUATEMALA: MULTICULTURAL COUNSELING (EXPECTED TO BE OFFERED SUMMER 2019)
Course Leader: Roberto Swazo (counseling)

Interested students can refer to the CSBS Study Abroad website for more information: csbs.uni.edu/international-engagement. If other CSBS faculty are interested in leading programs abroad, please contact CSBS Associate Dean Gregory Bruess for more information.
ANTHROPOLOGY

After dedicated internships, anthropology majors ELI AKERS (senior) and NICK LEWIS (junior) decided to become full-time student employees with the UNI Museum. Eli is a research assistant for the museum and mastodon collection, while Nick is a collections technician.

Eli and Nick speak highly of their work at the museum and the opportunity to apply their classroom learning. “We’ve been told that when we graduate, we will have more hands-on experience than many grad students,” said Nick. Eli added, “It’s difficult to balance being a full-time student and work, but it’s so worth it. I’m able to apply exactly what I’m learning in class to my job at the museum. If anything, the experience has made me a better student overall.”

Eli and Nick are both planning on graduating from UNI in December 2019, with their sights set on pre-professional programs. “The end goal for both of us is, of course, the Smithsonian. That’s the dream,” said Nick.

SOCIAL SCIENCE EDUCATION

PATRICIA BRANDT (senior) is a second-year intern for the Iowa Department of Education Social Studies Leadership Team. The team strives to provide guidance, resources and professional development for teachers throughout the state. As the pre-service teacher representative of this group, she brings a unique perspective. She has designed grade-level Iowa Core Social Studies guides for educators, evaluated and aligned instructional resources in economics, global issues and other grade-level subject areas, and assisted with other projects communicating issues to Iowa pre-service teachers across the state.

TEXTILES AND APPAREL

JORDAN CARUSO (senior), graduating this May, has been offered the position of raw materials coordinator for Jockey International in Kenosha, Wisconsin. Jordan has been a model student in the textiles and apparel (TAPP) program, particularly instrumental in piloting the calibration of the TAPP lab’s MARK-10 fabric testing instrument as part of her undergraduate research with Professor Mitchell Strauss. Knowledge of this equipment, and testing process, is a skill that Jordan hopes to continue to develop in her future career.

Jordan was also recently featured in The Courier for being selected to create a custom bow tie for Waterloo Mayor Quentin Hart’s State of the City address, which celebrated Waterloo’s 100th Anniversary of the clip-on bow tie patent. After designing 15 prototypes, Jordan printed the selected fabric utilizing TAPP’s in-house fabric printer, and oversaw a team of student volunteers to cut, sew and assemble the 20 ties featured at the event.
“I decided to pursue a major in social work because of my drive to help others. I am currently doing my internship at Four Oaks in Waterloo, Iowa, in the Supervised Community Treatment (SCT) program. This program provides treatment to juveniles who have been involved in the criminal justice system. The SCT program is working to reduce recidivism, chemical dependency, criminal thinking and violent behavior, by providing support, self-awareness education and resources to juveniles and their families.” – ASHLYN COOK (social work, senior)

“I am currently doing my internship at Cedar Valley Friends of the Family. I will have weekly meet-ups with clients who are utilizing our services, see how they are doing and help meet their needs. I will also be supporting our crisis line by answering the phone one day out of the week, and assisting individuals who fill out pre-screens to access our programs. Another part of my internship is working with landlords to help our clients have a smooth transition into their new housing.” – CORMICK MICHAEL (counseling/family services/spanish, graduate)

“I am currently doing my internship at the Fort Dodge Community School District. I provide supportive services at Duncombe Elementary School and Fort Dodge Senior High with students individually, in groups and in classroom settings. Issues addressed include academic accountability, conflict management, teen parenting, healthy friendships, emotional support, anger management and grief.” – HOPE HUGGHINS (social work, senior)

“I am completing my internship with Riverview Center, our local sexual assault victim advocacy agency. My responsibilities include medical and legal advocacy, peer counseling of clients, documenting and organizing client information, and presenting educational and preventative information at campus events. I will also be co-leading the UNI student sexual assault support group, revising the Raise the Bar initiative with College Hill, and working to better the gender-based violence training for Residence Life Staff at UNI.” – KATELYN MELCHER (psychology, senior)

“I am completing my internship at Orchard Place - Child Guidance Center. I will be providing outpatient therapy to children and families and assisting staff to provide early childhood services that focus on improving transitions while targeting a wide range of needs including challenging behaviors, developmental delays, social difficulties, reactions to trauma, parent-child conflicts or attachment problems.” – NICOLE REILLY (social work, graduate)

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This past semester, I have been interning with Bakari Behavioral Health Inc. Its mission is to assist families to become productive citizens in their community and empower them along the road to success. The agency brings a holistic approach to the Cedar Valley, working with a diverse population of children between the ages of 5 and 18. We also work with whole families; many of the clients being siblings from the same household. Some of the kids I work with just need someone supportive in their lives and someone to talk to, such as a mentor, big brother or big sister. I love working with children and my internship is going really well.” – SHAKARI BAKER-BRUCE (social work, senior)
STUDENT HIGHLIGHTS

MILITARY SCIENCE

The Department of Military Science would like to recognize and congratulate the officer class of 2017-2018. 2nd Lieutenant TIM LOGEMANN (elementary ed, 2017) graduated in December and commissioned as an Infantry Officer in the Iowa National Guard. NOLAN COOK (exercise science, senior) will graduate in May and commission as a Regular Army Infantry Officer. MICHAEL CASEY (criminology, senior) will also graduate in May and commission as a Regular Army Military Police Officer. TYLER REAGAN (criminology, senior) will graduate in May and commission as a Military Police Officer in the Army Reserve.

GRADUATE COLLEGE

Three CSBS students recently received the Outstanding Master’s Research Paper and Thesis Awards from UNI’s Graduate College:

ELIZABETH JACOBS (social work, graduate) won first place for her paper, “Bringing Families Back Together.”

STEPHANIE STRONG (psychology, graduate) won second place for her thesis, “Psychoeducational Module to Promote Knowledge and Reduce Stigma Towards Recreational Marijuana Users.”


PSYCHOLOGY

MEGAN KENNEDY (psychology) presented her senior honors thesis entitled “Gender Differences in Sexual Assault and PTSD Stigma” at Research in the Capitol this April. Her study found that participants stigmatized male sexual assault survivors more than females, and those with PTSD more than those without. Megan will be additionally presenting this research at the Midwestern Psychological Association meeting this year.

POLITICAL SCIENCE

Two students from the Department of Political Science presented their research at the Midwest Political Science Association’s annual meeting in Chicago, April 5-8. RACHAEL FIX (political communication, senior) presented her research, “Personality in Politics,” and SARAH HOFMEYER (political science/public administration, senior) presented “Immigration and National Identity in Europe.”

NOELLE TROUTMAN (political science, senior), COLLIN LINT (history, junior) and AUDREY SIMPSON (political science/TESOL, senior) presented research at the 2018 Deterrence and Assurance Academic Alliance Conference, “Thinking Outside the Silo: Creative Problem Solving in Deterrence and Assurance.” UNI’s Department of Political Science is a member of the Academic Alliance sponsored by the U.S. Strategic Command. Students also participated in a tabletop exercise at Offutt Air Force Base.
MELINDA ANDERSON (sociology and psychology, 2017) has been accepted to the Clinical Mental Health Counseling graduate program at UNI.

SEAN CAREY (sociology, 2009) is a sales manager, US federal government, at Draeger, Inc. in Cedar Rapids.

DIEDRE CAVE (sociology, 2008) is an operations leader at CUNA Mutual Group in Cedar Falls.

CHRISTIAN ESPINOSA-TORRES (sociology MA, 2008) is a program administrator for the City of Omaha, Economic Equity and Inclusion Program.

HALEY (HASENSTEIN) HARLAN (criminology, 2016) is currently a law student at the Washington University School of Law, where she is the editor for the Washington University Law Review and Academic Chair for the Student Bar Association.

TAYLOR HERR (criminology/psychology, 2017) recently accepted a summer internship with the Department of Justice’s Civil Rights Division, Employment Litigation Unit in Washington, D.C.

ALLIE KOOBECK (sociology, 2013) is a grants manager at Common Threads, in Chicago.

JENNIFER LYONS (political communications/sociology, 2011) is an associate at Evergreen Data, in Ann Arbor, Michigan.

CRYSTAL MCENTIRE (sociology, 2017) is the graduate residence director at Louisiana State University.

CYNTHIA (HODGES) MUHAMEDAGIC (psychology, 2004) is a licensed health service psychologist with Psychology Specialists of Oklahoma, PLLC. Dr. Muhamedagic specializes in testing and assessment, treatment of health issues causing psychological distress and parenting strategies for children with behavioral problems.

SAMUEL PETERSON (criminology, 2010) is now an associate policy researcher in the Behavioral and Policy Sciences Department at RAND, after recently completing his PhD in Criminal Justice at the University of Cincinnati.

ESPERANZA PINTOR MARTINEZ (sociology, 2008) is a student programs coordinator of the Science Bound program at Iowa State University.

JAKE RUDY (political science/sociology, 2011) is an academic advisor in the College of Liberal Arts at the University of Minnesota.

JESSICA SCHERBRING (psychology/sociology, 2016) is a software implementation representative at the Reynolds and Reynolds Company in Houston, Texas.

SAMANTHA SPELTZ (sociology, 2017) is a science outreach coordinator at the Grout Museum in Waterloo.

NATHAN ZABEL (economics/sociology/criminology, 2017) is a residential officer at the Waterloo Halfway House.

CSBS Kudos, published every semester, highlights accomplishments of faculty, students and alumni of the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences and makes colleagues in the college and across campus aware of the great things being done in CSBS. By sharing these ideas, interests and contributions, we strive to sustain a sense of community.