CSBS Kudos, Fall 2021

University of Northern Iowa. College of Social and Behavioral Sciences.
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ALUMNI HIGHLIGHTS
Greetings!

During these last few days of the fall semester, the amazing achievements of CSBS faculty, staff and students really come into focus. A few to highlight:

- The EncyclopediA project in History is taking shape, with the assistance of some start-up grants. The digital state history encyclopedia will be a valuable resource for K-12 teachers and the public. The GeoTREE Center in Geography has also been an important collaborator in building the website.

- In September, we celebrated the naming dedication of the Patricia A. Tomson Center for Violence Prevention, honoring her long history of working on behalf of survivors of abuse. That same day, we also commemorated the rededication of the Nielsen Field House building which now houses the Department of Military Science (ROTC) with a state-of-the-art training facility.

- While welcoming wonderful additions to our faculty and staff at the start of the academic year, we also said goodbye to a couple of colleagues. Katrinka Carpenter retired after providing 37 years of crucial service to UNI. We wish her the very best as she enjoys pursuing different interests. On a sadder note, Jian “Lee” Li, associate professor of anthropology passed away suddenly in October. I invite you to read a little more about both Katrinka and Lee on page 4 of this edition of Kudos.

- Our faculty and staff also have received valuable recognition through key university and regents level awards, highlighting their excellence in teaching, research and service. Please join me in congratulating them!

I wish each of you a good end to the semester, and some time to recharge over the winter break.

Brenda L. Rees

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**HISTORY**

Kenneth Atkinson published the book, “Empress Galla Placidia and the Fall of the Roman Empire.” Atkinson also edited and contributed a chapter to a book on ancient Greek poetry, spoke at an international ancient Aramaic conference by Zoom, and participated in the Council on Foreign Relation’s annual foreign policy workshop. He also published journal articles on vegetarianism’s role in the creation of Christianity, ancient history in the Middle East, and several studies on ancient Greek and Roman history in the Dead Sea Scrolls.

Jennifer McNabb (co-PI) and Cheryl Dong (co-PI) received a $10,000 Capacity Building Grant from the Office of Research & Sponsored Programs for, “Preserving and Sharing Iowa History in the Twenty-First Century: Creating Iowa’s Online State Encyclopedia.” The project recently received an additional $15,000 grant from Iowa Department of Cultural Affairs’ American Rescue Plan.

**SOCIOLOGY, ANTHROPOLOGY & CRIMINOLOGY**


**PSYCHOLOGY**

Carolyn Hildebrandt was the keynote speaker for the Association for Constructivist Teaching conference in San Juan Capistrano, California. She also participated in a panel discussion, moderated a session and attended board meetings. Next year, the conference will be hosted by the Regents’ Center for Early Developmental Education at UNI.
**POLITICAL SCIENCE**


Ana Kogi and Scott Peters participated in a Constitution Day panel discussion, “Free Speech and Academic Freedom on Campus.”

Chris Larimer delivered an invited talk, “Shaming People to Vote: Good Idea or Bad,” at Northern Illinois University on October 21, 2021.

Ramona McNeal was a co-author of “Variation in State-level Response to School Shootings,” in the IGI Press volume *Handbook of Research on Mass Shootings and Multiple Victim Violence*.

Evan Renfro’s book chapter, “Messengers of Death: Cyber and the Root Structure of Terror,” was published in the IGI Press volume *Mitigating Mass Violence and Managing Threats in Contemporary Society*. Rod Library is hosting a display based on Renfro and Phil Hopper’s (Dept. of Communication & Media) article, “Speaking Graffiti: Imaging Human Rights from Belfast to Ramallah,” on display from Nov. 1 until winter break.

Jayme Renfro’s textbook, “State and Local Politics: Cases and Topics,” was published by Routledge. Renfro also moderated mayoral and city council debates for candidates in Cedar Falls and Waterloo in October 2021. The candidate forums were co-sponsored by NISG in conjunction with Women of Action, Cedar Valley Activate and AAUW.

Brian Warby completed his Fulbright fellowship in Uganda and returned to campus this fall. He will be presenting to faculty and students about his experience during his fellowship in the coming months.

**GEOGRAPHY**


Tatiana Degai, John DeGroote, Nikolai Golosov, Andrey Petrov, Mark Welford and co-authors published multiple articles on the pandemic in the journals *Nature Medicine, International Journal of Circumpolar Health* and the *International Journal of Circumpolar Health*.

Tatiana Degai, Andrey Petrov and co-authors published “Building resilient Arctic science amid the COVID-19 pandemic,” in *Nature Communications*.


Bingqing Liang and co-authors published “Projecting future land use/land cover by integrating drivers and plan prescriptions: the case for watershed applications,” in *Giscience & Remote Sensing*.


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FACULTY AWARDS

Jiuqing Cheng
Outstanding Teaching Award 2021

Willie Jones
Battalion Recruiting Operations Officer, Military Science

LTC Dean Ray
Professor and Head, Military Science

Gloria Stafford
Outstanding Teaching Award 2021

David Kilmnick
Term Instructor, Social Work

Katie Sires
Secretary III, Political Science

Christopher Larimer
James F Lubker Research Award 2021

Maria Lawson
Asst. Professor, Military Science

Henry Uribe
Senior Instructor, Military Science

Chad Christopher
P&S Council Staff Excellence Award 2021

Emily Masghati
Asst. Professor, History

NEW FACULTY & STAFF
**Katrinka Carpenter** retired in Oct. after 37 years of service to UNI. In addition to her seven and a half years in the Department of Political Science, Katrinka worked in the College of Education, the Departments of Theater and Accounting, and the School of Applied Human Sciences, among other offices.

With her support and hard work, political sciences’ annual Women in Politics Scholarship Banquet doubled in size. She was integral to planning the department’s American Democracy Project and PanthersVote efforts and to the growth and success of our student Model United Nations group which travels regularly to national and international competitions, and she provided vital support in the transition of the Master of Public Policy program to a successful online program.

From Department Head Scott Peters, “Most of all, though, Katrinka offered compassionate, patient and helpful service to our faculty and students, guiding us through university processes, directing us to the offices that could answer our questions, keeping us on task and making sure we didn’t miss deadlines.”

In her retirement, Katrinka plans to spend more time with her family, pursue her interest in local history and volunteer with her local library. We wish her a very happy and fulfilling retirement.

**Jian Li** began his career at UNI as a visiting professor in 2001, earning his appointment to assistant professor in 2003 and his promotion to associate professor in 2010. His research interests included medical anthropology, food and nutrition, economic development and health care. His primary field research was conducted in his native China, but he also conducted cutting-edge ethnographic research among the Yao of Northern Thailand.

Prof. Li earned his Ph.D. degree in Anthropology from the University of Kansas in 2000. He taught several courses at UNI including Culture, Disease and Healing, Food and Culture, and Introduction to Cultural Anthropology.

“The department has lost a valued colleague and friend,” said Mark Grey, department head. “The unique cultural and academic perspectives he brought to the department and his students can never be adequately replaced.”

Prof. Li was respected by his students and appreciated by his colleagues, and will be greatly missed. He is survived by his wife, Ling, and two children.
**Center for Violence Prevention renamed in dedication**

In conjunction with its 10-year anniversary, the University of Northern Iowa Center for Violence Prevention will be renamed the Patricia A. Tomson Center for Violence Prevention in honor of her decades of work on behalf of survivors of abuse.

Patricia and her husband, O. Jay Tomson, together have announced a $2 million gift to the center in support of its mission to build the capacity of Iowa's schools, victim service agencies, law enforcement and other institutions to systematically implement best practices in bystander-based prevention education. The endowed gift will provide operational support as well as sustained funding for the Tomson Scholars program, which since 2016 has funded student internships with violence prevention organizations and agencies providing direct services to survivors of abuse.

**Nielsen Field House rededicated - ROTC program celebrated**

The historic building was rededicated last month in a ceremony that featured Sen. Chuck Grassley, a performance by the Panther Marching Band and a celebration of the value of the two programs that call the field house home - UNI’s Reserve Officers Training Corps (ROTC) and Child Development Center.

After the opening remarks, the ceremony highlighted the ROTC program’s unique impact on its students and the benefits of its facility in the field house.

“The rededication of this building is a major milestone for the UNI ROTC battalion,” said Brenda Bass, CSBS dean. “UNI and the ROTC have a shared vision of training the next generation of leaders to serve their communities. The renovated field house provides a training facility that will better prepare our students for their future leadership positions.”

**EncyclopedIA awarded grant**

The Department of History was recently awarded a $15,000 grant for the project, “Preserving and Sharing Iowa History in the Age of Covid: Creating Iowa’s Online State Encyclopedia.”

The grant is part of the Iowa Department of Cultural Affairs’ recent announcement of more than $1.5 million in grants for the return of the state’s arts, culture, history and creative sector by supporting arts and cultural jobs and programming in the humanities.

This particular project will fund a new digital resource, “EncyclopedIA,” that will explore the history of Iowa using chronological, thematic and geographic lenses while also thoughtfully considering the diversity of Iowans and embedding the voices, history and perspectives of those who have been traditionally underrepresented.

EncyclopedIA entries will be accessible to the general public as well as educators responsible for integrating Iowa history into their elementary and secondary school classrooms. The state encyclopedia is an outgrowth of Teaching Iowa History, an award-winning, National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) grant-funded project under the leadership of the Iowa Museum Association that supports K-12 educators teaching Iowa history using primary sources.
UNI helps bring Cedar Valley fashion and cultural event to Waterloo

The 7th annual Cedar Valley Fashion, Art and Culture Expo, hosted this year by Apryl Jones from the reality show “Love and Hip Hop: Hollywood,” was held on Saturday, Sept. 11 at Lost Island Waterpark in Waterloo. The event, which featured celebrity guests, music, vendors, designers and more, brought together local artists and designers as well as UNI alums who have flourished in the fashion industry.

“The Cedar Valley Fashion, Art and Culture Expo ignites the spirit of Black culture in the heart of the Cedar Valley, one of the most culturally diverse communities in Iowa,” said Annette Lynch, UNI professor of textiles and apparel (TAPP), a program that has partnered with the Expo since it started in 2014.

The runway show also featured the work of TAPP alum Keyaira Miller, who used the expo to launch her own line of children’s clothes under the label “HarlemsKlubHouse.” The former 20 Under 40 winner now works as a product developer for women’s fashions at Amazon, where she oversaw the launch of the new Gen Y fashion brand, Wild Meadow, and received an award for the success of the brand from Amazon.

UNI researchers point to global COVID-19 lessons in the Arctic

Researchers in the Department of Geography published a study in the prestigious journal *Nature Medicine* examining COVID-19’s impact on Indigenous populations in the Arctic and how it could be crucial to addressing the pandemic both today and in future epidemics.

The study looks at how the unique factors of the Arctic both aided and hindered the region’s response to the pandemic, which in many cases was more successful than temperate areas south of the Arctic in the same countries.

“Lessons learned in the Arctic may provide important resiliency tools against the spread of COVID-19 among vulnerable populations in other parts of the world, particularly in remote or Indigenous communities,” said Andrey Petrov, co-author of the paper and director of UNI’s ARCTICenter.

The paper was authored by Petrov, Mark Welford, Nikolay Golosov, Tatiana Degai and John DeGroote of UNI’s ARCTICenter and Department of Geography; Michele Devlin of UNI’s Department of Health, Recreation and Community Services; and Alexander Savelyev of Texas State University.

UNI professor receives national attention in historical debate

Professor Barbara Cutter’s historical research is receiving national attention as several New England communities grapple with the legacy of controversial statues.

Cutter has been interviewed in multiple national outlets about her research on Hannah Duston, a 17th-century English colonist who murdered 10 Native Americans, including two women and six children.

The Duston monuments show Duston in action. One statue in a city park in Haverhill, Massachusetts, portrays Duston gripping a hatchet. The second monument in Boscawen, New Hampshire, an hour’s drive north of Haverhill, shows Duston wielding a hatchet in one hand and a handful of Native American scalps in the other.

Cutter said the statues’ stories should get a wholesale overhaul and a far broader historical perspective because they currently tell a story that reflects their origins: That violence against Indigenous people was innocent and justified, and that Duston represented an innocent, wronged mother. The statues also tell a story that Indigenous people were inherently violent and were incapable of being members of American society.

“Obviously, that’s inaccurate history, but more importantly, it’s anti-democratic,” she said. “It’s saying not all people who live in America count as Americans,” said Cutter. “The question we should ask about these monuments is whose stories are being told? The full story needs to be told. No one should be left out.”
Sedomda Kpikpitse (WGS) was the recipient of the Women’s and Gender Studies Program’s Yang Travel Award, which allowed her to travel back to Accra, Ghana to conduct research this summer. Her thesis seeks to identify rural women’s health risks due to the use of agrochemicals in agricultural production; assess the behavior towards the wearing of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) in the usage of agrochemicals by women in rural areas of the Volta Region in Ghana; and predict the health behavior faced by women in rural areas of the Volta Region in Ghana using the Health Belief Model (HBM).

Jonathan Martin (interior design) was the recipient of the prestigious Diversity in Design Pipeline program. The program, initiated in spring 2021 by Thermador, a luxury appliance manufacturer, and the Interior Design Society (IDS), takes five interior design students from across the country and partners them with professional designers.

The program offers unique opportunities for Martin, as each recipient receives a mentor as part of the program, and their mentor will help each student through their senior year and into a career after graduation. Martin’s advisor is Jonathan Savage of SAVAGE Interior Design, based in Palm Beach, Fla. The pair has talked about networking and building a portfolio.

In the Fall of 2021, Department of Political Science student internships included:

**Katie Sones** - Northeast Iowa Food Bank

**Mason Niesen** - City of Denver, IA

**Sondra Thiman** - United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia

**Elliott Gebel** - U.S. Representative Randy Feenstra’s office

**Joe Link** - Black Hawk County Elections Office

**Simon Carlson** - U.S. Senator Charles Grassley’s office
1960s

’63 Marvin Happel, BA, Managua, Nicaragua, published a book titled "Cabbages & Kings," telling his story of going from a Bremer County farmhand to college dean and provost.

1980s

’83 Jon Niehaus, BA, MA ‘85, Oak Ridge, TN, celebrated 34 years with Health Management Resources. He is a senior account manager and national trainer.

’84 Charisse (Brown) Gillett, BA, MA ‘87, Versailles, KY, was elected to the Transylvania University board of trustees, appointed by the Kentucky governor to serve on the Kentucky African-American History Commission and celebrated 10 years as president of Lexington Theological Seminary.

2000s

’01 BJ McGinn, BA, Boone, was named 2021 Athletic Director of the Year by the National Junior College Athletic Association. He is the athletic director at DMACC.

’05 Andrea Devore, was named one of the Cedar Valley’s 20 under 40 by the Waterloo/Cedar Falls Courier for 2021. She is a facilities manager at Lincoln Savings Bank, Waterloo.

’08 Tonya (Darrow) Hotchkin, BA, Mount Vernon, was named one of the 2021 Women of Influence by the Corridor Business Journal. She is the vice president of clinical services at Tanager Place.

2010s

’11 Adam Haselhuhn, BA, Des Moines, was promoted to director of development at UnityPoint Health John Stoddard Cancer Center.

’13 Chris Phalen, BA, BM ’13, MM ’18, Storm Lake, is the director of choral activities at Buena Vista University.

’13 Adriana (Hofstadter) Yarrington, BA, Warren, MI, is the Families Together Building Solutions pathways to potential supervisor with Orchards Children's Services.

’14 Logan Kraus, BA, Marion, is an associate in the litigation unit of Dentons Davis Brown.

’15 Tirzah Roussell, BA, Delhi, is a law associate with Bradshaw, Fowler, Proctor & Fairgrave, P.C. and practices on the Bankruptcy and Reorganization Practice Group.

’18 Christopher Tims, MA, Waterloo, was named one of the Cedar Valley’s 20 under 40 by the Waterloo/Cedar Falls Courier for 2021. He is a teacher and head wrestling coach at Waterloo East High School.

’18 Abigail Van Patten-Freeman, BA, MA ‘21, Tipton, is pursuing a doctorate in counselor education and supervision at the University of Iowa. She is a mental health counselor at Green Counseling Services.

2020s

’20 Britni Perkins, BA, Waterloo, was named one of the Cedar Valley’s 20 under 40 by the Waterloo/Cedar Falls Courier for 2021. She is a secretary with the Waterloo Community Schools and owner of Blessings 2 Celebrate.

’21 Aladdin Dafalla, BA, accepted a position with the Permanent Mission to the United Nations of the State of Qatar.

’21 Peter Johnson, BA is the Executive Director at Midwest Partnership Economic Development Corporation.
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.