

8-2015

The Update, August/September 2015

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

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2015 – 2016

AUGUST – SEPTEMBER NO. 1

THE UPDATE

COLLEGE OF HUMANITIES, ARTS AND SCIENCES

FEATURED STORY: **OBSERVATORY SHOW**

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ART

Roman–Roamin’
Exhibition
The Fall semester exhibit
from the UNI Permanent
Art Collection.

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CHEMISTRY BIOCHEMISTRY

Wilson Lecture
An annual lecture in
memory of Dr. Wilson, this
year featuring Dr. W. Kimryn
Rathmell – the Chair and
Director of Hematology
and Oncology at Vanderbilt
University.

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COMMUNICATION STUDIES

Clohsey
Documentary
Film Series
An annual documentary series.
This year featuring Dawn Porter
– an award winning documen-
tary filmmaker.

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CHAS BRIEFS



JOEL HAACK

In April, Joel Haack was honored to be selected by United Faculty as the first recipient of the “Faculty Administrator of the Year” award. The award recognizes UNI faculty administrators who uphold the AAUP (American Association of University Professors) principles of academic freedom, tenure, and faculty governance. Haack returned to teaching in the Department of Mathematics in the fall of 2015 after serving 10 years as Dean (of the College of Natural Sciences, the College of Humanities and Fine Arts, and the joint College of Humanities, Arts and Sciences). He completed a total of 20 years in administration at UNI, having served nine years as head of the Department of Mathematics before becoming Dean.



METAL CASTING CENTER

The Metal Casting Center has been working on many great projects during this summer and school year. Including: fuel pump castings for F35 Joint Strike Fighters, pump castings for nuclear power plants and castings for SpaceX Rocket engines. They recently have been working closely with companies like General Motors, assisting them in solving defects. Many of their students are traveling across country going to conferences and presenting their research in the field.

CHRIS OGBONDAH

This August, Chris Ogbondah, a professor in journalism in the communication studies department, went to San Francisco for the International Communication Division (ICD) of the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication conference. During his time at the conference he presented the paper “U.S. Media Coverage of Boko Haram Insurgency in Nigeria: The Example of #Bring Back Our Girls.” Ogbondah’s panel also proposed a new model for the ICD that was selected to be used.

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

ROBIN SUMMERS

BA SOCIOLOGY & MA WOMEN'S & GENDER STUDIES

BY RHIANNON RASMUSSEN

In 2010, Summers graduated with her B.A. in Sociology. With the guidance of her mentors Kric Mack and Ruth Hill she decided to peruse her M.A. in Women's and Gender Studies. She graduated in May of 2015 with her M.A. Ever since, she has helped hundreds of people through her work and volunteering in the community.

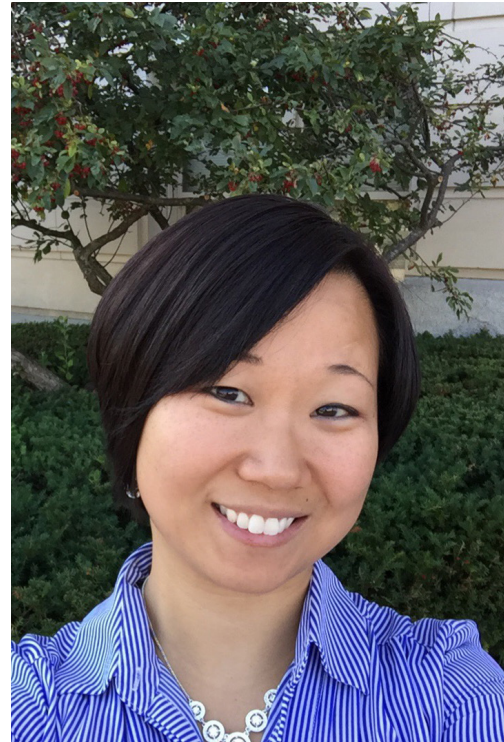
Summers began working at the Girl Scouts of Eastern Iowa and Western Illinois as the Community Outreach Manager. She coordinates all aspects of the outreach program in order to serve girls from at-risk or isolated communities. Through this job she has the opportunity to help young girls become more confident with their lives and go on to have more successful futures.

During Summer's free time she loves to travel and spend time with her family. She also volunteers frequently. She's volunteered at Big Brothers Big Sisters of Northeast Iowa, the Family & Children's Council and Monsoon United Asian Women of Iowa. One of her latest volunteer pursuits is training to become a member of the Disaster Action Team with the American Red Cross. She has also recently accepted an invitation to serve on the Board of Directors for the YWCA of Black Hawk County.

At UNI Summers was able to explore her passions for helping people and learn about the best ways to do so. "My academic studies in the Women's & Gender Studies program prepared me to collaborate with diverse populations of people and to recognize, critically analyze, and work toward combating and solving inequalities," said Summers.

Summers plans on continuing her work to help populations that are underrepresented in the Cedar Valley and throughout the world.

"I think it's important for the community to be involved in helping shape the lives of our girls."



CHAS NEWS

CLOHESY DOCUMENTARY FILM SERIES

BY DEREK HOLT

The Clohesy Series was started through David O'Shields and Professor Chris Martin during the fall of 2011, with the goal of bringing a documentary film series here at the university. What sets this series apart from similar events across the country is the Clohesy Series strives to bring America's most prominent, most important filmmakers to our community. These documentary filmmakers are invited to UNI's campus where they spend several days lecturing, interacting with students and screening films.

In a joint statement, Stephanie and Bill Clohesy, the namesakes and founding donors of the series, said, "The series is an effort to elevate the study and understanding of documentary films and their significance in defining and changing our culture, and our social norms and habits. We want the university community and the broader Cedar Valley communities to be part of the documentary film revolution. To that end, we bring the world's most distinguished documentary filmmakers to our campus to talk and screen their work."

This year's featured documentary filmmaker was Dawn Porter. Prior to her independent film-making career, Porter worked as Director of Standards and Practices at ABC News and as Vice President of Standard and Practices at A&E Television Networks. She was an Executive Producer on *Serious Moonlight* and *The Green*. Dawn's work focuses on issues of race, civil rights and the unjust dysfunction that permeates our judicial system. Her films are important, supremely engaging and relevant to the world today, focusing on topics such as police brutality, abortion and racism. Porter's visit was well-

timed to examine these issues and to talk and screen her work.

Series director David O' Shields enjoyed lively conversation and genuine dialogue. He described the series as having a rewarding satisfaction for both students and filmmakers together and hopes that it creates engaging dialogue in the classroom.

The Clohesy series is rapidly becoming a major annual event on campus, in the community and, of course, in the documentary world at large.

THE
WILLIAM & STEPHANIE
CLOHESY DOCUMENTARY
FILM
SERIES



Dawn Porter

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

MEGAN BUTZ

SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY

BY RHIANNON RASMUSSEN

Megan Butz is a non-traditional student attending UNI in order to earn a masters degree in Speech-Language Pathology – a major in the Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders. UNI has given Butz the opportunity to further explore her passion for helping people.

Butz attended undergraduate school at Central College in Pella and earned her first degree in Communication Studies. After graduating Butz entered into a public relations job shortly after graduating. She decided after two years that she wanted to further her education. She now holds two B.A degrees in Communication Studies, one from Central College and one from UNI, and is working toward her masters degree.

After graduating, Butz would like to begin working in a medical setting such as a hospital, long-term care or home health. She is planning on moving to Denver, Colorado. She would like to become involved on the state and national level of her career in order to advocate better for her clients.

The department of Communication Sciences and Disorders is Butz's favorite place on campus. "The professors very genuinely care about how the students are doing. Having come from a smaller school, that was something I was concerned about when starting out," she said. The department proved to be a great experience for Butz, offering great opportunities in the field that are catered to the students specific interest.

Along with her studies, Butz is involved in multiple on-campus organizations. She is a part of the UNI chapter of the National Speech-Language-Hearing Association as

well as the yearly professional conference the Iowa Conference on Communication Disorder (ICCD). She serves as the Co-Chair for the 2015 ICCD conference and has been in other leadership positions during past years of the conference.

UNI has given Butz the opportunity to explore her passion and have a very individualized and personal education. During the Spring semester Butz is traveling to Denver, Colorado to pursue an internship at Craig Hospital.

"To me, that purpose is helping people through this profession. "



CHEMISTRY AND BIOCHEMISTRY

WILSON LECTURE

BY DEREK HOLT

Leland Wilson, Professor and first Department Head of Chemistry, left a legacy of professionalism and integrity that the faculty and staff in the department hope to continue. Dr. Wilson had a big impact on many students who studied chemistry during the more than 20 years he was in the department. He also is associated with the professional development of several faculty and staff in the department. Well respected and easy-going, Wilson was able to motivate students to expect more of themselves. Colleagues, family and former students created the Leland Wilson Lecture Series in 1997 to honor Professor Wilson.

Previous Wilson speakers have included former UNI alumni such as Robert Koob, former president of the University of Northern Iowa; Dr. Steven Heilmann, corporate scientist at 3M; and Dr. John Talley, pharmaceutical chemist and lead scientist in the development of drugs such as Celebrex. Last years speaker was Dr. Shawn Domagal-Goldman from NASA who gave an excellent lecture on the science behind NASA's search for life on planets near and far.

This year's speaker features Dr. Kimryn Rathmell, a medical oncologist focused on renal cell carcinoma. She works as a physician-scientist whose research focuses on the genetic and molecular signals that may cause kidney cancers. She also specializes in the treatment of patients with rare and complex kidney cancers as well as prostate, bladder and testicular cancer.

The lectureship gives the students and faculty the opportunity to interact with leading researchers in their fields. Speakers who talk about their fields in a motivating way can provide a wider understanding of what makes science compelling. Cancer has affected many

peoples' lives and this lecture will provide new insight and knowledge about cancer from which everyone can benefit.

In recent years, due to new breakthroughs, there are now new treatment opportunities that were never before considered possible. Through these breakthroughs, our knowledge of "how cancer works" has advanced rapidly. Doctors are now learning how to unleash the incredible power of the immune system to destroy cancer cells, and to keep them eliminated, permanently.

Dr. Rathmell will address how the field is coming up with new ways to treat and cure cancer faster than ever. Supporting that effort becomes a task for the whole community—working together to investigate new therapies in clinical trials, keeping up to date with technological advances within the current funding environment and finding economical ways to deliver this care to patients who need it.

Join us for, Dr. Rathmell's overview of the recent exciting advances in the field, and discussion of the challenges and opportunities that we're facing. This lecture will take place at 7:00 PM, Thursday, October 22, 2015, in Lantz Auditorium, McCollum Science Hall.

EVENT TIME:

October 22, 7:00 pm
Lantz Auditorium



Dr. Kimryn Rathmell

EARTH SCIENCE

THE OBSERVATORY SHOW

BY RHIANNON RASMUSSEN

Since 1978, the department of Earth Science has been giving the general public and students a chance to glimpse the wonders of space. The weekly Observatory Show has given students, professors and the public an opportunity to learn, share and teach about the night sky, and it's proven to be a hallmark of the department

The Observatory show features many of the most well known objects in space, from the craters of the moon to the rings of Saturn. Visitors are shown major constellations, important stars and planets that are visible to the naked eye by students who are currently taking classes or majoring in astronomy. The show gives student presenters a chance to help educate their peers about what is in the sky and also helps them hone their skills in public speaking. Many visitors may not have a background in astronomy so the show gives them an opportunity to have a taste of space. The show is a means of self-promotion for the department. Many students who attend these events later end up taking a course in astronomy to further their understandings.

In 1978 the Department of Earth Science was gifted a telescope by Dr. M. B. Smith, a professor Emeritus of Communication Studies. This telescope was used for years to focus in on celestial bodies. The telescope was eventually replaced with a newer and better model that allows the user to find objects in the sky quickly and track them as they move across the sky. Ever since the beginning of the show, it has been evolving with better equipment and a growing attendance.

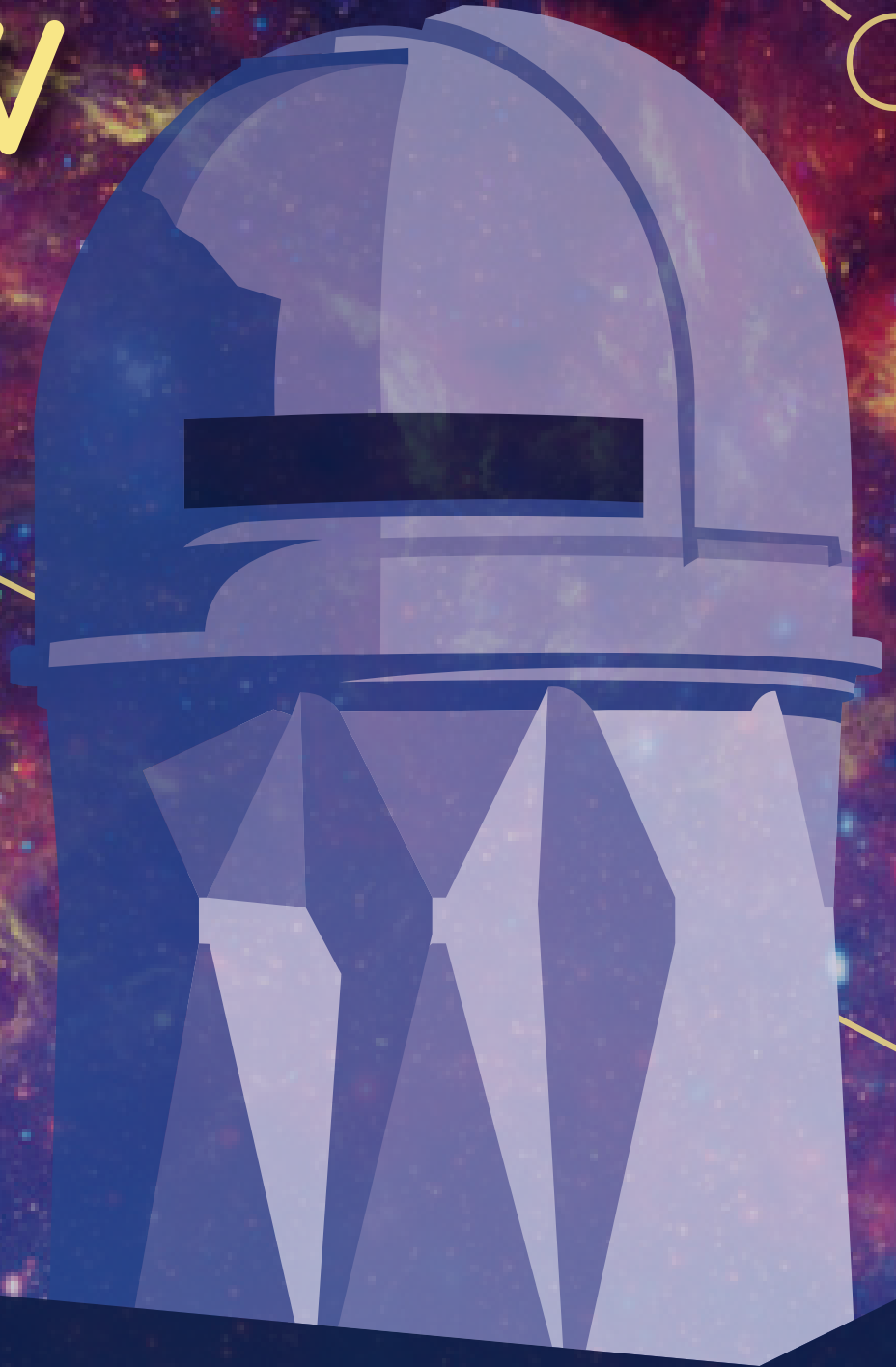
The show is hosted on top of McCollum Science Hall, this location, while convenient for students and the public to access, does have some drawbacks. The light-pollution from the campus and city lights make seeing deep sky objects rather difficult. So the show focuses on familiar bright objects, that are easy to see with the naked eye. Saturn and the moon are the major targets of the show.

The show begins every Thursday at 9 pm, the professors and student leaders meet the visitors by the Lantz Auditorium before the starting time (McCollum Hall room 107, east side of the building).

The show has given students, faculty and the public a chance to observe the depths of space and share their love for the night sky.

UNI Department of Earth Science's

OBSERVATORY SHOW



Thursdays @ 9pm • Sept. 3 - Oct. 29

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

HANNAH CARR-MURPHY

LANGUAGES AND LITERATURES

BY RUQAYAH ALMUZAYN

Frequent Flyers

By Hannah Carr-Murphy

Liftoff in a plane is like
the first moments
of taking a lover:
breathless thrust.

Relax into the embrace
of acceleration,
let it pressure your
back against the seat.

Look down onto
the patterns
of streets,
whorled, like
a cherished thumbprint.

As a senior with a double major in flute performance and English, Hannah Carr-Murphy clearly loves learning and the process it entails. When asked if there is a connection between her majors she said, “I am so grateful for the ways my majors have overlapped and complemented one another. Music and poetry are interconnected disciplines, and having a good ear has helped me in both.”

Her experiences and those of the people close to her have inspired her to write poems and collect them in a chapbook, which is being produced by alumnus Aaron McNally’s press, Quick & Dirty Press. Collaborating with McNally was a great experience. “It’s a privilege to work with a publisher who has a trustworthy editorial eye and artistic ear,” she said, adding that she is thankful to be featured as a writer for Quick & Dirty Press where the book is available for purchase.

With the writing of the chapbook Carr-Murphy hopes to get her ideas out, document them and share them with others. “My poetry is concerned with issues of redemption, mental illness, and family. I write to record the small and big things that are at the heart of my experience as a human being,” she says. The most challenging part in her writing process is “revising poems that come from a very personal place, because the artistic quality of the writing is important to me, but so is the feeling that prompted the poem.”

Carr-Murphy believes that people connect not only through reading, but also writing. She mentioned that the most rewarding thing about writing would be when people read one of her poems and relate to it.

During her free time, Carr-Murphy loves to play folk music on the banjo and penny whistle. Her interests also include reading books about wizards, space and learning conversational Klingon and Irish. One of her most memorable experiences at UNI is when she played piccolo in the UNI Symphonic Band with a guest conductor. The guest conductor was from France, and he was very excited to be leading the band in the national march, “The Stars and Stripes Forever.” He took it quicker than is typical for the piece. “When I played the piccolo solo perfectly at the fast tempo, the audience loved it, and we got a standing ovation. The conductor invited me to the podium to take an extra bow, and it was amazing!” she said.

Carr-Murphy said her parents have always been by her side to help her pursue her dreams, and Dr. Jeremy Schraffenberger has been a helpful supporter and mentor for her writing and poetry as well. She said, “Poetry is not something people are used to engaging with in modern US culture, but I would encourage people to not let their unfamiliarity with poetry turn it into an intimidating thing.”



UNI GALLERY OF ART

ROMAN-ROAMIN'

BY RHIANNON RASMUSSEN

The UNI Gallery of Art has hosted many prestigious and exciting exhibitions through the years, mainly of 19th-21st century art. For the last few years, a dedicated room in the Gallery has been used to exhibit (for a full semester) selections from the UNI Permanent Art Collection which is under the custodial care of the Gallery of Art and the Department of Art. These exhibitions have tried to find themes interesting and compelling to the general public as well as complementing the specific upper-level art history courses offered those semesters. This semester's selection from the UNI Permanent Art Collection "Roman-roamin'," is a series of works which explore themes found in modern as well as ancient Roman art.

The exhibition is co-curated by Dr. Charles Adelman and Darrell Taylor with contributions by Adelman's upper-level Ancient Roman Art course students. As the UNI Permanent Art Collection does not contain any works of ancient Roman art, the challenge for Dr. Adelman and Taylor was to define themes and find works in the collection which would allow students in this semester's class to investigate and find relevance/connections with ancient art. This perambulation of sorts is reflected in the playful title, "Roman-roamin'." In addition to works from the UNI Permanent Art Collection, the exhibit includes some ancient works loaned by the UNI Museum and Dr. Adelman. The works were selected late in the spring 2015 semester and augmented by loans of ancient Roman coins, glass, and terracotta from the UNI Museum and from Dr. Adelman's own collection. The students are involved in choosing and writing didactics for the pre-selected works whose themes include: portraiture; mythological and historical stories, events, and personalities; elements of Roman architecture, interconnections of cultures, symbols, landscapes and journeys.

Many of the students had not experience working in a gallery or with works of art or curating a show. This type of experiential learning gives students a chance to apply principles they have learned to an exhibition. Dr. Adelman remarked that while many of the students feel bewildered when first presented with this opportunity, they eventually find the means of organizing and creating meaningful didactics for the exhibit.

The students, with the help of Dr. Adelman pair the modern works of art with ones from antiquity to explore the common themes or the technologies and importance of the ancient ones themselves. The show leads the viewer through a path of interconnected civilizations exploring characteristics of cultural identity and questioning how the connections influence that identity. The untitled work by Joshua Bienko and the cast impression from a Roman mold depicting Odysseus both share a major theme, present in many ancient and modern works, namely fighting adversities that are to great to overcome. In the cast impression, Odysseus, known from Homer's Odyssey, is fighting the monster Scylla while Bienko's work reflects the idea of confronting something larger than oneself. This is a direct comparison of art from antiquity being compared to a modern piece that reflects a theme that is everlasting.

While few of the works in the exhibition are Roman, there are still strong connections between the selected works and Roman themes.

The exhibition is visually exciting and should be of interest to all members of the UNI Community as well as to the general public. The show remains on display until the end of the semester.

GALLERY HOURS:

10am – 7pm, Monday – Thursday
12pm – 5pm, Friday – Saturday
and by appointment



Untitled by Joshua Bienko and
Cast Impression from a Roman Mold



Corner of Gallery Exhibit

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

OCTOBER – NOVEMBER

ROMAN-ROAMIN'

Sep. 28 – Dec. 19
UNI Gallery of Art

SARAH KREPP AND GARY NOLAND

Blow Out II and Unorganized Territory
September 28 – October 24
UNI Gallery of Art

INDEPENDENCE

October 8–11, 15–17, 7:30 pm
October 11, 18, 2:00pm
Strayer-Wood Theatre

GUEST ARTIST SERIES RECITAL

North Texas Euphonium Quartet
October 16, 8:00 pm
Davis Hall, GBPAC

GUEST ARTIST SERIES RECITAL

John Thorne, flute
October 18, 6:00 pm
Davis Hall, GBPAC

HALLOWEEN HOUSE

October 23, 4:30 – 7:30 pm
Second Floor, McCollum Science Hall

EXPLORERS OF RELIGION AND PHILOSOPHY CLUB PICNIC WITH PROFESSORS

October 24, 11:00 am – 2:00 pm
Second Floor, McCollum Science Hall

RENT

October 29 – 30, November 5 – 7, 7:30 pm
November 1, 8, 2:00 pm
Strayer-Wood Theatre

FINAL THURSDAY READING

SERIES: STEVE SEMKEN

October 29, 7:00 pm
Hearst Center for the Arts

CONCERT CHORAL

October 29, 7:30 pm
Davis Hall, GBPAC

THE INFERNO

Interpreters Theatre
October 29, 30 and 31, 7:30 pm
Lang 040

OCTUBAFEST: UNI TUBA/EUPHONIUM

October 30 6:00 pm
Davis Hall, GBPAC

UNI SINGERS AND SYMPHONIC BAND

November 6, 7:30 pm
Great Hall, GBPAC

FAMILY WEEKEND CHEMISTRY MAGIC SHOW

November 7, 11:00 pm
Room 137, McCollum Science Hall

FINAL THURSDAY READING SERIES: JEFFERY S. COPELAND

November 19, 7:00 pm
Hearst Center for the Arts