UNI Grad Student News, v16n2, December 2017

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Greetings from the Graduate College!

What a whirlwind this semester has been. As we approach the end of the semester, I want to take time to reflect upon the accomplishments of the graduate community. We can’t begin to catalog all of your hard work and achievements, but we can celebrate your many successes; from classroom work to field work and internships, to conference presentations and thesis and dissertation defenses. You should all be proud of your accomplishments. I would like to especially congratulate those who will be graduating in December. As you close this chapter of your life I hope you look back with a sense of pride and accomplishment. As you begin your next adventure always remember where you came from. Stay motivated but humble, and always be willing to try something new and learn from those around you. We in the Graduate College are committed to “Building Graduate Community” and want that sense of community to continue past the classroom and beyond graduation. Please take the time to complete our Graduate College End of Program Survey which you received from me by email. I wish you the best in your future endeavors!

In the spring, the Graduate College will be hosting the 11th Annual Graduate Student Symposium. On April 3, 2018 graduate students will have the opportunity to present their work in a conference-like environment. Those who are graduating in December are welcome to participate as well. To help you get ready for the Symposium and other conference presentations, I will be hosting a workshop on “Preparing Poster Presentations” on January 22, 2018 and Dr. Gabriela Olivares, Interim Associate Dean of the Graduate College, will be hosting a workshop on “Preparing Oral Presentations” on January 23, 2018. For more information please visit [https://www.grad.uni.edu/graduate-student-symposium](https://www.grad.uni.edu/graduate-student-symposium).

The holiday season and end of the semester is an ideal time to engage in a little self-care, so try to find some time to relax and rejuvenate. Make time for yourself over Winter Break to do something you truly enjoy and make time to spend with those who are important to you.

Happy Holidays!

Dr. Patrick Pease
**Alumni Profile: Jarod Bormann**

**Education:** Bachelor of Liberal Arts and Sciences from Iowa State University in 2006 with Teaching Endorsement in Secondary Education; Master of Arts in Instructional Technology from UNI in 2014

**Accolades:** 2017 Top 40 Flipped Learning Administrators and Tech Coaches Worldwide by the Flipped Learning Global Initiative, 2014 Iowa Safe Schools Educator of the Year, and a member of Iowa Technology & Education Connection (ITEC) Board

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What type of work experience do you have? Where did you begin your career and where are you now?

Upon graduation from ISU, I started my middle and high school English teaching career at Dowling Catholic High School in West Des Moines for one year then at Central Junior-Senior High in Elkader, IA for six years. After receiving my graduate degree, I began working at the Keystone Area Education Agency (AEA) as an Instructional Technology Specialist which allows me to wear many hats. I enjoy working with numerous school districts and educators on a variety of educational topics.

Why did you attend UNI for your graduate education?

Being a husband, father of three, and a full time teacher, I needed a master’s program that was flexible enough for my schedule and the fully online Instructional Technology graduate program was exactly what I was looking for. We met weekly through face-to-face video chat and there were ample opportunities to collaborate with my cohort and push my thinking.

What were some highlights of your graduate education?

I really enjoyed the collaborative projects in which a group of us could create something even though we were in various parts of the country. Utilizing the tools available to us in collaborative and constructive ways opened my eyes to the potential use in all classrooms, including my own. Our culminating project, the literature review, allowed me to do research on Flipped Learning. I was able to dig into a topic of interest to me and fully understand what instructional impact it can have. This topic has impacted my professional life greatly including how I facilitate adult learning today.

What impact has your UNI education had on your professional development?

My graduate education at UNI has afforded me opportunities that I would never have imagined and was vital in my preparation for my role at the Keystone AEA. The knowledge I acquired also helped me to develop a model of professional development that is now being implemented at a dozen different schools across Iowa. My true passion is to empower all learners, especially adult learners. That is why I wished to create my Professionally Driven model for educators. I want to redefine the letters PD from an antiquated thing that we do, to a true description of every learner: Professionally Driven. I decided to write a book about this model including growth mindset, intrinsic motivation, and sustainable autonomy for all educators including teachers, administrators and instructional coaches. My website, [www.professionallydriven.com](http://www.professionallydriven.com), also includes many free resources, articles, videos and stories from educators who have completed their own Professionally Driven journeys. The sharing of these journeys is where other educators become empowered to begin theirs. Perhaps the biggest impact that my UNI education has had on my professional development is that I am voracious learner. Having the opportunity to ask and tackle big questions drives me to continue to do so today.

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**Center for Violence Prevention Announces Fall 2017 Recipients of the Pat and O. Jay Tomson Student Internship Scholarship**

The Center for Violence Prevention at the University of Northern Iowa announced the Fall 2017 recipients of the Pat and O. Jay Tomson Student Internship Scholarship. The Pat and O. Jay Tomson Student Internship Scholarships are awarded through the Center for Violence Prevention to UNI students completing internships in the areas of bullying and gender violence prevention programming and intervention and/or victim services for those impacted by domestic violence and/or sexual assault. Kellsey Forest and Tsering Kyi, UNI graduate students, were among the four students selected to receive the awards. The other two were undergraduate students.

Kellsey Forest is enrolled in the Master of Social Work program. During her internship at Covenant Medical Center Horizons, she will be co-facilitating group counseling sessions and providing individual counseling sessions under the supervision of her internship supervisor. Kellsey will meet weekly with therapists and staff as a team to discuss treatment methods and provide psychoeducation to individual patients and families.

Tsering Kyi is an international student pursuing her graduate degree in Women’s and Gender Studies. Tsering earned her undergraduate and a graduate degrees in English Literature from Delhi University in India. After finishing her master’s degree, Kyi hopes to work in the Central Tibetan Administration (CTA) which is a Tibetan exile government based in Dharamsala, India, to bring more awareness and education to the Tibetan communities around gender violence and how to prevent it.

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Lilly Xiaoli Wang is a MBA student who is enrolled in UNI's Shanghai MBA Program. She wanted to experience the culture of an American university so she has been continuing her studies on the UNI campus since August 2017. In February 2018, she will return to her studies in Shanghai. Lilly is the first MBA student from the Shanghai program to study on UNI’s campus. Lilly graduated from Xi’an University of Architecture and Technology in Xi’an, China where she received her Bachelor's degree of Engineering in Urban Planning. Following graduation, Lilly worked as an architecture and interior designer at BAOSTELL in Shanghai which is the largest nationally owned company in Shanghai. She then worked at Koos Group Investment Consultant Co. Ltd. in land development and as a lecturer at Raffles Design Institute in Singapore. Ten years after graduation Lilly partnered with two individuals, one from France and one from the United States, to open their own company named Lc Design Studio Architecture Decoration Co. Ltd. Lilly is currently the CEO of the company and works with every aspect of the business. Since its inception Lc Design Studio Architecture Decoration Co. Ltd., located in Shanghai, has grown from three employees to over 30 employees who are primarily managers and designers. Her company works with Fortune 500 companies, joint-venture enterprise groups, and large state-owned enterprises to meet their interior design and construction management needs. The company has designed and built hotels, offices, factories, schools and homes. Lilly realized that in order for her company to expand she would need to fine tune her management skills which led her to the UNI MBA Program.

Lilly discovered UNI's MBA program through advanced online research and made her decision to enroll based upon the program’s AACSB accreditation, the value of the program and that it is a Western-society program since many of her customers are from those countries. According to Lilly, her overall experience at UNI has been incredible. She enjoys the smaller class sizes and the professors’ personableness and caring attitudes. Lilly appreciates the amount of hands-on projects versus the text heavy and theoretical concepts she is used to learning in the Shanghai program. She noted that while there are more assignments at UNI, she sees the value of them and she can clearly see how she will use these learning experiences in her business. When asked about her biggest challenge when first arriving on the UNI campus, Lilly reflected that it was the lack of public transportation at UNI compared to her home city. Prior to returning to Shanghai in February, Lilly plans to travel in the United States. Lilly plans to graduate in fall 2018 and has future plans to expand her company.

11th Annual Graduate Student Symposium
April 3, 2018

Showcase your research and creative works!

- Enhance your resume or CV
- Gain presentation and performance experience
- Receive feedback from graduate faculty judges
- Network with the university community
- Be included in UNI ScholarWorks

More information can be found at https://grad.uni.edu/graduate-student-symposium

Winter break is a great time to begin your Symposium project!
Registration opens January 8th.

UNI Grad Chat

UNI Grad Chat is a Facebook group just for UNI graduate students with the goal of creating graduate community. On UNI Grad Chat you can post news articles that you think your peers would enjoy and information on organizations that you are involved in on campus as well as fun events happening in the Cedar Valley. Your recommendations on favorite books, music, movies, places to get good coffee and more are welcome! This semester, interesting podcasts, professional development opportunities, campus and community events have been shared on UNI Grad Chat. You’re important to the success of UNI Grad Chat. You’re invited to join the conversation on UNI Grad Chat. Just visit https://www.facebook.com/groups/unigradchat/.
Tips to Prepare for the Spring Semester

- **Double-check your course registration on MyUNIverse.** Make sure you are in the correct courses for the correct number of credits and they are being applied to your degree. Complete any items on your “To Do List” before classes begin. Order your textbooks now and take the time to familiarize yourself in advance.

- **Plan to register on January 8, 2018 to participate in the Eleventh Annual Graduate Student Symposium on April 3, 2018.** Current graduate students and December 2017 graduates are invited to participate. The Symposium features poster presentations, oral presentations and creative performances. For more information, including the registration form, guidelines, and frequently asked questions, visit the Symposium website (http://www.grad.uni.edu/graduate-student-symposium). The registration deadline is February 28, 2018.

- **Keep your resume or CV updated.** Email your document to Susie Schwieger, susan.schwieger@uni.edu, Director of Graduate Student Life, to have your resume or CV reviewed. Phone and office appointments are also available after January 8, 2018 by calling 319-273-3044. Winter break is also an excellent time to create a portfolio showcasing your work or update an existing one.

- **Keep in touch with your program faculty.** Inquire about any upcoming conferences or events you should consider attending.

- **Organize and file your work from the past semester.** If you haven’t already, develop a systematic way to store your notes, handouts and papers for future reference. Make sure to back up your resources and save all syllabi.

- **Plan/Resolve to get involved this semester.** Take advantage of professional development activities offered for graduate students. Monitor the UNI Graduate College Calendar and request to be a member of UNI Grad Chat. Look at your upcoming schedule and pencil in monthly Brown Bag presentations, Professional Development Workshops, upcoming conferences and relevant off-campus opportunities.

- **Check your UNI email regularly over break.** All official university correspondence (including opportunities for assistantships/scholarships) are sent to your UNI email.

- **Thesis/Dissertation Writers should communicate with your department early in the semester your intent to complete your thesis/dissertation.** Then watch your email for a message from Janet Witt, Graduate College Thesis and Dissertation Reviewer, regarding scheduling your Preview. These deadlines are also posted on the UNI Graduate College website (http://www.grad.uni.edu/). Do not wait to schedule your Preview; the time slots near the deadline fill up quickly. The deadlines are enforced; requests for extensions are not approved. If you are writing a research paper, please check with your advisor regarding the procedure and deadlines.

- **Use Rod Library Resources.** View completed theses, dissertations, research papers, Symposium presentations and much more on UNI ScholarWorks (http://scholarworks.uni.edu/). Also prepare for your spring semester research by searching the Rod Library website (https://library.uni.edu/services/interlibrary-loan) for online resources and books to check out or request through interlibrary loan (https://library.uni.edu/about-us/hours/exam-interim-holiday/winter-interim-2017-2018).

**Winter Break Activities**
- **Pamper yourself!** Catch up on sleep, get your haircut, get a good workout in and relax. Engaging in self-care is crucial as a graduate student.

- **Explore Rod Library!** You can check out videos, Blue-Rays and DVDs (https://www.library.uni.edu/collections/video-collection) as well as various print and non-print materials in art, design, music, and theatre (https://www.library.uni.edu/collections/fine-performing-arts). The Winter Break hours can be found here: https://www.library.uni.edu/about-us/hours/exam-interim-holiday/winter-interim-2017-2018.

- **Enjoy the snow!** There are a couple things that are a must during Winter Break. Living in Iowa, snow is always on the ground in December. After a heavy snowfall meet up with friends and build a snowman, have a snowball fight or head to the sledding hill.

- **Learn something new!** Learn how to ice-skate, ski, snowshoe or take up knitting. Take advantage of the time to learn things that aren’t related to your area of study. Young Arena is located in Waterloo, find more information at http://www.waterlooleisureservices.org/ya/public-skating.

- **Volunteer in the community!** Time can get away from you during the semester. Take this time to give back to the community and feel good. Find opportunities at Volunteer Center of Cedar Valley https://vccv.org/.

- **Catch a movie!** Check out your local movie theater for deals or have a brief love affair with a Netflix TV series or movie. College Square Theater is located in Cedar Falls, find more information at http://www.marcustheatres.com/theatre-locations/college-square-cedar-falls. Crossroads Cinema is located in Waterloo, find more information at http://www.marcustheatres.com/theatre-locations/crossroads-cinema-waterloo.

- **Make some extra cash!** It is hard to balance school and work. Take the month to catch up on your finances.

- **Create something!** Whether it is a painting, a puzzle, some music or baking cookies, channel your inner artist and be creative.

- **Explore the community!**
  - Attend a hockey game with the Waterloo Blackhawks: http://www.waterlooblackhawks.com/
  - Cedar Falls Community Main Street: http://www.communitymainstreet.org/
  - Main Street Waterloo: https://www.mainstreetwaterloo.org/
  - Grout Museum of History & Science http://www.groutmuseumdistrict.org
  - Waterloo Center for the Arts http://www.waterloocenterforthearts.org/
  - The Hearst Center http://www.thehearst.org/
10 Good Reasons Graduate Students Should Join a Professional Organization

Professional associations are organizations which unite and educate people who work in the same occupation. Membership in a professional association is an investment for your future. Consult with your faculty regarding their recommendations for joining a professional organization.

1. Build your resume or CV as well as show potential employers your commitments to your future profession.
2. Join as a graduate student for a reduced membership fee.
3. Stay current on continuing education, new certifications and other professional credentialing.
4. Be well informed on legislation and trends that impact your future profession.
5. Enhance your professional network with practitioners and graduate students in your field. This network may include future hiring managers, supervisors and colleagues.
6. Learn about state, regional and national professional conferences.
7. Present your work at conferences.
8. Be mentored by seasoned professionals and learn about professionalism in your field.
9. Discover scholarship, career resources, internship and job opportunities with members only access.
10. Broaden your knowledge of the field through participation in webinars and workshops.

LinkedIn Workshop

LinkedIn is the largest business-focused network with over 500 million users, 10 million active job posts and data on 9 million companies. On October 4th, graduate students joined Matt Nuese, Associate Director of UNI Career Services, to learn more about LinkedIn. The workshop was held in Rod Library, Room 287. Matt walked the students through the process of setting up a profile and how to connect with over 65,000 UNI alumni on LinkedIn. Tips on how to use LinkedIn in their job search were shared with the students. Matt emphasized that LinkedIn is not only a tool for business students and professionals, but is vital in networking for all career fields. He suggested that students send their LinkedIn profiles to him for feedback. The following is a brief listing of LinkedIn resources:

LinkedIn: www.LinkedIn.com
Learning LinkedIn with Oliver Schinkten on Lynda.com: https://www.lynda.com/search?q=learning+linkedin
The Most Effective Ways to Use LinkedIn: https://www.thebalance.com/how-to-use-linkedIn-2062597
How to Use LinkedIn to Job Search: https://www.thebalance.com/how-to-use-linkedIn-to-job-search-2062600

Personal Statement Workshop

On October 3rd, the Graduate College sponsored “Crafting a Successful Personal Statement” which was a follow-up workshop to Thinking About Graduate School (TAGS) held in September. The personal statement is a component of the graduate school application and provides an opportunity for the applicant to present achievements, qualifications and motivations to attend graduate school to the admissions committee. Dr. Deanne Gute, Writing Center Coordinator for the Academic Learning Center, presented information on “getting started” strategies, tips on matching strengths with potential graduate programs as well as how to organize and polish the writing of the personal statement. The PowerPoint presentation may be reviewed at https://www.grad.uni.edu/thinking-about-graduate-school. Fifteen students took advantage of this workshop. The attendees had nothing but positive feedback about their experiences. One student said, “Great tips! I will definitely stop by the Writing Center for more advice and feedback as I get started writing.” Another student expressed that they finally have an idea how to start their personal statement. Individual appointments are available with Writing Center staff at https://unialc.uni.edu/.

Resume Workshop

On October 30th, Susie Schwieger, Director of Graduate Student Life, presented the workshop “Resume Writing for Graduate Students.” Fourteen graduate student attended the presentation in Rod Library ScholarSpace. Students were encouraged to bring their resumes to the workshop for questions and discussion. Susie highlighted the different types of resumes, their components and uses. She also focused on creating quality skill focused descriptions of experience and qualifications and developing targeted resume content. Attendees were very thankful for the great handouts and stated that the workshop was very helpful in creating a professional resume. The students were encouraged to make individual appointments to discuss their resumes one-on-one with Susie or email her their documents for feedback at susan.schwieger@uni.edu.
Spring 2018 Brown Bag Lectures

The Brown Bag Lectures scheduled for Spring 2018 will not be a disappointment. These lectures are open to all graduate staff, faculty and students. Be sure to take advantage of these professional development and stimulating learning opportunities. Mark your calendars!

Monday, January 24th, 12:00-12:50pm, Rod Library Room 287, Dr. Jim O’Loughlin, Department of Languages & Literatures & Rob Green, Rod Library, will present Creating the James Hearst Digital Archive. The James Hearst Digital Archive is a Drupal-based, digital humanities project that provides online access to the poetry of James Hearst along with context drawn from the University Archive's holdings of the Hearst Family Papers. This presentation will cover both editorial and technological decisions behind the project as well as offering suggestions for future student involvement in digital-based research.

Monday, February 5th, 12:00-12:50pm, Rod Library ScholarSpace, Dr. Scott Peters, Department of Political Science, will present Regulating Judicial Elections. Dr. Peters’ presentation will be based on his book of the same title which looks at the effect of state codes of judicial conduct on the state Supreme Court selections. Dr. Peters noted that they have some effect on candidate advertising (though not in ways that one might expect), but that they may also encourage interest group advertising. He also found that there are pretty clear advantages to incumbents.

Monday, February 19th, 12:00-12:50pm, Rod Library Room 287, Dr. Julianna Gassman, School of Kinesiology, Allied Health and Human Services, will present Developing Community Partnership to Enhance Student Learning and Civic Mindedness in All Disciplines. Service-learning projects offer an intellectually rich educational experience for students and simultaneously address a community in need. Using the Engaged Faculty Institute (EFI) Curriculum, a Service-Learning Institute (SLI) was implemented, giving intentional focus to the collaboration and partnership between the faculty and the community partnership. Results from pre- and post-surveys, taken by both faculty and community partners will be discussed, focusing on how partnerships were formed and developed, outlining the benefits and pitfalls of co-creating service-learning projects.

Tuesday, March 6th, 12:30-1:20pm, Rod Library Room 287, Dr. Paul Torre, Department of Communication Studies, will present American Television in a Global Context: Shifting Formats and New Competitors. Dr. Torre will discuss his research into the past few decades of the global distribution of U.S. television programs, including reversal of the “flow” of content from the U.S. to the rest of the world. Dr. Torre will delve into distribution of “television formats,” many of which have originated in other countries. He will also discuss how new forms of distribution (streaming) and content (YouTube content, for instance) are impacting the traditional television distribution industry.

Iowa School Counselor Association Conference

On November 5-7, 2017 the Iowa School Counselor Association (ISCA) held their annual conference, “Igniting a Movement: Putting Equity Into Action” at Prairie Meadows Hotel & Conference Center in Altoona, Iowa. Students and professionals gathered to hear from two keynote speakers, Dr. William “Flip” Clay, an internationally acclaimed professional school counselor and speaker, and Dr. Kyle A. Reyes, Special Assistant to the President for Inclusion at Utah Valley University, attended seven breakout sessions of their choice, and networked with their colleagues. Presentations ranged in topics including “Mindfulness Matters”, “Igniting Change through Closing the Gap Activities”, “Human Trafficking & Iowa Youth”, and over 40 others. Dr. Darcie Davis-Gage, Division Chair and Graduate Program Coordinator of UNI’s Counseling Program presented “Burning Brightly: Self-Care Strategies for School Counselors”. Over 30 UNI graduate students, alumni, and faculty attended and gained valuable professional development information. Conference information can be reviewed at http://www.iowaschoolcounselors.org/Conference2017.

Master of Social Work Student Association Hosts Guest Speakers

On September 21, 2017 the Master of Social Work Student Association (MSWSA) hosted guest speakers Dr. Susan Vallem and Sara Shadid from Lutheran Services of Iowa. Dr. Vallem's presentation focused on Animal Assisted Therapy (AAT) which included the therapy's purpose and benefits as well as how therapy animals are used in schools and counseling sessions. Sara is Dr. Vallem's intern and colleague who trains service dogs with the organization, Retrieving Freedom Inc., and she brought her service dog in training to the meeting. She shared how Retrieving Freedom assists veterans and children with autism through specially trained service dogs. Information on volunteer opportunities with Retrieving Freedom is at https://www.retrievingfreedom.org/.
Dr. Jennifer Garrett is an Associate Professor and Graduate Program Coordinator in the Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders. Dr. Garrett has been with UNI for 10 years and teaches both undergraduate and graduate courses including Understanding Communication Disorders, Clinical Examination, Language of School Aged Children, Current Problems in Speech-Language Pathology & Audiology: Counseling, Literacy for SLPs and Current Problems in Speech-Language Pathology & Audiology: Genetics & Syndromes. Dr. Garrett received her Bachelor of Arts and Master of Arts degrees in Communication Disorders from Truman State University and her Doctoral degree in Speech-Language Pathology from the University of Cincinnati. Prior to her employment at UNI, Dr. Garrett worked within the Missouri school system for five years. Dr. Garrett's current research is focused on STEM and vocabulary instruction for school-aged children with communication and learning disabilities and incorporating principles of drama into speech-language therapy. She has had the opportunity to develop a preschool-drama program partnering with Greta Berghammer, UNI Professor of Theatre. The program has offered "Play Dates" for the past three years on several Sundays each semester to target communication and social skills in a play-based setting. Both children and UNI students have very much enjoyed these opportunities. Dr. Garrett is passionate about “making sure every person has access to communication literacy, assuming competence in all people”. Dr. Garrett enjoys working with students who will go on to become Speech-Language Pathologists and Audiologists and serve our communities.

American Speech-Language and Hearing Convention

The 2017 American Speech-Language and Hearing (ASHA) Convention in Los Angeles, California had an overall conference attendance of approximately 12,000 Speech-Language Pathologists and Audiologists from around the country. There were 22 graduate students from UNI who presented research projects and four graduate students volunteered to work one day of the convention. Students had the opportunity to attend educational sessions, meet with advisors of PhD programs around the country, network with vendors for potential job opportunities and learn about current research. There were also 10 UNI students who participated in the ASHA community service project in which they created capes and tote bags to be donated to a children's hospital and a school for deaf children in the Los Angeles area.

The Following are the UNI Student Presenters

Posters not pictured include “Post- Swallow Residue in Relation to Maximal Lingual Pressure Generation in Persons with Parkinson's Disease” by Ross Westemeyer, Sarah Van Maanen, Dr. Laura Pitts and Dr. Leora Chermey, “Speech & Voice Outcomes in People with Parkinson's Disease After STN- DBS vs GPi- DBS” by Dr. Lisa Kopf, Dr. Karen Bryant and Dr. Jeremy Greenlee, “The Use of the Twine Platform for Narrative Therapy in Teenagers Who Stutter” by Dr. Chris Khan, Dr. Lisa Kopf and Dr. Patricia Zebrowski and “How Interaction With Personal Narratives of Adolescents Who Stutter Influences Student Clinician Perspectives” by Dr. Lisa Kopf, Dr. Chris Khan and Dr. Patricia Zebrowski.
Student Accolades

Department of Languages & Literatures

As a part of the Cedar Falls Authors Festival, English M.A. students adapted and performed Bess Streeter Aldrich's story, "The Woman Who Was Forgotten", as a 1920s radio play. Over 100 people packed the Cedar Falls Public Library for the performance.

Department of Curriculum & Instruction

Jarod Bormann (pictured right), M.A. Instructional Technology, 2014, has been named as one of the 2017 Top 40 Flipped Learning Administrators and Tech Coaches Worldwide by the Flipped Learning Global Initiative. Bormann is an instructional technology integration specialist at the Keystone AEA in Elkader, Iowa, where he has applied research on flipped learning from his master’s research paper. He has created and leads the AEA Blended/ Flipped Learning cohort which is active throughout Iowa and has published a book on personalized learning.

Department of Educational Leadership & Postsecondary Education

Greg Ebeling (pictured left) was selected as 2017-2018 Iowa Superintendent of the Year by the School Administrators of Iowa. Ebeling, a UNI graduate, is the superintendent of the Pella Community School District. He was nominated by his peers and selected for the award by a committee of Iowa Superintendents.

Department of Geography

At the recent West Lakes Division of the American Association of Geographers Conference in West Plains, MO UNI Geography graduate students won the following awards:

- Dane Atkins won first place in the MA/ MS paper competition and is the first alternate for the $1,000 AAG award for best all around paper.
- Joel Heilman won 2nd place in the MA/MS paper competition.
- Chris Pierce was one of the six finalists in the West Lakes Geography Bowl.
- Joel Heilman won the West Lakes Geography Bowl.
- Heilman and Pierce along with the other finalists received awards to represent the region at the upcoming American Association of Geographers Conference in New Orleans in April 2018.

Abigail Hendrickson, Peet Junior High, (M.A. School Library Studies) gave a presentation at the Iowa Council of Teachers of English (ICTE) Conference in October in Johnston, IA. Her co-presenter was Suzette Kragenbrick and their presentation was titled, “Diversity in YA Literature: Expanding student's view of themselves and their world”.

Beth Janssen, of the AGWSR school district, (pictured left) and Nicole Guldager, of the GMG school district, (pictured left), alumna of MA School Library Studies, gave two presentations at the Iowa Technology and Education Connection Conference in Des Moines, IA in October. Their presentations were both focused on digital literacy: “Students Creating a Positive Online Presence in More Ways Than One” and “AEA Resources- USE THEM or DIE TRYING”.

Kristen Reinhardt Downes (M.A. School Library Studies) published an article in Teacher Librarian in October along with faculty members Dr. Karla Krueger and Dr. Joan Bessman Taylor. The article includes research conducted by Downes as part of her master's research project and describes the impact of allowing elementary students to check out more books. Citation: Downes, K.R., Krueger, K.S., and Taylor, J.B. (2017). Impact of a Less Restrictive Circulation Policy in an Elementary Library. Teacher Librarian, 45(1), 16-20.
What is the UNI Grad Student News?
UNI Grad Student News is a quarterly newsletter featuring news and updates concerning graduate education at the University of Northern Iowa. Each issue features profile stories on graduate students, faculty, staff, and notable alumni. UNI Grad Student News is unique in that it publishes news submitted directly from graduate students and faculty.

How and what can I submit as news?
Complete submission form at https://grad.uni.edu/online-submission-form. Submissions can include information about recent conferences you have attended, academic accomplishments, or upcoming departmental events.

SUBMISSION DEADLINES:
JANUARY 24, 2018 for FEBRUARY ISSUE
APRIL 11, 2018 for MAY ISSUE

Who receives the newsletter?
All graduate students, faculty, and staff receive the newsletter via email.

Susie Schwieger- Supervising Editor
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Sarah Elm– School Counseling Co-Editor
Abbi Schupanitz- Speech-Language Pathology Co-Editor
Questions?
Contact gradlife@uni.edu
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With any questions or concerns feel free to contact the Graduate College staff listed below.

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