Political Science Department Newsletter, v9n1, June 2014

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Greetings from the Department of Political Science

The Department of Political Science at the University of Northern Iowa has had a very successful year. Almost 50 graduates from our political science, public administration, and political communication majors walked across the graduation stage this year. Daye Pope, graduating senior in political communication from Clear Lake, Iowa, was presented with the Lux Service Award at the spring commencement ceremony. The Lux award is given to students who have excelled in service to the University. In addition, KaLeigh White, public administration and sociology major from Ottumwa, Iowa, was chosen to give the student address at commencement. Congratulations to Daye and KaLeigh and all our other 2013-14 graduates!

There are also many changes afoot in the Department as we end the academic year. Professor Dhirendra Vajpeyi, after forty-five years of service to UNI, is retiring. Jane Hunter, secretary to the Department of Political Science since 1993, will be retiring at the end of June. Long-time adjunct instructor Dennis Damon has also retired after teaching in 20 different semesters for us. The department will miss each and every one of these unique individuals who have given so much of their time and talent to UNI students over the years. Congratulations are also in order for Professor Ramona McNeal who has been promoted to associate professor with tenure. We will also be welcoming two new faculty members next year. After serving as a visiting faculty member this year, Brian Warby will become an assistant professor in the fall. Another new assistant professor, Jayme Neiman, will also join us. Finally, the Master of Public Policy program will begin its move to the political science department this summer. As part of this process, we will be streamlining and updating the curriculum.

In this newsletter, we share with you the successes of the past year. We also look forward to the new opportunities and new students the fall will bring to us. Please visit us if you come to campus. We love to hear about our former students, your careers, and activities. If you can’t make it to campus, you can visit our website (http://www.uni.edu/polisci) and go the alumni link where you can send an update to us.

Donna R. Hoffman, Ph.D.
Associate Professor and Department Head
Recent Graduate: Chad Heiman

I graduated in December of 2013 with a B.A., Cum Laude, in political communication with a minor in politics and law. I chose this major for a variety of reasons. The ability to have a curriculum that afforded me the opportunity to combine politics, government, and communications was a critical component in my deciding to come to UNI. I have always had an interest in the public policy process from policy formation to implementation. I point to my internship with Governor Branstad as sparking my interest in state and local government. The direct effects of public policy, whether it originates from Washington D.C. or Des Moines, is realized at the local level.

Upon graduation I was hired by the Marion Economic Development Company (MEDCO) in Marion, Iowa, as their Communications Manager. In this role I oversee and implement the strategic communications plan for MEDCO. I have led the development and implementation of our new social media platforms (follow us on Twitter MEDCOia or find us on Facebook) and I am currently working with our President and members of our board on launching our 5 year Capital Campaign. I am in charge of developing the accompanying marketing materials. Listening, learning, and working with individuals from across all industries has been the most rewarding aspect of my job so far. It is rewarding knowing that the work I am doing is in pursuit of retaining and/or bringing additional jobs to Marion and improving the citizens’ quality of life.

My education at UNI has given me the knowledge I need to be successful moving forward in my career and education. Acquiring the needed analytic, written, and oral skills to communicate with leaders in the business and political world has already paid dividends. Political communication is a beneficial major because it allows students to approach issues from multiple angles and evaluate how public opinion shapes the policy process. I plan to pursue an advanced degree of some sort in the future and I believe my degree at UNI has positioned me well to do that.

Recent Graduate: Dan Merwin

Studying political communication and public administration at the University of Northern Iowa was an eye-opening experience, particularly because politics in Iowa is more exciting than most other states! I grew up in Texas where the political scene was rather bland. In Iowa, it’s presidential candidate after presidential candidate visiting. In Texas, we’re lucky to get anyone! I’m quite thankful not only for the education I received from UNI and the CSBS, but also for the chance to pursue an interest that began in my early childhood.

My interest in being a political junky started when I first voted for president. Granted, it was 1989, I was 4 years old, and it was a mock election to get us kindergarteners interested. I voted for Bush over Dukakis because I didn’t know what a “Dukakis” was, but I had just drawn a bush for my art project—so Bush it was, and Bush won the class vote. When I got home that day to find out Bush won the election, I was beyond excited, thinking that I got to participate in a democratic victory! I later became that kid who memorized every president, from Washington to Bush (at that time), the political party affiliation of each president, and even their religion! Unfortunately for me, teenage apathy took me away from politics to the point where I chose not to vote when finally eligible. However, my attitude changed after I graduated with my first BA in Sociology from the University of North Texas in 2006. I made the decision to enlist in the U.S. Army in 2007, which coincided with the recession, as well as a complete reversal in my political ideology, borne from meeting different people and experiencing different things outside the closed world I grew up in. My experiences ultimately raised my degree of efficacy as a citizen to the point where my fascination with politics became resurrected. After my tour of duty in Iraq, I finished my enlistment, enrolled at the University of Northern Iowa, and chose a double major in both political communication and public administration, since I felt it was important to understand how both the public and non-profit sectors work in the democratic process.

I was also fortunate to participate in three different political internships during my time at UNI: State Sen. Jeff Danielson (his re-election campaign in 2012); Rep. Bruce Braley (his Senate campaign); and Democratic congressional candidate Monica Vernon (for the 1st Congressional District). I plan to continue my pursuit of the communication side of politics at the University of Kansas, where I will work on my MA in Communication. My goal? Rhetoric of advertising: the messaging behind the politics!
Alumni Profile: Chantel M. (Witt) Kramme

I graduated from the University of Northern Iowa in 2009 with degrees in political science and philosophy. I received my J.D. from Washington University in St. Louis and am currently an associate in the Dallas office of Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher where I primarily practice in the area of complex commercial litigation. I originally decided on a political science major when I was considering a career in government. I began college not knowing exactly which career path I wanted to take. I had an interest in government and politics, so I began taking political science classes. I became interested in the pre-law classes I took and began looking into law school. Law school is a huge investment, both in terms of time and money. While it’s impossible to know if law school is the right choice until you’re there, taking pre-law classes, a number of which are designed to mimic the style of law school classes, gave me confidence in my decision before making that investment. Additionally, the legal job market is very competitive and employers focus heavily on students’ performance their first year of law school. The political science classes I took at UNI allowed me to begin law school with experience reading and analyzing judicial opinions—a skill that set me apart from many of my classmates and helped me succeed from day one.

Professor Dhirendra Vajpeyi Retires After Forty-Five Years of Service to UNI

Professor Dhirendra Vajpeyi, internationally-recognized scholar and well-known professor at the University of Northern Iowa, retired at the end of the 2013-14 academic year. During his time at UNI, Professor Vajpeyi served as Head of the Department of Political Science, received numerous awards, and touched the lives of thousands of students along the way.

Professor Vajpeyi earned his Ph.D. in political science from Michigan State University and joined the Department of Political Science in 1969 as an assistant professor. He was promoted to associate professor in 1972, and attained the title of professor in 1979. In 1984 he served as a Senior Research Fellow at the Hoover Institute at Stanford University. Professor Vajpeyi became Head of the Department of Political Science in 1988 and served in that capacity until 1998. During his tenure as Head, the Department of Political Science grew through his embrace of teaching non-western humanities courses in the Liberal Arts Core. He was also active in university governance; serving on the faculty senate and chairing the graduate council were among his many contributions. During his career at UNI, Professor Vajpeyi was awarded both the Outstanding Service Award and the Outstanding Scholarship Award from the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences. He has always been a proponent of utilizing students in faculty research. It is a fitting testimony that two of his former students recently endowed the Vajpeyi Fellowship that recognizes one faculty member in the Department of Political Science who incorporates students into their own research.

Professor Vajpeyi’s research is in the area of civil-military relations, development, and environmental policy. He has written two books, edited or co-edited 17 books, and authored more than 25 book chapters. He has been active in the International Political Science Association (IPSA), chairing the Research Committee on Technology and Development, and often organizing regional IPSA conferences.

The Department honored Professor Vajpeyi at a reception in his honor on May 16, 2014. He was presented with a book of photos taken throughout his career at UNI. His colleagues will miss his contributions to departmental governance, as well as his wit and good humor. His students will miss his passion in the classroom, where he sometimes wove stories of elephants and tigers from his native India into his discussions. The Department of Political Science recognizes and thanks Professor Vajpeyi for his commitment and dedication to the University of Northern Iowa and its students.
Jane Hunter, Departmental Secretary Extraordinaire, Retires from UNI

At the end of June, long-time secretary of the Department of Political Science, Jane Hunter, will retire from UNI. As most of our alumni know, Jane has been instrumental in helping both faculty and students navigate the policies, procedures and paper-work at UNI. Jane says of her time with the department, “After 42 semesters in the Department of Political Science (plus a few more in Financial Aid), helping schedule classes and register students, paying the bills, ordering supplies and keys and the occasional catering order (cookies!) maintaining all kinds of records, proofreading anything and everything that crossed my desk, making airline reservations, scheduling student assessments and typing up the thousands of student comments they contained, keeping close track of the department funds, and answering more questions than I can count, I’ve decided to join my husband in retirement and try to enjoy not having to be anywhere in particular at any particular time. Wow, that sounds like fun! I’ll let you know when it’s not fun anymore and I long to be back doing “part A” of this paragraph. With both of our sons (and daughter-in-law) soon to be living in Cedar Falls, along with our two wonderful grandsons, I plan to still try to work in a little gardening, piano playing, cooking new things, and make some progress on my many unfinished projects, and, of course, pointing out to Mr. Hunter which projects he needs to complete. We have plans to finally be able to go on trips that last longer than 2 weeks and see the parts of the U.S. we haven’t seen yet. I’ve enjoyed my time working in Political Science and thank you for the kindness you’ve always shown me. Good luck to the faculty and students I’ve known over the years.”

The Department wishes Jane a happy retirement. We will miss her helpfulness, her smile, and the thousand other things she did to assist students, staff, and faculty.

Iowa Politics Students Visit State Capitol

Students in Professor Chris Larimer’s Iowa Politics class visited the State Capitol in Des Moines in February while the General Assembly was in session. During the visit, students had a private meeting with Iowa Governor Terry Branstad. Students also met with several state lawmakers from both the Iowa House and Iowa Senate, statehouse reporters, and lobbyists. Students used the meetings to discuss important policy issues facing the state and to get updates on pieces of legislation they had been tracking during the legislative session as part of their coursework.

Students from Prof. Larimer’s class listen as Governor Terry Branstad discusses happenings at the Capitol.
On December 4, 2013 in Lang Auditorium, UNI’s Political Science Society hosted a viewing of the American documentary Miss Representation, followed by a panel discussion and audience Q&A. The panel featured Political Science faculty Chris Larimer and Allison Martens, as well as former Iowa state senator and lieutenant governor Joy Corning, there representing the nonprofit organization 50-50 in 2020, which seeks to boost the number of women elected to office in Iowa.

Miss Representation explores how damaging portrayals of women in the media contribute to the under-representation of women in influential positions in society, including politics. The film features interviews with important women in politics and the news media, including Condoleezza Rice, Nancy Pelosi, Katie Couric, Rachel Maddow, and Gloria Steinem. Written, directed, and produced by Jennifer Siebel Newsom, Miss Representation premiered in 2011 at the Sundance Film Festival to critical acclaim, and soon sparked a call-to-action campaign that included guides for electing women to political office.

Getting more women elected to political office was the theme of remarks by panelists and audience Q&A, with discussion particularly focused on political science findings that female candidates, when they choose to run, which is not nearly as often (or as early in life) as men, do just as well as male candidates. Building on the film’s motto, “you can’t be what you can’t see,” the panelists urged young women in the audience to see themselves as potential candidates and consider runs for political office in their futures.

This year the Northern Iowa Student Government and the Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning presented the first ever Above & Beyond Awards. For these awards, students from across campus nominated faculty and staff in two categories. One category was for excellence in teaching and the other was for advising and service to students. The Department of Political Science is pleased to report that three nominees for the excellence in teaching award came from its faculty ranks. Students nominated Professors Ana Kogl, Chris Larimer, and Scott Peters for going above and beyond for students. At a reception held on April 16, Professors Larimer and Peters were announced as two of the four award winners selected by NISG from the twenty-one faculty nominations from across the university. Congratulations to our award winners!
Chris Larimer
This year, I continued my research on voter turnout and Iowa politics. In 2013, I was named one of nine recipients of a grant from the Center on the American Governor at Rutgers University. With this grant I have been studying gubernatorial power in Iowa and was invited to present preliminary findings at Rutgers University in December of 2013. I also presented research from a co-authored paper at the Midwest Political Science Association Conference in April of 2014 on the relationship between cortisol levels and the probability of voting. A co-authored article on social pressure and voter turnout was published in the May 2014 issue of *Political Behavior*. I enjoy working with political science and public administration students, and was very honored to be one of the recipients of the Above and Beyond: Excellence in Teaching Award presented by the Northern Iowa Student Government in April of 2014. I continue to serve as the “Political Analyst” for KWWL News, including a regular Tuesday morning spot and writing a blog for the KWWL website. Finally, this year I was excited to see several students gain acceptance into top graduate schools or find employment in public and nonprofit sectors.

Brian Warby
The past year at UNI has been fast paced and exciting. I’ve spent the last year with the department as a visiting assistant professor, and I’m happy to be joining the department as a tenure-track assistant professor. I recently finished graduate school at the University of South Carolina, and defended my dissertation on “Microfinance and Political Stability.” I’ll go back to South Carolina for a few days this summer for the doctoral hooding ceremony. I have a paper I adapted from part of my dissertation, which is currently under review for publication, and I’m working on another stand-alone paper that draws from my dissertation research, and, of course, lots of grand ideas for future research projects.

I’ve enjoyed teaching the International Relations class, as well as Politics of the Global Economy during fall 2013 and North-South Relations during spring 2014. I attended the North Central Council of Latin Americanists’ 2014 Teaching and Learning Workshop and look forward to teaching Latin American Politics next year.

At home, my wife Candice and I have 4 children, the newest having arrived May 2. As with most kids, they keep me busy at home and ensure that life is exciting and fun. The transition from mild South Carolina winters and spring breaks at Myrtle Beach to the northern Iowa winter was difficult, but we survived it and feel like hardy Iowans now.

Ramona McNeal
This year I marked a professional milestone by receiving tenure and promotion to Associate Professor. It has also been a productive year for publications and other research activities. During this period, I have continued my long-term commitment to research on e-government and U.S. healthcare policies. Among these projects are two book chapters and a journal article. The first is a co-authored book chapter on federal Medicare and Medicaid insurance websites published in *E-Government Success around the World: Cases, Empirical Studies, and Practical Recommendations* (IGI Global). The second is a co-authored journal article on state-level laws that require medical facilities to maintain interpreters for patients with limited English proficiency, published in *Administration and Policy in Mental Health and Mental Health Service Research*. Finally, I have a forthcoming co-authored book chapter that looks at how family members, taking care of sick loved ones, use the Internet for assistance. It will come out later this year in *Social Media and Mobile Healthcare Technology* (IGI Global). In addition, I have three co-authored book chapters under review. The first looks at state-level efforts to regulate Internet pharmacies. The second examines the federal government’s efforts to increase Medicaid enrollments and the final book chapter explores “digital paranoia.” More specifically, it examines whether recent news headlines regarding online security and Internet privacy have altered individual online behavior. Recently, I have started two new research projects. The first looks at variations in state-level cyberbullying laws while the other explores differences in state-level laws that mandate telemedicine insurance coverage. I also presented a conference poster on state-level efforts to regulate Internet pharmacies at UNI’s Pre-Tenure Symposium.

Allison Martens
It was a great sophomore year for me as part of the Political Science Department at UNI. I made it through my second winter here in Iowa not too much the worse for wear and even purchased my first snow blower! Not bad for a transplanted Texan. One highlight from this year was teaching my first senior seminar on the American Founding. It has long been an aspiration of mine to design a course around the Federalist Papers, so I was glad to finally have my chance to do so. My students did a great job diving into the ratification debates over our Constitution, and I got a near equal number of Federalists and Anti-Federalists in my class coming in, which made things fun. Other highlights for the year include speaking on campus panels on the 2013 Supreme Court term, and on the documentary *Miss Representation* with distinguished guests from the “50-50 in 2020” initiative, taking part in Darwin Week, and joining the LGBT* Advisory and Advocacy Committee as the CSBS representative. I also got my feet wet in the Cedar Falls community leading a book club discussion for the local AAUW chapter on Sheryl Sandberg’s *Lean In*. We had a fantastic discussion on women’s equality in
the workplace, and it was rewarding to talk about the topic with a group of women (and men!) of all different ages, perspectives, and experiences.

I also kept busy this year with research and writing. I was fortunate to have been awarded a Dean's Summer Research Grant by the CSBS, and I used that support to work on my research on how feuds over constitutional interpretation between progressive reformers and organized labor contributed to the failure of health insurance reform in the early twentieth century. Given that we are still trying to get it right in this country when it comes to health insurance, it is interesting to explore what undermined our nation's first serious attempt at reform. I presented my work in April at the Midwest Political Science Association’s annual meeting in Chicago and received great feedback on my project. I have also been working with my co-author, Jason Gainous, from the University of Louisville, on the third article in our published series on the effectiveness of civic education in public schools. In this piece, we examine the political ideology of teachers to explore whether liberal or conservative teachers are more likely to use the most effective teaching methods for civics, and we hope to see our results in print soon.

To close, as Political Science's Facebook Administrator, let me put in a plug for our social media outreach. Be sure to like us on Facebook to keep up on all the latest about our events and faculty, and look for us on Twitter in the fall.

Scott Peters
I was very honored this year to be chosen as a recipient of the Northern Iowa Student Government's Above and Beyond Excellence in Teaching Award. The award is especially meaningful because it comes from students. I’m always looking for ways to improve my teaching, trying to find new ways to connect with students and aid their learning. This year I taught our Analyzing Politics course by having students take the lead in determining what we would study and in designing their own research projects. Some of the things I tried worked, and some need more improvement, but on the whole the feedback I got from students indicated that this was a promising direction. I’m looking forward to incorporating some of this into Constitutional Law in the fall by having students drive the discussion in class more often by tackling hypothetical cases on a regular basis throughout the semester rather than just as one end-of-the year research project.

I continue working on a book manuscript that explores the effects of state regulation of state judicial elections. I presented results from another chapter of it at a conference this spring and am nearing a point where I can submit a proposal to a publisher. I was also able to get several questions about the Iowa Supreme Court on a panel study of Iowa voters that several members of the department are collaborating on. I hope that if another challenge is mounted against justices up for retention this year, I’ll have data available to track the electorate’s voting habits on that important issue.

My daughters (6 and 4) keep me busy at home. This year has been all about Frozen, and I’m hoping that by this time next year I won’t have the lyrics to “Let it Go” constantly in my head. My family and I are looking forward to spending most of this summer in Iowa City, where my wife has a summer fellowship at the UI Medical Center. The UI College of Law has been kind enough to let me use one of their offices for the summer so I can make some progress on my research. If any alums are in the Iowa City area, send me an email and we can try to catch up.

Justin Holmes
In 2013-14, I taught multiple sections of our Introduction to American Politics class, including a section designed especially for first year students. I also taught Public Opinion and Voter Behavior, and Political Communication. In April, I presented a paper at the Midwest Political Science Association conference, “The Elephant Goes Hee Haw: Incongruent Messaging and Political Persuasion,” which examines the effects on public opinion when political figures take unexpected positions on issues. In my spare time, I wrangle a pair of toddlers, neither of whom seem particularly interested in what happens when political figures take unexpected positions on issues.

Lindsay Cohn
It is with a somewhat heavy heart that I announce my departure from UNI. I have spent the 2013-14 academic year as a Council on Foreign Relations International Affairs Fellow, working in the Pentagon as an advisor to the Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Special Operations and Combating Terrorism. It has been an enormously valuable experience, and I am grateful to UNI for giving me the flexibility to take advantage of it. The plan was to return to UNI and use what I had learned to be a better teacher and researcher. However, in March of this year, I was offered a position with the National Security Affairs Department at the Naval War College in Newport, RI, and as much as I will miss my wonderful undergraduates and colleagues at UNI, this was an opportunity I could not pass up. At the Naval War College, I will be teaching policy analysis and strategy to senior military officers who are preparing for roles in the Joint Staff or at a Geographic Combatant Command. It will be truly exciting to be teaching people who care deeply about these subjects and who are in a position to apply their learning immediately in the service of national security and defense policy.
Sarah Benzing is selected as a CSBS Distinguished Alumni

Every spring, the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences honors several distinguished alumni and hosts them on campus. This year, the college recognized Sarah Benzing, 2000 political science graduate. Ms. Benzing is a native of Neola, Iowa, and has served as campaign manager for several very high profile (and successful) U.S. Senate races across the nation. She is currently the campaign manager for Representative Bruce Braley’s Senate campaign in Iowa. Prior to Braley’s campaign, she managed races for Senators Kirsten Gillibrand (NY), Sherrod Brown (OH), and Edward Markey (MA). While on campus, distinguished alumni are able to interact with students and faculty and also attend a dinner in their honor.

Welcome Jayme Neiman

We are pleased to welcome Jayme Neiman to our faculty as a new assistant professor in the fall of 2014. Ms. Neiman is completing her Ph.D. in political science at the University of Nebraska Lincoln. Her dissertation, “Disproportional Representation: A Mixed Methods Analysis of Education Attainment Representation in State Government” is a field experiment examining how legislators respond to constituent email when the constituent education levels or grammar and spelling quality vary. Prior to graduate school, Ms. Neiman also served as senior program manager for the Center for Civic Education. She will be teaching courses in the area of public policy and public administration and will be involved in the Master of Public Policy program as it moves to the Department of Political Science.

Fall Faculty-Student Get Together

To welcome both former students back to campus and students new to our majors, the Department of Political Science hosted a pizza party in the atrium of Sabin Hall in the early fall. Professor Ana Kogl organized a game that encouraged students to ask faculty questions in order to match them with a list of some previously unknown skill or hidden talent that each possessed. Students then were able to learn that Professor Kogl had an ancestor accused of witchcraft, Professor Hoffman used to judged livestock, and other assorted fun facts about the faculty.

Jorgen Rose, senior from Newton, Iowa, and Tori Hurst, junior from Cedar Falls at the fall welcome party.

Sarah Benzing, pictured here with her former academic advisor, Professor Dhirendra Vajpeyi, is honored as a CSBS Distinguished Alumni.
Baker Hall Comes Down

Baker Hall, an art deco fixture on the UNI campus since 1936, was demolished near the end of the spring semester. First a men's dormitory, it became home to many faculty and departmental offices beginning in the 1970s, including some faculty from political science. Over the semester break in 2013-14, faculty and departments with offices in Baker relocated to the newly refurbished Bartlett Hall. The former location of Baker Hall will be converted to green space.

Pi Sigma Alpha Induction

Sixteen students were inducted into the Alpha Delta Chi chapter of Pi Sigma Alpha in the fall. Pi Sigma Alpha is the national political science honor society whose purpose is “to stimulate scholarship and intelligent interest in political science.” Professor Chris Larimer serves as faculty advisor for the UNI chapter. After the induction ceremony, the chapter elected officers and began planning their activities for the year.

From left to right, Linh Ta, Dallas Tuttle, Daniel Merwin, Samuel Horsch, Molly Richardson, Jorgen Rose, Victoria Hurst, Chad Heiman, Dylan Keller, Michele Kenney, Elizabeth Sullivan, KaLeigh White, Professor Chris Larimer, and Katherine Bennett. Not pictured: Anne Reisener.
Students Attend Talk by Senator McCaskill

Three students from political science traveled to Ames with Professor Donna Hoffman to hear U.S. Senator Claire McCaskill (MO) talk on “Women, Politics and Leadership: Taking Risks is Ladylike” at Iowa State University. The event was sponsored by the Carrie Chapman Catt Center for Women and Politics. Students were able to attend a private brunch with Senator McCaskill where she gave brief remarks and met the students. A public lecture and question and answer period was held following the brunch. McCaskill encouraged students to consider running for public office and told of her own path to becoming an elected official.

Congratulations Graduates!
Summer 2013, Fall 2013 and Spring 2014 Graduates

B.A., Political Science
Umaru Balde
Joseph Becker
Thomas Blanford
Caleb Borden
Tyler Campbell
Nathan Donney
Jessica Garraway
Samuel Graf
Samuel Harris
Ethan Halfpap
Edward Hee
Elizabeth Hoffman-Johnson
Kevan Hudson
Ethan Jacobsen
Heather Jellings
John Jenkins
Edis Keserovic
Curtis Lueckenotto
Matthew Marcantano
Alexander McDaniel
Abbie McVey
Douglas Miller
Ryan Moon
Mackenzie O’Brien
Kellie Petersen
Jack Reis
Levi Roethler
Jorgen Rose
Colin Sandberg
Luke Scheer
Cody Schmidt
Alex Stalkfleet
Alex Swalve
Zachary Yetmar
Katherine Zasadny

B.A., Public Administration
Tyler Campbell
Donna Drewelow
Whitney Emerson
Ryan Heintz
Samuel Horsch
Collin Levendusky
Daniel Merwin
Nekesha Palmer
Molly Richardson
Sandi Salkic
Peter Stepanek
Lea Stewart
KaLeigh White
Lucas Willett

B.A., Political Communication
Jacob Finer
Chad Heiman
Samuel Horsch
Dylan Keller
Daniel Merwin
Daye Pope
Zachary Schreiner

Beth Sullivan, Victoria Hurst, Professor Donna Hoffman, and Linh Ta attend brunch with Senator McCaskill.

U.S. Senator Claire McCaskill.
Graduating seniors and scholarship winners from the Department of Political Science were honored at an end-of-the-year reception held in downtown Cedar Falls. The reception is a chance for faculty and students to mingle, reminisce, and discuss future plans. In addition, we recognize our scholarship award winners. It is an opportunity for the department to offer our congratulations and send off our graduates into the world beyond UNI. Both students and faculty enjoy this opportunity to meet away from campus and socialize.

Daye Pope and Jessica Garraway celebrate their upcoming graduation.
The Department of Political Science at the University of Northern Iowa offers degrees in political science, public administration, and political communication. We are one of the few undergraduate institutions in the country to offer majors in public administration and political communication. We feature student-focused education with small class sizes, research opportunities, and internships. Our distinguished teacher-scholars turn excellence in research into excellence in the classroom. Visit us at: www.uni.edu/polisci or on the Cedar Falls campus in Sabin Hall.