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UNI Grad Student News, v15n1, September 2016

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A hearty hello to all new and returning graduate students. Welcome to the Graduate College at the University of Northern Iowa! My name is Kavita Dhanwada, Professor of Biology and Dean of the Graduate College. Even though I'm just starting my second year as Graduate Dean, I have had the pleasure of being a member of UNI's faculty since 1998 when I started as an Assistant Professor in Biology. At the start of this semester, just as I first felt in my first year, I have a sense of great anticipation and excitement as we begin this new school year. It is a time to look forward to the new experiences and projects that will begin and to look forward to the many new things that will expand our worldview. I share a great responsibility along with my faculty colleagues here at UNI: we are passionate about teaching and working with graduate and undergraduate students and our focus is on student success.

This year, the Graduate College continues the theme of “Building Graduate Community”. We want all members of this community, students, faculty and staff, to come together and share a sense of the common purpose of graduate education, its importance and its value. We have a number of presentations, seminars and workshops of interest to not only students but to our faculty and staff alike. We are very excited about a series of professional development workshops for students that will not only help students academically, but help enhance their professional soft skills. Please visit www.grad.uni.edu to explore our many offerings!

Here are a few tips for a successful year at UNI, especially for our new students:

1. Get acquainted with the campus, learn about resources and how you can access them. Remember to ask your advisor, graduate coordinator, your professors, or the staff at the Graduate College.

2. Utilize valuable resources such as the Rod Library, the Academic Learning Center, and student computer centers.

3. Look for opportunities to present your research or creative work. Faculty members are often able to direct you to additional opportunities related to your particular program.

4. Keep your resume or vitae updated, add any summer experiences and make the transition from undergraduate to graduate experiences.

5. Get involved beyond the classroom, on campus, or within the Waterloo/Cedar Falls community – get engaged.

Have a wonderful semester! If you have questions about graduate school, feel free to contact me or one of the staff members in the Graduate College (www.grad.uni.edu/staff).

Sincerely,

Kavita Dhanwada
Dr. Wendy Marie Hoofnagle is an Associate Professor in the Department of Languages and Literatures. This semester she is teaching undergraduate courses in Old English, Humanities I, and Survey of English Literature. Hoofnagle studied at the State University of New York at Potsdam where she earned a Bachelors in English with a minor in French. She then earned her Master’s degree in Comparative Literature with a concentration in English, French, and feminist theory from Binghamton University in New York. She took a break from the educational scene and got married in 1994 and had two children. She returned in 2002 to earn her PhD in Medieval Studies with concentrations in English, French, and Scandinavian studies from the University of Connecticut.

Upon graduating with her PhD in 2008, Hoofnagle was hired as an Assistant Professor at the University of Northern Iowa. She was thrilled when she got an offer from UNI because this program was similar to her program at Potsdam and the position gave her the opportunity to work with other teacher scholars. “I was excited that I got the opportunity to teach courses like Old English, which is not typically a course that is offered at other institutions anymore,” Hoofnagle states. Prior to returning for the PhD at the University of Connecticut and coming to UNI, Hoofnagle worked as an adjunct professor, where she taught various writing courses at the community college level.

Hoofnagle is very active within her department as well as the academic world more generally: she served as the President of the Society for Medieval Feminist Scholarship for two years and then was selected for the Editorial Board as an associate editor for its scholarly journal, the Medieval Feminist Forum, for which she was chosen as the General Editor in May of 2016. She has also been a part of the Society’s Advisory Board since 2006.

Some exciting news that Hoofnagle would like to share with the entire UNI community is that she has a new book coming out this fall entitled, *The Continuity of the Conquest: Charlemagne and Anglo-Norman Imperialism*. In this book, Hoofnagle corrects the oversights of the many scholarly arguments regarding the Normans and their influence, especially with regard to their approach to kingship. Some of her newer research work deals with student-athletes and is thankful for the positive working relationships she has built. One of Eggers’ biggest influences throughout her time here has been Jean Berger, former Senior Woman Administrator. “She was a huge advocate for me, she really pushed me and challenged me professionally. It was great to be able to learn from her.” Away from the job, Eggers spends her time with her husband and her 8 month-old, Kiaya. They enjoy attending concerts and doing outdoor activities, especially kayaking.

*Article continues on the next page.*
with studying the idea of womanly wisdom in the Middle Ages, which she considers to be knowledge that was perpetuated by and for women, including homespun wisdom and gynecological medicine, for which she has recently done research on the history of women's medicine.

Hoofnagle has a new role as the Women’s & Gender Studies Graduate Program Coordinator and some of her responsibilities include advising graduate students academically and professionally. She is also involved in recruitment. She is proud to say that this fall, the department has five new students in the cohort, three of whom are international students. This new role was attractive to her because it combines her interest in graduate mentorship and feminist service. In addition, Hoofnagle noticed that students were struggling with the professionalization process during their graduate careers and wanted to assist students in this process. She has been a professor at the University of Northern Iowa for eight years and she absolutely enjoys what she does for a living.

**CURRENT FACULTY PROFILE CONTINUED**

**STEM CHATS**

Faculty, staff and community partners are invited to participate in Monthly STEM Chats, informal gatherings of those interested in science, technology, engineering and mathematics research, education and careers. Meetings will be from noon to 1 p.m., the second Thursday of each month (except January), in 282 LIB. Meetings will include discussion of a monthly topic and the sharing of upcoming events and resources from across campus and the community. All are welcome and can bring a lunch. September’s topic was UNI STEM Ambassadors.

October STEM Chat: “Opportunities On and Off Campus” with Phillip Plourde and Carolina Coronado-Park on Thursday, October 13th. They will share how faculty and staff can become involved in CIEP, other on-campus international opportunities and opportunities abroad. There will be information about resources and programs that help faculty connect with colleagues in other countries, UNI’s current international partners and more.

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**On June 29, 2016, three teams of UNIBusiness MBA students, who spent six months consulting for area businesses, presented their final capstone project to faculty, staff and business professionals. This consulting project serves as the final requirement for UNI’s MBA program, and the teams presented their written recommendation reports to their clients.**

“Our MBA students consistently credit the Capstone experience for helping them pull together everything they’ve learned over the MBA program. It’s that integration of coursework, along with application to real issues faced by a regional business that crystallizes everything that they’ve learned,” said Dale Cyphert, Associate Professor of Management and MBA capstone facilitator.

Cat Weaver, Mike Nguyen, and Michael Adams worked with PMW (Precision Metal Works), a regional company that supplies high quality standard and custom parts washers. The company wanted to expand its sales efforts, and sought advice about which of its current product offerings to focus on and how to best structure the effort, choosing between expanding its current distribution network or developing an in-house sale team. Chris Schrage, Instructor of Marketing and Global Opportunities Coordinator was the team’s mentor.

Kong Chen, Madiha Ahsan, and Suyi Ma worked with Kryton Engineered Metals Inc., a leader of spun metal component and fabrication parts located in Cedar Falls, Iowa. The company’s customers expect to see enormous growth over the next few years, and the client asked for a growth management plan to ensure that production, manpower, and managerial expertise will be in place. Sarah Rosol, Instructor of Management, was the team’s mentor.

Kim Fettkether, Carole White, Laura Connor, and Ji Zhu worked with Wheaton Franciscan Healthcare, a local faith-based, not-for-profit, comprehensive medical/surgical health care provider offering acute levels of medical care. Offering the first urgent care centers in town, Covenant Clinic wanted to optimize its Convenient Care Express location inside the Cedar Falls HyVee. Matthew Bunker, Professor and Dept. Head of Marketing, was the team’s mentor.

The MBA Capstone Conference was an all-day event at which these teams presented their recommendations to faculty, executive reviewers, and students. “The consulting services provided by our MBA candidates are built on a solid foundation, and this opportunity to share that expertise with small and mid-sized businesses across Iowa is what makes UNI’s MBA program unique,” Cyphert added. Those in attendance were able to evaluate how well the result correlated with each organization’s goals.

Evaluators in attendance included Dan Beenken, Katherine Cota, and Randy Pilkington from UNI Business and Community Services; Elkin Gomez and Carlos Mario Betancur Hurtado from Universidad EAFIT; Kathy Grete, Compensation Manager, CUNA Mutual Group; professors Dan Power, Raj Rajendran, Karthik Iyer, Lisa Jepsen, Katie Hillyer, and Michelle Rourke from the College of Business Administration.

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**MBA CAPTSTONE CONFERENCE**

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The Graduate Student Commencement Ceremony was held on Saturday, May 7, 2016 in the McLeod Center. University President Dr. William Ruud presided and Dr. Barbara Cutter, Associate Dean for Graduate Academic Affairs, served as Commencement Marshall. Dr. Kavita Dhanwada, Associate Provost for Academic Affairs and Dean of the Graduate College, presented the candidates.

Dr. Dhanwada introduced Emily Francis, Master of Arts in Geography, who gave the Student Address. Francis’ 2016 Commencement Address is as follows:

“Let me first congratulate my fellow graduates this evening and thank everyone in the audience, our professors, staff, friends and family for joining us this evening to celebrate our achievements. I came to UNI from my undergrad in New Hampshire to research the Arctic as master’s student in geography, with the ARCTICenter. My thesis stemmed from my research assistantship, which focused on migration patterns of wild reindeer in Russia.

You heard that correctly, I came from New England to Iowa to study reindeer. Anyone who knows me, knows this work has become my passion, and that I may have become a little reindeer crazy in the process. Which would explain why, as my thesis has been coming to a close, it occurred to me that graduate students are kind of like migrating reindeer, and that UNI is our educational feeding ground. Some of us travelled oceans and continents, and some less than a mile, but we all gathered to learn and grow on this beautiful campus in Cedar Falls, Iowa. During the winter season, reindeer depend on lichen as a food source in the barren tundra, where they have to dig through the snow and ice to feed. The graduate degrees that we have completed are not unlike winter snow drifts layered with ice.

It takes recognizing the need for help and to help others to dig through the difficult times, but in the end we were nourished by reaching our food source. Lichen looks like moss, seemingly insignificant, but filled with essential nutrients, which represents reaching each small step toward completing that goal of a degree.

Through struggles, trials and triumphs of rigorous study we have bonded and become a family. We have weathered the winter storm of theses, recitals, dissertations, projects, and exams. We have attended classes, department colloquiums, and presented at conferences and to our peers.

And somehow, we find ourselves here, waiting to walk across the stage to receive our diplomas and celebrate our collective completion of our hard work and success. Some of us will travel back across oceans and continents and others will join this wonderful community or others nearby.

But today is proof that we made it through the deep winter,
and that spring has sprung in so many ways. Just in these last few weeks, as you’ve buckled down to finish the last touches of projects and presentations, the snow has melted and trees and flowers have bloomed. Our frozen world has melted away to reveal the bounty of spring. Each budding tree is a new opportunity and we turn our gaze beyond UNI, to the world beyond our feeding ground.

Just as we migrated here to fill ourselves with knowledge, we are each about to take a new direction and leave for a new season. But it is important to remember, UNI will always be our feeding ground. Which is why I see more than a group graduates in front of me, I see a herd.

We are a herd. A herd of grad students. A herd that has fed together and is about to disperse into the world to use the knowledge gained at UNI to succeed. But no matter how far you go, remember that you always have a home here at the University of Northern Iowa. I encourage you to return and return often.

Think of the winter season, it may have ended for us, but for others it has only begun. We are not a herd alone, but part of a constantly growing family, which we will always be a part of. So remember to visit and be active alumni. Hold your experiences in your heart and wear your purple and gold proudly. Good luck in your future endeavors and remember that in your heart is the determination of a panther, but your UNI family the size of a herd. Congratulations to the herd of 2016.”

Following graduation, Francis worked as a Directorate Resource Assistant Fellow (DFP) with the US Fish and Wildlife Service at the Gulf of Maine Coastal Program office in Falmouth Maine for 11 weeks. She analyzed and assessed Landscape Conservation Design needs and tools for the Gulf of Maine basin. In October Francis started a temporary position with US Fish and Wildlife as a Spatial Analyst for the North Atlantic Landscape Conservation Cooperative (NALCC). In this position, she manages and analyzes spatial data for the Northeastern US for specific NALCC projects. According to Francis, “Due to this amazing opportunity through the DFP program, I have decided to put off going on for a PhD for a few years with the plan to work for the federal government. However, a PhD is not far away in my future! I am already missing academia, but am working to diversify my career path and experiences.”
Jamie Farley is the Graduate Assistant for Graduate Professional and Community Development. Farley is a first year graduate student in the Postsecondary Education: Student Affairs program. She was awarded her undergraduate degree in May 2016 from Wartburg College in Waverly, Iowa, majoring in Business Administration with concentrations in Marketing and Management.

Farley had the opportunity to work within student services in the Wartburg Admissions Department during her undergraduate studies while also competing on the women’s volleyball team. Through her experiences in student services and in collegiate athletics, Farley discovered her passion to pursue a career in athletic academic advising. She believes that athletics give students an opportunity to become leaders and positive role models in their communities, and she wants to help impact the development of these student-athletes within the classroom. Farley is excited to begin the Postsecondary Education: Student Affairs program as it will diversify her experiences and provide her with many opportunities. After graduation, Farley plans to pursue a career in athletic academic services at a university and hopes to enrich the college experience of student-athletes.

Farley is also looking forward to working in the Graduate College and getting to know the faculty, staff and other graduate students. In her free time she enjoys spending time with family and friends, reading, exercising and crafting.

Angela Ross is the Graduate Assistant for Online Content and Electronic Media. Ross is a first-year graduate student in the Communication Studies-Public Relations program. She hails from Kansas City, Missouri and attended Bethune-Cookman University in Daytona Beach, Florida, where she earned her undergraduate degree in English. After graduating, she moved back to Kansas City and worked as a Disability Determination Counselor for the State of Missouri, assisting people who applied for state-funded disability benefits.

Ross has always been interested in the field of communications and therefore completed a certificate in graphic design at the Kansas City Art Institute. Earning this certificate helped her develop creative design skills and taught her how to use design to effectively communicate an idea.

Ross worked in the field of public service for six years before deciding to return back to school to earn her graduate degree. She chose UNI to further her education because the Communication Studies program offered a concentration in public relations and the campus is just the right size. Additionally, Ross was excited about being offered a graduate assistantship in the Graduate College and hopes that her prior work and educational experience will be beneficial in her new role.

In her free-time she enjoys reading a good novel, organizing family outings, taking a Zumba class, and watching movies. After graduation Ross plans to obtain a professional position in the field of communications/public relations.
Psychology Students Presenting at National and International Conferences

Three psychology graduate students’ research projects were presented at national and international conferences over the summer.

Manuel Salinas presented his poster titled “How People React to Rejection: Perceptions of Fairness and Motivated Responses to Possible Discrimination” at the annual convention of American Psychological Association (APA) in Denver, Colorado, from August 4-7, 2016. The APA is one of the largest organizations of psychologists in the United States with over 117,500 members. The conference draws researchers, teachers, and students from United States and beyond to network, collaborate, and advance research in the field.

Lijing Ma presented her poster titled “Do Relational Standards Add to the Investment Model in Predicting Commitment in Romantic Relationships?” at the biennial conference of the International Association for Relationship Research (IARR) in Toronto, Canada from July 20-24, 2016. The IARR is an interdisciplinary organization with members from six continents. The conference encourages collaboration among social scientists to improve individual relationships. Lijing is also the recipient of the “Reduced Conference Registration Award” and was awarded $100 towards the cost of registration to support her attendance at the conference.

Salomi Aladia presented her poster titled “Gender Differences in Helping and Receiving Help Across the United States and India” at the 23rd Congress of the International Association for Cross-Cultural Psychology in Nagoya, Japan, from July 30-August 3, 2016. The IACCP conference invites researchers from across the world to exchange ideas related to culture and psychology. Salomi is also the recipient of “Witkon-Okonji Travel Award” from IACCP and received $1750 to support her attendance at the conference.

Social Work Awards Event

The Social Work Department held their annual Awards and Scholarships Ceremony on Wednesday, April 27, 2016. Faculty, staff, students, university partners, community partners and family turned out to recognize the following students in accepting their awards and scholarships:

Diane H. Schaeffer Scholarship - Jonna Gutknecht
Mary L. Padovan Endowed School Social Work Scholarship - Breann Kragt and Lanna Whitlock
Robert A. Schneider Award for Excellence in Leadership - Courtney Klein
Substance Abuse Award - Colleen Borczon
Robert Runkle Endowed Scholarship in Social Work - Nicholas Rosauer and Micah Webb
Anna McCullagh Memorial Endowed Scholarship - Brittany Greig, Elizabeth Keesy and Jamie Lindstrom
Dr. James McCullagh Award for Academic Excellence - Marie Nielsen
Outstanding Graduate Research Paper Award - Anna Nelson
Outstanding Graduate Service Award - Vanessa McNeal
Community Partnership Recognitions - Allen Hospital, Family and Children’s Council, Pathways Behavioral Services

New Graduate Student Orientation (NGSO), Fall 2016

NGSO was the first in the “Building Graduate Community” 2016-2017 Professional Development Series sponsored by the Graduate College. The event included opportunities to learn about resources to support graduate student success. Fifteen offices participated in the Campus Resource Fair, followed by a welcome by Dr. Kavita Dhanwada, Dean of the Graduate College. The agenda also included presentations by Christina Geweke, Assistant Director of Business Operations, on how students can manage their University bill (u-bill) and Dr. Leila Rod-Welch, Outreach Services Librarian at Rod Library, on using Rod Library like a graduate student. This event was held on August 25, 2016 in the Maucker Union Ballroom.

To read all of the event handouts, please visit www.grad.uni.edu.
New Certificate in Ethics in Research and Scholarship

This year the Center for Academic Ethics (CAE) will be offering a Certificate in Ethics in Research and Scholarship for graduate students. Students who participate in a specified number of research ethics and other activities and events sponsored by the Center for Academic Ethics and its partners will be eligible to receive a non-credit certificate documenting your participation in the program.

SAVE THESE DATES: FALL 2016 ETHICS EVENTS

October 3: RCR 2-Ethical Issues in Quantitative Research
October 13: RCR 3-Ethical Issues in Scholarship: Gender, Ethnicity, & Power
October 20: RCR 4-Avoiding Plagiarism
October 26: What If we had an actual democracy in the U.S.?
October 31: RCR 5-Exploring Cross-Cultural Ethics in Scholarship
November 30: What If technology could give us an abundance economy?
TBA: Ethics Movie Night (led by Business Ethics Chair)

Additional information, including locations, facilitators, and agendas are provided on the web at www.uni.edu/ethics/current-events. All day-time events require advance registration. To register, visit http://www.uni.edu/ethics/registration.

These events are hosted by the Office of Research & Sponsored Programs, Center for Academic Ethics, UNI Business Ethics Chair, Graduate College, Academic Learning Center, and Honors Program.
For further information, email: anita.gordon@uni.edu.

CSBS Research Conference

The College of Social and Behavioral Sciences was very pleased to host the 23rd Annual CSBS Research Conference on Saturday, April 9, 2016. Over one hundred students, faculty, staff and visitors attended the poster sessions, oral presentations, panel discussions, and keynote speech.

The annual conference serves as a venue for the presentation of the scholarly research of undergraduate and graduate students from universities and colleges throughout Midwest. The conference provides these undergraduate and graduate students the opportunity to exchange ideas, present research, and learn about recent developments in the social sciences ranging from anthropology to textiles and apparel.

This year, the historic Great Reading Room in Seerley Hall was the location for the two poster sessions at which students displayed thirty-eight posters. In Sabin Hall, eighteen students gave oral presentations. The conference also offered two discussion panels on student internships and student research opportunities.

The keynote speaker was Christopher Chapp, Assistant Professor of Political Science at St. Olaf College. Professor Chapp spoke about his research on how political candidates intentionally obscure various policy positions to ensure them electoral success.
FALL & SPRING 2016 IMPORTANT DATES
FOR THESIS & DISSERTATION WRITERS

August 22  Instruction Begins
August 23-  Preview must be scheduled and completed
          October 21
November 4  Thesis/dissertation due in Graduate College to be eligible for Fall graduation
November 10 Application for Fall graduation due through Student Center to avoid late fee and to ensure inclusion in the commencement booklet
December 16 Final deadline for application for Fall graduation; Notification of completion of research paper/comprehensive exams due from department to the Graduate College and Registrar's Office
December 17 Commencement
January 9   Instruction Begins
January 9-  Preview must be scheduled and completed
            March 10
March 24    Thesis/dissertation due in Graduate College to be eligible for Spring graduation
April 1     Application for Spring graduation due through Student Center to avoid late fee and to ensure inclusion in the commencement booklet
May 5       Final deadline for application for Spring graduation; Notification of completion of research paper/comprehensive exams due from department to the Graduate College and Registrar's Office
May 6       Commencement

LIBRARY STUDIES ALUMNAE

Two School Library Studies alumnae returned to UNI this spring to talk with College of Education faculty and students about technology integration. Teacher librarian Denise Shekleton visited on February 12 as part of an eleven-member panel of teachers from Howard-Winneshiek Community School District. Nine panelists were UNI alumni, with seven of these educators having earned graduate degrees from UNI. Read about Seamless integration: A team approach to technology http://www.uni.edu/coe/departments/curriculum%20instruction/school%20library%20studies/Technology%200/Howard-Winneshiek.

On April 7 and 8, Shannon Miller, UNI alumna (BA, Art Education, MA, School Library Studies) spoke on technology integration to classes in the College of Education and the Curriculum & Instruction faculty. From 2007-2014 Miller was employed by the Van Meter Community Schools in Van Meter, IA. As a teacher librarian and instructional technologist, Miller helped a small district transition to one-to-one computing and started making a worldwide impact in the process.

Miller is now a full-time educational consultant for technology integration and school library programs. She has 48,000 Twitter followers and has won awards including being named a 2014 Library Journal Mover and Shaker and a finalist for Best Individual Tweeter (Edublog). She was just listed on “50 Educators You Should Follow” on Pinterest and recently presented at an education conference in Oman Jordan. She spoke to C&I classes on classroom management, the PDS, educational technology and design, and the C&I faculty on technology integration. She also met with coordinators and small groups of division faculty while on campus.

These events were part the Curriculum and Instruction Department’s “Transformative Learning Project” sponsored by the UNI Foundation's Pallischeck endowment and the Faculty Senate Speaker Series Fund.
What is the UNI Grad Student News?

*UNI Grad Student News* is a monthly newsletter featuring news and updates concerning graduate education at the University of Northern Iowa. Each issue features profile stories on graduate students, faculty, and staff, and notable alumni. *UNI Grad Student News* is unique in that it publishes news submitted directly from graduate students.

How and what can I submit as news?

Submissions can be emailed to gradlife@uni.edu and can include information about recent conferences you have attended, academic awards and accomplishments, or upcoming departmental events pertaining to graduate students. We welcome your news! Submission deadlines for Fall 2016 and further contact information is included below:

- **October Deadline: 10/7/16**
  - Susie Schwieger: Supervising Editor (susan.schwieger@uni.edu)
- **November Deadline: 11/4/16**
  - Angela Ross: Co-Editor (rossaak@uni.edu)
- **December Deadline: 12/2/16**
  - Jamie Farley: Co-Editor (jarlary@uni.edu)

Where can I access the newsletter?

All past and current issues of the newsletter can be found at:

http://wwwgrad.uni.edu/uni-grad-student-news.
GRADUATE COLLEGE STAFF AND CONTACT INFORMATION

To submit articles for consideration in the UNI Grad Student News contact gradlife@uni.edu. With any questions or concerns feel free to contact the Graduate College staff listed below.

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