Throughout time, history has been preserved through writing, the spoken word and through fables and stories. In the last few centuries, history has been preserved through photography. The visual history of places and things can be fortified and preserved through photography, and that is exactly the objective of a new project that will be started here at UNI, FORTEPAN Iowa.

FORTEPAN Iowa is a visual digital archive of photos taken in Iowa in the 20th century. The project is intended to keep the visual history of Iowa alive as well as to allow for the use of these images for creative and informational purposes.

The project got its inspiration in Hungary, where UNI professor Dr. Bettina Fabos traveled two years ago on a Fulbright Scholarship. There she met one of the FORTEPAN Hungary founders, Miklos Tamasi. Tamasi and other FORTEPAN Hungary members had established an archive of 46,000 photos on their website with all of the photos being open source under a creative commons license. They named it...
Robert Washut, Professor of Music, will conduct the Texas ATSSB All-State Jazz Ensemble in San Antonio February 11-14 in conjunction with the Texas Music Education Association’s annual conference.

The Northern Festival of Bands is an annual honor band festival open to high school band students which typically hosts over 40 schools and over 250 individual students in a weekend long event. This year the festival will be held February 12-14, 2015. The event will feature performances by the UNI Wind Symphony and UNI Symphonic Band on Friday evening as well as Saturday afternoon’s performance featuring solo competition winners, the festival’s percussionist groups, Festival Concert Band and Festival Symphony Band.

The College of Business is sponsoring a contest for students to design an artwork for their new conference room. They put out a call for proposals and have selected five finalists. The finalists will be making presentations to the selection committee later this month and a winner will be chosen to receive a commission to complete the art work.

The UNI Department of Technology attended the 2014 College Industrial Conference held in Chicago. Professor Scott Giese traveled with four students including Aaron Baughman and Nick Bouska to the conference along with students from only 31 other Foundry Educational Foundation certified universities. At the conference, Baughman and Bouska were awarded CIC Delegate Scholarships, totaling $50,000 each.

The University of Northern Iowa announced that it has been designated a 2015 STEM Jobs Approved College by Victory Media, the leader in successfully connecting individuals in transition with education and career opportunities, and creator of STEM Jobs media, education and career resources for students interested in science, technology, engineering and math. The 2015 STEM Jobs Approved Colleges inaugural list is the first of its kind to rate universities, colleges, community colleges and trade schools on their responsiveness and relevance to high demand, high growth STEM occupations.

UNI STEM EPSCoR has opened 15 new summer camps with the help of additional funding.

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The Soul Food Museum is an interactive performance bringing to light the magic, politics, and ritual of an African-American Sunday dinner. A challenge to mass-mediated stereotypes of the Black family and Black life, “The Soul Food Museum” invites us to laugh, eat, and share. Learned in his childhood, graduate student DeRod Taylor prepares for us his own Sunday Dinner as we navigate Black life and the power of family. Conceived, designed, directed and written by DeRod Taylor.
Northern Iowa Bach Cantata Series
Friday, February 13, 2015, 12:15pm
McElroy Lobby, GBPAC
Members of the UNI Cantorei, Wind Symphony and Northern Iowa Symphony Orchestra will collaborate under the direction of conductor John Lee Wiles to present this performance as part of the Northern Iowa Bach Cantata Series. This event is free and open to the public.

Jazz Combos Concert
Tuesday, February 24, 7:30pm
Bengtson Auditorium, Russell Hall
Under the direction of faculty artist Chris Mezz and graduate student conductors, the School of Music will present a jazz combos concert. This event is free and open to the public.

Flute Choir & Flute Studio Concert
Wednesday, February 25, 8:00pm
Davis Hall, GBPAC
Under the direction of UNI professor of flute Angelita Floyd, the Northern Iowa Flute Choir and Flute Studio will present its annual concert. This event is free and open to the public.

Faculty and Guest Recital: Robert Washut, Alexander Pershounin and Eric Schmitz
Friday, February 27, 2015, 3:00pm
Studio 101, Russell Hall
School of Music faculty artists Robert Washut, piano, and Alexander Pershounin, double bass, will collaborate with guest artist Eric Schmitz, drums, to present this afternoon studio concert. This event is free and open to the public.

Faculty Artist Recital: Ann Bradfield, Saxophone
Friday, February 27, 2015, 8:00pm
Davis Hall, GBPAC
School of Music faculty artist Ann Bradfield will present a saxophone recital. Repertoire and collaborators to be announced. This event is free and open to the public.

School of Music Audition Day
Saturday, February 28, 2015, 8:00pm
Russell Hall and GBPAC
For more details on specific locations of area auditions or times, contact the School of Music office at (319) 273-2024.

Music Events04 05
continued from cover

FORTEPAN after the famous Hungarian film intended for photographic use. Fabos returned to the United States with the idea of creating a similar project.

“As FORTEPAN focuses on photographs of and by Hungarians, I thought to myself, wouldn’t it be great if there were other FORTEPAN archives, perhaps even one for Iowa? It was my understanding of FORTEPAN’s incredible value and unique interface that made me want to ask if replication was possible. I was thrilled when Miklos supported this idea,” Fabos said.

And so the work began on creating FORTEPAN Iowa, an American version of the Hungarian archive.

UNI Professor of Photography, Noah Doely is the FORTEPAN Iowa curator. Doely is responsible for curating the archive, which is a process of selecting photos based on their significance.

“If some images are included because of their historical significance, a recognizable place for example, others might have an interesting narrative quality, other times it’s something strikingly visual or some other ineffable quality it possesses,” Doely said.

Doely, like others involved in the project has high hopes for the impact after FORTEPAN is launched.

“I hope people will use it to learn about the history of Iowa and its changing landscape, and to think about the history of photography as one that encompasses the individual stories of ordinary people. I think people will be surprised to find out that their personal collections of photographs can have a larger cultural resonance,” Doely said.

As for the procurement of photographs, that is left to one of UNI’s newest academic programs, Interactive Digital Studies. IDS has students participate by bringing in their own photographs, conducting image searches in Iowa communities as well as scanning and uploading those images. “This is why we have such a beautiful range of photos,” Fabos said. By having students participate in Fortepan directly, they are also learning valuable skills.

“From a teaching perspective, being involved with building FORTEPAN IOWA is an amazingly tangible way to get students to understand important issues about copyright, the public domain, the Creative Commons, and the public web vs. the commercial web – all important topics in the class,” Fabos said.

Students also learn how to manipulate photos, work with web tools and build creative projects.

In the near future, Fortepan Iowa will bring in Hungarian Photographer, and member of FORTEPAN Hungary, Andras Toth. Toth will be assisting in the development of FORTEPAN Iowa and giving a lecture on Hungarian Photography sponsored by the UNI Department of Art on March 24.

YAGER AWARDS
Annual Yager Awards Event Yields A Memorable Experience

The Dr. Robert E. and Phyllis M. Yager Exemplary Teaching Recognition Award, established by the Robert and Phyllis Yager Education Fund for Excellence, recently recognized two Iowa teachers with awards.

Nominees are selected by UNI faculty members and are UNI graduates in at least their fifth year of teaching in a K through 12 classroom. Award winners are selected on the basis of teaching materials and student performance.

This year’s recipients are: Clayton Edwards, mathematics teacher from Grundy Center Middle School, and Lisa Chizek, science teacher from North Tama Elementary School.

The intent of the awards from the Yager Education Fund for Excellence Award is to recognize exemplary K through 12 teaching by University of Northern Iowa graduates. It serves a key role in supporting UNI’s leadership in preparing teachers.

Chizek was nominated by Jody Stone, professor of chemistry and biochemistry. Stone noted that Chizek, who earned her undergraduate degree in elementary education and her masters degree in science education at UNI, began her teaching career as a third grade classroom teacher and transformed into a highly effective science teacher. She also successfully lobbied her principal to increase the time spent on science instruction at the third grade level and incorporated activity-based, student-centered learning into her science teaching.

Edwards was nominated by Brian Townsend, associate professor of mathematics. A desire to improve his classroom practice and his students’ understanding of mathematics led Edwards to UNI’s Middle Grades Master’s Program. Townsend noted that Edwards is an innovator in his classroom through the use of technology and problem-based instruction.

Robert E. Yager, professor emeritus of science education in the College of Education at the University of Iowa where he taught for 50 years, received his B.A. degree in biology from UNI in 1950. Yager went on to earn his M.S. and Ph.D. degrees in plant physiology from the University of Iowa. His research interests have focused on student motivation and attitudes toward science.
GREG SMITH

Technology

Water is a resource that many take for granted in today’s world. It is a resource that can be manipulated for our use but also a resource that can cause headaches and sometimes great distress. Work must be put into protecting it and proliferating its safe use as a natural resource.

Greg Smith, a 2002 UNI graduate with a BS in Construction Management, is currently working for J.F. Brennan Co, Inc. based out of La Crosse, WI. Brennan is a marine construction company specializing in lock & dam construction, dredging and environmental remediation.

Smith’s time at UNI was extremely helpful to his development as a professional and “helped to provide the foundation for what I needed to enter the construction industry,” he said. His favorite memories from UNI come from his time in construction classes. Many of the friendships he formed there still remain intact today.

After graduation, Smith traveled from coast to coast for environmental projects. Many of these projects lasted anywhere from months to years. In time, he hopes to continue building things – something he says he will continue to do for the rest of his life.

However, environmental remediation can also be a very tricky business.

“Typically our clients are being forced by some regulatory agency to clean up the contaminated areas. Most of our clients used to see this as a liability with no value to their bottom line. Because they were paying for something they didn’t want, most of the projects in the industry would be delayed as much as possible to avoid the cost of the remediation,” he stated.

In the future, Smith hopes to continue his work at Brennan and expand the company to new markets while maintaining the company’s industry-leading edge. In his free time, he hopes to continue building things – anything he says, for himself, his family or others. He also finds himself enjoying fall and winter activities as the summer dredging season takes up a considerable amount of time.

His advice for his fellow alumni is to make two lists daily: The first should be what you need to accomplish that day, and the second is what you need to accomplish in the future. Lastly, he advises that everyone should “take two steps forward in the world.”

In addition, he has also helped develop a groundbreaking technology that is now an industry-leading process in transporting and installing materials such as sand and gravel in contaminated sediments for environmental remediation purposes. To go along with this patent, Smith is also working with a team to pilot an experimental capping plant using activated carbon. This project is also groundbreaking and he hopes to have testing completed by the end of the year and a full test by next summer.

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JAMIE FLATNESS

Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders

In academics, Flatness focused on the Department of Communication Science and Disorders (CSD) as her path of choice that would catapult her into the field she is in now. The Department of Communication Science and Disorders is accredited by the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association, which is a critical aspect of what the department has to offer. In addition, CSD offered courses that were hands on and involved students directly with real clients. This approach is uncommon, Flatness said, universities usually are not able to offer hands-on courses to undergraduates.

Armed with real-world knowledge and experience gained from her degrees, Flatness graduated from UNI in 2009 and completed her Clinical Fellowship at the Audie L. Murphy VA Hospital in San Antonio, TX that same year. Following the Fellowship in 2010, she returned to Iowa to begin work at the VA Central Iowa Health Care System. Flatness worked in outpatient, inpatient and home-based care services.

Overall, Flatness finds the work itself and the results extremely rewarding.

“It’s a major accomplishment when a patient can still say, “I love you” to a family member using their eye movements and a computer,” she said.

Many of the patients she treats have suffered from diseases that impair speech, such as Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis or deployment-related brain injuries. Even with challenges facing patients, treatment, hard work and rehabilitation can enable a patient to attend college and graduate.

Going forward, Flatness says that veterans will always have a place in her heart, and she will continue to offer hands-on courses to undergraduates.

“My goal in this career is to stay current with ongoing advances in the field and to always advocate for and improve quality of life for our nation’s veterans,” she said.

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JACOB SNYDER
Department of Mathematics

“My main passions, and it is the one I chose to pursue as my career choice. The actuarial science program at UNI has contributed much to Snyder’s success and he attributes his success to the two actuarial science professors who have helped him in passing the major actuarial exams as well as networking.

“Philosophy – the study of logic, reality and knowledge. It is an ancient art rooted in the cultures of antiquity and has been an integral part of thinking in every corner of the world, including a corner of Bartlett Hall here at UNI. Weekly meetings are hosted to discuss everything from the classic questions in philosophy to modern questions in current events. The philosophy club also hosts a number of events, including the hosting of seminars for UNI Philosophy and World Religions alumni as well as book sales.

The club was started in 2007 by now UNI graduates, Zach Paige, Joel Anderson and Margaret Holland. The club has stayed in its current iteration with weekly meetings and hosted events. Today, senior double major in Physics and Philosophy Corey Cooling and Philosophy major Michael Kelly lead the club, organizing the weekly meetings and planning events. “We meet weekly on Thursday nights, hosting discussions on topics ranging from the ‘classical’ philosophical questions to discussions related to current events. In addition, the leaders of the club understand our role in advocating for and recruiting students to the philosophy major. We work with the department and other student organizations in a variety of capacities to help publicize and demonstrate the value of the study of philosophy,” Kelley said.

The bread and butter of the philosophy club is of course the discussions themselves. Various topics are discussed, including, “the role of government and logical fallacies combined with current political issues such as torture or the NSA,” Kelley said. In addition, the Philosophy Club has also held joint meetings with UNI STARR to discuss philosophy and feminism. The partnership with UNI STARR is something that the philosophy club hopes to continue based on successful events in the past. One of these included a meeting held in Maucker Union’s Hemisphere Lounge.

“We discussed the pros and cons of the different approaches and the historical context of their development. We held the event in the hemisphere lounge with some pizza and had probably 40 people attend. After the presentation we opened the floor for discussion and broke into small groups to discuss contemporary issues related to feminism, philosophy, and their application to modern issues,” Kelley said.

In addition, the Philosophy Club also brings in philosophers to speak about various issues. Recently, the Philosophy Club brought in Massimo Pigliucci, a famous modern-day philosopher that teaches at the City University of New York.

“As a double major in physics and philosophy, it was rewarding to hear about his career progression and his perspective of the world,” Cooling said.

This semester, the philosophy club hopes to bring in David Bulwinkle, an associate professor of philosophy at Kirkwood Community College.
“Now I realize that the University is much more interconnected than I thought. I see people I know no matter where I go. Its comforting to know a friendly face isn’t too far away,” he said.

After Allen plugged himself into the university experience, he began work in the field of photography, which is also his passion. Being a BFA art major requires a tremendous amount of work, demanding long hours working to construct a body of artwork for the BFA show in the spring as well as work for a student’s portfolio. Allen is also preparing for his future beyond graduation by being a Photography Lab monitor as well as creating photography art books that he hopes to self-publish.

Outside of class, Allen is involved in the UNI Climbing Club which allows him to connect with students and be active. Being active is one of Allen’s great interests. He enjoys everything from rock climbing to camping and surfing. Every break in the academic year provides an opportunity for him to travel to places across the nation such as Utah and Colorado to climb. Allen is also a slackliner, an activity that UNI has made famous.

“In the warmer months you can find me slacklining with those crazy people you see by the library,” he said.

As for the future, Allen is grateful for the UNI art staff for preparing him for his career after graduation.

“Every professor I have worked with wants to help you become a better artist. They don’t show you how to properly “do art.” Instead, they take your strengths and make them better. We’ve all had teachers that just don’t seem to care, but I haven’t met any like this in the Art Department,” Allen said.

Allen hopes to become a freelance photographer after graduation, a career that he has experience with during an internship in Minneapolis last summer.

“I did an internship with a couple from Minneapolis who take images for New York Times, Wall Street Journal, Target, and Verizon. I would love to travel as much as they do. They always were shooting interesting stories for their clients.”

“Photography is art of capturing a moment, a moment in time that will never be seen until that photo is reproduced. Justin Allen, a senior Photography major is approaching the final moments of his college career now in his second to last semester at UNI. Allen has pursued his BFA in photography and hopes to participate in the annual second semester BFA show in the UNI Gallery of Art to close out a very productive college career.

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WOMEN IN COMPUTING
Department of Computer Science

One of UNI's most recent organizations, but also one of its most important is Women in Computing. The goal of the organization is to bring women into the field of computer science through recruiting efforts, scholarships and service.

The movement of Women in Computing began earlier in the 20th century to promote equal opportunity in the field of computer science. Since its beginning, the movement spread across the globe and eventually materialized as a formal group here at UNI this fall.

Already Women in Computing has organized a trip to a conference as well as outreach events to bring female students into the field of computer science.

In October of 2014, Professor of Computer Science Sarah Diesburg traveled with six students to the Grace Hopper Celebration for Women in Computing in Phoenix. The Grace Hopper conference is the “world’s largest gathering of women technologists.” At the conference, students see research presentations and participate in workshops. The conference also included an extensive career fair.

“The trip was an incredible success. Each student that attended the conference wrote a summary letter about her experiences. For some students, the conference provided the extra encouragement and confidence they needed to stay in the computer science major. Other students were exposed to computing fields and careers, which were new to them. One student is now considering graduate school,” Diesburg wrote.

Following the conference in Phoenix, the UNI Department of Computer Science held a panel meeting to discuss the gender-related issues that still exist in the field of computer science. The panel found that there is an issue in the number of female computer science students enrolled. Nationally, the percentage of computer science degree recipients was 18 percent. At UNI, only 7.6 percent of computer science majors are women. The reason that Women in Computing works so hard lies in the revelation of these numbers.

While attempting to make a greater impact directly at UNI, Women in Computer is also hoping to make an effort at the grassroots level. Last October, Women in Computing sent students to lead workshops at the ‘Expanding Your Horizons’ conference, an event designed for middle-school girls to become more aware of STEM career options.

Going forward, Women in Computing is still waiting to become a registered student organization. The organization also hopes to continue to work to recruit and retain more women in the field of computer science.

CHAS AMBASSADOR VOLUNTEERS
UNI CHAS Ambassador Raises Funds for the Community

By Stormie Johanson

My name is Stormie Johanson, and I am a junior Biology major here at UNI. I grew up in north central Iowa in the little town of Swea City, where I was actively involved in my community and school. My involvement continued at UNI through being a member and officer of various clubs, becoming a Biology Ambassador, Student Admission Ambassador, and the College of Humanities, Arts and Sciences Ambassador and being a full time student. I tend to gravitate toward being exceedingly busy rather than utterly bored. However, after the past two years of living in the Cedar Valley, I realized I felt like I had not given enough back to my “second home” and community. Through much deliberation, I honed in on what I am most passionate about: aiding others and science. So, I put the two together and created a community service project.

With the help of Tri-Beta, a Biology club on campus, I am currently in the process of spreading the word and selling “punny” t-shirts (see design, right) to raise funds to purchase dissection kits for Carver Middle School students in Waterloo. The t-shirts are only $12 a piece, but the opportunities to supplement a student’s education are priceless. I am immensely grateful for the opportunity to proceed with this project. UNI faculty and staff have graciously assisted me throughout the many ideas and hoops. Without their passion for assisting students, I would not be where I am currently. If you would like more information, or would even like to donate and purchase a t-shirt, contact me at johanss@uni.edu. Impacting others is important to me, I hope by the end of my project I am able to impact young peoples’ educations for the better, just as others have impacted my own education.

WOMEN IN COMPUTING
Department of Computer Science

Student Ramya Varadaraju, left and student Michaela Leinen, right.

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UNI CHAS Ambassador Raises Funds for the Community

By Stormie Johanson

My name is Stormie Johanson, and I am a junior Biology major here at UNI. I grew up in north central Iowa in the little town of Swea City, where I was actively involved in my community and school. My involvement continued at UNI through being a member and officer of various clubs, becoming a Biology Ambassador, Student Admission Ambassador, and the College of Humanities, Arts and Sciences Ambassador and being a full time student. I tend to gravitate toward being exceedingly busy rather than utterly bored. However, after the past two years of living in the Cedar Valley, I realized I felt like I had not given enough back to my “second home” and community. Through much deliberation, I honed in on what I am most passionate about: aiding others and science. So, I put the two together and created a community service project.

With the help of Tri-Beta, a Biology club on campus, I am currently in the process of spreading the word and selling “punny” t-shirts (see design, right) to raise funds to purchase dissection kits for Carver Middle School students in Waterloo. The t-shirts are only $12 a piece, but the opportunities to supplement a student’s education are priceless. I am immensely grateful for the opportunity to proceed with this project. UNI faculty and staff have graciously assisted me throughout the many ideas and hoops. Without their passion for assisting students, I would not be where I am currently. If you would like more information, or would even like to donate and purchase a t-shirt, contact me at johanss@uni.edu. Impacting others is important to me, I hope by the end of my project I am able to impact young peoples’ educations for the better, just as others have impacted my own education.
Presented by Theatre Uni

7:30 PM February 26-28 & March 5-7 2:00 PM March 1

Strayer-Wood Theatre University of Northern Iowa