

# CSBS *kudos!*

University of Northern Iowa

A PUBLICATION OF UNI'S COLLEGE OF SOCIAL & BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES | SPRING 2019

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## Greetings!

This academic year has been filled with the numerous outstanding accomplishments of our faculty, students and staff; of which just a few are highlighted in this edition of Kudos.



As we complete the year, I want to give a specific thank you to the many long-time faculty and staff who will be retiring at the end of this year. As you read their brief biographical sketches on pages four and five, you will appreciate how much they have contributed to the success of our programs and departments. When I meet with CSBS alumni, I constantly hear their stories about faculty and staff who made a difference in their lives, and helped them shape the paths they have taken. Your exceptional teaching and remarkable mentoring speaks to our commitment to the UNI mission to provide students with the best education possible. CSBS excels in these areas because of your efforts and support.

So as they retire, I want to give a special thank you to Keith, Judy, Bill, Vickie, Mitch, Mary, Linda and Carol, and also express my appreciation to all of you for the day-to-day work that helps make CSBS a success!

*Brenda L. Bass*



# FACULTY ACCOLADES

**PITA AGBESE** (political science) served as an international observer in the Nigerian presidential election in February.

**KENNETH ATKINSON** (history) was a contributor in the newly published, "Encyclopedia of Women in World Religions" (S. de Gaia, editor; ABC-CLIO, 2019). Ken was invited to speak at a special classics conference in April, co-sponsored by the Israel Academy of Sciences and Humanities and Bar-Ilan University, held in Jerusalem.

**GOWRI BETRABET GULWADI** (interior design) recently published the article, "The Restorative Potential of a University Campus: Objective Greenness and Student Perceptions in Turkey and the United States," in *Landscape and Urban Planning*.

**MEGAN KENNEDY** (psychology/family services, 2017) was one of the co-authors, and the study included research by **JOHN DEGROOTE** (geography) and the GeoTREE team. The study, supported by a graduate school summer fellowship, was also presented by Betrabet Gulwadi and Kennedy at the International Association of People-Environment Studies (IAPS) conference in Rome, July 2018.

**GARY GUTE** (family services and The Human Potential Project), with Jennifer Waldron (Graduate College), Susan Alborn-Yilek, Denise Shares, and Kim Huckstadt (Educational Leadership and Post-secondary Education) published the article, "School Administrators' Experiences in a 6-Month Well-Being Program," in the *Journal of School Leadership*.

**ANA KOGL** (political science) presented her paper, "Easier Than Saying No: Domination, Interpellation, and the Fragmented Subject," at the Midwest Political Science Association Conference in Chicago, Illinois, in April.

**DONNA HOFFMAN** and **CHRIS LARIMER** (political science) presented their paper, "Redistricting Reclassification and Electoral Reform," at the Midwest Political Science Association Conference in Chicago, Illinois, in April.

**KRISTIN MACK** (sociology) and **GAYLE RHINEBERGER-DUNN** (criminology) recently published the article, "Predicting Burnout Among Juvenile Detention and Juvenile Probation Officers," in *Criminal Justice Policy Review*.

**EVAN RENFRO** (political science) became a member of the Iowa Network of Human Rights Academics and served as a discussant at the Iowa Human Rights Conference in Iowa City in April.

**JAYME RENFRO** and **EVAN RENFRO** (political science) presented their paper, "We'll Put a Boot in Your Ass, It's The American Way: Selling Chauvinism in the South," at the Southern Political Science Association meeting in Austin, Texas, in January.

**MARYBETH C. STALP** (SAC) was an invited speaker at the Sociologists for Women in Society Winter Meeting, February 2019, presenting, "(Fun With) Subversive Crafting: Complicating Femininity, Feminism, and the Domestic Arts." Marybeth additionally presented, "Girls, Cooties, and Trolls, Oh My!: Women in Popular Culture," at the Pacific Sociological Association Annual Meetings in Oakland, California, in March.

## FACULTY PROMOTIONS



**ELAINE ESHBAUGH**

Promoted to full professor of gerontology



**BINGQING LIANG**

Granted tenure & promotion to associate professor of geography



**CARISSA FROYUM**

Promoted to full professor of sociology

# AWARDS

## FACULTY AWARDS



**MARY E. LOSCH**, director of the Center for Social and Behavioral Research (CSBR) and professor of psychology, was named

the 2019 recipient of the John M. Kennedy Achievement Award given by the Association of Academic Survey Research Organizations (AASRO) for her service and leadership in academic survey research.



**KENNETH LYFTOGT**, emeritus faculty and lecturer of history, received the B. F. Shambaugh Award from the State Historical Society

of Iowa for his book, "Free Child of the Missouri Compromise."



**BOB NEYMEYER**, instructor of history, received the 2019 William J. Petersen/Edgar R. Harlan Award from the State Historical

Society of Iowa Board of Trustees. The award recognizes an individual, group or organization that has made significant long-term or continuing contributions to Iowa history.



**EVAN RENFRO**, assistant professor of political science, received the UNI Outstanding Teaching Award. Established by the UNI Bookstore, this award

is given to recognize the outstanding teaching of untenured faculty members. Evan also received an Apple Polisher Award from UNI's Student Ambassadors in recognition of teaching and mentoring.

## PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT ASSIGNMENTS

**SETH BROWN** (psychology), Spring 2020, "How Associative Stigma towards Depression Impacts Family Members"

**GARY GUTE** (family studies), Fall 2019, "Built for Flow: Ourselves, Our Families, Our Schools, Our Work"

**REINIER HESSELINK** (history), Spring 2020, "The Suicide of Takenaka Uneme"

**WALLACE HETTLE** (history), Fall 2019, "The Union Homefront: A History in Documents"

**ANA KOGL** (political science), Spring 2020, "Easier Than Saying No: Women, Domination, and Submission"

## SUMMER FELLOWSHIPS

**DONALD GAFF** (anthropology), July

**REINIER HESSELINK** (history), July

**QINGLI MENG** (criminology), June

## STUDENT AWARDS

### STUDENT LEADERSHIP AWARDS

*Greek 360 Award:* Caleb Gipple (public administration, sophomore)

*Diversity Matters Award:* Yakira Sanders (social work, senior), Scott Schwartz (social work, MSW)

*Servant Leader Award:* Caitlyn Walte (family services / gerontology, senior), Caleb Gipple (public administration, sophomore), Muhammad Shamir Butt (political science, sophomore)

*Outstanding Student Leader Award:* Akanksha Sanhi (psychology, senior), Gorpu David (psychology, senior), Siraj Acharya (sociology, senior), Tristan Bernhard (social science-teaching/political science, senior)

*Lux Service Award:* Yakira Sanders (social work, senior)



# RETIREEES



**KEITH CREW** joined the faculty of the Department of Sociology, Anthropology, and Criminology (SAC) in 1985. Dr. Crew earned tenure in 1992 and full professor in 2016. Dr. Crew served as department head of SAC for ten years. Dr. Crew's research centers on criminology and law, publishing and teaching widely in these areas. He was deeply involved in the sociology and criminology graduate programs at UNI (before their elimination). Dr. Crew has served UNI in many capacities, including as Institutional Review Board member, Carver Institute workshop leader, CSBS Project Awards Committee, and the Liberal Arts Core Committee. He was internship coordinator for criminology, and was on the Comprehensive Exams Committee in Public Policy. Dr. Crew contributes to the discipline of criminology, the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences and has reviewed manuscripts regularly for nationally recognized journals. At the community level, Dr. Crew works with state and local agencies, and works as a public scholar, communicating with local media on occasion. Dr. Crew retired from UNI in March 2019, and we wish him well as he enjoys his retirement.



**JUDITH DOHLMAN** began her career at UNI on May 4, 1977, as a staff member in the Office of the Vice President. Two years later, she transferred to the Department of History and, as she puts it, "the rest is history," and we are fortunate that it has been. Currently, there is only one faculty member in the department who was here when Judy arrived, which means that she is not only an able and experienced Secretary III, but she is also now something of a historical source in her own right. For forty years, Judy has provided a friendly greeting to all who entered the often-busy departmental office, worked to answer a host of routine and not-so-routine

questions, and done her best to help resolve innumerable student and faculty problems. The breadth of her knowledge and experience has benefited students and faculty alike as we go about our daily tasks, and have no doubt, on occasion, we failed to recognize how much we owe to her. After 42 years at UNI, Judy will be retiring this summer. We will miss her and wish her the best as she takes advantage of the opportunity to pursue other interests and spend time with family.



**BILL DOWNS** has been a professor of social work at UNI since 1992. From 1992 to 2000, he directed the Center for the Study of Adolescence, from 2000 to 2002 he was the graduate program director for the masters in social work (MSW) program, and served as interim department head of social work in 2012. Professor Downs is a prolific grant-writer and has had approximately 50 funded grants since coming to UNI. Professor Downs received the 2008 Time to Lead award from ICADV and the 2014 Award for Excellence from the Iowa Behavioral Health Association. He also helped develop Social Action, Inc., a community and social action agency that works with at-risk youth in east Waterloo, and Amani Community Services, the only culturally specific victim service agency for African Americans in Iowa. Professor Downs received the Social Action, Inc. Community Service Award in 2010, College of Social and Behavioral Sciences Veridian Credit Union Community Engagement Award in 2010, University of Northern Iowa James F. Lubker Faculty Research Award in 2010 and the Iowa Board of Regents Award for Faculty Excellence in 2011.



**CYNDI DUNN**, who joined the faculty of the Department of Sociology, Anthropology, and Criminology in 2000, is retiring from UNI on

June 30, 2019. Dr. Dunn earned tenure in 2006, and full professor in 2015. Dr. Dunn combines linguistic anthropology and psychological anthropology. Her work has been published in journals such as the *Journal of Linguistic Anthropology*, *Journal of Pragmatics*, *Ethos*, and, most recently, the *Annual Review of Anthropology*. Dr. Dunn has served UNI in many capacities, including serving on the CSBS Faculty Senate, the Dorothy Jean Ray Anthropology Scholarship Committee, being involved in the Women's and Gender Studies program, and, most recently, serving the SAC department as PAC chair. She received the CSBS Outstanding Teaching Award in 2010. She regularly contributes to both the LAC and the anthropology major, including her signature course, *Language and Culture*. Dr. Dunn is moving to Colorado Springs. In between hiking and wine tasting, she will also teach parttime at Colorado College. We wish Dr. Dunn well as she moves on to the next adventures in her life!



**VICKIE HANSON**, after having had two part-time, temporary appointments on the UNI campus in the late 1980s, became a permanent part of the UNI community in August 1989, when she joined the staff of what was then the Department of Home Economics. In August 1991, Vickie transferred to the Department of History, where she has been a hard-working and integral part of the office staff for the past 28 years. Her tasks as a Secretary II have been many and varied, not the least of which has been typing innumerable course-related documents for faculty who genuinely appreciate her contributions but occasionally forget that there are around twenty of them and only one of her. Despite the challenges of the job, Vickie has always been friendly, patient and committed to fulfilling all faculty requests in a timely fashion. Her work ethic and positive disposition helped make the main departmental office an efficient and hospitable place for all who pass through it. Vickie plans to retire this summer. We will miss her and would like to express our thanks for her many efforts on our behalf and to wish her the best as she enjoys the

opportunity to engage in other pursuits and spend time with her family.



After three decades of service to UNI, Adjunct Professor of Geography **DON PETERSON** will be retiring. Don's teaching career, including his tenure

as an outstanding social studies teacher at Marshalltown High School, spans 55 years. Don's teaching and expertise in education has won numerous both state and national awards. He won the Iowa Council for the Social Studies Secondary Teacher of the Year Award and then the National Council for the Social Studies Secondary Teaching Award. He received awards from the National Council for Geographic Education for both excellence in geography teaching and exemplary classroom lessons/presentations. Don has been integral to the College Board's AP Human Geography and has positively impacted many UNI students through his Human Geography courses. Although retiring from UNI, Don still plans to provide guidance for the Geographic Alliance of Iowa, where he has had a leadership role since its inception. We also look forward to his continued contributions to the Iowa State Geography Bee, for which Don has been the voice of the final round for several years. Looking ahead to true retirement, Don plans to use his extra time to focus on family genealogy research, creating wildlife habitat for birds and monarch butterflies, spending time with grandchildren, and traveling to Denmark for the wedding of a former exchange student. It will not be the same without Don Peterson in the department and we will miss his many contributions.



**MITCHELL STRAUSS** has worked in higher education in the field of textiles and apparel for over 35 years, 20 of which were at the University

of Northern Iowa. In addition to serving as a professor, he also served in an administrative capacity as dean of the graduate school at the Institute of Textile

Technology and department head of Apparel, Textiles and Interior Design at Kansas State University. Dr. Strauss' prior leadership positions in the textile industry, including technical and quality manager of the Tallasee Division of Mount Vernon Mills, in Tallasee, AL, as well as director of corporate textile research for Air Products and Chemicals in Allentown, PA, brought valuable knowledge and insights to the curriculum. While at UNI, Dr. Strauss maintained an active scholarship agenda. He co-authored a book on fashion change theory, co-edited an encyclopedia of ethnic fashion, and published several papers and encyclopedia articles on the meaning of dress in Civil War reenacting, which are often cited by other researchers in the field. He also served as the primary investigator on the National Science Foundation grant that funded the building of an extensive, state-of-the-art textile-testing laboratory. This lab has given hands-on experience to all textiles and apparel majors, many of whom have gone on to take leadership positions in the industry.



**MARY VER STEEGT** came to the University of Northern Iowa in the summer of 2014 after having worked a variety of jobs (office coordinator, telephone

interviewer, lay professional and parish worker at churches, and manager at a bridal gallery among others), the most recent having been at Wartburg College. Retirement plans include travel, gardening, numerous projects around her house and acreage, volunteering, and spending more time with husband, family and friends. She is also looking forward to no longer having to commute through snow and ice!



**LINDA WALSH** is retiring from the Department of Psychology after 44 years of continual service. After receiving her Ph.D. in 1975

from the University of Chicago, Linda came to UNI to teach Biopsychology and related courses. She was beloved by her

students for taking intimidating material—the brain—and making it accessible and engaging. In addition to the usual content, her syllabi include numerous suggestions for students to experience success. Although she began her research career investigating rat ingestive behaviors, she transitioned to the scholarship of teaching and learning. For many years, Linda was the co-advisor for the student Psychology Club and was instrumental in organizing the department's annual student research conference, which grew into a regional conference featuring student work from nearby colleges. Linda is very active in the Iowa Teachers of Psychology, where she has played a prominent role in organizing their annual conference for college, community college and high school psychology teachers in the state.



**CAROL A. WEISENBERGER**

joined the faculty of the Department of History at UNI in August 1989 as the result of the search for a historian

to offer courses in the newly created interdisciplinary Public Policy Program. In her 30 years as a professor of Public Policy and U.S. history at UNI, she has developed a commendable record of instructional, service and scholarly contributions to the university and the Cedar Valley community. Throughout her years here, in addition to offering a variety of courses to students in UNI's history programs, she has remained deeply involved in the Public Policy Program, annually offering the course History and U.S. Public Policy, as well as serving for six years as associate director of the program and as acting director on two later occasions. In addition, she has contributed to the evolving delivery of distance education in a variety of ways. Dr. Weisenberger's service contributions have been many, including not only service on innumerable departmental, college and university committees, but also her work in UNI's Lifelong Learning Program. We are fortunate to have had Carol Weisenberger as a member of our department, college, university and Cedar Valley community. We express our thanks and wish her the best as she retires from UNI on June 30, 2019.

# DEPARTMENTAL NEWS

## CENTER FOR VIOLENCE PREVENTION

### MIDWEST SYMPOSIUM ON MEN'S LEADERSHIP AND ACCOUNTABILITY AROUND #METOO



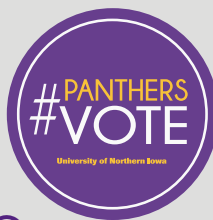
The Center for Violence Prevention hosted its first Midwest Symposium on Men's Leadership and Accountability Around #MeToo at the Iowa Historical Museum in Des Moines on January 28-29, 2019. Dr. Jackson Katz, co-founder of the Mentors in Violence Prevention (MVP) program, provided a keynote on Men and #MeToo: Possibilities and Perils in a Time of Change. Swedish police officer and United Nations representative on Sexual Violence in Conflict, Martin Permen, and violence prevention trainer and former Scottish police officer, Graham Goulden, provided a global perspective on efforts to prevent sexual assault and violence.

UNI alumna, **VANESSA MCNEAL** (MSW, 2017), presented on her work as a film maker and the release of her new documentary film, "Gridshock," which brings to light sex trafficking in Iowa. Local and national speakers presented on topics and themes associated with (toxic) masculinity, rethinking manhood, gender equality and bystander prevention.

"The symposium was a huge motivator for me, because it showed me how sexual assault is just as much a men's issue as it is a women's issue," said **JACOB CHAPLIN**, philanthropy chairman of UNI's chapter of Sigma Phi Epsilon. "We can use this and bring it back to UNI and motivate men, other than SigEp's, to speak out as well. Our generation is in the driver's seat when it comes to shaping the world into how we want it."

## POLITICAL SCIENCE

### #PANTHERSVOTE RECEIVES EMERGING INNOVATION AWARD



The #panthersvote initiative was awarded the Emerging Innovation Award as part of the Iowa Campus Compact Engaged Campus Awards. Student leaders **MATT JOHNSON**, **BRENNA WOLFE** and **NIKIA WATSON**, and faculty coordinator **JUSTIN HOLMES**, will be recognized on April 29. Due in part to #panthersvote, precincts near campus saw turnout nearly double in 2018 compared to 2014. In the recent special election for Senate District 30, #panthersvote contributed to 863 people voting during satellite voting on campus, a very large turnout for such an election.

## HISTORY

### DONALD E. SHEPARDSON CLASSROOM DEDICATION



Seerley Hall, Room 220 was dedicated to the memory of Donald E. Shepardson on April 17, 2019.

The Department of History was deeply saddened by the sudden loss of professor Shepardson on March 2, 2017, after nearly a half century of service to the university.

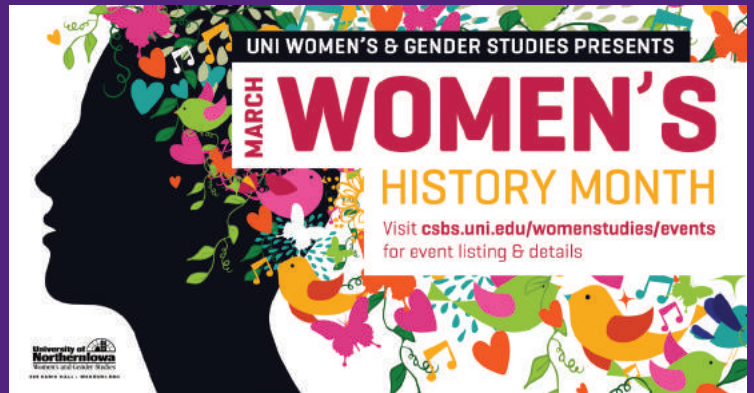
Teaching UNI students was Don's greatest love and that to which he devoted most of his time and energy. Don was a kind and generous colleague, a dedicated teacher, and a man of uncommon decency.

## WOMEN'S AND GENDER STUDIES

# WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

For the March 2019 Women's History Month, the Women's and Gender Studies program (WGS), along with offices and departments across campus, presented a variety of events that celebrated the contributions of women to history, culture, politics and society.

Highlights of the month included a reading group that discussed Cynthia Bond's novel, "Ruby." Ms. Bond was also the Women's History Month keynote speaker, speaking to a large group of students, faculty and community members on March 26.



Additional Women's History Month programming featured, "A 'Feminine Utopia': Mountain Climbing, Gender and Women's Rights in the Nineteenth Century," by Barbara Cutter (history) and the Diversity Colloquium, "Family Separation: The Impact of Immigration Policy on Children and Families."

## GEOGRAPHY

# UNI GEOGRAPHY HOSTS IOWA GEOFEST

Approximately 170 middle schoolers gathered on campus this past March to participate in Iowa's first GeoChallenge, a competition that asks students to create real-world solutions to tackle real-world environmental challenges.

UNI was one of 16 sites across the country hosting the challenge, sponsored by National Geographic and coordinated for UNI by the Department of Geography. The Challenge took place the same day as the annual Iowa State GeoBee, creating a "GeoFest" of geographical educational activities.

This year's GeoChallenge theme, "Tackling Plastic," invited students to investigate the urgent issue of plastic pollution in our waterways and oceans.

Teams of students used skills such as teamwork, research, innovation and critical thinking to address the challenge and then create maps, models and videos to help communicate their solutions.

Orange Elementary in Waterloo was this year's regional winner. Their project "Sporks to Forks" has already removed hundreds of pounds of plastic waste from their school and they are looking to scale up in their district.

GeoFest provides a direct pathway for students to continue their motivation and inspiration as future UNI students. The finalists in both competitions will receive \$200 scholarships if they choose to attend UNI.



# DEPARTMENTAL NEWS

## GEOGRAPHY

## NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC SOCIETY EDUCATION FELLOWSHIP



As a 2018 National Geographic Society (NGS) Education Fellow, **ALEX OBERLE**

(associate

professor, Department of Geography) had a particularly active and productive year that included driving almost 1,000 miles across Iowa in one week to visit multiple schools, testing his balance standing and presenting on a tour bus in Yellowstone National Park, working with NGS Impact video producers to write and host a video, and participating in the week-long National Geographic Explorers Festival.

Alex was one of five US/Canadian educators selected as an NGS Education Fellow because of his accomplishments and contributions in education. He was the only fellow hailing from higher education. Alex's primary role encompassed research, professional development and outreach related to the NGS Geo-Inquiry Process, a standards-based means for empowering middle school students to formulate their own questions about a local geography-

related problem or issue and then to take informed action to solve it.

Contributing to this, Alex co-led an NGS national institute in Jackson, Wyoming that included at least one top middle school science teacher from every state and contributed materials and expertise to an online course delivered to educators worldwide. As part of the experience, Alex was able to meet and work with some of the most innovative K-12 educators in the country and NGS Explorers doing amazing work in fields like journalism, technology, anthropology, oceanography and wildlife conservation.

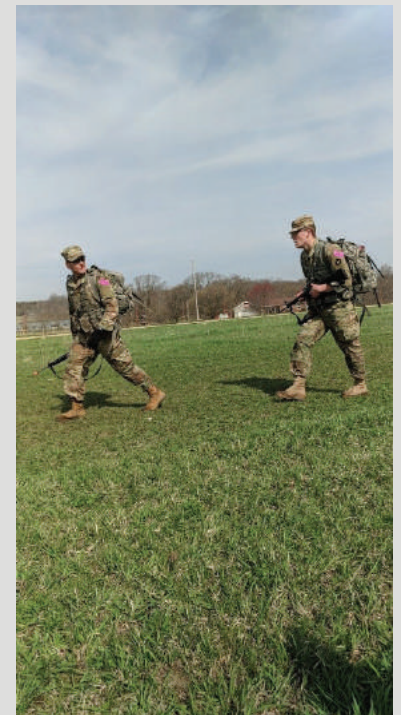
While the yearlong fellowship has ended, the positive impact continues. UNI and NGS recently established an official partnership to offer an online NGS Geo-Inquiry course for UNI graduate credit, and Alex currently is teaching the second of three cohorts of this class for this year. Alex also works with the Iowa Department of Education and teachers across Iowa to integrate Geo-Inquiry into their curriculum to help prepare K-12 social studies teachers for our inquiry-based new Iowa Core Social Studies Standards.



## ROTC

## RANGER BUDDY CHALLENGE

In April, the ROTC Panther Battalion sent nine cadets to the University of Kansas to compete in the 25th Annual 3rd ROTC Brigade Ranger Buddy Challenge. This was the largest group of UNI cadets to compete in this event, part of 160 teams from ROTC programs across the Midwest. The competition included a 15K forced march with 35 lb. packs, 12 separate skills tests and a 5K buddy run.



## HISTORY

**MATTHEW HILL** (history M.A.) has been accepted to History Ph.D. programs at the University of Kansas, University of Oklahoma and University of Nebraska and will be attending one of these programs in fall 2019.

**ROBERT UMSTED** (history M.A.) will be attending the History Ph.D. program at the University of North Texas in fall 2019. Bob also received his B.A. in History at UNI.

**NICHOLAS SLY** (history M.A., 2015), will be attending the History Ph.D. program at Michigan State University in fall 2019. Nick also got his B.A. in History at UNI and has been teaching English in South Korea for the past few years.

## SOCIAL WORK

Social Work faculty **STEVEN ONKEN** and **LIBBY FRY** accompanied over 25 social work students as they participated in the 25th Annual NASW Iowa Legislative Day on February 27. Governor Reynolds had just introduced children's mental health legislation that week, and the timing provided a wonderful opportunity for the students to discuss their support and concerns as to the state of Iowa's response to the needs of our children as well as other issues such as community re-entry from prison release and the health and welfare of Iowa based refugees. For many of the students, this was their first contact with a state legislator and after the initial meeting with their hometown legislator, the students were eager to visit with more legislators, including those of the Cedar Valley.

## CRIMINOLOGY

**MADISON FOLEY** (criminology) received the Garnet and Gold Law Scholarship from Florida State University, and will be attending law school this fall.

**RILEY THOMANN** (criminology) accepted a correctional officer position at the Iowa Medical and Classification Center.

## POLITICAL SCIENCE

**NATALIE DEAN** and **AUDREY SIMPSON** (political science) presented research at the Midwest Political Science Association Conference in Chicago, Illinois, in April. Natalie's paper, "The Impact of Female Judicial Commissioners on Women Applying to Judicial Vacancies," explores the link between the presence of women commissioners on merit selection panels and the likelihood of women applying to become a judge. Audrey's paper, "The Impact of Leader Characteristics on Military Alliances," was the result of her summer research at the University of North Texas's National Science Foundation program on Conflict Management and Peace Science. The paper examines whether age, combat experience, college education and presence of siblings have an impact on the types of military alliances a leader chooses to enter.

**ISAAK ESPERSON, JACOB HARBERTS** and **AUDREY SIMPSON** (political science) attended the U.S. Strategic Command Deterrence and Assurance Academic Alliance Conference in Lincoln, Nebraska, in March.

**SILVIA PELLIGRINO** (political science) presented her paper, "Can People Survive on Carrots and Sticks? Enhancing Quality of Life Through Financial Tools of Foreign Policy Following Sen's Capabilities Approach," at the Iowa Human Rights Conference at the University of Iowa in April. She also presented the paper at the Jepson Undergraduate Research Conference on International Economics at UNI in April.

**ZACH ZIPPE** (political science) presented his paper, "Just Another Brick," at the Iowa Human Rights Conference at the University of Iowa, in April.

## GLOBAL STUDIES

UNI Model United Nations competed in the Midwest Model United National Competition in St. Louis, Missouri, in February, and in the Harvard WorldMUN competition in Madrid, Spain, in March.

## INTERIOR DESIGN

**ANASTASIA SPYRATOS** (interior design) received her LEED Green Association certification this spring

## WOMEN'S & GENDER STUDIES

**JOYCELINE AMOAKO** (WGS MA) will be defending her thesis, "Women's Occupational Health and Safety in the Informal Economy, Focusing on Maternal Market Traders in Ghana," this semester. She has received a four-year scholarship and plans on attending the University of Waterloo in Toronto, Canada.

**ASHLEY MEYERS** (WGS MA) will be defending her thesis, "Born This Way: Reconsidering Trans Narratives," this semester. She has received a four-year assistantship and scholarship and plans on attending Oregon State University to earn her doctorate in the fall.

**SARA NAUGHTON** (WGS MA) received Women's & Gender Studies' 2019 Outstanding Graduate Award for her paper, "Female Grief for Civil Rights Martyrs: Emotional Labor As Activism." Sara will also be co-presenting the paper "Denaturalizing 'Natural' Disasters: Advocacy and an International Ethics of Safety," at Middle Tennessee State University's Creating Global Change: An Interdisciplinary Conference in Women's and Gender Studies in Murfreesboro, Tennessee..

## PRINCIPAL COMMUNITY SCHOLARS PROGRAM

Two CSBS students were selected for the 2018-2019 Principal Community Scholars Program, presented by Campus Connect Iowa.



**KENNEDY ELLIOT** (TAPP/marketing, senior) was selected for her work to build awareness about social justice on campus through the student-run Uprising Magazine.



**CALEB GIPPLE** (public administration, sophomore) was selected for his Readers Today, Leaders Tomorrow (RTL) initiative, providing low-income students with reading materials in the Cedar Valley area.

## ALUMNI HIGHLIGHTS

**MARIBEL GUEVARA-MYERS** (psychology, 2017) is pursuing a Masters of Arts in Mental Health Counseling with a specialization in addictions and emphasis on mind, body and soul at the Lewis & Clark Graduate School of Counseling Psychology. She also works for the Lewis & Clark Problem Gambling Services Clinic as a graduate and research assistant, seeing clients as a certified gambling counselor.

**ALEXIS HAWLEY** (psychology and criminology with emphasis in criminal justice, 2018) was accepted into the criminal justice program at Texas State University, with a graduate assistantship in the same department.

**JASON JONES** (criminology, 1995) was promoted as special agent with the Iowa Division of Criminal Investigation after serving 21 years as a trooper with the Iowa State Patrol.

**CLAYTON MILLER** (sociology, 2018) was the recipient of the Iowa Sociological Association Research Poster Award for her poster presentation, "You Sell Like a Girl: Entrepreneurship in the Quilt World."

**DANTE MILLER** (sociology, 2018) was accepted to the sociology PhD program at the University of Las Vegas Nevada.

**MARY POTTER KENYON** (psychology, 1985) is a certified grief counselor and program coordinator for the Shalom Spirituality Center. Her journal, "Expressive Writing for Healing," was published in April 2018. Her book on utilizing creativity in everyday life, which features a profile of UNI professors Gary and Deanne Gute, will be released in 2019.

# SENIOR SPOTLIGHT



**NATASHA PETERSON** is graduating in May with a double major in gerontology and psychology. Natasha was an exemplary SABR, Fruehling Scholar, served on the executive board for Psychology Club, and held several

teaching and research assistant positions. This fall, Natasha will continue her studies in the gerontology MS/PhD program at Iowa State University. Natasha would especially like to acknowledge Professor Elaine Eshbaugh for guiding her throughout her undergraduate career.



**YAKIRA SANDERS** is graduating in May with a major in social work. Yakira was a McNair Scholar, president of Ethnic Student Promoters, director of diversity for the Northern Iowa Student Government, peer advocate intern for

the Office of Diversity, Inclusion and Social Justice, and a recipient of both the Diversity Matters and Lux Service Award at this spring's Student Leadership Awards. She was also recently nominated for a Cedar Valley Women of Persimmon award from the YWCA of Black Hawk County. Yakira will continue her education this fall in the Higher Education and Student Affairs program at Iowa State University. She will also hold an assistantship in the ISU Academic Success Center, assisting first-generation students with their transition to a four-year university.



**SIRAJ MANI ACHARYA** is graduating in May with a major in sociology. Siraj was an exemplary SABR, an intern for the Office of Student Life, Resident Assistant for the Department of Residence, and a recipient of an Outstanding

Student Leader Award at this spring's Student Leadership Awards. This summer, Siraj will intern with Harvard University's pre-college program and then continue his education this fall in the Human Resources and Industrial Relations program at the Carlson School of Management, University of Minnesota-Twin Cities.



**KYLA FORD** is graduating in May with a major in social work. She was selected to give this year's commencement address for the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences. Kyla was a McNair Scholar and was actively involved

with the UNI Mental Health Counsel, Active Minds, NAACP UNI Chapter, A.C.T.I.O.N, Ethnic Student Promoters, Student Social Work Association and Phi Theta Kappa. She is currently employed in the Office of Diversity, Inclusion and Social Justice as a student program coordinator. She also has a full-time internship with the Education Services Center in the Waterloo Community School District. This fall, Kyla will continue her education at the University of Illinois at Chicago where she will enter the PhD program in Community Psychology with an emphasis in violence studies and prevention research.

# ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT



## JAKE RUDY

*Academic Advisor at the University of Minnesota, Twin Cities* "Two professors really shaped my time at UNI

and how I saw myself/my goals: Dr. Stalp in sociology and Dr. Kogl in political science. Both of these professors challenged me in unexpected ways and pushed me to achieve all that I could academically. They also helped me grow personally and served as mentors. I wouldn't be the person or professional I am today without their influence." (sociology and political science, 2011)



## DYLAN MULFINGER

*City Administrator, Oelwein, Iowa* "One of the best connections I made at UNI was

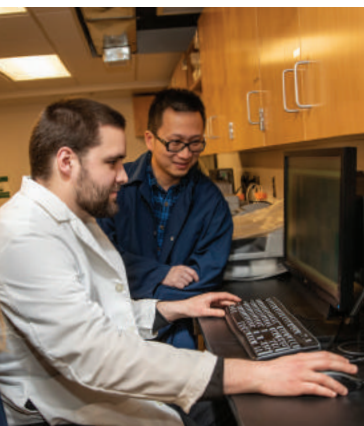
getting to know Professor Chris Larimer. He helped secure an internship and connected me with alumni from KU. Working with him on research and taking an independent study were some of my favorite academic memories. Professor Larimer was a great help during my time at UNI." (public administration, 2012)



## JENNY CONNELLY

*Academic Advising Manager, UNI College of Business Administration* "One

of my all-time favorite classes was Military History with Dr. Shepardson. He was an incredible professor." (history-teaching, 2005)



**CSBS** *Kudos*, published every semester, highlights accomplishments of faculty, students and alumni of the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences and makes colleagues in the college and across campus aware of the great things being done in CSBS. By sharing these ideas, interests and contributions, we strive to sustain a sense of community.