

CSBS *kudos!*

A PUBLICATION OF UNI'S COLLEGE OF SOCIAL & BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES // FALL 2022

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UNI

University of
Northern Iowa

College of Social &
Behavioral Sciences

Greetings!

As we reflect on the fall semester, I wanted to use this opportunity to thank you all for a busy and successful semester. To highlight a few important achievements that helped showcase our strong collaborations across the university this fall:



- / Professors within Political Science and History joined Philosophy & World Religions and Curriculum & Instruction to design a new UNIFI certificate on Civic Literacy, Engagement and the Humanities, with funding by a NEH Humanities Connections Planning Grant.
- / The Department of History, Department of Political Science, UNI chapters of the American Democracy Project and Phi Alpha Theta co-hosted a discussion on “The History of Reproductive Rights” for Constitution Day 2022.
- / The Department of Political Science once again held a strong, campus-wide PanthersVote initiative to promote student voter engagement for the 2022 midterm elections.
- / The Counseling program spearheaded a successful new support group series for dementia caregivers in the community, through Gerontology’s Dementia Simulation House.

This spring semester promises to be an important one for CSBS, as we look forward to our upcoming expansion with the addition of the new health school. While we prepare to welcome our new colleagues, please know we are still dedicated to supporting all of the great work in the departments, programs and centers of CSBS. Thank you for all that you do to help make our college thrive!

Brenda L. Bass

Kenneth Atkinson (history) delivered the paper, “Academic Work as Factory Work,” to the annual meeting of the Working-Class Studies Association (via Zoom). He was also an invited speaker at an international conference on the New Testament writings of Paul sponsored by the Comenius University in Bratislava, Slovakia (via Zoom). He served as a chair for both conferences. Atkinson also published several journal articles and book chapters, including studies of the earliest historical references to the Prophet Muhammad and his successors in ancient Hebrew, Greek, Latin, Syriac and Judeo-Arabic documents; multiple articles on ancient Greek and Roman history, and a study of first century B.C. poetic Greek grammar.

Tom Connors (history) won a Small Project Program Award from the Silos and Smokestacks National Heritage Area for his digital project, “Underground lowans,” that engages students in field research and writing.

Kyle Endres (political science; CSBR) published two co-authored articles. “A Randomized Experiment Evaluating Survey Mode Effects for Video Interviewing” appeared in *Political Science Research Methods*, and “Perceptions on HIV Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis Among Urgent Care Clinicians in the Southern United States” appeared in *Current HIV Research*.

Ana Kogl’s (political science) book manuscript, “Grey Sex: Heterosexuality, Power, and Everyday Domination,” is under contract with Polity. She also has an article, “Frances’ Earrings; Or, Responding to Everyday Heterosexual Domination,” forthcoming in *Feminist Theory*.

NEW FACULTY & STAFF

Chris Larimer (political science) published a book chapter, "Teaching Field Experiments," in *Teaching Graduate Political Methodology*, a volume in the Edward Elgar Guide to Teaching series.

Ramona McNeal (political science) and co-authors have a chapter, "Affordability and State Support for Higher Education," slated for publication in the forthcoming *Handbook of Research on Revisioning and Reconstructing Higher Education After Global Crises*.

Evan Renfro (political science) and Phil Hopper (communication & media) have a book contract with Lexington for *Take Another Look: Political Graffiti and Global Human Rights*.

Jayme Renfro (political science), **Justin Holmes** (political science) and **Emily Machen** (history), joined Sheila Benson (languages and literatures), Cara Burnidge (philosophy and world religions) and Morgan Anderson (curriculum and instruction) in designing a new UNIFI certificate on Civic Literacy, Engagement and the Humanities. They participated in a workshop on civic education and worked together to draft the curriculum for the certificate. Once finalized, it will enter the catalog in fall 2024. This work is funded by a NEH Humanities Connections Planning Grant.

Jayme Renfro (political science) received a UNI Textbook Equity Mini-Grant to support writing an open access textbook for introductory public administration courses.



Isra Hendon
Assistant Professor of
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Sarina Carrillo
Secretary III, Social Work



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Assistant Professor,
Social Work



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Human Sciences



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Kelly Jensen
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of Social & Behavioral
Sciences

IN MEMORIAM



John Somervill passed away
May 11, 2022.

John was born in Memphis, Tennessee. He received a bachelor's degree in psychology from Rhodes College; a master's degree in psychology from the University of Mississippi; a Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) in clinical psychology from the University of Arkansas; and a clinical internship in the Department of Psychiatry at the Ohio State University Health Center. He was a professor at Southern University from 1969 - 1975. John devoted nearly 40 years to the University of Northern Iowa and taught psychology from 1975 - 2013 and

served as the dean of the Graduate College from 1989 - 2004.

John understood that education was the gateway to success and personal advancement, and he was committed to helping others regardless of race or ethnicity. While dean of the Graduate College, he presided over the development of new interdisciplinary master's programs in public policy, women's studies and environmental science. He emphasized the development of recruitment strategies which led to the highest increase in graduate enrollment in the history of the university at that time. Much of his work focused on recruiting students from Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs).

John supervised numerous honors and master's theses and many of his students have gone on to successful careers in psychology and other disciplines. Even in retirement, John continued to be a friend, mentor and voice of encouragement.

After his retirement, John and his wife, Darcy, moved to Orange Beach, Alabama. They later moved to Inman, South Carolina to be closer to family. He was an expert gardener and cook. He enjoyed fishing, entertaining, varied creative endeavors and adoring his pets.

He is remembered for his friendliness, thoughtfulness, and genuine love for those around him. John had a quick wit and a (sometimes corny) sense of humor that lifted everyone's spirits and kept us all laughing.





B. Keith Crew passed away September 1, 2022.

Growing up, Keith enjoyed his mother's fantastic Southern cooking, playing competitive board and yard games, and being mischievous with his three brothers. His father was in the United States Air Force, and Keith fondly remembered attending school in Cape Cod, Massachusetts; Okinawa, Japan; Tampa, Florida; and Montgomery, Alabama.

Keith attended Auburn University at Montgomery for his undergraduate degree. He received his master's and doctoral degrees from the University of

Kentucky in sociology, specializing in criminology. He taught criminology at the University of Northern Iowa for 34 years, before his retirement in 2019. He enjoyed teaching classes, engaging with his students, and focusing on his research related to social deviance and equality in the courts. Keith served as chair for the Department of Sociology, Anthropology and Criminology; as a member and prisoner advocate on the Institutional Review Board; and was an active participant in several professional organizations. He was a regular attendee at noon basketball pick-up games with his colleagues and played in other basketball and softball leagues with his friends.

On October 17, 1992, Keith married Mary Jane (Mayhew) Rundall. He quickly adapted to the role of "dad" for her two children and enjoyed attending their athletic and music events, coaching, helping with homework, and guiding them through their teenage years and early adulthood. Keith was diagnosed with Parkinson's disease in

his 40's. Despite increasing symptoms over the years, he and Mary Jane remained active, going on fishing trips, traveling to Italy, visiting their children and grandchildren, attending sporting events, theater performances, and having game nights with their friends.

Keith learned to fish from his father and later fishing became a passion (obsession). He also enjoyed yard games, drawing, writing comic strips and other works of humorous fiction, and listening to an eclectic mix of music from the Mississippi delta blues to abstract jazz, from psychedelic and avant-garde rock to classical symphonies. Keith loved making people laugh and was known to crack bad jokes constantly. One of his most recent pastimes was playing very competitive games of Scrabble with Mary Jane during lunch. He was an ardent fan of the Alabama Crimson Tide football team - Roll Tide!



PanthersVote

PanthersVote, a campus-wide initiative led by the Department of Political Science and the university chapter of the American Democracy Project (ADP), saw another successful year of student voter engagement for the 2022 midterm elections.

Leading up to election day, political science faculty held weekly lectures to help educate students about the upcoming elections. Topics included a discussion about what was at stake for the congressional elections, election security, fact finding and the direction of Iowa politics.

A post-election analysis and reception was also held for students interested in discussing the results and their potential impact.

UNI remains one of the nation's top universities for student voter turnout, recently recognized on *Washington Monthly's* list of America's Best Colleges for Student Voting and as a 2022 ALL IN Most Engaged Campus for College Student Voting.

Phi Alpha Theta / History Lecture Series

The Department of History and Phi Alpha Theta co-hosted the October 2022 lecture, "The Politics of Pantheons: Gathering the Nation's Dead," delivered by **Thomas Connors** (history).

A History of Reproductive Rights

The Department of History, Department of Political Science, ADP and UNI's chapter of the Phi Alpha Theta History Honor Society co-hosted the discussion, "A History of Reproductive Rights," as part of Constitution Day 2022.

Panelists included **Barbara Cutter** (history), **Carissa Froyum** (sociology), **Emily Machen** (history) and **Scott Peters** (political science).

Geography Colloquium

The Department of Geography hosted the October 2022 lecture, "Drought, Water Management & Social Equity: Analyzing Cape Town, South Africa's Water Crisis," by Suzanne Walther, associate professor of environmental and ocean sciences at the University of San Diego.

Guest Lecture on Arctic Security

The Department of Geography, ARCTICenter and UArctic co-hosted the October 2022 lecture, "Traditional Security vis-a-vis Comprehensive Security: in Theory & the Arctic Case," by Lassi Heininen, professor emeritus of Arctic politics in the faculty of social sciences, University of Lapland (Finland); Lead, University of the Arctic Thematic Network on Geopolitics and Security Studies.

Our Stories: Women of Afghanistan

The Women's & Gender Studies (WGS) program welcomed the campus and Cedar Valley communities to a panel discussion featuring Afghan women and their stories. Panelists from various parts of the country and different backgrounds discussed growing up in Afghanistan and the current situation facing Afghan women today.

Panelists included current WGS student, **Hakima Afzaly**, and alumna **Hasina Jalal**, '21.

The event was co-hosted by CSBS, the Patricia A. Tomson Center for Violence Prevention, and the Departments of Geography, Art, Political Science, Languages & Literatures, Philosophy & World Religions and Communication & Media.

System of Support Conference

CSBS hosted the System of Support Conference, in conjunction with UNI's Educational Opportunity Center and the Center for Urban Education, in November 2022.

Attendees joined elected officials, local leaders and community practitioners to review historical policies, unpack current realities and share efforts at moving the Cedar Valley towards a society without violence.

CSBS was represented through sessions led by **Greg Zars**, '05, **Alysa Mozak** (PATCVP), **Jayme Renfro** (political science) and **Susan Langan**, '83. Members of the committee included **Jenny Becker** (social work), **Michael Fleming** (PATCVP), **Mark Grey** (SAC), **Amanda Jahnke Sauer** (CSBS) **Jayme Renfro** and **Kamryn Warren** (sociology).

UNI's Trauma-Informed Care Master of Social Work Program Attracts Students From Across the Country

When Umar Chohan heard about the trauma-informed care specialization for the University of Northern Iowa's Master of Social Work, he knew he had found the perfect program. There was just one catch — he would have to travel a thousand miles to start his studies.

“Social work is so broad, and everything I was applying to at the time was very vague and didn't have a specialization,” said Chohan. “None of them spoke to me the way that trauma-informed care did. I fell in love with not only looking at the psychological factors of a client but also the systemic factors on a traumatic level. We're learning how trauma affects the mind and body, how trauma is actually stored in the body and how it manifests on a systemic level.”



READ MORE | bit.ly/MSWstory

UNI's New Human Services Major Meeting Needs of Online and Place-bound Learners

Students interested in service-oriented careers now have another option to choose from as UNI just rolled out its new human services major.

Designed for place-bound students who have already achieved an associate's degree, this completely online program combines curriculum from UNI's five already-established human-services oriented majors — family services, gerontology, psychology, social work and sociology — to create a flexible and dynamic learning experience for students who are unable to attend in-person classes. The major is one of seven programs uniquely designed for the University of Northern Iowa at Iowa Community Colleges (UNI@IACC) initiative, a partnership between UNI and Iowa's community colleges to increase access to a four-year degree.



READ MORE | bit.ly/UNIHumanServices

UNI Graduate Counseling Students Host First Series of Support Groups for Dementia Caregivers

This semester, University of Northern Iowa students in the clinical mental health counseling graduate program had the opportunity to put their skills to work by facilitating support groups for caregivers of people with dementia.

For six weeks, students in Eran Hanke's advanced psychopathology class facilitated two support groups — one for caregivers of partners with dementia and one for caregivers of parents with dementia. About nine students participated in guiding the groups, which met every Tuesday at the Dementia Simulation House.



READ MORE | bit.ly/CounselingStory

UNI Students Find Flow Through Hands-on Research Opportunities

For more than two decades, Gary and Deanne Gute have dedicated a large portion of their research to the concept of flow.

Not only do they both teach about the subject in the University of Northern Iowa's School of Applied Human Sciences, but they also investigate the topic through the UNIFlowLab, which they co-direct, and showcase that research on their website The Flow Channel. It's a subject they also presented at the European Conference on Positive Psychology (ECP), which they attended this summer in Reykjavik, Iceland, along with two undergraduate students.



READ MORE | bit.ly/UNIFlow

Sociology and Interior Design Represented at Cedar Valley Society of Women Engineers Girls Conference

Sociology and interior design faculty and students held sessions for 5th-8th graders at the Cedar Valley Society of Women Engineers Girls Conference in December 2022, sponsored by UNI STEM Support Services and the Cedar Valley Society of Women Engineers.

Sociology students **Cassidy Byrnes**, **Christian Kreger**, **Tyler Werner**, **Jacob Varner** and **Mason Beckwith**, alongside professors **Marybeth Stalp** and **Kamyrrn Warren**, led participants through a game of "Monopoly is Rigged!," that helped the middle schoolers learn more about class stratification and the importance of sociology in a fun and interactive way.

Interior design students **Lily Munnik**, **Allison White** and **Alisa Friday** worked with instructor **Joan Birk** to help participants design their ideal "if I could have" bedroom. The process was designed to foster self-awareness, expression and exploration of future potential.



Women's & Gender Studies Students Present Thesis Projects

Saja Abd El Hai presented her thesis project, "Walls Talk: Murals of Female Martyrs in Palestine, Memory and Grief," at the National Women's Studies Association 2022 conference. Abd El Hai was also awarded the WGS Yang Travel award, which helped fund travel to Palestinian refugee camps for the collection of data on politically motivated graffiti, as part of her thesis focus.

Hakima Afzaly presented her thesis project, "Media Framing of Marriage Practices in Afghanistan," at the National Women's Studies Association 2022 conference, "Killing Rage: Resistance on the Other Side of Freedom."

Model United Nations Competition

The Model United Nations Competition team competed at the 2022 American Model United Nations International Conference in Chicago. Advisor **Brian Warby** accompanied the team of 13 students from across the university. In spring 2023, the team will compete in St. Louis and Paris.



Featured Seniors

Chloe Edgerton is graduating with a degree in social science teaching. Upon graduation, she will begin working as a Behavior Interventionist at Clear Creek Amana Schools in Tiffin, Iowa. View Edgerton's senior profile online at csbs.uni.edu/chloe-edgerton.

Lindsey Hubbell is graduating with a degree in environmental resource management. She is in the process of applying to the Peace Corps, and hopes to do something involving sustainable agriculture or forestry post-graduation. View Hubbell's senior profile online at csbs.uni.edu/lindsey-hubbell. She was also recently featured in a video for her major, available online at youtu.be/YvPCTWE9Wtc.

Owen Smith is graduating with a degree in social science teaching. After graduation, he will substitute teach at Waterloo East High School and begin applying for teaching jobs in the fall. Smith was recently featured in a video for his major, available online at youtu.be/qyt0FIkDUU4.



ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

1990s

'93 **Mark Howard**, BA, MPP '08, Waverly, was recently hired as the Cedar Falls Police Chief.

2000s

'02 **Laura (Williams) Booth**, BA, Cedar Rapids, was promoted to director of family philanthropy with the Greater Cedar Rapids Community Foundation.

'05 **Leslie (Rash) Berckes**, BA, MPP '09, Des Moines, was selected by the Des Moines Business Record as one of the 2022 Forty Under 40 honorees. She is the director of programs with Trees Forever.

'05 **Holly (Petersen) Wardlow**, BA, MSW '07, Waverly, is a licensed independent clinical social worker with Waverly Health Center.

'08 **James Crawford**, BA, MA '12, Washington, DC, served as a GIS Analyst for Polk County for seven years and then as a GIS Systems Administrator for the Library of Congress since 2020. He deploys, upgrades and administers ESRI Enterprise and related GIS software and contributes to GIS educational outreach for Library of Congress employees.

2010s

'10 **Jordan Dunn**, BSW, Waterloo, was named one of the Cedar Valley's 20 under 40 by the Waterloo/Cedar Falls Courier for 2022. He is a clinical director at Pathways Behavioral Services.

'10 **Julia Ruetten**, BA, Albuquerque, NM, is the director of government regulation and reimbursement policy with the New Mexico Hospital Association.

'13 **Lauren Hernandez**, BA, Saint Paul, MN, is a senior corporate business recruiter for Indeed.com.

'13 **Margaret Nervig**, BA, MA '15, Ankeny, received a Fulbright scholarship to the Slovak Republic and served as an English teaching assistant for the 2021-2022 school year.

'14 **Jessica (Woodward) Auel**, BA, Mankato, MN, is a mental health therapist at Gustavus Adolphus College.

'15 **Ty Smith**, BA, Waterloo, was named one of Cedar Valley's 20 under 40 by the Waterloo/Cedar Falls Courier for 2022. She is a fitness influencer at Bodied by Ty Fitness.

'16 **Carissa (Schneider) Barrett**, BA, Dubuque, is a victim witness coordinator with the Dubuque County Attorney's office.

'18 **Mirishahe Sylva**, MA, was featured on *60 Minutes Kosovo* in October 2022 for her work as an activist for local and international organizations, supporting and furthering economic development and gender equality in Kosovo.

2020s

'20 **Cade Olmstead**, BA, Ankeny, is a graduate teaching assistant in the department of English at the University of Vermont. He was previously a U.S. Fulbright researcher at the University of Ljubljana Institute of Philosophy at Slovenian Academy of Sciences Arts.

'21 **Hasina Jalal**, MA, Pittsburgh, PA, was one of three awardees to receive UNI's inaugural Gold and Bold Award in October 2022. The new award celebrates young alumni who have made exceptional educational, career or personal achievements since their graduation from UNI.

'21 **Josh Wilson**, BA, Cedar Falls, was named one of Cedar Valley's 20 under 40 by the Waterloo/Cedar Falls Courier for 2022. He is a senior publicist at Otter PR.

'22 **Nilvia Reyes-Rodriguez**, BA, Waterloo, was named one of Cedar Valley's 20 under 40 by the Waterloo/Cedar Falls Courier for 2022. She is the director of community impact and engagement at Cedar Valley United Way.



SNAPSHOTS





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.

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