

University of Northern Iowa

# CSBS *Statements*

A publication of UNI's College of Social & Behavioral Sciences

Spring 2012



## International Connections:

*CSBS alumna designated as first female American ambassador to India*



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*Cover:*  
**The Honorable Nancy J. Powell, the first female American ambassador to India, is a UNI history alumna.**  
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## **CSBS Statements**

Volume 14 Spring 2012

**CSBS Statements** is published annually by the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences at the University of Northern Iowa for its alumni and friends.

The College of Social and Behavioral Sciences encourages correspondence from alumni and friends. Send letters to CSBS Office of the Dean  
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Thanks to those who provided additional photos for *CSBS Statements*—cover: University Relations, Patricia Gadelmann; pp2-4: Melissa Ilg; p5: Mitchell Strauss; p6: University Relations, Patricia Gadelmann; p7: Rhonda Greenway; p8: Elaine Eshbaugh; p9: Andrey Petrov; p12: Kevin Boatright; p15: University Relations, Dan Ozminkowski, Annette Lynch; pp16-17: University Relations; pp18-19: courtesy photo

*Dean:* Dr. Philip Mauceri  
*Associate Dean:* Dr. Brenda Bass

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# From the desk of the Dean

“ Our success as a College is measured by our ability to ensure the success of our students while at UNI. Everything we do ultimately has to be about enhancing the educational experiences of our students.”



Most of you by now have heard of the difficult budget situation UNI has had to face over the last few years. This year has been an especially difficult year for us, as another round of budget cuts took effect. With a budget that was 25 percent smaller than it was just a few years ago, the challenges facing the campus were quite stark. Unfortunately difficult decisions needed to be adopted in a short time frame to meet this new financial reality, and these included the closing of the Malcolm Price Laboratory School and the elimination of numerous academic programs.

Cuts to CSBS programs have been minimal. Our programs have experienced significant growth in the last several years and our College is a major contributor to the Liberal Arts Core that ensures that UNI students graduate with the critical thinking, writing and analytical skills that are essential to long-term success. Overall, our efficiency and the hard work and dedication of our faculty, staff and students have been the most important factors in ensuring that the core mission and operations of the College are protected.

Even in the midst of this year's budget crisis, the College has moved forward with initiatives

and programming to enhance the education of our students, many of which you will see highlighted in the pages of this magazine, including:

- **International Experiences:**

A new study abroad program organized by the Department of Psychology was undertaken in Taiwan, joining other programs offered in Poland, Greece and Nicaragua this summer.

- **Visiting Speakers:** The College sponsored Dr. Andrew Bacevich, Professor at Boston University and a leading expert on the US military, to speak on the changing role of the military in the post 9-11 world, as well as Dr. Eduardo Bonilla-Silva of Duke University to discuss his work on racial grammar and stereotypes, especially in media images.

- **Hybrid and Online Courses:**

During the 2011-12 academic year, CSBS faculty offered 99 select online courses. Our faculty participates in the Quality Matters initiative to ensure that online courses meet the same rigorous standards and requirements of in-person classes.

- **CSBS Student Research**

**Conference:** Students in all CSBS departments, as well as students from other universities in Iowa, presented their research during the 19th year of this all-day conference in April.

- **Black & Latino Student Mentoring Group:** The College

is committed to the success of all students, and in this vein initiated a mentoring group to assist minority students in the various majors in CSBS.

In the end, our success as a College is measured by our ability to ensure the success of our students while at UNI. Everything we do ultimately has to be about enhancing the educational experiences of our students. I know many of our alumni are concerned about the challenges UNI faces. These are difficult times, but I have no doubt that as long as we continue to keep the focus on student success, UNI will flourish as it has throughout its 136-year history. Alumni can help UNI, and CSBS, by advocating for your alma mater and supporting it in every way possible.

As always, feel free to share your thoughts with me.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Philip Mauceri'.

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# Greetings from HONG KONG

Melissa Ilg, a 2004 graduate of the textiles and apparel program, tells us what it's like to live and work a half a world away.


*CSBS: How did you decide to attend UNI, and how did you then choose the textiles and apparel major?*

**Melissa Ilg:** I was born in Davenport, Iowa, and after moving to Michigan and then Des Moines my family moved to Cedar Rapids, which is where I graduated from Prairie High School in 2000. My first two years of college were spent at the University of Iowa, where I was originally a communications major. During spring break of my sophomore year, I realized that I didn't want to continue with my current major and decided to look at the degrees offered at UNI. After noticing the textiles and apparel (TAPP) program, I knew that is what I wanted to do but was unsure what types of jobs a person could get with this major. Today I am very happy with my decision, as it has opened more doors for me than I ever could have imagined.

*CSBS: What experiences in the TAPP program prepared you for your current job with Cabela's, the retailer of outdoor recreation merchandise?*

**Melissa Ilg:** The students in the UNI TAPP program have a fantastic opportunity to learn very valuable skills for their future careers. Throughout my career, I have found that every day I am using the knowledge I gained in the textile testing lab, developing garment patterns, analyzing woven and knit fabric constructions, and sewing garments. TAPP does a great job of ensuring their graduates are well rounded in all aspects of the field, which has allowed me to take on several job roles at Cabela's.

Not only does UNI have a great TAPP curriculum, but the faculty truly care about their students. Specifically, I remember being in Dr. [Mitchell] Strauss's office discussing what I wanted to do after graduation and he told me he thought I would be a very successful graduate. It was such a wonderful compliment that it has stuck in my head to this day, and it really gave me the confidence to strive for what I wanted. In fact, I still keep in contact with Dr. [Annette] Lynch and Dr. Strauss, which is probably unheard of at larger schools. It's a great feeling to know that even after so many years the faculty are interested and proud of the success of their former students.



"It's a great feeling to know that even after so many years the [UNI] faculty are interested and proud of the success of their former students."

**CSBS:** *What is it you do at Cabela's, and how have you progressed?*

**Melissa Ilg:** During my final semester at UNI, I was offered a job as a quality assurance specialist and computer-aided drafting (CAD) designer with Cabela's, based in Sidney, Nebraska. My responsibilities included working with designers and merchants to ensure quality and original design intent was achieved. I would also communicate with our overseas vendors about garment quality and construction issues.

My next position was product data management analyst. I initiated and developed supplier relationships through extensive travel, including Asia, the Middle East, North and Central America, and Europe. Part of my responsibility was to introduce Cabela's to our vendors and explain our needs and quality requirements. One of the major projects I worked on was consolidation of our apparel materials for improvements in price, service, quality and delivery.

In May 2010 I was offered another promotion and the opportunity to move to Hong Kong as the quality assurance textile manager. My main tasks include managing Cabela's fabric development team, fabric forecast procedure, price negotiation, textile testing program, and our material database. My team and I travel quite frequently to our suppliers in China, Taiwan, Thailand and occasionally to India and the Middle East. Doing business in Asia is very different than in western cultures and meeting face-to-face is key to developing effective supplier relationships.

**CSBS:** *What has living in Hong Kong been like?*

**Melissa Ilg:** Hong Kong is a city where East meets West, and my life in HK has been such an incredible experience that it's hard to put into words. There is such a vibrant energy that keeps everyone going at a very fast pace, and expatriate life here usually consists of working very hard but enjoying your free time as well. There are over 7,000,000 people living in an area smaller than Rhode Island, and country parks occupy 40% of the land. This means small living accommodations, hundreds of high-rise buildings that make for a beautiful skyline, and crowded streets. However, HK offers some of the best restaurants and entertainment in the world, and the mix of cultures here only adds to its unique charm.

I had been traveling to HK for five years prior to moving, but residing here is completely different. Being from Iowa and having never lived in a city larger than Des Moines, I've had to make some significant lifestyle changes, but overall I'm really enjoying my time here. I've met so many people from all over the world and it's easy to make new friends here as everyone shares a common sense of adventure and willingness to explore new things. It's been a wonderful opportunity to see the world through a different lens and I'm very grateful to have been given this chance.



Testing sewing machine equipment at a factory in southern China



Experiencing the Chinese tradition of a dragon blessing a new office



Meeting with colleagues at Cabela's

*(continued on page 4)*

## Melissa Ilg (continued from page 3)

**CSBS:** *What attracted you to the opportunity of moving overseas to pursue your career with Cabela's?*

**Melissa Ilg:** I've always loved traveling and knew that I wanted to live abroad at some point in my life. Besides having the overseas experience to list on my résumé, I knew that by pushing myself out of my comfort zone and American life I would become a more independent person. Now I'm even more "addicted" to travel and wouldn't mind being an expat in other countries in the future. Regarding my career, I knew that being located near our suppliers could further help Cabela's develop positive and effective working relationships. I've learned so much more in the past two years than I could have working in the states. It keeps my job exciting and there is always something new.



Posing in traditional garb on the way to a desert safari outside Dubai. Ilg has traveled extensively outside work, including to Crete and Kenya for fitness holidays.

I didn't study abroad while in school, but my opinion now is that it is useful for all students regardless of their field. What I didn't realize is how differently you begin to view the world and how much I took for granted prior to visiting Asia. Last summer I invited my parents and two younger brothers for a trip to Beijing, Hong Kong and Macau, as I wanted to share my experiences and introduce them to a new culture.

**CSBS:** *Have you faced any significant challenges in your work?*

**Melissa Ilg:** Some of the differences are the office dynamics and language. In the Sidney head office I worked with about 1,500 people, but our HK office has 14 people. Cantonese is the commonly spoken language here so I've had to learn a few words and phrases, but I've also had to become more aware of how I speak and use fewer slang words. Working for a company that sells hunting and fishing equipment has made it extra interesting as I've had to explain things like duck calls, upland hunting, blaze orange, treestands and fly fishing. This has led to several humorous moments as I begin to describe, for example, why someone would climb up a tree and wait for an animal to pass underneath.

**CSBS:** *What do you consider your greatest career success?*

**Melissa Ilg:** My greatest success so far has been making the transition from sole contributor to manager while moving to a foreign country. To date, my only experience as a manager has been with a team from a different culture, so not only did I have to learn to manage and give direction, but how to do it in a method that is completely new.

**CSBS:** *What have you enjoyed about working within your organization?*

**Melissa Ilg:** Cabela's has continued to successfully grow, and the company culture of focusing on the customers has remained unchanged. The majority of Cabela's employees are passionate hunters and fishers, which has created a close-knit bond among colleagues who have a love for the company they work for. I have been extremely happy working for this company and am very fortunate to have a boss that has taught me a lot about both the garment industry and how to be an effective and productive employee. Cabela's recognizes, respects and rewards their hard-working employees, and it shows in the dedication everyone has to always offer quality products and services.

**CSBS:** *What are your long-term career aspirations?*

**Melissa Ilg:** In January, I decided to go back to school to pursue my MBA part-time through the UK-based University of Manchester, which has a campus in HK. My anticipated graduation date is December 2013 and I am enjoying learning about the business side of the industry as I already have a solid foundation of the technical knowledge. I've always enjoyed working in the retail industry and in the long-term I see myself working in a variety of management roles in this industry and, if I'm lucky, in other international destinations.

# *common threads:*

## **Alumni connection facilitates Hong Kong internship for TAPP student**

Katie Miller, from Schaller, Iowa, will be traveling to Hong Kong this summer to serve an internship with Cabela's. Melissa Ilg will supervise Miller in this first overseas internship for the company. The placement will help Miller enhance her major in textiles and apparel as well as her second major in marketing/sales.

Partnerships like these are one reason CSBS encourages alumni to stay involved with their departments and faculty mentors. Miller will now have an incomparable experience—and a likely advantage—due to Ilg's support.

Miller adds, "Studying abroad does more than just encourage academic improvement and personal growth. It will also enhance my employment prospects by showing international knowledge. I can't wait for this experience of a lifetime."

The CSBS Dean's Fund supports activities that increase student access to existing programs and enhance the quality of education they receive at UNI. The dean has identified the areas of greatest need as support for CSBS students to participate in study abroad programs and out-of-state internships.

Over the last year, alumni and friends contributing to the Dean's Fund have helped over 40 students study abroad or participate in unique—and generally costly—internships. Katie Miller is just one of those students. She says, "If there was an opportunity out there in the world to differentiate you from hundreds of people, would you do it?"

Thanks in part to our alumni and friends, she can take that opportunity.



*photo by Mitchell Strauss*

*Katie Miller, right, poses with a model wearing one of her creations at the textile and apparel program's recent spring style show, "Cat Walk to the Big Top." The 20th anniversary event showcased the work of current TAPP students and featured apparel produced by alumni working across the country and abroad for well-known fashion labels and industry leaders.*

# *A Diplomatic Mission:*

History alumna dedicated to the service of her country



On April 17, Nancy J. Powell was sworn in as the U.S. Ambassador to India.

Born in Cedar Falls, Powell graduated from UNI in 1970 with a degree in history teaching. She taught high school social studies in Dayton, Iowa, for seven years before joining the United States Foreign Service.

Powell's first overseas assignment was at the embassy in Kathmandu, Nepal, in 1980, after which she would serve posts in Islamabad, Pakistan; Ottawa, Canada; Lome, Togo; Calcutta and New Delhi, India; and Dhaka, Bangladesh. Though our nation's first female ambassador to India, Powell has already served as the U.S. Ambassador to Uganda, Ghana, Pakistan, and Nepal. She has been conferred with the title of Career Ambassador, the highest rank in the foreign service.

The Ambassador has also served as deputy assistant secretary of the Bureau of African Affairs; acting assistant secretary for the International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Bureau; the State Department's senior coordinator for avian influenza; and national intelligence council officer for South Asia. Most recently, she served as director general of the foreign service and director of human resources.

*A UNI contingent was on hand at the U.S. Department of State for the swearing-in ceremony of the newest U.S. Ambassador to India.*

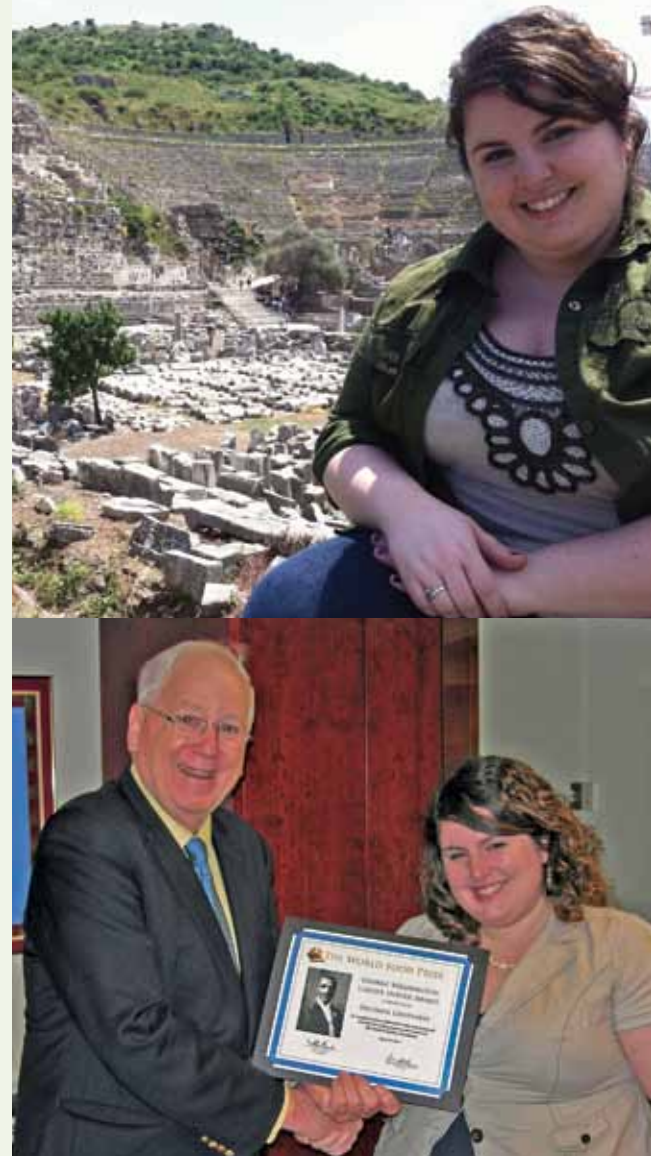
*Left to right: Noreen Hermansen, vice president of the UNI Foundation; President Allen; Ambassador Powell; and Patricia Geadelmann, special assistant to President Allen*



# keeping up with Rhonda

Rhonda Greenway is officially done with college.

But we know this Van Meter, Iowa, native is just getting started.



Above: Rhonda Greenway in Turkey  
Below: Greenway was awarded a position last summer at the World Food Prize Foundation as a George Washington Carver Intern, under the mentorship of foundation president Dr. Kenneth Quinn.

Rhonda Greenway just graduated with a B.A. in political communication, with emphases in both international affairs and state/local public affairs; a B.A. in global studies, with emphases in Latin America and international economics and development; and a minor in international affairs. She's also earned certification in nonprofit management and leadership. And that's just the beginning of her list of accomplishments.

Greenway recently passed the Foreign Service Officer Test. The first major step in becoming a U.S. foreign service officer, it's taken by thousands of hopeful applicants during each testing window, and Greenway earned well over the qualifying score. She'll soon find out if she made it to the next round. But she's also planning ahead by interviewing for a number of positions in Iowa and Washington, D.C. Ideally she would find employment with an agency or organization dealing with economic initiatives, human rights, hunger policy, or higher education. But this globally interested graduate says, "Beyond the foreign service, I have a deep passion for the state of Iowa and its continued economic progression. I know at some juncture I will be back in Iowa, helping to keep Iowa strong for future generations."

Although her academic résumé alone is impressive, Greenway has been a star outside the classroom too. She's had amazing internships at the state's housing authority; as the Cedar Valley intern for the Iowa United Nations Association; and at the World Food Prize Foundation in Des Moines. She's also been extremely active in student organizations—so much so that her contributions are too staggering to list. In short, she has used the last four years to intensively refine and expand her abilities as a leader, a diplomat, and an engaged citizen.

"The political communication major at UNI was an excellent fit for me," says Greenway, who initially thought she would pair a political science major with one in communication or journalism until she found this unique program. She also found a great complement in global studies. Program coordinator and history professor Konrad Sadkowski helped customize the second major to her interests in economics and world hunger, and it was Sadkowski who encouraged her to pursue the nonprofit certification, which led her to spend last summer in Istanbul studying educational development.

Greenway expresses profound gratitude to professors in her first major as well. "The political science department is home to a handful of some of the most ebullient and dedicated individuals. Just to name a few, Dr. Chris Larimer, Dr. Laura Janik, Dr. Lindsey Cohn, and Dr. Donna Hoffman are not only assets to the university due to their intellectual capabilities, but also through their unparalleled passion for UNI's students. Their enthusiasm toward student engagement, student success, and student learning goes beyond the classroom, compelling UNI students to live up to their consistently high expectations."

Rhonda Greenway has certainly met those high expectations, along with many others. There's no doubt she'll be successful; the only question is how far she'll go.

# Back to School:

*CSBS alumni return to UNI as up-and-coming teachers & scholars*



The faculty of the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences is particularly diverse, having come to UNI from all over the globe and from a wide spectrum of backgrounds.

But two of our faculty were themselves CSBS undergraduates. What was it that drew them back to UNI after earning the top degrees in their fields?

We asked them.

## **Elaine Eshbaugh** *associate professor of family studies and gerontology*

Originally from St. Louis, Missouri, Eshbaugh arrived on campus already decided on the major of psychology. As a student, she found a true mentor in psychology professor Helen Harton. Eshbaugh says, “Dr. Harton was the one who taught me about research in the field. It was an entire world that I didn’t know existed.”

She went on to earn her M.S. and Ph.D. in human development and family studies from Iowa State University, and she credits the preparation for becoming a successful graduate student to her education in CSBS. And that’s the biggest reason, Eshbaugh says, that she loved being a student here—because CSBS offered opportunities to undergraduate students that other universities usually offer only to graduate students.

It’s that campus culture that brought her back: it’s big enough that there are lots of opportunities, but it’s small enough that she gets to know her students individually and can give them the investment that she received as an undergraduate student.

Eshbaugh’s current research is a study on knowledge of Alzheimer’s disease, in which she is investigating the best ways to educate professional and family caregivers on how to effectively communicate with people who have the disease. She’s also interested in loneliness and depression among older adult women who live alone.

Since Eshbaugh has been back at UNI, she’s helped the gerontology program explode in growth. She’s coordinated Iowa’s Rural Aging Conference on our campus; helped produce a video to promote careers in aging; and presented her research at national conferences, partly in her role as UNI’s Davis Professorship in Gerontology (*see page 12*). She also regularly mentors students on honors theses and research projects. Eshbaugh worked with student co-authors Kelsey Hillebrand and Josie Davie, as well as family studies colleague Patricia Gross, on an article that was recently published in *Gerontology & Geriatrics Education*. She says, “CSBS involved me in research as an undergrad, and I am paying that forward with the next generation of students.”



Elaine Eshbaugh and a close friend

## **Christopher Larimer** *associate professor of political science*

Larimer, an Iowa native, initially came to UNI interested in playing golf and pursuing an accounting degree. During his sophomore year, however, he enrolled in a few political science classes in order to fulfill the liberal arts core requirements and to explore a certificate in international business. He had always been interested in international relations, but it wasn't until after his classes with professors Kenneth Basom, Steven Lobell, Philip Mauceri, and Dharendra Vajpeyi that he was hooked on political science.

He earned his M.A. and Ph.D. in political science from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. Larimer too credits his UNI education as a great preparation for graduate school, both in terms of the coursework as well as the valuable counsel of department faculty.

Larimer says it was an easy decision to come back to UNI. "I had nothing but fond memories of the department, the people, and the campus. I enjoy the welcoming atmosphere of the UNI community and the strong work ethic of Iowa students."

His current research agenda includes examining the attitudes in Iowa communities toward women in government. He's also continuing work on get-out-the-vote mobilization techniques through the use of field experiments in Iowa and across the country.

And as a result of that research on public policy, voter turnout, and political behavior in Iowa, he's been a frequent contributor in various media outlets, including *Iowa Public Radio*, the *Des Moines Register*, the *Los Angeles Times*, *USA Today*, *US News & World Report*, and *Voice of Russia* radio.

Larimer has involved students in a number of projects, including serving as precinct watchers for an election day field experiment, administering surveys at the 2011 Ames Straw Poll, and coordinating visits across the state for research on gender-balance legislation. Hands-on experiences like these are just one of the ways he's engaging the next generation of students and giving back to his home state.

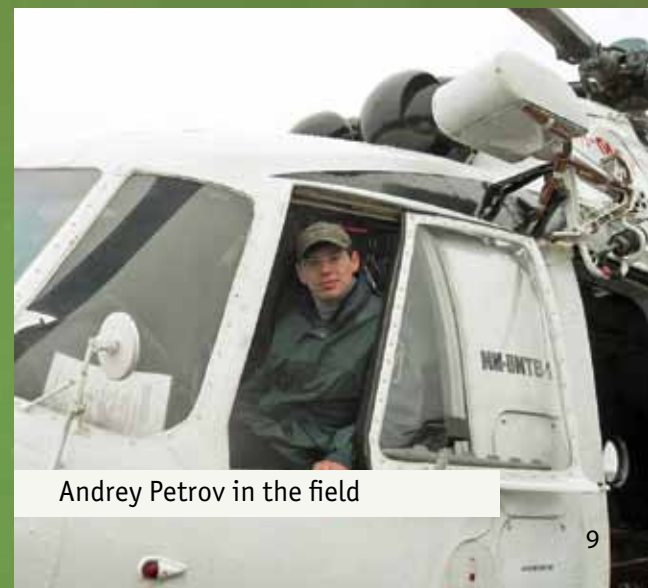


Chris Larimer engages students in his 'Iowa Politics' class. He enjoys teaching the course each spring and often has state and national elected officials as guest speakers.

## **Andrey Petrov**

*assistant professor of geography and geospatial technology*

Petrov, a native of Russia, holds a geography M.A. from UNI. For more information on his work with UNI's GeoTREE Center, the NASA Iowa Space Grant Base Program, the Arctic Social and Environmental Systems Research Lab (ARCSES), and the Program in Research and Outreach in Geography between Russia and the United States (PROGRUS), visit [www.uni.edu/apetrov/](http://www.uni.edu/apetrov/).



Andrey Petrov in the field

# COLLEGE OF SOCIAL & BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES LOYALTY ROSTER

On behalf of the students of the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences, we express our sincere appreciation for all the alumni and friends who have contributed to the Dean's Fund for Excellence and allowed our students opportunities they otherwise might not have had. We are profoundly grateful for their support.

Below is the CSBS Loyalty Roster—those donors who gave \$100 and above to the Dean's Fund during the previous year. Please consider joining this special group of donors during the upcoming year.

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# DEAN'S FUND INNER CIRCLE

The Inner Circle recognizes alumni and friends who give \$1,000 and above to the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences Dean's Fund.

We are proud to announce this year's Inner Circle members.



# DONOR WALL INSTALLED IN SABIN HALL

With the renovation of Sabin Hall complete, the new College of Social and Behavioral Sciences Donor Wall has been installed.

The wall recognizes the generous support of our alumni, friends, and corporate partners who have established endowments, committed to planned gifts, or made lifetime cash gifts totaling \$15,000 or more. On behalf of our students and faculty, we express our deep appreciation.



The new Donor Wall is installed in the atrium outside the lecture hall, the building's most visible location.

# SPECIAL GIFTS:

## Friends provide unique opportunities for CSBS students and faculty

### *Davis family increases generous gift to gerontology program*

The family of Adele Whitenack Davis have donated \$300,000 to broaden and extend the efforts of the college's gerontology program.

Davis and her husband, T. Wayne, were active members of the Cedar Valley and advocates for UNI. The Davises' daughters, Sherry Davis Kleinman of Pacific Palisades, Calif., and Susan Davis of Sag Harbor, N.Y., gave the gift in memory of their mother.

Kleinman said, "Having watched the aging of our parents (and knowing we are not far behind), it was apparent to us how important it is to study aging. We are so happy that we were able to create the gerontology chair in our mother's name to help educate today's students on the many opportunities that await them in the field."

This is the family's second gift to the program. Elaine Eshbaugh, associate professor in the college's School of Applied Human Sciences, was named to the Adele Whitenack Davis Professorship of Gerontology in 2010. The college began offering a bachelor's degree in gerontology — the only program of its kind in Iowa — in 2002.

"This gift provides the means to create a greater impact throughout the state as Iowa faces the challenges of a rapidly aging population," says Applied Human Sciences director Howard Barnes. "This gift will allow us to keep pace with the lives and needs of older Iowans."

### *Boatrights establish Undergraduate History Research Grant*

Last year, Kevin and Deb Boatright made a gift to the Department of History. Kevin, a 1984 history masters graduate, wanted to help undergraduate history students meet the costs associated with research projects and presentations. The new Undergraduate History Research Grant will do just that, supporting such expenses as travel to conduct archival or field research, preparing presentations, and attendance at academic conferences.



Kevin is director of communications, research and graduate studies at the University of Kansas, Lawrence, and Deb is a speech pathologist with Lawrence Public Schools.

"I hold a number of Northern Iowa history faculty – past and present – in especially high regard, such as Leland Sage, David Walker, Howard Jones, Dean Talbott, and Glenda Riley," Boatright says. "This gift is motivated by my appreciation for their service to students, the university, the department, and the history profession."

"Independent research by undergraduates is the best means by which they can learn to apply the tools of their discipline in a meaningful and responsible way," says history department head Robert Martin. "Using the exploratory, analytical, and communications skills they have learned in their classes in projects that are uniquely their own fosters creativity, builds confidence, and provides a sense of satisfaction that should be a part of every student's educational experience."



## *from our director of development*

It is always good to be reminded of why we exist as a university: to educate and serve students.

This fall I had the chance to interact with one of our College of Social and Behavioral Sciences students whose life has been changed by the generous support of our alumni and friends. Through the course of my conversations with her and a subsequent keynote address she gave at an event, it became clear how much your support means even in the midst of challenging budget times.

### **John Aronowitz**

Danielle faced many challenges before she even began her education at UNI. She overcame a challenging childhood. She grew up in a home where substance abuse was common and education was a low priority.

But Danielle defied the odds: she was the valedictorian of her high school graduating class and was the first in her family to attend college.

Danielle decided to attend UNI and was admitted to the University Honors Program in addition to being selected as one of our college's Alderman Scholars, a program started through a generous bequest by Everett Alderman that currently supports 20-25 significant scholarships for deserving students to attend college. Danielle continued her impressive academic achievements posting a nearly flawless GPA while working side-by-side with several of her faculty members on research and teaching assistant projects. She was inducted into the international honors society in psychology just before graduation.

This past summer she had the opportunity to study humanities in Italy for three weeks through the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences Dean's Fund travel funding. The trip was her first time on an airplane. Since June of 2009, the College of Social of Behavioral Sciences has supported more than 125 other students studying abroad with Dean's Fund stipends totalling over \$30,000. Last year alone more than 1,250 alumni and friends supported the CSBS Dean's Fund with gifts ranging from \$5 to \$4,000. Every gift makes a difference in forming these opportunities into a reality.

As Danielle finished her senior year after taking full advantage of her career at UNI, the most pressing issue for her was not how to repay her student loans; it was deciding to which Ivy League schools to apply for graduate school. Without financial support a trip overseas would not have been possible for her and many other students. And without the generous support of a scholarship, an excellent student like Danielle would face enormous financial hurdles to attend school and pursue her passions. Your gifts truly do change the lives of our students.

As you consider the organizations that will receive your philanthropic support this next year, please consider the following ways in which you can make an impact on the UNI campus and the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences.

**Support the CSBS Dean's Fund for Excellence.** The Dean's Fund provides direct support to students and faculty in a variety of ways each year including study abroad funding, financial support for low paying or unpaid internships, research projects and experiential learning opportunities at conferences and other events.

**Join UNI's Old Central Associates** by creating a legacy for the future with a bequest or other planned gift. By including UNI in your estate planning you can help future students and programs in a way you never thought possible.

**Create a scholarship.** A scholarship provides financial support for students and gives them the opportunity to fully pursue the academic and extracurricular activities available to them. Annual scholarships can be funded on a yearly basis and endowed scholarship can create a permanent legacy of student support.

Thank you for your loyal support of UNI and the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences. Our students, faculty and staff are truly grateful!

# College & Department Briefs

Public Policy celebrated the 20th anniversary of their graduate program this year and continues to be heavily engaged in the local community. Recent activity includes working with residents to improve low-income neighborhoods in Waterloo as well as a community-wide planning conference with leaders to formulate methods of moving forward on issues of concern to the neighborhoods.

Geography has partnered with a Cedar Falls company to establish the Aerial Services Geography Intern Scholar Program. Aerial Services, Inc., specializes in aerial surveying, geographic information, and geospatial technology. The paid internships are available each semester, providing real-world work experience for students and a mutually beneficial technology transfer under this public/private partnership. Students primarily work at the Cedar Falls location in GIS data production, GIS quality control, research innovations, experimental data collection, and cartography.

Criminology hosted the first state-wide criminology articulation conference in September. The event brought together faculty and administrators from Iowa's three Regents universities and 15 community colleges, with the goal of improving the working relationship between them. It also served as an opportunity to examine how the educators can improve the workplace preparedness of students.

The Center for International Peace and Security Studies hosted and co-hosted a number of speakers, including Ambassador Stephen Rapp and Austrian Consul General Thomas Schnoell, as well as roundtables on security, the Arab Spring, and an Oxfam hunger banquet.

Social Work continues to offer one of the most popular study-abroad courses. "Child, Family, and Community Development in Nicaragua" takes students to Central America each May to experience first-hand the organizations working to address the country's social problems.

Anthropology hosted the spring meeting of the Iowa Archeological Society at Hartman Reserve Nature Center. The meeting attracts professionals, students, and those interested in Iowa's prehistory from around the state. Participants also toured the Black Medicine site, the 1,000-year-old campsite where the annual UNI field school is held.

Psychology welcomed an international guest this summer in order to explore further exchange opportunities for the department's faculty and students. A professor of psychology and neuroscience at National Chengchi University in Taipei, Taiwan, visited campus in July. The visit forged new connections but also extended a June 2010 outreach initiative in which a CSBS contingent were invited to Taipei.

Political Science faculty have been frequent guests in local and national media as part of the 2012 election cycle. The department also hosted the annual meeting of the Iowa Association of Political Scientists this spring, with eight of their students and seven faculty presenting their research.

The Center for Social and Behavioral Research received nine new externally funded awards this spring. Many of the projects will contribute to the state's policy and public health initiatives, including energy efficiency and education, osteoporosis prevention among rural women, pregnancy risk assessments, gambling treatment outcomes, and tobacco prevention.

Women's and Gender Studies hosted Dr. Gail Dines, from Wheelock College in Boston, who lectured in October on the graphic images of women in popular culture. They also hosted a series of speakers in conjunction with Women's History Month in March, the topic for which was "Women and Global Capitalism."

Sociology held a number of public lectures by well-known speakers this year, continuing their leadership on timely issues. Dr. Eduardo Bonilla-Silva of Duke University spoke in March on the concept of racial grammar, which addresses how even language uses the "white" perspective as the default.



From top: naturalization ceremony; "Spirit of Uganda"; Center for Violence Prevention leaders at a recent conference with U.S. House of Representatives minority leader Nancy Pelosi; and UNI military science/ ROTC students and leadership with campus guest Andrew Bacevich (fourth from left).

The Center for Violence Prevention (CVP) was instrumental in bringing the documentary film "Bully" to Cedar Valley audiences. One of the center's directors had served as the educational consultant on the film, which followed bullied students in Iowa and four other states. In early May, the film's writer/producer and director were on campus to participate in a panel discussion along with UNI faculty who conduct research on the topic. The CVP was able to provide 1,000 free tickets to area students of all ages and teachers in an effort to bring attention to a growing problem.

The 19th Annual CSBS Student Research Conference was held in April. Each year, the conference draws students from UNI and across the state in order to exchange ideas, present research, and learn more about developments in the social sciences. This year's keynote was "Why Iowa? Picking Presidents in 2008 and 2012" by Caroline Tolbert of the University of Iowa.

Counseling continues their excellent record of student preparation. Since implementing the Counselor Preparation Exam as an exit requirement in 2007, the program's students have maintained a 100% pass rate.

CSBS was among a partnership that brought Andrew Bacevich to campus in March. A professor of international relations at Boston University and a retired Army officer, Bacevich spoke on the issue of the U.S. military in the post-9/11 world.

More than 60 people from 26 countries were sworn in as U.S. citizens during a naturalization ceremony on campus in April. Now in its second year, the event is organized by CSBS's Iowa Center for Immigrant Leadership and Integration.

CSBS sponsored "Spirit of Uganda" at the Gallagher-Bluedorn Performing Arts Center in February, continuing the college's involvement in internationally focused issues and events.



photo by Dan Ozminkowski



# Student News

**Ashley Stewart** (Family Services, right) has been named a recipient of the Lux Service Award, the most prestigious award given to students for service to UNI. Stewart, from Gary, Indiana, has been active in mentoring fellow students and volunteering. Among other activities, she created the "Stop and Serve" program, which allows students to serve the community in the free time between classes.



Ashley Stewart

**Daniel Yehieli** (Criminology and Global Studies) will be participating in the Iowa Regents Arabic Program in Morocco this summer. The seven-week intensive language program will prepare him for his future goal of serving as a military officer. Yehieli is earning a minor in military science and is the advance designee recipient of the Army ROTC Scholarship for UNI. His global studies emphasis is in strategic studies of the Middle East and Africa.

**Susan Meerdink** (Geographic Information Science) was awarded the highly competitive Association of American Geographers' International Geographic Information Fund Student Travel Grant for the 2012 meeting in New York City. Meerdink also presented at the meeting last year in Seattle. She has been active in the Arctic Social and Environmental Systems Research Lab (ARCSES), located in the Department of Geography, conducting and analyzing research related to wild reindeer migrations in northern Russia. Meerdink has a second major in biology: ecology and systematics.



Wes Hunt

**Wes Hunt** (Criminology) spent last summer as an intern with the United States Marshals Service (USMS) Tactical Operations Division Special Deputation Unit. The internship included regular duties as well as experiences with the USMS K-9 training facility; the FBI and DEA training facility in Quantico, Virginia; the Pentagon; INTERPOL; and academic classes.

**Ramón Cantú** (History Education) has been a member of Iowa's Latino Affairs Commission, which serves the needs of Latinos in the fields of education, employment, health, housing, welfare, and recreation. Cantú, a first-generation college student from Texas, also uses his own history of gang involvement and personal hardship in working with a variety of programs focused on intervening with at-risk youth, building strong communities, and promoting diversity.

**Holly Nelson** (Interior Design) completed an internship for *House Beautiful* magazine, where she worked in Manhattan's Hearst Tower. The building is the first existing site in New York City to be LEED Platinum certified, meaning it has achieved the highest ratings in key areas of human and environmental health.



Holly Nelson

**Evan Schares** (Political Communication and Global Studies) will be participating in a summer study abroad experience in Costa Rica. The program will help him develop the Spanish-language component of his global studies emphasis: peace, conflict, and human rights in Latin America. Schares also presented a paper on Portuguese drug decriminalization and Mexico's narcoviolent economy at the March meeting of the Iowa Association of Political Scientists Conference.



Spencer Walrath

**Spencer Walrath** (Psychology) was president of the Northern Iowa Student Government (NISG) for the past year. He was also the commencement speaker for the 2012 class and was the student speaker at the Sabin Hall Rededication ceremony in September. Walrath graduated with a second major in music.

**Michelle Remold** (Gerontology) completed a summer internship at Faribault Area Senior Center in Minnesota. Part of her experience was developing a "memory trunk" pilot program at local nursing homes to help participants keep their memories by sharing them.

Ian Goldsmith (Psychology) served as vice president of NISG this year, is one of the college's prestigious SBS Scholars, and holds a second major in theater. He is also one-third of the student group who created the "Interlude" dance, a new tradition at UNI sporting events and other campus activities.

In February Goldsmith participated in an event at the Wells Fargo Arena in Des Moines to help promote the national "Let's Move!" campaign, which encourages health and fitness among youth. Those learning the "Interlude" from Goldsmith included First Lady Michelle Obama, Governor Terry Branstad, former governor and U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack, "The Biggest Loser" fitness expert Bob Harper, and Olympic gymnast Shawn Johnson.

At right, Goldsmith teaches dance moves to Mrs. Obama and one of the 10,000 area school children in attendance.

Dance co-creators are Scott Connerley, a CSBS student majoring in history education, and Tyler Wright from technology education and training.



Ian Goldsmith and the First Lady



2011 Family Weekend

As part of the 2011 Family Weekend this fall, the college held a ceremony and reception to honor students who have achieved distinction by demonstrating high standards of academic accomplishment.

Over 25 students attended, along with their families, the heads of their academic programs, and other faculty, and were recognized by the dean for their personal achievement as well as their role in the success of the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences.

At left, Dean Mauceri congratulates Ryan Alfred on his success as a high-achieving Alderman Scholar. Alfred is a social science education major from Johnston, Iowa.

The 2012 Family Weekend will be held September 28-30 and will include a variety of events for UNI students' family members of all ages.

For complete list of students honored, see [www.uni.edu/csbs/family-weekend/](http://www.uni.edu/csbs/family-weekend/).

Twenty-two graduate students in school counseling attended the education town hall meeting at Waterloo's Central Middle School this summer. The events were part of a series leading up to Governor Branstad's Iowa Education Summit in July and encouraged educators and community members to participate in a discussion on school reform.

At right, students and faculty get a moment with Governor Branstad and Lieutenant Governor Reynolds.



School Counseling students

# Faculty Briefs

The College bids farewell to the following professors, who will retire at the end of this academic year. We thank them for their many years of service to UNI and its students.

**Tom Fogarty** (Geography): 23 years at UNI

**David Walker** (History): 37 years at UNI

Each year, College of Social and Behavioral Sciences faculty members are honored by the college and across campus for their excellence in teaching, research, and service. Congratulations to our outstanding faculty of the past year!

**Kristin Mack** (Sociology): Class of 1943 Faculty Award in Excellence in Teaching and the CSBS Outstanding Teaching Award

**Marybeth Stalp** (Sociology): Excellence in Liberal Arts Teaching Award

**William Downs** (Social Work): Regents Award for Faculty Excellence

**John Johnson** (History): Regents Award for Faculty Excellence

**Elaine Eshbaugh** (Family Studies & Gerontology): University Book & Supply Outstanding Teaching Award for Untenured Faculty



**Augustina Naami**

**Augustina Naami** joined the Department of Social Work this year as an assistant professor. Naami earned her Ph.D. in social work from the University of Utah, and she holds an M.A. in social service administration from the University of Chicago and a B.A. in economics from the University of Ghana. Her research interests include gender, disability, poverty, social policy, and international social work.

Congratulations to our faculty who earned recommendation for tenure and promotions this year! Such an achievement requires dedication to the highest quality of scholarship service, and teaching.

**Trudy Edén** (History) was recommended for promotion to full Professor.

**Cindy Jubý** (Social Work) was recommended for tenure and promotion to the rank of Associate Professor.



**Elizabeth Lefler**

**Cyndi Dunn** (Anthropology) created an online course on the cultural anthropology of Korea for UNI anthropology students participating in the "Talk and Learn in Korea" program. Students in the program teach English 20 hours per week in Korean schools while taking the online class for study abroad credit.

**Otto MacLin** (Psychology) presented "How the Brain Lies and Misrepresents the 'Real World'" at a recent American Democracy Project event. MacLin, who provides workshops for jurors and frequently serves as an expert witness in criminal cases, discussed how the brain causes misperceptions, including errors in eye-witness identification.

**Elizabeth Lefler** (Psychology) has been consulting with Pathways Behavioral Services in Waterloo, which offers substance abuse and mental health prevention/treatment services in six northeast Iowa counties. She recently trained the facility's staff on adult ADHD.

**Andrey Petrov** (Geography) established the Arctic Social and Environmental Systems Research Lab (ARCSSES) at UNI. The lab is funded by NSF and NASA projects and is housed in the Department of Geography.

**Justin Holmes** (Political Science) presented the paper *Perceptions of Extreme Voices: The Impact of Citizen Evaluation on Groups, Parties, and Policies* in July at the annual meeting of the International Society of Political Psychology in Istanbul, Turkey.

**Jack Yates** (Psychology) took a group of students to Spain this summer as part of a new capstone course called "Climate Change in Spain." The course helped students better understand their own lifestyle, observe an environmentally respectful lifestyle, and learn about successful government policies that promote conservation and renewable energy.

**Gene Lutz** and **Mel Gonnerman** (Center for Social and Behavioral Research) have published studies of Internet poker and statewide gambling attitudes and behaviors. The reports garnered mass media interest, including the *Des Moines Register*, *Radio Iowa*, KGAN TV, KWWL TV, and the Associated Press. The projects were completed for the Iowa Department of Public Health's Office of Problem Gambling Treatment and Prevention.

**Dhirendra Vajpeyi** (Political Science) served as a panelist at a conference hosted by Air University at Maxwell Airforce Base in Alabama. The conference focused on key issues for the Asia-Pacific region.

**Robert Dise Jr.** (History) is founder, coordinator, and moderator of the Canterbury Forum. Launched in 2005, the forum has offered over 55 programs to inform and educate the community about how religion, culture, and society interact with one another.

**Katherine van Wormer, Laura Kaplan, and Cindy Juby** (Social Work) have a forthcoming book: "Confronting Oppression, Restoring Justice: From Policy Analysis to Social Action. 2nd edition."

**Gary Gute** (Family Studies) delivered the keynote address "What is Creativity?" and led the session "The Early Lives of Highly Creative People: Are There Any Patterns?" at the Art Educators of Iowa Fall Conference last October.

**Pita Agbese** (Political Science) is the executive producer of a documentary that was nominated in the Best Documentary category of the African Movie Academy. The film, "There is Nothing Wrong with My Uncle," will be screened next fall.



The Department of Sociology, Anthropology, and Criminology lost a longtime colleague and friend with the recent passing of retired **Professor Robert "Bob" Claus**.

Born in Toledo, Ohio in 1928, he graduated from high school in Clinton, Iowa, then earned his bachelor's degree at Iowa State Teachers College in 1950. He enlisted in the Army in 1952 and served tours of duty in Japan and in Korea, where he was awarded the Combat Infantry Badge during the Korean War. He received his master's degree and Ph.D. from the University of Iowa and taught at UNI for 37 years, retiring in 1992.

One of Bob's favorite activities was giving visitors to Cedar Falls, especially candidates for positions at UNI, a tour of the community. Often these tours took place on the city bus line. Bob was environmentally conscious before "green" was popular.

Although he was an avid sports car enthusiast, Bob took the bus whenever feasible because it was better for the environment and he enjoyed socializing with the drivers and passengers. When giving the community tours, Bob enjoyed showing off his prodigious knowledge of local history and culture.

Bob was devoted to UNI, an avid fan of Panther athletics, a perennial supporter of the radio station KUNI, and someone who took greater pride in the accomplishments of his students than in his own achievements. Robert Claus passed away on March 2, 2012. Those of us who remember Bob still smile at the stories we tell about him, and we will miss his wry sense of humor, his gentle demeanor, and his unique character.

## College of Social and Behavioral Sciences Class Notes

**Shirley Ruth (Erickson) Greenslade** (Home Economics and Business Education '48) was a school teacher for over 17 years and also served as a school board member. In retirement she has settled in Decorah and enjoys the varied and interesting social activities offered by her community.

**David L. Prescott** (History '67) recently retired after 38 years from the private practice of law, having specialized in personal injury and worker's compensation claims. After graduating from UNI, he attended Infantry Officer Candidate School at Ft. Benning, Georgia, and he served a year in Vietnam as an army officer. Prescott graduated from the University of Oklahoma Law School in 1973 and lives in Oklahoma City with his wife, Susan Lund (BA '68). Among his hobbies are investing, blackjack, and his granddaughter.

**Bruce Bernard** (Sociology '73) is a management consultant who received the first "Better Together" award from the Greater Des Moines Community Foundation in April 2011. The award is given to individuals who work within the community to build bridges between people and organizations to accomplish community building. He received the award for his work with the Urbandale Community Action Network.

**Carl Boyd** (Sociology and Criminology '87) recently won the Democratic primary for the Cook County 2nd Subcircuit Court in Illinois. He has managed a private law practice since 1991 and has been very active in community service.

**Jim Lee** (Social Work '88) is a 6th grade math and science teacher, high school girl's track coach, and 9th grade football coach for the Mason City Community School District.

**Joseph Raso** (Political Science BA '92, Public Policy '95) has been named the new president and CEO of the Greater Colorado Springs Chamber and Economic Development Corporation. He has most recently served as the president of the Iowa City Area Development Group.

**Shannon Risk** (History '94) is an assistant professor of history at Niagara University in New York, having earned her M.A. and Ph.D. in American History at the University of Maine. She has published her second work of fiction, "The Madame," about a time-traveling historian.

**Nadia Korobova** (Public Policy '01) was one of the Waterloo-Cedar Falls Courier's 2011 "20 Under 40," which honors young leaders who are working to improve the quality of life in the area. She is assistant director of UNI's Office of International Programs.

**Jess Elder** (Geography BA '02, MA '04) is product manager of digital mapping and interactive publishing at the National Geographic Society, having worked on applications for the iPhone/iPad, Android and Windows phones, and the Nook. Before joining National Geographic in 2006, he had been a cartographer with the National Aeronautical Charting Office in the Federal Aviation Administration.

**Yuki Northington** (Interior Design '02) will be a contestant on the upcoming season of the HGTV show "Design Star." She lives in Bay St. Louis, Mississippi, and owns a retail store there.

**Jeni Wilford** (Interior Design '07) participated in a recent faith-based humanitarian effort in Zambia. The purpose of the trip was building homes for child-headed families—those in which older children are raising younger siblings due to the loss of their parents. Wilford blogged about her experience at [zambiahopeshelter.tumblr.com/](http://zambiahopeshelter.tumblr.com/).

**Kyle Kuehler** (Family Services, Psychology '09) is pursuing a master's degree in social work from the University of Iowa. He is also a youth counselor at Four Oaks in Monticello, Iowa, a campus within one of Iowa's largest child service agencies. Kuehler's site works with girls aged 13-17 who have behavioral or psychological disorders.

**Lizzie Boeck** (Family Services '11) lives in Brooklyn, New York, and works for the Kaplan Thaler Group in Manhattan.

**Dale Yurs** (History MA '11) has accepted a four-year teaching and research fellowship in the history doctoral program at Purdue University.

**Josh Wilson** (Political Communication '12) spent the spring serving as a communications intern in the Iowa governor's office, where he assisted the governor's communication and scheduling directors, among other duties. In this capacity he was able to meet broadcasters Scott Pelley of *CBS Nightly News*, Brett Baier of *Special Report* on Fox News, and legend Tom Brokaw. He has since been announced as the new public liaison for the governor's office.

*Please complete and submit the form on the next page if you would like to be included in next year's CSBS Statements. As this is an annual publication, information in the Alumni Updates may have been submitted up to a year ago. Try as we might to be accurate, we apologize if any information is incorrect or outdated.*

# Alumni Update

We'd like to include you in next year's edition!

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone # \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Year of Graduation \_\_\_\_\_ Degree/Major \_\_\_\_\_

Occupation \_\_\_\_\_

Employer \_\_\_\_\_

Items you'd like to share about yourself in next year's edition:

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Return to: CSBS Statements, College of Social & Behavioral Sciences, University of Northern Iowa, Cedar Falls, Iowa 50614-0403. Information can also be e-mailed to [holly.bokelman@uni.edu](mailto:holly.bokelman@uni.edu), or you can write us a longer letter. We enjoy hearing from our alumni and our friends!



## Connecting with students

Alumni and friends help make the CSBS community successful.

We are grateful to those who support our college financially, but we also look to alumni to help our students in a number of other ways. Your involvement in a current student's educational experience might make all the difference in their success here and beyond.

Consider helping a student in the following ways:

- aiding with internship or job opportunities
- speaking to classes
- mentoring students
- helping with student research

If you are interested in providing unique opportunities for our students, please contact the department or program of interest.



College of Social and Behavioral Sciences  
 319 Sabin Hall  
 Cedar Falls, Iowa 50614-0403

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## Rededication of Sabin Hall

On September 23, 2011, after several years of planning, working, and waiting, Sabin Hall was officially rededicated.

The rededication ceremony drew many students, faculty, staff, community members, and alumni—all eager to see the new building and how it will serve the next generation of students.

*Clockwise from right:*

The official reception was held in the Sabin Hall atrium.

UNI President Ben Allen talks with distinguished guests Regents President Craig Lang and Lieutenant Governor Kim Reynolds.

Jessie Nicholson, a 1974 graduate of sociology, represented the college's alumni.

Former students came to see how the building had changed since their days at Iowa State Teachers College.

