Dear Fellow Alumni,

Launching a new publication is always exciting, especially when the subject matter of that publication is near and dear to my heart… in this case, UNI and the College of Humanities and Fine Arts (CHFA).

I think we can all attest to the quality education and confidence-building experiences we had at UNI and within the college. I recall coming to UNI not knowing what I wanted to do with my life. Four years later I was a well-prepared young woman, ready to enter the world of work.

While at UNI, faculty members, assignments and my classmates challenged me to do and be my best. Now, as the editor of inside, it’s gratifying to “return to my roots” and give back to the college that has given me so much.

You can give back to CHFA too. Story ideas, the names of outstanding alumni to profile and feedback about our new magazine are always appreciated. A quick e-mail to chfa-inside@uni.edu is all it takes.

Until next time,

Ruth Goodman ('82)
Editor

P.S. Feel free to share this issue with potential students.
Greetings from the College of Humanities and Fine Arts (CHFA), and welcome to the premier issue of *inside*. Each year around this time, alumni and friends of the college will receive a copy of our new publication. It’s our goal to keep you abreast of activities within the college and introduce (or reintroduce) you to CHFA alumni who are making an impact in their careers, the college and their communities.

During my more than 25 years at UNI, and as the new dean of the college, I’ve had the pleasure of meeting and speaking with many of you. For those of you whom I haven’t yet had the pleasure of meeting, please let me introduce myself.

In 1982 I was offered the wonderful opportunity to join the faculty at UNI to teach in various academic programs, such as Secondary Language Acquisition Methodologies, Theoretical and Applied Linguistics, Literature, and Western Civilization. I transitioned to the administrative level as assistant vice president for academic affairs in 1994. Two years later I became associate dean of the college, serving with former CHFA Dean James Lubker. When Dean Lubker was selected as interim provost and vice president for Academic Affairs in 2005, I became the college’s interim dean. I was appointed dean of the college earlier this year.

I am proud to say that CHFA is a future-oriented college, with student learning as its highest priority. We are looking ahead rather than backing into the future. Our goals and priorities for the next few years are quite clear and include the following.

1. **An interdisciplinary approach to learning in the classroom, lab or studio.** We will continue to work on breaking down disciplinary walls to give students a broad-based education. No matter what their major, today’s graduates no longer stay with one company their entire professional career. In fact, it’s not uncommon for graduates to major in one area of study and change career fields several times throughout their work life.

   By exposing our undergraduates to a wide array of subjects and challenging them to look at the world in new ways, we’re preparing them to become professionals who think broadly, critically, creatively and maintain a lifelong love of learning. In today’s interdependent world, it is extremely valuable that our students have acquired global literacy.

2. **An assessment of student learning.**

   For several years the college has been pursuing a student outcomes assessment project, both on the graduate and undergraduate level. Through this assessment we want to find out whether our students are indeed learning what we’ve said they should, and what we need to change to improve the learning outcome.

3. **Experiential opportunities for students.** CFHA alumni tend to remain involved with the college after graduation and enjoy helping the next generation of leaders become the best they can be. Whether it’s establishing internship opportunities with their employers or returning to UNI to work with students in practice rooms, studios and classrooms, CHFA alumni realize the value of giving back and sharing with students how to prepare for life after UNI.

The important role our graduates play was readily seen this year as alumni returned to campus for a reunion and theatrical performance to commemorate the 30th anniversary of Strayer-Wood Theatre. Alumni also returned to help shape the future of the college during our Alumni Fellows Symposium, both of which you’ll read about on the following pages … plus much, much more.

If you plan on being in Cedar Falls sometime, please stop by room 266 in the Communication Arts Center and say hello. It’s always a pleasure to welcome alumni back home, where it all began.

Reinhold K. Bubser, Dean
College of Humanities and Fine Arts
To commemorate 30 years of Strayer-Wood Theatre’s cultural contributions to UNI and the community, theatre faculty decided to stage one of America’s great dramas – “Death of a Salesman.” To make the anniversary celebration even more spectacular, faculty came up with another great idea: to assemble a group of practicing, professional theatre artists who started their careers at UNI and invite them back to Cedar Falls to act in, direct, design and help build the production.

When considering the anniversary/reunion event, Theatre Department Head Eric Lange said, “We recognized the opportunity to celebrate the successful theatre careers that sprang from our program. By assembling these alumni, we felt we could do something special in our approach to the play that would offer the community, our students and local schools something very valuable.”

From the earliest contact with potential company members, the department was fortunate to find people who were interested in returning to campus. Larry Paulsen (’77), a professional actor based in Seattle, cleared his schedule and jumped at the chance to direct the production. “It was a matter of finding someone who had a passion for the script and was also excited to work with students,” said Lange. “Larry had both.”

On April 12 nearly 200 alumni and friends of Theatre UNI came to campus to celebrate Strayer-Wood’s 30th anniversary and attend a special scholarship benefit performance of “Death of a Salesman.” The evening began with a social hour and pre-performance banquet in the Maucker Union Ballroom. Keynote speaker Bill O’Brien (’85), director of theatre and musical theatre for the National Endowment for the Arts, shared why he became a theatre major at UNI and the variety of unexpected ways a theatre education can be applied in the professional world. Afterward, alumni and guests took a short stroll across campus to attend the performance at Strayer-Wood and gave the company a rousing standing ovation after its stellar performance.

“We felt we achieved what we wanted to: alumni interaction with students and bringing a wealth of talent to campus,” said Eric Lange. “Hopefully we can maintain contact with these alumni, wait a year and start planning the next alumni production!”

Visit www.thealumniproject.org/ to learn more about the weekend and the alumni who so generously gave their time to “Death of a Salesman.”
During the alumni performance of “Death of a Salesman,” Matt Mullin (’97), left, and Mike Mullin (’02) played brothers Biff and Happy Loman; Mary Tharp Booty (’75) played Linda Loman. Also in the cast was Tyler Stilwill (’93) who played Willy Loman’s boss, Howard.

D. Terry Williams, former director of Theatre UNI, and his wife, Sharon, caught up with theatre alumnus John Karbula (’79) at the alumni reception in downtown Cedar Falls.

There’s No Place Like Home
Alumni of all ages returned to campus to help produce “Death of a Salesman”:
- Designer: Steve Gilliam (’70)
- Artistic Director: Dick Devin (’66)
- Sound Designer: Aaron Deyoung (’04)
- Hair Designer: Ashley Feht (’05)
- Scenic Painter: Eugenia Furneaux (’04)
- Scenic Painter: Katrina Sandvik (’94)
- Scenic Carpenter: Cara Ullrich (’97)
- Costume Design: Linda Grimm (’98)
- Costume Design: Julie McLaughlin (’97)

Enjoying the alumni reunion during Strayer-Wood’s 30th anniversary gala are (seated) Katie Frederick-Schector (’01), Steve Waste (’88), (standing) Angela Brommel (’99), Matt Fleming (’90), Michael Boudewyns (’89), John Jensen (’89), Sara Young (’88), Brenda Devita (’89) and James Garver (’92).

Students worked alongside alumni to build sets, as well as their professional network.
“Why do I have to take philosophy? I’m an art major. I’m never going to use that stuff.”

“Why do I have to take a foreign language? I’m staying in Iowa after I graduate.”

As an undergraduate, you may have made similar comments. Looking back, you’re probably glad you took classes outside of your major because of the exposure you received to a wide variety of subjects and viewpoints. As a liberal arts institution, classes within UNI’s Liberal Arts Core (LAC) help prepare well-rounded students who can think broadly, make connections between seemingly divergent ideas, and communicate effectively in person, on paper and online.

During the college’s inaugural Alumni Fellows Symposium, 19 CHFA alumni from across the country returned to campus to share with students how the university’s LAC played a significant role in their personal and professional success. They also discussed with faculty and staff ways in which the college and university can effectively promote the importance of a liberal arts education.

“Returning to campus to participate in the symposium was two of the best days of my year,” said Jeff Triplett (music ‘82). “Meeting fellow alumni whose experiences and current occupations are so diverse was both fascinating and educational.”

Triplett is one of many CHFA alumni who parlayed his academic major and liberal arts studies into an alternate career field later in life. After graduating from UNI, Triplett was a high school band conductor for four years before the high school’s music program was downsized due to budget cuts. Because of his adaptability, intellectual curiosity and problem-solving skills—characteristics fostered through the LAC—Triplett returned to school and obtained his Master of Accounting degree from the University of Iowa. He worked for the fifth largest accounting firm in the country for several years prior to his current position as an accountant for a family business office in West Liberty.

“Attending UNI was a great decision,” said Triplett. “I received a broad-based education that allowed me to spread my wings, both geographically and career-wise.”

The significance of a liberal arts education can hit home at any moment. For example, a sophomore may suddenly realize how the concepts she learned in her psychology class mesh with the cool advertising campaign she saw on her iPhone. Or a musician standing in Dubai City may suddenly grasp how a struggling emirate could transform into a sophisticated financial superpower. No matter when the connection is made, the college and LAC exposes students to a wide variety of subjects to provide general skills and develop intellectual curiosity to reach those “aha” moments in class, at work, and in everyday life.

The 19 alumni who responded to the invitation to return to campus were selected based on the following criteria:

- Their ability to provide insight as professionals, parents, mentors, employers and/or hiring managers
- Their career path, which took them in a direction different from their major area of study
- Their shining example of how majoring in the liberal arts can lay the foundation for a variety of careers
- Their expertise, which will help the college develop academic programs to prepare students for present and future challenges in life and the world of work

In addition to talking with students about how to make the most of their UNI experience, career opportunities, and how to balance professional and personal commitments, alumni also participated in strategic planning sessions. The purpose of these sessions was to examine how the college and university can continue to prepare and perhaps refine academic programs to help students find success...
in today’s global economy. Also on the agenda were discussions about the image of liberal arts programs within the college; the relevance of the liberal arts and the university’s LAC for personal growth and professional advancement; and how to implement the ideas gathered from the symposium to shape the college’s academic programs.

One of the themes heard loud and clear during the symposiums was that disciplinary “walls” need to be knocked down through cross-disciplinary learning opportunities. To meet that goal, Grammy-nominated music producer Jim Linahon (music ’73) and music video and Hollywood film director Daniel Carrey, cousin of actor/comedian Jim Carrey, recently presented on-campus workshops on music production and filmmaking. They also discussed the digital production of film and music, film acting, and gave a public presentation on working in Hollywood.

These wildly popular workshops were the first in a long line of upcoming events in which knowledge of literature, mathematics, science, ethics and the other liberal arts can converge into a satisfying, multifaceted career. Did students realize they were learning about the interconnectedness of life and the liberal arts while learning about music and film? Probably not. But one day, one of those students may be standing in Dubai City when the “aha” moment comes, propelling him or her into the ranks of countless CHFA alumni who are thankful for attending UNI and receiving an outstanding liberal arts education.

“Most alumni at the symposium said that UNI provided a broad, rich foundation and that their professional successes can largely be attributed to their liberal arts education,” said Cedar Rapids Prairie English teacher and Alumni Fellows Symposium attendee Debbie Erenberger (English ’95, M.A. ’00).

Alumni returned to campus to talk with students about the value of a liberal arts education. Attendees included (from left) Jim Linahon (music ’73), Michael J. Peitz, CAE (communication/theatre arts ’70, M.A. ’72), and Jeff Triplett (music ’82).

2009 Alumni Fellows Symposium
To learn more about next year’s symposium, April 16-18, 2009, please contact the dean’s office at 319-273-2725 or e-mail chfa-update@uni.edu
Art
In August Professor Jeffery Byrd became the head of the Department of Art, which is located in the award-winning Kamerick Art Building. Studios in the KAB are equipped with a wide range of tools and specialized equipment to help art education, studio art and art history majors develop their abilities and expand their vision.

Teaching within the department is enhanced by frequent lectures and workshops presented by visiting historians, educators, graphic designers and artists. As such, students have the opportunity to meet and interact with the most successful people working in the visual arts today. The department is also home to the UNI Gallery of Art. Through an exciting schedule of exhibitions, the gallery brings the work of nationally and internationally acclaimed artists to campus. The gallery is truly an interactive classroom as students learn through the direct analysis of artwork in all media.

The success of the department, which is accredited by the National Association of Schools of Art and Design (NASAD), depends upon the commitment of professors who are also successful artists, designers and scholars with national and international reputations. Their work in the field bears fruit in the classroom as real-world experience forms the foundation for learning. Recent highlights in professional activity include Professor Mary Frisbee Johnson’s exhibition of jewelry at the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, D.C.; Professor Roy Behrens’ work with the British Museum on an exhibition about camouflage; and Professor Tom Stancliffe’s commission for the monumental sculpture outside the Eastern Iowa Airport in Cedar Rapids. The UNI Gallery also hosted a spectacular art exhibition by Russian and American children, organized by Professor Jean Petsch and Gallery Director Darrell Taylor.

Communication Studies
The high quality of our programs in public relations, electronic media and communication is recognized both regionally and nationally. The UNI chapter of the Public Relations Student Society of America (PRSSA) has been recognized twice in five years as the outstanding chapter in the nation. Similarly, the UNI student public relations firm (PRide) was recognized as the outstanding student firm in the nation twice in four years. On an individual level, several communication students were chosen to be keynote presenters at national academic and professional conferences.

The success of our students is a direct result of the quality opportunities provided by our outstanding faculty. Six faculty members received the Regents Award for Faculty Excellence. Others received teaching awards at the state and regional levels; were awarded grants from the Department of Justice, the Iowa Humanities Council and the Iowa Arts Council; served in leadership roles for national scholarly organizations; worked closely with internship programs; and played key roles in the authorship of national high school learning standards in language arts.

Students in communication studies are active learners. More than 100 students per year enroll in internships; other students combine classroom learning with work experiences at the student-run radio station (Cedar River Productions) and the student public relations firm. Students also oversee programming for UNI’s cable access channel. And speaking of broadcasting, UNI is the only university in Iowa that receives student scholarship support from the Iowa Broadcasters Association.

The Department of Communication Studies continues to develop new ways of teaching students about the ever-changing role of technology in the communication process, with special attention paid to visual communication in all of its aspects. As the department adapts to changes in technology, the economy and the global situation, we remain committed to preparing students to be effective communicators and better citizens.

Communication Sciences and Disorders
The department recently changed its name from the Department of Communicative Disorders to the Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders. This name change, which is part of a trend in the field, reflects the scientific base of much of the preparatory coursework and a national movement in health care toward evidence-based practice. UNI’s nationally ranked program is one of 95 academic departments in the U.S. – nearly one-third – that currently contains the word “science” in their name.

Undergraduate enrollment in the department has doubled since 2002 and now stands at 150; our graduate program has around 50 students, which is the largest number of full-time graduate students in any major on campus. The department has seen an increase in its graduate student applicant pool in recent years. The timing of this growth spurt is suitable, as more service providers are
needed in the field both within the state and nationally.

In fall 2007 Jennifer Garrett Ph.D. joined the faculty. Her specialty areas are literacy acquisition and school-based practices. A native of Missouri, Garrett completed her B.A. and M.A at Truman State University in Kirksville and her Ph.D. at the University of Cincinnati.

Alison Lemke, M.A., also joined the department as a part-time clinical supervisor; she also serves as coordinator of speech-language pathology services at the Marshalltown Medical and Surgical Center. Ms. Lemke serves as vice president clinical services for the American Speech and Hearing Association (ASHA).

English Language and Literature
Centrally located on campus in historic Baker Hall, the department consists of approximately 70 faculty, staff members and part-time instructors. Within the department are such major and minor programs as English Education, Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL), Creative Writing, Literature, and Writing programs. In addition to offering a wide variety of major and minor programs, the department provides a full array of Liberal Arts Core courses, ranging from College Reading and Writing to Humanities. An outstanding graduate program also continues to grow and evolve yearly.

The department is home to an incredibly gifted faculty devoted to a balance of teaching, scholarship and service to the university, the local community and the state of Iowa. The North American Review, the oldest literary magazine in the United States, continues to provide a wide variety of internships and co-op educational experiences for students in our programs. The Iowa Writing Project, now an integral component of UNI, continues to offer teachers within the state the most, and best, in-service educational opportunities that have helped keep education in Iowa strong and on the cutting edge of research and practice.

Modern Languages
Varied and exciting programs for more than 200 majors and minors in French, German, Portuguese, Russian and Spanish are offered within the Department of Modern Languages. The department also offers Chinese language instruction. All language programs include the study of language, literature and culture. In addition to the department’s on-campus graduate and undergraduate programs, more than 100 students participated in study abroad opportunities last year in Russia, France, Spain, Mexico, Chile, Austria and many other countries.

For the past few years the department has hosted teacher mentoring workshops in which faculty reach out to high school foreign language teachers and offer them the opportunity to refresh their ideas on language teaching. Department members also collaborate with a variety of groups on campus, including the departments of Theatre, Communication Sciences and Disorders and English, as well as the School of Music, the Center for Multicultural Education, the International Student Association, the Hispanic Latino Student Union and the Capoeira Club.

Members of the department also participate in activities at the community level (El Centro Latinoamericano); the state level (Iowa World Languages Conference); the regional level (Central States Conference on the Teaching of Foreign Languages); the national level (American Association of Teachers of German, French, Spanish and Portuguese; American Council of Teachers of Russian); and internationally. Our faculty brings the world to our students!

Philosophy and World Religions
The department, as always, offers excellent undergraduate majors in philosophy and the study of religion. In recent years the interdisciplinary ethics minor, which is available to any UNI student, has become quite popular. This minor offers students an opportunity for ethical reflection about issues and careers that interest them most, all in the context of rigorous training in ethical theory and critical thinking offered by our faculty.

On the religion side, the department has been engaged in a “religious literacy” initiative, believing that promoting religious literacy has to be one of the key responsibilities of the study of religion at public universities. Most recently the department focused on expanded opportunities for UNI students and the public to learn more about Islam. In response to world events the department organized or co-sponsored, for example, a performance of the Sufi order whirling dervishes from Turkey; lectures on the differences between Sunni and Shi’ite Muslims as well as the Muslim-Christian dialogue; and interfaith presentations with Muslim colleagues to church groups, hospital staff and medical professionals.

The department provides national leadership in producing curricular guidelines for the study of religion in K-12 public schools. Other religious literacy work within the department includes planning and raising funds for expanded Roman Catholic Studies curricula and public programs (more Iowans are Roman Catholic than any other religious affiliation), and for expanded opportunities in the study of the religions of India. The department also hopes to
find the resources to give every major an opportunity to study abroad.

On the philosophy and ethics side, two faculty members lead important public programs in applied ethics – Donna Wood in business ethics and Francis Degnin in medical ethics. Numerous lectures, panels, conferences and consultations are held for campus, community and professional groups on ethical issues that confront virtually everyone. This year Harry Brod offered a new course, Just Sex: The Ethics of Intimacy, to expand our curriculum to the ethics of private life in addition to the ethics of social policy.

Theatre

The Department of Theatre offers high-quality education and experiences for the liberal arts student who has a passion for theatre. Productions and thought-provoking curriculum, the department's commitment to working with guest artists and our support of student creative activity help develop well-rounded communicators, problem-solvers and collaborators.

Theatre UNI is the production wing of the department and produces four to five major shows each year, in addition to numerous experimental projects. The works cover a range of genres and also include collaborations with the School of Music on musicals and operas. Theatre UNI is driven by a group of passionate theatre artists and teachers with a desire to imbue students with a strong set of skills, values and standards. They possess a diversity of strong professional backgrounds and connections and are effective in helping students transition into the field and further training.

The department also actively pursues working with a wide range of professional guest artists who engage in numerous residencies and specialized workshops. Exchanges have been established with Poland and Russia, which allow the department to host students from those countries throughout the academic year; we also send faculty and students abroad to participate in workshops and teaching experiences.

There are some fabulous ways in which students receive other kinds of support. In 2007 Travis Walker and Julie Baldwin were the first pair of students selected for the Robert Wise Broadway Tour. Wise (communication/theatre education ’50) created an endowment for two outstanding theatre students to go to New York and see four or more Broadway and off-Broadway shows, all expenses paid. And for more than three decades S.T.A.G.E. Inc., Theatre UNI's support organization, has awarded scholarships that allow students to devote more time to their academic life and development as theatre artists.

School of Music

The School of Music had an incredibly busy and exciting academic year. With the Russell Hall renovation nearing completion and students and faculty moving into new offices and practice spaces, 2008-2009 looks to be a groundbreaking year in music education and student opportunities.

In 2007-2008 we were proud to host the Meryl Norton Hearst Visiting Artist Series. In November guest artist and world-renowned composer Samuel Adler joined us for a full-week residency, featuring a large ensemble Spotlight Series concert, chamber music recital and department-wide lecture and reception. The Hearst Series continued in April with the arrival of Grammy award-winning composer and conductor Maria Schneider. Schneider’s four-day residency featured lectures, hands-on arranging workshops and a Spotlight Series concert featuring UNI’s own Jazz Band One. Students, faculty, staff and supporters continue to remind us how valuable it is to experience the outstanding talents of guest artists.

Two new faculty members joined the School of Music in 2007. The first is S. Daniel Galyen Ph.D., assistant professor of music education, director of the Panther Marching Band and conductor of the Concert Band and Symphonic Band. Galyen holds degrees from Virginia Tech, Syracuse University and the University of Florida.

Korey Barrett also joined our faculty as assistant professor of vocal coaching and collaborative piano. Barrett earned his bachelor’s and master’s degrees in vocal performance from UNI (‘98, ’01) and his doctorate from the Eastman School of Music.

Be sure to join us September 26 and 27, 2008, for the Russell Hall rededication celebration and our 27th annual Scholarship Benefit Concert!
Faculty members within the college have authored books on a variety of topics. We’re proud to introduce you to their most recent works.


Copeland was inspired to write “Inman’s War” after purchasing a suitcase at a St. Louis-area flea market filled with letters sent between a Sgt. Inman Perkins and an Olivia Merriweather during World War II. “Inman’s War” recounts their day-to-day lives, their great love for one another and the racial discrimination Perkins faces as part of the “colored” 449th Signal Construction Battalion. Soon to be a motion picture.


“Fighting Kite” narrates, in verse, the life of Martin Avila Gotera, the author’s father—a son, trickster, soldier, schizophrenic, visionary, lawyer and workingman. “Fighting Kite” addresses the shared histories of the Philippines and the United States; it also unveils how parents’ lives shape, shade and sharpen their children’s days and nights.


“Talking the Talk” is the result of a two-year study of rural discourse and what Lamberti calls “industrial” discourse. “Talking the Talk” discusses how the Western scientific tradition has influenced what is spoken and written, and what is considered “valid” professional communication while excluding communication that can’t be scientifically measured.


In this action-packed novel, Zan-Gah passes from an uncertain boyhood to a tried-and-proven manhood and a leader among his people. Young adults as well as older readers will be deeply moved as the hero undertakes his quest that leads to captivity, conflict, love and triumph. “Zan-Gah” won an Eric Hoffer Book Award as a “Notable” young adult novel and is a finalist for the ForeWord Magazine Book of the Year award.


Stan Traicheff doesn’t know why he’s auditioning for a community theater production of “42nd Street.” Maybe because his wife wants a divorce, his oldest son feels awkward around him and his youngest son isn’t even talking. Or maybe he just wants a new beginning. Whatever his motivation, Stan is transformed by playing the role of Mac and discovers friendship, fellowship and romance.


This bilingual anthology presents contemporary prose fiction, essays and poems by well-known writers from the multiethnic and multilingual Italian province of South Tyrol. A concise history of South Tyrolean literature since the 1960s and a glossary of special regional terms complement this unique selection of texts.
Student Excellence

A look at our students’ outstanding accomplishments

Philosophy Majors Excel

Senior philosophy major and Honors student Grant Rozeboom won first place at the prestigious Undergraduate Philosophy Conference at Dartmouth College. The conference gives undergraduates from across the country the opportunity to share their studies of philosophy with fellow students. Rozeboom’s winning paper, “Freedom Beyond Restraint: An Arendtian Critique of the Liberal Tradition,” was also published in Aporia, Dartmouth’s undergraduate journal of Philosophy.

Rozeboom is the recipient of UNI’s Nadyne Harris Honors Scholarship for Honors Travel. He was also a Presidential Scholar, which recognized his outstanding academic performance and promise.

The Life-Changing Nature of Study Abroad

“Due to an ever-shrinking world, we find ourselves coming in contact more frequently with views and customs different than our own,” said Erik Hanson (German ’07), a graduate student in English with an emphasis in creative writing. As an undergrad, Hanson studied abroad for two semesters in Klagenfurt, Austria. Since that experience, his world has forever changed.

“Everyone should think seriously about studying abroad,” Hanson said. “Even if they’re not studying a foreign language or culture, it feels as if we need ambassadors with open minds right now in the global community. My studies opened the door to a better understanding of the world by not only pointing out differences, but by celebrating them [and] reinforcing similarities as well.”

John Fordyce ’08 (philosophy) scored in the 99th percentile on the Law School Admission Test and was accepted into this fall’s class at Harvard. Fordyce is one of only a few UNI graduates to be accepted into Harvard Law, the top-rated law school in the country.
Students Participate in Research Symposium

This spring’s annual Graduate Research Symposium provided a venue for CHFA students in master’s-level programs to present their research to their peers, professors and a college panel of judges. Receiving first place and $1,500 was Sergei Golitsinski (communication studies, computer science ’07) for his thesis “Significance of the General Public for Public Relations: A Study of the Blogosphere’s Impact on the October 2006 Edelman/Wal-Mart Crisis.” Golitsinski wrote a computer program to collect blog discussions of an unsuccessful PR strategy and offered a revision of standard PR theory of the general public.

Placing second and receiving $1,000 was Rebecca Buel (graduate assistant in communication studies) for her research paper on how universities rhetorically deal with overbearing parents, “University Response to Helicopter Parents through the Lens of Family Therapy.” Third prize was shared among Chelsea Clock Bell (communicative disorders ’06), “Comparing the Effects of Sung Versus Spoken Lyrics on Speech and Language Acquisition in Late-Talking Toddlers”; April E. Cook (English, music ’07) “Syntagmatics and Synaesthetic Signification: Joyce, Schoenberg, and the Dissolution of Tonality”; and Amanda F. Nolte (communication/theatre Arts ’05; M.A. communication studies ’07), “Staging Purity: Purity Balls and Virginity Pledges as the Performance of Female Subjection.” Each student received $750. Cash prizes were provided by the Dean’s Fund for Excellence.

College Announces Dean’s Scholars

Four freshmen were named CHFA Dean’s Scholars and will receive $5,000 per year for their four years at UNI. To be selected, recipients must have an ACT score of 27 or higher, rank in the upper 15 percent of their high school graduating class, declare a major within the college and maintain at least a 3.5 GPA.

Dean’s Scholars Sarah Schreitmueller and Spencer Walrath said they probably could not have afforded to come to UNI had it not been for the Dean’s Scholarship. “If I didn’t receive some serious scholarships I knew I’d have to attend a community college, which wasn’t the right fit for me,” said Walrath. “My family and I thank everyone who donated to the Dean’s Fund. Without your support, I wouldn’t be at UNI.”

In addition to a generous scholarship, Dean’s Scholars Christina Goering and Christine Appleby are grateful for the free tickets they receive to attend performances at the Gallagher-Bluedorn Performing Arts Center. Goering said, “I’ve witnessed the finesse of Hindu dances, heard the heart of Africa beat to Ugandan drums, laughed with comedians and much more! The Dean’s Scholar program [fosters] an emotional appreciation of the arts that flourishes with each new encounter.”

Sharing Research, Showing Designs

As an independent study project to prepare for graduate school, Vanessa Sheppard (communication/theatre art ’08) researched, read and sketched ideas to create appropriate, historically accurate scenic designs for Ibsen’s play “Pillars of Society.” Because of the strength of her work and her eagerness to share with others, Sheppard was chosen to present her research and designs to Iowa legislators and the Board of Regents, State of Iowa. Sheppard spoke at the capitol and on campus about the type of research that is and can be done at UNI, how research can be applied to her major and other majors on campus, and how UNI research can be applied nationwide and in the future. Sheppard is the recipient of the Eleanor J. and Frank W. Starr Theatre Scholarship, which is awarded to incoming Iowa freshman theatre majors who maintain a 3.0 GPA or higher.

Your gifts to the Dean’s Fund for Excellence can help even more students reach their academic and professional goals. Contact Development Director Michelle Rourke at michelle.rourke@uni.edu or 319-273-3915 to learn more about making a gift.
The exhibit “Justice Illuminated: The Art of Arthur Szyk” came to UNI as part of the college’s Holocaust Remembrance and Education Program, sponsored by the Meryl Norton Hearst Lecture Series.

Szyk, pronounced “Shick” (1894-1951), was a Polish Jewish artist trained in Paris and Krakow. He immigrated to the U.S. in 1940 to escape Europe in the wake of the Holocaust and to build American support to join the fight against Nazism and Fascism. Szyk’s work celebrates “the moral values of liberty, democracy and peace while denigrating the social vices of repression, persecution and tyranny.”

In addition to this traveling exhibit, campus and community members were educated on the Holocaust – its history, lasting impact and representations of European Jews and other Nazi persecutions – through concerts, lectures, films and panel discussions. In so doing, the memory of those who suffered and died under Nazi tyranny was honored, as well as those who fought for the liberation of Europe from Nazi rule, and are still alive.
Reaching Out to the World

Students and communication sciences and disorders Professor Ken Bleile spent a good portion of last summer preparing for and providing services to children with communication disorders in Nicaragua. This July they went again.

For two weeks Professor Bleile and 27 students from UNI’s communication sciences and disorders, social work and modern languages departments, as well as students from San Jose State University in California, worked in schools and in orphanages for children with disabilities. The group evaluated and treated speech, language and hearing disorders. Says Professor Bleile, “It’s almost impossible to understand how important speech-language pathology and audiology are until you see a country where the professions barely exist.”

We’re Rolling!

The Department of Communication Studies sponsored its annual Fast Forward Electronic Media Conference to prepare undergraduates and further educate working professionals for the competitive business of broadcast news. This fast-paced, one-day workshop covered such topics as the basics of reporting, what employers are looking for in new hires and multitasking in a multiplatform world. “Entertainment Tonight” co-anchor Mark Steines (communications/radio TV ’86), Around the Corner Productions co-owner Eric Braley (communication/electronic media ’03; M.A. communication studies ’05) were just two of the alumni experts on hand to help students gain that all-important edge.

A number of full and partial scholarships were provided through generous funding by the Iowa Broadcasters Association. To learn more about this year’s workshop, contact Department Head John Fritch at 319-273-6618 or John.Fritch@uni.edu.

Educating Educators

The Iowa Writing Project (IWP), under the direction of Assistant Professor of English Jim Davis, is once again offering summer institutes/workshops on the UNI campus to help improve and add consistency to the practice of the teaching of writing from kindergarten through college, across disciplines.

After completing their three-week summer institute, many teachers elect an IWP seminar during the school year. Others choose a summer Level II workshop or a workshop on writing and literature. An annual statewide conference is available to all participants as well.

Since its inception, nearly 10,000 Iowa teachers have participated in the project to help raise the level of enthusiasm and overall writing achievement of Iowa students. This year marks the 31st anniversary of the program, which has been instrumental in establishing Iowa’s reputation for producing well-educated students across the curriculum. Learn more about the IWP by contacting Jim Davis at james.davis@uni.edu or 319-273-3842.

Ancient Scriptures Translated

Class Notes

1948
Wayne Gard (music) retired after selling his music store in Lakewood, Calif. Gard taught in the Iowa and California public schools and was head of the music department (10 years) and the choral department (17 years) at Long Beach City College.

1949
Kathryn (Lomen) Walker Poen (music) has a piano studio and is director of the Flagstaff Light Opera Company in Arizona.

1952
Warren Hatfield (music) received six Grammy nominations for his album “Smile.” Hatfield lives in Phoenix where he performs with various jazz groups. He taught at South Dakota State University for 33 years and was head of the music department for 27 years.

1955
Audrey Coburn (music) retired from teaching in Chesterton, Ind. She’s traveled the country by driving support vehicles for bicycle riders and has also taken several long-distance trips on a motor scooter.

Jack McAuley (M.A. comm/theatre arts) published two college texts and is a professor emeritus from Grossmont College in California.

1958
Sharon Hann (art) retired after teaching at Des Moines Area Community College for 30 years. She lives in Denver, Colo.

1959
Deloy Davidsen (music; M.A. ’62) retired as head of the music department at Marshalltown Community College.

1960
Richard Marcussen (art) coaches swimming at Cedar Falls High School.

1964
Patsy (Wilson) Martin (English) taught 9th-grade English for 43 years, 41 of those in Clarinda. She is now retired.

Donald Stine (music) retired from teaching music and plays in the Eastern Iowa Brass Band with his wife. Judy (Johnson) Stine (music ’69). Mr. Stine founded the band in 1986.

1965
Waunita (Kerr) Gibbons (English) was recently credentialed by the Board for Certification of Genealogists. She lives in Missouri City, Texas.

Michael Hogan (English) was named president of the University of Connecticut. He was formerly a vice president and provost at the University of Iowa.

Carroll Lang (art) is pastor at Church of the Damascus Road, a prison congregation in Fort Dodge and Rockwell City.

1966
Robert Iverson (M.A.; music) retired from teaching music in Alexandria, Minn. Iverson is the co-founder and president of the Alexandria Area Arts Association.

1968
William Andrews (English; M.A. library science ’72; M.A. media ’76) is president of Bakersfield College in California.

Linda (Pashby) Kaufman (English) is an ordained Unitarian Universalist minister and spiritual director working as a hospital chaplain in Seattle, Wash.

Gary Kelley (art) was inducted into the Society of Illustrators Hall of Fame. Kelley has created illustrations for Time, Newsweek, The New Yorker, Atlantic Monthly, Rolling Stone and several picture books. He has been commissioned by the NFL, NBA and Barnes & Noble, and was an official artist for the Kentucky Derby.

Ed McMahon (music) retired as director of high school bands and instrumental music at Central Community Schools. He worked for the district for 32 years.

1969
Dianne (Alford) Shaw (music) is a national sales consultant for the Birmingham Jefferson County Convention and Visitors Bureau in Alabama.

1970
Sharon Burns-Knuston (art) retired after teaching 37 years at Lemme Elementary School in Iowa City.

Charmaine (Shreve) Dapena (art) is the art director for Indiana Alumni Magazine and received a University and College Designer’s Association award for excellence in design.

1978
Sheri Greenawald (music ’68) has appeared in major leading operatic roles under the world’s most famous conductors in the most prestigious international opera houses and concert halls around the globe. She has sung featured roles with the Metropolitan Opera, San Francisco Opera, Lyric Opera of Chicago, the Munich State Opera, Paris’ Chatelet Theater, the Seattle Opera Company, Naples’ Teatro San Carlos and many, many others. Greenawald also toured with Leonard Bernstein and the Israel Philharmonic to New York, London, Zurich, Naples and Paris.

Greenawald, a graduate of the Professional Studies Program at the Juilliard School in New York, taught at the Boston Conservatory for several years before accepting her current position as director of the San Francisco Opera Center. A proud UNI alumna, Greenawald has returned to campus numerous times as a visiting artist, performer and teacher of master classes for students. She has also performed with the Northern Iowa Symphony Orchestra at UNI Scholarship Benefit Concerts to raise funds for students. At this spring’s commencement ceremony, the university presented Greenawald with an honorary doctorate degree.

1969
Michael Hogan (English) was named president of the University of Connecticut. He was formerly a vice president and provost at the University of Iowa.

1970
Sharon Burns-Knuston (art) retired after teaching 37 years at Lemme Elementary School in Iowa City.

Charmaine (Shreve) Dapena (art) is the art director for Indiana Alumni Magazine and received a University and College Designer’s Association award for excellence in design.

Mike Gallagher (English) is vice president of human resources for Harrah’s and Horseshoe casinos in Council Bluffs.

Ken Steinkamp (art) retired from American Airlines to devote time to his art career and other artistic endeavors. Steinkamp, who lives in Mystic, Conn., has had numerous works exhibited throughout the United States.

Larry Untiet (comm/theatre arts) was inducted into the Iowa High School Speech Association Hall of Fame. He teaches at Spencer High School and has held numerous positions with the IHSSA.

Mireya (Bernal) Wenthold (English) retired from teaching in 2006. She lives in Naples, Fla., with husband Dennis Wenthold (physical
education/health ’72). Next year they plan to move to El Valle, Panama, and take over Cabanas Potosi, a company that rents cabins in the Panamanian mountains.

1971
Jane (Matousek) Boye (English; M.A. student personnel services/secondary guidance counseling ’72) teaches English at Valley Lutheran High School in Phoenix, Ariz.
Delores (Coney) Brown (Spanish) retired in 2004 as an administrator and Spanish teacher for Dekalb County Schools in Atlanta, Ga.
Jim Kern (comm/theatre arts) was named executive director of Brucemore historic mansion in Cedar Rapids.
Bruce Somerville (comm/theatre arts) played Hubert in the production “Life x 3” in Fort Myers and Naples, Fla. He lives in Marco Island, Fla., and has had works of art displayed in several venues.

1972
Margaret (Ruth) Herman (French) teaches English as a second language at the Hmong-American Partnership Learning Center in St. Paul, Minn.
Karen (Bottjen) Hoyt (art) is co-director of the Marion, Iowa, Cultural and Entertainment District. She has been an art teacher for 35 years.
William Kaufman (English) was named Personal Cruise Consultant of the Year for Holland America Line, Inc. for achieving revenue excellence. He lives in Shoreline, Wash.
Peter Lytle (art) created the first home to receive a platinum certification from the U.S. Green Building Council. Lytle is executive director and founder of Live Green, Live Smart.

1973
Sandra (Witt) Adelmund (English) is director of North Star Academy in Minneapolis.
In 2007 she led the student body on a tour of Rome, Florence and Athens.
Jim Linahon (music) is president and owner of LMP Studios, a state-of-the-art analog and digital recording facility based in L.A. Linahon started off as a trumpet and flugelhorn player at UNI, moved to LA in 1975, and has since created more than 300 recording projects for film, television, radio, musical theater and CD/DVD. He received two Grammy nominations for his work on Warren Hatfield’s (’52) album “Smile.”
Marnell (Keas) Lyle (English; M.A. education ’84) retired from teaching in the Cedar Falls Community School District.
Joann Mackin (German; M.A. ’75) was appointed advocacy specialist for the Iowa State Education Association. She lives in

1974
Mary (Haushman) Citta (music) was recognized as an outstanding music educator by Heritage Festivals. She teaches music at Waterloo West High School.
Xuchitl (Nodarse) Coso (Spanish; M.A. counseling ’80) is director of career development at Florida Southern College in Lakeland, Fla.

1975
Jeff Steitzer (comm/theatre arts) has performed in productions across the United States and currently plays the town mayor in the Broadway revival of “Inherit the Wind.”
Jeffrey Tower (music) is an award-winning band director at Hemet High School in Hemet, Calif. He performed on the Grammy-nominated album “Smile,” produced by Warren Hatfield (’52) and James Linahon (’73).

1976
Janice (Steger) Hanish (Spanish; M.A. ’77) is assistant vice president for outreach and special programs at UNI. She has been employed by the university since 1977.

1977
Connie Coltrane (communicative disorders; M.A. ’79) received the Alice Buffet Outstanding Teacher Award given annually to 15 teachers in the Omaha, Neb., area.

1978
Jean (Michaelsen) Carlisle (comm/theatre arts; M.A. ’81) appeared in “Lend Me A Tenor” at the Cedar Falls Community Theatre. She works for the UNI Foundation.
1979

Thomas Riter (comm/radio TV) is associate farm director for WNAX radio in Yankton, S.D. In March he received the Milton J. Hake Award from the National Farmers Union as the top agriculture news reporter in the country. Riter also received a media award from the South Dakota Pork Producers Council.

1980

Leesa (Cutler) Talbot (English) received the 2007 Gold Star Award for Outstanding Teaching sponsored by the R.J. McElroy Trust and KWWL Television. Talbot teaches English at Holmes Junior High School in Cedar Falls. Melia Tatman (English) works in the children’s programming department at the Cedar Rapids Public Library. She also writes a monthly column for the Cedar Rapids Gazette about new library items. Lance Wilson (M.A. German) retired from John Deere Engine Works in Waterloo. He and his wife Joann Mackin (German ’73; M.A. German ’75) live in Hampton.

1981

Martha (Kernan) Bangston (English) won Wal-Mart’s Teacher of the Year award for the Shenandoah area. Marcia (Bull) Hahn (comm/PR) is an assistant editor for the magazine Farmers’ Markets Today.

1982

John Couture (comm/theatre arts) is a project manager for Sprint Nextel and lives in Lees Summit, Mo.

1983

Joyce Allard (comm/PR) lives in Grimes and is director of communications for Special Olympics Iowa. She most recently served as the community education coordinator at the Iowa Department of Public Health.

1984

Elaine Johnson (comm/PR) is a sales associate with Weichert Realtors and a member of the Waterloo-Cedar Falls Board of Realtors. She recently earned the e-PRO Internet Professional certification. William Potter (comm/radio TV) is the New England regional sales manager for Universal Computer Systems/Reynolds & Reynolds Co. and lives in North Grosvenor Dale, Conn.

1985

Polly Carver-Kimm (comm/radio TV) is the public information officer for the Iowa Department of Public Health. She was formerly a news director and co-host of the morning show at KIOA and the Des Moines Radio Group. Carver-Kimm also does freelance recording work and has hosted the national Powerball lottery drawing.

1986

Timothy Crawford (theatre arts) is technical director of Drugs, Nutrition and Cosmetics for Basic Solutions in Simi Valley, Calif. He is in charge of all scientific affairs for the company with three patents pending.

1987

Theresa (Lambertsen) Gordy (English) joined ACT in Iowa City as senior corporate communications associate.

1988

Tom Schoffelman (comm/PR) is director of marketing and public relations at Conroe Regional Medical Center in Conroe, Texas.

1989

Troy Dannen (comm/PR) received the UNI Alumni Association’s Young Alumni Award through the Heritage Honours program. The award is presented annually to a professionally successful graduate who’s been active in the life of the university early in his/her career. Dannen was recently named UNI’s athletic director.

Scott Johnson (English) is assistant dean in the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences at the University of Arizona.

Jeffrey Kaplan (comm/PR) lives in Dallas, Texas, and is director of sales for Optoma Technologies, where he develops the company’s professional audio/video business unit.


1990

Norm Bogunia (comm/radio TV) is the afternoon drive announcer with Cox Radio in Dayton, Ohio. He also does voiceover work as Norm Kelly.

Bradley Jensen (M.M.) received a 2007 Gold Star Award for Outstanding Teaching, which is co-sponsored by the R.J. McElroy Trust and KWWL Television. Jensen teaches music at Hudson Community Schools.

Tamara Thies (music; M.A. ’97) lives in Keokuk and teaches at West Branch Elementary School. She received certification from the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards in 2007.

Carol Olson (comm/radio TV) serves in the Army National Guard in Alexandria, Va. She was promoted to lieutenant colonel and currently serves as the Equipping Branch chief. Olson is a veteran of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

1991

Kent Abrahamson (English) is principal of Valley Southwoods Freshman High School in West Des Moines. He was previously an assistant women's basketball coach at Missouri State University.

Janet (Rabb) Bealles (communicative disorders) lives in Dundas, Minn., and is a speech-language pathologist for the Randolph School District.

Dan Cox (social science; M.A. Spanish ’01) is an assistant principal at Waterloo East High School. He was formerly principal at Valley Lutheran School in Cedar Falls.

Natalie (Eilderts) Kracht (comm/PR) is a business development coordinator for Allen Occupational Health. She lives in Grundy Center.

Kathleen (Till) Stange (accounting, Spanish) was named one of “40 under 40” outstanding business professionals by the Des Moines Business Record. Stange is investor relations vice president at FBL Financial Group, Inc. in West Des Moines, a member of United Way of Central Iowa’s Women’s Leadership Connection and a founder/member of the Professional Women’s Networking Group.

1992

Kevin Hoferer (music) teaches jazz improvisation, jazz combos and the saxophone quartet at Mansfield University in Mansfield, Pa. He also taught at the University of Oregon, Western Oregon University and Des Moines Area Community College. Hoferer has performed and recorded with the Jared Burrows Quartet since 1998 and has been a featured soloist in various jazz festivals and ensembles.

Sarah (McDonald) Holmes (comm/PR; M.A. college/university student services ’94) was elected vice president/president-elect for the Upper Midwest Region of the Association of College and University Housing Officers. She lives in Des Moines.

Lisa (Squires) White (music) is alumni director at Cornell College in Mount Vernon.

1993

Shawn (Hann) Hawkins (comm/theatre arts) teaches theatre at the Denver School of the Arts in Colorado.

Mitchell Matthews (comm/PR) lives in West Des Moines and is owner of the Matthews Group.

Susan (Loftus) Munnik (music) is executive director of the Waterloo-Cedar Falls Symphony. Dan Schuster (art) appeared as a guest artist on HGTV’s “That’s Clever!” showcasing his sculptures and how they’re created. He was also recognized in an artist spotlight editorial in Log Home Living magazine.

1994

Denise (Steines) Forney (comm/PR) is a corporate trainer for Kemin Industries in Des Moines. She also sings and plays guitar in a Christian rock band.

Nancy (Kortenkamp) Mikel (M.A. audiology) competed in the 2007 Wisconsin Ironman Triathlon and finished in 14:27:09. Mikel is a pediatric audiologist in the Pediatric Cochlear Implant Program at the University of Wisconsin Hospital Audiology Clinic.

Maryjo (Block) Williams (English) teaches English at Dubuque Senior High School.

Michael Williams (English) is a copy editor at the Dubuque Telegraph Herald.

1995

Kiplin Kellogg (comm/PR) is director of mid-market sales for McLeodUSA in Hiawatha. He has been with the company since March 1997.

Erik Ladner (French, Spanish; M.A. Spanish ’97) is an assistant professor of Spanish at Central College in Pella.

Josh Mateer (art) is a senior designer at Stamats, Inc. in Cedar Rapids.

Todd Munnik (music; M.M. ’99) is a programmer with Smart Public Safety in Waterloo.

Mark Rixner (comm/theatre arts) is the drama coach at North High School in Des Moines. In addition, he has organized the donation of prom attire for needy students for three years.

Christine Stewart-Nunez (English) is an assistant professor of creative writing at South Dakota State University. She has published two poetry chapbooks: “Unbound and Branded” explores media treatment of women’s bodies; “The Love of Unreal Things” is inspired by the life of Catherine of Siena.

Joe Surma (comm/broadcasting) is public relations and marketing coordinator at Wheaton Franciscan Healthcare in Waterloo. He chaired the 2008 My Waterloo Days festival.

1996

Lisa (Fuller) Gernant (music, Spanish; M.A. computer science ’01) is a supply management business analyst for Repetitive Manufacturing and lives in Waterloo.

James Harken (comm/electronic media) is a public relations officer for the Arizona Game and Fish Department.

Charles Silverberg (comm/PR) is the strategic account manager for Hibbett Sports, a retail sporting goods chain. He lives in Norcross, Ga.

Aimee (Deimerly) Snyder (comm/organizational comm) won the Ribbon Award in the Candy Clinic First Timer’s category at the Retail Confectioners International Convention and Industry Exposition in Springfield, Mo. She works for Lillie Mae Chocolate in Marshalltown.

Nicholle (Judas) Stone (English; M.A. comm training technology ’97) is director of learning technology services at the University of Wisconsin-Stout. She received the 2007 Chancellor’s Academic Staff Award for Excellence.

Krista Voda (comm/electronic media) is a reporter for Fox and the Speed Network, covering NASCAR and other sports.

1997

Jennifer (Korgmeier) Allemann (comm/PR) was one of 10 finalists in a People magazine style makeover contest. She lives in St. Louis.

Heather (Winterhof) Fromm (art) lives in Waverly and is assistant vice president and account manager for Lincoln Savings Bank Financial.

1998

Rebecca Kauten (English; M.P.P. ’06) is the watershed coordinator for the Black Hawk Soil and Water Conservation District. She presents on municipal storm water management at national conferences.
1998

Michelle (Greene) Keller (comm/organizational comm) is the business manager for operating room and surgical services at the University of Iowa Hospitals. 

Douglas Lestina (comm/theatre arts) teaches drama at City High School in Iowa City.

William Coghill-Behrends (Russian, German) is the associate director of the Educational Placement Office at the University of Iowa.

David Hildahl (comm/PR) is a senior copywriter at Hellman in Waterloo, a full-service marketing, advertising and public relations firm.

Daniel Hosea (comm) was featured on the TV Guide Network’s “Who Will Be America’s Next Producer?” Ten aspiring producers competed for $100,000, a production office in Hollywood and a deal with TV Guide. He previously worked for CNN.

Steven Krob (English) is marketing coordinator at BSB Design in West Des Moines. He previously taught writing at Adel-DeSoto-Minburn High School.

David Leto (comm/organizational comm) is director of technology at the Palmer Group in West Des Moines.

Karen Pitcher (English) completed her Ph.D. in Communication Studies at the University of Iowa. She is an assistant professor of communications at Eckerd College in St. Petersburg, Fla.

Stacy Reinhart (communicative disorders) is an audiologist and co-owner of The Hearing Clinic, Windsor Heights. She lives in West Des Moines.

Kate (Sander) Basi (M.M.) has been composing and playing music since graduating from UNI. Her collection of instrumentals titled “Times and Seasons” was published this year.

Matt Tracy (English) received the 2007 Gold Star Award for Outstanding Teaching, sponsored by the R.J. McElroy Trust and KWWL Television. Tracy teaches English at East High School in Waterloo.

2000

Matthew Buckley (comm/PR) teaches at Kofa High School in Yuma, Ariz.

Sheryl Dietzenbach (comm) is working at Sole, McManus, Pearson & Willems, P.C. law firm in Cedar Rapids.

Karris Golden (M.A. English) was appointed to the Generation Iowa Commission by Governor Chet Culver. The commission helps retain and attract young adults to work and live in the state. She was selected as one of “20 Under 40” outstanding business professionals for 2007 by the Waterloo-Cedar Falls Courier. Golden is assistant director of communication and marketing and news director at Wartburg College.

Mindy (Coe) Griffin (music education) is an Iowa State Patrol trooper at the Mason City post.

Lucinda (Diggins) Lear (music; M.A. ’03) received the Iowa Music Teachers Association Distinguished Service Award. She is an independent piano and voice teacher in Waterloo.

Tracy (Garrett) Routson (M.A. comm studies) is an assistant professor of communication at Washburn University in Topeka, Kan.

Jennifer (Noehl) Rusch (comm/PR) is executive director of the Volunteer Center of the Cedar Valley. Governor Chet Culver recently appointed her to the Iowa Commission on Volunteer Service.

2001

Kathy Cameron (M.M.) presented a session on intermediate-level flute repertoire at the Ohio Music Educators Association’s annual conference. She is currently pursuing her Doctor of Musical Arts degree at Ohio State University. Cameron works for the university P-12 Project and teaches middle school general music for St. James the Less School in Columbus, Ohio, and St. Agatha School in Upper Arlington, Ohio.

Nick Caster (English) was named senior editor in English Language Arts at Buckle Down Publishing in Iowa City.

Jeffrey Dieken (English) is the principal at Hudson High School.

Jennifer Dodd (comm/interpersonal comm) is a manager and esthetician at Bell Nichol Spalon in Waterloo.

Elda Elizondo (M.A. TESOL) is curriculum development coordinator at Costa Rican-North American Binational Center and lives in San Juan, Puerto Rico.

Allison (Cink) Rickels (comm/PR) is executive director and CEO of the FarmHouse Foundation in Kansas City, Mo. The foundation supports the educational and leadership programs of FarmHouse, an agricultural-related fraternity located on campuses throughout the U.S. and Canada.

2002

Gillian Christy (art) completed her public art sculpture “Embrace” as an urban signifier for a neighborhood in Providence, R.I. She was commissioned for the project by a local nonprofit organization and received funding from city institutions, private donors and grants. The piece is based around a deteriorating 60-foot smokestack.

Christina (Kuehl) Geweke (comm/organizational comm) is store manager for Wells Fargo at its Main Street location in Cedar Falls.

Nick Glew (comm/electronic media) is a private banking officer with Cedar Rapids Bank and Trust.

Nick Pfeiffer (comm/PR) was named to the Iowa Bankers Association’s marketing committee. He is a marketing officer at Iowa State Bank and Trust in Iowa City.

Cheryl Ritz (comm/PR) is the director of fund development for the American Red Cross Hawkeye Chapter. She lives in Waterloo.

Jill (Hathaway) Wheeler (English) teaches English and drama at Carlisle High School. She is also pursing a master’s degree in literature at Iowa State University.

2003

Jensen Barnes (art) is pursuing a master’s degree in graphic design at Yale University. He previously worked as a book designer.

Molly Duggan (comm/organizational comm) joined VGM Financial Services as a regional account manager.

Jennifer (Fischels) Pratt (comm/PR) is a real estate agent and lives in Coralville.

Laura Riskedah (art) is a metadata librarian at Bucknell University in Lewisburg, Pa.

Ann (Walkup) Schlapia (comm/PR) is the bookstore manager for Southwestern Community College, which has campuses in Creston, Red Oak and Osceola.

Lisa Schmitz (music) is a media relations specialist for Hendrick Motorsports in the NASCAR Nextel Cup Series. She lives in Huntersville, N.C.

Vicki Truka Schmitz (art) teaches art at a K-8 school for gifted and talented students in Huntington Beach, Calif.

Patrick Shanahan (comm/theatre arts) received his master’s degree in educational leadership from Northern Arizona University. He teaches theatre at Maryvale High School in Phoenix.

Charlyn (Fink) Williams (art) is a travelers patient care coordinator for VGM Homelink in Cedar Falls.

2004

Molly Ammons (Russian) works for Lutheran Services in Iowa as program and career exploration supervisor for Refugee Cooperative Services. She lives in Des Moines.
Jill Brimeyer (art) joined the Meyocks Group as a designer and art director. She was previously a graphic designer with Dyton Creative.

Brittany (Fessler) Jungck (English) is an education manager for Junior Achievement of Eastern Iowa, Inc.

Hillary (Brockshus) Kisker (English) is an eighth-grade communication arts teacher in Liberty, Mo. She is also pursuing a master’s degree in teacher leadership at Northwest Missouri State University.

Michele (Nielsen) Ott (the study of religion) graduated from Vanderbilt University Divinity School with a Master of Theological Studies degree. She lives in Antioch, Tenn.

Brian Noble (comm/PR) is a recruiter at H&R Block World Headquarters in Kansas City, Mo.

Jamie (Tegeler) Sauer (art) is vice president of marketing at Enmon Accessories in Denton, Texas.

Elizabeth (Nottger) Van Dyke (English) teaches English and reading at Tipton Middle School.

Katie Zimmerly (comm/electronic media) is a health and safety program coordinator for the American Red Cross Black Hawk Chapter.

2005
Jennifer Anderson (Spanish) teaches Spanish at Williamsburg High School.
Terra (Kelley) Burt (art) teaches art at Waukee Middle School.
Abby Donnenwerth (comm/PR; M.A. comm studies ‘07) is an account executive for Hellman, a full-service marketing, advertising and public relations firm in Waterloo.

Ashley Feht (theatre) works at Jiva Salonspa in Cedar Falls. She received her cosmetology license in April 2007.

Molly (Nichols) Fitch (comm/electronic media) is a news anchor at WXOW-TV 19 in La Crosse, Wis.

Larry Gardemann (English) teaches in the Vinton-Shellsburg School District.

Katie Patterson (comm/electronic media) is an account executive for WHO-TV in Des Moines. She was previously account coordinator at Two Rivers Marketing and also worked in sales and marketing for Iowa Ice Hockey.

2006
Nancy Dostal (English) teaches language arts at South Tama County High School.
Laura Ernst (art) is a graphic designer at ME&V. She also participates in juggling competitions.

Mindy Fischer (comm/electronic media) is a territory manager for Mudd Advertising.

Megan Friedman (comm/interpersonal comm) is an education associate for VGM Education.

Marcus Payzant (art) lives in Tempe, Ariz., and has four works of art featured in the Tempe Public Library’s Connections Cafe. He is also part of an Artlink exhibition in Phoenix.

Ben Ressler (art) is an elementary and high school art teacher for the Western Dubuque County Community School District.

Adam Rohlfsen (art) works for Andrews Prestressed Concrete Inc. in Clear Lake.

Nicole (Skinner) White (comm/organizational comm) works for Acute Care, Inc. in Ankeny.

2007
Sarah Adkins (comm/PR) joined Management Recruiters of Cedar Rapids as project coordinator.

Nicholas Bray (art) is a graphic designer at Darning Pixels, Inc. in Waterloo.

Wei-erh Chen (religion, economics) is one of only seven recipients of an $18,000 dean’s scholarship at Vanderbilt University Divinity School for the Master of Theological Studies degree program.

Kari Fokken (English) teaches language arts at Saydel High School in Des Moines. She also coaches competitive speech.

Amber O’Connell (comm/PR) is marketing coordinator for Barmuda Corporation. She lives in Cedar Falls.

Katie Schorsch (comm/PR) is a marketing specialist for Brainstorm Marketing and lives in Des Moines.

Aaron Tilton (German) helped create a bike tour program in St. Petersburg, Russia, that emphasizes historical landmarks. He also teaches at a St. Petersburg university.

John Wiedenheft (comm/electronic media) is producer/director at KSMQ in Austin, Minn.

Two theatre students took an all-expenses paid trip to Broadway this summer, compliments of Robert O. Wise ’50, 1930-2005.

When you name UNI a beneficiary in your estate plans, your generosity will continue to impact students for a lifetime.

Just like Robert Wise, you can direct your bequest to a particular purpose, program, school, or college. Just imagine the impact!

Endow your passion. Contact Michelle Rourke, director of development, College of Humanities and Fine Arts, 319-273-6078.

Or visit UNI’s planned giving Web site: www.unicompass.com.
Russell Hall dedication ceremony

A weekend of music and celebration will be held this fall in honor of the newly renovated Russell Hall music building. A dedication ceremony will be held Friday, September 26, at 3 p.m. in Russell. At 7:30 p.m. the School of Music’s 27th Annual Scholarship Benefit Concert, featuring UNI School of Music large ensembles, faculty and guest soloists, and a jazz studies celebration, will begin in the Gallagher-Bluedorn Great Hall and travel to the Russell Hall Auditorium during intermission.

After the concert, attendees are welcome to explore Russell Hall and attend a post-concert reception in the School of Music’s new Chamber Music Hall. On Saturday, September 27, a Chamber Music and Jazz Showcase will be held at 7:30 p.m. in the Russell Hall Auditorium.

For tickets to the Scholarship Benefit Concert, call 319-273-4TIX. For more information on the dedication and weekend events, please contact Caroline Boehmer at 319-273-2028 or caroline.boehmer@uni.edu.

Russell Hall, named after longtime professor and former department head Myron E. Russell, received a new addition for chamber music and jazz as part of a $9.8 million facelift.

Alumni Update Form

Let us know how you’re doing, what you’re doing, and how we can keep in touch. Your information will be printed in next year’s CHFA magazine and in the University of Northern Iowa Today, the UNI alumni magazine. If you prefer not to be included in either publication, please check the box below.

Name: First _______________________ Middle______________ Last__________________________ Maiden ___________________________
Home Address _______________________________________________________________________________________________________
City State Zip ________________________________________________________________________________________________________
Home Phone ________________________________________________________________________________________________________
UNI Graduation Year  _______________Major ______________________________________________________________________________
Business Title ________________________________________________________________________________________________________
Business Name _______________________________________________________________________________________________________
Business Address _____________________________________________________________________________________________________
Business Phone  _______________________________________Fax __________________________________________________________
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Please return to: Dean's Office, College of Humanities and Fine Arts, University of Northern Iowa, 1227 West 27th St, Cedar Falls, IA 50614-9923.
Join us for these upcoming events

2008

Aug. 25 Fall semester begins
Aug. 25-Sept. 21 UNI “Gallery of Art: Highlights from the UNI Permanent Art Collection”
Sept. 16-18 Hearst Lecturer Jules Lobel, law professor, Univ. of Pittsburgh
Sept. 18 Lecture, Reading: “One Word after Another: Slices of a Writer’s Life” by James Autry
Sept. 20 UNI Family Weekend
Sept. 26-27 Russell Hall Rededication and School of Music Scholarship Benefit Concert
Sept. 29 Philosophy & World Religions Scholarship Lecture: John Dominic Crossan, noted New Testament scholar
Sept. 29-Oct. 26 UNI Gallery of Art: Jewelry/Metals exhibition
Oct. 9-19 Strayer-Wood Theatre: “The House of Blue Leaves”
Oct. 3 School of Music Spotlight Series: Wind Symphony and Concert Band
Oct. 11 UNI Homecoming
Oct. 16 School of Music Spotlight Series: Concert Chorale
Oct. 29 Medical Ethics Conference
“Kristallnacht:” A collaborative musical event featuring Samuel Adler’s composition “Kristallnacht”
Nov. 3-Dec. 2 UNI Gallery of Art: “frje Echeverria Retrospective”
Nov. 3 School of Music Spotlight Series: Instrumental Concerto Competition Finals
Nov. 6-16 Strayer-Wood Theatre: “The Three Sisters”
Nov. 14 School of Music Spotlight Series: Jazz Band One
Dec. 4 “Vertigo A-GoGo: A Night of Performance Art”
Dec. 10 School of Music Spotlight Series: Chimes of Christmas
Dec. 11-20 UNI Gallery of Art: M.A. Thesis Exhibition and B.F.A. Group Exhibition
Dec. 20 Commencement

2009

Jan. 12 Spring semester begins
Feb. 26 Strayer-Wood Theatre: “A Day in Hollywood, a Night in the Ukraine”
March 26 Hearst Lecturer: Ingrid Mattson
April 7 Hearst Lecturer: Richard J. Bernstein
April 16 Strayer-Wood Theatre: “Eurydice”
April 16-18 CHFA Alumni Fellows Symposium
April 17-18 Philosophy & Religion Alumni Reunion
May 9 Commencement

Event details can be found at http://access.uni.edu/acal/
Imagine Your Impact

Dear CHFA Alumni,

A 40-minute daily commute to campus, being a mom to two preschoolers, responsibilities as a wife and homemaker, and a part-time job were demands I faced as a UNI student in the late ’70s. Finding time for homework, along with everything else, was a challenge; extracurricular activities or study abroad opportunities were out of the question.

My tuition bill, a little under $400 per semester, seemed monumental at the time, but I didn’t have student loans. Today, tuition is more than $6,000 per year ($12,240 with fees, room and board). Textbook costs for one semester are frequently more than my 1980 tuition bill! I can only imagine the stress of looking for that first job and facing years of payments on $24,000 of student loan debt, the average for today’s UNI graduates.

Thanks to the generosity of CHFA alumni, far fewer undergraduates have to bear that financial burden. Your gifts for scholarships and the Dean’s Fund for Excellence are just two of the many ways you can impact the lives, and futures, of today’s students. In addition to scholarship support, the Dean's Fund allows CHFA to bring visiting artists, guest lecturers and experiential learning opportunities to campus, and to send undergraduates to professional-development conferences and clinics. Your generosity helps enhance students’ education far beyond what tuition can buy.

Just imagine the impact your financial gifts can have! To learn more about how you can support the college with your time, talents or treasure, please contact me at 800-782-9522, 319-273-3915 or michelle.rourke@uni.edu.

With sincere thanks,

Michelle Rourke (’81)
Director of Development
College of Humanities and Fine Arts