The Mission of the
College of Humanities
and Fine Arts
Through the arts and
humanities and the study
of communication, the
faculty and students
of the college strive to
understand the qualities
that make us human and
how those qualities are
expressed. It is the mission
of our college to provide
an excellent education to
our students so they are
able to affect their own
continued intellectual,
moral and aesthetic
growth.

On the Cover
Kamerick Art Building
celebrates its 25th
anniversary.
Greetings!

Let me begin by sharing some news of an administrative reorganization at UNI. In January of 2010, I was named dean of the College of Humanities and Fine Arts, adding this position to my other assignment as dean of the College of Natural Sciences, with the charge of facilitating the merger of CHFA with CNS by July 1, 2011. This new college will enroll one third of UNI’s students in its majors and programs. The faculty will teach 40 percent of the student credit hours of the entire institution. The opportunity to create a new college is a rare opportunity in academia; this is the first change in the college structure at UNI since 1989. While we do not yet know what the name of the merged college will be, what is clear is that the combination of CHFA and CNS will be a very strong entity.

With that, let me introduce myself. I came to UNI in 1991 as head of the Department of Mathematics, and I have served as dean of CNS for six years. Throughout my career, I have been interested in the humanistic side of mathematics, and one of my principal professional interests has been exploring the connections between mathematics and the humanities and fine arts. My passion for the arts has also found expression in several volunteer positions in the community; I have served on the boards of the Waterloo-Cedar Falls Symphony and the Friends of the Hearst Center for the Arts. During my years at UNI, I have been president of STAGE, Inc., chair of the Artist Series, and a member of the board of the Friends of the GBPAC. I also have sung in several community choirs, and my wife and I enjoy playing and performing piano duets. If you are ever in the area, I would enjoy meeting you in person!

This past year was filled with successes and challenges. The enrollment at UNI was up in 2010-11 for the fourth straight year, with 13,201 students choosing to continue their education with us, an increase of 121 from the year before. Within the College of Humanities and Fine Arts, our enrollment of majors is nearly 2,200, reaching the highest level in at least the past five years. That number represents an increase of 46 students over the previous year, a significant portion of the overall increase in UNI students. Our faculty and staff remain convinced of the critical need to educate a greater number of citizens with a sound background in the arts and humanities, so we are delighted by the challenge presented by this increased enrollment.

Faculty and students continued to work together to benefit students’ learning and the cultural, social and economic development of the state. You will find many examples of this throughout this issue of Inside CHFA. We remain committed, too, to producing well-qualified language arts and fine arts teachers. Our role in the Liberal Arts Core, producing a well-educated citizenry, is a point of pride among our faculty. In short, the College of Humanities and Fine Arts is successfully participating in the mission of the University of Northern Iowa, and you can be proud to be one of our alumni or friends.

That is not to say that there weren’t challenges last year! The continued decline in state support for public higher education forced all university employees to take salary cuts or unpaid furlough days. We were unable to replace a number of faculty and staff who chose to retire last fall. One-time stimulus dollars helped to ease the pain for our students, but there is little question that, without additional state support, the quality of education offered at Iowa’s public universities will suffer. We cannot in good conscience ask students to pay a greater amount for their education – many Iowa students simply cannot afford to pay higher tuition. As President Allen has noted, between July 1, 2008, and fall 2010, state appropriations to our base budget have been cut by 22.3 percent. The total amount of the cut was $23 million. For some perspective, the total budget for the College of Humanities and Fine Arts for 2010-11 is just over $20 million. That is to say, UNI had to cut its total budget by more than it costs to educate all the students in all the classes in CHFA for a year.

I am very grateful for the financial support from our alumni and friends at UNI, although of course it does not fully offset this kind of budget cut. The UNI Foundation received pledges and donations of some $32 million in the past year; thank you for this!

Please do continue to write to us with your news. Stop by campus when you can to say hello. If someone here has made a significant difference in your life, drop them a note or an e-mail to let them know; e-mail addresses are available on the UNI website, www.uni.edu. Finally, but just as important, if you are able to continue or to begin offering your support to CHFA students through contributions to the UNI Foundation, be assured that we will provide excellent stewardship of your gift.

Joel K. Haack
Art

At the Art Educators of Iowa Conference in Oct. 2009, art teachers from all over the state visited Kamerick Art Building for two days of workshops, presentations and fun. The keynote speaker was Tim Rollins, an internationally recognized figure in the field of art education.

For the Meryl Norton Hearst Endowed Lecture Series, which the Department of Art organized in 2009-10, the roster of speakers included MacArthur Fellow Judy Pfaff, a pioneer in the field of installation art; Richard de Puma, who lectured on Etruscan tomb painting; photographer Anna Gaskell; designer Matthew Woolman; and cartoonist Lynda Barry.

As part of the 25th anniversary of the completion of Kamerick Art building, the Department of Art has planned a year-long series of events, exhibitions and lectures titled “Time is Ripe,” which features UNI Department of Art alumni. All events are sponsored in part by the Florence Hartwig Foundation and the UNI Alumni Association.

Communication Sciences and Disorders

Jennifer Garrett and Evette Edmister, assistant professors, are working with the Iowa Department of Education to train teachers and speech-language pathologists to assist severely communicatively impaired children on the path to literacy.

More than 150 people attended the 19th annual 2010 Iowa Conference on Communicative Disorders, presented by the UNI chapter of the National Student Speech-Language-Hearing Association in April.

Communication Studies

The Department of Communication Studies is hosting the Meryl Norton Hearst Endowed Lecture Series in 2010-11. The underlying theme of the lecture series is “Transgressions: Breaking the Norms of Communication.”

English Language and Literature

Dr. Grammar’s new website, www.drgрамmar.org, was recently launched. Each month, more than 50,000 visitors from across the globe consult the Dr. Grammar site for help with writing. Created by a department faculty member, the site is devoted to providing assistance for writers everywhere.

Modern Languages

In addition to the merger of the Colleges of Humanities and Fine Arts and Natural Sciences, the Departments of English Language and Literature and Modern Languages will merge, effective July 1, 2011.

Philosophy and World Religions

The first senior seminar for religion majors culminated in a lecture by Robert Orsi, the Grace Craddock Nagle Chair in Catholic Studies at Northwestern University, who spoke on "Relics, Rosaries, Statues and Other Objects: The Life of Catholic Things.”

The department arranged the presentation by Ingrid Mattson as part of the Meryl Norton Hearst Endowed Lecture Series in the fall of 2009. Director of the Macdonald Center for the Study of Islam and Christian-Muslim Relations, professor of Islamic Studies and Christian-Muslim Relations at Hartford Seminary, and president of the Islamic Society of North America, Mattson spoke on “Islam: An American Religion.”

Professor Betty DeBerg helped develop standards and guidelines for teaching about religion in K-12 public schools in the U.S. The guidelines will serve as a resource for educators, school boards and parents to combat the challenges of teaching about religion in an academic and constitutional way. For the past six years, DeBerg has served on a national task force for the American Academy of Religion, the largest association of scholars of religion in the country.
Professor Harry Brod’s lecture, “Asking For It: The Ethics and Erotics of Sexual Consent,” was released as a DVD in Sept. by Media Education Foundation. In the DVD, Brod discusses the importance of approaching our sexual interactions with the principle that verbal consent must be given in every interaction and must never be assumed.

School of Music

During the May 2010 visit of His Holiness the 14th Dalai Lama of Tibet, UNI School of Music student ensembles and faculty artists presented a special large-scale music composition as part of the Dalai Lama’s keynote address. Professor Jonathan Schwabe wrote and premiered a new work for the UNI Singers, UNI Women’s Chorus, UNI Concert Chorale, Northern Iowa Wind Symphony, UNI Children’s Choir and select members of the UNI Varsity Men’s Glee Club.

Theatre

“Marat/Sade,” directed by Professor Jay Edelnant and Assistant Professor Gwendolyn Schwinke, part of the Strayer-Wood performance series, was performed in Nov. 2009. Visual artist Cat Chow, with assistance from the UNI Arts Consortium, applied her methods of working with found objects to the costuming for the show. Several students pursued research related to the show; some of their presentations were selected for inclusion in Research in the Capitol or the National Conference on Undergraduate Research.

Associate Professor Richard Glockner, who has completed two residencies with theatres in Gaza, worked with a group of theatre students before the fall 2009 semester to produce a multi-media performance piece entitled “Passages to Palestine,” which explores the current and historical relationship between Israel and Palestine and the human costs resulting from the clash of their respective cultures.
Art
Jeff Byrd is the winner of the 2010-11 Distinguished Service Outside the Organization Award given by the Art Educators of Iowa.

Soo Hostetler was named associate editor for the 2009 international journal Design Principles and Practices.

Elizabeth Sutton received the Graduate Dean’s Distinguished Dissertation Award presented by the Graduate College of the University of Iowa in March 2009. She was also awarded the 2010 Apple Polisher award by UNI Student Admissions Ambassador, Amanda Larson.

Communication Sciences and Disorders
Ken Bleile was named a 2009 recipient of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association Diversity Champion Award for having “worked to advance multicultural infusion in our professions and ASHA.” Bleile is also the recipient of the 2010 Board of Regents, State of Iowa Award for Faculty Excellence.

Jennifer Garrett was awarded the 2010 Apple Polisher award by student Kendra Allen.

Communication Studies
April Chatham-Carpenter received the 2010 CHFA Faculty Excellence Award.

Victoria Pruin DeFrancisco was selected as one of two faculty Diversity Fellows to head a new initiative sponsored by the Executive Vice President and Provost’s Office.

John Fritch was appointed the director of the National Debate Tournament. As director, he is responsible for the operation and management of the event. Fritch also was named co-editor of the publication Argumentation and Advocacy in Nov. 2009.

Bettina Fabos received the Graduate Curriculum Development Award (with Adrienne Lamberti, English Language and Literature) to develop interdisciplinary graduate curriculum in interactive digital studies.

Christopher Martin received the 2010 CHFA Faculty Excellence Award.

Karen Mitchell received the 2009 CHFA Faculty Excellence Award.

Christopher Ogbondah was the recipient of the 2009 Board of Regents, State of Iowa Award for Faculty Excellence.

Catherine Palczewski won the 2010 Board of Regents, State of Iowa Award for Faculty Excellence, which focuses on all contributions a faculty member makes in teaching, research and service to the community. Palczewski also was named editor of the publication Argumentation and Advocacy in March 2010.

Gayle Pohl was recognized with the UNI Leadership Award-Outstanding Faculty Advisor. Pohl also was the recipient of the 2010 Ross A. Nielsen Professional Service Award.

Marilyn Shaw was elected president of the Iowa Communication Association.

Francesca Soans’ film, “Rebirth,” received several awards from the Iowa Motion Picture Association: an Award of Excellence for Original Music Score and Awards of Achievement for Directing, Supporting Actresses and Art Direction.

English Language and Literature
Jim Davis serves as director of the Iowa Writing Project, a branch of the National Writing Project and the largest provider of in-service education to English/language arts teachers in the Midwest.

Stephen Gaies has been named director of the new UNI Center of Holocaust and Genocide Education.

Adrienne Lamberti was one of five recipients of the 2010 Veridian Credit
Union Community Engagement Award, which “recognize[s] the outstanding contributions of UNI faculty to the greater community” and is intended to inspire additional meaningful partnerships among faculty, students and community organizations. Each award recipient receives a plaque and a $1,000 check payable to the nonprofit organization of the faculty member’s choice. Lamberti has requested that the rural sustainability organization 1000 Friends of Iowa receive the check.

Pierre-Damien Mvuyekure began a term as Provost’s Administrative Fellow in the office of the Executive Vice President and Provost.

Modern Languages
Deidre Heistad began a term as Provost’s Administrative Fellow in the office of the Executive Vice President and Provost.

Michael Prahl was one of 15 instructors throughout the U.S. who were invited to the McGraw-Hill Western Civilization Symposium.

Philosophy and World Religions
Harry Brod received the 2009 James F. Lubker Faculty Research Award. Brod also received the 2010 Board of Regents, State of Iowa Award for Faculty Excellence.

Martha Reineke was the first recipient of the 2009 Liberal Arts Core Outstanding Teaching Award. In 2009, she also received the Ross A. Nielson award for Outstanding Service and was in the first cohort for the inaugural year of the UNI Diversity Matters Award.

Ken Atkinson is the winner of the 2010 ROTC Service Award.

School of Music
Sean Botkin recorded a CD of Rachmaninoff’s “Piano Sonata No. 1 in D minor, Op. 28” at WFMT Studio, sponsored by the Rachmaninoff Foundation in association with the Ravinia Festival; Chicago, Ill.

Christopher Buckholz received the 2010 University Book and Supply Outstanding Teaching Award for the College of Humanities and Fine Arts in April. Buckholz gave a presentation entitled, “The Apprenticeship: Teaching Applied Music,” an exploration of how music is taught in the applied studio.

Rebecca Burhardt served as the College Orchestra Director’s Association national president in 2009-10.

Kui-Im Lee released a new CD of organ music titled “Forgotten Fantasies” to commemorate the 10th anniversary of the Gallagher-Bluedorn Performing Arts Center.

Christopher Merz was elected as president of Jazz Educators of Iowa.

Jonathan Schwabe premiered his composition “Follow” at the May 2010 visit and keynote address of His Holiness the 14th Dalai Lama of Tibet.

William Shepherd recorded and released a new CD titled “Christmas in Cedar Falls” performed by the Bill Shepherd Big Band.

John Vallentine has been named one of the recipients of the 2010 Southeast Missouri State University Alumni Merit Award. Alumni Merit awards are presented to graduates who have brought distinction to themselves and to Southeast Missouri State University. Vallentine received a Bachelor of Music Education from that institution in 1981. Vallentine was chosen among 70,000 alumni members for this honor and represents the School of Visual and Performing Arts at that institution.

Theatre
Gretta Berghammer received the 2010 Board of Regents, State of Iowa Award for Faculty Excellence.

Carol Colburn was recognized at a publication celebration at the University of Minnesota. Colburn’s work on Norwegian folk dress in the United States has been published in the Berg Encyclopedia of World Dress and Fashion, which is available online and in book format.
New Faculty & Staff

Jeff Brich, instructor, voice (M.M., University of Northern Iowa), School of Music
Rebecca Buel, instructor/director of individual events (M.A., University of Northern Iowa), Communication Studies
Deborah Burroughs, office coordinator, Communication Sciences and Disorders
Theresa Camilli, assistant professor of piano pedagogy and music education (Ph.D., University of Oklahoma), School of Music
Traci Gaydos, marketing director/production manager (M.F.A., University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign), Theatre
Diana Jones-Harris, secretary, Communication Studies
Karlene Kischer-Browne, instructor, American Sign Language (B.A., University of Northern Iowa), Communication Sciences and Disorders
Angela Kroemer, secretary, Art
Ron Koinzan, technical director (M.F.A., Humboldt State University), Theatre
Karen McCabe, office coordinator (A.A., Fullerton Community College), School of Music
Andrew McCormick, instructor, art education (M.F.A., Ohio University), Art
Wendy Miller, instructor, art education (M.A., University of Iowa), Art
Mark Parrott, assistant professor, design (M.F.A., Southern Illinois University-Carbondale), Theatre
Elizabeth Sutton, assistant professor, art history (Ph.D., University of Iowa), Art
Richard Tews, instructor/director of debate (M.A., Miami University of Ohio), Communication Studies
Dimitri Vorobiev, assistant professor, piano (D.M.A., University of Michigan), School of Music
John Wiles, assistant professor, choral conducting (D.M.A., University of Texas-Austin), School of Music

Retirements

Mary Bozik, professor, Communication Studies
Gwyn Burgess, secretary, Modern Languages
Cliff Highnam, professor, Communication Sciences and Disorders
Pat Howard, storekeeper, Art
Robert Krueger, professor, Modern Languages
James Lubker, professor and former dean, College of Humanities and Fine Arts; interim provost
Claudia Meyer, office coordinator, School of Music
Barbara Oltman, office coordinator, Communication Sciences and Disorders
Antonio Planells, professor, Modern Languages
Nancy Sheerer, secretary, Art
Bill Shepherd, professor, School of Music
Crit Streed, professor, Art

Changes in Position

Reinhold Bubser resigned as dean of the College of Humanities and Fine Arts and has returned to teaching in the Department of Modern Languages.
John Fritch, professor and head of the Department of Communication Studies, and Kavita Dhanwada, associate professor of biology, were named associate deans of the Colleges of Humanities and Fine Arts and Natural Sciences, effective July 1, 2010.
Samuel Gladden, associate professor of English, was named acting head of the Department of Modern Languages, effective Jan. 2010.
Joel Haack, dean of the College of Natural Sciences, was also named dean of the College of Humanities and Fine Arts, effective Jan. 2010.
Carlin Hageman, professor, was named head of the Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders, effective Aug. 1, 2009.
Diana Harwood, secretary of English Language and Literature, has also been hired as a graduate programs secretary for the Department of Modern Languages
Christopher Martin, professor, was named interim head of the Department of Communication Studies, effective Jan. 2011.
Geraldine Perreault, associate professor, has moved from Educational Leadership, Counseling and Post Secondary Education into the Department of Communication Studies.
Jerome Soneson, associate professor, was named head of the Department of Philosophy and World Religions, effective Aug. 1, 2009.
Richard Vanderwall, instructor, has moved from Price Laboratory School to the Department of English Language and Literature.
CHFA faculty have been incorporating issues relating to globalization into the curriculum as a result of the April 2009 CHFA Alumni Fellows Symposium, which focused on the theme “Undergraduate Preparation for Globalization.”

In the college, five new globalization-intensive courses have been developed:

- In the Capstone course, Intercultural Perspectives, offered by Ardith Meier (English), students will take up such issues as different world views and their bases, global affairs from varied cultural perspectives, connections between language and culture and intercultural conflict management.

- Through the miracle of modern Web-based technology, Victoria Pruin DeFrancisco (Communication Studies) offered her course Intercultural Communication in the spring of 2010 concurrently to students in a UNI classroom and students at the Russian State Pedagogical University (St. Petersburg) and the Russian National University of Science and Technology (Moscow). Russian and U.S. students were required to become conversation partners (using Facebook, e-mail, Skype, etc.) and to then reflect in writing on the development (or failures) of their intercultural relationships.

- Karen Mitchell (Communication Studies) and Jennifer Cooley (Modern Languages) worked across departments to offer courses in the spring of 2010 on subject matter focused on the global and local issues related to the immigration raid in Postville, Iowa, in 2008. Spanish language students worked with performance studies students in order to translate primary and secondary texts and interviews, research the social and economic realities of emigration from Guatemala, explore the intercultural challenges of immigration for U.S. businesses and communities, write a script and produce workshops and forum theatre scenes.

- Elizabeth Sutton’s (Art) new course in the spring of 2010, Arts of Africa, examined the historical and contemporary visual culture produced by peoples in Ghana, Burkina Faso, Nigeria, Côte d’Ivoire, Guinea, Mali, Sierra Leone, Angola and the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

- James Robinson (Philosophy and World Religions) offered a new course, The Dalai Lama and His Religion, to complement the visit of the Dalai Lama to UNI in May 2010. The 15 students in the class read and discussed books by the Dalai Lama, and learned about the social, religious and political dynamics of Tibet, including the current conflict with the People’s Republic of China. Robinson said the course “was one of the most rewarding classes I have ever taught.”

Additionally, in the Department of Modern Languages, the new program World Languages and Culture will take students beyond the traditional work in the department on language learning and literature to expanded use of languages in the exploration of social, political and cultural issues worldwide.
The Purple and Old Gold Awards are the highest awards given to graduating seniors by a department or discipline. Students who receive the Purple and Old Gold Awards can be selected for Meritorious Scholarship or Conspicuous Achievement. The awards are highly selective, requiring 90 or more graded hours with a 3.5 GPA or 60-89 hours of graded work with a 3.6 GPA. The Meritorious Awards are usually awarded to students with the highest GPA. The Conspicuous Achievement award, which is distributed in nine different discipline areas, does not have a GPA requirement, but academic excellence is a strong consideration.

Leslie Aboud, Meritorious Scholarship—Music

Currently a law student at the University of Iowa, Leslie Aboud believes that the professors at UNI prepare students for the real world by forcing them to think. “Nothing is simply handed to you, but help is always offered.” She found that the best thing about attending UNI was the incredibly positive environment. “Everyone wants you to succeed—your professors, the administration and your peers,” Aboud noted. “There is no place more conducive to learning than the positive atmosphere at UNI.”

Emily Burney, Meritorious Scholarship—English

Emily Burney is a seventh grade reading and language arts teacher at Miller Middle School in Marshalltown. The combination of her education courses and content-specific courses prepared her well to be a teacher, she believes. She was especially impressed with her classroom experiences at UNI. “The professors really care about what they are doing, and I was able to develop relationships with the faculty.”

Justine Fairchild, Meritorious Scholarship—Communication Sciences and Disorders

Now pursuing a master’s degree in speech-language pathology at UNI, Justine Fairchild learned at UNI that hard work really does pay off and that a well-rounded education would give her many choices in regard to career opportunities. “Not only did I receive a first class education at UNI, the environment was very student friendly,” she said. “I also think the size of the UNI campus is perfect. I will forever be proud to say ‘I am a Panther!’”

Molly Juza, Meritorious Scholarship—Spanish

Molly Juza, who began teaching Spanish at Waterloo’s Columbus High School in fall 2010, plans to enroll in graduate school within the next five years but hasn’t yet decided the field; possible choices are Spanish, linguistics, TESOL or student affairs. Her “real world” experiences began before she even graduated from UNI. In addition to multiple teaching and volunteer experiences in the Cedar Valley, she gained international experience by studying Spanish in Spain for a semester and teaching English in Costa Rica for a few months as part of her student teaching experience.

“I’ve always thought of UNI as my Goldilocks school—not too big, not too small, but just right,” Juza said. The school is big enough to provide lots of opportunities. For Juza, these included her international experiences, her time as a Student Admissions Ambassador and her involvement with the UNI honors program. “UNI is also small enough to allow students to develop relationships with faculty and other students that will continue throughout my professional career,” she explained.

Jorunn Musil, Meritorious Scholarship—Art

Jorunn Musil, a Web designer at Flying Hippo Web Technologies in Des Moines, plans to stay in her present position, expanding her technical knowledge, exploring new ideas and growing as a designer. “UNI provided me with great professors who are passionate about student learning, visiting artists and alumni who inspired me to grow as an artist, as well as many opportunities to become involved as...
Gold Award Recipients

Jayne Nelson, Meritorious Scholarship—Communications
Although she is an executive team leader at the Coralville Target store and her current focus is on being a manager, Jayne Nelson is interested in a possible future career in postsecondary education. She attributes this interest to her involvement with UNI Greek life and a student position with Career Services.

Her extracurricular involvement on campus helped prepare her for the real world. A class provided by Career Services covered job preparation, including resume building, interview skills and more. A mock interview opportunity actually helped her to obtain her current management position with Target. Her on-campus involvement helped her gain an understanding of how an entity operates, how to work with people and how important communication really is. The smaller class sizes and one-on-one attention helped her to gain self-confidence, to become engaged in class and to communicate effectively.

“The best thing about UNI,” said Nelson, “was the communication between the University and students.” This communication helped her become involved in activities and organizations that prepared her for the real world. “UNI is a big university with a small feel,” she said. “The people at UNI care about student success.”

Amber Smith would eventually like to begin work on a graduate degree. She credits UNI with providing helpful instruction on a variety of instruments. She was especially impressed with the student teaching experience, which provides students with two different perspectives and experiences. “The program is very flexible and even allows UNI students to student teach in other states and countries,” Smith noted.

The best part about UNI, she found, is that there are many opportunities on a campus that is not overwhelmingly large. “It’s easy to find an organization or activity that interests you and helps you get involved.”

Zachary Paige, Meritorious Scholarship—Philosophy and World Religions
After Zach Paige completes his master’s degree in cognitive psychology, he intends to work toward a Ph.D. in psychology, eventually teaching and conducting research. He chose UNI because it is the best of two worlds, in terms of size. “UNI has a small-town atmosphere with one-on-one educational opportunities, and it is also an academically challenging university.” At UNI, he was able to learn technical skills in his area of study with professors who were passionate about the subject.

“The high caliber professors at UNI are well respected in the research community, but they also take time to build relationships with students,” said Paige. He also found the liberal arts courses at UNI to be a valuable component of his education.

Congratulations to all of the award recipients!

Purple and Old Gold winners for 2009-10 also include the following:
Julie Baldwin, Meritorious Scholarship—Theatre Arts
Krystal Campbell, Meritorious Scholarship—Public Relations
Kendall Helmer, Meritorious Scholarship—TESOL-Spanish
Ali Horsted, Conspicuous Achievement—Performance Studies
Brittany Korell, Conspicuous Achievement—Journalism
Kelly Lantz, Meritorious Scholarship—Electronic Media
Ashlee Lopez, Conspicuous Achievement—Forensics
Victoria Reed, Conspicuous Achievement—Art
Raleigh St Clair, Meritorious Scholarship—Russian
Brian Van Drasek, Meritorious Scholarship—Modern Languages—Dual
Ronald Wells, Jr., Conspicuous Achievement—Theatre
The 2010 CHFA Graduate Research Symposium in February 2010 boasted a slate of eight student presenters and a keynote speaker of international renown. Cary Nelson, president of the American Association of University Professors (AAUP) and professor of English at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, spoke on “Higher Education’s Perfect Storm: What Is To Be Done?”

Student presentations were evaluated by a panel of adjudicators that included Nelson, Dean Joel Haack and Jennifer Cooley (Modern Languages). At the close of the event, Haack presented plaques and cash awards to first-, second- and third-place winners as well as certificates and Amazon Kindles to others who presented during the day.

First prize ($1,500) went to Rachelle Saunders (Communication Studies) for “The Resistance of Scapegoating Through Rhetorical Strategy,” nominated by Catherine Palczewski. Second prize ($1,000) went to Kaori Yamada (Communication Studies) for “Domesticating Public Violence: Analysis of YouTube Videos and Media Coverage of the Taser Incidents at UCLA and the University of Florida,” nominated by Palczewski. Third prize ($750) went to William LeGrand (School of Music) for “That There Not Pass to the Indies: Examining the Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade and the Music of Cuba,” nominated by Melinda Boyd.

Additional presenters included Anna LeGrand (TESOL/Applied Linguistics) for “Thinking Critically About Integrative Motivation: The Need to Address Power Differentials”; Emily Paskewitz, Gavin Tugana and Ashley Miller (Communication Studies) for “For the Greater Good: Multi-Generational Views of Organizational Citizenship Behavior”; and Samuel Edsill (English Language and Literature) for “My Name is Yon Yonson: Science Fiction and Repetition in Kurt Vonnegut’s ‘Slaughterhouse-Five.’”
Camp Multimedia Immerses Middle Schoolers in Digital Technology

For middle school students, summers might mean hanging out with friends or playing kickball, but probably not creating animated mutant gargoyles. That last thing—creating an animated mutant gargoyle—is exactly what eighth grader Joel Brich did over one week this past summer.

Brich was one of 24 students in grades six through nine who participated in Camp Multimedia (CMM), a digital media summer camp at UNI. From June 14 to 18, the students filled two computer labs in Lang Hall and tested their skills in digital media.

At the camp, participants learned how graphic images, 2D and 3D animation and video are all easily integrated into larger, multi-layered creative projects. Students spent the first three days mastering individual software from Adobe CS4 Suite: Photoshop, Flash (2D animation), After Effects (3D animation) and Premiere (video editing). During the last two days they worked on their own creative projects, pulling together what they had learned.

Brich used Photoshop to turn part of a black-and-white photograph into his very own gargoyle. He then used After Effects to animate the gargoyle (making it move and leap against a night sky, topple pillars and gulp a diamond) and converted his final project into a movie that now resides on the Web.

Other students chose Flash as their main creation tool and then brought the animation into a layered After Effects project.

Students were grouped—according to age and skill level—into learning pods of four to five participants each, with the pods spending a good part of each day with a new software. Each of the six instructors taught one pod at a time and guided the group through a set of techniques and exercises developed for the camp (and available online for future consultation). With such a low student-to-teacher ratio, students worked through the foundation skills quickly and then turned to the advanced skills, which were both challenging and exciting.

“We call our curriculum the 5-5 set,” said CMM co-director Bettina Fabos, associate professor of visual communication at UNI, who developed the camp curriculum. “The five foundational skills get them comfortable with the software interface. Then we teach them five advanced skills so they can get a strong sense of what the software is capable of. What we’re finding is that they can easily use their own ingenuity to figure out what skills go in between…and we’re always there to help out when they have questions.”

Industry experts were invited in each day to discuss their own work and answer questions about their chosen career paths in multimedia. “These industry multimedia experts say the work these kids are doing is inspiring,” Fabos said. “They can’t wait until this group graduates from college, so they can hire them.”

CMM co-director and UNI English instructor Richard Vanderwall provided motivation and a firm knowledge of the middle-school mindset. “What I’m most proud of was what these amazing students were capable of doing with this powerful software,” Vanderwall said. “They inspired each other, collaborated in teams and, in most cases, realized that this was something they were really good at.”

Through donations from Mudd Advertising, Phantom EFX, the Office of the Executive Vice President and Provost and the Office of Student Affairs, CMM was able to offer six scholarships to in-need, minority students. To see a gallery of student work as well as images from CMM 2010, visit www.campmultimedia.com/gallery.asp.
To mark its 50th anniversary, the UNI Varsity Men’s Glee Club—students and alumni—celebrated with a tour to Italy this past spring, traveling through Rome, Venice, Florence and more on their 10-day adventure. Most notably, the group was offered the honor of performing several pieces for the mass at St. Peter’s Basilica in Rome, including “Salvation is Created,” “Promised Land,” “Dona Nobis Pacem” and “Ave Maria.” The group also performed at St. Francis Basilica, home to the tomb of St. Francis of Assisi, and at several cathedrals throughout Bologna, Padua and Marocco di Mogliano. In addition to the extraordinary performance opportunities, the Glee Club members were immersed in the culture of Italy and were able to visit the Galleria dell’ Accademia (the home of Michelangelo’s “David”) and the famous Venetian glass factories.

While their Glee Club brothers were touring the Italian countryside, several members stayed in Iowa and joined the combined School of Music choir that performed at the May 18 visit of His Holiness the 14th Dalai Lama. The men on tour, as well as those at home in Iowa, were thrilled to be a part of these once-in-a-lifetime experiences.

All Glee Club alumni and friends were invited to a 50th anniversary celebration the first weekend in December 2010. The Glee Club, under the direction of John Len Wiles, presented their annual Christmas Variety Show as part of the celebration. This year’s concert featured over 100 UNI student performers and featured the UNI Children’s Choir in addition to the men of the Glee Club.
When students in Tom Hall’s Introduction to Research Methods class in Communication Studies reached for their textbook this past fall, they downloaded an e-book instead of cracking open a printed volume. Although the e-book experience might have been new to them, many of the authors’ names were bound to be familiar.

Co-authored by Hall and his colleagues April Chatham-Carpenter, Victoria Pruin DeFrancisco, Christopher Martin and Catherine Palczewski, the book was released this fall by the Department of Communication Studies. The project is linked to the launch of Introduction to Research Methods as a core class for the department’s 600-plus majors.

The project had its beginnings in discussions between Palczewski and John Fritch, then head of Communication Studies (now one of two associate deans of the Colleges of Humanities and Fine Arts and Natural Sciences). “Because of the breadth and depth of department faculty’s skills, John and I had been talking about creating a textbook for a course in the department for a while. When the Introduction to Research Methods course was created, the idea really started to gel, and when it was made part of the core, we committed to the idea,” Palczewski said.

The book’s content demonstrates the interdisciplinary nature of the department and its faculty, who wrote sections covering quantitative, qualitative and critical/rhetorical methods.

The advantage to producing the book in-house is that it could be tailored precisely to the course needs. As an e-book, faculty could also keep costs low for UNI students and make it easily accessible via the Rod Library’s website for a nominal fee. The project was spurred by support from Provost Gloria Gibson, who has been advocating a more entrepreneurial spirit at UNI.

The book was still a work-in-progress for fall 2010 classes, but the long-term goal is to market the e-book to other universities, bringing some funds back to the Department of Communication Studies.
To promote religious literacy among students, faculty and staff, the Department of Philosophy and World Religions invited an expert on “South Park,” an animated sitcom shown on Comedy Central, to present a lecture at UNI during the spring 2010 semester.

In discussions of anti-Semitism in the department’s Religions of the World course, students had commented that young teens often imitate a “South Park” character, Cartman, when they repeat slurs he directs toward Kyle, a Jewish child. Among young Iowa teens, “Don’t be a stupid Jew” has become an all-purpose putdown.

Matt Sienkiewicz, a doctoral student at the University of Wisconsin, presented a lecture titled “What’s Under Kyle’s Hat?: ‘South Park,’ Anti-Semitism and the Jew Joke in Multicultural America.” A capacity crowd filled the Maucker Union Ballroom to listen as he explored the controversial depictions of Jews, Judaism and anti-Semitism in the show.

Sienkiewicz considered progressive forms of interpretation of the offensive comedy even as he asked the audience to think twice before deeming jokes made at the expense of minority groups as “safe” or “harmless” fun. He addressed the show’s dual audience of adult and youth viewers, as well as the potential effects of the program’s ironic reintroduction of anti-Semitic slurs and canards that perhaps seemed safely in the American past.

The department also sponsored a panel discussion after the lecture to enable participants to reflect further on the lecture and how they might implement its insights in a variety of contexts, including the middle-school classroom. A DVD of the lecture is available to check out from the UNI library.

Center for Holocaust and Genocide Education Established

Iowa has long been a haven for refugees from genocide and other humanitarian crises. Our state also has a proud legacy of service and advocacy on behalf of the people around the world whose well-being and rights are threatened. In September, official approval was given for the establishment at UNI of a Center for Holocaust and Genocide Education (CHGE) to serve the campus community and the entire state.

The CHGE’s mission is “to increase our knowledge about the Holocaust and other genocides as well as to strengthen our commitment to confront genocide and other threats to human rights, such as intolerance, anti-Semitism, racism and ignorance.”

The center is the result of several years of work by an ad hoc committee initiated by Reinhold Bubser, former dean of the College of Humanities and Fine Arts. Faculty and staff from across campus helped to organize a broad variety of programming to raise awareness about the Holocaust and other genocides.

In addition to providing educational programming on campus, the CHGE will work to become the primary information, resource and technical support center for Holocaust and genocide education in Iowa for teachers, school administrators and students. According to Stephen J. Gaies, professor of English at UNI and director of the center, “CHGE is in line with UNI’s mission to be known as leaders in pre-K through 12 issues. The center will advocate for a prominent role for Holocaust and genocide education in the curriculum of Iowa’s schools. The CHGE will also develop educator-preparation programming and expand the network of partners involved in this effort.” The CHGE also seeks to develop partnerships with community organizations across the state to disseminate information and to collaborate on genocide education and human rights advocacy.

According to Joel Haack, dean of the Colleges of Humanities and Fine Arts and of Natural Sciences, having a center, instead of merely a committee or program, will institutionalize these important activities on the UNI campus.

Events and activities focusing on the holocaust and other genocides are being planned for the 2010-11 academic year. By the end of the semester, the CHGE will have a website and an electronic newsletter to promote its mission and activities on campus and across the state.
The Center for Disability Studies in Literacy, Language and Learning was established in December 2009. Originally begun as a collaborative effort by five faculty (Evette Edmister, Jennifer Garrett, Chris Kliewer, Amy Petersen and Amy Staples) with similar research interests and expertise in working with children with significant disabilities, it draws together faculty and graduate students from the UNI Departments of Communication Sciences and Disorders, Special Education, Educational Psychology, Computer Science and Curriculum Instruction (Literacy Education). The center’s mission is to explore, promote and support the literacy and communication development of children with significant disabilities. The center has four main areas of focus: professional development, family support, policy and scholarship.

Currently, the center is collaborating with the Iowa Department of Education on two professional development and research projects: “Literacy, Language and Communication for Students with Significant Developmental Disabilities: Reaching Potentials through Systemic and Sustainable Statewide Professional Development,” and the “Comprehensive Communication and Literacy Project.” Both projects provide an intensive week-long course for teams of educational personnel, including speech-language pathologists and assistive technology specialists, as well as on-going support through monthly site visits and ICN discussions lead by UNI faculty. The impact of this professional development on teacher knowledge, disposition and practice and learning outcomes for children is being studied.

Individuals interested in learning more about the center, including its funded projects, can contact any of the faculty involved.

The center is located at:
119 Price Lab School
Cedar Falls, IA 50614
Telephone: 319-273-2728
E-mail: accessliteracy@uni.edu

The UNI School of Music’s Concert Chorale was honored to accept an invitation to perform in the Isaac Stern Auditorium at Carnegie Hall in New York City. The choir, under the direction of visiting artist and conductor Dyan Meyer, is scheduled to perform the premiere of Dr. David Childs’ Festival Te Deum on March 20, 2011. The group trip is scheduled for March 17-21, 2011. In addition to performing at the prestigious Carnegie Hall, students will have the opportunity to tour the city and to perform at a local school.

Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders alumna, Maggie Slaymaker, attended the advanced two-day communication course in June 2010. Slaymaker is using a PODD book to communicate.
From UNI to St. Louis and Back Again

Jeffrey Copeland, head of English Language and Literature, relates a fascinating—and true—tale of serendipity and how a curious flea market find led to a tie between UNI and a high school in St. Louis.

Several years back, I went with my family to a flea market in Belleville, Ill., just across the river from St. Louis, Mo. The first booth I went up to had an old, ratty suitcase sitting on a table, and inside the suitcase were bundles and bundles of old letters tied together with string. I picked up a couple of the letters and noticed they were postmarked during World War II. From the outside of the envelopes, I could see they were written from a Sgt. Inman Perkins of the 449th Signal Construction Battalion of the Army Air Corps to an Olivia Merriweather of St. Louis.

I started reading the letters, and something in them really touched my soul. It was immediately obvious that Inman Perkins was head-over-heels in love with Olivia Merriweather. It was also obvious that Inman was one fine writer, the letters were between five and 15 pages each—single-spaced! I had no idea who these people were, but there were about 150 letters from Inman to Olivia and about 30 more from her back to him.

I thought, on a lark, it might be fun to purchase the letters and read them. Little did I know at the time, but these letters would begin the most exciting and most rewarding journey of my writing career. It turned out, after some additional research, Inman Perkins and Olivia Merriweather were two incredible individuals who touched the lives of, literally, thousands of others. They were both teachers at Charles Sumner High School in St. Louis.

After more background research, I wrote “Inman’s War: A Soldier's Story of Life in a Colored Battalion in WWII,” a narrative nonfiction story of Inman’s time in a segregated battalion during the war. I followed that book with “Olivia’s Story: The Conspiracy of Heroes Behind Shelley v. Kraemer,” a nonfiction book about Olivia's contribution to the creation of one of the most important U.S. Supreme Court rulings in the history of this land. (In the 1948 decision, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that judicial enforcement by state courts of racially restrictive covenants violates the Fourteenth Amendment to the Constitution.) I never dreamed a flea market find would lead to the creation of two books.

Jumping ahead to the present, Consuela Cooper, former assistant director of admissions/multicultural recruitment, takes up the next chapter of the story by putting together financial support for a student from Charles Sumner High School to attend UNI, bringing the tale full circle.

With the help of Jeffrey Copeland, I was able to schedule a visit to Sumner High School in October of 2009 to meet with prospective students. Eventually Raven Briscoe was selected for admission; when I alerted Jeffrey, he was ecstatic! Since then, we have been able to offer her one of our out-of-state bridge scholarships that recognize students for their strong academic background and financial need. It is my hope that Raven will be the first of many students to come from Sumner and that this partnership will grow for years to come.
This past academic year, Tête-à-Tête, a mentoring workshop for teachers of foreign languages in Iowa, focused on model standards for licensing beginning foreign language teachers and how to incorporate culture and comparisons in national standards. The presenters at the first session held in March 2010 at Iowa State University were John Storm, assistant professor of foreign language education and Spanish, and Anne Lair, associate professor of French.

As a follow-up, both Lair and Storm offered one-credit-hour graduate courses through Continuing Education that provided opportunities for participants to reflect on the workshops and the sharing sessions they attended and to apply some of the practices they observed to their teaching. The second of the 2010 Tête-à-Tête gatherings was held at UNI in April with presentations by Lair and Storm, and the final workshop was held at the University of Iowa in May.

Attendance at Tête-à-Tête, sponsored by the Department of Modern Languages and offered at no cost to its attendees, has grown each year. The program was created as a way to strengthen relationships between the university and teachers in Iowa, to establish a communication and exchange network for teachers who feel isolated and to support teachers seeking innovations in curriculum and course delivery. Each session includes activities and teaching tips, a sharing session organized by teachers and presentations given by UNI faculty.

Tête-à-Tête was initiated by Lair in 2005 and has since then been coordinated by Lair and Storm. As one of many outreach activities sponsored by the College of Humanities and Fine Arts, Tête-à-Tête reinforces the college’s commitment to maintaining productive working relationships with classroom teachers throughout the state. This year’s Tête-à-Tête will be held at the University of Northern Iowa on April 9, 2011.

The Dean’s Fund for Excellence

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The Dean’s fund is used primarily to establish scholarships to enhance student opportunities, programs and faculty development within the college. Your contributions may be used by the Dean’s Fund to support students in their study abroad experiences—furthering undergraduate preparation for globalization.
From the fall of 2010 through the spring of 2011, the UNI Gallery of Art is mounting its first academic-year-long comprehensive series of exhibitions, “Time Is Ripe,” featuring the art and scholarly works of UNI Department of Art graduates. The intent of this project is to offer diverse programming by noted artists that will challenge assumptions of where successful artists come from and where art must be produced. Through programming, the Gallery strives to offer students and the community alternative and innovative strategies for art making and art interpretation. The hope is that this project will change local perceptions of art and artists in rural Iowa.

The “Time Is Ripe” gallery programming includes a total of seven exhibitions, 14 lectures and workshops and eight mini-exhibitions in our exterior showcases, a secure exhibition space that is an extension of the gallery proper. All activities are scheduled to take place between August 2010 and May 2011. At the end of the exhibition year in 2011, the gallery will produce a major catalog chronicling the events of the past year, which will be made available to visitors and to all artists, historians, educators and museum professionals who participated.

These exhibitions are conceived as thematic shows based on current conceptual preoccupations in art and organized around formal concerns like genres, styles of expression and art practice. These broadly conceived categories allow the Gallery to accommodate the featured graduates’ work and enable our visitors to see the wide range of subject matter produced as well as career paths that may be undertaken with the rigorous art training our institution provides.

The first event was a figurative exhibition in August and September 2010, which featured painter Gerard Huber, designer Jensen Barnes, painter/illustrator Gary Kelley, ceramicist Ken Rowe and photographer Libby Rowe. This was an exciting combination of artists, all from different decades but all examining romantic and classical themes.

In September and October 2010, we presented a solo exhibition by painter and book artist Duane Slick, a member of the Meskwaki tribe who recently received a Joan Mitchell Foundation Painters and Sculptors grant. In November 2010, video artist/photographer Bruce Charlesworth, installation artist Dawn Gettler, printmaker Karla Hackenmiller and drawer Tom Mueske presented an exhibition of new works dealing with abstraction and narrative forms.

The first exhibition of the spring semester, titled “What You Will,” is intended as a nod toward Shakespeare’s “Twelfth Night.” This exhibition features new work by alumni Gillian Christy, Noah Doely, Pam Echeverria, Sarah German, Inok Kalkwarf, Matt Kelleher, Abinadi Meza, Chawne...
In February and March 2011, the Gallery will present a painting exhibition curated by alumnus David Schmitz, titled “Marks of Process” and featuring Erin Anfinson, Mikel Bisbee-Durlam, Michael Boyd, Danielle McCullough, Marcus Payzant, Cody Riddle, Robert Riseling, Darrell Roberts and Ken Steinkemp. According to the curator, these artists “explore through painting the languages of abstraction, materials and markmaking.” In presenting the recent work of alumni who collectively span five decades (from the late 1950s through the 2000s) and diverse locales, the exhibition reveals a relationship between the development of a rigorous studio practice and an intensity of personal vision.

Finally, March and April 2011 will feature the “Annual Juried Student Art Exhibition,” which will be juried by UNI alumna and Kansas City gallery owner and director Sherry Leedy.

The mission of the UNI Gallery of Art stresses the presentation of emerging and culturally diverse artists and the staging of traditional and non-traditional media. The programming stresses the cultivation of emerging and cross-disciplinary artists as well as the presentation of artists, scholars and performers of diverse backgrounds.
J
im Stephenson and Jessie (Wilson) Phillips, graduates from the Department of Theatre (1999 and 2000, respectively), co-founded the Tallgrass Theatre Company in Des Moines in 2003. According to the company’s website, after arriving in Des Moines they “found themselves without a venue for their collective artistic vision. The two had discussed the idea of a local theatre company that, like the tallgrass prairie, had deep roots within the state. Another appealing metaphor that the thespians agreed fit their ideals was the rebirth of the prairie from year to year, which allows them to stay fresh with constant change, yet with firm and steady bases from which to spring.”

The mission of the theatre company is to enrich the greater Des Moines community by providing a venue for new and unique performance work that is both entertaining and evocative. Stephenson and Phillips produced the first show in 2004 and have been going strong since those beginning days, when they rented small performance venues, built sets for the shows in Stephenson’s garage and rehearsed in people’s homes. Their goal was and still is to be different from the mainstream. Phillips describes their work as “evocative and a little bit different; what someone wouldn’t necessarily think is theatre. I don’t think you’ll ever see Shakespeare on our stage.” Since Tallgrass opened, several other small theatres have popped up. The company now uses the Rex Mathes School in Des Moines as their performance home.

Both Phillips and Stephenson attribute their success with TTC in part to their experiences with the Department of Theatre at UNI. Phillips compared her training in the department to boot camp: “You can’t just say you want to be an actor and acting is all you do. You get exposure to every aspect of the theatre.” They agree that the program makes its graduates “very marketable.” While at UNI, Phillips was active in many productions and in various capacities, including director, stage manager, costume designer and technical assistant. Stephenson’s experience was similarly broad. They still maintain close ties to UNI, and the theatre faculty remains very helpful. “It speaks to the quality of the program.”

The company, for which Phillips currently serves as artistic director and Stephenson as technical director, is growing in popularity all the time. The marketing budget is limited, but they are able to use word-of-mouth and social media to get information out. Many people who went to the very first show still attend and now donate. “To have people say, ‘This was great—I’m going to come back’ is really exciting for us,” Phillips said. “Working on a production together and creating something is magical to me,” she continued. “It’s wonderful to realize how much it bonds people and creates an end product that everyone can be proud of.”
Describe your career path to this point.

Upon arrival in Dallas, I started working with the local theatres and joined a children’s theatre troupe that toured Texas. I also signed with an agent who booked me for film, television, broadcast commercials, commercial print and industrial training films. The bulk of my work ended up being voice-over, which led to a secondary career as a writer when I went to work for Radio Disney in 1996. I worked there for three years, and that opened the door for an opportunity to write for “Barney & Friends,” where I was part of the team that wrote six seasons of the PBS series and home release DVDs. The highlight of my voice-over work was playing the role of Grammie B in the “Boz” series of 3D animation DVDs. For two decades I’ve been a member of a repertory troupe that performs murder mysteries and other corporate shows.

How has a degree in the humanities/fine arts been an advantage?

My college degree and course work convinced one of the primary agents in the Dallas-Fort Worth (DFW) market to sign me when I arrived with no professional experience. My knowledge of children’s theatre and creative dramatics gave me the base I needed to write for children, but it was also put to good use setting up drama programs for some of our local schools and teaching acting for children at KD Conservatory.

How did a degree from UNI make you marketable to employers?

Having a college degree on my resumé was a valuable asset, and the training I had in voice, movement, character development, makeup application and costume design sustained me through a variety of venues. My first non-acting job after I moved to Dallas was with Norcostco Texas Costumes. I introduced myself to the Dallas Repertory Theatre by making all the men’s trousers for their production of “The Pirates of Penzance” from one pattern, two bolts of fabric and a stack of measurement sheets.

Who or what at UNI had the most influence on the education you received?

I owe a big thank you to Jim Harbour and Tom Carlisle for their classes in character development and voice for the actor. Even though I had no experience working with a microphone, the skills I learned at UNI helped me become one of a small group of voice actors in the DFW market who did the majority of work. The other training that has paid off well for me was Creative Dramatics and Children’s Theatre with Scott Regan. There are so many ways to work for and with children, and it’s important to cultivate the future audience for the nation’s theatres. Last but not least, my training with the late costume designer Kathy Runge was invaluable.
Class Notes

1930s
Imogene (Anderson) Darrah, B.A. ’31, celebrated her 101st birthday in August ’09. She is retired and lives in Oregon, Ill.
Jane (Carl) Lunder, B.A. ’39, is now retired after teaching in the schools and in her private violin studio for more than 25 years. She also previously appeared as violinist with the Sioux Falls Symphony.

1940s
Catherine Dycus, B.A. ’42, is a member of the Lifelong Teaching Society of Christopher Newport University and attends their writing and poetry classes.
Valara Minear, B.A. ’47, keeps busy with Kitsap County School Retirees and politics.
Rosie Irene Bolstad, B.A. ’48, is completing her latest album, “Rosie Irene’s Best Yet.”
Elinor (Engelhorn) Meyer, B.A. ’49, retired after 40 years of teaching piano and voice and directing her church choir.

1950s
Marie (Reichenbacker) Nelson, B.A. ’50, M.A. ’67, retired in ’03 from the University of Florida, but she continues to teach the course Writing About Language for its honors program.
Elly (Stettler) Leslie, B.A. ’52, recorded a CD in the UNI School of Music’s new Jazz Studio. The CD will be for sale at University Book and Supply and the Waterloo Barnes & Noble, with 100% of proceeds going to the James Coffin Supply and the Waterloo Barnes & Noble, with 100% of proceeds going to the James Coffin Visiting Artist Jazz Fund at UNI. Leslie sang in the UNI School of Music’s new Jazz Studio.
Gary Stattler, B.A. ’65, has retired from teaching and now works at the Steckelberg Veterinary Clinic in Conrad.
Marilyn Canell, B.A. ’65, is the president of the Nebraska National Association for the Mentally Ill.
Richard Fish, B.A. ’65, who retired in ’05, recently published his third book under his pen name Gregory Pike.
Byron G. Henn, B.A. ’65, retired in ’09 after serving for 25 years as clergyperson in the United Church of Christ. Prior to pursuing his M.Div., he taught vocal music for 16 years.
Carroll Lang, B.A. ’65, retired from work as a pastor in April ’09.
Rosemary (Erickson) Allen, B.A. ’66, retired from teaching elementary music in ’09.
Mary Anne (Hoelzen) Christenson, B.A. ’66, recently presided as president of the California State Chapter of the P.E.O. Sisterhood at the 107th annual convention of the California state chapter.
Gary Stattler, B.A. ’66, has retired from teaching. He makes and sells pottery and works with the Boy Scouts of America.
Alice (Moser) Smith, B.A. ’67, retired from Central City Schools in ’06 after teaching middle school language arts for 20 years.
Valerie Conner, B.A. ’69, retired from her work as a UNIServ director with the Indiana State Teachers Association.
Jim Oleson, B.A. ’69, and Frankee (Horn) Oleson, B.A. ’69, celebrated their 40th wedding anniversary in ’09; they met at UNI while playing in orchestra and marching band. Jim retired from Iowa State University in ’08 after 34 years, while Frankee continues to serve as executive director of the United Way of Story County.
Vicki (DeYoung) Perry, B.A. ’69, M.A. ’74, retired after 32 years of teaching. She and her husband, Denny Perry, B.A. ’72, M.A. ’96, who is also retired, live in Spirit Lake.

1960s
Jerry Purcell, B.A. ’60, M.A. ’67, was a counselor in the Cedar Falls Schools from ’67 until his retirement in ’98.
Constance Speake, B.A. ’60, retired in Dec. ’05, and entered the Peace Corps in June ’06, where she served in Armenia for three and a half years.
William Becvar, B.A. ’61, retired after 30 years as director of theatre and film at Pacific Lutheran University.
Donna (Backstrom) Erickson, B.A. ’62, and spouse still own and operate the remodeling franchise Kitchen Tune-Up in Twin Falls, Idaho.
Stephen Simons, B.A. ’62, retired from Texas Wesleyan University after 41 years of teaching and conducting.
Rochelle Toner, B.A. ’62, was awarded the honor of Printmaker Emeritus at the Southern Graphics Conference in March ’10.
Mary Stattler, B.A. ’63, has retired from teaching and now works at the Steckelberg Veterinary Clinic in Conrad.
Melvin Canell, B.A. ’65, is the president of the Nebraska National Association for the Mentally Ill.

1970s
R. Keith Courtney, B.A. ’70, M.A. ’71, continues to paint after ceasing employment due to a stroke in ’84. He is married to “Bu” Nancy-Nadine Wilson.
Steven Ainsworth, B.A. ’71, M.A. ’75, is the assistant administrator and band director at Wilson (NC) Christian Academy.
David Fox, B.A. ’71, has been promoted to brigadier general in the District of Columbia Defense Force. He is also the executive director of the National Low Income Energy Consortium.
Gerard Huber, B.A. ’71, recently had an exhibition, “Natural Beauties: Drawings by Gerard Huber,” featured in the University Gallery at Texas A & M University - Commerce.
Bruce Charlesworth, B.A. ’72, is a photographer, performance and video artist. His work has been shown in many museums and galleries throughout the U.S. and Europe. He is on the faculty at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee.
Ginger Ogden, B.A. ’72, is the associate director of technical communication at the Cerus Corporation in Concord, Calif.
Bill Witt, B.A. ’72, released a book of his photography titled “Enchanted by the Prairie.”
Marc Haack, B.A. ’73, M.A. ’78, Ed.D. ’91, is a clinical associate professor of educational administration and program coordinator in the College of Education and has been offered the position of Faculty Fellow in the Office of the Executive Vice President and Provost at the University of Iowa.
Jane (Reynolds) Heisterkamp, B.A. ’73, retired in ’08 after 35 years of teaching elementary music. She continues to serve as church organist and choir director at St. Joseph Catholic Church in Salix.
James Linahon, B.A. ’73, recently launched a new PBS television series “Lilly’s Light,” a children’s show for ages 4-9. The program has aired in 20 million households in Boston and the northeastern U.S., with expanded distribution to additional East Coast and Southeast Coast markets planned. Linahon’s recording studio (LMP Studios) artists, arrangers and engineers received 15 Grammy-
award nominations in seven categories this year.

**Lynette (Martin) Loula**, B.A. ’73, teaches and directs drama at Washington High School in Washington.

**Marcia (Weir) Nilles**, B.A. ’73, retired after teaching secondary English for 34 years.

**R. Steve Benson**, B.A. ’74, has published a book with his brother **Barry Benson**, B.A. ’69, called “Schooled Lives: Poems by Two Brothers.”

**Gerald Gabel**, B.M. ’74, has recently made five visits to Ukraine, initially to interview composers for an article recently published in ex tempore, titled “Fourteen Living Composers in Ukraine.” In fall ’08, he organized and directed “A Festival of Ukrainian Chamber Music” with four Ukrainian guest composers. Since spring ’09, he has traveled to Kiev as guest composer for the festivals Musical Premiers of the Season (twice) and the Kiev Music Fest. Five of his compositions have been performed at the festivals, including two chamber works, the premiere of the eighth movement of his choral work “Koren Av Hammerskjold” and two orchestral works (“The Touch of Moonlight Passing” and “Golgotha,” which will be released on the CD series of UNRO ’11).

**Bill Hesse**, B.A. ’74, retired after 35 years of teaching elementary and middle school music in Dubuque Community Schools.

**Marc McCoy**, B.A. ’75, accepted a position as an assistant professor of secondary education at Mt. Mercy University in Cedar Rapids after spending 33 years in K-12 education.

**Michele (Roberts) Stephens**, B.M. ’75, is a self-employed video writer and producer. She also directs the First Baptist Church Choir in Pulaski, Tenn. Last year she directed Disney’s “101 Dalmatians” at the South Tennessee Repertory Theater, STAAR.

**Jeff Tower**, B.M. ’75, retired after 33 years of teaching in ’08. He is still very active playing trombone for local gigs and bands as well as some studio recording, and serves as chairman of Idyllwild Arts Summer Jazz Workshop, sales director for LMP Studios and is a member of the UNI School of Music National Advisory Board.

**Sandra (McGill) Barnhouse**, B.A. ’76, has been elected to chair the National Two-Year College English Association, a division of the National Council of Teachers of English. She has taught at Rowan Cabarrus Community College for 16 years.

**Nancy (Wagner) McElrath**, B.A. ’76, M.A. ’78, retired after 30 years as a Spanish teacher.

**Laura (Lakin) Meyer**, B.A. ’76, is a Spanish teacher at Perry High School.

**John A. Aboud**, B.M. ’77, M.M. ’89, retired from Algona High School after 33 years of teaching and serving as band director.

**Paula McDougall**, B.A. ’77, M.A. ’97, was a winner of the ‘99 Master Search contest. She was also selected as a McElroy Gold Star Teacher in ’03.

**Larry Michehel**, B.A. ’77, retired from the Charles City Community Schools, where he most recently directed the 7-12 choirs. For 33 years he taught in the St. Ansgar and Charles City schools.

**James Fritz**, B.A. ’79, M.A. ’85, and **Elizabeth (Gall) Fritz**, B.M. ’83, celebrated their 30th wedding anniversary at UNI Homecoming; their first date was Campaniling. Both are music educators in Iowa, and Elizabeth currently serves as head of the Iowa Band Masters Association.

**Pamela Hunter**, B.A. ’79, is an office manager at Scheel’s All Sports in Coralville.

**Maureen McCormick**, B.A. ’79, is the director of marketing for Continuing Education at the University of Iowa. She lives in Coralville.

**1980s**

**Russell Alexander**, B.M. ’80, is the band director at Seymour (Iowa) Schools.

**Dennis Doyle**, M.A. ’80, received the Huffman Award for Outstanding Support of International Education.

**Cheryl (Miehe) Metz**, B.A. ’80, M.A. ’86, teaches fifth grade in the centralized gifted program in Rockford, Ill.

**George Nicholas**, B.A. ’80, is the director of engineering for NGF Media, which owns and operates 55 radio stations across the Midwest.

**Linda Thieman**, B.A. ’80, M.A. ’83, is the author of the book series “Katie & Kimball (A Ghost Story)” and was recently recognized by the Mom’s Choice Awards as being among the best in family-friendly media, products and services.

**Kathryn Wilson**, B.A. ’80, M.A. ’82, is a speech-language pathologist in Ottumwa.

**Carolyn (Prins) Dorr**, B.A. ’81, B.A. ’93, M.A. ’99, is working as a Web developer for University Relations at UNI.

**Gary Schwartzhoff**, B.A. ’81, was awarded the Morris D. Hayes Award for outstanding contributions to choral music in Wisconsin. He is a professor of music and director of choral activities at the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire.

**Tim Seaman**, B.A. ’81, is a senior member of Channel 9 Eyewitness News anchor team.

**Les Aldrich**, B.A. ’82, is a band teacher at Oelwein Community Schools. He recently had his 20th piece of music published by C.L. Barnhouse Co. and has transcriptions in the Harvard University Band Library. His latest project is writing the music for a Monty Python “Spamalot” marching band show.

**Valentina (Kuchynka) Martin**, B.A. ’82, recently retired, has been named a Realtor Emeritus by the National Association of Realtors.

**David Hartman**, B.A. ’83, was elected board president of Ronald McDonald House Charities of Central Iowa for another two-year term. He is an account executive at KCCI-TV in Des Moines.

**Linda ( Larson) Hoopes**, B.A. ’86, has joined RufoloCODY as an associate vice president for Enrollment Management.

**Darla (Onken) Richardson**, B.A. ’86, teaches kindergarten, and her husband, **William Richardson**, B.A. ’87, teaches sixth grade social studies for the Alvin (Texas) Independent School District.

**Corlyn (Longer) Schreck**, B.A. ’86, is a vocal soloist for the Kalamazoo Symphony Orchestra’s production of “The World of.. Bach.”

**Terry Buzenow**, B.A. ’87, has spent the past 10 years managing the Winneshiek County Recycling Program, which involves managing the recycling center in Decorah and providing waste reduction and recycling education in Clayton, Howard and Winneshiek counties.

**Steve Gearhart**, B.A. ’87, was the recipient of the ‘09 High Five Award at the University of Northern Iowa’s Administration and Financial Services Division annual rewards and recognition event. He works as a senior associate athletic director at UNI.

**Joel North**, B.A. ’87, has been named a relationship manager for U.S. Bank Private Client Group in Des Moines.

**David Ohl**, B.A. ’87, received the President’s Club Award as Retail Consultant of the Year by the True Value Company.

**Nancy Allen**, B.A. ’88, is an associate professor of music at Viterbo University in LaCrosse, Wis.

**Jeffrey Liebmann**, B.A. ’88, is serving as chair of the Council of Advancement and Support of Education (CASE) District V Board of Directors.

Mark Walters, B.A. ’88, appeared as Enrico in “Lucia di Lammermoor” with the Florida Grand Opera and as Germont in “La Traviata” with the Greensboro Opera in the 2009-10 season. In the summer of ’10, Walters traveled to Bergen, Norway, to perform with Den Nye Opera.

Clark Duhrkopf, B.M. ’89, is the ‘01 founder and director of the Carpe Diem Vocal Ensemble. In the summer of ’08, Clark was asked to premier a soprano saxophone and pipe organ piece at the National Guild of Organists national convention.

Tim Harmon, B.A. ’89, Ed.S. ’92, completed his M.Div. from United Theological Seminary and was hired as a pastor at First Presbyterian and First Lutheran Parish in Lake Andes, S.D.

Susan Rider, B.M. ’89, was recently promoted to master sergeant (E-8). She is a trumpeter who performs with The President’s Own Marine Band.

1990s

Normand Bogunia, B.A. ’90, is a production director and afternoon drive radio announcer at Cox Media Group–Dayton. His wife, Terri McNurlen-Bogunia, B.A. ’91, is a director with the Centerville Child Development Center.

Carol (Olson) Woosley, B.A. ’90, deputy director of equipment management in the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense Reserve Affairs, was selected as a Secretary of Defense Corporate Fellow as part of the Army’s Reserve Affairs, was selected as a Secretary of Defense Corporate Fellow as part of the Army’s Reserve Affairs, was selected as a Secretary of Defense Corporate Fellow as part of the Army’s Reserve Affairs. She continues to be the program advisor at the University of Wisconsin-Stout for the instruction design certificate program.

Heidi Seegers, B.A. ’97, is the director of Career Services at Iowa Wesleyan College.

Janelle (Barnett) Darst, B.A. ’98, is the director of marketing for the Gallagher-Bluedorn Performing Arts Center at the University of Northern Iowa.

William Behrends, B.A. ’99, is the associate director of placement in the College of Education at the University of Iowa. He recently published a textbook for student teachers, “Getting Hired.”

Shannon McQuillen, B.A. ’99, is the executive director of Trinity Health Foundation and Trinity Marketing and Public Relations at Trinity Regional Medical Center in Fort Dodge.

2000s

Nicolette (Hagen) Inman, B.A. ’00, recently led the patron development effort for the Syracuse Symphony Orchestra. In Oct. ’10, she became vice president of patron engagement for the Memphis (Tenn.) Symphony.

Kathy Cameron, M.M. ’01, won first prize in the Arts Division of the Hayes Graduate Research Forum at Ohio State University for her presentation “The Effects of Vibrato Production Techniques and Use on Musical Collaborations among Woodwinds.” She is currently a D.M.A. candidate in flute performance and plays piccolo in the top Wind Symphony at Ohio State University.

Elisa (Reising) Green, B.A. ’01, M.A. ’03, is a production manager for Pearsons in Austin, Texas.

John Cernohous, B.A. ’04, is a program manager for Pearson Austin, Texas.

James “JC” Sanford, B.A. ’94, was the conductor of John Hollenbeck’s “Eternal Interlude,” which was nominated for a Grammy in the Best Large Jazz Ensemble category.

Sonia (Cuvelier) Walsh, B.A. ’94, is in her second season co-hosting the television show, “Metro Woman,” which airs on ABC 5 in Des Moines.

Amy Hawley, B.A. ’95, is commissioning editor for Primary and Secondary Publishing in ELT at Cambridge University Press; she received an advanced certificate in Wines and Spirits from the Wine and Spirit Education Trust in London.

Brian Lovig, B.A. ’95, owns a custom furniture and cabinet business, Lovig Woodworks.

Stephen Sporer, B.A. ’96, was recently promoted to associate director of major gifts at Macalester College in St. Paul, Minn.

Nicholle (Judas) Stone, B.A. ’96, is the assistant director of distance education at the University of South Florida Polytechnic. She continues to be the program advisor at the University of Wisconsin-Stout for the instruction design certificate program.

Eric Allen, M.M. ’97, released a book of etudes and excerpts titled “Success in All Keys,” designed to help instrumental students improve their reading skills and proficiency in all key signatures.

Heidi Seegers, B.A. ’97, is the director of Career Services at Iowa Wesleyan College.

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Elisa (Reising) Green, B.A. ’01, M.A. ’03, is a clinical instructor at St. Ambrose University in Davenport.

Kindra (Helton) Barber, B.A. ’02, is the owner of Barber Photography in Des Moines.

Cherri (Jiras) Block, B.A. ’02, teaches high school English and speech and is a cheerleading coach in Custer, S.D.

Jeffrey Frazier, B.A. ’03, is the director of Christian education and youth at Waterloo First United Methodist Church.

Teresa (Kulow) Roof, B.A. ’03, is the manager of public relations for the National Pork Board in Des Moines.

Matthew Boucher, B.A. ’04, has spent the last three years as an instrument builder with the firm of Shire’s Trombones. He was recently accepted into the Acoustics and Music Technology program at the University of Edinburgh in Scotland.

Ben Cook-Feltz, B.A. ’04, is a performing musician and has been touring throughout ‘10 with his group Ben Cook-Feltz and the Glorious Percussion Armada.

Timothy Jones, B.A. ’04, is the assistant high school band director in Garden City, Kan., and is pursuing a master’s degree.

Amy (Matthiessen) Morrison, B.A. ’04, is the owner of Student International Travel Experiences, a nonprofit organization that offers scholarships to students at Title I schools for Educational Tours of Europe.

Michelle Nielsen Ott, B.A. ’04, graduated from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee with a Master of Library and Information Science. She lives in Antioch, Tenn., with husband, Adam Ott, B.A. ’05.

Ann (Frazier) Rohret, B.A. ’04, works at Principal Financial Group.

Collan Traver, B.A. ’04, works at Fahr Beverage as the graphics department manager.

Veronica Mitina, M.M. ’05, returned to the Virginia Opera in fall ’09 as Puccini’s tragic heroine Mimi in “La Boheme.”

Megan Hosch, B.A. ’06, M.A. ’08, is an exhibit program manager at the Children’s Museum in Seattle.

Anthony Williams, M.M. ’06, was appointed director of jazz studies/low brass at the University of Mary, Bismarck, N.D., beginning July ’10. His wife, Leslie Ann Green, B.M. ’07, is a former music teacher with Memphis Public Schools and plans to substitute teach in Bismarck Public Schools for the ‘10 school year.

Tyler Kalina, B.M. ’08, has been selected as a graduate assistant in the percussion studio at the University of Southern Mississippi beginning fall ’10.

Joel Nagel, B.M. ’08, was selected as one of three finalists for the Eastern Trombone Workshop Solo Jazz Competition.
Susan Akerman ’64 took the time to imagine the impact she could have in the lives of others.

Thanks to her foresight, six students are attending UNI this fall.

Your bequest to the UNI School of Music will impact students and may provide you with many benefits, including:

• Your assets remain in your control during your lifetime
• You can direct your bequest to a particular purpose or program
• You can modify your bequest at anytime

Endow your passion. Contact Deb Umbdenstock, director of development, College of Humanities and Fine Arts, 319-273-7727.

Or visit UNI’s planned giving Web site: www.unicompass.com.
An investment in knowledge always pays the best interest—Benjamin Franklin

More often than not, when I thank individuals for their gifts to the University of Northern Iowa, they respond that they want to give back because this is where they got their start. In some cases, the individuals even benefited from the generosity of a previous donor, which allowed them to finish their degree.

As we are getting toward the end of our campaign, “Imagine the Impact,” we hope you will consider the impact that a gift to UNI could have on students as they get their start in life. I would ask that you not only imagine the difference you can make in a young person’s life, but also remember the impact that the University of Northern Iowa had on you.

In recent years, state support for UNI has declined from 77 percent to 39.7 percent, which has resulted in tuition increases, thereby making a college education an unattainable goal for some. Private support can make all the difference as to whether graduating high school students can continue on for higher education as well as the amount of debt they have upon graduation.

Throughout this magazine, you will see examples of how your support impacts not only our students’ educational experience but also their life. You can make an impact on the future of these students and our world through program and scholarship support:

- The CHFA Dean’s Fund for Excellence provides direct support to students and faculty in a variety of ways every year. Since the fund is flexible, the dean can direct resources to areas where they are needed.
- The UNI Annual Fund provides operating funds to the university where they are most needed annually. With an Annual Fund gift of $1,000 or more, you will become a member of the Campanile Society and will join others who are committed to the long-term growth and mission of UNI.
- UNI’s Old Central Associates are those individuals who have created a legacy for the future with a planned gift. By including UNI in your estate plans, you can impact students and programs well into the future.

Thank you for your continued friendship and support of the College of Humanities and Fine Arts and the University of Northern Iowa!

Debra Umbdenstock
Director of Development
College of Humanities and Fine Arts