FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
November 16, 2012  

University of Iowa PRSSA Receives National Star Chapter Award  

Iowa City, IA (11/16/2012) - The University of Iowa Public Relations Student Society of America (PRSSA) recently received a Star Chapter Award from the national headquarters of PRSSA. The award, which was presented at the PRSSA National Conference in San Francisco, CA on October 12, 2012, recognizes chapters from across the country for exemplifying community service and involvement with national initiatives. Erica Sturwold, president of the UI chapter and senior majoring in Journalism and Mass Communication, attended the conference and received the award on behalf of the chapter.

“The Star Chapter Award is a really high distinction our chapter can be proud of. It’s encouraging to know we’ve been reaching our goals not only on a chapter level, but on a national level as well. We have worked hard over the past year to reach national initiatives, and this award is a recognition of that. We look forward to continuing this hard work and pushing our chapter forward.”

Out of the 300 schools represented in PRSSA nationally, only 9% received the Star Chapter Award this year. Only two other Big 10 universities were honored besides Iowa: Indiana University and Michigan State University.

In addition, 2011-2012 PRSSA member Alex Zaprudsky was awarded the PRSSA National Gold Key award, an honor awarded to 27 PRSSA members who have demonstrated strong academic and professional credentials. PRSSA’s student-run firm, Inspire, was also recognized as a fully operating student firm. Ricky Brandt, PRSSA newsletter editor and junior majoring in Journalism and Mass Communication, saw the award as a sign of progress within the chapter.

“Since joining PRSSA, this chapter has grown substantially, hosted regional conference and maintained a highly read blog. I hope the Star Chapter Award will serve to thank each member who has built the James F. Fox chapter into what it is today and inspire emerging leaders to prepare for their professional careers through our chapter.”

The University of Iowa PRSSA chapter has several events planned for the upcoming semester, including a mock press conference, a yoga fundraiser, and several skills workshops. For more information on upcoming events, please visit our website: www.iowaprssa.com
About the University of Iowa James F. Fox Chapter Public Relations Student Society of America

The University of Iowa’s PRSSA Chapter (www.iowaprssa.com) is named after James F. Fox, a successful PRSA member and University of Iowa Journalism and Mass Communication alumnus. The chapter is a student organization with over 90 members that allows students to acquire PR knowledge through a variety of guest speakers, workshops, agency tours and committees.

Facebook: www.facebook.com/IowaPRSSA
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About the Public Relations Student Society of America

The Public Relations Student Society of America (www.prssa.org), headquartered in New York City, is the world’s pre-eminent, pre-professional public relations organization. Founded in 1968 by the Public Relations Society of America (PRSA), the organization has grown to nearly 10,000 members at more than 300 Chapters across the United States and one Chapter in Argentina. PRSSA membership benefits include scholarships and awards; and internship, job and professional development opportunities.
The 2012-2013 PRSSA Executive Board with the Star Chapter Award. Back row: Petya Eckler, faculty adviser; Ricky Brandt, newsletter editor; Regina Volk, co-director of Inspire; Sarah Larson, co-director of Inspire; Erica Sturwold, president; Emily Messerly, PR director. Front Row: Alyssa Schaefer, education director; Rachel Hewitt, vice president; Chelsey Banes, secretary.