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SPRING 2011

Arts & Sciences

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 THE UNIVERSITY
OF IOWA



2011 CALENDAR

April 15–24, 2011

URINETOWN

Department of Theatre Arts,
Division of Performing Arts

April 23, 2011

IOWA LISZT FESTIVAL BI-CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

School of Music,
Division of Performing Arts

April 28–30,
May 1–2, 2011

ELIXIR OF LOVE

School of Music and Martha Ellen Tye
Opera Theater, Division of Performing Arts

May 2–7, 2011

IOWA NEW PLAY FESTIVAL

Department of Theatre Arts,
Division of Performing Arts

May 5–7, 2011

UNDERGRADUATE CONCERT

Department of Dance,
Division of Performing Arts

May 14, 2011

SPRING COMMENCEMENT

For a current list of CLAS events, visit
www.clas.uiowa.edu

For a list of all University of Iowa
arts events and locations, visit
www.uiowa.edu/artsiowa



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Correction: In the 2009 issue of *Arts & Sciences*, Jim Caldwell's degree information was incorrect. He graduated in 2008 with a Bachelor of Liberal Studies degree. *Arts & Sciences* regrets the error.

DEAN Linda Maxson, UI Alumni Association
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Cover: This interactive periodic table graces the lobby inside the main east entry of the recently renovated Chemistry Building. The State of Iowa mandates that a certain portion of every renovation project be spent on art. Louis Messerle, associate professor of chemistry, collects elements as a hobby and suggested the interactive periodic table, created by RGB Research Ltd. of London, as one of the art pieces for the Chemistry Building. It was approved by the Arts on Campus Committee and installed in 2009. Messerle maintains the table and invites all alumni and friends to visit the Chemistry Building and try out the interactive displays. Photograph by Mark Fullenkamp.

Left: Redbuds in bloom on the Pentacrest frame the entrance to Schaeffer Hall.

Contents

- 2 **A Message from the Dean**
- 3 **Their Brilliant Careers**
- 5 **Published**
- 6 **Earth Scholars**
Students and faculty seek understanding of the interactions between human activities and natural systems.
- 12 **Helping Students Build Their Futures**
How are you going to use these 2,000,000 minutes?
- 13 **Learning by Doing**
Undergraduate students engage in original research for hands-on learning.
- 15 **Alumni News**
- 17 **Discoveries**
- 18 **CLAS Notes**
- 22 **Do the Right Thing**
An alumnus gives back in gratitude.



Photograph by Beth Skogen, BA '08, journalism; BFA '08, art

Arts & Sciences



A Message from the Dean

College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

Following the efforts of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences (CLAS) and The University of Iowa to become leaner and more sustainable, we debut a leaner, more sustainable publication.

We are now producing the magazine in-house, optimizing our resources while continuing to bring you the latest news about our innovative programs, people, and alumni.

Reflecting this focus on resource conservation and sustainability, our story “Earth Scholars” (p. 6) highlights our Environmental Sciences Program. This interdisciplinary program is growing rapidly as it becomes increasingly relevant to students committed to addressing the planet’s pressing environmental concerns. This program provides students with many opportunities to gain valuable experience while working with world-class scholars and researchers.

Undergraduates in Environmental Sciences are not the only ones with opportunities to engage in hands-on research in CLAS. In “Learning by Doing,” we spotlight four students who are taking advantage of opportunities to collaborate with faculty and graduate students (p. 13). These are just a few examples of the many exceptional students in CLAS who are engaged in research and creative efforts that will give them a competitive edge in graduate school and their careers. Many of our undergraduates who take on these projects receive national recognition

for their efforts. One of our featured students, Renugan Raidoo, was named a 2011 Rhodes Scholar. He becomes The University of Iowa’s 20th Rhodes Scholar, the majority of whom have been CLAS graduates.

While the College still faces significant budgetary challenges, we have much to celebrate. This issue brings you news about some of the greatest accomplishments of our faculty, students, and alumni. We continue to pursue excellence and provide the highest-quality educational experience possible for all of our students. As part of our commitment to student success, we’ve implemented some exciting new initiatives, including a Peer Mentor program and a Life Design course to help our undergraduates discover their passions and translate them into college success (p. 12). We have also developed several TILE classrooms (spaces to Transform, Interact, Learn and Engage), as part of a shared UI-CLAS initiative. These are technology-supported classrooms that foster active learning and faculty/student engagement. The four TILE classrooms are located in the Main Library, Van Allen Hall, MacLean Hall, and Phillips Hall.

We are so grateful for your support of the faculty, staff, and students of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. With the assistance of our committed alumni and friends, we will continue to excel and grow. Meanwhile, we welcome your input. Let us know what you think of our efforts. And please keep us informed of your good news so we may share it with your fellow graduates and friends in future issues.

Linda Maxam

Lawyer-Writer Champions for the Innocent

Many people have heard of the work of innocence projects—organizations that overturn wrongful convictions. But far fewer know what happens to exonerated men and women once they leave the confines of prison.

Laura Caldwell (BA '89, communication studies) used to count herself among those people. Then she heard the story of Jovan Mosley, a young man who had been in jail for nearly six years, awaiting trial for a murder he didn't commit. At the time, Caldwell was a law professor at Loyola University in Chicago and hadn't tried a courtroom case in years. But Mosley's circumstances compelled her to join his defense team, a team that ultimately proved Mosley's innocence. What shocked Caldwell was that when Mosley left prison, he was released at 2 a.m. with only a bus pass and a Bible.

Mosely's story led Caldwell to write *Long Way Home: A Young Man Lost in the System and the Two Women Who Found Him* (Free Press, 2010). It also inspired her to start the Life After Innocence project at Loyola.

"When you see these folks walk out of prison on the evening news, you think 'Good for them, I hope they enjoy their life,'" says Caldwell. "But after the media attention, often there is nothing. Barely a third of exonerees get any money. Nothing in prison prepares them for life outside."

The Life After Innocence project helps exonerees expunge their records and obtain housing, medical care, counseling, and employment.

"Typically they've been in prison so long they don't know how to use a cell phone or computer," says Caldwell. "We connect them with the resources they need to make a life. And we remind them what amazing people they are to have stuck with their cases for so long, through such opposition."

The Life After Innocence project is just one of Caldwell's accomplishments. In addition to *Long Way Home*, she's written ten novels, in both the "chick lit" and mystery genres. (Izzy McNeil, the heroine of her mystery trilogy—*Red Hot Lies*, *Red Blooded Murder*, and *Red, White & Dead*—attended The University of Iowa.) Caldwell's fiction writing began as a creative outlet during her years as a litigator, and she augmented classes at The Writer's Loft in Chicago with UI Summer Writing Festival courses.

Though Caldwell didn't hone her writing craft as an undergraduate, she credits the University with encouraging her to take on new challenges, something she's done frequently as she's moved between the worlds of litigator, author, and law professor.

"At Iowa, people would say, 'You're interested in that? Okay, great, give it a try and we'll give you a place to do it,'" says Caldwell. "Opportunity is such a good thing to give to people, and Iowa did that for me."

For more information, visit the Life After Innocence project at www.luc.edu/law/lifeafterinnocence and Laura Caldwell's site at www.lauracaldwell.com.



International Experience Leads to Emmys for Designer

Most of us have encountered an environment in which every element communicates a brand: think Niketown, Starbucks, and Disneyland. Creating these three-dimensional worlds that engage all the senses

is known as “brandscaping.” It’s a discipline that lies at the crossroads of architecture and marketing.

Someone who’s right at home at this intersection is UI graduate Erik Ulfers. He’s parlayed a theater design career into two successful environmental

design firms and has claimed eight Emmy Awards along the way.



Ulfers (BGS ’75), a Cedar Rapids native, came to the University as an art major but quickly got hooked on theater.

“I was a high achiever, but only in things that interested me,” says Ulfers with a laugh. “I did well in theater design and not so well in French, which I regret, because I do a lot of international business.”

One thing Ulfers doesn’t regret is taking advice from theater professor Margaret Hall.

“She gave me a kick in the pants and told me to see the world and I did,” he says, referring to a year spent studying in Sweden. After graduation and graduate work at Iowa, Ulfers moved to Europe, where for 12 years he worked as a scenographer, designing costumes, lighting, and sets for theater productions, ballets, and operas. He returned to the U.S. in 1990 and co-founded Production Design Group, which he sold in 2000. Today he heads Clickspring Design.

“The move from theater to environmental design was a natural evolution in many respects,” says Ulfers. “In both, we start with the narrative and do a lot of research before putting pen to paper on the design.”

Ulfers’s clients include Nintendo, Southern Comfort, and General Motors. His Emmys honor set designs for broadcast news studios, including those of MSNBC, NBC, and CNN.

Ulfers credits his University of Iowa education with the award-winning standards he sets for his work. He recalls a professor whose harsh critique emphasized resisting generic design.

“That was one of the more potent lessons I learned at Iowa and a notion that informs everything I do today,” he says. “Clearly differentiating one world from another is what brand-building is all about.”

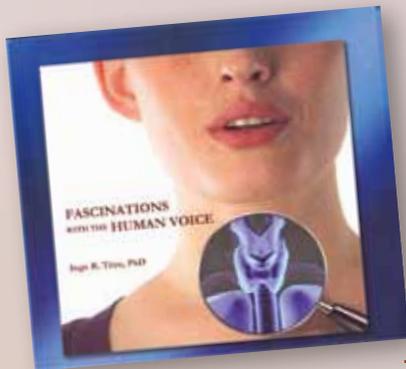
Ulfers recently honored Margaret Hall by endowing a scholarship in her name. The award will enable an undergraduate to study overseas, just as he did when Hall encouraged him to leave Iowa’s familiar terrain.

Ulfers and his wife, Karen Engelmann (BFA ’76, art), have two daughters, one of whom just left for college. Ulfers hopes she’ll encounter professors who will provide similar inspiration.

“At Iowa, there was great advocacy for adventure and taking risks,” he says. “I wouldn’t be doing what I’m doing now without that.”

For more information about Erik Ulfers, visit <http://www.clickspringdesign.com>.

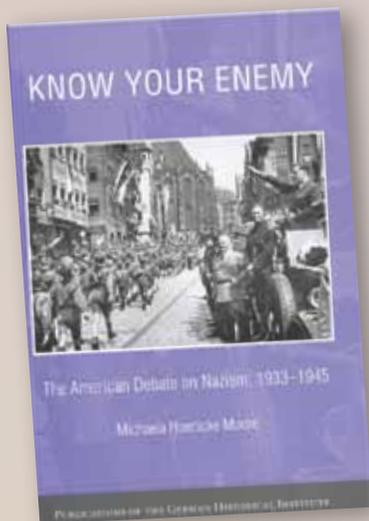
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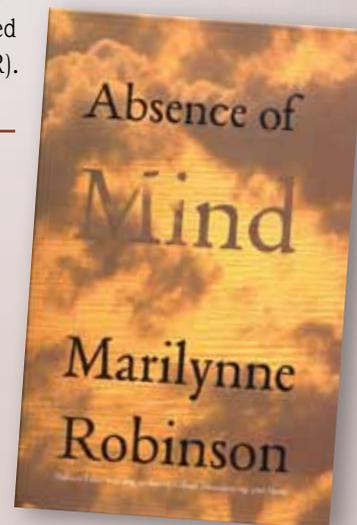
Fascinations with the Human Voice by Ingo Titze, UI Foundation Distinguished Professor of communication sciences and disorders, is a book for teachers, singers, actors, public speakers, and anyone interested in the human voice. Titze summarizes his lifelong knowledge of the vocal arts and sciences in order to help individuals better understand their voice and how to properly use it.



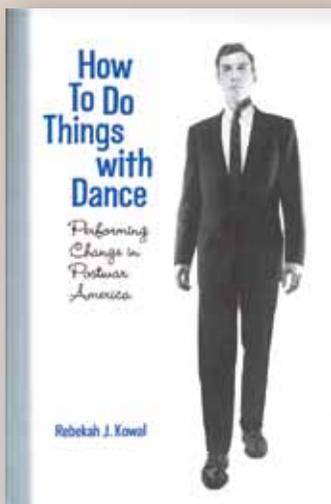
Amy Schendel, assistant professor of music, and Todd Schendel, adjunct assistant professor of music, have recorded their first solo and chamber music CD. Each track on ***Full Power*** features Amy on trumpet and/or Todd on trombone. A highlight of the two-disc set is *Abe Lincoln's Song Book*, written by Douglas Hill for the Contrapunctus Brass Trio.



Michaela Hoenicke Moore, assistant professor of history, explores the political and intellectual context in which American conceptions of Nazi Germany were developed in ***Know Your Enemy: The American Debate on Nazism, 1933-1945***. The book won the 2010 Myrna F. Bernath Book Award and an honorable mention for the Stuart L. Bernath Prize, both awarded by the Society of Historians of American Foreign Relations (SHAFR).



Marilynne Robinson, Iowa Writers' Workshop faculty member and 2005 Pulitzer Prize winner, examines science, religion, and consciousness in her latest nonfiction work, ***Absence of Mind: The Dispelling of Inwardness from the Modern Myth of the Self***. She spoke about her book on *The Daily Show* with *Jon Stewart* in July 2010, saying that she believes the quality of science and religion determines the nature of the conversation about the differences between the two worldviews.



In postwar America, any assertion of difference from the mainstream anticommunist culture carried professional and personal risks. For this reason, modern dance artists expressed themselves in movement rather than words. In ***How To Do Things with Dance***, associate professor of dance and CLAS Dean's Scholar Rebekah Kowal positions modern dance as a vital critical discourse and suggests that dances of the late 1940s and the 1950s can be seen as compelling agents of social change.

Earth Scho



To learn why the University of Iowa's Environmental Sciences Program is attracting increasing interest, simply open a newspaper or browse the Internet. Stories about flooding in Iowa, the after-effects of the oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico, Arctic warming, arsenic pollution in groundwater, and disappearing rainforest species highlight the serious environmental problems facing the world.

The complexity and interconnectedness of these problems is reflected in the multifaceted nature of the Environmental Sciences Program. While students seeking other degrees focus their studies primarily in one discipline, those majoring in environmental sciences receive a broad education in fields that include biology, chemistry, geosciences, hydrology, and mathematics. And

from their first weeks in the program, they are encouraged to see the ways in which these disciplines intertwine, a perspective that provides the foundation for understanding the earth as an intricate network of interacting organic and inorganic systems.

As one of the UI's newer academic programs, environmental sciences has been multi-disciplinary from its very beginning. "In 1996, a group of us from biology, geology, geography, and chemistry were concerned about the growing environmental problems facing the world and the fact that The University of Iowa lacked a program in environmental sciences," says Steve Hendrix, program coordinator and professor of biology. "We knew there was a great need for students trained in this emerging field, and so we put

lars: The Environmental Sciences Program Explores the Complexities of Global Systems

by Lori Erickson



together a program that drew on the strengths of our various departments.”

Since its official launch in 1997, the Environmental Sciences Program has emphasized both breadth and depth of knowledge. No other UI degree program requires as many semester hours across multiple disciplines. According to Hendrix, the program is also more academically challenging than the majority of environmental sciences programs offered at other colleges and universities.

That rigor has attracted an increasing number of students. In recent years, the program has grown to approximately 100 majors, a bright and passionate cohort of students who want to use their academic knowledge in practical ways.

“Our students tend to be conscientious, idealistic, and very socially conscious,” says Hendrix. “They want to make a positive difference in the world, and we try to give them the background that will make that possible.”

Students seeking a BS degree choose between four tracks within the Environmental Sciences Program: biosciences (which enrolls approximately half of all majors), geoscience, chemical sciences, and hydrosciences. Last year, a BA option was added. This program does not require an emphasis in one of the four tracks but instead encourages breadth by having students take coursework in three of the four areas. With about a dozen majors, the BA program is smaller than the BS option, but its numbers are growing.

Diverse Offerings

The wide-ranging nature of the curriculum means that environmental sciences students take classes and work in laboratories across campus. In addition to traditional subjects like biology, chemistry, and geology, majors also gain experience and knowledge in new disciplines such as remote sensing and GIS (geographic information systems). But no matter what the discipline, a common thread runs through the courses: a commitment to using scientific methods to understand environmental processes and problems.

“I’m impressed by how faculty members in the program convey their deep love for their subjects,” says Patrick Kyei, a native of Ghana who is a senior in the chemical sciences track. “They have an enthusiasm that’s

infectious, and they truly believe their students can make a difference in the world.”

In addition to classrooms and laboratories, other pedagogical resources include the Paleontological Repository, one of the largest university-based fossil collections in the nation. The program also benefits from affiliations with the Iowa Geological Survey Bureau and the Office of the State Archeologist, both of which have provided research and internship opportunities for students.

While the diverse faculty, facilities, and courses can be an administrative challenge to coordinate, the benefits outweigh the disadvantages, says Vicki Grassian, F. Wendell Miller professor in chemistry, who teaches courses in the chemical sciences track. “Environmental Sciences is an exceptional program, in part because it draws on the talents and knowledge of faculty from across the sciences,” she says. “This gives students unique opportunities for learning and research. The chemical sciences track is actually a more challenging program than a regular chemistry degree because it requires such breadth across disciplines.

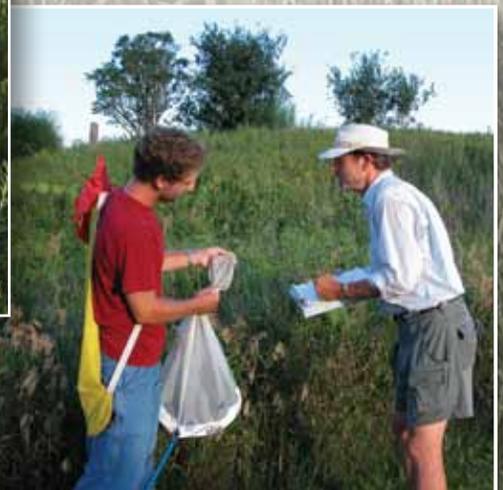
I’ve been very pleased with the outstanding students that this track has attracted. They include some of the top students at the university.”

Field experience is a vital component of all the tracks within the program, particularly biological sciences. A major learning facility for UI students is the Iowa Lakeside Laboratory, which was established on the shore of West Lake Okoboji in northwestern Iowa in 1909. As the field station for Iowa’s three state universities, it offers research opportunities and classes that utilize the lakes, wetlands, and prairies of the surrounding region. Four-week courses are offered on topics that include aquatic ecology, plant taxonomy, and soils and environmental quality.

For many students, studying at the Iowa Lakeside Laboratory is one of the richest learning experiences of the program. Caitlin Digman from Johnston, Iowa, who completed the course *Animals and Their Ecosystems* at the laboratory this past summer, welcomed the chance to integrate her classroom learning with practical experience.

“I learned a tremendous amount during my course, which included many outdoor research activities,” says Digman, a senior pursuing a BS in environmental sciences and a BFA in sculpture. “We spent most mornings sampling out-of-doors, and then we’d spend afternoons identifying what we found. A highlight for me was the day we went to a fen, which was a type of ecosystem I’d never seen before. It has very strange hydrological features and plants and animals that you don’t find anywhere else. Experiences like that are great fun as well as educational.”

Many students go farther afield as well, studying in locations that include Costa Rica, Tasmania, Australia, and Mexico. From monitoring the hatching of endangered sea turtles on isolated Caribbean beaches to conducting vegetation surveys on islands off the coast of New Zealand, students



discover the challenges and joys of working in the field. “Nothing opens up a student’s perspective like seeing ecological systems in a new place,” says Hendrix. “It takes what they learn in the classroom and makes it real. There’s no replacement for boots-on-the-ground experience.”

While majors are not required to write a senior thesis, honors research with a thesis is strongly encouraged. “Doing a thesis means extra effort for students, but that experience is a tremendous learning opportunity and gives them a big advantage when they apply to graduate schools or look for employment,” says Art Bettis, associate professor of geoscience and general advisor for the Environmental Sciences Program. “We encourage students to take the initiative and approach faculty about getting involved with their research.”

Such projects span a wide range of activities, including researching fuel cell efficiency, studying the morphology

of tropical coral reefs, quantifying the mineral composition of lava flows in Utah, monitoring contaminants in air pollution, and researching bee pollination in prairies.

Many students in the program also put their knowledge and passion to use in advocacy groups, including the University of Iowa Environmental Coalition, which works to promote environmental awareness and reduce energy use, waste, and pollution on campus and in the community. Among the group’s projects has been a student garden on the west UI campus, a site that uses sustainable methods to grow produce for the Iowa Memorial Union. Students also work in sites such as Iowa City’s Hickory Hill Park, where they pull invasive species, clear brush, and help maintain trails.

Emphasis on Sustainability

The Environmental Sciences Program plays an important role in the UI’s sustainability initiative, which was launched in an Earth Day speech by President Sally Mason in 2008. Sustainability is defined as the implementation of policies, processes, and practices that meet the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. At the UI, the initiative includes new faculty positions, monitoring of the university’s use of energy and materials, use of green principles in building design and construction, and a campus-wide effort



to make sustainability an integral part of the UI's academic mission.

A major component of the initiative has been the development of a Certificate in Sustainability, a program designed to give students the knowledge and skills to develop sustainable systems. Since it was launched last fall, the 24-semester-hour certificate has been earned by three students, with an additional 40 currently taking classes toward it.

"We're the first school in Iowa to offer a program in sustainability," says Liz Christensen, director of the UI's Office of Sustainability. "The growth in this area is really driven by students. They're the ones requesting programs of this sort, because they know the serious environmental and economic issues relating to development."

While the Certificate in Sustainability is a separate program, there is considerable overlap with the environmental sciences degree. "Students who are majoring in environmental sciences, in fact, can earn the certificate with just three additional courses," says Christensen. "Our goal is to expand their scientific background to include a greater emphasis on economics, built environments, and cultural issues. We hope to help create a new generation of leaders, thinkers, innovators, and entrepreneurs who can develop a sustainable society."

The current generation's growing interest in environmental issues is reflected in increasing enrollments

in the introductory classes offered through the Environmental Sciences Program. Even when students don't want to major in the field, many wish to gain knowledge in a subject that is so prominent in the larger culture. "Our courses strike a chord with a lot of students," says Bettis. "Many of them have taken environmental classes in high school, and they read about environmental issues in the news. That has led to very large enrollments in our general education classes."

Bettis adds that such courses have two goals. "We hope to educate people to be good citizens as well as good scientists," he says. "We want people to leave our classes with a strong concern for the environment, no matter what their major is."

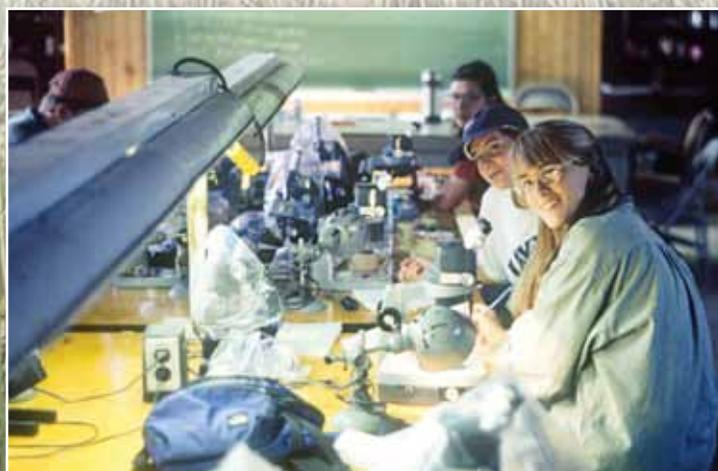
For many students, the most significant aspect of the program is its multi-disciplinary approach. "I think when many of us started the program, our view of the discipline was very limited and myopic," says Patrick Kyei. "But my studies have helped me understand the many connections between fields and the way solutions need to be worked on across disciplines. I wish all the sciences had this interdisciplinary approach."

Following graduation, environmental sciences majors follow diverse career paths. Some choose to pursue graduate studies in subjects such as geology,

chemistry, biology, and environmental engineering, while others find employment in environmental organizations, outdoor education, and government agencies that include the U.S. Forest Service, Natural Resources Conservation Service, and state departments of natural resources.

"Each fall we run a seminar with guest speakers who talk about their careers in environmental science," says Hendrix. "We want our students to know about the wide range of possibilities awaiting them."

Whatever path they choose, students in the program leave the university with a thorough grounding in the discipline and the tools to make a difference. "Our graduates tend to do very well, which I credit to the broad-based environmental education they receive," says Bettis. "They have the rigorous science and math background that allows them to do well in graduate school, but they're also well-prepared for entry-level environmental jobs. In either case, they benefit from knowing enough about the various sub-disciplines to be able to communicate with specialists in other areas. That's important because environmental issues are very complex. We need a new generation of scientists who can tackle these difficult problems."



Art & Nature: Artistic Responses to Environmental Issues

by Lori Erickson

Faculty members outside the sciences are also finding ways to respond to environmental issues and problems.

Two professors in the School of Art and Art History, for example, draw rich inspiration from the natural world in their creative endeavors and in the classroom.



Isabel Barbuza, associate professor of sculpture, frequently uses recycled objects and natural materials in her mixed media

sculptures. A recent large installation entitled *suspensions/suspensiones* uses 256 wax honeycombs to create a 20 x 30 foot image of the world based on a 1569 map by Gerardus Mercator. In doing research for the piece, Barbuza worked for four months with a beekeeper in Mendoza, Argentina, learning about apiculture and collecting the wax combs. Her piece explores how maps define mental and cultural, as well as physical, terrains. “The interplay of light and shadows through the combs and the scent of honey play important roles in the work,” explains Barbuza.



Isabel Barbuza created *suspensions/suspensiones* using 256 wax honeycombs to create a 20 x 30 foot image of the world based on a 1569 map by Gerardus Mercator.

A native of Argentina, Barbuza travels frequently in South America. One of her current projects involves the damage being done to salt flats in Bolivia, Chile, and Argentina, where much of the lithium used in electric car batteries is mined. Barbuza plans to create a work that will artistically interpret the social, geographical, political, and cultural changes in the region and the unanticipated environmental costs of alternative transportation forms.

Sarah Kanouse, assistant professor of intermedia, explores artistic responses to environmental sustainability and related social issues in her course, Art and Ecology. Students begin by learning about artists such as Tiffany Holmes, who uses electronic media to visualize environmental issues, and Robert Smithson and Agnes Denes, who work with the natural landscape in their work, creating pieces that are formed out-of-doors and are left to return to the earth when completed. After doing research on an environmental issue of interest to them, students design their own collaborative or individual

projects, working in a variety of media.

“People do a wonderfully creative range of products,” says Kanouse. “One student, for example, made stencil prints for concrete pavers and then covered them with a medium for growing moss, so that as time passed, the pavers created living images. Another student produced an electronic media project based on a video game model, a piece that explored how environmental destruction can be used as a weapon of war.”

Kanouse hopes that students will leave the class with a better understanding of how art can be a tool for changing people’s perceptions about issues of common concern. “Artists can address these problems from an oblique perspective, one that doesn’t pretend to have the answers, but which reframes the kinds of questions that get asked,” Kanouse says.



Sarah Kanouse, assistant professor of intermedia.

Helping Students Build Their Futures

by Linzee Kull McCray

David Gould wants students to live a rich life. Not to be wealthy, necessarily, but to lead lives replete with meaning.

A lofty goal, but one he's willing to take on. Last fall, Gould developed and taught for the first time Life Design: Building Your Future, a course aimed at helping students determine what they love to do and how to incorporate that

into their life's work. Students say the course has made them better learners, helped them feel more at home at Iowa, and awakened the realization that "it's okay to dream big."

Life Design grew from

Gould's work as academic coordinator for the Interdepartmental Studies program. In that role, he talks with students struggling with decisions about which major to choose and where their lives are headed. Gould realized these kinds of conversations could benefit larger numbers of students and presented his idea for the Life Design class to Dean Linda Maxson and Associate Dean Helena Dettmer.

"Both of them were not only open to the idea, but gave me the freedom to run with it," says Gould. "That kind of leadership is rare."

Some students admit they were initially attracted to the low-pressure, eight-week course because it looked easy. But rather than navigating the

class on autopilot, students found themselves mesmerized by Gould's synthesis of research on passion, happiness, and purpose. Guest speakers, including a musician, a magician, and Zappos CEO Tony Hsieh, told of unexpected turns they have taken on the path to fulfillment. Students reflect on their own lives in assignments that include dedicating their education to someone, asking parents about their hopes and dreams for them on the day they were born, and mapping the life of a respected mentor.

Gould tells students that life isn't always linear; his own journey is a perfect example. At age 18, he envisioned making a living playing in his rock band. Instead, he reluctantly went to college, earning an undergraduate degree in art and a graduate degree in leisure studies. Today, in addition to serving as academic coordinator, Gould is a lecturer in the Department of Health and Human Physiology and receives accolades for his teaching excellence and student advocacy.

"I try to feed their heads and their hearts," he says.

In helping students chart their course, Gould cites research showing that extrinsic rewards like money and material goods don't lead to happiness. But he's not suggesting students become slackers.

"We want our grads to put food on the table, but we also want them to live lives of meaning and purpose,"

says Gould, who touts hard work, goal setting, and the need to aim high. "I don't define meaning—it's different things for different people. For my sister it's being a physician; for my neighbor it's caring for abandoned animals; and for me it's teaching. If you go into a field solely for the money, you'll wind up competing against people who love that work and who are intrinsically motivated to do it. And I'll bet on that intrinsically-motivated person to succeed every time."

In addition to helping students think about careers, he encourages them

to become involved on campus.

"I ask them, 'How are you going to use these two million minutes?'" says Gould, and Life Design's student speakers include representatives from organizations like Dance Marathon, student government, and the student juggling group. "I want them to understand that this is a place to explore, meet people from around the world, and try things out. It's a springboard to their future."

Students' final essays provide clear evidence of Life Design's success. Many use the term "life-changing" and one wrote that he would "never forget the class for as long as I live."

"My goal is always to make a difference in the lives of my students and, in some small way, my class is doing that," says Gould.

Some small way, indeed.

How are
you going
to use these
2,000,000
minutes

?



Learning by Doing:

Undergraduate Research Offers Rich Experiences for Students

by Lori Erickson

It's been a long morning for the toddler in the red overalls, and she doesn't hesitate to let her father know it. The board book gets tossed aside, as does the pile of building blocks. As her face screws up into the beginnings of a wail, her father scoops her up into his arms, successfully distracting his daughter from a tantrum.



This most ordinary of interactions takes place in an unexpected setting: the laboratory of Julie Gros-Louis, assistant professor of psychology at the UI. And for

for Research by Undergraduates and adjunct associate psychology professor. "In addition, they often get career guidance and letters of reference that can make a crucial difference as they apply for jobs and graduate and professional schools."

...more importantly, you learn how to solve problems and organize complex material.

Undergraduate research opportunities are as varied as the disciplines within the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. Fourth-year student Eliana Trenam, for example, has done research under the direction of Rebekah Kowal, associate professor of dance, on

how non-Western female characters were portrayed in French ballets during the 1830s to 1850s and how these artistic representations reflected contemporary proto-feminist movements. Using plot scenarios, descriptions of how the performances were viewed by their original audiences, and the work of dance historians, she is writing

a multi-chapter senior honors thesis.

"Before this project I'd never done any formal academic research,"

fourth-year psychology major Alex Einfeldt, the exchange she's just video-recorded is valuable information she'll use in a project comparing the differences between how mothers and fathers influence their child's communicative development.

Einfeldt is one of thousands of Iowa undergraduates who are finding that some of their richest learning takes place in research settings. About 25 percent of UI students have an undergraduate research experience.

Of that number, about 70 percent are from the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. The knowledge and experience they gain often has deep and lasting effects on their future careers.

"Faculty across the university are involved in research, and giving students the opportunity to work with them helps students build on the information they've learned in classes," says Robert Kirby, director of the Iowa Center



From left to right: Alex Einfeldt, senior in psychology, Alex Einfeldt presents her research at the 2010 Fall Undergraduate Research Festival. Eliana Trenam, senior in dance, explains her research to President Sally Mason at the Spring 2010 Regents Meeting. Renugan Raidoo, senior in chemistry and anthropology.

says Trenam, a native of San Francisco who is majoring in dance and religious studies. "It was a daunting experience at first, but in the process I've gained a lot of knowledge about how to do research independently. My project has made me much more aware of the subliminal

implications of race and gender representation onstage in contemporary works as well." Fourth-year student Renugan Raidoo's undergraduate research experience has given him opportunities beyond the UI campus. Since the beginning of his second year, Raidoo has collaborated on research with Sarah Larsen, professor of chemistry, studying nanocrystalline zeolites, which are small particles that are being developed for use in medical imaging. His

experiences helped him land a position this past summer at Johannes Gutenberg University in Mainz, Germany, where he worked on a project related to his UI research.

“To me the biggest benefit of research opportunities like these is that they teach you how to think,” says Raidoo, a native of South Africa who is majoring in anthropology and chemistry. “While you learn about a particular subject, more importantly, you learn how to solve problems and organize complex material.”

Linking Students with Mentors

Undergraduates get involved with research in a variety of ways. Sometimes the match happens as a result of a class, when a student catches fire with a subject and asks to assist a professor in his or her work. In other cases, faculty members approach students who show initiative and potential.

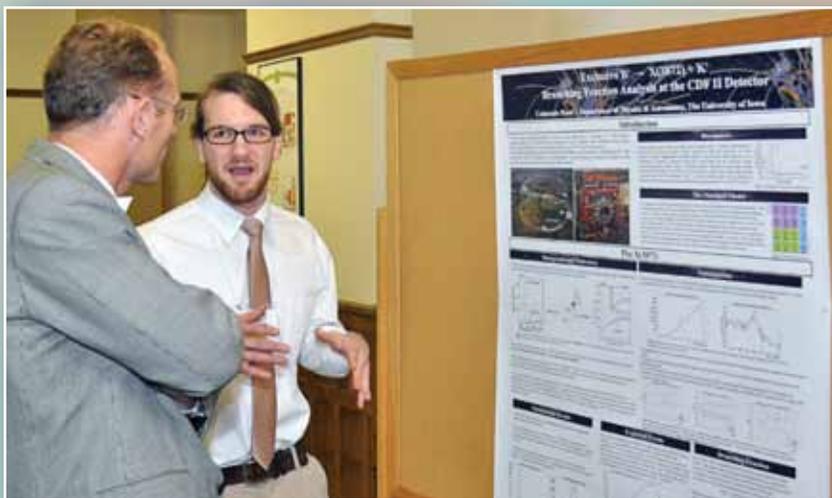
The Iowa Center for Research by Undergraduates also plays an important role in placing students in positions. “Each year many students contact our office to say they’re interested in a particular area and want to be put in contact with a faculty member in that field,” says Kirby. “We’re looking for students who have creativity, passion, and the ability to work independently.”

For Colorado Reed, a third-year student from Colfax, Iowa, majoring in physics and computer science, the benefits of undergraduate research include the chance to work with his mentor, Jane Nachtman, associate professor of physics. “Professor Nachtman has played a huge role in my experience at Iowa,” he says. “When I was fumbling in my research, she took the time to bring me up to speed. With her assistance and support, I got an internship this past summer at the California Institute of Technology, where I did gravitational wave research. That never would have happened without her guidance.”

While many students volunteer their time or receive course credit, some research positions are funded through individual departments, work-study, or scholarships granted by the Iowa Center for Research by

Undergraduates. For those involved, however, the benefits go far beyond a paycheck.

“There are many concepts that I encounter in my classes that are so much easier to understand because of my research working with children and parents in the psychology lab,” says Einfeldt, who is from Durant, Iowa. “I’ve also benefitted from the chance to present



Colorado Reed, junior in physics and computer science, presents his research at the spring 2010 Regents meeting

my research at professional conferences. Those are the moments that stand out for me the most, in fact, because they represent the distillation of all the day-to-day lab work. It’s so rewarding to realize that the research I’ve done can be useful to other people.”

Faculty also benefit, because bright, enthusiastic students help keep them excited about their scholarly efforts.

And in mentoring undergraduates, professors may well see a reflection of their own younger selves. “If you ask faculty members what led them to choose an academic career, many will talk about experiences working with a professor as an undergraduate,” says Kirby. “It’s one of the reasons why we as a university have an obligation to involve undergraduates in research. If we want to have faculty for the future, we need to give students the opportunity to see first-hand what research is like. It’s through these experiences that many students choose to go on to a graduate or professional program.”

Alumni News

Sheila Samuelson (BS '04, biology) has founded Bright Green Strategy, a new Iowa City-based consulting firm specializing in sustainability strategy, including carbon management, green supply chain, and green messaging. Her goal is to help companies incorporate sustainability into their businesses for both environmental and economic benefits.

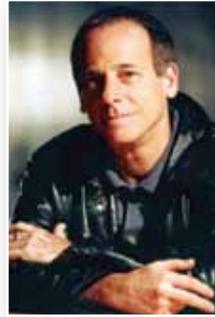
Opera star **Simon Estes** (BM '86, music) premiered the title song of his new CD, *Save the Children, Save their Lives*, at a star-studded concert for the World Cup Finale gala in Johannesburg, South Africa. The CD features the baritone's favorite spirituals and Broadway show tunes, and part of the proceeds will support scholarships in the U.S., the school he founded in South Africa, and students in need around the world. Estes is currently on an ambitious "Wings and Roots" tour, during which he hopes to present a concert in each of Iowa's 99 counties.



Andy Stoll (BA '03, communication studies, BBA '03) handled the marketing and distribution for *16 To Life*, the first feature film from Emmy-nominated television writer/director and Iowa native Becky Smith. He recently completed a 3.5-year solo trip through 37 countries in Asia, Africa, Europe, the Middle East, Australia,

Oceania, and the Americas in an effort to better understand how people live in the world and to learn more about media industries, economies, and cultures.

Bruce Shapiro (MFA '79, dramatic art), dubbed "the dialect coach to the stars," added the HBO miniseries *The Pacific* to his growing list of dialect coaching



work, teaching the more than 175 Australian supporting actors how to sound like Americans. *The Pacific*, produced by Steven Spielberg and Tom Hanks as a sequel to *Band of Brothers*, was filmed in Australia and premiered in March 2010.

Neil Brown (BA '81, political science, journalism), executive editor and vice president of the *St. Petersburg Times*, was inducted into the University of Iowa Journalism School Hall of Fame. He currently oversees the journalism of the company's two

Writer **Yiyun Li** (MS '00, interdisciplinary studies; MFA '05, Writers' Workshop and Nonfiction Writing Program) has been named a MacArthur Fellow. Li, author of the novel *The Vagrants* and the story collection *A Thousand Years of Good Prayers* (2005), moved to the United States from China in 1996 to pursue a graduate degree in immunology at the UI. She eventually shifted her studies to writing in her adopted language of English. Since 2008, she has been an assistant professor in the Department of English at the University of California, Davis.

Yiyun Li is also one of seven CLAS alumni who made *The New Yorker* magazine's "20 under 40" fiction writers list. The list also includes **Chris Adrian** (MFA '95), **Daniel Alarcon** (MFA '04), **Sarah Shun-lien Bynum** (MFA '00), **Joshua Ferris** (BA '96, English; BA '96, philosophy), **ZZ Packer** (MFA '99) and **Salvatore Scibona** (MFA '99). All but Ferris are alumni of the Iowa Writers' Workshop.

Paul Harding (MFA '00, Iowa Writers' Workshop), won the 2010 Pulitzer Prize for fiction for his debut novel, *Tinkers*. The book, which was published by Bellevue Literary Press, is about a dying man reflecting on his life and his relationship with his father. Harding was a visiting faculty member in the Iowa Writers' Workshop last spring. He is currently at work on his second novel, *Enon*, which will be published by Random House.

Eula Biss (MFA '06), a graduate of the Nonfiction Writing Program, has won The National Book Critics Circle Award for her book, *Notes from No Man's Land: American Essays*. She teaches nonfiction writing as an artist-in-residence at Northwestern University.

Amy Leach (MFA '05) and **David Adjmi** (student, 1998–2001, theatre arts) are among the 10 recipients of the 2010 Whiting Writers' Awards. This \$50,000 award recognizes young writers for their extraordinary talent and promise and is one of the most coveted prizes for up-and-coming writers.

daily newspapers, related publications, and websites.

Seven CLAS alumni were awarded Fulbright U.S. Student Program scholarships to conduct research or teach English internationally in 2010–11. **Lauren Reynolds** (BA '09, international studies, Spanish) taught English in Turkey on a Fulbright English Teaching Assistantship.

Sarita Patnaik (BA '10, French, international studies) traveled to Morocco to research art's role in identity and citizen formation during and after the French colonization and current uses of art in Moroccan culture. **Marisa Handler** (MFA '10, Writers' Workshop) traveled to India to complete the first draft of a novel that explores the notions of death, grieving, and loss within the cultural and philosophical context of contemporary India. **Nicole Pietrantoni** (MA '09, art; MFA '10, art) conducted research in Iceland and created a series of artworks that explore landscape, ecology, and place. **Edward Gauvin** (MFA '01, Writers' Workshop) traveled to Belgium to produce an anthology of translated fiction accompanied by original critical and biographical material. **Jenny Zhang** (MFA '09, Writers' Workshop) taught English in France on a French Government English Teaching Assistantship.

Katherine J. L. Thorpe (MFA '09, Writers' Workshop) studied the transformation of formerly industrial spaces and buildings into cultural and artistic centers in Germany for a book in a hybrid poetic form.

Roseanna Smith (BA '04, journalism, health and sports studies; MA '06, health and sports studies) was among 45 athletes selected to play on USA Football's 2010 Women's National Team that competed in the inaugural International Federation of American



Football Women's World Championship in Stockholm, Sweden, this summer. Smith is pictured here (left) with teammate Lee Cannon, wearing their medals after Team USA's 66-0 victory over

Canada in the gold-medal game.

Renowned theater artist **Rinde Eckert** (BM '73, music) premiered his new play, *Eye Piece*, at the UI. *Eye Piece* invites audience members to imagine their own world going dark, to contemplate the fading sight of a loved one, and to grapple with the responsibility of delivering a diagnosis. The play combined the resources of Hancher, the Department of Theatre Arts, the UI Carver Family Center for Macular Degeneration, and the UI Carver College of Medicine Writing Program, with contributions by the Department of Dance and the School of Music.

As an alternative to mainstream rap music magazines that he felt were too focused on commercialized rap produced by major corporations, **Tyler Hakes** (BA '10, journalism, photo above) founded the underground hip-hop magazine, *aboveGround*. He serves as the editor-in-chief of the magazine, which focuses on the artistic expression and culture of hip-hop.

Susan Bridenstine (BA '00, global studies) was appointed Public Affairs Officer for the U.S. Embassy in Montevideo, Uruguay, where she will reside for three years. Bridenstine

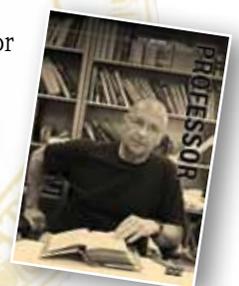
joined the U.S. Foreign Service in public affairs in 2001 and has worked in Lima, Peru, Sao Paulo, Brazil, and Yerevan Armenia, where she served as the Assistant Public Affairs Officer and oversaw educational exchanges between Armenia and the United States.

President Barack Obama has appointed **Rolena Adorno**, (BA '64, Spanish) to membership on the National Council on the Humanities, the advisory board to the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH). The Council reviews grant applications and advises the chair of the NEH. Adorno is the Reuben Post Halleck Professor of Spanish and chair of the Department of Spanish and Portuguese at Yale University and a scholar of

Colonial Spanish-American literature and the 19th-century origins of Hispanism in the United States.

The latest documentary by **Daniel Kraus** (BA '97, communication studies), *Professor*, premiered in 2010 and has been released on DVD. This third film in Kraus's "Work Series" of feature-length documentaries about working in America showcases **Jay**

Holstein, professor of religious studies at The University of Iowa, who taught two classes that Kraus took as an undergraduate in CLAS. The Chicago-based writer and filmmaker is the director of six feature films. His second novel, *Rotters*, will be published by Random House in April 2011.



Discoveries

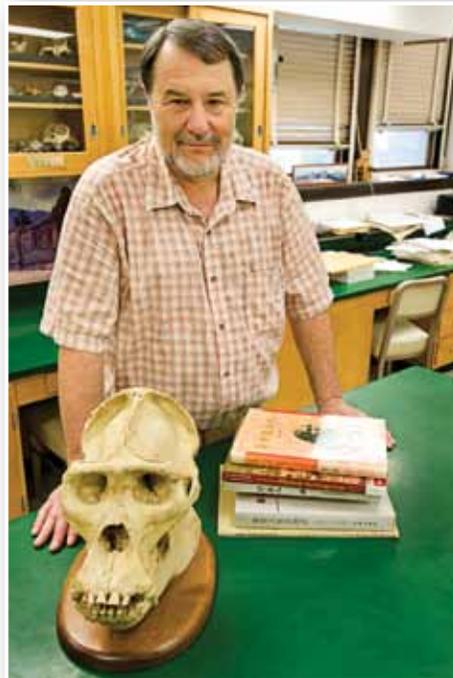
Parents' preference for healthy foods withers when buying for kids

New research shows that while parents prefer nutritious foods for the entire family, their preference for healthy foods is about 50 percent weaker when they're selecting products for the kids rather than for themselves. The likely explanation is that parents give in at the grocery store—or before they even get there—compromising their preferences based on what they believe their children will accept, according to study author **Irwin Levin**, professor of psychology. He suggests that parents might make choices assuming the child won't eat the healthy option, but he says that parents should ask themselves why they don't adhere to the same standards for their children's nutrition as they do for themselves, given the rate of childhood obesity in the U.S.

CLAS researchers release free software for children with autism

Juan Pablo Hourcade, assistant professor of computer science, recently released free, open-source software designed to enhance the social skills of children with autism spectrum disorders. The software is available at <http://www.cs.uiowa.edu/~hourcade/projects/asd/about.html>. The website includes links to download the software as well as activity guides. It also provides the source code for the software, which tech-savvy parents or volunteers can use to improve or customize it. The software is intended to run on multi-touch tablet personal computers. Natasha Bullock-Rest (BA '10,

informatics, linguistics), Thomas Hansen, computer science doctoral student, and Ricardo Auguste, Summer Research Opportunities Program/McNair scholar, also participated in the software development.



Researchers investigate one of the world's biggest *Homo erectus* repositories

A team of CLAS faculty and graduate students led by **Russell Ciochon**, professor of anthropology, conducted a large-scale excavation for *Homo erectus* remains at Ngandong, Java, for 24 days. The team recovered more than 800 fossils from a bone bed, and sediments at the site indicated how the bone bed formed, findings which are expected to advance scientists' understanding of the evolution and adaptations of early Asian humans. The interdisciplinary U.S. team included **Arthur Bettis**, associate professor of

geosciences, anthropology graduate student **Shelby Putt**, and geoscience graduate student **Maija Sipola**.

Cell interactions may shed light on developmental disorders

Two University of Iowa biologists have published new findings that show how cells interact during development in the Aug. 2 issue of the journal *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*. **Dietmar Schreiner**, postdoctoral researcher, and **Joshua A. Weiner**, assistant professor of biology, studied how cells bind themselves to each other using specific molecules, with the hope of one day learning more about human developmental disorders. One implication of the work is a better understanding of the ways in which cell binding might go awry in a number of developmental disorders such as autism and mental retardation, as well as how brain circuits assemble correctly during normal development.

UI researcher, colleagues discover two medium-sized black holes

Philip Kaaret, professor of physics and astronomy, and his colleagues have discovered good evidence for the existence of two medium-sized black holes close to the center of a nearby starburst galaxy, M82, located 12 million light years from Earth. Because they avoided falling into the galactic center, the black holes may help scientists understand the seeds that give rise



to supermassive black holes in other galaxies, including our own Milky Way.

Support your sweetheart — but don't overdo it

Couples having problems are often advised to be more supportive of each other, but a series of University of Iowa studies shows that too much support — or the wrong kind of support — may actually do more harm than good. In recent studies of heterosexual couples in their first few years of marriage,



Erika Lawrence, associate professor of psychology, and colleagues found that too much support is harder on a marriage than not enough. When it comes to marital satisfaction, both partners are happier if husbands receive the right type of support, and if wives ask for support when they need it. The findings illustrate the need for couples to understand the various ways in which they can be supportive, and the importance of communicating what they need and when.

Four Appointed to Named Positions



Sonia Ryang, professor of anthropology, is the inaugural recipient of the C. Maxwell & Elizabeth M. Stanley Family and Korea Foundation Chair in Korean Studies. Ryang combines her intellectual training in British social anthropology with American cultural anthropology to study vulnerable populations, politics and ideology, diaspora, identity, love, and forms of life across Asian cultures. Her current research interests include South Korea's rapid transformation from totalitarian regime to neoliberal society and its connection to the rise of digital technology. She is also studying culinary politics and culture in South Korea in the age of globalization.

John Durham Peters, professor and chair of communication studies, has been named A. Craig Baird Professor. Peters is a pioneering communication theorist and historian whose work incorporates political and social philosophy into the study of communication theory and practice. His interests include media and cultural history, communication and social theory, and understanding communication in its broader historical, legal, philosophical, religious, and technological context. He is currently completing a book started by the late UI historian Ken Cmiel to be called *Promiscuous Knowledge: The Information Age in Historical Perspective*. Peters was appointed F. Wendell Miller Professor from 2002 to 2010.



Vicki Grassian, professor of chemistry, has been appointed F. Wendell Miller Professor. Grassian is a world leader in the field of interfacial environmental and atmospheric chemistry. She has research interests in fundamental studies of environmental interfaces and the applications and implications of nanoscience and nanotechnology in environmental processes and human health. She has written or co-written more than 175 peer-reviewed articles and fifteen book chapters and has edited three books. She joined the CLAS Department of Chemistry in 1990 and was appointed a CLAS Collegiate Fellow from 2007 to 2010.

Dale L. Zimmerman, professor of statistics, is the inaugural recipient of the Robert V. Hogg Professorship in Statistics and Actuarial Science. Zimmerman is an international leader in the areas of spatial sampling design for environmental data and linear and antedependence models for longitudinal data. His work has been funded by the National Science Foundation, National Institutes of Health, and other agencies. He was elected a fellow of the American Statistical Association in 2001 and received the Distinguished Achievement Award from the ASA's Section on Statistics and the Environment in 2007.



The Miller professorship is supported by the Miller Endowment Trust. The A. Craig Baird Professorship Fund was established by gifts from various donors. The Stanley/Korea Foundation chair is supported by gifts from the Korea Foundation of Seoul, Korea, and the Stanley-UI Foundation Support Organization. The Hogg Professorship is supported by Professor Hogg and his family, friends, colleagues, and former students.

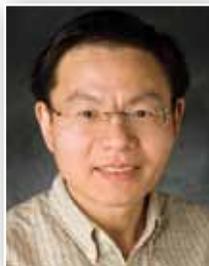
CLAS Names 2010–2011 Collegiate Fellows

The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences named five Collegiate Fellows in 2010–2011, recognizing the professors' distinguished work and dedication to the College's mission of teaching, research, and service. Fellow awards, which are supported by an unrestricted endowed gift to the College, help fund the recipients' teaching and research activities.



Tom Boggess, Jr., professor of physics, is a leading solid-state physicist whose research focuses on the use of short pulses of laser light to measure ultrafast electronic phenomena in novel semiconductors. His research has resulted in more than 100 journal publications and two patents. He is working with the U.S. Army on a multimillion-dollar program to develop infrared light-emitting diode arrays that will enable the generation of dynamic thermal images on a chip.

Weimin Han, professor of mathematics, researches mathematical modeling and analysis of problems in the mechanics of solids, an area of importance in the physical and engineering sciences. He has authored or co-authored five books and is heavily involved with mathematical analysis and numerical solutions of problems arising in medical imaging. Han directs the interdisciplinary doctoral program in applied mathematical and computational sciences.



Helena Dettmer, professor of classics, has served as CLAS Associate Dean for Undergraduate Programs and Curriculum and head of the CLAS Office of Academic Programs and Student Development since 2005. She has published two books on the intersection of meaning and structure in Latin poetry, *Horace: A Study in Structure* and *Love by the Numbers: Form and Meaning in the Poetry of Catullus*. She has also co-authored two widely used textbooks.

William LaRue Jones is director of orchestral studies in the School of Music, where he also conducts the UI Symphony Orchestra and Chamber Orchestra and is musical director of the Martha-Ellen Tye Opera Theatre. He is the founder and artistic director of the Conductors Workshop of America and a highly sought-after guest teacher and conductor worldwide. He has served on the National Board of Directors of both the Conductors Guild and the American String Teachers Association.



Jodie Plumert has a highly visible research program in the development of spatial reasoning and communication, which examines in particular the relationship between how children perceive risk and how they act. She collaborates on NSF-funded research with colleagues in Computer Science, using virtual environments to investigate perceptions of risk and other factors that influence behavior. She is a fellow of the American Psychological Association and associate editor of the APA's *Journal of Experimental Child Psychology*.

Psychologists Honored as Faculty Fellows

John Freeman, professor of psychology, has been named the first Stuit Faculty Fellow in Psychology. A behavioral neuroscientist, Freeman is a leading investigator in neural and developmental mechanisms underlying learning and memory. He has published more than 65 journal articles and a co-edited volume. His work has relevance for understanding the neural basis for learning and development, and potential application to impairments such as dementias and schizophrenia. He is a member of the UI Delta Center, a multi-disciplinary center for research leading to real-world applications in learning, development, and related fields.



Susan Lutgendorf, professor of psychology, has been named a Starch Faculty Fellow. Lutgendorf is a clinical health psychologist who studies links between emotional and behavioral factors and physical health. She is known for researching how psychological and stress factors affect cellular immune function and tumor growth in cancer patients. She also studies effects of behavioral medical interventions on immunity, adjustment to chronic illness, and complementary and alternative medicine. Lutgendorf also holds joint appointments with the departments of Obstetrics & Gynecology and Urology in the Carver College of Medicine.



The Stuit Faculty Fellowship is named for Dewey B. Stuit and Velma Stuit and is awarded to outstanding current faculty in the Department of Psychology. Starch Fellowships are funded by an endowment from Daniel and Amy Starch and are dedicated to research and teaching in areas related to communication.

Five Named CLAS Alumni Fellows

Dean Linda Maxson named five Alumni Fellows in 2010. Fellows return to campus to meet with students and faculty and make public presentations. Maxson initiated the Alumni Fellows program in 1999 with funds from the endowed UI Alumni Association Dean's Chair in the Liberal Arts and Sciences, which was created through a gift from the UI Alumni Association.

Samuel L. Becker (BA '47, MA '49, PhD '53, communication and theatre arts) has had a profound influence on the discipline of communication studies since joining the UI faculty in 1950, both through his own scholarship and the many graduate students he mentored who became leaders in the field. He has written numerous books, monographs, articles, and book chapters on a variety of topics. Becker was chair of the Department of Communication and Theatre Arts from 1968 to 1982, and was named UI Foundation Distinguished Professor of Communication Studies in 1982.



Scott Dunn (BM '75, music; MD '81) studied piano performance at Iowa and later returned to earn his MD. He received board certification in eye surgery and became a fellow in the American College of Surgeons while continuing his music studies, and he began his professional music career with a solo recital in Los Angeles in 1991. Earning his Master of Music degree from the Manhattan School of Music in 1996, he made his Carnegie Hall debut as a solo pianist in 1999. Since then, he has worked professionally as a conductor, pianist, and orchestrator, serving as associate conductor of the L.A. Philharmonic's Hollywood Bowl Orchestra since 2007.



Eric S. Rabkin (PhD '70, English), the Arthur F. Thurnau Professor of English Language and Literature at the University of Michigan, is a trailblazer in the study of science fiction and fantasy. His research interests also include graphic narrative, culture studies, literary theory, composition, and humanities computing. Rabkin received the 2010 Science Fiction Research Association Pilgrim Award for lifetime contributions to science fiction and fantasy scholarship, a fellowship from the American Council for Learned Societies, and research funding from the American Philosophical Society.



Solomon Bililign (PhD '91, physics) is a professor of physics at North Carolina A&T State University. A leader in the field of atmospheric chemistry and physics, Bililign is an advocate for international research collaboration between American and African scientists. He directs the National



Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration-Interdisciplinary Scientific Environmental Technology Cooperative Science Center, a project devoted to atmospheric science and weather-related research involving researchers from eight institutions. He is a member of the Ethiopian Physics Society and the National Society of Black Physicists, working to attract underrepresented groups to the environmental sciences.



Fred W. Rath (MS '52; PhD '54, chemistry) began his professional career at Dow Chemical and moved to Buckman Laboratories in 1958. Rath and his colleagues obtained 16 patents, many of them for the production of organic, sulfur-containing compounds for use as fungicides and pesticides. He retired from his position as vice president of operations at Buckman Laboratories in 1991. To honor his graduate advisor and mentor, Rath and his wife, the late Bonnie Rath, endowed the Ralph Shriner Graduate Fellowship Fund in the Department of Chemistry in 2000.

CLAS Grads among Distinguished Alumni

Six CLAS graduates have been honored by the University of Iowa Alumni Association with 2010 Distinguished Alumni Awards, which recognize the outstanding achievements and service of UI alumni and friends.

John Opitz (BA '56, zoology; MD '59), professor at the University of Utah School of Medicine, received the Distinguished Alumni Award for Achievement. He is a pre-eminent clinical birth defects expert whose work focuses on determining relationships among birth defects, prenatal exposures, and molecular biology.

Distinguished Alumni Service Awards were given to **P. Sue Beckwith** (BS '80, psychology; MD '84), a talented colorectal surgeon in Des Moines known for her compassion and kindness to patients, and **R. Jerry Hargitt** (BA '55, journalism), who has spent 18 years as an overseas volunteer for the International Executive Service Corps.

George Schrimper (BS '64, general science; MA '65, museum studies) received the Distinguished Faculty/Staff Award. The former UI Museum of Natural History director transformed the aging facility into a contemporary, relevant museum and expanded educational programs for Iowa schoolchildren.

The Distinguished Hickerson Alumni Recognition Award for outstanding contributions to the Alumni Association went to **H. Garland Hershey** (BS '63, general science; DDS '65; MS '71), professor of orthodontics, professor of health policy and management, and vice chancellor emeritus at the University of North Carolina.

Craig Cannon (BA '97, history; JD '00), attorney for one of the nation's largest banks, received the Distinguished Young Alumni Award in recognition of his pro bono work with disaster victims, military veterans, and others in need.

Faculty Retirements

R. David Arkush <i>History</i>	Michael Lewis-Beck <i>Political Science</i>
Elizabeth Aubrey <i>Music</i>	Jerry Maynard <i>Integrative Physiology</i>
James Broffitt <i>Statistics & Actuarial Science</i>	Bunny McBride <i>Art & Art History</i>
Steve Bruell <i>Computer Science</i>	Franklin Miller <i>Cinema & Comparative Literature</i>
Lee Anna Clark <i>Psychology</i>	Dennis Moore <i>Rhetoric</i>
David Depew <i>Communication Studies</i>	Beth Pelton <i>Health & Sport Studies</i>
Lorraine Dorfman <i>Social Work</i>	Jonathan Poulton <i>Biology</i>
John Geweke <i>Statistics</i>	John Raeburn <i>American Studies, English</i>
Fred Goodman <i>Mathematics</i>	John Schweitzer <i>Physics & Astronomy</i>
Diana Horton <i>Biology</i>	T. M. Scruggs <i>Music</i>
Philip Klein <i>Spanish & Portuguese</i>	Ming-Che Shih <i>Biology</i>
William Klink <i>Physics & Astronomy</i>	David Watson <i>Psychology</i>
Rudolf Kuenzli <i>English, Cinema & Comparative Literature</i>	George Woodworth <i>Statistics & Actuarial Science</i>

In Memoriam

Thomas Aprile, 57 <i>Art & Art History</i> September 23, 2010	Rex Honey, 65 <i>Geography</i> October 23, 2010
Thomas Charlton, 71 <i>Anthropology</i> June 2, 2010	David Nelson, 63 <i>Music/Division of Performing Arts</i> October 13, 2010
Huston Diehl, 62 <i>English</i> September 8, 2010	

Grad Gives Back in Gratitude

Leon J. Aden is a believer in paying it forward.

He was born and raised in Palmer, Iowa, and says he always knew he'd end up at The University of Iowa. He earned a BS in geology in 1980 and an MS in geology in 1982, and met and married his wife, Vicki, while both were students at the UI.

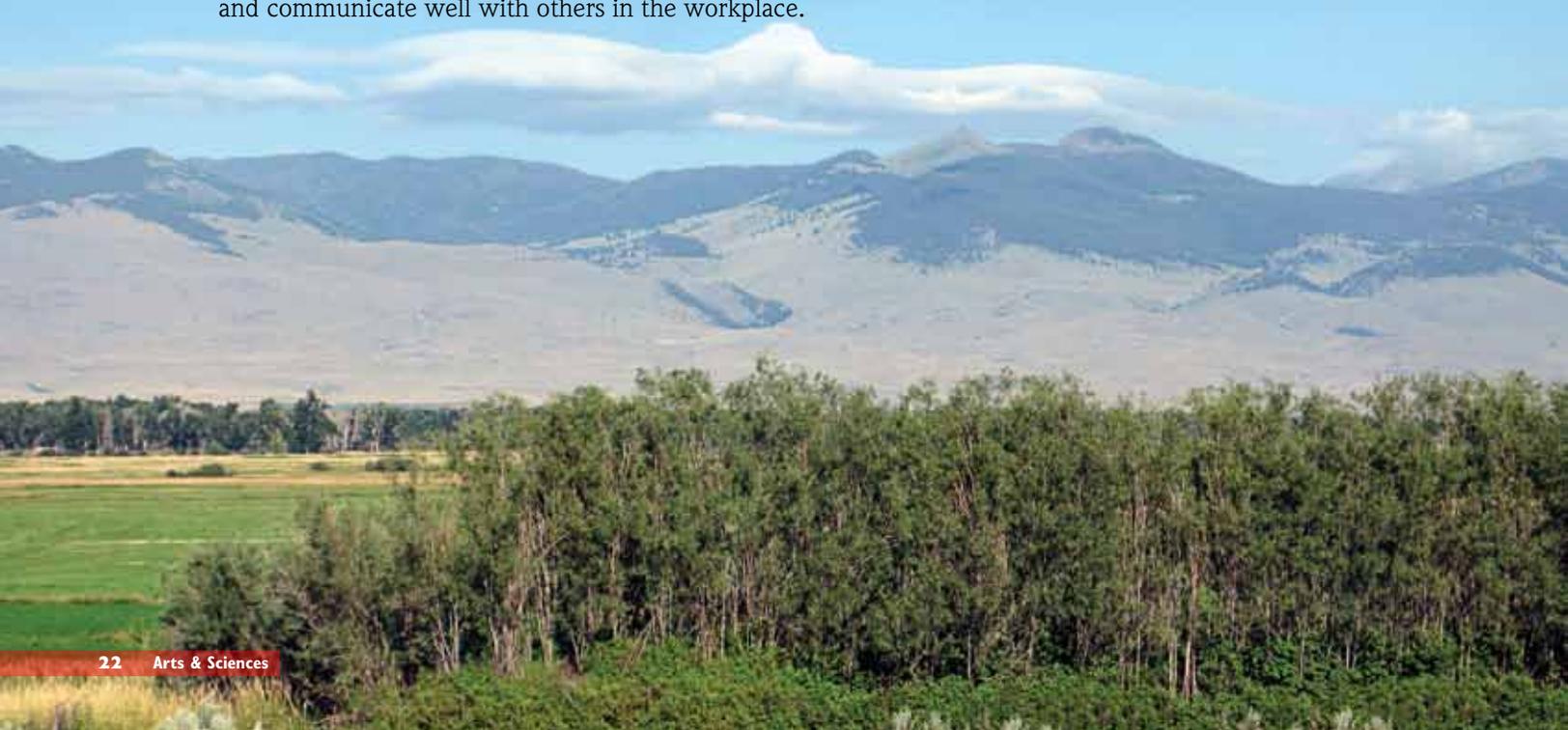
Aden was profoundly influenced by a seminar course his senior year in which a different professor would come each week and talk about his or her work. That series of lectures made him realize

how little he really knew. "You have a lot of things you believe are hard truths, and this course made me realize I didn't know everything," says Aden. "It taught me not to jump to conclusions, thinking I know everything, without digging deeper." Aden also feels that the emphasis CLAS places on written and verbal communication skills as a component of all curricula gave him, and continues to give all CLAS graduates, a big advantage in terms of being able to articulate ideas and communicate well with others in the workplace.

After graduation, Aden embarked on a career with ExxonMobil, starting as a U.S. production geologist in Kingsville, Texas. Since then, his work has taken him across the globe to exotic locales, and he has had opportunities to work the geology of Trinidad, Venezuela, Bolivia, Papua New Guinea, Angola, Nigeria, Canada, and Russia. As a manager for ExxonMobil Exploration, he is currently leading a group within New Opportunities. His team is charged with evaluating successful geologic examples from one area and applying those examples to other areas on a global basis, in hopes of finding new locations that are worth pursuing for oil and gas exploration.

Both Aden and Vicki are passionate in their support of CLAS and the UI. Aden feels they have an obligation to support the institution that gave them so much. They established the Leon and Vicki Aden Excellence and Innovation Fund in 2003 to help support special projects in CLAS that foster the visibility and leadership of faculty in their research, scholarship, and creative endeavors. Aden has also been a member of the Dean's Advisory Board since 2002, serving as chair since 2010.

"Whenever there is a good entity that asks you to do something, there's no good reason to say no," says Aden. "And once you find out about all the good things that professors and departments and the College are trying to do, you want to be a part of that."



From the Executive Director of Development

I recently spent some time on the road visiting friends of the UI College of Liberal Arts and Sciences (CLAS). I've taken trips like this in the past—but this one was different, because a new University of Iowa Foundation colleague traveled with me as part of her training.

As the trip was ending, she told me about how much she enjoyed meeting so many interesting people who are doing amazing things—and how she felt inspired by their desire to help the College.

With those few words, she offered the perfect summary of why our team is so passionate about serving CLAS. We are surrounded by innovative, creative, and thoughtful people who work with us on campus and connect with us from around the world.

They are also generous. For example, from July 1, 2009, to June 30, 2010, more than 5,400 alumni and friends gave, pledged, or committed nearly \$14 million to CLAS and its units. This was a 7.9 percent increase over the previous year, which shows that despite challenging economic times, people are continuing to invest in the outstanding education CLAS offers to more than 16,000 undergraduates and 2,300 graduate students.

Contributions were directed to dozens of departments, schools, and programs throughout the College. They came in all sizes—from five dollars to hundreds of thousands. Regardless of the amount, these gifts were all made with the intention of



Members of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences development team are (left to right) Jane Van Voorhis, associate director of development; Jeff Liebermann, executive director of development; Pat Hanick, associate director of development; and Adam Blind, assistant director of development. (Photo by Tom Langdon, UI Foundation)

ensuring that CLAS students, faculty, and staff have the tools they need to make the most of their educational experiences at Iowa.

This year and in the near future, private support will continue to be an increasingly important resource in empowering the College to reach its goals.

You will soon hear news about the College's next fundraising campaign, which will inspire all of us to take new looks at our personal investments in CLAS. From new facilities for the Division of Performing Arts and the School of Art and Art History, to student aid, endowed faculty funds, and state/national outreach initiatives, there will be options for each and every alumni and friend to support a program that matches his or her personal passion.

Thank you for all you do for CLAS, and for what you will do in the future. Please feel free to contact a member of the development team if there is anything we can do to assist you.

Jeff Liebermann
Executive Director of Development
College of Liberal Arts and Sciences
The University of Iowa Foundation

UI College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

Facts and Figures

Top-Ranked Graduate Programs, Departments and Schools among Public Institutions

US News and World Report

Rank Program/Department or School

- 1 Speech-Language Pathology MA
- 1 Audiology MA/PhD
- 2 Printmaking
- 2 Social Psychology
- 7 Art and Design
- 7 Painting/Drawing
- 8 Clinical Psychology
- 15 English PhD
- 15 Psychology PhD
- 15 Political Science PhD
- 18 History PhD
- 22 Statistics PhD
- 22 Sociology PhD

Poets & Writers Magazine

Rank Program/Department or School

- 1 Writing programs overall
- 1 Fiction MFA
- 1 Poetry MFA
- 1 Nonfiction MFA

Top undergraduate majors

Major	Number of Students
Psychology	1307
English	977
Communication Studies	803
Biology	789
Interdepartmental Studies	758
Art	673
Political Science	552
History	460
International Studies	393
Journalism	382

Departments and Programs

American Studies	Division of World Languages, Literatures & Cultures	History
Anthropology	American Sign Language	Journalism & Mass Communication
Art & Art History	Asian & Slavic Languages & Literatures	Linguistics
Biology	French & Italian	Mathematics
Chemistry	German	Philosophy
Cinema & Comparative Literature	Spanish & Portuguese	Physics & Astronomy
Classics	English	Political Science
Communication Sciences & Disorders	Gender, Women's, & Sexuality Studies	Psychology
Communication Studies	Geography	Religious Studies
Computer Science	Geoscience	Rhetoric
Division of Performing Arts	Health & Human Physiology	Social Work
Dance		Sociology
Music		Statistics & Actuarial Science
Theatre Arts		Writers' Workshop

Interdisciplinary Majors

- Environmental Sciences
- Interdepartmental Studies
- International Studies
- Liberal Studies
- Performing Arts Entrepreneurship

Total CLAS living alumni: 141,379
(as of February 2011)

Total CLAS undergraduate enrollment: 15,036
(as of spring 2011)

Total CLAS graduate enrollment: 2,276
(as of fall 2010)



College Administration and Alumni Leadership

Dean's Advisory Board

Leon J. Aden (BS '80, MS '82)

Chair 2010–12
Advisor
ExxonMobil Exploration
Houston, TX

Marc P. Armstrong

Professor and Chair of Geography
College of Liberal Arts and Sciences
The University of Iowa
Iowa City, IA

Kay R. Braverman (MA '69)

Chair 2007–09
Broker and Co-owner
Lepic-Kroeger Realtors
Iowa City, IA

Joseph N. Crowley (BA '59)

Regents' Professor
President Emeritus
University of Nevada–Reno
Reno, NV

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Ex officio member 2010–2011
Chief Operating Officer (Retired)
IRIS Inc.
Des Moines, IA

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President
WealthEngine.com
Bethesda, MD

Carolyn L. Green (BM '73)

Managing Partner and CEO
EnerGreen Capital Management LLC
Radnor, PA

Jeffrey G. Grisamore (BA '81)

President
EGR International
New York, NY

Laurel J. Harbour (BA '69, MA '71,
JD '74),

Vice Chair 2010–12
Partner (Retired)
Shook, Hardy & Bacon LLP
Kansas City, MO

Robert J. Harris (BS '86)

Patent Attorney
Viksnins, Harris & Padys PLLP
Bloomington, MN

Jill A. Jensen (BA '79, MBA '80)

Senior Vice President
Performance Enhancement Group
West Asset Management
Omaha, NE

Howard J. Kerr Jr. (BA '60)

President and CEO (Retired)
HJK Associates
Galena, IL

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CFO, Treasurer
Telerent Leasing Corporation
Raleigh, NC

Charles W. Lanham (BA '61)

Director of Human Resources (Retired)
Protection Mutual Insurance Co.
Park Ridge, IL

Linda D. Newkirk (BS '74, MA '79)

Vice President
Regional Representative
Eaton Vance Distributors Inc.
Boston, MA

David R. Rice (BA '88)

Hospital Specialty Divisional Manager
Forest Pharmaceuticals Inc.
Seattle, WA

Dana M. Roberson (BA '87)

Producer
HDNet
New York, NY

J. Erik Seastrand (BA '88)

Vice President
William Morris Agency Inc.
Beverly Hills, CA

Irma E. Simpson (BM '71)

Manager (Retired)
Gannett Foundation
McLean, VA

V. Hale Starr (BA '76, PhD '79)

CEO and Founder
Starr Litigation Services Inc.
Scottsdale, AZ

Leonard R. Wanger (BS '87)

Portfolio Manager
William Harris Investors Inc.
Chicago, IL

Timothy Westerbeck (BA '82, MA '88)

President
Eduvantis, LLC
Chicago, IL



Administration

Linda Maxson

University of Iowa Alumni Association
Dean's Chair in the Liberal Arts
and Sciences

Raúl Curto

Executive Associate Dean

Helena Dettmer

Associate Dean for Undergraduate
Programs and Curriculum

Joseph Kearney

Associate Dean for Research
and Development



Join the Online Community

The password-protected online community for alumni, OnIowa.com, includes the secure **Alumni Directory**, to find classmates or update your personal information; the **Hawk Page**, to display your news and stay up-to-date with your friends' postings; **Hawkeye Notes**, to keep up with fellow alumni; the **Alumni Events Calendar**, to see a list of alumni events and who is attending, and to invite friends to an event; the **E-mail Forwarding Service**, to enjoy a free UI alumni e-mail address; and the **Résumé Bank**, to post your résumé or search for résumés. It's easy to register. Make the connection today at www.OnIowa.com.

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THE UNIVERSITY OF IOWA

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University Relations Photography /University of Iowa

