Fall 2016 was a whirlwind! The UNI campus has been very busy this semester searching for a new President. Three candidates made on-campus visits at the end of November and a decision was made by the Iowa Board of Regents on December 6, 2016 to select Dr. Mark Nook who is currently Chancellor at Montana State University Billings. President Nook will officially begin on February 1, 2017 as the University’s new leader to guide us in the years to come.

Since we are fast approaching the end of the semester, I wanted to reach out to all the students who will be graduating this December. For many of you, it will be a new adventure, a new start in the workplace and for some, the wait is just a little longer before the chance to apply your advanced training to your new endeavors. We in the Graduate College are committed to “Building Graduate Community” and want to provide opportunities and a wide-ranging platform for students to present their scholarship and creative activity, and facilitate a broader sense of community inclusive of students, faculty, and staff. The goal is not only for you to have an excellent graduate experience in the classroom but to have had opportunities to reach out and interact with fellow students out of the classroom on a professional and social level.

The end of the semester is a great time to relax and rejuvenate. Take intentional actions to care for your physical and emotional health by setting aside time to do the activities you enjoy! For those of you who are graduating this December, please make sure to take our Graduate College End of Program Survey – your feedback is very important to us.

Congratulations to all our graduates! Happy holidays and I hope that you will use this break to recharge. See you at Commencement!

Sincerely,
Kavita Dhanwada

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- CEDAR VALLEY’S FREE LITTLE PANTRIES

- RESUME WRITING WORKSHOP
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Please describe your professional background.

I have worked as a middle school science teacher, high school counselor, college counselor, and mental health consultant and practitioner. I have had the opportunity to practice the profession in the Caribbean, U.S., Central America, and Europe. These experiences have allowed me to have a broader perspective of the profession at large and its evolution.

When did you begin your position at UNI?

This is my second term at UNI. I initially arrived at UNI in 1998 and left for Chicago in 2005. Then, I came back in 2013 as a faculty and Division Chair to lead the re-accreditation process for the Council of Accredited Counseling and Related Educational Programs (CACREP) which was successfully obtained in 2015.

Your program includes both School Counseling and Clinical Mental Health Counseling. What are some current issues included in your students’ training to prepare them to be professionals in their chosen fields?

Our current School and Clinical Mental Health Counseling students are a reflection of a quick-pace culture heavily influenced by cultural technological advances in which speed and easily accessible information are expected. We are integrating more technology as part of our teaching strategies in order to prepare them for the 21st century as opposed to the 20th. Similarly, we have expanded the perimeter of action and students are allowed to have Practicum and Internship experiences anywhere in the U.S. and international locations. There are new themes or topics that are being addressed in many of the courses that will help our trainees to work with their future clients such as: issues related to societal and peer pressure, cyber bullying, eating disorders, and diversity.

In reviewing your website, you have had a number of speaking opportunities at conferences. What is on your calendar for 2017?

In addition to the international keynote speeches and invitations listed on the website, this year I was fortunate to be invited to keynote at the Iowa Substance Abuse Supervisor’s Association (ISASA), and will be one of the keynote speakers for the Iowa Department of Public Health (IDPH) on the 40th Annual Governor’s Conference on Substance Abuse to be held in April 2017. I will be addressing the issues of diversity and their impact in counseling practices. Also, I was the invited speaker for the Health Care Disparities Forum at the University of Arizona Health Sciences and delivered a speech about Multicultural Competences among Health Providers.

What kinds of opportunities do your students have to build their experiences in the areas of diversity and inclusion?

Since I came to UNI in 2013 I have been leading a Study Abroad course in Guatemala that has been very successful and embraced by Counseling, Social Work, and Psychology students. They have the opportunity to travel abroad, use local transportation, immerse themselves in a different culture, interact with locals, lead international service learning activities, and connect theory with practice.

To learn more about the Counseling Program see: https://www.uni.edu/csbs/sahs/counseling
Liudmyla Grygorchuk is an international graduate student from Rozhniv, Ukraine. In high school, Grygorchuk came to the United States as an exchange student and attended Gladbrook-Reinbeck High School in Reinbeck, IA on scholarship from the U.S. Department of State. A few years later while studying International Relations at Taras Shevchenko National University of Kyiv, she returned to the Cedar Valley as a summer intern with the Cedar Valley Alliance and Chamber in Waterloo, IA. During the summer, Grygorchuk had opportunities to become acquainted with UNI through attending campus events and talking with Admissions counselors and faculty. Through these positive interactions and experiences, she decided to attend UNI for her graduate studies.

Since August 2015, when she began her graduate program, Grygorchuk has been the Graduate Assistant for the Northeast Iowa STEM Hub of the Iowa Governor’s STEM Advisory Council at UNI. In this role, she assists in the planning and coordination of STEM festivals for K-12 students and their families in the Northeast Iowa region. Along with her graduate assistantship, Grygorchuk is also an intern in the marketing department at Aegon Asset Management U.S. in Cedar Rapids.

When asked what drew her to the field of Communication Studies, Grygorchuk shared, “As I started working at business and non-profit organizations in the area of customer service, event and project management, I realized that my interests were shifted toward the area of work I was doing. I chose the Communication Studies: Public Relations program because I wanted to share my knowledge and experience, improve my writing and advance the skills gained at work through the study of different areas of communication.” Grygorchuk is currently finishing her research paper on the topic of “Crisis Management and Social Media.” Following graduation in December, she hopes to find a job in the areas of communications, marketing, event or project management. In her free time, Grygorchuk enjoys outdoor activities such as walking, biking, swimming and boating.

Learn about Northeast Iowa STEM Region, of the Iowa Governor’s STEM Advisory Council at http://www.neiowastem.com/
Michael Vogt is Curator for the Iowa Gold Star Military Museum at Camp Dodge, in Johnston, IA. In addition to his educational background, Vogt has received training through the Iowa Office of the State Archaeologist, the US Army Center of Military History, and The Campbell Center for Historic Preservation Studies. Vogt was asked what motivated him to get a degree in History and he stated, “My high school history teacher was an excellent, knowledgeable instructor and provided my earliest motivation for entering the history field.” When Vogt began his education at UNI his plan was to major in history, minor in anthropology, obtain a secondary teaching certificate, and gain employment as a high school history teacher. However, after an internship at the Historical Society of Marshall County his passion for teaching with objects via employment in the museum field began. It also provided him the incentive to obtain a MA degree in History to enhance his skills and knowledge as a researcher and historian.

As Curator, Vogt is responsible for maintaining collections of documents, photographs, and artifacts. A portion of almost every day involves recordkeeping or research on the collection. Frequent calls from potential donors require that he determines the historical value of objects in supporting the museum’s interpretive mission. Additionally, Vogt provides gallery tours to visitors as well as presentations at venues outside the museum on various historical topics. These interactions with the public and volunteers is one of the most enjoyable aspects of the job for Vogt.

The Iowa Gold Star Military Museum was founded in 1985 at Camp Dodge, IA. The museum preserves a collection of over 100,000 items, houses one of the most extensive military weapons collections in Iowa, exhibits the only genuine U.S. Navy submarine periscope available to the public, and features an outdoor collection of vehicles and aircrafts. A military history reference library and archive are part of museum operations. Museum educational exhibits interpret Iowa's military history during peacetime and war beginning with the Lewis and Clark U.S. Army Corps of Discovery. Artifact rich interactive exhibits detail the contribution of Iowa veterans to national defense.

Vogt is an active member of Iowa Museum Association and Iowa Aviation Promotion Group. He has published articles on Iowa and military history in magazines, newspapers, journals, and books including Iowa Heritage Illustrated, The Iowan, the Des Moines Register, Iowa History Journal, and The Biographical Dictionary of Iowa. Michael’s past work experience includes working for the Historical Society of Marshall County, IA, Living History Farms, and the Center for American Archaeology in Kampsville, Illinois. In addition, he has taught as an adjunct history instructor for Grand View University, Simpson College, and Buena Vista University.

Vogt is a licensed pilot who enjoys flying and giving rides in an antique 1946 Aeronca 7AC airplane. In his spare time he enjoys spending time with his family, fishing, volunteering, and woodworking. A native of Gladbrook, IA, he and his family reside in Des Moines.

Learn about the Iowa Gold Star Military Museum at:

http://www.iowanationalguard.com/History/Museum/Pages/home.aspx
Aubrey Davis is a graduate student in the Clinical Mental Health Counseling program. She graduated from UNI with her bachelor's degree in psychology in May 2014, and will earn her master's degree by May 2017. Davis is currently interning at the UNI Counseling Center and also assists with their Outreach Program. Outside of her internship, Davis stays involved on campus and in the community as a mentor for students in the counseling program and as the philanthropy chair of Chi Sigma Iota, an international counseling honor society. In an excerpt from her Altrusa Scholarship application, Davis stated, “One can easily crumble under the pressures of life. No matter how much effort an individual can place into achieving success, there may still be setbacks. Throughout my short time in this world, I have been blessed and yet I have struggled. Despite the many trials and tribulations, I have persevered. I have chosen to give back to others and be the rock that so many people need. At first I began giving back by volunteering and leading organizations with great causes. Now I have chosen to make giving back my future occupation. I have decided to further my education to better myself and communities throughout the nation. My career goal is to work closely with the Veteran’s Association to counsel veterans. I wish to give back to those who have made sacrifices for our country and citizens. I dream of earning a doctoral degree in Counseling Psychology in my future; however, I hope to obtain more experience with a Master’s degree in mental health counseling before proceeding with my education. As seen in the media and all around, there is an extensive need for increased mental health assistance. I seek assistance in hopes of gaining the knowledge needed to create a better life for those who can no longer endure life’s pressures.”

Hatch is a graduate student in the Social Psychology program. She graduated with her bachelor’s degree in psychology from Valdosta State University in Valdosta, Georgia in May 2016 and plans to graduate from UNI with her master’s degree in May 2018. Hatch is currently a Graduate Assistant in the LGBT* Center where she serves as a resource to students and allies to the community, supervises the LGBT* Center Ambassadors, and assists with the Safe Zone Ally trainings and other LGBT* annual events. When asked to describe her motivation for furthering her education and career goals in her application, Hatch stated, “From the minute that I started pursuing a higher education, I always had a motivation that was beyond myself – my daughter. I found out that I was pregnant at 18 years old and I had no idea what I was going to do. I knew that a good place to start was by going back to school and obtaining my GED, so that’s exactly what I did. When I completed that step, I knew that that would never be enough for me to support myself and my daughter the way that I wanted to. I started my academic career by obtaining my Associate’s degree and then my Bachelor’s degree. I am now 24 years old and raising my 5 year old as a single mother, while attending graduate school. When I complete my Master’s degree in Social Psychology, I plan to further my graduate education by going on to obtain my Ph.D. When I have finished all of my schooling, I plan to become a professor at a university where I intend to teach psychology courses. I have a genuine passion to do this, so that I can pass on knowledge to my students, help them continually achieve academically, as well as continue my research. My main research interests, which are personally motivated, include LGBTQ+ (lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer) issues, political orientation, religion, multicultural issues, and social justice.”

Altrusa International, Inc. is a service organization dedicated to helping women. Working to promote women’s concerns in meeting the challenges of the workplace, career development, home and family, personal growth and community responsibility, the Cedar Falls Altrusa chapter members have developed a scholarship program for adult women continuing their education in Black Hawk County. The scholarship application was open to women over the age of 22 who have completed at least their sophomore year of college, or two-year associate degree. Two graduate students and one undergraduate were each awarded the $1000 scholarship at the Awards Breakfast held on October 22.

Altrusa Scholarship Award Recipients: Hailey Hatch, Aubrey Davis, and Bobbi Metcalf

Hatch is a graduate student in the Social Psychology program. She graduated with her bachelor’s degree in psychology from Valdosta State University in Valdosta, Georgia in May 2016 and plans to graduate from UNI with her master’s degree in May 2018. Hatch is currently a Graduate Assistant in the LGBT* Center where she serves as a resource to students and allies to the community, supervises the LGBT* Center Ambassadors, and assists with the Safe Zone Ally trainings and other LGBT* annual events. When asked to describe her motivation for furthering her education and career goals in her application, Hatch stated, “From the minute that I started pursuing a higher education, I always had a motivation that was beyond myself – my daughter. I found out that I was pregnant at 18 years old and I had no idea what I was going to do. I knew that a good place to start was by going back to school and obtaining my GED, so that’s exactly what I did. When I completed that step, I knew that that would never be enough for me to support myself and my daughter the way that I wanted to. I started my academic career by obtaining my Associate’s degree and then my Bachelor’s degree. I am now 24 years old and raising my 5 year old as a single mother, while attending graduate school. When I complete my Master’s degree in Social Psychology, I plan to further my graduate education by going on to obtain my Ph.D. When I have finished all of my schooling, I plan to become a professor at a university where I intend to teach psychology courses. I have a genuine passion to do this, so that I can pass on knowledge to my students, help them continually achieve academically, as well as continue my research. My main research interests, which are personally motivated, include LGBTQ+ (lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer) issues, political orientation, religion, multicultural issues, and social justice.”

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Metcalf is an undergraduate student majoring in Social Work and intends to graduate with her Bachelor of Arts degree in May 2017. Metcalf has completed 30 hours of sexual abuse prevention training and she will begin an internship with the Black Hawk-Grundy Mental Health Center this January.

When asked to describe her motivation for furthering her education and career goals in her application, Metcalf stated, “Being divorced and a dislocated housewife, I needed to find a way to provide for myself. I wanted to help people, as I have been helped, through the social work profession. I hope to eventually become a Licensed Social Worker in the mental health counseling field.”

Cedar Valley’s Little Free Pantries

The Little Free Pantry is a national grass roots, crowd source solution to immediate and local need. Whether it be a need for food or a need to give food, the Little Free Pantry facilitates neighbor helping neighbor, building community. This program addresses issues of food insecurities in the community. Joyce Levingston, a Leisure, Youth, and Human Services graduate student established the Little Free Pantry Program in the Cedar Valley. The program is designed to help children and adults who may sometimes fall between the cracks in certain situations, such as when traditional food pantries are unable to meet a needy individual’s immediate hunger needs.

Waterloo Mayor Quentin Hart assisted in the dedication of the Cedar Valley’s Little Free Pantry program on Monday, November 21, 2016. Three Little Free Pantry sites located in Waterloo at the Jesse Cosby Neighborhood Center at 1112 Mobile Street, the 1800 block of Newell Street, and the Antioch Baptist Church, 426 Sumner Street. Homemade boxes are installed where those with food can give and those who need food can take 24/7.

The program is supported by the community through monetary and non-perishable food and personal care donations such as rice, dried beans, dried fruit, dry soup packages, canned vegetables and fruits, and boxed dinners such as Hamburger Helper. Personal care items such as toothbrushes, toothpaste, Kleenex, and toilet paper are also welcomed. Donations of non-perishable food and personal care item can be dropped off at a Little Free Pantry location. Donations are also accepted at the Institute for Youth Leaders at 105 Human Performance Center (HPC) or by contacting Joyce Levingston at 273-2840 or levingsg@uni.edu.

Learn about the Cedar Valley’s Little Free Pantries Program at https://www.gofundme.com/2rcwtfcs

Learn more about Little Free Pantry http://www.littlefreepantry.org/
The University of South Dakota held their biennial John R. Milton Writers’ Conference on October 27-29, 2016 in Vermillion, South Dakota. This year’s conference theme was Possible Impossibilities / Impossibile Possibilities.

Four graduate students from the English Master of Arts program, along with Graduate Coordinator Dr. Anne Myles attended and presented their creative and critical work at the conference:

Rachel Bing
Creative Nonfiction Readings

Jen Corrigan
Creative Fiction Readings

Kathryn Wohlpart
Creative Fiction Readings

Victoria Bertelsen presented “Exploring Laura Ingalls Wilder’s Frontier: The Inner Landscape Projected Outward”

Dr. Anne Myles presented “Possible Pasts: Women Writers, the North American Review, and the Frontiers of Historical Fiction”

SPRING 2017 IMPORTANT DATES

January 9  Instruction Begins

January 9 – March 10  Thesis/dissertation due to the Graduate College to be eligible for Spring graduation

March 31  Application for Spring graduation due through the Student Center to avoid late fee and to ensure inclusion in the commencement program

April 1  Final deadline for application for Spring graduation; Notification of completion of research paper/comprehensive exams due from departments to Graduate College and Registrar’s Office

May 6  Commencement
NASPA-Student Affairs Administrators in Higher Education Regional Conference Recap

The NASPA-Student Affairs Administrators in Higher Education, formerly the National Association of Student Personnel Administrators (NASPA) held their 2016 annual Regional Conference on November 15-17th in St. Louis, Missouri. This year, the East and West regions combined to host a joint conference at the Historic Union Station. This event brought together over 750 student affairs professionals and provided opportunities for attendees to learn, network and be inspired by their colleagues in the field.

The organization invited four keynote speakers to share their story and the impact of the student affairs field. The 2016 keynote speakers were Dr. Bertice Berry, Elizabeth Acevedo, Lori S. White, and NASPA President Kevin Kruger.

Emily Nelson, Felix Weigel, Bart Frederick, Colby Campbell, Christen Brodbeck, Brooke Hollenberg, Haley Flores, Kayla Stafford, Jamie Farley, Jodi Naber, Ieshia Brown, Jess DeWall, and Barb Stratman, along with staff member Ellie Hail-Langner from UNI’s Postsecondary Education: Student Affairs program attended the conference. Emily Nelson and Kayla Stafford, second year students, presented their research entitled Engaging Religious Diversity in Higher Education. Nelson and Stafford discussed the spiritual and religious dimension of diversity and its place in higher education, and also provided information and resources to help student affairs professionals better serve the spiritual needs of their students. To learn more about NASPA, visit https://www.naspa.org.

The Clothesline Project

The Clothesline Project is an event that brings awareness to the issue of violence against women and other marginalized communities. This year, the Women’s and Gender Studies program cosponsored the event with Student Wellness Services. During the week of October 15 through October 21, stations were held around campus for people to decorate positive messages surrounding the issue onto t-shirts.

At the end of the week, the shirts were hung up on clothesline in Maucker Union for people to bear witness to the issue of violence. 60 new t-shirts were decorated throughout the course of the week, making this year’s Clothesline Project a success.
RESUME WRITING WORKSHOP RECAP

The Graduate College hosted the Resume Writing For Graduate Students Workshop on Monday, November 7 from 12:00-12:50 p.m. in the Oak Room of Maucker Union. Susie Schwieger, Director of Graduate Student Life was the workshop presenter. Schwieger reviewed the purpose of a resume, discussed the stages of resume development, and provided tips for resume preparation and organization. This interactive workshop allowed graduate students to ask questions regarding their current resume, such as which headings and categories they should include. Schwieger provided workshop attendees with specific examples, writing exercises, and helpful tips on how to prepare and continuously update a winning resume.

If you would like feedback on your resume or C.V., contact Susie Schwieger at susan.schwieger@uni.edu or 273-3044 to set up an appointment or you can email Susie your document for review. To receive the Resume Writing For Graduate Students PowerPoint presentation and handouts from the workshop send a request to gradlife@uni.edu.

Youth Academy Café

The University of Northern Iowa’s Institute for Youth Leaders, a program of the School of Kinesiology, Allied Health and Human Services, hosted a Youth Academy Café on Friday, November 18, 2016. The event was attended by 53 students from East and West High Schools in Waterloo, IA. Dr. Stacy Van Gorp (Executive Director, McElroy Trust) served as the event’s facilitator and was assisted by Tara Thomas (Director of School & Community Relations, Waterloo Community School and former anchor at KWWL), Dan Trelka (Waterloo Police Chief), Jeff Mickey (Pastor, Orchard Hill Church), Lori Dale (Recruiter Advisor, UNI-CUE), Theron Montgomery (Impactt Foundation), Ron Green (Instructor, Hawkeye Community College), Nate Clayberg (Principal & Chief Strategist for Cedar Valley based need10 Solutions & Media), Tim Cryer (Trainee, TreeHouse Partner Network) and Rhonda McRina (Director of Diversity and Inclusion, Hawkeye Community College).

The Youth Academy Café was planned, organized and implemented by graduate students in the doctoral program in Allied Health, Recreation and Community Services and master’s degree students in Leisure, Youth and Human Services. Graduate students with principle roles included; Michelle Cook (Ed.D, AHRCS), Carole Hansbourough (Ed.D, AHRCS), Younis Al-Hassin (Ed.D, AHRCS), Dong-Yub Back (Ed.D, AHRCS) and Brian Hadley (Ed.D, AHRCS). Master’s degree students with roles included Joyce Levinston (MA, LYHS), Kristina Kofoot (MA, LYHS), Shannon Betzer (MA, LYHS), Alyssa Dyall (MA, LYHS), Rachel Patterson (MA, LYHS), and Shannon Boseneiler (MA, LYHS).

The event focused on bringing together leaders from youth serving agencies and high school students in the Cedar Valley to participate in a discussion on topics that affect youth in the Cedar Valley. The event is held in The World Café format and will include conversation and emerging themes on issues affecting youth and how the community is addressing them. Seven questions were included in the discussions with students as follows; 1) Can you discuss the ways you think the community can enhance the empowerment of youth?; 2) How can we help young people live a life of meaning?; 3) What do you see as a barrier or obstacle in reaching your post high school goals and how can we help?; 4) In what ways do you think social media can be employed to understand the issues and concerns of youth?; 5) What specific concerns in our community do young people face? What can we do to help you handle these concerns; 6) What do you think the community can do to enhance your wellbeing? and What can the community do to assist young people in finding employment?

The Youth Academy Café supports the University of Northern Iowa’s strategic commitment to community engagement by drawing youthful members of the area into meaningful dialogue and communication. In addition, the event provided opportunities for community leaders and students to learn from one another and gain knowledge about salient issues impacting on youth in the Cedar Valley. Further, the Youth Academy Café served as vehicle for UNI’s doctoral and master’s degree students to exhibit community leadership and put into practice what they have gained as a result of their formal and informal educational endeavors.
Come and meet fellow students, get to know faculty and staff, RELAX, and enjoy warm apple cider and cookies!

**Spring Graduate Student Social Mixer**

“BUILDING GRADUATE COMMUNITY”

When: THURSDAY, JANUARY 19, 2017
4:00 - 6:00 p.m.

Where: Rod Library, SurfaceHub Conference Room 287

Graduate College
110 Lang Hall
(319) 273-2748
www.grad.uni.edu
# GRADUATE COLLEGE STAFF AND CONTACT INFORMATION

To submit articles for consideration in the UNI Grad Student News contact gradlife@uni.edu. With any questions or concerns feel free to contact the Graduate College staff listed below.

**The Graduate College**  |  110 Lang Hall  |  (319) 273-2748  |  www.grad.uni.edu

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<th><strong>Kavita Dhanwada</strong></th>
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<th><strong>Angela Ross</strong></th>
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