Colleagues Attend Global Conference

Mary Herring, associate dean, and Christopher Edginton (right), health, physical education and leisure services and secretary general of the World Leisure Organization, were invited delegates at the Global Forum for Physical Education Pedagogy (GoFPEP) 2012 conference. The conference was held in Velen, Germany, and centered around the theme Physical Education Pedagogy Through Community Based Networking. They are pictured with their host, Roland Naul, director of the Willibald Gebhardt Research Institute in Essen, Germany.

Students Celebrate our Liberties

Nearly 150 eighth-graders from Central Middle School spent a half day on campus taking part in UNI’s Constitution Day event on Sept. 17. The event is part of the American Democracy Project (ADP), an initiative from Provost Gloria Gibson’s office. Campuses across the country use this day to reflect on our government, our liberties and our obligations as citizens.

Students were welcomed to campus by the provost and participated in a Q&A contest about the constitution, got warmed up during activities led by Camp Adventure students and participated in small-group activities led by students from Chad Christopher’s (CSBS) social studies methods class and Jean Schneider’s (curriculum and instruction, workshop coordinator) middle level methods class. During the small groups, students from Kathryn East’s (educational psychology and foundations) Dynamics of Human Development course observed and recorded their findings for class. The Central students also ate lunch on campus and toured campus with UNI’s Student Admissions Ambassadors.

The following individuals were on the event’s planning committee: Chad Christopher, Kathryn East, Jean Schneider, John W. Johnson (CSBS), Gerri Perreault (CHAS and ADP chair) and C. Scott Peters (CSBS). Central students will return to campus Sept. 17, 2013, for next year’s event.

Memorial Honors All Educators

A memorial in honor of Steve France (B.A. ’66, physical education) and all educators who make a difference was dedicated at the Iowa State Capitol grounds in May. Rip Marston, health, physical education and leisure services, attended the event, as did Andrea Elliott, COE director of development. Marston is pictured with France’s widow, Mary Kay France. France was a 2006 inductee into UNI’s Elinor A. Crawford and William R. Thrall Hall of Excellence in recognition of his contributions to the field of health and wellness education; he was also a member of the Iowa Association of Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance. France joined the Des Moines Community School District as an elementary physical education teacher in 1966 and served as department chair of first- through eighth-grade physical education for 15 years. He lost his battle with cancer in 2008.
Ibrahim Hakan Karatas

Ibrahim Hakan Karatas is a visiting scholar from Turkey who came to UNI to begin a year of post-doctoral studies in educational leadership. Karatas earned his Ph.D. in educational leadership, M.A. in Turkish language, and B.A. in Turkish language and literature. He is also the author of elementary coursebooks and coursebooks for high school literature and Turkish language.

In 2010, he became an assistant professor at Faith University in Istanbul, one of UNI’s partner institutions through the Office of International Programs. He currently serves as head of the institution’s Educational Administration department. His main research focus has been on the role of educational nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) and educational associations. He aims to create an online sharing website that details standards, ethics and practices for principalship programs. Eventually, Karatas plans to look at educational policy, since what he’s learned in his studies in Europe, Africa and the U.S. has taught him there are increasing connections in education across the world.

Théophile Muhayimana

Théophile Muhayimana, graduate assistant and doctoral student in educational leadership and postsecondary education, came to UNI from Rwanda. He graduated from the M.A./TESOL program at Indiana University of Pennsylvania in 2010. Muhayimana has been in the education field for 15 years, serving as a vice principal for two years and an English, French and Kiswahili instructor in the Department of Arts and Humanities at the Institute of Agriculture, Technology and Education of Kibungo (INATEK/Rwanda).

For the past seven years, he has been the head of the English Department and director of the Center for Language Learning and Improvement at INATEK. His research interests are critical pedagogy, educational leadership and policy, classroom instruction, and language educational policies. Outside of the education field, Muhayimana enjoys exercising, soccer and basketball, as well as meeting new people and making friends.

If you haven’t done so already, please welcome Karatas at 3-2605, karatasi@uni.edu or in SEC 170, and Muhayimana at 3-2605, muhayimt@uni.edu or in SEC 508.

Stone Recognized for Teaching Excellence

Jody Stone, student field experiences and professor of chemistry and biochemistry, received the Presidential Award for Excellence in Math and Science. Lt. Gov. Kim Reynolds presented the award in June in recognition of Stone’s work as a chemistry teacher at Malcolm Price Laboratory School. Ninety-seven K through 12 math and science teachers across the country received this award. Winners received a $10,000 award from the National Science Foundation to be used at their discretion, and they were invited to Washington, D.C., for an awards ceremony and several days of educational and celebratory events.

Watson, Herring Travel to D.C.

Dwight C. Watson, dean, and Mary Herring, associate dean, attended AACTE’s Day on the Hill in Washington, D.C., in June. Now in its eighth year, Day on the Hill is the association’s premiere advocacy event that provides extensive background information on key federal education policy issues and talking points to use on Hill visits. Participants have the opportunity to meet with their Congress members and the members’ staffs and to get an insider’s look at federal education policy.

Dancers Perform at Oktoberfest

UNI’s International Dance Theatre was invited to Kitchener, Ontario, to participate in the largest Oktoberfest in North America and the second largest in the world. UNI students took part the opening ceremonies, performed in front of sold-out crowds and marched in Canada’s Thanksgiving Day Parade, among many other activities. Daniel Wells, health, physical education and leisure services (back row, center), is the group’s director.

Save the Date

African-American Children & Families Conference

This conference will promote a better understanding of culture, ethnicity, race, socioeconomic status and the needs of African-American children and families. Spend the day networking, sharing and meeting new colleagues to help improve the quality of lives of children and families.

Pre-Conference
Thursday, Feb. 21, 2013
5 a.m. to 9 p.m.
Maucker Union

All-day Conference
Friday, Feb. 22, 2013
8 a.m. to 4 p.m.
UNI Schindler Education Center
Faculty Acclamations

Awards/Service

Shelly Bromwich, student field experiences, was selected as an outstanding Iowa state-level finalist for the 2012 Presidential Awards for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching program (PAEMST).

Kerri Clopton, educational psychology and foundations, Julianne Gassman, health, physical education and leisure services, Becky Hawbaker, student field experiences, Mickie Johnson, Classic Upward Bound, Charles McNulty, educational leadership and postsecondary education, Greg Reed, student field experiences, Dwight C. Watson, dean, and Sarah Vander Zanden, curriculum and instruction, participated in Iowa Living in the New Normal Public Engagement, facilitated by the Military Child Education Coalition in collaboration with Lt. Gov. Kim Reynolds and Maj. Gen. Timothy Orr. The event focused on improving the educational experience of military children in Iowa. Clopton served on the event’s steering committee.

Lyn Countryman, student field experiences, was one of 35 Iowans chosen to serve on the Competency-Based Instruction Task Force. Task force members will study competency-based instruction standards and the integration of competency-based instruction with the Iowa Core; they will also develop assessment models and professional development for educators.

Nadene Davidson, student field experiences, was elected 2012-13 co-president of the Iowa Association of Colleges of Teacher Education. She and Susie Lagos Lavenz from the University of Iowa will share president-elect responsibilities.

Tom Davis, health, physical education and leisure services, received certification at the graduate level as a Master Certified Health Education Specialist (M-CHES). Professional health educators who meet specific professional preparation and experience requirements are eligible for certification from the National Commission of Health Education Credentialing (NCHEC). The mission of this certifying body is to enhance the professional practice of health education by promoting and sustaining a credentialed body of health education specialists.

Rodney Dieser, health, physical education and leisure services, was recognized as a Senior Fellow, World Leisure Academy, as an outstanding international scholar in recreation and leisure. He was recognized at the 2012 World Leisure Conference in Rimini, Italy.

Christopher Denison, health, physical education and leisure services, received the Horace Moody Award for his outstanding commitment to student development. The award was presented at the 2012 National Intramural-Recreational Sports Association National Conference in Tampa.

Jean Donham, curriculum and instruction, received the 2012 Research Award from the Iowa Association of College & Research Libraries for her article “Mental Models of Research: Generating Authentic Questions,” which she authored with J.A. Heinrich and K.A. Bostwick. The article was published in College Teaching.

Christopher Edginton, health, physical education and leisure services, received the 2012-13 Regents Award for Faculty Excellence from the State of Iowa Board of Regents.

Anthony Gabriele, educational psychology and foundations, was invited to serve on the Cedar Falls Community School District’s School Improvement Advisory Committee. He was also appointed to the editorial board of the Journal of Educational and Developmental Psychology.

Julianne Gassman, health, physical education and leisure services, was recognized by Alpha Xi Delta sorority as Professor of the Week for being “an outstanding professor at UNI.”

Tim Gilson, educational leadership and postsecondary education, and Leigh Martin, student field experiences, have been working to develop an MAE program for teacher-leaders in international schools. The master’s program, developed with strong support from the Office of Continuing Education and Special Programs, is set to begin its first cohort in spring 2013 with a cohort of teachers from the American School of Bombay, India. Follow-up cohorts from other countries are scheduled to kick off in the summer of 2013.

Mary Herring, associate dean, was named a 2012 Association of Educational Communications and Technology (AECT) Presidential Award recipient. AECT’s outgoing president, Ana Donaldson, chose Herring in recognition of Herring’s efforts during Donaldson’s presidential year. AECT is a professional association of thousands of educators and other whose activities are directed toward improving instruction through technology.

Tracey Murphy, Kathleen Scholl, health, physical education and leisure services, is a member of the Education Literacy Premiere Point Committee and treasurer of the Iowa Conservation Education Coalition. She also serves as a board member of the Iowa Conservation Education Coalition, the Inclusion Connection and Friends of Hartman Reserve.

Lee Weber, student field experiences, former head golf coach at Northern
University High School, was elected to the Iowa High School Golf Coaches Hall of Fame. Weber coached teams to the state tournament seven times, winning NU’s only state championship in 2008; his 1999 team finished third. Throughout his coaching career, Weber’s teams won numerous conference, sectional and district awards, and he coached one individual state champion and two individual runners-up.

Betty Zan, early developmental education, is one of 33 Iowans chosen to serve on the Task Force on Early Childhood Assessment. The group will select one standard kindergarten readiness assessment that school districts will be required to administer.

Presentations

Iradige Ahrabi-Fard, health, physical education and leisure services, presented “Speed-based Conditioning for Sport of Volleyball” at the Coaching Clinic for all National Coaches of Iran in Tehran. He also presented “Activity-based Approach to Weight Management (Fit at every size)” at the World Leisure Congress in Rimini, Italy.

Rodney Dieser, health, physical education and leisure services, chaired a World Leisure Commission on Inclusive Recreation and Therapeutic Recreation at the World Leisure Conference in Rimini, Italy.

Christopher Denison, health, physical education and leisure services, graduate student Kristi O’Brien and graduate assistant Justin Holman presented “Aquatic Response to Critical Incidents” at the 2012 Iowa Parks and Recreation Association Fall Workshop in Mason City.

Christopher Edginton, health, physical education and leisure services, presented the papers “Hosting a World Leisure Congress and International Event,” “World Leisure Chapters” and “World Leisure: An Organizational Perspective” at the XII World Leisure Congress in Rimini, Italy.


Julianne Gassman, health, physical education and leisure services, was an invited presenter and spoke on the following topics at these conferences and meetings: “What Strengths Led to Weathering the Storm?” at the Association for Research on Nonprofit Organization and Voluntary Action Conference in Indianapolis; “A Cohen Grant Research Project: How Mentoring Impacts Student Development” at the Nonprofit Leadership Alliance Professional Development Conference in Memphis; “Strength in Numbers: Reflection on Building a Local Nonprofit Network” at the Iowa Nonprofit Summit in Des Moines; and “The Economy and Cedar Valley Nonprofits: How are we Doing?” at the Cedar Valley Nonprofit Association meeting in Waterloo.

Tim Gilson, educational leadership and postsecondary education, presented at the National Council of Professors of Educational Administration summer conference in Kansas City, Mo. His presentation focused on a discussion with professors from other universities about the extensive process educational leadership faculty went through to revise and strengthen the principalship curriculum. The program underwent a two-year process to make revisions to the curriculum of the principalship program, culminating in site visits by the Iowa Department of Education and external reviewers for the university’s academic program review process.

Over the past four years, Gilson and Nick Pace, educational leadership and postsecondary education, have used the Dennis Dunklee text You Sound Taller on the Telephone: A Practitioner’s View of the Principalship in their first-semester courses with principalship students.

They’ve asked their students to evaluate how the book’s fictitious principal meets the Iowa Standards for School Leaders. The two colleagues presented the results of this research at the University Council of Educational Administrators annual conference in Denver, Colo. They also have a manuscript on this topic under review for publication in a journal.

Charles McNulty, educational leadership and postsecondary education, presented “Ideology Counts: Indicators of Successful Social Justice Leadership and the Strategies and Practices that Remedy Injustice in Academic Achievement” at the National Council of Professors of Educational Administration Summer Conference in Kansas City, Mo. He also presented “Inclusionary Practices at a High Performing School: Increasing Opportunities for Distributive, Recognitional, and Associative Justice for All Students and Staff” at the Midwest Culturally Inclusive Conference in Platteville, Wis.; “Two-way Conversation on Effective Teaching” at the Spring Pre-service Workshop in Cedar Falls; and “Structuring Teacher Leadership for Student Success” at the International Administrator Workshop in Cedar Falls.

Nick Pace, educational leadership and postsecondary education, spoke at the National Council of Professors of Educational Administration summer Conference in Kansas City, Mo., on the practical application of his newly authored text in principal preparation programs, The Principal’s Hot Seat: Observing Real World Dilemmas.

Mary Beth Rygh and Terri Lasswell, student field experiences, presented “The Impact of the edTPA Academic Language Requisite” at the annual edTPA Implementation Conference, organized by the Stanford Center for Assessment, Learning and Equity (SCALE) and AACTE, at the University of San Diego.

Mary Stichter and Clare Struck, student field experiences, and Denise Tallakson,
curriculum and instruction, presented “Teachers Who Care and Are Culturally Competent: Hope For All Children” at the Midwest Culturally Inclusive Conference at the University of Wisconsin - Platteville.

Publications

Megan Balong, student field experiences, John Henning, former COE faculty member, T. McKenly and G.D. Foley published “Creating Opportunities for Purposeful Participation” in the Journal of Math Teacher Education. Their study investigated the relationship between instructional design and classroom discourse as implemented by a mathematics teacher.

Robert Decker, educational leadership and postsecondary education, B. Whitehead and F. Boschee authored The Principal: Leadership for a Global Society. The text helps prepare school leaders to successfully face the challenges they will encounter on a day-to-day basis and throughout their careers.

Christopher Edginton, health, physical education and leisure services, graduate student Kristi O’Brien and K.L. Kulish wrote the chapter “The History of Women’s Volleyball at the University of Northern Iowa” in the book From Tudors to Panthers: A Brief History of Athletics at the University of Northern Iowa. In this same book, Edginton, Gerald Peterson, special collections librarian, Steven Schofield, associate athletic director, and W.R. Thrall wrote the chapter “History of Athletic Administration and Facilities.”


Julianne Gassman, health, physical education and leisure services, N.A. Dolch, A.M. Kinnel, S. Krick, R.A. Schaffer and S. Strom authored “Did Entrepreneurship Contribute to Nonprofits Surviving the Great Recession?” in International Journal of Humanities and Social Science. Gassman and these authors, along with A. Costilow, published “A Three-Year Study of the Nonprofit Sector’s Response to the Economic Challenges in Six Cities Across the Nation” in Baruch’s Center for Nonprofit Strategy and Management.


Curtis Nielsen, student field experiences, and Alex Oberle and Ramanathan Sugumaran, both of the Department of Geography, wrote “Implementing a High School Level Geospatial Technologies and Spatial Thinking Course” for the Journal of Geography in 2011. The article was recognized as one of the best articles for Geography Program Development 2012 by the National Council for Geographic Education (NCGE). The three authors received this award at the NCGE national conference in San Marcos, Texas.

Nick Pace, educational leadership and postsecondary education, published his second book, The Principal’s Challenge: Observing Real-World Dilemmas, a case study book with 15 scenarios captured on DVD that grew out of the Day in the Office role play with principalship students.

Kathleen Scholl and Kristi Leen, health, physical education and leisure services, D. Alexander, R. Pike and L. Johansen published “University Student Interest and Use of Personal Training Services” in the National Intramural Recreation and Sport Association Journal. Scholl also published “Expanding Professional Networks at Winter Solstice 2012.” The report was prepared for the Iowa Department of Natural Resources REAP – Conservation Education Program.


Grants/Contracts Completed

Julianne Gassman, health, physical education and leisure services, received a contract to operate day camp and child development services at U.S. Navy, Key West, Fla., and Arnold Air Force Base, Tenn. She received a contract to operate CDC services at U.S. Navy Pearl Harbor in Hickam, Hawaii. Gassman also received a contract to operate day camp services in the following locations: U.S. Air Force Geographically Separated Units, with various locations in Belgium, Germany, the Netherlands, Norway and Spain; the City of Marathon, Parks and Recreation Department; U.S. Air Force, Hanscom AFB, Mass.; and U.S. Army, Fort Wainwright, Ala.

Sarah Montgomery and Sarah Vander Zanden, curriculum and instruction, received a “Reaching Higher Ground – In Search of An American Dream” grant for their collaborative service-learning partnership centered on a photography and writing project between Wartburg College students and sixth-grade students at Carver Academy in Waterloo. During the spring 2012 semester, students in Montgomery’s courses in the Professional Development Partnership at Lincoln Elementary in Cedar Falls began a service-learning project where they collaborated with Spanish classes at Wartburg, Spanish and French classes at Waterloo East High School, and French classes at Cedar Falls High School to write 250+ bilingual books to support the literacy learning needs of children in orphanages in Haiti and Panama.

Chris Curran and Susan Brennan, special education, received a three-year grant from the Carver Trust to support technology tools and training for use in general and special education preservice and inservice teacher training. The funds support T2-PAL: Technology and Teachers: Promoting Accessible Learning, a learning lab that provides support and resources to teacher education faculty and students for courses and field experiences. The technology tools will be used to support accessible learning for K through 12 students. The aim of the project is to assist educators in closing the achievement gap for students with disabilities through innovative, inclusive, collaborative and accessible teaching practices utilizing technology. The project focuses on the use of technology tools and curricular practices to support universal design of learning and accessible learning through assistive technology. The lab is housed in Schindler Education Center Room 147.