

GRADUATE STUDENT SENATE Graduate Bulletin

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A publication of the Graduate Student Senate
grad-senate@uiowa.edu
www.uiowa.edu/~gss

GRADUATE STUDENT SENATE Graduate Bulletin

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Giving Grad Students A Voice

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Visit our website at:

www.uiowa.edu/~gss

where you can find up-to-date info about graduate student events, news, GSS meetings and more!

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Interested in becoming part of GSS? Have an issue for GSS? Want to learn more about what we do? Contact us at:
grad-senate@uiowa.edu

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GSS by the numbers:

- \$30,000 in travel funds distributed annually
- \$6000 awarded at GSS's annual grad student conference
- Over 600 people attended GSS's Fall Ball last year

UPCOMING GSS EVENTS

For more information about any event, please check out our website or email us for more information.

FALL ORIENTATION PARTY

Join us for games, volleyball, and free food as we celebrate the start of the semester. Our party will be at RT's this year, from 7-9pm on Saturday, August 27th

MONDAY LUNCHESES

Bring your lunch and join us in River Room I every Monday from 12-1 for a chance to meet new people and discuss topics of interest

JAKOBSEN GRADUATE STUDENT CONFERENCE

A great chance to present your research here on campus. Our annual conference will be held this year on Saturday, March 25th.

Check our website for the following events:

- GSS Fall Ball
- Distribution of travel funds
- Brown bag lunches
- GSS Service Events
- GSS Spring Bash
- New issues of the Graduate Bulletin

and more...

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www.uiowa.edu/~gss
grad-senate@uiowa.edu

...and their innovative spin on traditional rolls is extremely refreshing and tasty. The 'Christmas Roll' (shrimp, crab, spicy tuna, yellowtail & avocado, wrapped in cucumber), the 'Mouth Watering Roll' (spicy yellowtail, cucumber & tempura, with white tuna/avocado on top) and the 'Fantastic Roll' (shrimp, eel, asparagus and cucumber, wrapped in white seaweed) are some of my favorites.

Their prices for *nigiri* and *regular rolls* seem to be on par with other sushi restaurants in Iowa City, and their prices for the *specialty rolls* (which are a hearty 8-pieces and I would highly recommend) seem to be slightly cheaper. I have always found the fish to be fresh, the presentation attractive and the service very friendly. For those not-so-adventurous, Oyama Sushi offers numerous cooked entrees, including teriyaki and tempura dishes and teppanyaki dinners from the hibachi.

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1853 Lower Muscatine Rd

337.8811

~

Hours of operation and Menus at:
www.oyamasushi.com

RESTAURANT REVIEW

OYAMA SUSHI

Japanese Restaurant

by Erin Pfaff -- erin-pfaff@uiowa.edu

First of all, I think their sushi is fabulous. It has replaced Takanami as my favorite sushi spot in town. I always enjoy trying new maki creations ...

Announcements

The 8th Annual James F. Jakobsen Graduate Conference!

The Jakobsen Conference (previously the *Jakobsen Forum*) is a university-wide event that takes place annually and gives graduate students from across campus opportunities to present their scholarly research and fine arts performances. The event has been held since 1999, with increasing participation each year. Last year's conference hosted presentations from over 100 graduate students from all divisions of the Graduate College, with over 40 taking home cash awards for their submissions. This year's conference promises to be even bigger and better.

The 8th Annual Jakobsen Conference will be held **Saturday, March 25th** with research talks and posters during the morning and afternoon and fine and performing arts presentations and awards in the evening. The Blank Honors Center will be the site of research talks and posters, combining state-of-the-art presentation technology with modern architecture and intimate surroundings.

This conference has been tremendously beneficial to countless graduate students who have gotten to work through some of their research questions amongst other graduate students and hone their presentation skills outside of the broad national arena. Please mark your calendar with the date of this upcoming event. Abstract submission deadlines will most likely be in January of 2006 and information will be made available shortly on the Graduate Student Senate website, <http://www.uiowa.edu/~gss/forum>.

Kenneth T. Key Scholarship Application 2005

The Kenneth T. Key Scholarship will be awarded each year to one University of Iowa graduate student born in **Taiwan**. Awards will be competitive and based on a Taiwanese student's academic record. The award recipient will receive a \$3,000 tuition scholarship for the 2005-06 academic year, \$1,500 each semester. Students whose tuition is fully paid by another source do not qualify for this award. The Kenneth T. Key Scholarship is a one year award, and is not renewable.

Applications are due on Monday, August 29, 2005. Please submit applications to Sandra Barkan, Associate Dean, Graduate College, 205 Gilmore Hall. If you have questions about the award, you can contact Dean Barkan at sandra-barkan@uiowa.edu or 335-2136.

Applicants must submit the following materials:

- Cover page (see attached)
- Statement concerning education goals and plans (no more than 300 words)
- One letter of recommendation from a University of Iowa professor in your department or program. The letter should be in a sealed envelope with the professor's signature across the seal.
- Proof of birth in Taiwan (e.g. photocopy from passport or visa)

Applications are available from Donna Welter in the Graduate College, donna-welter@uiowa.edu.

Light the Night Walk

This year GSS has formed a team for The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society's Light the Night Walk. This is an opportunity for us to do something good in our community. It is our opportunity to help fight cancer by:

- * joining a Light the Night Team
- * Making a personal contribution
- * Raising funds for research and services for patients & families

Light the Night is an evening walk celebrating & commemorating the lives of people touched by cancer. The walk culminates in a community celebration w/ music, refreshments & entertainment.

Team members raise funds by encouraging others to contribute. Funds will be used for research to find cures for blood cancers- leukemia, lymphoma & myeloma- & improve the quality of life of patients & their families.

Saurav Pandit & Kim Lamon are your team captains - We encourage you to become involved in this worthwhile endeavor. Email us if you have questions: **kimberley-lamon@uiowa.edu**, **saurav-pandit@uiowa.edu** or register online at **lightthenight.org** (we are listed as the GSS team!)

WALK INFO:

WHEN: September 24, 2005 @ 7:30PM

WHERE: UI Athletics Hall of Fame

WHO: YOU GUYS!!!

HOW: OUR Team GOAL is to Raise \$100 per participant (heck you get a free T-shirt if you raise \$100)

WHY: the need for a cure is critical: every 5 minutes, someone in this country is diagnosed w/ blood cancer. Every 10 minutes, someone dies. Leukemia is the leading cause of cancer death among children and young adults under the age of 20.

*** FUNDRAISING REWARDS: \$100 = t-shirt, **www.lightthenight.org** for more gift information

PLEASE JOIN US for this special evening!!! Be a part of the GSS TEAM!!! You'll enjoy yourself & you'll make an important difference in the lives of others!!!

THANK YOU SO MUCH~ Kim Lamon & Saurav Pandit , your team captains

LIGHT THE NIGHT & BRIGHTEN THE FUTURE FOR MILLIONS TOUCHED BY CANCER.

East Meets Midwest

Interview with Leisure Studies Graduate Student *Kristin Ernst*

By J Caldwell

While many of us are spending the sunny days soaking up the rays from the sun or from computer monitors, Kristin Ernst is doing an internship with the Navy Morale, Welfare and Recreation (MWR) Program in Yokosuka, Japan. She is operating an 8-week youth sports camp for the children of active Navy personnel and has been touring Japan on her days off, taking in the history, language and customs.

J Caldwell: First off, tell us a little bit about yourself? Do you miss your co-workers at the Fitness Loft now that you are working abroad in Japan for the summer?

Kristin Ernst: I am beginning my second year in the Leisure Studies MA Program, but this is my 6th year at the University of Iowa. I received my BS in 2004 in Athletic Training and my current emphasis is in Sport Recreation Management; I am also the Graduate Assistant athletic trainer for the UI baseball team. I also used to be teaching assistant for my advisor, Dr. Michael Teague, but I had to give that up this year to become the GA for the baseball team. He mentioned this internship to me; it is pretty competitive to get in and you have to be CPR and AED certified, but it's *great!* When I am stateside I am a field house building supervisor – I do miss my co-workers, but I feel at home in Japan because they have the same cockroaches I would find in the fitness loft.

JC: That's a full plate for a second year grad student. What do you ultimately hope to accomplish with your UI Degrees?

KE: I want to complete my master's work this May and then pursue an athletic training job, I really have no preference where I go domestically, but I would only move to Asia if I got a job with the US Navy.

JC: How do your current UI studies tie into what you are doing in Japan?

KE: I am around sports all the time at Iowa, either with athletics or recreation, working this job in Japan fits in since I spend my days coaching youth recreational sports for the children of US Navy personnel.

JC: What's your daily coaching routine like?

KE: Starting at 8 AM, the kids check in and we start stretching, drills, games and that sort of thing. We have lunch breaks and then we usually have an afternoon fieldtrip to the pool or bowling. Fridays are fun because we have a tournament for whatever sport they kids have been playing during the week, the parents also get involved at the potluck dinner and awards ceremony that follows.

“ I have gained ultimate independence from this experience. ”

JC: Has this been a rewarding experience?

KE: Very much so. I get to play outside all day with kids, ages 7-13, if we didn't offer these camps they would be sedentary. We have seen kids become really active this summer; lots of them have lost weight. The kids really look up to us coaches because a lot of them have moms and dads out to sea, so they don't have a lot of discipline and attention at home. It is very rewarding to have campers thank you at the end of the day. If I decide to work with youth sports in the future, this job has very much prepared me – working with military children can be a real challenge.

JC: I've seen your photo travelogue and it seems that you have been all over Japan – what have been some of the highlights of your trip.

KE: It's true! I work Monday-Friday and have the weekends free. The first month I was here I only worked 5 hours a day so I have had tons of free time to explore Japan. Climbing Mt. Fuji (12, 948 feet) was the most exhausting thing I have ever done; mentally and physically. Every step was a fight to keep going, but I was so glad that I accomplished it and it was worth every minute. I also loved every inch of Tokyo that I explored - the hustle and bustle of the city is amazing. Hiroshima was a very beautiful city; it has come a long way from the destruction of the atomic bomb. I really learned a lot there.

JC: Have you seen anything "crazy" in Japan.

KE: Definitely, like beer vending machines, or anything in a vending machine, really. Drunk, old Japanese businessmen trying to catch the last trains home. Knock-off t-shirts that try to have funny English sayings but are all wrong. Some signs are hilarious, as are the women riding rollercoasters in high heels. I've also been a little bit crazy – singing in Japanese at a karaoke bar. And don't get me started on the Japanese-toilets. Despite the little differences, and maybe because of them as well, I'm in love with Japan – it's a wonderful mix of rich culture and beauty, with little funny little quirks.

JC: What do you ultimately hope to gain from your work abroad?

Ke: I have gained ultimate independence from this experience. I have learned that I can go anywhere and do anything. I challenged myself to come over here and now I can ride the trains and go about Tokyo as if I have been living there for years. *I am also a master at chopsticks now.*

This has been the best experience of my life and will hopefully lead to a future job working for the Navy MWR.



PRESIDENT'S CORNER

In every issue of the Graduate Student Senate BULLETIN we will bring you updates, initiatives and important information from The President of GSS, Sarah Vigmostad, University of Iowa Student Government (UISG), President of the University of Iowa, David Skorton and The Graduate College



Graduate Student Senate
Sarah Vigmostad
<http://www.uiowa.edu/~gss>

Hello New and Returning Graduate Students...

Here we are, another summer has flown by, and it's time to start thinking about our goals for the semester. I want to spend a little bit of time talking about a few of my goals for GSS, and also reminding everyone about some fun upcoming GSS events.

As graduate students, we play many important roles in the University – many of us are students, teachers, and employees, among other things. Because of the many hats we wear, we are affected by decisions made in various colleges, departments, and organizations on campus. It is important that graduate students have a voice in these decisions, and that we are informed of these decisions in a timely manner. One of my goals this semester is to establish a more clearly defined relationship between GSS and college deans so that GSS senators – and graduate students in general – can quickly hear about decisions made, and ideally have a voice in those decisions. GSS execs will start meeting with college deans when necessary, and I hope to set up a liaison to each college so that we can all stay informed of decisions that affect us.

GSS considers itself the voice of graduate students, and we work hard to advocate for graduate concerns. In addition to that mission, our goal is to continue to establish a graduate community. Graduate school is a very unique experience, and the stresses and frustrations that we graduate students go through can only really be understood by other graduate students. Bringing together graduate students from all over campus who have similar goals, similar problems and issues, and yet diverse backgrounds and areas of interest is part of building graduate student community, and is a great way to meet new people. At the end of August, GSS will be hosting a **Graduate Student Welcome Party**, which all current and new graduate students are welcome to attend. We will have free pizza, volleyball, games, socializing, and it's a great way to get involved in the graduate community. Join us at **RT Grunts (826 S. Clinton Street) on Saturday, August 27th beginning at 7pm.**

Beginning this fall, we will be holding **weekly lunches** every **Monday** in **River Room One** at the **IMU**. This is a great chance for any graduate student to meet new people, talk about any concerns or issues they have had, and just get more familiar with GSS and The University of Iowa. These lunches are open to all graduate students, and unless we have a special guest, will not have an agenda, so that we can talk about anything graduate students want. Bring your lunch and join us from **12-1pm** every **Monday!**

I hope everyone had a great summer, and welcome back. As always, please don't hesitate to email me if you ever have any issues or concerns that you would like to see GSS get involved with.

Sarah Vigmostad
sarah-vigmostad@uiowa.edu



To learn more about Graduate College fellowships, visit
<http://www.grad.uiowa.edu/students/financialsupport/fellowships/>

The Graduate College is proud to provide support for outstanding graduate students. The College offers a number of generous fellowships and scholarships that help attract top scholars to The University of Iowa.

Jennifer Baum
Art History

Anna Bostwick
History

Adam Bradford
English

Erik Brincks
Immunology

Brooks Brunner
Mathematics

Margaret Chorazy
Epidemiology

Adina Chuang
Civil & Env Engineering

Mohammed Elmasry
Mass Communications

Lee Farquhar
Mass Communications

Kevin Freise
Pharmacy

Graduate Presidential Fellowships

Tamara Giluk
Management & Orgs

Darren Grafius
Geography

Amanda Guilford
Psychology

Brent Hickman
Economics

Jennifer Howell
French

John Kodet
Chemistry

Natalie Kragel
Chemistry

Jeroen Laerners
History

Nicholas Keifker
Management Sciences

Amanda Licht
Political Science

Erin Mann
English

Jessica Melanko
Chem & Biochemical Eng

Wai Na Yao
Speech Path and Audiology

Kristin Naragon
Psychology

Veronica Nixon
Geography

Michael O'Doherty
Finance

Sonya Powers
Psychology & Quantitative Foundations

Zhengwei Qiao
Linguistics

Samuel Shepard
Psychology & Quantitative Foundations

Jennifer Skrmetti
Anthropology

Deborah Stringer
Psychology

Kasey Swanke
Political Science

Brenton Thompson
English

Juli Williams
Anthropology

Mingxu Zhang
Pharmacology

President's Corner – From the Graduate College (continued)

Graduate Dean's Fellowship winners for 2005-2006

Maria Alvarez
Social Foundations of Education

Manza B. J. Atkison
Chemistry

Erica Bazemore
English

Julia R. Berkman
Mathematics

Earlesha Butler
Journalism

Celeste Campos
Sociology

Christopher Clark
Political Science

Antillana del Valle
Secondary Education

Edugie Ekuase
Pharmacy

Sherrie Elzey
Chemical & Biochemical Engineering

Jessica Engelking
Philosophy

Kim Euell
Theatre Arts

April Freely
Nonfiction Writing

Olga Garcia
Computer Science

Sampson Gardner
Psychology

Michelle Gil-Montero
Creative Writing-Writers Workshop

Kevin Anthony Gonzalez
Creative Writing-Writers Workshop

Vanessa M. Hutchinson
Creative Writing-Writers Workshop

Ernest Jennings
Music

Sheba Karim
Creative Writing-Writers Workshop

Rebecaca Marquez
Molecular Biology

Valerie Mendex-Gallardo
Psychology

Vernita Morgan
Education

Christine M. Nobiss
Asian Language & Literature

Sataya Onorato
English

Janine Oshiro
Creative Writing-Writers Workshop

Andre Perry
Nonfiction Writing

Joseph Rodriguez
English

Marilyn Sampilo
Psychology & Quantitative Foundations

Alecia Simmons
Mass Communications

Sarah Taber
Psychology

Bianca Wolf
Communication Studies

In the next issue of the Graduate Student Senate Bulletin:

- Summer Fellowship and Summer Foreign Language Fellowship recipients
- Spriestersbach and Graduate Dean's Dissertation Award Winners for 2005

COGS negotiations

The 2004-2005 negotiations between COGS and the Board of Regents, State of Iowa produced an increase in tuition scholarships for graduate students at The University of Iowa. For details, visit <http://www.grad.uiowa.edu/students/FinancialSupport/TuitionScholarship/Index.htm>

President's Corner – From the Graduate College (continued)

Commencement

As a service to UI graduate scholars, the Graduate College held its May commencement in Carver Hawkeye Arena, enabling all students to invite an unlimited number of family members, supporters, and other guests to the ceremony.

December 2005 commencement exercises will be held in Hancher Auditorium. Please note that summer graduates who did not participate in the May 2005 commencement exercises are invited to participate in the December ceremony.

Enhanced Diversity Recruitment Efforts

The Graduate College, under Provost Hogan's direction, has assembled graduate recruitment and retention efforts under a new Office of Graduate Ethnic Inclusion.

Professor Phil Kutzko will serve as the director, overseeing programs that were previously making separate efforts. Those programs include Alliance for Graduate Education in the Professoriate (AGEP), Iowa Biosciences Advantage (IBA), and Summer Research Opportunities Program (SROP).



University of Iowa President
David Skorton
<http://www.uiowa.edu/president/>

Dear UI Graduate Scholars,

Thank you for the opportunity to share some thoughts on graduate education at Iowa. In this **Year of Public Engagement**, it is important to focus not only on the excellence of graduate education for individual students and programs, but also to focus on our university's interactions with the public.

Strategic Plan for Graduate Education

As graduate scholars at the UI, you are an integral part of the mission of this university to teach, research, and serve. In our **2005-2010 Strategic Plan**, "The Iowa Promise," we have renewed our goal to "cultivate excellent graduate and professional programs, and to advance the research and scholarly enterprise." I encourage you to read our strategies for graduate education and to send me, Dean Keller and Provost Hogan your ideas for enhancing our efforts.

The plan outlines three broad strategies that focus on:

- Program excellence
- Institutional infrastructure to support ever-broadening concepts of graduate education
- Student support

Visibility of Graduate Education

As we progress, The University of Iowa must also enhance its efforts to raise the visibility and understanding of graduate education, on campus and with the general public. As a graduate student, you are well aware of the value of graduate education. But many in our community may not know the extent of our top graduate programs as powerful tools in our mission to serve our public constituents. Through our graduate programs, The University of Iowa:

- Discovers, disseminates, and preserves knowledge
- Provides a rich education to our undergraduates
- Attracts talented faculty to further enhance the learning environment

President's Corner – From President David Skorton (continued)

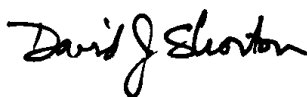
- Prepares the next generation of scientists, scholars, artists, and teachers
- Enhances our state and national economies
- Produces new technologies
- Creates innovative, practical solutions to real life problems

Spreading the news about excellence

The list of awards to our graduate scholars grows more impressive each year. Awards come from a range of funding sources (federal, private, and corporate) in a variety of disciplines. This year, awards included a NASA fellowship, funding from the Wenner-Gren Foundation, an award from Merck, an O'Neill Theatre Conference Playwright Development and Performance Award, a Mellon Research Fellowship, and an invitation to participate in the Nobel Laureate annual meeting (this student was one of only 50 invited to attend).

These awards positively reflect on the entire UI community, as well as on the state of Iowa as a primary supporter of our graduate programs. Many more awards are received by our students than are reported to the University. I am proud of your work as graduate scholars, and we wish to maximize our opportunities to demonstrate the value of graduate education to our neighbors and colleagues throughout the state. Please help me communicate your accomplishments by sharing news of your awards and funding. **Send information to the Graduate College visit the grad college website and download the External Funding PR form.** (www.grad.uiowa.edu/Students/FinancialSupport/ExternalFunding.pdf)

Your innovative thinking, scholarship, creative endeavor, teaching and hard work are key ingredients in our institution's contributions to society. Thank you for helping make our University a center of excellence and innovation.



For more on

The Year of Public Engagement visit

http://www.uiowa.edu/president/messages/type_case_statement_063005.html

Strategic Plan visit

<http://www.uiowa.edu/homepage/news/strategic-plans/strat-plan-05-10/goals/grad-prof.html>

External Funding PR download

www.grad.uiowa.edu/Students/FinancialSupport/ExternalFunding.pdf

University of Iowa Student Government
Vice President Lauren McCarthy
www.uiowa.edu/~uisg

Mark Kresowik and Lauren McCarthy
uisg@uiowa.edu
335-3860

August inaugurates a season of fresh school supplies and invigorated slaps of the snooze button. It is also a time to meet new people and introduce new plans for the year, so here we are. To introduce ourselves, we're Mark Kresowik and Lauren McCarthy, President and Vice President of Student Government. Mark is a senior and studies Sustainable Systems, an interdisciplinary major that encompasses ecology, law, economics, engineering, and a few other odds and ends. He is an Iowa City native and devotes his free time to Ultimate Frisbee, vegetarian cooking, and developing his skills as a beer connoisseur. Lauren is also a senior and is double-majoring in Political Science and International Studies, with a minor in Spanish. She is from Urbandale, Iowa, and enjoys "West Wing" marathons, Ben Folds, and jogging.

As leaders of student government, we've spent the last few months working on some important projects: revamping the UISG website (www.uiowa.edu/~uisg) to be more accessible and relevant to students, revising and updating the UISG Constitution, improving the **Scholarly Presentation and Research Grants application and award process**, and developing a strategic plan for student government. We've also worked on community building through a couple different avenues, like attending the Association of Big Ten Students conference at the University of Minnesota and touring the state of Iowa in order to promote creative engagement and to underscore the importance of public universities to state legislators and community organizations like Rotary.

No doubt you've heard that 2005-06 is the Year of Public Engagement at Iowa, and UISG is wholeheartedly supportive of this initiative to bolster community involvement. We encourage you, even with your busy academic lives, to find a niche in the university or Iowa City community and to devote your time to expanding the scope of your connection with the people and places around you. Volunteerism is an excellent place

to start, but perhaps your route may be through a research project or a part-time job.

One way to become involved in the university is to serve in the UISG Judicial Branch on our Student Elections Board, Student Judicial Court, or Student Traffic Court. We also place students on charter committees, including Recreation Services, Parking and Transportation, Financial Aid, Hancher, Family Issues, Libraries, and Diversity. Some committees have spots held specifically for graduate students; others are open to all classifications. Applications will be available during the first week of school on the website and outside the UISG and Office of Student Life offices in the IMU. Contact Lauren at lauren-mccarthy@uiowa.edu with any questions.

We look forward to representing students, both graduate and undergraduate, during the upcoming school year. Never hesitate to contact us with suggestions, questions, criticisms, or compliments. Our office (48 IMU) is open every day in the basement of the IMU, next to the downstairs ITC.

Good luck this year!

Mark Kresowik and Lauren McCarthy

uisg@uiowa.edu

335-3860

Lifetime Dedication

Interview with Social Work Associate Professor, *Susan Murty*

By J Caldwell

Susan Murty is a 2004 Collegiate Teaching Award winner. She primarily teaches graduate students in the Social Work program. She exhibits tireless dedication to graduate students at the University of Iowa. Recently, she spent 9 months in Patzcuaro, Michoacan, Mexico gaining knowledge and experience for her new academic passion.

Jason Caldwell: What are your particular interests and contributions to the UI Social Work

Dr. Susan Murty: I am primarily interested in rural and regional service delivery - but for many this is a difficult concept because it does not fit the usual categories for health and human services. Rural areas have the same human needs as urban areas but generally lack a lot of the specialized services available in urban areas. However, rural communities often have strong communities with residents willing to provide informal help to each other and to make sure residents get their needs met. Rural service programs generally are more generic and provide a wider scope of services than agencies in urban areas and may use volunteers and neighbors to supplement formal services.

In order to be successful in a rural community, the social worker must collaborate effectively with local groups, community leaders, county and municipal government. Social workers must also collaborate with regional programs that provide services from more populated centers in the region. As a result, rural social work is challenging and involves work with many kinds of groups and at many different levels and requires a lot of interorganizational collaboration.

I have recently gotten quite interested in services for elders and end-of-life services and so am becoming more involved in these areas which are very important for social work students to learn about. I am also very committed to service learning and immersion learning and to giving students opportunities to learn in communities outside the classroom.

JC: How did you first become interested in rural services and social work?

SM: I was interested in social work when I was in junior high so it has been a life long career for me. I was a rural social worker in a very rural county in Washington State for 11 years before going back to get my Ph.D. to be a professor. While there I became very interested in how to improve services in rural areas after working for many years for a county program that provided a wide range of mental health, aging, substance abuse, and other services to a very rural county.

JC: What sparked your interest in end-of-life programs?

SM: I have been interested in hospice programs since the death of my father while I was in college. End-of-Life Care is a field that combines social work with spirituality. It is a very meaningful aspect of social work to me. The increasing numbers of elders in the United States with the baby boomers aging makes this a growing area where social workers are needed. The School of Social Work received a grant from the Project on Death in America to develop a curriculum on end-of-life care in the MSW Program.

JC: How does this recent direction change tie into your project in Mexico?

SM: I have been interested in Mexican and other Latino immigrants because of their growing numbers in Iowa and the need for our students to learn about diverse cultures. I was already involved with a service learning project in West Liberty, Iowa, where we gathered oral history. I decided to do an oral history with elders in a rural community in Mexico for my sabbatical year. I also have been wanting to learn Spanish. I am at the point where the people I interviewed would say to me "*Se entiende*" which means roughly that I can make myself understood. Of course I hope someday to speak Spanish well, but in the meantime I am happy with "*se entiende*."

JC: In your interviews with the Purepecha elders, which end-of-life programs were common? Which were unique?

SM: While in Mexico, I learned about services for elders by visiting the senior citizens club in Patzcuaro once a week and by visiting an "asilo," something like a cross between a nursing home and an assisted living center. I also visited a palliative care program in Guadalajara. There are much fewer programs for elders in Mexico and they have much less funding. However, families provide a lot more direct care for elders than in the United States and many frail elders live with family.

JC: What are you plans for the oral histories you obtained from the interviews?

SM: I will be writing articles about the themes that came up in the project and the value of the project for elders and families. The stories will be printed and bound, reporting exactly what that elder said about his or her life and included photos of the elder and family as well as some photos of old photographs they had. Each book is intended for that particular elder and his or her family.

JC: Was there a particular instance that striking or important?

SM: One very moving experience for me this last year was taking a draft of a book to review with the elder who had told me about her life. As we went through the book, she haltingly read aloud the large print text (she only had a few years of school, but was able to read it!) and then she turned to look at me again and again, her eyes shining as she recognized her very own words on the page. This was clearly a meaningful experience for her and it validated her worth and identity. I have photos of this scene taken by Tom Langdon, a photographer for the University of Iowa Foundation.

“ I know that grad students are very busy people with many commitments. I believe that they should be in charge of their plan of study as much as possible and that they should decide how to fit their learning goals into their lives. ”

JC: You mentioned being committed to giving students opportunities for immersion learning and exposure to other communities. Did you take this same approach upon yourself during your visit to Patzcuaro?

SM: Good question! [Finally! –Ed.] Yes, I immersed myself in the culture of Patzcuaro and Nocutzepo (the village) and spoke almost no English while I was there. I got to visit lots of fascinating events in the village, meet residents, and I learned a lot!

JC: Do you find that UI grad students are willing/anxious to adopt your "worldly" view? Do UI Social Work grad students have similar opportunities to travel?

SM: The School of Social Work has been developing a series of service learning and travel learning opportunities for students. I will be going on a trip to El Salvador this coming January with a group of University of Iowa students, many of them social work students. We also have trips to Mexico, and USA trips to San Bernardino, and Philadelphia. A lot of our students are eager to participate in travel seminars.

JC: You recently won the Ulowa Collegiate Teaching Award. This great honor reflects your dedication to graduate education and preparation. Could you tell me about your experiences with the social work grad students you have taught?

SM: Many of our graduate students are mature, capable, resourceful adults who have clear goals for graduate study. Most of them have a lot of life and work experience to draw on. They contribute to the field of social work while they are in our program and go on to be leaders in the field of social work. *I have found the students interested in end-of-life care to be especially exciting students to work with, dedicated to improving the way death is experienced in our society.*

BEST OF IOWA CITY RESTAURANTS

In the last issue we gave out a survey for best of.. to benefit the incoming UI grad students. It was impossible to choose clear winners, so here we present the top three for each category and some testimonials.

BEST PLACE TO STUDY

Technically most people picked the library, but for coffee houses – *The Java House* and *The Tobacco Bowl* took the top spots (both are located on the pedmall). **House of Aromas** is in Coralville, and a new location is opening downtown – check out their avocado bubble tea. *HoA is a very relaxed and open area. I especially appreciate the free parking and free wireless connection..*

-Sherie T.

BEST PIZZA

I got a lot of complaints for not including *The Wedge*, but *Pagliais* and the *Mill* were also well received. **Don't forget about *Wig & Pen*. The cheesiest pizza I've ever eaten. Delicious.**

-Guy I.

BEST BUFFALO WINGS

The fan favorite was hands-down *Buffalo Wild Wings* Downtown. *The Vine* in Coralville and IC has great deals, and the *en fuego* wings at the **Sport's Column** are the hottest I've ever had.

-Jay C.

ECLECTIA

Motley Cow, *Devotay* and *Red Avocado* are all unique and have rotating menus. ***Red Avocado is far superior in vegan choices, Devotay's service and wine menu cannot be topped. And they are so fun!***

-Andreas C.

MOST ROMANTIC

***Linn Street Café* and *one twenty six* are downtown favorites, but most people haven't heard of**

Taste on Melrose; Iowa City's best-kept secret.

-Aaron M.

BEST COCKTAILS

The Siren wins out for having the most unique and varied cocktail menu. *Takanami* has great compliments to their fantastic sushi, but the front runner was the *Atlas*. **Cheap and tasty; especially on Thursday nights.**

-Sarah V.

BEST MIDDLE EASTERN

Newcomers *Oasis Falafel* are loved by all, *Aladdin*, tucked away in Coralville or from the cart on the pedmall, is also recommend, but for a true treat, find *Café Z*, near Sycamore Mall–**The host, server, chef, prep cook, dish washer and owner all rolled into one person.**

-Imran P.

BEST 21+ Bar

Dublin Underground pours the best Guinness around (complete with a **clover** in the foam). *Joe's Place* is an Iowa City Standard. *Martini's* has good specials, lots of beers on tap, outdoor seating and for those Grads in transition, the 19+ bars are right next door.

BEST BURGER

Micky's: I don't think of them as burgers, they're so good it's like a lard/beef rainbow.

-Josh A.

George's on Market Street makes the best burger in town. No Question.

-Andy C.

BEST ASIAN

A hard one to call because we have some great Asian Cuisine in Iowa City. Try them All! *Thai Spice*, *Takanami*, *Thai Flavors*, *Aoeshe*, *Three Samurai*, *Oyama Sushi*, *Sushi Popo*; even *China Star* is good if you are in the right mood.

BEST LUNCH

Tired of the same old subs, try *Baldy's Wraps* for something a little different – You get a 5%

discount if you are bald. *Venuto's World Bistro* is a new addition to the downtown eateries, but I've nothing but good things about their gelato. ***Bread Garden has great variety because you can have their outrageously good soups. If you're not in the mood for soup, their sandwiches and salads are pretty good, not to mention their tasty dessert treats.***

-Sherie T.

OUT WITH THE FOLKS

Mondo's Tomato Pie in Coralville is great for larger groups, so bring the whole fam. My first day in Iowa City [I woke up and watched *Mondo's Downtown* burn to the ground –Ed.]. ***Givanni's is also a crowd pleaser; the food is great and everyone can find something to eat (and it's great for a romantic date).***

-Theresa C.

BEST GREASY SPOON

Lou Henri is a good place to eat. *Tony's Grill* just moved in and has quite a following already. *Hamburg Inn* is cheap, fast and tasty; breakfast is served all day.

BEST NEARBY, IC

The Lincoln Café in Mt. Vernon is getting rave reviews. *Doldici* in Washinton is a sleepy town's saving grace; delicious Italian food. *Vernon Inn* in Cedar Rapids is zesty Greek/taverna-style food. *Café Phoenix* is well worth the drive to Grinnell.

THANKS TO ALL THE GRAD STUDENTS THAT CONTRIBUTED TO THIS ARTICLE!

Dining In BY

Sarah Vigmostad and J Caldwell

TURKEY PANINI w/BASIL PESTO

We couldn't believe how easy it was to make this **unbelievable** treat. We have an Uno Panini Grill at home, but this recipe will also work in a conventional pan like the kind you'd use to make grilled cheese. The bread we used this time was from New Pioneer Co-op and was one of the "sturdier" varieties. We have prepared delicious paninis made from NPC's Parmesan Pepper bread, but also enjoyed a rosemary chicken grilled sandwich on cheddar-pepper bread we got from the Hy Vee bakery.

Ingredients:

Sliced Turkey (honey or smoked)
Bread (discussed above)
Mustard (yellow or Dijon)
Fresh Mozzarella

Fresh Basil
Olive Oil
Pine Nuts
Parmesan
Salt

Basil Pesto Instructions:

The pesto is simple enough to make, it's really up to your taste. So no set amounts are given, just play around. Mix basil leaves and olive oil in a food processor until you have a good consistency and then mix in the pine nuts. Finally, add parmesan and salt (to taste). Easy.

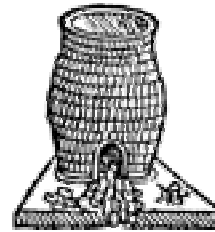
Panini Instructions:

Spread basil pesto onto one slice of bread, add turkey slices and mozzarella and dress with mustard. Grill until bread is golden brown and turkey is warmed (~5-7 minutes).



MC SWEENIFIED

LISTS THAT I ADD BECAUSE THEY
AREN'T FUNNY ENOUGH
FOR PUBLICATION



DOUBLE FEATURES AT
THE BIJOU THEATRE
<http://www.uiowa.edu/~bijou/>

BY J CALDWELL

Bill & Ted's Bogus Journey
Beneath the Planet of the Apes

The Deep Deep Impact

Ran Lolita Ran (midnight show)

Mars Attacks Fargo

XXX Contact

The Unbearable Lightness of Being
Being John Malkovich

What's Eating Gilbert Grape
Soylent Green

A Touch of Evil
Spice World

In the next issue...

We will be talking with UI Associate Professor in the Dance Department, **Armando Duarte**, about his most recent performance piece, **Quatro**. If you missed the show in June you can still catch it at 8 p.m., Space/Place Theatre, North Hall. \$12; UI student \$6; Free admission for children under 12. For tickets, call the **University Box Office**, 319-335-3041; Reviewed in the DI archives (www.dailyiowan.com).

And more announcements from the Grad College, a recipe for a crab cakes courtesy of Found Magazine, a collection of advice for first-time TA's, and much more.