



DIVISION
OF
INTERDISCIPLINARY
PROGRAMS

Annual Report

2016-17

THE
UNIVERSITY
OF
IOWA

FROM OUR DEO

HELENA DETTMER

Dear Reader:

The Division of Interdisciplinary Programs (DIP) has had another outstanding year. From the launch of innovative new majors and academic tracks, to the creation of unique student clubs and outreach opportunities, DIP has once again shown what wonderful things can happen when we work across disciplines.

In keeping with our mission to “provide an institutional and intellectual space which facilitates faculty and student collaboration across disciplines within the College, and with other UI colleges, units and programs,” DIP spent the 2016-2017 school year helping UI students meet their academic, personal, and professional goals—something we’ve worked hard to highlight in this report.

Though DIP’s various programs differ in their scholastic focus, they all share a resounding commitment to the idea that working collaboratively across disciplines helps build the foundation essential for advancement in the humanities, arts, and sciences across our nation and globally.

We are proud of what we accomplished this year, and we hope you enjoy this snapshot of our vibrant and growing Division of Interdisciplinary Programs.

All my best,



Helena Dettmer
Departmental Executive Officer



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GLOBAL HEALTH STUDIES

GLOBAL HEALTH STUDIES

AT THE UNIVERSITY OF IOWA

The UI Global Health Studies Program offers an interdisciplinary approach to the study of the complex factors influencing health and disease locally and around the world.

In fall 2016 the new Global Health Studies major (BA and BS) was launched.



Global Health Studies major **Sarah Ingwersen** served as a co-director of the UI Food Pantry.

86
MINORS

10
CERTIFICATE
STUDENTS



Global Health Studies Certificate student **Gocale Nicoue** completed an international research internship in The Gambia.

80 MAJORS DECLARED IN 2016-17



Global Health Studies Workshop: “Doing Harm by Doing Good”

In December 2016 the Global Health Studies Program offered a 1 s.h. workshop, “Doing Harm by Doing Good: Ethics of Students Studying, Volunteering, and Working in Global Communities.”

The workshop introduced students to the complex issues involved whenever we try to “help” across geographic and cultural boundaries.

Presenters included Robin Paetzold, R. Balasubramaniam, and Emily Wentzell (above).



Global Health Studies Conference: “Health and Human Rights of Refugees and Immigrants”

In April 2017 the Global Health Studies Program, in conjunction with the UI Center for Human Rights, International Programs and the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, hosted a conference entitled “Populations on the Move: Health and Human Rights of Refugees and Immigrants.”

Attended by 150 students, the event featured over 20 speakers who addressed “the humanitarian challenge created by over 65 million individuals displaced by violent conflict and the increasingly frequent deadly natural and environmental disasters.”



Global Health Studies Capstone: “Social Entrepreneurship & Global Health”

In spring 2017 Global Health Studies Program instructor Blake Rupe offered a new capstone course for the Global Health Studies major, GHS:4001 Social Entrepreneurship and Global Health.

Student teams worked on projects for Community Health Initiative, Haiti.

Projects focused on social media, patient educational materials, volunteer communications, and a plastics recycling program.



Global Health Studies Certificate student Tracy Vo (left) completed an international research internship in The Gambia. Her research poster, “The Effectiveness of Cloth Filtration in the Removal of Fecal Coliforms in Drinking Water in Rural Gambian Villages,” won first prize at the spring 2017 International Studies and Global Health Studies poster session.

Global Health Student Research

International Studies (Global Health track) student Ethel Recinos (right) completed an internship with Local Foods Connection during which she worked with Iowa City immigrant and refugee communities on food sovereignty issues. Ethel is the first Princeton in Latin America Fellow from the state of Iowa. She is spending a year in Santiago Atitlán, Guatemala working with the global health-focused non-profit Pueblo a Pueblo.



Global Health is Local Health

FACULTY DIRECTORS:

Christopher Squier



Professor of Dentistry

Mariola Espinosa



Associate Professor of History



INTERNATIONAL STUDIES

INTERNATIONAL STUDIES

AT THE UNIVERSITY OF IOWA

The UI International Studies Program provides students with multidisciplinary knowledge and skills that they can use to effectively engage with the diverse people, challenges and opportunities of our globalized world.



International Studies senior Sabra Cacho (left) won the 2017 **Phillip G. Hubbard Human Rights Undergraduate Award**. As part of her dual internship through the UI Center for Human Rights and the Iowa United Nations Association, she organized the 2017 “Hike to Help Mobilize Refugees.”

181
MAJORS

19
MINORS



2017 Fulbright ETA to Taiwan

Kelsey O'Donnell graduated in spring 2017 with a BA with Honors with High Distinction in International Studies and Anthropology.

Kelsey served as an Iowa City Foreign Relations Council (ICFRC) intern, and was involved in the Organization for the Active Support for International Students.

With her 2017 Fulbright English Teaching Assistant Award to Taiwan, Kelsey will teach English at a school in Kinmen, Taiwan. She also plans to volunteer for a local Girl Scouts of Taiwan chapter to assist with community-based activities that focus on life skills, leadership, and decision-making.



IS grad headed to Japan with JET

Luke Bader completed his International Studies BA (with a certificate in writing and a minor in anthropology) in spring 2017.

During the fall 2015 semester he studied abroad in Nagasaki, Japan, during which he served as a blogger on his experience for UI Study Abroad.

Post-graduation, Luke is returning to Japan as an Assistant Language Teacher for the JET (Japan Exchange Teaching) program.



2017 Fulbright ETA to Russia

Samantha Korns graduated in spring 2016 with a BA in International Studies, and minors in Russian and Political Science.

While an undergraduate, Samantha completed a summer internship with the John Pappajohn Entrepreneurial Center (JPEC), and participated in Global at Iowa.

With her 2017 Fulbright English Teaching Assistant Award to Russia, Samantha looks forward to creating cross-cultural understanding with Russian students, practicing jiu-jitsu, and using her entrepreneurial knowledge to lead discussions on evaluating business ideas.



In spring 2017 the International Studies Program offered IS:2500 Working Internationally: Government Service, United Nations and International Nonprofits/NGOs. The workshop featured presentations from Diplomat-in-Residence Robert Neus (left), as well as from International Studies alumni.

International Studies Careers

International Studies senior Shanea Condon (right) joined a faculty-led research project in winter 2016. Traveling to Rajasthan, India, the team explored the health and environmental effects of wood-fueled cook stoves.



International Studies Student Research

FACULTY DIRECTOR:

Emily Wentzell



Associate Professor of Anthropology



**LATINA/O
STUDIES**

LATINA/O STUDIES

AT THE UNIVERSITY OF IOWA



In February 2017, UI Latina/o Studies co-sponsored the visit of Junot Díaz, the Magid Center's 2017 Writer-in-Residence.

In addition to his public readings, Díaz met with Latina/o Studies faculty member Jorge Guerra and students from the Association of Latinos Moving Ahead (ALMA) in the Latino and Native American Cultural Center. Over pizza, they discussed overcoming the challenges that Latina/o students face on a predominantly white college campus.

Alejandra Escoto won the 2017 CLAS Dean's Achievement Award, which was presented by Latina/o Studies faculty member Jason Daniel Ulloa.

Alejandra worked as an Undergraduate Project Coordinator on the Hombres Necios research project in Ottumwa, and as a Research Intern for HEAL (Health Equity Advancement Lab).

FACULTY DIRECTOR:

Rene Rocha



Associate Professor of Political Science

INTRO TO
LATINA/O
STUDIES NOW
"DIVERSITY AND
INCLUSION"
**GEN
ED**

16
MINORS



LATIN AMERICAN STUDIES

LATIN AMERICAN STUDIES

AT THE UNIVERSITY OF IOWA



In spring 2017 Assistant Professor Roxanna Curto taught LAS:4700 Latin American Studies Seminar—Soccer in Latin America.

In collaboration with Hancher Auditorium, Professor Curto invited guest speakers Marc Bamuthi Joseph, a spoken-word poet, dancer, and playwright who created a soccer-inspired work, */peh-LO-tah/* (above), and Las Cafeteras, a Latin alternative band that writes songs about soccer and community activism.

In November 2016 Latin American Studies co-sponsored translator, editor, and filmmaker Mark Eisner's talk on “**Translating Neruda**” (above).

In April 2017 visiting scholar Brenda Elsey spoke on “**Saving Women From Themselves: Policing Futbol Feminino in Brazil, 1920s-1980s**” (below).

FACULTY DIRECTOR:

Amber Brian



Associate Professor of Spanish & Portuguese





THE MAGID CENTER
for **UNDERGRADUATE**
WRITING

THE MAGID CENTER FOR UNDERGRADUATE WRITING

AT THE UNIVERSITY OF IOWA

Home to the undergraduate certificate in writing (an on-campus and online academic credential), the Iowa Youth Writing Project (a nonprofit youth outreach endeavor), the Iowa Young Writers' Studio (a summer residential program for high school students that also offers online, college credit-bearing courses), and a variety of student publications (including *Ink Lit Mag* and *Earthwords*), the Magid Center aims to provide support and guidance to young writers looking to expand their knowledge and experience as creators, editors, readers, teachers, and active citizens regardless of their academic backgrounds or areas of study.



“The Magid Center for Undergraduate Writing and the Certificate in Writing celebrate interdisciplinary studies; they provided me with the opportunity to explore an interest in writing while not having to abandon my political science degree.”

—Phoebe Y. (left), Spring '17

PROGRAM DIRECTORS:

Danny Khalastchi



Magid Center

Mal Hellman



Iowa Youth Writing Project

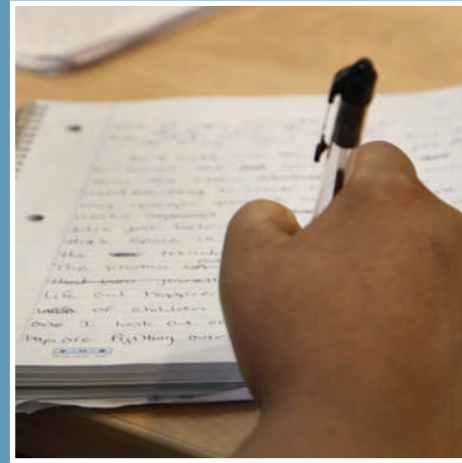
Stephen Lovely



Iowa Young Writers' Studio

CERTIFICATE IN WRITING

AT THE UNIVERSITY OF IOWA



The certificate in writing had a record-setting year in 2016-17. In August, we successfully launched the first undergraduate literary publishing track on campus and in the Big Ten, which saw nearly 30 students declare within the first two months alone.

Additionally, our certificate in writing ended the year as the highest enrolled certificate in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, working with over 260 students from across nearly 60 different majors.

As our on-campus student numbers increase, we're also seeing a growing interest in our online credential, which now serves students from across the country and around the globe.

“

Choosing to pursue the writing certificate was one of the best decisions I made in my undergraduate career. It challenged me to become a better, more concise writer and helped me gain confidence in my communication skills.

—Megan M., Spring '17

”

260+
DECLARED
STUDENTS

53
2016-17 GRADS

80+
STUDENTS
IN NEW
PUBLISHING
CLASSES

STUDENT PUBLICATIONS

AT THE UNIVERSITY OF IOWA



The Magid Center’s undergraduate publications give students a venue for practical, hands-on experiential learning. This year, we broke new ground by not only publishing issues 11 and 12 of *Ink Lit Mag* (a magazine focused on the writing of first-year students) and issue 37 of *Earthwords* (UI’s longest running literary publication), but we also partnered with the Division of World Languages, Literatures, and Cultures to produce the Translate Iowa Project’s first publication, *Boundless* (a new magazine that publishes translations in multiple languages); with the School of Journalism and Mass Communication to print two issues of *Fools* (a beautiful arts and culture magazine); and with English/Nonfiction to create and release the winners of the first ever Iowa Chapbook Prize (a state-wide competition for writers).

729
PAGES OF
STUDENT WORK
RELEASED IN
18
PUBLICATIONS

180+
STUDENTS
PUBLISHED

170+
STUDENTS ON
EDITORIAL STAFF

“The Magid Center has been crucial to my development as a writer, publisher, and leader. Through the undergraduate publications *Ink* and *Earthwords*—and the certificate’s new publishing track—I have had a part in the production of eight magazines. These opportunities have not only given me the transferable skills necessary for a job in the field of publishing, but they have also provided the chance to serve the undergraduate arts community.

—Harrison C., Spring ‘17

”

THE IOWA YOUTH WRITING PROJECT

AT THE UNIVERSITY OF IOWA



The IYWP both expanded and diversified its program offerings in 2016-17, with an emphasis on making high-quality writing opportunities more accessible for students in transitional living situations. Led by a team of ambitious UI volunteers, we initiated weekly writing and activity workshops at Iowa City’s Shelter House and the North Village Residential Treatment Facility in Cedar Rapids. The IYWP also began a weekly partnership with Achieving Potential—a scholarship and leadership program for high-achieving/high-risk youth—at two local junior high schools. Special programming in 2016-17 included master classes with Junot Díaz, Lois Lowry, Aimee Groth, and Roxane Gay.

750+
YOUTH
REACHED AT
35 WEEKLY
PROGRAMS
AND **41**
SPECIAL
PROGRAMS

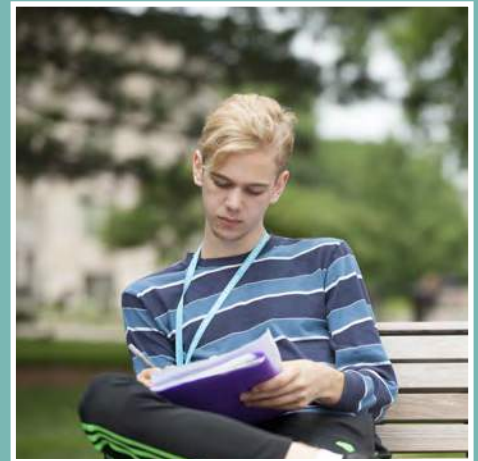
“
After volunteering for and becoming an intern with the IYWP, I can honestly say that working with [this nonprofit] has changed my life. Not only have I gained experience as a leader and a teacher, but I have found a group of people that I genuinely feel like I belong with!
”

—Tiphany P., Spring '17

6,075
HOURS
VOLUNTEERED
BY
293
UI STUDENTS

THE IOWA YOUNG WRITERS' STUDIO

AT THE UNIVERSITY OF IOWA



The IYWS had another phenomenal year in 2016-17, creating exciting new curriculum and improving our outreach ability. We created two new credit-bearing online courses for high school students this year that received a total of 145 applications for 68 spots. The demand was so high that we added one extra section in both spring and summer to accommodate interest. Similarly, our residential program for summer 2017 had a record 658 applications for 144 spots and brought in students from 31 different states and 6 non-US countries, including China, India, and Indonesia.

“

[The] IYWS is a terrific program filled with students who have a deep passion for writing—the teachers are top-notch, the feedback is invaluable, and it is the ideal program for any serious high school writer.

—IYWS student, Summer '16

”

658
2017 CAMP
APPLICATIONS

2
NEW COURSES
CREATED

145
TOTAL
APPLICATIONS
FOR NEW
SPRING AND
SUMMER
ONLINE
COURSES



ENTERPRISE LEADERSHIP

ENTERPRISE LEADERSHIP

AT THE UNIVERSITY OF IOWA



Experiential Learning

The John Pappajohn Entrepreneurial Center* (Iowa JPEC) knows the value of providing experiential learning opportunities, for any UI students. Iowa JPEC's hands-on learning experiences allow students of all majors to expand their skillset and prepare for their professional futures.

Whether a student wants to start their own business, or travel abroad to help micro-enterprises, there are endless opportunities for every student to expand their entrepreneurial skillset. A full list of Iowa JPEC programs can be found at www.iowajpec.org.

**Enterprise Leadership is administered by the John Pappajohn Entrepreneurial Center and the degree is awarded by the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences.*



Alumni-Student Mentoring Program Piloted

The new Iowa JPEC Alumni-Student Mentoring Program connects entrepreneurship students with esteemed University of Iowa alumni to enhance students' professional and personal development for future success. Through this program, students receive guidance tailored to match their individual goals and needs.



Student Treks

Our elite entrepreneurship students now have the opportunity to go on treks to shadow entrepreneurs at various companies. The first of many treks was taken this spring by Sigma Nu Tau, the Iowa JPEC entrepreneurial honor society, to Chicago where they met with eleven different businesses.

FACULTY DIRECTOR:

David Hensley



Clinical Professor of Mgmt. & Org. 21



INTERDEPARTMENTAL STUDIES

INTERDEPARTMENTAL STUDIES

AT THE UNIVERSITY OF IOWA



Students enrolled in the Engaged Social Innovation track pose on the Pentacrest in fall 2016.

The newest track within the Interdepartmental Studies major is the Engaged Social Innovation track. This track, which is a partnership between CLAS and the UI Honors Program, enables students to apply their learning in real-world settings. It prioritizes the experiential component of education, and also helps students construct personal and professional networks with community partners.

One ESI project completed in fall 2016 was the **30,000 Hands Initiative**, lead by Madeline Lapage and created by Sydney Knox, Courtney O'Meara, Sydney Hofferber, Kalena Meyer, Shannon Nolan, and Sarabeth Weszley. Created in conjunction with the Iowa Program for Public Life, 30,000 Hands is a website intended to bridge the gap between the Iowa City community and the University of Iowa. Iowa City's community of nonprofits, charities, and social good programs provide their existing projects and needs, and the website connects them with University of Iowa professors, who can use their existing classes to meet those needs. See the project at thirtythousandhands.com.

326
MAJORS

“

I think one of the great parts of Interdepartmental Studies is that it allows students to view things from **multiple perspectives**, not just one.

—2017 Graduate

”

12
HONORS
STUDENTS

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