



Dan Berkowitz joins the Graduate College from the School of Journalism and Mass Communication. As associate dean for student services and administrative affairs, he oversees graduate fellowship programs that fund graduate students campus wide. Berkowitz earned his Ph.D. in Mass Communications in 1988 from the School of Journalism, Indiana University, Bloomington.

Graduate College Appoints New Associate Dean

The Graduate College is pleased to announce the appointment of Daniel Berkowitz, Ph.D., as the associate dean for student services and administrative affairs.

Berkowitz is a professor in the School of Journalism and Mass Communication, where he has served as associate director of graduate studies and research. His appointment as Graduate College associate dean began September 1, 2007.

As part of his duties, Berkowitz oversees graduate fellowship programs that bring top graduate scholars to The University of Iowa's 100+ graduate programs.

Other duties include working with international students and international programs, collaborations with the Graduate Student Senate, overseeing the GSS travel fund committee, representing the Graduate College on the negotiation team with the graduate student union, and overseeing graduate commencement exercises.

Berkowitz has mentored a number of Ph.D. and Master's students and is active in a number of professional organizations. He maintains strong professional connections in journalism, with a network of colleagues and alumni with whom he collaborates frequently.

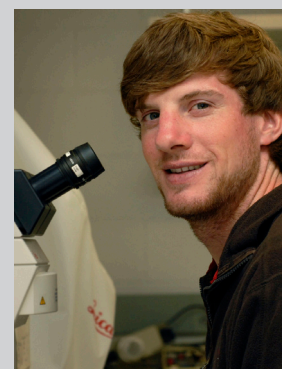
McCord Family Establishes Graduate Fellowship for Wound Healing

Eric Van Otterloo, a graduate student in The University of Iowa Biosciences Program, has been awarded the McCord Graduate Fellowship for Wound Healing. The fellowship is a recently-established award made possible by a generous gift from Darlene and James McCord, who have dedicated their personal and professional lives to the study and treatment of wound healing.

"Van Otterloo was selected from a competitive pool of graduate students in the Biosciences Program," said Andrew Russo, program director. The fellowship award provides a \$20,000 per year stipend and is renewable for up to three years.

Van Otterloo, who is pursuing a Ph.D. in anatomy and cell biology under Robert Cornell, is researching neural crest induction in early embryonic development. "A key event during wound repair is the ability of a subset of cells to undergo a transition from a more stationary profile to that of a motile cell and migrate into the wound margin. Broadly, we're interested in understanding some of the mechanisms that are responsible for this conversion. Focusing on a subset of cells (neural crest) in a well-characterized model system (zebrafish), which recapitulates several key aspects of this transition, we are assessing the role that modifications to the DNA structure have on genes responsible for this process," said Van Otterloo.

The Biosciences Program is a multidisciplinary entry program for 14 Ph.D. degree programs at The University of Iowa. The program provides students the flexibility of investigating several disciplines including biomedical and basic sciences prior to affiliating with a specific degree program.



Eric Van Otterloo is the winner of the McCord Graduate Fellowship for Wound Healing.



UI Graduate College awarded \$880,000 grant for disadvantaged undergraduates

The Ronald E. McNair Postbaccalaureate Achievement Program has awarded The University of Iowa Graduate College a four-year grant totaling \$880,000 to support disadvantaged undergraduates with strong academic credentials.

Funded students will receive research training with close mentorship and will participate in scholarly activities to prepare them for doctoral studies following completion of their undergraduate degrees.

The UI McNair program will provide opportunities for current UI undergraduates during the academic year, as well as for undergraduates who visit the UI for summer programs from colleges with fewer research opportunities. UI McNair scholars will join students in two other prominent undergraduate diversity initiatives under the Graduate College umbrella: the Committee on Institutional Cooperation Summer Research Opportunities Program (CIC/SROP), and the Iowa Biosciences Advantage.

“The McNair Program provides wonderful opportunities to many students who most need them,” said UI President Sally Mason. “Two of my highest priorities as president are providing a high quality, accessible education to all those who are ready to succeed, and enhancing the diversity of our campus community. I often say that we need to ask ourselves every day what we are doing to improve diversity, and we should also ask ourselves every day what we are doing to make sure we are supporting our students who are committed to their education. The McNair Program shows we are doing both, and I am delighted to offer new opportunities to some remarkable students.”



Summer Research Opportunities Program students presenting a research poster at the 2007 Graduate College Summer Undergraduate Research Conference held at the UI.

205 Gilmore Hall
The University of Iowa
Iowa City, IA 52242

www.grad.uiowa.edu
gradcoll@uiowa.edu

319.335.2144

John C. Keller, Ph.D.

Associate Provost and Dean
Professor, College of Dentistry
335.2142 — john-keller@uiowa.edu

Caroline Mast

Assistant to Dean Keller
335.2142 — caroline-mast@uiowa.edu

Dale Eric Wurster, Ph.D.

Associate Dean
Professor, College of Pharmacy
335.2137 — dale-e-wurster@uiowa.edu

Eunice Prosser

Assistant to Dean Wurster
335.2137 — eunice-prosser@uiowa.edu

Daniel Berkowitz, Ph.D.

Associate Dean
Professor, School of Journalism
and Mass Communication
335.3492 — dan-berkowitz@uiowa.edu

Kathy Klein

Assistant to Dean Berkowitz
335.3492 — kathy-klein@uiowa.edu

Minnetta Gardinier, Ph.D.

Associate Dean for Graduate
Recruitment and Professional
Development
Director, Interdisciplinary Graduate
Program in Molecular &
Cellular Biology
Associate Professor, Pharmacology
335.2147 — m-gardinier@uiowa.edu

Paul Meintel

Assistant to Dean Gardinier
335.2147 — paul-meintel@uiowa.edu



"I often say that we need to ask ourselves every day what we are doing to improve diversity, and we should also ask ourselves every day what we are doing to make sure we are supporting our students who are committed to their education. The McNair Program shows we are doing both, and I am delighted to offer new opportunities to some remarkable students."

*-UI President
Sally Mason*

The Graduate College anticipates funding 27 students per year with McNair scholarships. Talented students will be recruited and encouraged to apply online, and appointed to the program through a competitive selection process.

"The Graduate College has long demonstrated a commitment to diversity through its programs and campuswide partnerships," said John Keller, associate provost for graduate education and dean of the Graduate College. "The McNair program is an important addition to these efforts."

"McNair Programs are known for having a strong tradition of leadership and academic achievement, and I am pleased that The University of Iowa will be a part of that success," said Marcella David, special assistant to the president for equal opportunity and diversity and associate provost for diversity.

The Graduate College has partnered for more than 20 years with peer institutions to support efforts such as the award-winning CIC/SROP and the Alliance for Graduate Education and Professoriate for students underrepresented in graduate education. The Graduate College also financially supports more than 100 graduate students through its premier diversity program, the Dean's Graduate Fellowship. About 25 new fellowships are awarded each year to the UI's most outstanding new minority graduate students.

"These positive activities and support services exemplify how the Graduate College and the University of Iowa are rising to the challenge to provide a socially- and academically-enriched environment to nurture the growth and success of our underrepresented scholars," said Minnetta Gardinier, associate dean for graduate recruitment and professional development, who will coordinate the UI McNair Program's training and scholarly activities.

The UI joins the University of Northern Iowa and Iowa State University as institutions in Iowa with McNair Program grants, providing new avenues for collaborative efforts to enrich statewide diversity in graduate education.

The McNair Postbaccalaureate Achievement Program is administered through the U.S. Department of Education. Ronald E. McNair was an accomplished African-American scholar who earned a doctorate in physics from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in 1976 and went on to become a NASA astronaut. He was killed in the Challenger explosion in 1986.

For more information on McNair and the program, visit:

<http://www.ed.gov/programs/triomcnair/index.html> and <http://www.jsc.nasa.gov/Bios/htmlbios/mcnair.html>

For more information about the Graduate College's diversity efforts, visit:

CIC/SROP at <http://www.grad.uiowa.edu/students/SROP/>

Dean's Fellowship at <http://www.grad.uiowa.edu/Students/FinancialSupport/Fellowships/Dean's.asp>

Iowa Biosciences Advantage at <http://www.uiowa.edu/iba/>

Graduate Presidential Scholar in Anthropology Wins Film Award

By Brent Hershey

To graduate student Jenna Grant, anthropology and film go together quite naturally.

“One of the ways anthropologists study social and cultural relations is through first person observation and experience,” she notes. “Film is a means both to observe and to provoke observations about experience.”

The interdisciplinary approach is exhibited in Grant’s award-winning 2005 film *Sakamapeap*. Filmed while living in northwestern Cambodia, *Sakamapeap* (which means “action” or “activity” in Khmer) chronicles everyday activities in Serey Sophon, a semi-rural town.

Each of the five characters performs five separate actions that capture a glimpse of daily life in the Asian country—activities like washing clothes, watering the garden, studying the alphabet, or playing cards. The actions are free of scripted dialogue and are accompanied by sounds that occurred while filming, such as the radio, birds, and conversations in Khmer .

The simple, yet compelling 27-minute film received the 2005 Rouch award for best student film from the Society for Visual Anthropology and runner up in the “Iowa” category at the 2006 Iowa City International Documentary Film Festival.

At the beginning of her time in Cambodia, Grant had a visual presentation in mind. “I intended to make film,” she says, both as a way of recording the experience and as “a way of exploring what I will be doing in future.” Grant found four willing subjects, in addition to herself, to take part in the project. Lorn, Siang, Ro, and Chenda were her neighbors in Serey Sophon.

Sakamapeap is structured by character. Each segment focuses on one actor, who performs four actions as prescribed by each of the other participants. In addition, the actor chooses an action for him or herself. The structure opens many avenues for analysis.



UI doctoral student and Graduate Presidential Fellow Jenna Grant gathering footage in Cambodia for her film, *Sakamapeap*.

First, the actors had some freedom in shaping the film, in choosing how they and the others would be represented. “I was really interested to see which actions people chose for each other – and for me,” Grant notes. “I thought they might choose activities that were exceptional or out of the ordinary. But the activities in the film are fairly mundane. During any given week, Ro washed the cows. Lorn made dinner every day.”

Second, the range of characters in the film - men and women, Cambodian and American – means the film is not about “Cambodian culture.” Grant says, “The spaces we inhabit and the objects we use reflect differences in taste, or culture, but also economics. Chenda cooks rice outside over a coal fire; indoors, I clean a refrigerator filled with beer and soda. Also, the types of activities we perform show something about gender roles: Siang and Ro [male characters] work in the garden, while Lorn, Chenda, and I [female characters] cook and clean. Calling these differences and similarities “cultural” may obscure some of the other relationships that also shaped our everyday experiences.”

The University of Iowa Ph.D. program in Anthropology attracted Grant because the department has strengths in medical and feminist anthropology. She has also taken courses in the Department of Cinema and Comparative Literature, and has benefited from its strengths in documentary and experimental film. “Iowa has been a unique place to explore my interests in both cultural anthropology and film,” she said.

An Oakland, California native, Grant graduated from The University of California at Berkeley with a focus on Psychology and Spanish literature. She did some work on social and cognitive psychology, and research on HIV fueled an interest in the health sciences and medical anthropology.

For her Master’s paper, Grant wrote about an international clinical trial based on research in San Francisco and Phnom Penh. She continues to be interested in the ethics and politics of global medical research and care. She will return to Cambodia for doctoral research on the use of visual technologies, such as photography and medical imaging, to produce medical and scientific knowledge. She intends to study the colonial period to the present day, and will conduct fieldwork in Cambodia and France.

Grant also plans to continue making films. At the moment, however, she is focusing on teaching, finishing coursework, and formulating her dissertation project.

Sakamapeap and its acclaim are feathers in Grant’s cap. The project and film are the work of an anthropologist invested in examining cultural representation by inviting the participants to do some of the examining. Grant helps us view culture through multiple lenses, where the lenses of the researcher and the lenses of those studied are combined, swapped, and scrutinized. “I wanted to try to make a collaborative film,” she says, “not only one in which the participants were involved in the composition and editing, but one that we would watch together and serve as a point of communication. At each of the screenings in Cambodia with my neighbors and their family and friends, there was a lot of chatting, and, of course, a lot of laughing.”

Support UI graduate scholars

The University of Iowa Foundation works with the Graduate College to identify funding that goes directly to students like Jenna Grant. Your contributions can pay for fellowships, scholarships, travel to conferences and professional meetings, and training in college teaching. To help fund a graduate student at Iowa, contact:

Rich Wretman

Assistant Vice President, Constituent Development Programs

The University of Iowa Foundation

P.O. Box 4550

Iowa City, Iowa 52244-4550

(319) 335-3305 | (800) 648-6973 rich-wretman@uiowa.edu



John C. Keller
 Associate Provost
 for Graduate Education
 Dean, Graduate College

Letter from the Dean

As we approach the mid-point of the 2007-2008 academic year, I am pleased to report on the Graduate College's progress toward goals.

Keeping the quality high

The Graduate College engages in "behind the scenes" efforts that help maintain the high quality of graduate education at The University of Iowa. While this allows us to continue to attract top students and faculty to our institution, our efforts also serve our alumni, whose degrees from the UI will continue to be held in high esteem. Not only does our work help ensure top-level graduate education and research, but it also protects the investments of our students, faculty, and Iowa taxpayers.

To this end, the Graduate College is engaged in work such as:

Monitoring student progress—We analyze enrollment, examine the quality of our graduate students, and study statistics that show how many of our students are completing their doctoral degrees on time and where those graduates are pursuing their careers.

Reviewing policies and programs—On an as-needed basis, we look at policies that affect the quality of graduate education at the UI. We study new graduate program proposals and review proposed changes to existing programs to ensure that students will receive a quality education that will serve them well in the marketplace.

Looking at our Strategic Plan

The University's strategic plan outlines several goals for graduate education, including a goal to encourage interdisciplinary research, scholarship, and creative work. The Graduate College is in a unique position to foster interdisciplinary, cross-unit collaborations. Over the past three years, our efforts on this front have expanded from four to 17 programs and projects directly under our wing. (See list below.)

Moving ahead on New Initiatives

As we continue to ask how we can better serve our students, our faculty, and our state, we look toward new initiatives that improve the entire graduate education process at Iowa. Our newly established PostDoctoral Scholar Advisory Committee is looking at ways to attract top postdoctoral scholars from around the nation as well as keep our own top postdocs at the UI, when appropriate for their career advancement.

As always, we appreciate your support for and feedback about our work toward remarkable graduate education at Iowa. Please look for further updates in future newsletters and online at www.grad.uiowa.edu.

The Graduate College is the academic home for 17 interdisciplinary programs and projects.

- Applied Mathematical & Computational Sciences
- Center for the Book
- Genetics
- Human Toxicology
- Immunology
- Informatics
- International Writing Program
- Library & Information Science
- Molecular & Cellular Biology
- Neuroscience
- Project on the Rhetoric of Inquiry
- Responsible Conduct of Research
- Second Language Acquisition
- The University of Iowa Press
- Urban & Regional Planning
- Widernet
- Women in Science and Engineering

To learn more about graduate interdisciplinary study at the UI, visit www.grad.uiowa.edu

UI Receives Grant for Librarian Recruitment and Education

By *George McCrory, University News Services*

Sen. Tom Harkin, D-Iowa, has announced that The University of Iowa School of Library and Information Science (SLIS) has received \$881,692 from the Institute of Museum and Library Services to recruit and educate librarians.

The SLIS will use these funds to recruit two groups of 20 students, all of whom already have teaching certificates, for its master's degree program in library and information science. They will receive fellowships to fund their master's degrees. Iowa Area Education Agencies, the State Library of Iowa and the Iowa Association of School Librarians will assist in the recruitment process. These funds will also help SLIS revise and refine its curriculum and delivery systems.

"I hope that with these funds, The University of Iowa will be able to make its excellent School of Library and Information Science even stronger," Harkin said. "Libraries play a crucial role in both preserving past discoveries and facilitating future scholarship. With decreasing numbers of librarians across the country, it is important to draw new professionals to this field and give them opportunities to excel."

An independent grant-making agency of the federal government, the Institute of Museum and Library Services has a defined, focused mission: to lead the effort to create and sustain a "nation of learners." Harkin is the chairman of the Senate Appropriations panel that funds library and education initiatives.

James Elmborg, director of the UI SLIS program, said the grant was written in response to recent state legislation requiring all Iowa school districts to have a licensed teacher librarian on staff. He estimates that there could be 75 to 100 openings for school librarians in Iowa in the next two to three years.

"While we feel we're already very effective at educating information professionals, this grant will give us a chance to focus on our curriculum for teacher librarians in ways appropriate for the Internet age. This means more and better use of information technology and more focus on helping students to be more effective users of information resources," Elmborg said. "Even very young students are often very technically savvy, but they really don't understand how information is produced or how to evaluate its usefulness in practical contexts. We hope to educate librarians to be effective teachers of these skills."

The grant relies heavily on partnerships with the Iowa Area Education Agencies who will help the UI manage distance education resources for delivery of the degree across the State of Iowa, he added.



James Elmborg

*Director of the School of
Library and Information Science*

Graduate College News

Jennifer Masada—editor, writer, designer • Brent Hershey—writer • George McCrory—writer • Caren Cox—editing
Graduate College News is published in the fall and spring. On the web: www.grad.uiowa.edu

The University of Iowa prohibits discrimination in employment, educational programs, and activities on the basis of race, national origin, color, creed, religion, sex, age, disability, veteran status, sexual orientation, gender identity, or associational preference. The University also affirms its commitment to providing equal opportunities and equal access to University facilities. For additional information contact the Office of Equal Opportunity and Diversity, 319.335.0705. Printed by UI Printing Department 67303/11-07



Graduate College
205 Gilmore Hall
Iowa City, IA 52242

Nonprofit Organization
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit No. 45
Iowa City, IA

REMINDERS

Gifts to the UI Foundation, a channel preferred by The University of Iowa for private support, qualify as charitable contributions to an IRC Sec. 501(c)(3) organization for federal income, estate and gift tax purposes.

Contributions of \$100 or more to the Graduate College are recognized in *Graduate College News*.

GRADUATE College FUND

Here's my check or credit card authorization for a gift to

- The Graduate College General Fund (30-250-000) 2007 GCNB
- The Graduate Student Support Fund for Excellence (30-250-028) 2007 GCNB
- Other _____

Yes, I want to support Graduate College programs.

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Social Security number (optional/confidential) _____

I want to share recognition for my gift with my:

Spouse Print preferred title and name _____

Domestic partner* Print preferred title and name _____

Spouse's/domestic partner's Social Security number (optional/confidential) _____

*For this purpose, domestic partner is your spousal equivalent rather than a sibling, parent, child, etc.

Please make your check payable to The University of Iowa Foundation. Please mark changes to your title (Mr. Mrs., Ms., no title, other), name, or address and return this form.

Credit card information

Credit card number _____

Mastercard VISA Discover

American Express

Expiration date (mm/yy) _____

Signature _____

Please clip out this form and mail your contribution to:

Graduate College Fund
The University of Iowa Foundation
Levitt Center for University Advancement
PO Box 4550
Iowa City, Iowa 52244-4550
319-335-3305/800-648-6973
email: uiowa-foundation@uiowa.edu

