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300 PCO, Suite 370
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spectator.uiowa.edu
E-mail: Spectator@uiowa.edu

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EDITOR
Sara Epstein Moninger
DESIGNER
Anne Kent-Miller
PHOTOGRAPHER
Tom Jorgensen



OPENING SHOTS

◀◀ **Wrestling fans, unite!**
Carver-Hawkeye Arena drew some 54,000 spectators April 21-22 for the U.S. Olympic Wrestling Trials—shattering the competition’s previous attendance record. No athletes with UI ties advanced, but the atmosphere was nothing short of electric as the nation’s best wrestlers squared off.



◀◀ **It’s the dragon’s year.** A young girl feeds a donation card to a dragon at the UI Vietnamese Student Association’s Lunar New Year Celebration Feb. 11 at the Iowa Memorial Union. The event featured music, dancing, a fashion show, and plenty of food and drink.

▶▶ **Bye bye, Bubble!** After 27 years of serving the UI athletics department as an indoor practice facility used primarily by the football squad, “the Bubble” was permanently deflated April 20 to make way for additional parking. A new facility is under construction and will be completed by fall.



▶▶ **Last one standing.** Although more than 100 American elms once graced the Pentacrest, now just one remains. A university arborist estimates that the tree, located in front of Schaeffer Hall, was planted in the 1880s. It survived a plague of Dutch elm disease and a 1998 windstorm that ripped off some of its highest branches.

For the Record

“If the perspective is that this is one bad apple and we didn’t handle the situation correctly, no change will take place. But if there comes a need to recognize that they handled it poorly because of the influence athletics has over the rest of the university and there is some impact on the bottom line, then you could see change.”

Christopher Morphey, professor and chair of educational policy and leadership studies in the UI College of Education, speculating on the extent of influence the Penn State scandal will have on other college campuses (*Bloomberg Businessweek*, Nov. 10).

“Traders have incentive not to tell us what they want to happen...but what they think will happen.”

Joyce Berg, director of the Iowa Electronic Markets and professor of accounting in the UI Tippie College of Business, explaining why the commodity market, in which investors use real money, traditionally has been better than polls at predicting election outcomes (*CNN*, Jan. 9).

“We’re not only looking at the phone; we’re manipulating it.”

Daniel McGehee, director of human factors and vehicle safety research at the UI Public Policy Center, cautioning that the visual and manual elements of smartphone use pose more danger to drivers than cellphones (*Design News*, Jan. 16).

“I don’t think a lot of these patients will be able to re-enter society. They’ll need rehab therapy, occupational therapy, which is very expensive.”

Lucy Wibbenmeyer, clinical associate professor in the UI Burn Treatment Center, lamenting the fact that people burned while making meth typically have longer hospital stays and more expensive bills than other burn patients (*USA Today*, Jan. 23).

“Judy Blume’s books were a groundbreaking intervention in children’s literature. They addressed the realities of girls’ lives in a candid, powerful, often funny, but always empathetic way.”

Meenakshi Gigi Durham, associate professor of journalism and mass communication in the UI College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, reflecting on the impact of the popular author, who recently had several titles released as e-books (*Calgary Herald*, March 20).

“The program is surely better than the usual nursing homes that can resemble hospitals.”

Marianne Smith, assistant professor in the UI College of Nursing, voicing approval for a new concept in nursing homes currently in use in Amsterdam—a self-contained village, complete with shops, restaurants, and a movie theater, in which all staff members are trained to care for dementia patients (*ABC News*, April 10).



Magna Carta Sports Cotton Paper Made on Campus

One of the oldest documents in the world has the backing, literally, of the University of Iowa. The only original Magna Carta permanently located in the United States—one of only 17 Magna Carta documents issued by 13th-century kings in existence—rests on cotton paper made at the University of Iowa’s Oakdale Paper Research and Production Facility. The 1297 document was re-encased in 2011 to undergo conservation treatment.

Tim Barrett, director of papermaking facilities at the UI’s Center for the Book, and his team produced the textile-quality, American-grown cotton paper that was placed under the original parchment document. The UI-made paper helps enhance the light appearance of the translucent parchment, provide a soft stable cushion between the document and the perforated metal plate below, and stabilize the humidity within the encasement.

The document is on display at the National Archives in Washington, D.C.

Physics Researcher at South Carolina Selected to Lead Liberal Arts and Sciences College

Chaden Djalali, professor and chair of the Department of Physics and Astronomy at the University of South Carolina, has been named dean of the UI College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, effective Aug. 15. He will replace Linda Maxson, who will rejoin the UI biology faculty.

Djalali maintains an active research program in intermediate energy nuclear physics and hadronic physics, and has taught at all university levels and contributed significantly to curriculum development.

After earning undergraduate and master’s degrees from the University of Paris XI and a doctorate from Institut de Physique Nucléaire (IPN-Orsay) in Paris, Djalali conducted research at IPN-Orsay, worked in the National Superconducting Cyclotron Laboratory at Michigan State University, and then joined the nuclear physics group at South Carolina.



Iowa Short Fiction Awards Go to Bertino, Simpson

The winners of the 2012 Iowa Short Fiction Awards are Marie-Helene Bertino and Chad Simpson.

Bertino, a 2011 Center for Fiction NYC Emerging Writers Fellow, won the 2012 Iowa Short Fiction Award for her collection *Safe as Houses*. Simpson, who teaches a Knox College in Galesburg, Ill., won the 2012 John Simmons Short Fiction Award for *Tell Everyone I Said Hi*. Their winning collections will be published by the UI Press in fall 2012.

The short fiction awards are given to a first collection of fiction in English and are administered through the Iowa Writers’ Workshop. The 2012 recipients were selected by Jim Shepard, author of *You Think That’s Bad: Stories*.



Know a Future Hawkeye?

If you have family members who would benefit from a University of Iowa education, then tell us about them at www.uiowa.edu/admissions/alumni/referral, encourage them to find out more about the university, schedule a campus visit, or apply for admission.

More information is available at www.uiowa.edu/admissions/alumni.

Tippie Taps Tennessee Vice Provost to Be New Business Dean

Sarah Gardial, vice provost of the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, will become the first woman dean of the UI Henry B. Tippie College of Business, effective July 1. She will replace retiring dean William “Curt” Hunter, the first African-American dean of the college.

Gardial joined the marketing faculty of the University of Tennessee’s College of Business Administration in 1986 and later served as assistant dean for the full-time MBA program and associate dean for academic programs. She has served as the university’s vice provost for faculty affairs since 2008, overseen faculty recruitment and development, and participated on the planning and implementation teams for the university’s strategic plan.

The Hot Springs, Ark., native earned undergraduate and MBA degrees from the University of Arkansas and a doctorate in 1986 from the University of Houston.



UI Police Twitter Account Ranks Highly

With the advent of social media, campus safety officials nationwide have one more tool in their belts to help keep danger at bay, and UI Police is leading the way.

The International Association of Chiefs of Police Center for Social Media recently ranked the UI Police Twitter account the fifth most popular among college law enforcement agencies, based on the number of its followers.

The department uses its Twitter account, which has more than 1,000 followers, to provide the campus with general safety tips, information about upcoming classes, warnings about scams, and information about public safety incidents, among other.

Follow the UI Police Twitter account at twitter.com/UIowa_Police.

Talk to Us

We’d love to hear your comments and suggestions about *Spectator*. Let us know what you think by emailing spectator@uiowa.edu. We also can be reached by phone at 319-384-0045 or by mail at *Spectator*, University Communication and Marketing, 300 PCO, Suite 370, Iowa City, IA 52242-2500.

Students Capture Video of Rare Asteroid Encounter

Three undergraduate students and one graduate student in the UI College of Liberal Arts and Sciences recently used the university’s Iowa Robotic Telescope to make a video of asteroid 2005 YU55 during the asteroid’s Nov. 8 pass within some 200,000 miles of Earth.

Robert Mutel, professor of physics and astronomy, noted that the students—Drew Coffin, Ryan Hood, Joseph Schmitt, and Dominic Ludovici—combined ten 10-second-exposure photographs of the asteroid to make their video of the rare event. The student video can be viewed at astro.physics.uiowa.edu/rigel.

The Iowa Robotic Telescope is located at the Winer Observatory in southern Arizona and consists of a 14.5-inch-diameter classical Cassegrain reflector, a nine-megapixel CCD camera, and a seven-position filter wheel. Since its initiation in 1998, about 10,000 graduate and undergraduate students have used the telescope facility.





Coming Home Again

University honors members of historic '86-87 men's basketball team

Like all good fish stories, this one has gotten better with time. No, the 1986-87 Iowa basketball team didn't beat every opponent by 30 points. They didn't go undefeated. They didn't win the Big Ten championship, a national championship, or even reach the Final Four. What Tom Davis' Hawkeyes did do was run off a school-record, 18-straight wins to start the season, rising to No. 1 in the national polls. They became the first team ever to score 100 points against a Bobby Knight-coached team, handling an Indiana squad that would go on to win the national championship. The group, eight of which eventually were drafted into the NBA, took Hawkeye Nation on a high-flying, high-scoring ride that peaked with a dramatic Sweet 16 win over Oklahoma and came to a screeching, seemingly premature halt two days later with a heartbreaking loss to UNLV. This was, without question, the greatest collection of basketball talent ever to grace the parquet floor of Carver-Hawkeye Arena, or any other court at the University of Iowa. And for one afternoon, Feb. 4, they came home again to celebrate the silver anniversary of their historic run.

"This has been fun," says Kevin Gamble, the Hawks' third leading scorer that year who went on to play 12 seasons in the NBA. "I hadn't seen most of the guys in years. It's always fun to reminisce and talk about old times—the stories get bigger and better. To see these guys has been special." Almost the entire team made it back to Iowa City for the reunion, including Davis and fan favorites B.J. Armstrong and Roy Marble. They received a rousing ovation from the more than 13,500 in attendance before tipoff of Iowa's game against Penn State, and then sat as a group and talked and laughed like teenagers as the Hawkeyes cruised to a victory. It was clear that this wasn't just a collection of superior basketball talent. It was a group of extraordinary people who long ago formed an uncommon bond that has stood the test of time. "Everybody focuses on the talent of that team, but it was also very much a team," says former Hawkeye reserve forward Al Lorenzen. "It was like a high school team; it really was," adds Brad Lohaus, who enjoyed an 11-year NBA career and recently became the first former student athlete to endow

a full athletic scholarship at Iowa. "Everyone kind of checked their egos at the door. We got along so well." The players believed in and respected Davis, who was in his first year at Iowa, and they trusted each other. In fact, Davis had so much faith in his players that he allowed them to substitute themselves in and out of games. "These guys were so coachable," Davis says. "Going to practice I didn't have to worry about motivation. They would give you all that they had, and they played that way, too." That lesson extended from the court to the classroom—and into the players' careers. [See the "Where are they now?" sidebar to the right to learn what these former student athletes do now.] "To see what they have become, the things they've gone on to do in their lives beyond basketball, is really gratifying as a coach," says Jerry Strom, Iowa's director of basketball operations since the early '80s. Lorenzen isn't surprised by any of it. The reunion only served as confirmation of what he already knew. This group was bound for success, and that trajectory was only more focused after surrendering a 16-point

Where Are They Now?

- Guard **B.J. Armstrong** won three NBA titles with the Chicago Bulls and now is a sports agent representing NBA MVP Derrick Rose.
- Guard **Bart Casey** is a principal partner at Mercer Health and Benefits in Iowa City.
- Guard/forward **Kevin Gamble** was an assistant coach at Providence under Davis' son, Keno, before moving on to work in the Boston Public Schools.
- Forward **Kent Hill** is a deputy sheriff in Palm Coast, Fla.
- Forward **Ed Horton** works for the city of Springfield, Ill.
- Center **Les Jepsen** is a financial planner and owns his own business in St. Paul, Minn.
- Forward **Mark Jewell** is a sales director in Indiana.
- Guard **Bill Jones** owns a bank security company in Michigan.
- Forward **Brad Lohaus** is a broker for commercial airplanes and lives in North Liberty.
- Forward/center **Al Lorenzen** is the CEO of Wildwood Hills Ranch, a facility outside of Des Moines that serves at-risk youths.
- Forward **Roy Marble** is an account executive for Experian Automotive, and his son, Devyn, is a sophomore guard on the Iowa basketball team.
- Guard **Jeff Moe** is a real estate executive in Indiana.
- Guard **Michael Morgan** is an associate director of development at the University of Iowa Foundation.
- Guard **Michael Reaves** works in the transportation industry in Georgia.
- Forward **Gerry Wright** is a high school social studies teacher and boys' basketball coach in San Bernardino, Calif.

halftime lead in that crushing loss to UNLV that left them one step short of the Final Four. "You've got guys who aren't afraid to work hard, guys who understand the team concept, and understand that on every team there are roles," he says. "You think about organizational dynamics, and those are important things. "That's the real value of sports. It's never about wins or losses. It's about challenging yourself to be your best and learning from your experiences. That's what carries you through life—that and the relationships. That's what lasts."

—Eric Page

Interim Dean Gets Nod for Top Engineering Post

Alec B. Scranton, professor of chemical and biochemical engineering, was named dean of the UI College of engineering in April. Scranton had served as interim dean of the college since October 2010, when his predecessor, P. Barry Butler, left the position to become UI executive vice president and provost. Scranton joined the UI faculty in 2000, after earning a Bachelor of Science degree from Iowa in 1984 and a Ph.D. from Purdue University in 1990, both in chemical engineering. He served as associate dean from 2003 to 2010, and is a researcher at the UI Optical Science and Technology Center.



Iowa to Host 2013 NCAA Women's Hoops Tourney Games

Carver-Hawkeye Arena will serve as one of 16 first- and-second round hosts for the 2013 NCAA Division I Women's Basketball Championship next March. The 2013 NCAA tournament will mark the 13th time the University of Iowa has served as a host. Iowa last hosted a first-and-second round site in 2009. Despite having late afternoon and evening games on a Sunday in March of 2009, Iowa's site recorded the fourth-highest first-round attendance with 5,615.

Hawkeye History at Your Fingertips

More than 38,000 pages documenting UI history from 1892 to 1992 are now available online, thanks to a recent UI Libraries project that digitized the entire run of Hawkeye yearbooks. The digital collection, with its vast assortment of yearbook photographs and illustrations enhanced by full-text search functionality, is available at digital.lib.uiowa.edu/yearbooks. The yearbooks are the latest addition to the Iowa Digital Library, digital.lib.uiowa.edu, which features more than 450,000 digital objects created from the holdings of the UI Libraries and its campus partners. Included are illuminated manuscripts, historical maps, fine art, political cartoons, scholarly works, audio and video recordings, and more.

Email List Aims to Keep Greek Alumni Connected

Were you part of a fraternity or sorority during your time on the UI campus? The Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life has established an alumni e-newsletter that includes information on community news and chapter events, "Where are they now?" profiles, and useful links. To subscribe, visit tinyurl.com/fslnews.





Midcentury Milestones

African-American alumni recall a time of challenge and change

“Play the game, but play it your own way—part of the time at least. Play the game, but raise the ante, my boy. Learn how it operates, learn how YOU operate ...”

— from *Invisible Man* by Ralph Ellison, 1952

Ralph Ellison published only one novel during his lifetime, but the book left a lasting mark on American culture.

It has been 60 years since *Invisible Man* tackled questions of social change and personal identity in a unique literary voice, winning the National Book Award and becoming a touchstone for African-American readers in particular. Last fall, the University of Iowa examined the book’s legacy with a series of special events, presenting African-American grads an opportunity to reflect on campus life in the years around *Invisible Man*’s publication. Their stories highlight both opportunity and challenge.

Iowa was among the nation’s first schools to award a law degree to an African-American (G. Alexander Clark in 1879) and name a black player to a varsity sports squad (Frank Kinney Holbrook, 1895). But African-American

students also encountered prejudice, sometimes from official sources.

In the years between World War II and the crest of the civil rights movement, attitudes and policy began to shift.

“It’s almost as if Midwestern universities were engaged in a friendly competition to see which school could offer the most liberal campus,” says Richard Breaux (M.A. ’98, Ph.D. ’03), assistant professor of ethnic studies at Colorado State University, who’s studied African-American history at Iowa and other schools.

Individual students rode the wave of institutional change. Some became persistent advocates for reform, while others were determined to set examples, create alternatives, or simply muddle through. In their own way, each learned to play the game.

Challenges in housing

Like most people, Lois Eichacker never saw herself as an actor in a historical drama. She just wanted to get an education.

“Iowa was one more step toward my future, toward the person I wanted to be,” she says. She came to the UI in 1952 after a year at the University of Wisconsin, looking to be closer to her Fort Madison, Iowa, home.

Eichacker arrived just after the university opened its residence halls to African-American students. Exclusionary housing policies exemplified the contradictions common at Midwestern universities in the early 20th century.

“Schools would let African-American students in the door by admitting them, but then place limits on their social and academic lives,” says Breaux. His research cited correspondence among officials at different schools

that compared housing policies, often with a cautious eye toward liberalization.

World War II helped speed the process. As male students left campus for military service, universities had rooms to fill. After the war, African-American veterans sought the opportunities due them.

Betty Arnett Ward was the first African-American student to live on campus at the UI, moving into Currier Hall in 1945. The next year, Currier welcomed another group of African-American women—including Virginia Harper, Lois Eichacker’s eldest sister.

Virginia Harper had been known to challenge discrimination, Eichacker says. Growing up, the sisters patronized a movie theater where African-Americans were seated in the back.

“We would walk down to the middle of the theater—Virginia always sat on the aisle,” Eichacker recalls. “The usher would tap her on the shoulder and ask us to move. None of us would say anything. After weeks of this, they gave up.”

It took a few years for University of Iowa residence halls to open to all African-American students—women and men, Iowa residents and nonresidents, athletes and grad students. In the meantime, as always, Iowa City’s black community stepped in.

Centers for community

Local families boarded hundreds of African-American students during the first half of the 20th century. These homes offered not just accommodations, but vibrant centers for community.

Today, Iowa City schools are named for the women who ran two of the town’s best-known boarding houses for African-Americans—Helen Lemme and Elizabeth (Bettye) Tate.

“If you were on good terms with Mrs. Lemme, you could stay up all night with Duke Ellington, who played a party in her basement whenever his band stopped in town,” says Ted Wheeler (B.A. ’57), longtime UI track coach and former Olympic runner.

Wheeler came to the UI from Illinois, drawn in part by the university’s history of support for black athletes, especially in track and football. As a student, he found strong backing from key university leaders and a network of African-American mentors.

“We suffered in some ways, but occasionally those inconveniences pushed us into reality and into experiences we otherwise wouldn’t have had,” Wheeler says. “You have to put things in perspective—my grandfather had been a slave.”

Wheeler credits Paul Brechler, UI athletic director from 1947 to 1960, and, later, Sandy Boyd, the law professor who became UI president in 1969, for setting an inclusive tone. Influential faculty members like Writers’ Workshop director Paul Engle and space science pioneer James Van Allen—both fixtures at Wheeler’s

racess—also made a difference.

“Prominent people made their support known,” Wheeler says. “In addition, black alumni were very warm and approachable. They suggested paths that would see you through.”

The environment produced black leaders in athletics, academics, and the arts. Wheeler’s contemporaries included noted composer T.J. Anderson (Ph.D. ’58) and Phillip Hubbard (B.S. ’46, M.S. ’49, Ph.D. ’54), who went on to serve as UI vice president for student services—the first African-American vice president at a Big Ten school.

Another of Wheeler’s peers set a higher education milestone for African-American women, and took her considerable experience back home to the South.

Journey of opportunity

Jewel Limar Prestage discovered a passion for politics at Southern University, an historically black institution in Baton Rouge, La. She planned to study chemistry until she heard a law school dean describe scenarios for overturning Plessy v. Ferguson, the 1896 U.S. Supreme Court decision that upheld segregation.

“This kind of information just was not taught in Louisiana’s segregated public schools,” she says. “I thought to myself, ‘Chemistry, you’ve just lost a major.’”

Upon graduation, Prestage set out to pursue graduate study in political science on a Rockefeller Foundation fellowship. Since southern universities barred black students, she looked north to Iowa.

In 1954, Prestage would earn her doctorate at age 22, the first African-American woman in the country to do so in her field.

Like other African-American UI students at the time, Prestage had trouble finding housing, particularly after she married her husband, James (M.S. ’55, Ph.D. ’59), a fellow Southern University grad studying zoology. Local landlords turned the couple away. They lived in the Tate home for five days, then secured a spot in the university-owned temporary housing communities near the Iowa River.

The Prestages used their experience at Iowa to help students back home. They eventually returned to Southern University, where James served as chancellor and Jewel became dean of the School of Public Policy and Urban Affairs.

Jewel Prestage notes that other UI alumni made similar contributions to largely African-American

institutions. Vivian Henderson (M.A. ’48, Ph.D. ’52), for example, served as president of Clark College (now part of Clark Atlanta University) and a trustee for the Ford Foundation.

“People who came through Iowa had tremendous impact,” Prestage says. “They could have taught anywhere, but some chose historically black colleges and universities.”

Crest of the movement

Dianna Penny (B.A. ’62) recalls her reaction upon reading in *Ebony* magazine that Iowa’s male students had named Dora Lee Martin Berry “Miss SUI” in 1955.

“It certainly wasn’t as earth-shaking as the election of the first black president, but I remember thinking, ‘It’s about time,’” she says.

News of Iowa’s African-American “campus sweetheart” captured national headlines, maybe by design. Historian Breaux notes that other Big Ten schools, including Illinois and Indiana, elected black homecoming queens during the 1950s, driven by African-Americans’ larger roles in campus life, but perhaps also an interest in modeling racial tolerance.

The stories sometimes took a bleaker turn once the hubbub waned.

“Dora Lee Martin was allowed the title, but none of the honors typically associated with the role,” Breaux says. “Her election made national news, but the subplot of continued discrimination did not.”

African-American students knew this back-story, but Penny felt completely welcome at Iowa when she enrolled to study art in 1958. “To me, folks were just folks,” she says. “I never thought of myself as an outsider.”

Forces for change

Nearly 60 years after *Invisible Man*, helping students from diverse backgrounds achieve is a UI imperative. This means shedding light on historic inequities and providing the resources and support that help all students succeed.

Institutions can set the conditions for success, but individuals make it happen.

“Schools point with pride to examples of opportunity and historic ‘firsts,’ and some of that’s justified,” says Breaux. “But we need to acknowledge the groundwork behind the scenes, and the determination that inspires people to keep going.”

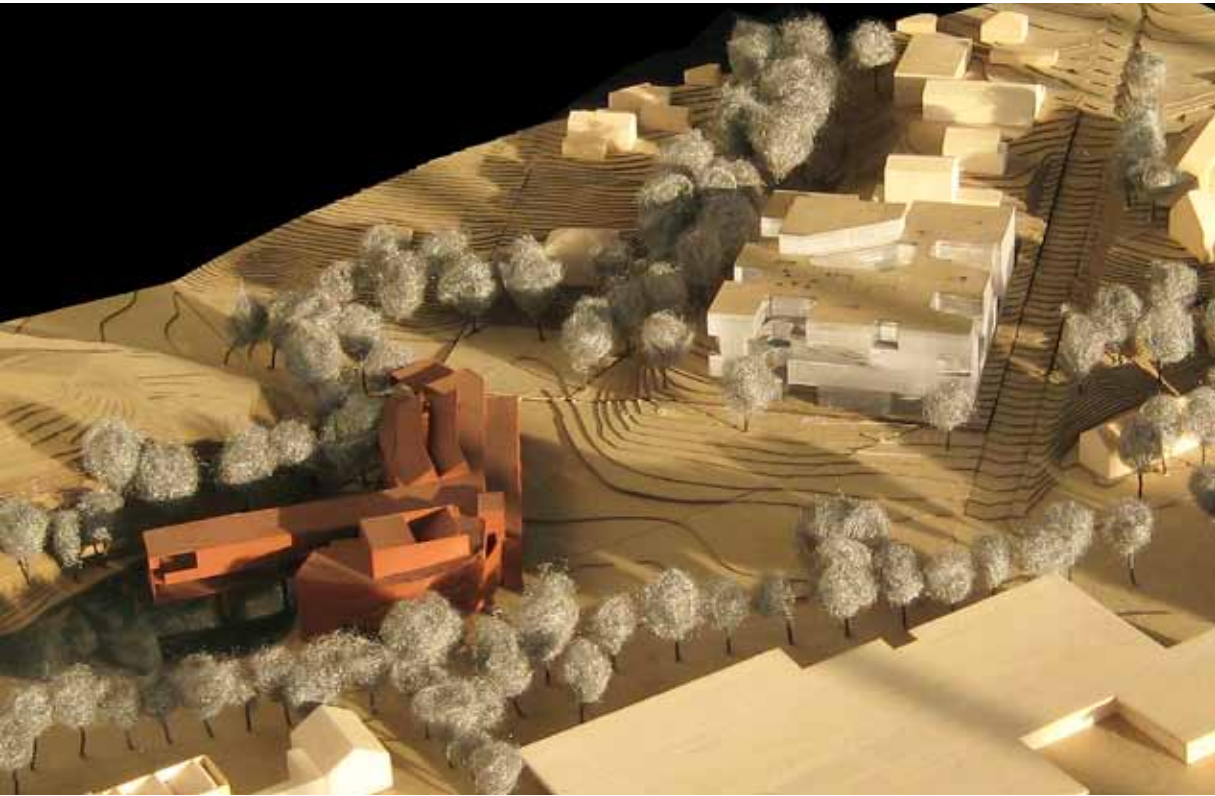
—Lin Larson

The new art building is depicted in this rendering that looks west from the intersection of North Riverside Drive and River Street. The facility, which is designed for maximum light and is situated at least two feet above 500-year floodplain, is slated for completion in 2016.



Arts Campus Revival

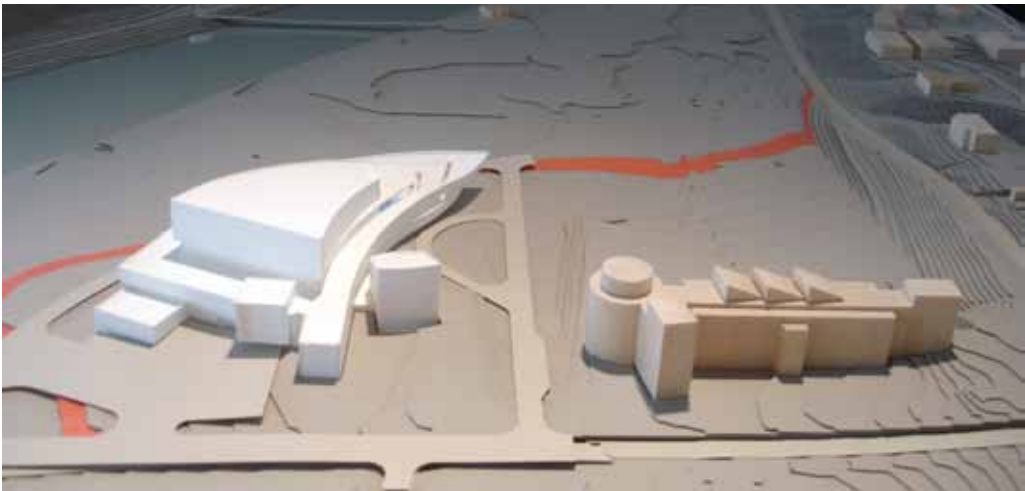
Progress under way on new facilities for Hancher, art, music



It's kind of hard to believe, but many students graduating from the University of Iowa this year never knew the arts campus as it existed before it was ravaged by floodwaters in 2008. They likely never attended an event at Hancher Auditorium or took in an exhibition at the Museum of Art. Although several buildings along the Iowa River have since reopened, some remained closed, and another is slated for demolition. Thanks to significant steps taken this spring, however, students entering the UI this fall will see significant progress made in the revival of the arts campus. While plans still are pending for replacing the Museum of Art building, the Iowa Board of Regents in March approved schematic designs and allocated nearly \$405 million in new construction to replace Hancher Auditorium, Voxman Music Building/Clapp Recital Hall, and the 1930s-era Art Building. The new Hancher is scheduled to open in late 2015, and construction on a new art building and School of Music building should be completed in 2016. Demolition of the existing Hancher will begin this fall.

This bird's-eye rendering shows that the new art building (right) will be located to north and west of Art Building West (left). The latter facility had been in use only two years when the floods hit in 2008; it reopened in January 2012.

The new Hancher will seat 1,950 patrons and sport two balconies, rehearsal space suitable for programming, and a three-level lobby showcasing dramatic views of campus and the river.



This rendering shows Hancher (left) as it will sit next to its neighbor to the west, the Levitt Center for University Advancement (right). The new auditorium will be uphill and to the north of its present location, putting it at least two feet above 500-year floodplain.

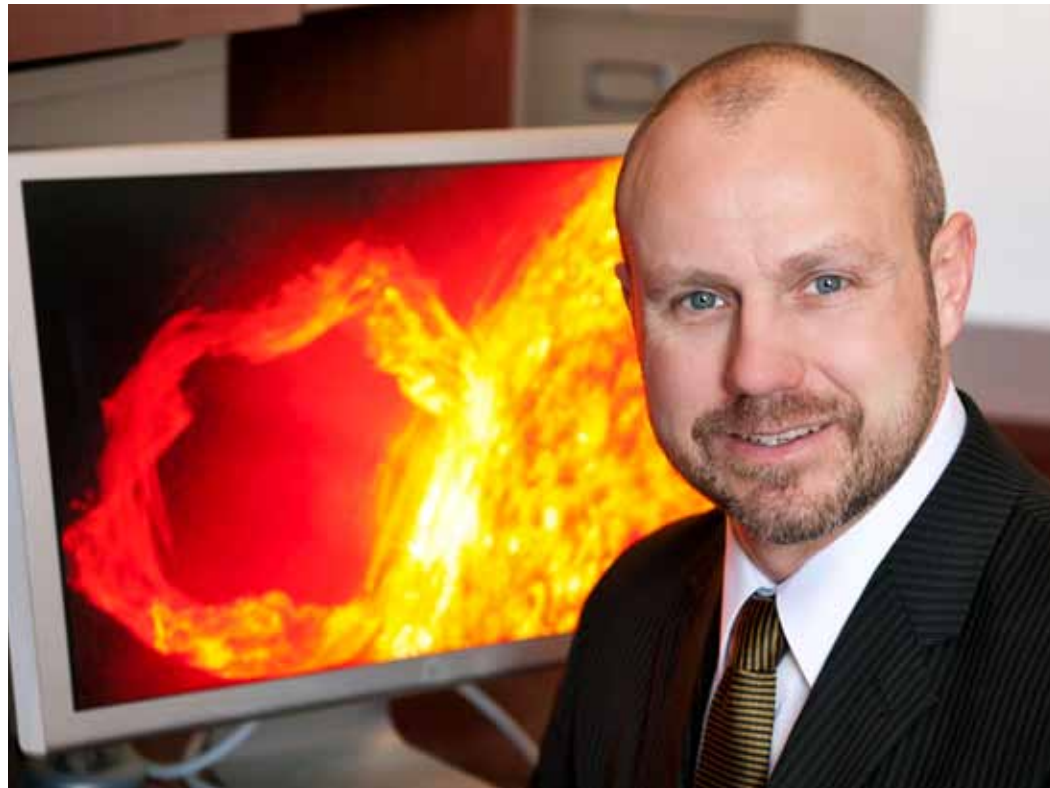
After spending the past four years in a number of temporary locations, many of which are located in downtown Iowa City, students in the School of Music should have a new, permanent home downtown at the southwest corner of Burlington and Clinton streets in 2016. The new building, which replaces Voxman Music Building, will feature second-floor auditoriums and a largely glass exterior.



A Place in the Sun

Space plasma researcher draws federal funds, presidential honor

The year 2011 wasn't just a good year for Greg Howes, assistant professor of physics and astronomy in the University of Iowa College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. It was a great year.



In February 2011, Howes was named a winner of a National Science Foundation (NSF) Faculty Early Career Development (CAREER) Award. The award comes with a \$1 million, five-year NSF grant to fund his studies of the near-Earth solar wind that influences the northern lights and can interfere with satellite-based communications systems. Then in September, President Obama named Howes a recipient of a Presidential Early Career Award for Scientists and Engineers (PECASE) for his NASA-related work and invited him to the White House.

At Iowa, the San Francisco Bay Area native teaches graduate-level courses in plasma physics and in space and astrophysical plasmas, and also college physics for pre-health majors. In a recent interview with Spectator, he discussed how his work, his family, and his responsibility to others help him keep his career—and the year 2011—in perspective.

First of all, how would you describe your research to a neighbor?

I study turbulence in space, in the solar wind. Turbulence can also be seen in a river. For example, the Iowa River is mostly smooth as it flows along, and that's called a laminar flow. However, when it reaches a spillway and speeds up, the river becomes turbulent. I study how turbulence develops in the solar wind plasma—the particles flowing outward from the sun—and how that turbulence leads to heating in the solar wind.

Why is it important to study space turbulence?

Although the surface of the sun is 6,000 degrees Celsius, the solar corona above the surface is 1 million degrees, and scientists don't understand how that heating occurs, although turbulence is thought to be involved. Understanding how the turbulence in the solar wind plasma leads to heating will shed light on this problem. In addition, the black hole at the center of our galaxy doesn't shine as brightly as expected, and turbulence is likely to play a significant role in the explanation.

How does the solar wind affect us?

Something called space weather can create geomagnetic storms at the Earth, and we would like to be able to predict it. The sun constantly emits matter in the form of a diffuse ionized gas called plasma. Sometimes the sun spits out huge blobs of plasma that shoot out into space as coronal mass ejections. When the particles reach the Earth, they can compress the Earth's magnetosphere, altering the magnetic field surrounding the planet. The effects range from auroras that can be seen at high latitudes, to electrical system transformer fires or other power grid problems. Also, the signal from GPS satellites can be lost, a problem if you happen to be using GPS to navigate a ship or plane.

I think our country is not prepared for what could happen during a severe space weather storm. In 1859, a solar storm caused fires in telegraphs offices and northern lights to be seen as far south as the Caribbean. A similar incident today could cause billions of dollars in damage to electrical and electronic infrastructure. Some experts have estimated that it could take 10 years to recover from the damage.

What do you find most rewarding about your work?

The most rewarding aspect of my work involves helping coordinate a continuing outreach project of the Department of Physics and Astronomy called Hawk-Eyes on Science. In a typical year, we conduct sessions before the public that reach thousands of people. There's really an urgent need in the U.S. to train the next generation of scientists and engineers to keep the country at the forefront of science and technology.

What is your biggest accomplishment personally and professionally?

Personally, it is raising 2-year-old twin boys with my wife. Professionally, it is receiving a PECASE (Presidential Early Career Award for Scientists and Engineers) award from the president recognizing my contributions to NASA. The award is one of promise. So, in presenting it to me and other recipients, President Obama said that if I wanted to come back and eat dinner with him in the White House, I would have to win the nation's highest award for scientific achievement: the National Medal of Science.

—Gary Galluzzo

PHOTO BY TOM JORGENSEN



Living With a Not-So-Sweet Diagnosis

UI staff member anticipates advances at diabetes research center

I try to think of my diabetes diagnosis as a blessing in disguise.

This hasn't always been easy. In fact, the first time I learned that I had problems with glucose intolerance, I was about five months' pregnant with my first child. I had failed a routine finger-prick blood sugar test, and a follow-up test confirmed gestational diabetes. I was at once glum and bitter. My weight had always been normal, and I wasn't aware of any family history of diabetes.

In a small, plain consultation room at University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics, a nurse unwrapped a package containing a blood glucose meter and carefully laid out all the accompanying pieces on the round table before me. My heart started sinking as she showed me how to use the device—from loading lancets and selecting a finger to poke, to feeding a drop of blood onto a test strip and interpreting the results. Tears welled in my eyes as her directives swirled around in my head.

Seven years later—after two additional pregnancies accompanied by two more diabetes diagnoses and then lingering blood sugar problems—I know that taking a blood sugar reading is probably the easiest thing a diabetic is faced with.

The hard part is keeping blood sugar in check. It's making sure exercise is part of an already overbooked day. It's resisting a Sunday morning bagel run or passing up the Krispy Kremes brought to work by a thoughtful colleague. It's dealing with the disappointment and frustration of getting a high reading, even when the aforementioned treats are skipped. It's knowing that constant vigilance is a must to ward off the serious complications that can stem from having too much glucose in the bloodstream.

Diabetics have an increased risk for heart disease, stroke, high blood pressure, kidney failure, blindness, and nerve damage. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, some 25 million Americans are diabetic, with another 79 million estimated to be pre-diabetic. And there is no cure.

If these figures don't alarm you, Daryl Granner, professor emeritus in the UI Carver College of Medicine, offers a sobering spin: "A child born today has a one in three chance of developing diabetes."

Granner recently spoke with me about a promising new development in the fight against this worldwide epidemic, a development that's happening right here on the UI campus. The Pappajohn Biomedical Discovery Building, currently under construction to the north and east of UI Hospitals and Clinics and slated for completion in 2014,

will be home to interdisciplinary research into some of our most pressing health concerns, including heart disease, cancer, Alzheimer's, and diabetes. A \$25 million pledge by the Fraternal Order of Eagles guarantees that one floor of this building will be devoted to a diabetes research center; it will fund endowed chairs, fellowships, and research grants, and help recruit to Iowa the leading scientists in diabetes research.

"Our objective is to bring together under one roof investigators from different disciplines, such as biology, chemistry, bioinformatics, and social sciences, so that we can work collectively to resolve this problem," explains Granner, who is the founding director of the diabetes research center. "It's a global problem and we need to look at it from all angles. I think that will accelerate discovery and lead to treatment and prevention. It's going to take a huge effort to get in front of it—and we're going to make a contribution."

Some current areas of diabetes-related UI research, Granner notes, include:

- The vascular complications of diabetes, and how beta cells make and secrete insulin and how to regenerate them
- The metabolic controls of blood sugar that reside in muscle, liver, brain, and fat tissue
- Drugs that regulate blood sugar

So when I drive past the future spot of Fraternal Order of Eagles Diabetes Research Center, I don't see just another construction site on the health sciences campus. I see the future. I see discovery, and solutions.

And in the meantime, this diagnosis is forcing me to adopt healthy lifestyle habits we all should retain.

At least that is what I tell myself.

Sara Epstein Moninger (B.A. '93) is a writer in University Communication and Marketing and the editor of *Spectator*. She lives in Iowa City with her husband and three kids, and constantly strives to keep at bay complications from Type 2 diabetes.

What Is Diabetes?

Diabetes is a chronic disease in which the body is unable to effectively process blood sugar. In Type 1, there is an insulin deficiency; in Type 2, the more common form of the disease, there is insulin resistance that may lead to insulin deficiency. Insulin is a hormone secreted by the pancreas that removes sugar from the blood and stores it in muscle, fat, and liver cells.

Both types appear to be caused by genetics, and lifestyle factors may also play a role in both. Some women develop diabetes during pregnancy, which puts them at increased risk for developing Type 2 diabetes postpartum. The disease often can be controlled with diet and exercise, and sometimes may be treated with medications or insulin injections.

PHOTO BY TOM JORGENSEN



‘From a Fundraiser to an Absolute Mission’

Student-run Dance Marathon helps mold future philanthropists

They’re quite inspiring, the students who join University of Iowa Dance Marathon. They deliver one-on-one attention and fun activities every week to oncology patients at UI Children’s Hospital (allowing the kids’ families a much-needed break). They organize group excursions to amusement parks and museums to help divert focus from the momentous challenges the children are facing. They immerse themselves in ongoing fundraising and awareness building. And each winter their efforts culminate in “the Big Event,” a 24-hour dance marathon in the Iowa Memorial Union, where they celebrate young cancer survivors as well as patients fighting for their lives, remember those who have passed, and find out how much money was raised in the previous year (a total that has topped \$1 million in each of the past five years). In 2010, the student-run organization gave \$1 million to the Children’s Hospital to support research into pediatric cancer and blood disorders, and in 2011 it pledged \$5 million over the next 10 years toward a new Children’s Hospital building. There is a lot of giving on the part of the 2,000-plus student participants, including time, money, and effort, but there also is plenty of “getting,” the students insist. For Elyse Meardon (B.S. ’09), executive director of the 2012 Dance Marathon, the experience has instilled the confidence she needed to pursue a medical degree. She currently is taking graduate-level courses at Iowa and plans to take the Medical College Admission Test in the near future.

“Dance Marathon helps students develop a professional skill set—and that’s something you don’t necessarily get in the classroom. I now have experience in interviewing, development and fundraising, and peer management,” says Meardon, who majored in radiation sciences. “It’s forced me to push the limits of what I think I can do, and has given me confidence and humility.” Michael Kinney, a senior majoring in marketing and management who plans to work in public relations, says he has gained invaluable field experience as Dance Marathon’s 2012 marketing director. And while the position has improved his time management and communication skills, he says it also has imparted important life lessons. “As college students we get so caught up over a grade or socializing with friends, and while those things are important, Dance Marathon has taught me to step back, relax, and realize that I’m living ‘the good life,’” he says. “There’s always going to be something to work on or something that needs to be done. Every once in a while you have to put those things on hold and spend some time goofing around with your friends and family. If you don’t take moments for yourself, you’re going to burn out and start dreading what you once loved.” So profound was the experience of participating in Dance Marathon and volunteering at UI Children’s Hospital that Brian Martin (B.S.N. ’09) switched his major to nursing and now is a hematology/oncology nurse at Children’s Memorial Hospital in Chicago. He also is involved in the Chicago Dance Marathon. “Dance Marathon taught me the importance of

putting others before yourself,” says Martin, who returns to the UI campus each winter to be a part of the Big Event. “I learned about stewardship and how helping others can be very self fulfilling. It also defined who I am as a leader.” Sheila Baldwin (B.B.A. ’98), one of the founding members of the UI effort, took her experiences to heart. She now is assistant vice president for health sciences development at the UI Foundation, serving as the lead fundraiser for the UI Children’s Hospital and the foundation’s primary liaison to Dance Marathon. “It is almost unbelievable to me that this is the same organization we started,” she says, noting that the first marathon raised \$31,000. That total has increased every subsequent year since, with a grand total topping \$11.2 million. Baldwin is pleased that many aspects from the early events have become traditions—such as holding up tote boards at the end of the marathon (known as “the reveal”) to show how much money was raised that year and then uniting to form one large circle of dancers. She also can pinpoint the moment she realized how special that first Dance Marathon was. “We’d invited the patients and their families to attend the Big Event, but then they came onstage and told us their stories. That put faces on what we were doing, and really solidified the emotional tie,” she says. “At that moment, Dance Marathon turned from a fundraiser to an absolute mission to make their lives better.”

—Sara Epstein Moninger



How Dance Marathon Is Paying Off

The effort by UI Dance Marathon participants has manifested into major strides in raising funds for pediatric oncology treatment and care at the University of Iowa. Dance Marathon first broke the million-dollar mark in 2008, which was followed in 2010 and 2011 by two major gift commitments to UI Children’s Hospital (\$1 million for research and \$5 million for a new facility). Elyse Meardon, executive director of the 2012 Dance Marathon, says those pledges illustrate just how dedicated the students are to improving the lives of current and future patients. “By providing a better hospital, we’ll be able to provide a better culture and better continuity of care,” she says. “And by funding research, we’ll help attract better physicians and researchers, which will improve care. It’s a forward vision.” The \$285 million, 11-story facility will consolidate children’s health care services that now are spread throughout the university hospital complex. Ground-breaking is scheduled for fall 2012, with completion slated for 2015. To learn more, see dancemarathon.uiowa.edu.



University Launches One-Stop Shop for UI News

The University of Iowa has launched a one-stop online shop for news, multimedia, and features about UI people and programs. *Iowa Now* debuted in March with a new website at now.uiowa.edu, a daily email alert available by subscription, and RSS feeds that let users easily follow the news they choose. “We know that people who care about the university want more control over the information they receive, discover, and share,” says Tysen Kendig, UI vice president for strategic communication. “They’re looking for stories that are timely, relevant, engaging, and even a little fun.” The *Iowa Now* website showcases the day’s top stories, running lists of newest and most popular content, and windows to the university’s official Facebook, Twitter, and YouTube channels. It also includes easy ways for users to share the stories they like within their own social networks. “More than ever, *Iowa Now* gives you a role in telling the UI story,” Kendig says.

Online Merchants Who Emphasize Price Are Less Reliable

When buying online, beware the dollar sign. A new study by a UI researcher suggests that online merchants who display a dollar sign in the titles of their Google search engine results may be less reliable than merchants who don’t. “We found that merchants that can’t compete on service attract customers using the lure of a good deal,” says Gautam Pant, professor of management sciences in the Tippie College of Business. “If you’re a retailer with a low reputation, you use what you have and price is the best thing they have to attract customers.” Pant’s observation was part of a larger study in which he and his co-authors measured online reliability using visual cues in search engine results. They launched 243 internet searches on Google, Yahoo!, and Microsoft for digital cameras made by major manufacturers and sold by online merchants. They then looked at how the search engine results were physically arranged on the first few result pages and correlated that to the merchants’ ratings from the Better Business Bureau (BBB) to see if the arrangement provided visual cues to the seller’s reliability. Some cues did, in fact, reflect on the reliability scores, such as merchants who used dollar signs in their results from Google also had markedly lower scores from the BBB. They also found that many of the merchants who appeared in the paid results but not in the organic results received low marks from the BBB.



Are you a past participant in this event? Check out the UI Dance Marathon Alumni Group online at www.iowalum.com/dancemarathon.



Craft and Care

New dentistry facilities offer world-class experience to patients and students alike

Julie Coyne never knows where the day will take her. Since last summer, the fourth-year dental student has been seeing two to four patients per day in UI College of Dentistry clinics, gaining perspective on what it'll be like to become a practicing dentist after graduation. "You learn to help resolve any issue that comes through the door," she says. "You can be doing one thing in the morning and something completely different in the afternoon. It's great preparation for the real world."

There's no substitute for this kind of experience, particularly in a field like dentistry. "Dental education is like studio art," says Michael Kanellis (D.D.S. '79, M.S. '83, M.S. '95), the college's associate dean for patient care. "Students can begin with theory courses, but when the rubber meets the road, they need to master making things with their hands."

The college is giving students new settings to learn the craft, and giving patients some of the best dental care available anywhere in the world.

In 2011, the college dedicated a 35,000-square-foot addition to the Dental Science Building, which originally opened in 1973. Over the next three years, renovations will fully modernize all the clinics in the building's south wing.

The addition—funded by donors, the college, and the university—houses a faculty-staffed general dentistry clinic, facilities for clinical research, and a dramatically improved clinic for treating elderly patients and people with disabilities (see sidebar). The college also recently received a \$1 million gift from the Roy J. Carver Charitable Trust to renovate research space in the building's north wing.

Additional clinic renovations will provide more privacy for patients while permitting faculty to supervise student work. New teaching stations will centralize X-ray and record access, treatment planning, and prescriptions. Decades-old air-handling systems will be replaced and moved to the building's roof.

"We've been in this building for 35 years, and were due for updates," Kanellis says. "The renovations reflect evolutions in the way we teach and practice dentistry."

Iowa's dental school leads progress in the profession, and is the only one to offer advanced education in every specialty recognized by the American Dental Association.

For patients, this means access to some of the best minds and newest techniques in dental care. Almost every College of Dentistry faculty member sees patients.

"When people come here for specialty care, they may be treated by the expert who wrote the book on the subject," Kanellis says. "We're probably the largest multispecialty clinic in the Midwest."

The college schedules about 500 patient visits every day. While some patients book appointments with faculty dentists or residents, many see students who are learning examination, diagnosis, and treatment skills under the close watch of seasoned clinicians.



Looking for top-notch dental care?

Call 319-335-7499 to schedule appointments with:

- Dental students supervised by faculty (reduced fees)
- Residents who've graduated dental school and are training in a specialty (fees lower than usual specialty rates)
- College of Dentistry faculty (fees similar to other dentists)

PHOTO BY TOM JORGENSEN

"Patients love the students," Kanellis says. "It's not uncommon for them to bring in cupcakes, send students cards decades later, or speak up when they think faculty are being a little too stern."

Students begin interacting with patients as soon as their first year of dental school, providing preventive care like cleanings and examinations. They learn hands-on methods in the college's advanced Simulation Clinic, then begin applying these techniques with real patients during year two.

Intensive clinical experience begins in the third year as students rotate through different dental specialties—a unique facet of Iowa's program. They spend their fourth year treating family dentistry patients nearly every day.

Providing in-depth experience in settings that reflect actual practices make dental education more costly than most other fields, medicine included. The fees that patients pay support teaching programs, research, and virtually everything else the college does.

But people who come to the college for care give students something even more valuable. Every patient visit is a one-of-a-kind chance to build communication, critical thinking, and hands-on skills.

"As students, we're all so grateful for our patients," Coyne says. "Some come in with very complex needs that challenge us to provide a whole new level of care. Talking, working, and building trust together is a great experience."

—Lin Larson

For more information on the UI College of Dentistry, see www.dentistry.uiowa.edu.

College of Dentistry Opens State-of-the-Art Clinic for Those with Special Needs

Iowa's service for the elderly, people with disabilities, and other patients with special needs has earned international attention. So when the College of Dentistry began planning a building addition, creating a new, more accessible home for these programs became a top priority.

A gift from the Delta Dental of Iowa Foundation established a state-of-the-art Geriatric and Special Needs Clinic in the addition.

"About 70 percent of each dental class rotates through our clinic," says Howard Cowen (D.D.S. '76, M.S. '95), director of the clinic. "The experience helps them learn how to care for all kinds of patients once they enter practice. It's truly unique among dental schools."

All of the clinic's operatories are a little larger than usual, big enough to welcome both patients and their escorts. One is specially designed to treat people in wheelchairs, and there are two completely private treatment rooms.

As people live longer and keep more of their teeth into old age, the need for specialized dental services becomes ever more profound. The college recently established a geriatric dentistry fellowship to expand expertise in the field.

"Our patients help students understand systemic disease, disabilities, end-of-life care, and other issues," Cowen says. "A patient who's 100 years old prompts you to look at dental care in a completely different way."

PHOTO BY TIM SCHOON

Herpes Vaccine Shows Promising Results

An investigational vaccine protected some women against infection from one of the two types of herpes simplex viruses that cause genital herpes, according to a study that involved UI research and recently was published in the *New England Journal of Medicine*.

A clinical trial that enrolled 8,323 women was conducted at 50 sites in the U.S. and Canada, including the UI campus. The vaccine was partially effective at preventing herpes simplex virus type 1 (HSV-1), but did not protect women from herpes simplex virus type 2 (HSV-2). Women who received the investigational vaccine had less than half of the cases of genital herpes caused by HSV-1—58 percent fewer—compared to women who received the control vaccine.

Both HSV-1 and HSV-2 are members of the herpes virus family. Typically, HSV-2 causes lesions and blisters in the genital area. HSV-1 generally causes sores in the mouth and lips, although it increasingly has been found to cause genital disease. There currently is no cure or approved vaccine to prevent genital herpes infection, which affects about 25 percent of women in the United States and is one of the most common communicable diseases. Once inside the body, HSV remains there permanently.



A Moving Masterpiece: Pollock Books Brief Stay in Des Moines

Art enthusiasts in central Iowa—or those passing through the state's capital on Interstate 80—will have easy access to a University of Iowa treasure this spring and summer, thanks to an agreement with a Des Moines museum.

The UI Museum of Art's painting *Mural*, by world-renowned American artist Jackson Pollock, is on display at the Des Moines Art Center through July 15. The masterpiece has spent nearly three years at the Figge Art Museum in Davenport, Iowa, where more than 150,000 Iowa residents, students, and visitors have enjoyed it since 2009. Much of the UI art museum's collection has been located at the Figge since the 2008 floods.

To learn more about *Mural* and the UI Museum of Art, visit uima.uiowa.edu/jackson-pollock. Information on the Des Moines Art Center is available at www.desmoinesartcenter.org.

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Historic 1986-87 men's basketball team reunites on the court

Midcentury Milestones—pages 6-7

African-American alumni recall a time of challenge and change

State of the Arts Campus—pages 8-9

Plans take shape for rebuilding flood-damaged facilities

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Space plasma researcher gets kudos from the top

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A common goal energizes Dance Marathon students

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Dental college settles into renovated space



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PHOTOS: (PG 11) TOM JORGENSEN; (PG 10) TOM JORGENSEN; (PG 6) AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORICAL MUSEUM &
 CULTURAL CENTER OF IOWA, ALTHEA BEATRICE MORE SMITH SCRAPBOOK; (P 14) TOM JORGENSEN;
 (PGS 8-9) STEVEN HOLL ARCHITECTS

The President Comes to Iowa City—Again

President Barack Obama addressed University of Iowa students and community members during an April 25 speech at the UI Field House. It was Obama's second visit to the UI as president, and according to UI archivist David McCartney, only the third campus visit by a sitting U.S. president (Bill Clinton spoke on campus in 1996).

About 4,500 spectators gathered on the Field House's main deck and track, while another 1,000 filled overflow space in the south gym, where the president stopped briefly before delivering his remarks; a small group of demonstrators gathered outside the venue. The president spoke about keeping college affordable, particularly his call for legislation that would keep interest on federal Stafford loans at 3.4 percent.

"This is at the heart of who we are," he said. "We've got to make college more affordable for more young people."

Prior to his speech, the president met with a small group of students at the Iowa Memorial Union to hear their perspectives on college debt. The UI visit was the last in a string of university stops for the president in April.



PHOTO BY BILL ADAMS