



THE UNIVERSITY  
OF IOWA

# Spectator

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300 PCO, Suite 370  
Iowa City, IA 52242-2500  
[spectator.uiowa.edu](http://spectator.uiowa.edu)  
E-mail: [Spectator@uiowa.edu](mailto:Spectator@uiowa.edu)

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



## OPENING SHOTS

### ◀ It's all fun and games.

Over Labor Day weekend, Hawkeye fans breezed into the Windy City to cheer the Iowa football team to a victory over Northern Illinois at Soldier Field. The Chicago Cubs also catered to the visitors by hosting Hawkeye Day at Wrigley Field—and serving up a “W.”



◀ A mammoth discovery. UI experts are aiding in the excavation of two sets of mammoth bones found by an Iowa farmer on his property in Oskaloosa. Finding mostly complete, largely undisturbed skeletons is extremely rare in Iowa.

### Care that's convenient. ▶▶

In October, UI Health Care opened a state-of-the-art ambulatory care clinic in Iowa River Landing, just off Interstate 80 in Coralville. The clinic offers many primary care services—and also free parking.





# Spectator Makeover

*UI alumni newsletter to transition to a new look, a new distribution, and a new name*

When *Spectator* debuted in November of 1967, it announced to alumni and friends that its mission as a periodical was “to reflect the stimulating life, the work, the people of this University with a kind of friendly detachment, without grinding axes for any particular segment of a wide audience.” Articles in that black-and white inaugural issue include:

- A news item describing the newest language to be offered on campus, FORTRAN (a computer programming language derived from “formula translation”), complete with quotes from Gerard P. Weeg, then-director of the University Computer Center.
- An artist’s rendering of the Health Sciences Library, with its triangular roof peaks and vertical clerestories. (Its construction, notes a caption, was estimated to cost a mere \$2 million.)
- A report on the auction of bed sheets, dinnerware, and even the kitchen sink that had belonged to Iowa City’s downtown landmark Jefferson Hotel, which had just closed and was being cleared out to make way for university offices.
- A photo of one of the university’s remaining 325 Quonset huts, which rented for \$68 a month and therefore were a “cheap and popular” housing option among students.

While *Spectator*’s mission has remained constant over the last 45 years, so much else has changed. Mass communication has evolved rapidly, and reading habits for the most part have kept pace. Also, postage has steadily increased, along with our distribution (about 236,000!). To remain current and cost-effective, we have pared down to twice-a-year distribution, and have added a monthly online component.

Last year we turned to our readers to find out your reading preferences and to see if *Spectator* in general was hitting the mark. It turns out you like what we are doing, although a surprising number of you indicated a preference for print; many others, however, acknowledged that online communication has benefits that may outweigh the challenges and costs associated with print.

## Our proposal? Let’s meet halfway:

- Starting with our spring 2013 issue (due out in May), we will increase print distribution to three issues a year (about once every four months), and we’ll mail them only to alumni for whom Alumni Records does not have an email address.
- For alumni with email addresses on record, we’ll send a monthly email digest of news and features about the university that is packaged especially for you—similar to the one we’ve been distributing since 2009.
- Alumni who belong in the latter group may opt to receive the print mailing by visiting [www.iowalum.com/emailPref](http://www.iowalum.com/emailPref) and checking the appropriate box.

## There’s just one more thing:

Since March 2012, our office has been putting its heart and soul into an online publication called *Iowa Now*, a one-stop shop for news, multimedia, and features about UI people and programs. It’s a robust platform that allows readers interested in the university to visit one central site (see [now.uiowa.edu](http://now.uiowa.edu)) and find compelling stories by topics or college.

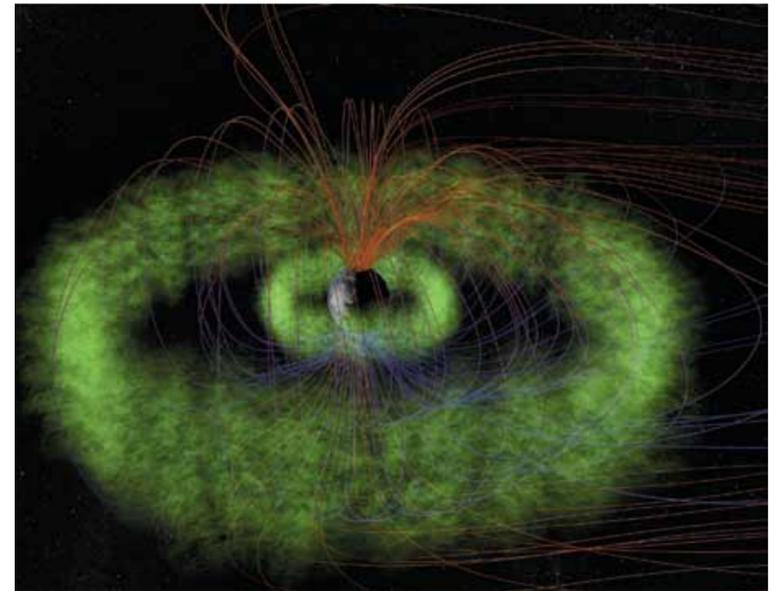
To make our work more efficient and to boost alumni-related content in *Iowa Now*, we plan to retire the *Spectator* name, instead producing both a print and online publication under the *Iowa Now* banner. Sadly, this will be the last issue of *Spectator* as you know it.

## Next up is *Iowa Now—Alumni Edition*.

You can expect the same commitment to telling UI stories with a friendly detachment and without axe-grinding. We’ll just have a new name and a revised—depending on your email status—mode of delivery.

As always, we welcome your comments and suggestions. You can reach us by phone at 319-384-0045, via email at [alumni-edition@uiowa.edu](mailto:alumni-edition@uiowa.edu), or by snail mail at *Iowa Now—Alumni Edition*, University Communication and Marketing, 300 PCO, Suite 370, Iowa City, IA 52242-2500.

—Sara Epstein Moninger



## Van Allen Radiation Belts Revisited: UI Part of NASA Mission to Study Space Weather

Have you ever used a cell phone, traveled by plane, or stayed up late to catch a glimpse of the northern lights? Then you have been affected by space weather without even knowing about it.

Changes in space weather can disable satellites, overload power grids, and disrupt GPS service. Space storms are made up of gusts of electrically charged particles—atoms that have been stripped of electrons—that constantly flow outward from the sun. When these particles reach the Earth, some become trapped in the Earth’s magnetosphere to form the Van Allen radiation belts, two donut-shaped regions that encircle Earth and were named for the late UI astrophysicist James A. Van Allen.

UI researchers are hoping that the Van Allen Probes, two identical satellites launched by NASA over the summer and named in Van Allen’s honor, will help improve space weather forecasts by collecting data on particles, magnetic and electric fields, and waves in the radiation belts.

Craig Kletzing, F. Wendell Miller Professor of physics and astronomy in the UI College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, is the principal investigator for a UI team that designed one of five different instrument pairs aboard the spacecraft. He says the Van Allen Probes comprise the first NASA mission in more than two decades to revisit the radiation belts since they were discovered by Van Allen more than 50 years ago.

“There are still lots of things we don’t understand about how they work, about how the sun delivers energy to the local environment around the Earth, and particularly about how it creates these two bands of very energetic particles that we call the radiation belts,” he says.

“Additionally, the various manned missions that NASA has planned to go beyond the Space Station to places like the moon or Mars also require transiting through this region. So, understanding the right time to go—when the particles are fewest so that you don’t impact human health—is a very important thing to understand.”

## For the Record

“Computer gaming is as much a part of our lives as movies or journalism. It deserves the same rigorous standards of reporting and analysis.”

**David D. Perlmutter**, director of the UI School of Journalism and Mass Communication, endorsing the addition to the school’s curriculum a course called Specialized Writing and Reporting: Video Games and Communication ([jimromenesko.com](http://jimromenesko.com), Aug. 28).

“Astronomers like to think of distances in terms of ‘light-years.’ Well, we’re not anything like a ‘light-year,’ but we’re now a substantial fraction of a ‘light-day’ from the Earth. And I just find that extremely impressive.”

**Don Gurnett**, UI professor of physics and astronomy who has worked on NASA’s Voyager 1 mission since the mid-1970s, reflecting on the 35th anniversary of the spacecraft, which continues to remit valuable data as it approaches the end of the solar system (NPR’s “All Things Considered,” Sept. 5).

“As a patient you want that knee replacement, but from a budgetary standpoint this starts to add up to real dollars.”

**Peter Cram**, associate professor of internal medicine in the UI Carver College of Medicine, acknowledging that despite the effectiveness of knee-replacement surgery, a procedure that has more than doubled over the past 20 years, it is a financial burden to Medicare and the federal government (*Bloomberg Businessweek*, Sept. 26).

“There’s a real populist movement happening to try to attack the judicial system as, quote, ‘out of touch with the popular sentiment of the people.’ And that’s just a basic misunderstanding of what courts are about.”

**Linda McGuire**, associate dean in the UI College of Law, explaining that having an independent judiciary may result in some rulings that are unpopular, such as the Iowa Supreme Court’s decision affirming same-sex marriage (NPR’s “All Things Considered,” Sept. 26).

“I was curious when I heard the governor had bet a pig and the pig had arrived. I went down there on a streetcar to take a look at it. It was a big deal. And it’s gotten to be a much bigger deal in the years since.”

**Willard “Sandy” Boyd**, Rawlings-Miller Professor of Law and UI president emeritus, recalling the original, living-and-breathing Floyd of Rosedale, whom he saw when he was an 8-year-old boy living in Minnesota, and the beloved bronze hog that now goes home each fall with the winner of the Iowa-Minnesota football game (*Minneapolis Star Tribune*, Sept. 28).

“I was floored with the amount of exposure we found.”

**Deborah Linebarger**, associate professor of teaching and learning in the UI College of Education, commenting on research results that suggest U.S. children are exposed to nearly four hours of background television a day—exposure that prior research has found to impede social skills, impulse control, and ability to concentrate and complete tasks (*U.S. News & World Report*, Oct. 1).

“If it came down to Florida, then we might talk about Gary Johnson as the next Ralph Nader.”

**Cary Covington**, associate professor of political science, discussing the role of third-party candidates in the 2012 election and noting how important the 42,000 votes nabbed in Florida by the Libertarian Party’s Johnson might have been had the state been as influential in 2012 as it had been in 2000, when Nader drew votes from Democrat Al Gore and helped cost him the election (Vermont Public Radio, Nov. 7).

“He was known as a tremendous mentor, colleague, and friend to faculty and staff across our campus. He greatly enriched the lives of many in our community.”

**Sally Mason**, UI president, lamenting the Nov. 8 passing of longtime faculty member Samuel L. Becker, who earned three degrees at Iowa and taught communication studies (*The Gazette*, Nov. 9).



# A President's Perspective

*Sally Mason talks tuition, construction, arts campus revival*

*Sally Mason joined the University of Iowa in 2007, becoming the university's 20th president. She's since focused on keeping undergraduate education affordable and of high quality and led the campus through unprecedented challenges. President Mason recently addressed questions about the university in 2012 and beyond.*

## What are the biggest challenges that lie ahead for the university?

Flood recovery continues to be a huge challenge. A billion-dollar flood event is not to be underestimated by anyone, and I think we've done a remarkable job of putting in place things that needed to be in place temporarily. It has been gratifying this year to reopen Art Building West, to have the plans approved for the Iowa Memorial Union, and to see the designs for the new art building. Also, with construction beginning on the new children's hospital and the movement of some of our ambulatory health care out to Coralville, the whole face of University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics will start to change in dramatic ways over the next several years.

## What university accomplishments from the past year are you most proud of?

There are probably too many to count—some of them are very small accomplishments, and some are much larger. Having plans approved by the Board of Regents for the buildings that were damaged beyond repair by the flood is huge. And the news on the fundraising front is spectacular: since Ken and I arrived at the University of Iowa, more than \$850 million in private funding has been raised. We've also got a number of tremendous efforts under way with the recruitment of new faculty into clusters.

I'm also very proud of our student accomplishments. Each year, we set new highs in the number of students studying at the university, and these students are routinely more academically accomplished and diverse than their predecessors. The year before last we had a Rhodes Scholar, and this past year we had two Churchill Scholars. Our students are excelling, and that's a testament to the caliber and quality of students who are choosing to come to the University of Iowa, and to our ability to help them excel in these national scholarship competitions.

## Significant progress has been made in reviving the arts campus, and you mentioned changes at the hospital. What can visitors to campus expect to see this year?

Probably more construction than they'd like to see! Those coming in from the west off of I-80 will see the new health care facility by the Marriott in Coralville. That is where our doctors are delivering some ambulatory care services. So when you come for your check-up, that's where you'll see your internist, for example.

Site preparation for the new Hancher likely will be under way soon, so those who come to the Levitt Center or park in those lots will notice some dirt moving around, and later they may see the old Hancher starting to come down. We'll also be starting site preparation downtown on the corner of Burlington and Clinton streets in anticipation of a new School of Music building that will make Iowa City an even more vibrant place to be.

## What strategies is the university employing to keep tuition affordable in these difficult economic times?

We're thrilled with the legislative session this year. Tuition is set by the Board of Regents—and we'll work closely with the board on this issue—but our goal is to keep tuition as low as we possibly can. Thanks to the good work of Gov. Branstad and the Iowa Legislature, we think we will be able to do that going forward.

Although we're routinely ranked as one of America's best buys in higher education and offer the second lowest in-state tuition in the Big Ten, we continue to look for efficiencies and ways we can save money and not pass additional costs on to students. We'll always strive to be careful and frugal with the dollars we spend with an eye toward affordability and access.

## You traveled to China this past summer. Why is such outreach important?

This was only my second international trip at Iowa geared toward alumni relations, fundraising, and student recruitment. The number of international students on this campus, especially undergraduates, has increased significantly in the last four years, and we have about 1,500 Chinese students. So it was a great time to make a trip to Asia. We timed it so that I could be in Hong Kong for the graduation of the students who are in our M.B.A. program there. We also visited Taipei, Shanghai, and Beijing to connect with our alumni, look for opportunities to fundraise, and especially look for opportunities to continue to attract good students—they add a lot to the cultural diversity of our community and to the university.

In addition, the visit came on the heels of a mission led by Gov. Branstad to help promote economic development throughout Iowa with partners throughout China. At the University of Iowa alone, international students contribute more than \$280 million to the state's economy, so building relationships in this emerging economy yields direct benefits for all Iowans.

—Sara Epstein Moninger



## Exhibit Looks at Civil War Through Eyes of Iowans

In commemoration of the 150th anniversary of the American Civil War, the Old Capitol Museum is hosting *Gone to See the Elephant: The Civil War Through the Eyes of Iowa Soldiers* in its Hanson Family Humanities Gallery.

The exhibit, which will be open through May 26, examines the important role of the State of Iowa and the UI during the war, and features primary resources, artifacts, historical documents, and educational programming. Visitors

also see how Iowa soldiers experienced daily camp life, faced injuries on the battlefield, survived prisoner camps, and longed for home.

Showcased in the exhibit are the personal stories of five eastern Iowans, including Nick Messenger, a UI student wounded in the 22nd Iowa, and Walcott Seymour, the grandson of an Iowa legislator who worked in the Old Capitol building and returned from the 15th Iowa unharmed. Artifacts include a cast set of President Abraham Lincoln's hands, a handwritten diary of Henry Clay Seymour, and a large collection of period armaments.

For more information on Old Capitol Museum's exhibits and programs, see [www.uiowa.edu/oldcap](http://www.uiowa.edu/oldcap).



## New Website Offers Comprehensive Guide to Campus Arts Events

Arts fans have a new, up-to-the-hour source for info about everything arts on the UI campus.

*Arts Iowa*—at [arts.uiowa.edu](http://arts.uiowa.edu)—showcases exhibits, dance, film, music, theater, readings, and Hancher events, offering background information, photos, video, and complete schedule and ticket info. Users can browse events by artistic medium or click the site's calendar to see what's happening on any given day, and find links to UI arts programs.

The site includes a full year of listings, with new events and sponsors added all the time. Each event includes sharing options that lets users post event info to Facebook or Twitter, or share via email.

# Pep Assembly

For some, collecting Homecoming badges means more than showing school spirit



UI graduate Joel Miller has enjoyed showcasing—and adding to—the collection of UI Homecoming badges and Hawkeye paraphernalia that he inherited from his parents.

Joel Miller has all 89 official University of Iowa Homecoming badges, none of which he has ever worn.

“After I buy one, I put it up right away,” says Miller (B.S. ’96), a rural Solon, Iowa, resident who inherited a set of Homecoming badges when his father, Larry Miller (B.A. ’48, M.D. ’51), passed away five years ago. He has added to the collection, and recently gave it a featured spot on the wall of his home shop, after carefully positioning the badges in even rows inside velvet-lined shadow boxes.

“When my father died, we found the Homecoming buttons rolled up in a towel at the bottom of a dresser drawer,” says Miller, director of facilities services at Cornell College.

Though both of his parents were UI graduates and interested in collectibles, it was his mother, Jonnye Chambers Miller (G.N. ’47), who started the badge collection. As the only one among his four siblings to graduate from Iowa, Joel Miller was only too happy to “continue the legacy.” Other Hawkeye memorabilia in his collection include yearbooks dating back to the 1920s, a leather-bound commencement program from 1912, and a UI game ball from the 1940s.

“I do it for the tradition,” he says. “I want to keep it going.”

For alumni and fans interested in accumulating Hawkeye memorabilia, collecting Homecoming badges is a common and easy place to start, says Herb Staub, longtime dealer of collectibles and author of several price guides on Iowa Homecoming badges.

“They don’t take up a lot of room, they have a date, there is information available about them, and their value goes up,” he says, noting that a passion for collectibles often is passed on between family members, as in Miller’s case.

“No one wakes up one morning and decides to collect Homecoming badges,” he adds. “Either they’ve been given one badge or a collection of badges, or else they’ve had a positive experience with the Hawkeyes and start accumulating items and then want to track down any missing pieces.”

### Evolution of the Iowa Homecoming badge

Although there is one official Homecoming button design each year—with the exception of 2002, when a smaller, student-oriented variation of that year’s design also was issued—characteristics of the badge have evolved over the years. The size has fluctuated, starting at under two inches in diameter in 1924 (the first year of officially recognized Homecoming badges) and expanding to three inches in recent decades and then settling back to two-and-a-quarter inches. The shape usually is round, though occasionally it’s been square, rectangle, or diamond.

Illustration of Iowa’s beloved mascot, Herky, have been featured on a majority of designs, but other subjects have included Iowa coaches and players, campus buildings, the Hawkeye Marching Band, and even an ear of corn. For several decades, the only colors used were black and a shade of gold or yellow, then white became a common background starting in the 1950s. By 1971, Herky is clutching red roses, and by the late 1990s, full color debuts.

“Design in recent years seems to have gotten away from the traditional Hawkeye black and gold,” says Staub. “In my opinion, a good design is one that is recognizable from three feet away. But now, with the aid of computers, you can get much more detailed, and sometimes you can’t even tell what it is. This year’s design, however, is more traditional.”



In fact, because of its clean and traditional design, the 1924 badge is Staub’s favorite. It reads, simply, “SUI Homecoming, Oct. 24, 1924” and shows a football player tackling another. His wife stumbled upon one such badge in a laundry chute at Mt. Mercy College in 1969; the couple eventually traded it for a chest freezer and a color TV.

The Holy Grail for badge collectors, says Staub, is the one issued in 1943. To save metal during World War II, the badge was made from paper and had a gold tassel looped through the top. Some 10,000 were sold at 10 cents a piece, but it rained that day, and players later reported picking torn, muddy badges out of their cleats. Those still in existence can fetch \$2,000 to \$3,000.

Another coveted piece is a limited-edition Homecoming badge from 1982, a variation on that year’s “Catch-a-Cat” theme. To raise money for their squad, the Hawkeye cheerleaders designed and sold 100 badges for \$10 each. The items sold out immediately and now are valued around \$3,000. But, Staub notes, finding a collector willing to part with one is rare.

### Buttons and T-shirts and toasters—oh, my!

In addition to the Homecoming badges, Joel Miller has peppered his collection with other Hawkeye items: buttons marking Iowa’s bowl game appearances, several team badges that were produced before 1924, a football program that lists his father (his dad played halfback in the 1940s), a pair of Rose Bowl drinking glasses from the 1980s, and more.

The success of Iowa’s football team under former coach Hayden Fry—drawing bids to the 1982 and 1985 Rose Bowls among many other postseason contests—helped explode the market for Hawkeye merchandise and memorabilia, says Dale Arens, director of Iowa’s licensing program and the UI Athletics Hall of Fame. That era also marked the infancy of collegiate licensing and lucrative broadcasting deals.

“The Homecoming button is steeped in tradition, but anything that commemorates or marks a specific date or event falls into the realm of collectibles. We started licensing steins for every bowl game Iowa went to, with the bowl game logo on one side and a summation of the season on the other, and people would line them up on their mantels,” he says. “I know people who buy T-shirts and never intend to wear them.”

Apparel is the largest product category of officially licensed UI merchandise, Arens says, “but I don’t think there’s anything that hasn’t been thought of.”

He manages contracts with more than 600 companies worldwide that have sought to market products using Hawkeye trademarks. Iowa fans are likely to find just about anything they desire emblazoned with the Hawkeye logo—from bobble heads to toasters to golf balls.

“Interest in Homecoming badges easily spills over to other Hawkeye items,” Staub says. “Most of the Hawkeye nuts I know have everything. It’s a thrill they can experience outside of the game.”

### A pastime on the periphery?

Even with the proliferation of Hawkeye memorabilia, the hobby of collecting it seems to be taking a hit. This waning interest disappoints Staub, who served as grand marshal of the 2012 Iowa Homecoming parade.

“There have been a lot of changes in the past 30 years,” he says. “While there is a large number of enthusiastic collectors, that group is aging. You don’t see young people investing and chasing down items. I can tell by the number of requests I get.”

Children are spending their free time much differently than they did when he was young, Staub says. Cell phones and computers serve as a distraction, and a poor economy doesn’t help.

“People are drawn to collecting because it ties into the memories they have of growing up, but today’s generation is not the same,” he says. “Kids are not as likely

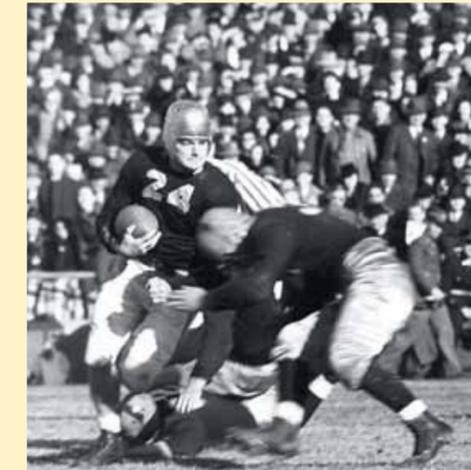
to be out earning money to add to their collections of baseball cards or comics books. It’s a different world, and accumulating [collectibles] is not so much a part of it.”

To help build enthusiasm for Hawkeye collectibles, organizers of the annual FRY Fest celebration in Coralville, a group that includes both Staub and Arens, added the Hawkeye Collector’s Showcase to this year’s programming. As part of the September event, area collectors were invited to show off some of their most prized Hawkeye memorabilia, and Frank Fritz, star of the TV show *American Pickers*, stopped by to make a presentation and sign autographs.

Miller says his children are big Hawkeye fans, and he hopes to pass on his collection to one of them. In the meantime, there is one item he is longing to add.

“I really want a life-size, cardboard cutout of Hayden Fry,” he says. “Where can I get one?”

—Sara Epstein Moninger



Collection of Nile Kinnick Items Now Online

Each fall tens of thousands of people cheer their beloved Iowa Hawkeyes in the football stadium that bears the name of Iowa’s only Heisman trophy winner: Nile Kinnick, Jr. Now they have a chance to further get to know the champion athlete and scholar who gave his life for his country serving in World War II.

A new digital collection from UI Libraries—available at [digital.lib.uiowa.edu/kinnick](http://digital.lib.uiowa.edu/kinnick)—contains letters, diaries, newspaper clippings, and photos of Kinnick, telling the story of one of the UI’s greatest football legends. Also included is the text of Kinnick’s Heisman trophy acceptance speech.

The Nile Kinnick Collection is the latest addition to the Iowa Digital Library, [digital.lib.uiowa.edu](http://digital.lib.uiowa.edu), which features more than half a million digital objects created from the holdings of the UI Libraries and its campus partners.





**Old Gold**



## University archivist looks back on 100 years of Iowa Homecoming

Corn monuments, bed races down Clinton Street, commemorative badges, kings and queens, dances, and—oh, yes—football games: the stuff of Homecoming at the University of Iowa for a century. Old Gold loves parades, so he can't leave those off the Homecoming checklist, either.

Iowa's Homecoming tradition started 100 years ago this fall, on Nov. 23, 1912, when the Hawkeyes hosted Big 9 conference foe Wisconsin on old Iowa Field, site of a present-day parking lot that occupies the east bank of the Iowa River south of the English-Philosophy Building.

Wisconsin won, 28-10, but the loss apparently didn't dampen the crowd's spirits. More than 500 alumni returned to campus for Iowa's first such football weekend reunion, joining about 5,000 other fans, according to the late Iowa City historian Irving Weber (*Iowa City Press-Citizen*, Sept. 29, 1982).

Through the years, different Homecoming-related rituals have evolved, some only fleeting, others enduring for decades.

The corn monument display, for example, was begun by a group of College of Engineering students in 1919. That year passersby were awed by the spectacle of hundreds of multicolored cobs of corn, attached to a 25-foot tall obelisk and flanked by four corner light posts, utilizing the modern miracle of electricity. It occupied a prominent spot at the corner of Iowa Avenue and Clinton Street, in front of Old Capitol. The tradition waned in the 1960s but enjoyed an off-and-on revival starting in 1981.

No celebration is complete without a fashion statement, and Homecoming badges debuted in 1924. Made of metal, plastic, and—in lean years—paper, they've become an annual staple. If you're paying a visit to campus, Old Gold recommends stopping by the Iowa House lobby in the Iowa Memorial Union, where a complete set of badges is on display near the south entrance.

1. Corn monument, 1922 2. Corn monument burning after Homecoming victory, 1928 3. Homecoming parade, 1917 4. Cheerleader placing Homecoming pin on a hawk, 1956 5. Arch on Iowa Avenue, 1930s 6. Diving display, 1920s 7. Kappa Alpha Theta sorority house decorations, 1940s 8. Corn monument, 1958 9. Corn monument, 1943 10. Homecoming float assembly, 1971 11. Corn monument, 1923 12. Corn monument construction, 1978

Recently highlights of some vintage Homecoming football game films, featuring the Hawkeyes on the gridiron between 1939 and 1954, were added to the UI YouTube channel. Go to [www.youtube.com/universityofiowa](http://www.youtube.com/universityofiowa) and choose the "Historical" playlist. From there you'll find links to five game films, as well as *The Fame of the Black and Gold*, a 1949 compilation of the Hawkeyes' greatest football moments to that date. Included is rare footage of a 1921 game, one of the earliest known films of a Western (now Big Ten) Conference matchup.

Why celebrate Homecoming? Old Gold found the following gem of a passage in the Sept. 9, 1924, issue of the *Iowa Alumnus*, written by an anonymous reader from Waterloo and just as timely today.

### LONGING FOR IOWA

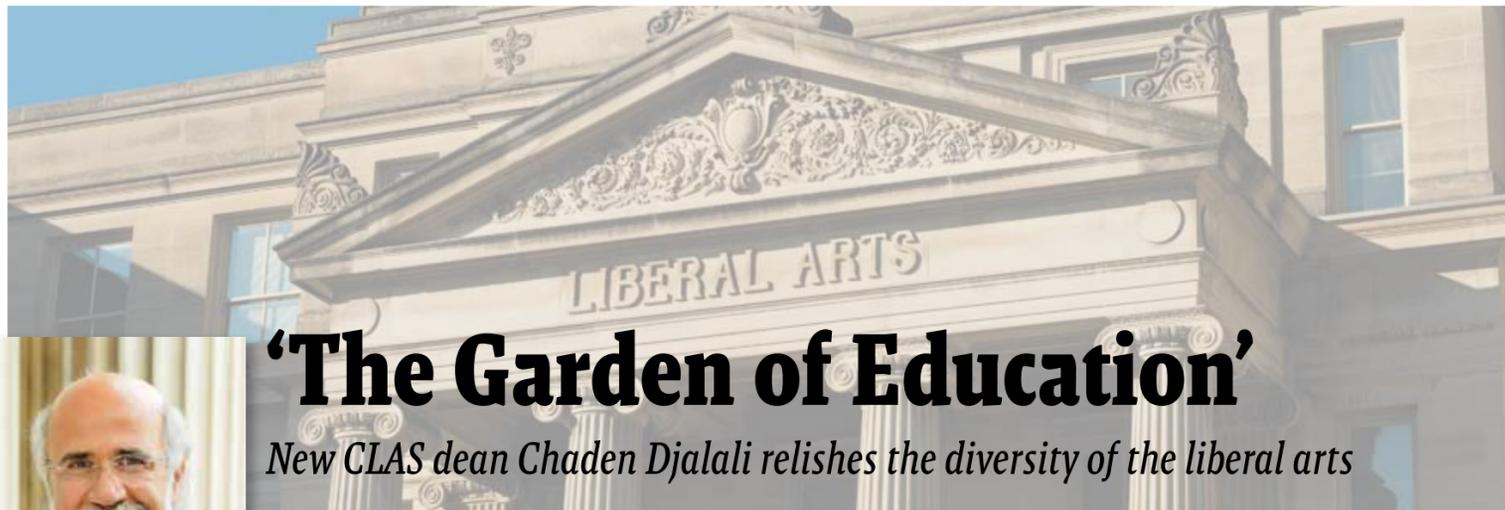
*Fall has come again and with it the usual empty feeling.*

*I long to be back in the college town, watching, and thrilling, as the trains bring their carloads of precious expectant youth; as they greet old friends, and grab the new.*

*I want to be back as they hunt for rooms; to watch the excited rushing; to see the groups go back and forth, perhaps to look for a face here or there that I knew.*

—David McCartney

(Editor's note: The Old Gold series provides a look at University of Iowa history and tradition through images housed in University Archives, Department of Special Collections. Articles are published monthly at [now.uiowa.edu](http://now.uiowa.edu).)



# 'The Garden of Education'

*New CLAS dean Chaden Djalali relishes the diversity of the liberal arts*



*Chaden Djalali may not be an international man of mystery, but he's certainly lived an international life.*

*Born in Morocco to Iranian parents fleeing religious persecution, Djalali has also lived in Algeria, the Canary Islands, Spain, France, Michigan, and South Carolina. He speaks four languages fluently. (He used to speak five, but didn't practice, so he forgot one.) His wife, Marta, is from Colombia. They met while at the same university in France. His research on intermediate energy nuclear physics and hadronic physics has taken him all over the world.*

*But Djalali, who took over as dean of the UI College of Liberal Arts and Sciences in August, thinks Iowa City's a pretty good stopping place.*

*"It has the feeling of a small city, which is nice. At the same time, because it's a university city, you have the cultural advantages of a large city," he says.*

*Djalali earned bachelor's and master's degrees from the University of Paris XI and a doctorate from Institut de Physique Nucléaire (IPN-Orsay) in Paris. He joined the physics faculty of the University of South Carolina in 1989 and served as the chair of the department from 2004 to 2012. At Iowa, he succeeds Linda Maxson.*

## What will be some of your largest challenges as dean?

The larger challenges, I think, are not going to be specific only to the University of Iowa, but specific to liberal arts education in general: How do you balance?

The original goal of education has always been that you want people to know how to think critically, how to express themselves, how to be able to appreciate beauty, music, art. This is what you want in a well-rounded citizen. On the other hand, there is a pull toward students wanting jobs once they've graduated. To some extent, some institutions see these two things as mutually exclusive, but I think that's the wrong way to look at it. We can actually achieve both goals by tweaking the way we do business. It's not giving up on the fundamental things like writing or the sciences without regard to them getting a good job or vice versa. The biggest challenge is to convince ourselves and the public that we can do both. Yes, a liberal arts education is fundamental to the future of the state, of the country, of the planet, because well-rounded citizens are the ones who solve problems, care about others, and do things.

## You're a physicist by training. How do you see your background in the hard sciences melding with the arts and humanities aspects of CLAS?

We talk a lot about diversity in society; we need to look at diversity in human achievement. My parents always said something about diversity that I think applies to CLAS. The diversity of human beings is like entering a garden. If you have only

one kind of flower or plant, it's not that beautiful, but when you have all the different kinds of plants, that's beautiful. That's what we need.

This is a fantastic college to be dean because it's like walking in a garden with roses, white and green flowers, cacti, and they're all in harmony. They're all showing the beauty of the garden, and that garden is the garden of education.

## What do you do for fun?

I travel a lot for research. I would like to travel more for fun. I love science fiction movies and my daughters love them too, so we sit and watch them. If I have time I would like to play music. I play all kinds of guitar—from classical to electric. I have many of them, but I don't have time.

## What's something people would be surprised to know about you?

If I had time I would be in a rock band playing a guitar, or heavy metal. Or maybe actually country music. The thing people might be surprised about is that I really love every kind of music, from the classical—Bach, Mozart—all the way to some, not all, heavy metal. Everything in between.

## So, do you have an iPod?

I have three iPods. I was known at South Carolina as the iPerson. My colleagues got me an iPod Nano when I left; they said, "Everything else that starts with an 'i,' you have."

—Kelli Andresen



## IWP Participant Picks Up Nobel Prize for Literature

Chinese author Mo Yan, a 2004 resident of the UI International Writing Program, is the recipient of the 2012 Nobel Prize for Literature.

One of China's foremost novelists, Mo is best known for his 1987 novel *Hong Gaoliang Jiazu* (in English, *Red Sorghum*). He has written dozens of short stories and numerous novels,

translated widely. In addition to *Red Sorghum*, titles available in English include *Explosions and Other Stories*, *The Garlic Ballads*, and *The Republic of Wine: A Novel*.

"Mo Yan, which means 'don't speak,' nevertheless speaks elegantly, and humorously, in his novels, which are set largely in the impoverished countryside of China," says IWP director Christopher Merrill. "They brim with life and light, as he himself does."

Mo is the second IWP resident to receive the Nobel Prize for Literature. In 2006, Istanbul-born novelist Orhan Pamuk received the honor; he was in residence during the fall of 1985.

## UI Team Pinpoints Where Doubt Arises in Human Mind

Everyone knows the adage "If something sounds too good to be true, then it probably is." So, why, then, do some people fall for scams, and why are older folks especially prone to being duped?

An answer, it seems, is because a specific area of the brain has deteriorated or is damaged, according to a UI study. By examining patients with various forms of brain damage, the researchers report they've pinpointed the precise location in the human brain, called the ventromedial prefrontal cortex (vmPFC), that controls belief and doubt, and which explains why some of us are more gullible than others.

"In our theory, the more effortful process of disbelief (to items initially believed) is mediated by the vmPFC, which, in old age, tends to disproportionately lose structural integrity and associated functionality," the researchers wrote in the journal *Frontiers in Neuroscience*.

An oval-shaped lobe lodged in the front of the human head, the vmPFC is part of a larger area that controls a range of emotions and behaviors, from impulsivity to poor planning. But brain scientists have struggled to identify which regions of the prefrontal cortex govern specific emotions and behaviors, including the cognitive seesaw between belief and doubt.

Apart from being damaged, the vmPFC begins to deteriorate as people reach age 60 and older, says Daniel Tranel, UI neurology and psychology professor and corresponding author. He thinks the finding will enable doctors, caregivers, and relatives to be more understanding of decision making by the elderly.

"And maybe protective," Tranel adds. "Instead of saying, 'How would you do something silly and transparently stupid,' people may have a better appreciation of the fact that older people have lost the biological mechanism that allows them to see the disadvantageous nature of their decisions."



## Remember These Guys?

### Long-Lost Mammals Reappear in Downtown Iowa City

Demolition of the Wells Fargo Bank building on the pedestrian mall this past summer conjured up more than just a little extra dust. It revealed a long-forgotten mural of three American bison that had been covered up since the 1980s. The animals were painted on a brick wall in the 1970s by former UI art professor Donna Friedman (B.A. '66, M.A. '69, M.F.A. '73) and her students as part of a city beautification project during urban renewal. The discovery of the mural was a pleasant surprise, and prompted many passersby to stop and snap a photo. The bison's reemergence will be short-lived, however, as the site is being prepped for construction of a 14-story building.

## It May Be Closed, But UI Art Museum Sets Attendance Record

Despite not having a building of its own, the UI Museum of Art (UIMA) set an all-time museum record for attendance at events, programs, and exhibitions during the 2011-12 academic year: it drew 145,466 people, smashing the previous year's record of 91,631.

Since floodwaters closed the building in 2008, the UIMA has maintained exhibitions in temporary locations across campus, including the Iowa Memorial Union and the UI Main Library, and at the Figge Art Museum in Davenport, where parts of the museum's permanent collection remain on display. Over the summer, the UIMA's most well-known artwork, Jackson Pollock's *Mural*, was exhibited in the Des Moines Art Center, attracting 34,200 visitors—a record number for an Iowa university art museum show.

The UIMA also has increased its reach by organizing education programs across the state, bringing art to more than 12,000 K-12 students and nearly 1,000 people in senior living centers. Museum staff plans to expand outreach efforts with partnerships in Waterloo, Cedar Rapids, Mount Vernon, and Dubuque, in addition to current work with partners in Des Moines and Davenport.

Successful outreach, however, does not diminish the need for a permanent home for the museum, says UIMA director Sean O'Harrow: "Outreach throughout the state is an important part of our mission, but until we have a facility that allows us to permanently house our collection on campus, we will be hampered in our efforts to engage even more Iowans and the students at the university."

For more information, visit [uima.uiowa.edu](http://uima.uiowa.edu).



# A Life's Lasting Image

*Program offers portrait sessions for families whose children face serious health issues*

Kari Ohlenkamp can't help but tear up when she talks about the portrait of her 2-year-old son, Giovanni Turner, which recently hung as part of a photo exhibit at University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics.

The picture (*shown at right*), in black and white, is a close-up of the bright-eyed toddler with a tousled mop of thick black hair. He's wearing just a diaper and sitting on a bed, with a dressing that covers the insertion site of his central line.

The portrait, taken through the Cherished Portraits program at UI Children's Hospital, looks like it could be a regular professional photo. These pictures, however, are anything but ordinary.

The Cherished Portraits program provides private, professional portrait sessions for families experiencing stillbirth or newborn death, infants and children with life-threatening illnesses, children who are facing the end of their lives, or at the time of an unexpected death. The photos are offered on-site by professional photographers, and are given to families at no cost on a disc to serve as a testament to the life that may be brief.

## Giovanni's story

Giovanni has faced health issues since birth—first an unstable airway led to a tracheostomy and several procedures to rebuild the airway. He had difficulty eating and drinking so he had to have a GI tube inserted to help with nutrition.

But it was when he was scheduled to have his tracheostomy removed that Giovanni's situation turned grave: doctors diagnosed him with stage IV rhabdomyosarcoma, a soft tissue cancer that left an inoperable tumor near his pelvis. His only options are chemotherapy and radiation and his prognosis, Ohlenkamp says, isn't good.



She's grateful for the photos she has of her son, she says. She uses them in fliers for benefits in Hudson, Iowa, where they live, and has made prints of some of them. They've captured his young, positive spirit, she says.

"I try not to cry about this because when I look at him he's not letting it affect him," she says. "Because of his tumor and where it is he has trouble walking, but he doesn't want people to carry him. He wants to do things on his own. He always pushes himself, even at this age."

"I was grateful they came and took the photos, because the future is so uncertain," she says.

## How it works

Cherished Portraits had its first portrait session in 2007 after hospital staff started looking at different grief support programs for families and options for providing families with a memento the hospital hadn't offered before, says Jean Reed, director of volunteer services for UI Hospitals and Clinics.

"For those who have been through a loss, they can really connect with the gift of that photograph, that memory," Reed says. "A lot of times people can't remember not only the details of the child but also the emotions they go through on that day. These photographs help them recapture some of that and hold onto it."

Sheila Frascht, grief services coordinator for UI Children's Hospital, says the portraits are a keepsake that serves to mark that child's life.

"A big piece of it is the validation that it's OK to capture who a family is at any given time," she says.

When a family comes into the hospital and is facing a stillbirth or a child with a life-threatening illness, a nurse approaches the family about the Cherished Portraits

program and talks to family members about the portraits. If a photo session is requested, a group of volunteers, called "Pager Angels," start calling the program's five photographers to see who is available for a session.

The photographers donate their time during the session as well as edit the photos and compile a disc of portraits. The disc is then given to the family. The decision to print photos is left to the family, Reed says.

"Sometimes they're not ready to see the photos right away. Sometimes they may not be ready for a long time, but it's nice for them to have that disc so they can see photos when they are ready," she says.

Laura Eckert, of Shueyville, Iowa, is one of the volunteer photographers. She says much has been said about what the photographers provide the families, but notes the photographers also gain a lot.

"As professional photographers we are often meeting clients on the best day of their lives. We shoot their engagement sessions, their weddings, and their newborn babies. But when I walk into a Cherished Portraits session, I'm meeting someone on the worst day of their life. It is almost indescribable to have the opportunity to be a blessing to others in the midst of their deepest pain, and as they heal and grieve down the road," she says.

"I make a more conscious effort to not take my loved ones for granted."

—Molly Rossiter



## Schwinn to Lead Carver College of Medicine

Debra A. Schwinn, a nationally known investigator in molecular pharmacology, took the helm of the UI Carver College of Medicine Nov. 1. She succeeds Paul Rothman, who departed for Johns Hopkins University.

Before arriving on the UI campus, Schwinn served as professor and chair of the Department of Anesthesiology and Pain Medicine at the University of Washington in Seattle.

Schwinn received a medical degree from Stanford University School of Medicine, completed a residency in anesthesiology at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania, and a clinical fellowship in cardiac anesthesiology (including training in transesophageal echocardiography) at Duke University Medical Center. She completed a research fellowship in the Departments of Biochemistry and Medicine at Duke, as well as the national Executive Leadership in Academic Medicine program.

## UI, Kirkwood Team Up to Boost State's K-12 STEM Education

With growing concern about the competitiveness of high school and college graduates for jobs in mathematics and the sciences, the University of Iowa and Kirkwood Community College will collaborate on two initiatives.

First, the schools will create a Kirkwood/UI regional center focused on enhancing technical education and examining new models to stimulate additional student interest in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) careers and four-year degrees. Second, they will co-lead one of Iowa Gov. Terry Branstad's recently proposed regional STEM hubs.

The Kirkwood Regional Center at the UI, slated to open in 2015, will give faculty, staff, and students at Kirkwood and at Iowa opportunities to teach, learn, conduct research, brainstorm, and collaborate. Officials say the joint venture will help prepare students for the jobs of tomorrow from kindergarten to career, by supporting and enhancing science and math education for K-12 students and then by providing adaptable training that matches the specific needs of employers in the area.

The regional STEM hub is one of six in the state that Branstad announced in May. A manager in each of the state's six regions will coordinate K-12 STEM education for the area, better ensuring that students, regardless of where they live in Iowa, will have access to the best programs. Managers also will work to better align educational and training opportunities with the needs of area businesses.



## Record Enrollment Includes Most Diverse First-Year Class

Total enrollment at Iowa reached a record high this fall, with 31,498 students attending the university, including 21,999 undergraduates, 4,470 of whom are first-year students.

The incoming class is Iowa's most diverse ever, with 16.2 percent—725 students—identifying as minorities, continuing a trend that has seen that mark grow from 12.6 percent in 2010 and 14.2 percent last year.

Iowa residents make up 47.2 percent of the class, a 2 percent increase from last year. Domestic nonresidents account for 43.9 percent, and international students fell from a record 484 in 2011 to 398 this fall, representing 8.9 percent of the class.



# Making a World of Difference

Engle to receive UI award for international impact

When Hualing Nieh Engle first suggested bringing together a group of established writers from around the globe to nurture their artistic creativity on the University of Iowa campus, Paul Engle told her it was a crazy idea.

"But Paul thought it was an interesting one, and he always wanted to try new things," says Engle of the exchange she had with the man who had led the Iowa Writers' Workshop to worldwide distinction and whom she later married. "Iowa City is such a wonderful place for writers, so I said, 'Why not expand the workshop to focus on international writers?' It was a natural thought."

Engle had been a published author living in Taiwan when she met Paul in 1963. He was traveling through Asia scouting literary talent and invited her to attend the Writers' Workshop. Despite political turbulence in Taiwan, she was granted the necessary paperwork to come to the UI the following year, first as a writer-in-residence at the workshop and then as a student. After earning a master's degree in 1966, she saw an opportunity to reach out to similar writers who could benefit from Iowa City's literary environment, and convinced Paul to make it happen.

And so began, in 1967, the UI International Writing Program (IWP). Unlike the Writers' Workshop, the IWP is a nonacademic program, one that brings several dozen international writers to the UI campus each fall for a three-month residency. Over the past 45 years, it has hosted more than 1,400 writers from more than 140 countries in an exchange that allows participants the chance to immerse themselves in their writing, to learn about American culture, and to share ideas with each other and with their American counterparts.

"It took hard, constant work, and I didn't expect it could be developed into what it is now. It's beyond my imagination. It's marvelous," Engle says. "Paul Engle would be so happy."

### Honoring the impact

Engle ran the program with Paul until he retired in 1977, and then took over as sole director. (She retired in 1988 and now serves on the program's advisory board.

Paul died in 1991.) Together, the Engles worked tirelessly to assemble and fund each year's cohort, often targeting regions of the world where personal liberties were restricted. It was an effort that earned the pair a nomination for the Nobel Peace Prize in 1976, and one that helped cement Iowa City's 2008 designation as a UNESCO City of Literature.

In November, the university will honor Engle with its International Impact Award. Established by UI International Programs in 2010, the award recognizes distinguished alumni and other individuals with significant ties to the UI who have made important contributions to promote global understanding.

In a letter nominating Engle for the award, current IWP director Christopher Merrill explains the magnitude of the program: "The impact of this model continues to ripple through the increasingly globalized culture-scape, with masters-level creative programs established by IWP alumni, one literary residency modeled directly on the IWP now thriving in Hong Kong, another in the planning stage in Nigeria, while other international literary residencies yet use the IWP as a point of reference or a sounding board."

Writers in the 2012 residency represent such diverse countries as Uruguay, Botswana, Slovakia, Burma, Saudi Arabia, South Korea, and the Philippines, among others.

### Becoming a writer

One of the reasons for the program's success, Engle notes, is that writers often thrive simply being together in a supportive environment. Iowa City already had established a reputation as a place where writers could flourish, and she and Paul frequently invited IWP participants to their home for further social networking.

"We'd be together drinking wine or drinking tea and singing and dancing," says Engle, recalling the lively gatherings. "We're just writers. We're happy together."

Though she says she cannot pinpoint when she decided to pursue writing as a career, Engle traces an interest back to her childhood in China. "As with any

artist—writing is one kind of art—one isn't aware when," she says. "It's kind of in your blood."

Engle's grandfather had been a classical poet who would chant classical poems at home, often gathering with others to do so. She remembers listening from another room when she was a little girl, peering through the keyhole of a closed door and soaking it in. "I found it enchanting."

Praise and encouragement from a string of teachers in secondary school and in college further compelled Engle to write. She studied English literature at National Central University in China, but as the political climate grew more turbulent—her father had been executed in the Chinese civil war when she was 11—she fled with her family to Taiwan. There she took an editorial job at *Free China Fortnightly*, a liberal literary journal. In 1960, however, Chiang Kai-shek's government shut down the publication for its democratic leanings and arrested several of her colleagues.

"I was lucky," she explains. "They left me alone because I had nothing to do with the magazine's political writing—I was the literary editor. But still they kept an eye on me, and no one would hire me. So I occupied myself with my writing and with translating the works of Henry James and Faulkner and Hemingway."

By the time she arrived on the UI campus four years later, Engle had published seven books, including short stories, translations, and a novel.

### Meeting Paul Engle

During her time in Taiwan, Engle was aware of the literary scene in Iowa City and of the Writers' Workshop. A Taiwanese poet she knew had graduated from the Iowa program and hosted a dinner for Paul during his 1963 visit to Taiwan. Engle was invited to the event and, because she spoke English, was seated next to Paul.

"Paul was talking and joking around, and people were enjoying his company so much that I really didn't say much," she recalls. "But then he turned to me and asked if I wanted to come to the workshop. He said he wanted to see me again."

The two had lunch the following day, and the wheels were set in motion—for both her marriage to Paul and her legacy at Iowa.

"It was professional," she says, denying there was an immediate attraction between the two. "I had had some stories published in English, so he had an idea what my writing was like. Maybe he had a good impression of me. He wanted me to come, so I came."

With two daughters from her first marriage in tow, Engle made it to Iowa and completed a degree. Though an exciting job opportunity awaited her at a new publishing house in Hong Kong, Engle was compelled to stay put. She and Paul married in 1971.

### Living in Iowa City, but honoring her roots

Nearly half a century later, Engle lives in the house overlooking the Iowa River that she and Paul bought 40 years ago. Though her children and their families now live on the East Coast, the 87-year-old great-grandmother says she has no intention of leaving Iowa City—or a home filled with so many memories.

"I've had opportunities to go elsewhere, but I love being here and what I've accomplished here," says Engle, who still writes daily out of an office in the lower level of the house.

Engle is continuing to accomplish things—and the global impact of her work is far from over. In addition to writing and publishing books in Chinese ("I didn't want to stop publishing in my mother tongue," she says), she will direct an anonymous donation made recently to the UI Foundation in her honor to endow two IWP fellowships, including one to fund a writer from China.

—Sara Epstein Moninger



### UI Plucks New Research VP from Microsoft Corp.

Daniel Reed, an executive at Microsoft Corp. and a longtime higher-education academic, became UI vice president for research and economic development on Oct. 15. He succeeds Jordan Cohen, who had held the position since 2010.

Reed joined Microsoft in 2007 and most recently served as a corporate vice president, reporting to the company's chief research and strategy officer. He built and led research and prototyping on cloud and parallel computing, and later led Microsoft's global technology policy group, helping foster dialog on the influence of technology on societal issues and government policy.

After earning a doctorate at Purdue University in 1983, Reed was an assistant professor in computer science at the University of North Carolina for one year before accepting a position at the University of Illinois. During that time, he oversaw a dramatic expansion of the computer science department and design of a new IT quadrangle on campus. He also has led the National Center for Supercomputing Application and the Renaissance Computing Institute.



### Car-Sharing Program Comes to Iowa City, UI Campus

Members of the UI community now have a new way to drive around town without the associated costs of owning a car: a car-sharing program run by a company called Zipcar.

The University of Iowa partnered with the City of Iowa City to designate 10 parking places around campus and downtown where registered Zipcar members can find vehicles waiting and ready to go. The fleet includes four Ford Focuses, two Honda Civics, two Honda Insights, one Mazda 3, and one Toyota Prius.

With rates starting from \$7 an hour and \$66 a day, Zipcar members can reserve a vehicle online or by using Zipcar's mobile apps on a smartphone for a particular time, then use a swipe card to enter.

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Alumni newsletter to evolve with new name and format

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Sally Mason discusses the changing face of campus

**Badges of Honor—pages 6-7**

Homecoming buttons prove popular among collectors

**Old Gold—pages 8-9**

University archivist looks back at 100 years of Homecoming

**Capturing a Lasting Image—pages 12-13**

Hospital program offers professional portrait sessions to families of young patients

**Power of the Pen—pages 14-15**

International Writing Program co-founder recognized for global impact

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**Van Allen Hosts Viewing Party for Venus Voyage**

On June 5, people around the world had a chance to observe a rare astronomical event: the transit of Venus across the sun.

In Iowa City, the UI Department of Physics and Astronomy invited the public to the roof of Van Allen Hall to view the solar traversal—a path the planet will not take again until 2117—through one of five telescopes built exclusively for observing the sun. Professor Steven Spangler (*bottom left*) explained how the specialized telescopes work.

Unfortunately, viewers had to wait for an overcast sky to relent; some headed inside to a classroom (*bottom center*) where a live stream from a webcam on the West Coast projected a clear view of the transit (*bottom right*). Persistence paid off, however. After a couple of hours, the clouds broke intermittently for five or 10 seconds at a time, offering viewers a brief glimpse of the planet's journey.

PHOTOS BY BILL ADAMS

