Alumni Awards & Recognition Ceremony

fall 2012
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Iowa State University Alumni Association awards  Beate Schmittmann, dean

College of Liberal Arts and Sciences awards  Beate Schmittmann, dean

Department of Computer Science  Carl Chang, chair

Department of English  Barbara Ching, chair

Department of Geological and Atmospheric Sciences  Neal Iverson, chair

Greenlee School of Journalism and Communication  Michael Bugeja, chair

Department of Mathematics and Department of World Languages and Cultures  Wolfgang Kliemann and Mark Rectanus, chairs

Department of Music & Theatre  Michael Golemo, chair

Department of Political Science  James McCormick, chair

Department of Psychology  Carolyn Cutrona, chair
James Olberding has made it his personal mission to help Iowa State University honor those who made the ultimate sacrifice. In 2003 he approached Memorial Union director Richard Reynolds about the university's criteria for engraving names in Gold Star Hall. In the nine years since, the university has added more than 40 previously unrecognized names from past conflicts to the hallowed hall.

Olberding assisted in the formation of the Gold Star Hall Committee and has reviewed files from World War I, World War II, Korea, and Vietnam service personnel to find matches with ISU records. The results have been remarkable.

Today, the annual Gold Star Hall Ceremony is a significant event on campus each Veterans Day. Olberding takes great pride in the event, working with the honorees' families to make them feel welcome and encouraging military dignitaries to attend. He has also donated a set of medals for display in Gold Star Hall.

Throughout the time-consuming research project, Olberding has been guided by his belief that these fallen soldiers, sailors, marines, and airmen should be honored on campus while their descendants are still living and able to participate; for many, Olberding's work has brought closure and comfort. In 2010, the Memorial Union honored him with its M.J. Riggs Award for his work with the Gold Star Hall project.

Olberding is a Vietnam War Veteran who has most recently been involved with the Boy Scouts of America, National Order of Battlefield Commissions, and VFW Post 674. On campus he is a life member of the Memorial Union and a member of the Society of the Gentle Doctor in addition to his work with the Gold Star Hall Committee. He is a member of the Order of the Knoll and a member of Tau Kappa Epsilon fraternity.

Olberding, who has an honorary degree from Wabash College, is married to Laura J. Olberding. They have two children: Sara E. Michael ('96 speech comm) and Ethan A. Olberding.
Serving the less fortunate has been a predominant theme in the professional life of Eric Imerman, currently an agriculture training advisor for Pragma Corporation in Azerbaijan, who has traveled the world to improve agriculture and make better lives for others.

Imerman had extensive experience before he even set foot on campus as a nontraditional ISU student; he was working as a cattle herdsman when he was inspired to join the Peace Corps in 1983. His two-year experience in the Philippines showed him how he could use his knowledge to benefit others; he helped a midwife/rice farmer there build a simple treadle-powered thresher that increased her production and income by 20 percent; within a few years, every farmer in the area had adopted a similar thresher and a better life.

Shortly thereafter, Imerman came to Ames to earn his bachelor's degree, but it wasn’t long before he was back traveling the world with the Peace Corps. His second assignment was in the high Andes of Ecuador, where he organized a farmers’ cooperative that increased food production and improved nutrition. After two years in Ecuador, Imerman returned to Iowa State to earn his M.S. and Ph.D. degrees.

His next international experience was at the College of the Marshall Islands, where he taught social sciences, humanities, algebra, and agriculture and assisted local farmers before returning to the U.S. from 1999-2009 to work in extension and outreach at both Iowa State and the Ohio State University.

In 2010, Imerman went overseas again, traveling to the Kunduz Province of Afghanistan with the U.S. government to assist with agricultural issues. His challenging and eye-opening experience in the war-torn nation was featured in the New York Times' blog, “At War.” Today he continues his international service in agriculture as the true calling of his career.

Imerman has a daughter, Iliniza Imerman.
As alumni, as business owners, and as community members, Tim and Janice Coble have consistently provided service to the Iowa State University Alumni Association that is second to none. They have never hesitated to give back, get involved, and share the Iowa State story.

Tim served as an associate to the ISUAA board of directors from 2004-2010 to advise the membership and revenue enhancement committee and then volunteered to serve on the search committee for the Association’s membership and revenue enhancement staff position. After the position was hired, the Cobles were the first to ask how they could support the Association’s business programs. Their business, Temptations on Main, was one of the ISUAA’s first business members and sponsors. As the business owners, the Cobles were always there to volunteer their store, their services, and their smiles in support of Iowa State University.

Tim and Janice were also extensively involved in the Ames Main Street Cultural District. Tim served as president, and both Tim and Janice were involved on numerous committees for more than seven years. The Cobles were also involved with the Ames Chamber of Commerce and Ames Convention & Visitors Bureau, and Temptations was voted best candy story in Story County in back-to-back years. In 2010, Tim received the Iowa Governor’s Volunteer Award for his service to the community.

Although the Cobles recently closed Temptations on Main, their business partnerships with the ISU Alumni Association have left a legacy. They have truly built strong connections that have left an indelible mark on the ISU Alumni Association.

The Cobles are life members of the ISU Alumni Association, as well as members of the Order of the Knoll and the Cyclone Club.
When Mary Wells retired from her distinguished career as an educator in 2002, she made her home in Ames. In the blink of an eye, she became one of the community's most involved residents and one of Iowa State's most active alumni.

Today Wells is chair of the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at Iowa State University, a program formerly known as ISU College for Seniors with which she has been extensively involved for nearly a decade. Her expertise in teaching, advising, and educational administration has been invaluable to the organization that provides lifelong learning opportunities for adults aged 50 and older. She has been involved with the curriculum committee and the marketing committee, helping generate ideas for classes and for promoting the program. Today she is serving a six-year leadership term that involves two years as chair-elect, two as chair, and two as chair of the long-range planning committee.

Wells’ service to the ISU Alumni Association doesn’t end with the OLLI at ISU program, however. She has been one of the ISUAA’s most active volunteers – giving her time to help with Cyclone Central tailgates, the Alumni Days class reunion, and building tours. Outside of the ISU Alumni Association, Wells is active in the Rotary Club of Ames, of which she served on the board from 2005-2007, and P.E.O, which she served as president from 2006-2008.

Before retiring, Wells lived in northern Wyoming, where she worked in educational administration and counseling. She was named the 1992 Wyoming Assistant Principal of the Year. She helped create and run a “jail school” for incarcerated teenagers in Gillette, Wyo., and was a member of the committee that brought the first public radio station to the area.

A life member of the ISU Alumni Association, Wells is mother to one son, Joshua Joseph Wells, who is married to Julie and has two children (Kaia, 8; Emmett, 4).
Since arriving at Iowa State as director of bands 13 years ago, Michael Golemo has worked to develop stronger connections between the university’s band program and the ISU Alumni Band society – an organization that has steadily climbed in participation throughout Golemo’s tenure at Iowa State. Today Golemo is not only the director of bands but head of ISU’s Department of Music and Theatre, and ISU’s alumni band is one of the largest and most active alumni band organizations in the country. Last season, the Alumni Band’s Homecoming reunion had its highest attendance ever – an achievement board members say wouldn’t have been possible without Golemo.

Not only has Golemo provided extensive support to the Alumni Band, but he has also reached out to the alumni population to grow fundraising in support of ISU’s music and theatre program. As a liaison with the ISU Foundation, he helped create the “Adopt-A-Band” program and raised funds for several student scholarships. In the last five years alone, the music and theatre department has received more than $2 million in gifts.

Alumni and friends consistently describe Golemo as an outstanding ambassador for the university, for his department, and for the band program. He never hesitates to pitch in at special events, is always available to meet alumni, and provides much-needed technical assistance to the Alumni Band’s three annual events.

Golemo received his bachelor’s and master’s degrees from Northwestern University and a doctorate of musical arts from Michigan State. In 2007, he was elected to the prestigious American Bandmasters Association. He is a member and past president of the national band fraternity, Kappa Kappa Psi, which presented him its outstanding sponsor award in 2009. Golemo is also a past recipient of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences’ Outstanding Award in Department Leadership.

Golemo, who has directed the Ames Municipal Band for 10 years, is also a life member of the ISU Alumni Association. He lives in Ames with his wife, Mary Beth, who is the apartment community director of ISU’s Frederiksen Court. They have two children, Molly and Mac.
Lisa Frerichs has always had a special place in her heart for the work of the Iowa State University Alumni Association. It started with her extensive involvement with the Student Alumni Leadership Council as an undergraduate and has continued into her time as a young alumna with the Young Alumni Council – an organization Frerichs helped shape with her wisdom, leadership, organization, and passion.

Frerichs joined the Young Alumni Council in 2007 as a founding member; she quickly became integral to the organization, overseeing branding initiatives and spearheading the development of a young alumni newsletter as chair of the Council’s marketing subcommittee. Frerichs’ contributions to the marketing committee made her a natural choice to step into the chair-elect role in 2010, and in 2011-2012, the final year of her Young Alumni Council term, she served as chair. During her time with Young Alumni Council, the organization has developed a voice, purpose, and identity and grown into a vibrant and dynamic group that plays a key role in advising the work of the ISU Alumni Association and increasing outreach to graduates of the past 10 years.

A former president of Young Professionals of Ames (YPA) who has been involved with that organization since 2003, Frerichs brought a wealth of expertise to the role of engaging young alumni and professionals. Her leadership experience in the Ames community also includes service to The Ames Foundation and P.E.O. Chapter IV.

Frerichs works as corporate communications coordinator for the Krell Institute in Ames. She and her husband, Matt Frerichs ('04 elec engr), are expecting a child this fall. They are ISU Alumni Association life members.
Sophia Magill became well-known on campus during her student days as Government of the Student Body president and as an extremely involved member of Alpha Gamma Delta, the Panhellenic Council, Cardinal Key, Dance Marathon, VEISHEA, Freshmen Council, and the Student Foundation Committee. Since graduating in 2005, Magill has been just as involved in the life and work of Iowa State University.

Magill was the founding chair of the ISU Alumni Association's Young Alumni Council, an organization that was formed in 2007 to increase outreach to graduates of the past 10 years. Magill was passionate about the organization's mission and personally embraced every opportunity to extend Iowa State's reach to young graduates. She was a natural choice to be the Council's inaugural leader, and many of the ideals and operational procedures she established in forming the YAC are still followed today.

In addition to her ISU degree, Magill holds a Master of Public Administration from the University of Illinois at Chicago. Magill was one of Chicagoland's most passionate ISU representatives. In addition to her extensive work with the Young Alumni Council, Magill also volunteered with the ISUAA Club of Chicago, the Alpha Delta Gamma Chicago Alumni Club, the Society of VEISHEA Alumni & Friends, and ISU Admissions Alumni Ambassadors.

Magill has professional experience in government, higher education, and the non-profit sector, including work in the Iowa House of Representatives, Iowa's Office of the Governor, and the White House. She currently serves as special assistant in the Office of the Assistant Administrator, Bureau for Management, at the United States Agency for International Development.

Magill and her husband, John Tillo ('06 political science), are life members of the ISU Alumni Association and proud members of Lovebirds, a program for members of the ISU Alumni Association who met their true loves on campus at ISU.
College of Liberal Arts and Sciences Awards

Carrie Chapman Catt Public Engagement Award
Established in 2006 to honor alumni of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences who have demonstrated outstanding achievement for their work with public entities at the local, state, national, or international levels.

Joan U. Axel (“Joni”) graduated from the University of Iowa Law School in 1982 and has been in private practice for 30 years. She is vice president, director and shareholder with Stanley, Lande & Hunter, P.C., an eastern Iowa law firm where she works primarily in the real estate and estate planning areas.

Axel has served on many Iowa Supreme Court commissions. She has also served as an elected county supervisor and on many local and state boards and foundations. She served on the State of Iowa’s first statewide Communications Network Commission and the State of Iowa’s first Lottery Board.

At ISU, Axel and her husband established the Joni and John Axel Leadership Development Series in the Carrie Chapman Catt Center for Women and Politics. The series of three courses provides an academic foundation for students interested in leadership theories and practice.

Prior to her legal career, Axel conducted research and editing in the fields of international relations and global issues. Axel has been active with the personal diplomacy between Iowa and China. She was a host to Vice President Xi Jinping in 1985 and in February 2012. She and other Iowans were his guests in China in June 2012.

Axel is an Alumni Association life member and sustaining life donor, as well as a member of the ISU Foundation Board of Governors and Order of the Knoll.

Joan Urenn Axel
BS History ’64
Muscatine, Iowa
Lauren S. Hughes, MD, MPH, is a family medicine resident physician at the University of Washington. She served as the 2011–2012 Resident Trustee on the Washington Academy of Family Physicians board of directors, received a 2012 American Academy of Family Physicians Excellence in Graduate Medical Education Award, and studied HIV/AIDS in Botswana and health journalism at ABC News in New York City. She was the 2009–2010 national president of the American Medical Student Association.

After her ISU graduation, Hughes volunteered for AmeriCorps at LifeLong Medical Care, a federally qualified community health center in Berkeley, Calif. She completed her M.P.H. in health policy at The George Washington University in 2007 while interning for Sen. Tom Harkin of Iowa. She earned her M.D. at the University of Iowa Carver College of Medicine in 2009 and studied abroad in Brazil, Sweden, and Tanzania.

Hughes plans to practice in an urban community health center, enter federal health policy and administration, and eventually teach in academic family medicine and public health. She will pursue health services research fellowship training as a Robert Wood Johnson Clinical Scholar at the University of Michigan after residency.

Hughes is an ISU Alumni Association life member.
College of Liberal Arts and Sciences Awards

Distinguished Service Award
Established in 1976 to honor alumni, staff, and friends for outstanding service or academic contributions that further the educational mission of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences.

Gillian Murphy is the dean of Applied Science, Business and Technology at San Joaquin Delta College in Stockton, Calif. She also has served as the director of the College’s Small Business Development Center.

Murphy is a former member of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences’ Dean’s Advisory Council, serving as chair during the 2009–2010 academic year. She established the Gittla Murphy Study Abroad Scholarship for students in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences.

While a student, she was a member of Phi Kappa Phi and the Women’s Week planning committees and co-founded the British & Irish Students Union.

Murphy’s contributions on behalf of women include founding and directing Women Entrepreneurs, which seeks economic self sufficiency for women; co-founding Stockton’s Take Back the Night rallies; and serving as vice chair for the San Joaquin Peace and Justice Network. She also currently chairs the Villa Real Board for the Housing Authority and is a Stockton Arts Commissioner.

She has received a number of awards, including the SBA Women’s Business Advocate award and the Commission on the Status of Women Susan B. Anthony Woman of Achievement award. She has twice received the State Star Award from the National Association of Small Business Development Centers.

Murphy received an MBA from St. Mary’s College in Moraga, Calif. She is an ISU Alumni Association life member.
John V. Atanasoff Research and Discovery Award

Established in 2005 to honor alumni of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences who have furthered scientific knowledge of the nation and the world, either through laboratory accomplishments and/or management.

John Ohlfest is an associate professor of pediatrics and neurosurgery at the University of Minnesota in Minneapolis. He is an expert in the biology, immunology, and experimental therapeutics of primary brain tumors.

Ohlfest completed Ph.D. training in molecular biology and genetics at the University of Minnesota in a record three years. After postdoctoral training in neurosurgery at Minnesota, where he continued training in brain tumor models, he established an independent research program focused exclusively on brain tumor experimental therapeutics and immunotherapy.

Since then, his laboratory has been very productive, publishing more than 30 papers in this area. Ohlfest's research is funded by the National Institutes of Health, the American Cancer Society, various foundations, and through philanthropy.

During the last three years his laboratory has focused on brain tumor immunology and the biology of the blood brain barrier using murine models, studies in pet dogs with naturally occurring glioma, and by initiation of Phase I clinical trials at Minnesota.

Ohlfest has received multiple awards for his research. In 2011 he was selected as the Hedberg Family CCRF Endowed Chair in Brain Tumor Research, in 2010 he was named the McKnight Land-Grant Professor, and in 2009 he became an American Cancer Society Research Scholar.

John R. Ohlfest
BS Biology ‘01
Roseville, Minnesota
After receiving his MS degree in Computer Science in 1974 from the University of Illinois, Thomas Miller took his first full-time job with Digital Equipment Corporation as one of the first two college hires ever in their small software division, working on a 16-bit operating system called RSX-11M. About two years later his boss moved on to do the VMS operating system, and Miller became the technical lead for the RSX-11M kernel.

In 1978 he pursued an unusual opportunity to found a software consulting firm with three European friends in Bern, Switzerland. The firm initially developed a product for factory automation as a subcontractor that was installed by several European automobile manufacturers. Then the team went on to deliver real-time software products for banks, the power company, PTT (Post, Telephone and Telegraph), and the Swiss army. Although Miller left after about six and a half years, Paranor AG continues to be successful today.

After returning to the U.S., Miller worked for Digital Equipment again in the Seattle area, and then took a job with Microsoft in 1989. At Microsoft he was part of the team that delivered the first version of a new Windows implementation in 1993 called Windows NT. Miller was the architect and key implementer of the NTFS file system and the cache manager. Subsequently he worked a few years on Microsoft Exchange Server and SQL Server, and most recently was the initial architect and developer of a new ultra-reliable file system called ReFS, which is appearing soon in Windows 8 Server.

Miller is a member of the Computer Science Advisory Board and Software Engineering Advisory Board. Since his semi-retirement this year, he has been happy to devote more time to supporting his favorite nonprofits: Save the Children and Habitat for the Humanities.
Elizabeth Wardle received a bachelor's degree in philosophy and a master's degree in English from the University of Louisville before coming to Iowa State. During her time at ISU she worked with Michael Mendelson as associate coordinator of English Learning Communities. After graduating, she took a tenure track position at the University of Dayton, where she served as writing program director and internship coordinator until moving to the University of Central Florida (UCF) in 2008.

At UCF she has served as director of Writing Programs and associate department chair. She founded the Writing Across the Curriculum Program in 2010, and successfully lobbied the administration for other investments in writing, including doubling funding for the Writing Center, tenured positions to direct the Writing Center and Writing Across the Curriculum Program, and replaced 33 adjunct composition positions with full time instructors. In 2010, she was part of the team that founded the new Department of Writing and Rhetoric at UCF. She now chairs that department.

Wardle wrote a nationally recognized textbook for the “writing about writing” approach to composition. She chairs the College Composition and Communication Special Interest Group for this pedagogical approach, and co-writes an ongoing professional blog called “Write On.” She has published in top journals such as *College Composition and Communication, Composition Forum*, and the *Journal of Writing Program Administrators*.

She was awarded a 2006 Best Article of the Year award by the National Council of Teachers of English. She recently served as invited guest editor of a special issue of *Composition Forum* on the topic of writing-related knowledge transfer. She recently completed work on a $250,000 Next Generation Learning Challenge grant, partially funded by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, to improve online learning in composition courses.

In her 10 minutes of free time each week, Wardle likes to garden, cook, and practice yoga.
Thomas Black grew up in Waterloo, Iowa, where he says the public schools nurtured his love of science. After completing his bachelor's degree at Iowa State, Black received a master's degree in meteorology from the University of Arizona in 1978 and a Ph.D. in meteorology from the University of Wisconsin-Madison in 1984.

Black had a two-year post-doctoral position at the National Meteorological Center (NMC) to compare the operational sigma coordinate Limited-Area Fine-Mesh Model (LFM) with an isentropic coordinate version of that model. In 1986 he moved into his position as a research meteorologist at NMC, now the National Centers for Environmental Prediction.

He worked very closely with Fedor Mesinger and Zaviša Janjić to prepare the step-mountain coordinate Eta Model for its 1993 implementation replacing the LFM that had provided the National Weather Service's operational guidance over North America since 1971. Black was part of the team that incorporated Janjić's Nonhydrostatic Mesoscale Model (NMM) into the Weather Research and Forecasting system after he prepared it for highly efficient distributed computing within massively parallel environments. Most recently he has played one of the primary roles in constructing the NOAA Environmental Modeling System (NEMS) infrastructure under which a variety of operational models (e.g., atmosphere, ocean, sea ice, chemistry) will ultimately lie. He is on the development team of the Nonhydrostatic Multiscale Model having put it under the NEMS infrastructure and built the model's capability to run with static and moving nested domains.

Black received the National Weather Service Modernization Award in 1993 and 1996, and the Department of Commerce Gold Medal Award in 2007.

While a student at ISU, he served as secretary for Theta Chi fraternity and was elected to Phi Beta Kappa. Black is a member of the ISU Alumni Association.
Lyle V. A. Sendlein is a retired university professor whose teaching and research interest fused with his ability to promote interdisciplinary research. He received a bachelor's degree in geological engineering in 1958 and a master's degree in geology in 1960 from Washington University in St. Louis. After receiving his doctoral degree from Iowa State he joined the faculty and taught courses in geology and geophysics. He and his family spent a sabbatical year in Ankara, Turkey, where he taught groundwater courses and directed graduate student research at Middle East Technical University.

When he returned he joined the Iowa Coal Project and operated a small coal mine and directed an interdisciplinary team of faculty members that demonstrated that a coal mine could be operated profitably in Iowa and the land returned to row crop production. He moved to Carbondale, Ill., to become the director of the Coal Research Center at Southern Illinois University. Under his leadership the program expanded and an off-campus building was acquired from the U.S. Bureau of Mines providing more space for coal research programs.

Sendlein moved to the University of Kentucky as director of the Institute for Mining and Minerals Research. There he managed a major off-campus Mining and Minerals Research laboratory for the state of Kentucky and developed a consortium of four universities to study Coal Liquefaction. He also became the director of the Kentucky Water Resources Research Institute and developed a team of faculty and staff researchers for the Kentucky Department of Environmental Protection to deal with environmental problems at the U.S. Government Gaseous Diffusion Plant in Paducah, Ky.

Sendlein has advised and directed thesis and dissertation research for 40 graduate students. In retirement he and his wife serve as volunteers and officers of Mariners Hospital Auxiliary, and he studies and teaches tai chi in the Florida Keys.
Liberal Arts and Sciences Academic Department Awards

Geological and Atmospheric Sciences – Distinguished Alumni Award

Jack Troeger was born and raised in Mason City, Iowa. Following high school he attended Mason City Junior College for two years. It was then on to Iowa State, where he obtained two degrees – a B.S. in English in 1967 and an M.S. in Earth science in 1971.

After completing the M.S. degree, Troeger began teaching Earth science at Central Junior High in Ames. When Central closed in 1986, he moved to Ames High, where he continued teaching until he retired in 1999. As a teacher, Troeger was known for his extreme passion, dedication, and use of innovative, hands-on teaching methodologies long before such approaches hit the mainstream. He inspired an impressive number of outstanding students to go on to major in the geosciences in college, many of them at Iowa State. In recognition of his exceptional abilities as an educator, Troeger was selected in 1979 as Iowa's Outstanding Earth Science Teacher by the National Association of Geoscience Teachers. In the mid-1980s he was further honored by being chosen as an alternate in NASA’s Teacher in Space Program.

Not surprising considering his B.S. in English, Troeger has a love of writing, which he has employed to communicate science beyond the classroom. In 1983 he published *From Rift to Drift: Iowa's Story in Stone* through the ISU Press, and for a number of years he wrote an astronomy column for the *Des Moines Register*. He has also been a strong voice for the “Dark Sky” movement.

To a large degree, Troeger's passion for teaching reflects his deep concern for people. This ethic is reflected in recent years in his involvement with Iowa Citizens for Community Improvement and various environmental causes.
Barb Iverson is the president of Weber Shandwick's dominant financial services industry practice. She works with Weber Shandwick offices around the world to provide seamless service to well-known financial services clients including MasterCard Worldwide, Ernst & Young, Bank of America, Federated Investors, State Farm and TIAA-CREF.

Iverson has 36 years of communications management experience in business, government and education. Since joining Weber Shandwick in 1996, she has been heavily focused on providing clients with strategic and integrated communications planning and counsel, thought leadership and reputation/brand management, with particular emphasis in the banking, electronic payments, retirement services and insurance industries.

Since 2002, Iverson has led a major Weber Shandwick initiative to win and serve key federal government accounts including national integrated marketing campaigns for the Federal Reserve Bank, the U.S. Treasury’s Financial Management Service, the U.S. Census’s 2010 campaign, the U.S. Treasury’s Bureau of the Public Debt, FDIC and the Internal Revenue Service.

Iverson is the architect of the U.S. Treasury’s high-profile Go Direct campaign, a national initiative designed to get Americans to direct deposit their monthly Social Security, Supplemental Security Income and Veterans Administration payments rather than receiving paper checks. The campaign has converted more than 13 million Americans, while also saving taxpayers more than a billion dollars.

In two of the past three years, Iverson was named Financial Communications Executive of the Year by PR News. In 2010, she was awarded Bulldog Reporter’s top award for a financial services executive. *PRWeek*, the public relations industry’s primary professional trade journal, named her “Trailblazer in Financial Services.”

Iverson serves on the Greenlee School’s advisory council and is a life member of the ISU Alumni Association.
Donald Steiner is Principal Technologist and a Technical Fellow of Northrop Grumman Information Systems, a leading global provider of advanced solutions that deliver timely, enabling information for military, intelligence, civilian, state and local, and commercial customers. He coordinates Northrop Grumman's research and development (R&D) programs in the areas of data management and analysis, cyber security, and cloud computing.

Steiner has conducted and managed applied computer software research and technology insertion over his entire career. Upon receiving his Ph.D. in mathematics from Iowa State in 1984, he joined the Artificial Intelligence (AI) Lab of the Microelectronics & Computer Technology Consortium (MCC, Austin, Texas) where he developed and delivered key AI technology to MCC's member companies.

In 1989, he joined Siemens Corporate Technology in Munich, Germany, where he led R&D for 11 years in the area of Multi-Agent Systems with universities and companies across Germany and Europe. He was a key technical contributor to and later president of the Foundation for Intelligent Physical Agents (FIPA), an international standards organization for multi-agent systems.

In 1999, Steiner won an internal competition within Siemens that brought him back to the U.S. to found WebV2, a spin-off company from Siemens in Silicon Valley. Following WebV2, Steiner was Chief Technology Officer at Quantum Leap Innovations (QLI) in Newark, Delaware, managing QLI's R&D projects and transitioning the output of QLI research into commercial and government products. He joined Northrop Grumman in 2007.

Steiner entered Iowa State at the age of 12, and received his bachelor's in mathematics shortly after turning 14. He is a life member of the ISU Alumni Association.
Joseph “Joey” Wilgenbusch was born in Marengo on Oct. 9, 1982, to Dr. Loras “Duke” Wilgenbusch and Susan (Murphy) Wilgenbusch of Victor. He grew up in rural Victor, and graduated from HLV High School in 2001. An outgoing and loving child, his natural gifts for performance were quickly apparent. Wilgenbusch sang, danced, acted, and played several musical instruments.

He graduated from Iowa State University, as had both his parents and three siblings. Wilgenbusch was a member of the ISU Singers, Opera Studio, and performed leading roles in many operas and musical theatre productions at ISU. Upon graduation, he moved to New York for further study and to begin his professional career. He received his master’s degree in vocal performance from the Eastman School of Music in Rochester, N.Y., in 2009.

Upon graduation from Eastman, Wilgenbusch moved to New York City, where he resided until his untimely death. He was a resident performer at Quisisana Resort in Maine in 2008 and 2009. As a 2010 Finalist in the Lotte Lenya Competition, Wilgenbusch showcased both his acting and singing talents across a wide stylistic range. He toured with the ArtsPower children's theater company in 2010, and in the summer of 2011, was a resident artist with the Ohio Light Opera in Wooster, Ohio. Wilgenbusch sang several leading roles, including Danilo in The Merry Widow. Steven Daigle, artistic director of OLO expressed this of Wilgenbusch, “His talent for the stage was unlimited and his smile was infectious.”

Wilgenbusch also performed in various church choirs and performance groups in New York City. He was the founder and artistic director of the Wadsworth Repertoire Theatre, which specialized in new theatrical and musical works. Prior to his death, he was organizing a touring theater company to perform for the elderly. While his professional career was brief, Wilgenbusch was quick to earn the respect and admiration of his fellow performers.

Wilgenbusch was born with a congenital heart defect, which required two heart surgeries while he was a child. This defect led to the unforeseen heart attack that took his life on Dec. 26, 2011. Throughout his life, Wilgenbusch quickly made friends wherever he went. He will be remembered for his warm and caring demeanor, his generosity, his quick wit, and his love for family and friends. A memorial scholarship fund is being established in his name in the Department of Music & Theatre at ISU.
Marcia Bisenius began her career in federal service when she was selected to be a Presidential Management Intern in 1984. She went to work for the Department of Transportation, Federal Aviation Administration.

After completing the internship, which included assignments on Capitol Hill and in the Office of the Secretary of Transportation, Bisenius was a program analyst for Aviation Policy and Planning. She held many different and varied positions during her tenure at FAA, including many years as a budget analyst and serving as the special assistant to the budget director.

She also was the Chief of Staff for the Associate Administrator for Administration which had a myriad of reporting business lines including the Regions and Aeronautical Center, Human Resources, Budget, Accounting, and Management Systems. She went on to become the manager for all of the FAA Headquarters Facilities, which was especially challenging during and after 9/11.

Bisenius also worked in the Office of Aviation Medicine in the Drug Abatement Division, which drug tested safety-related positions such as pilots and mechanics. She ended her career as the division manager for Logistical Support for the Office of Acquisitions and was in charge of all the budget, human resources, and procurements for that line of business.

During her time at the FAA, Bisenius raised two children and was actively involved with school boards and activities throughout their education. She was also active for years within their community in Alexandria, Virginia.

Bisenius retired after close to 25 years of federal service. She enjoys travelling with her husband (Economics Ph.D., ’85) and having the opportunity to help aging relatives. She is looking forward to the next chapter of her life, which is currently unscripted.

Bisenius is a member of ISU’s Order of the Knoll.
Paula Goolkasian is a professor of psychology and director of cognitive science at the University of North Carolina, Charlotte. She is a member of the Health Psychology Ph.D. program and participates on research teams with the medical staff from the Salisbury W.G. (Bill) Hefner VA Medical Center and Pain & Orthopedic Neurology in Charlotte.

Her research interests are in the area of perception and attention with over 80 research articles and presentations at professional conferences. Her research in pain perception has been supported by grants from pharmaceutical companies, the National Institutes of Health, and the National Institute of Mental Health; and she has been the principal investigator for six National Science Foundation grants.

Goolkasian has a long history of involving graduate and undergraduate students in her research activities. The Perception Lab, which she supervises, has housed seven dissertation and masters theses and over 50 independent research projects conducted by undergraduate students.

She was active in The Society for Computers in Psychology (president 1994, secretary/treasurer 1988-91, steering committee 1986-99, 2000-2003), a scientific society that promotes the instructional and research applications of computers.

Goolkasian is a fellow of the American Psychology Association, and the Association for Psychological Sciences. She was named Woman of the Year by UNC-Charlotte in 1985. Currently, she is an executive editor of The Journal of General Psychology, and on the editorial board of The American Journal of Psychology and PsycCRITIQUES.
History of the College

When Iowa State Agricultural College first opened its doors in 1869, the liberal arts were an important part of the institution. Iowa State has taught courses in physics, chemistry, English, history, and philosophy since the very beginning, and throughout the years added more humanities offerings.

In 1898, studies in the liberal arts and sciences were given a home in the Division of Science and Philosophy, and the Division underwent several other name changes until 1959, when the service division became a college, the College of Sciences and Humanities, which offered students full-fledged majors in liberal arts and scientific curricula.

Today the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, its current name since 1990, is the largest college at the university and offers a wide and rich range of program options.