

# ALUMNI NEWSLETTER

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Alumni Newsletter

June 2019

## UI CONnection

Dear alumni, colleagues and supporters,

Although it seemed like it would never end, winter's frozen grip has finally eased and spring has sprung! Campus is once again beautiful and green with the trees, bushes and grass coming back to life. Spring is also commencement time, which is always bittersweet. Our graduates depart making room for new students to begin their academic journey. Although we already miss our new alumni we welcome the new students, their energy and ideas!

This issue of the newsletter has many interesting stories but I want to make everyone is aware of Dean Zerwic's television interview with long time KWWL news anchor, Ron Steele. Julie and Cindy Dawson, chief nursing executive at UIHC, traveled to Waterloo and were interviewed for an episode of The Steele Report. They discussed challenges and opportunities in the current health care arena and nursing. The episode aired on May 19; however, you can [click here](#) to watch the interview in its entirety.

Last year we introduced the Distinguished Alumni and Outstanding Young Alumni awards. We plan on making these awards a tradition so please be on the lookout for nomination forms.

Have a great summer and GO HAWKS!

Sincerely,

Scott Ketelsen

Executive Director of Communications, Alumni and External Relations

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### Hometown Hawkeye: Virginia Conley

Millions of Americans are affected by mental health conditions every year. Iowa's citizens are certainly not immune; however, University of Iowa College of Nursing Professor Virginia (Ginny) Conley is doing her part to improve the health care provision and lives of those with severe mental illness (SMI) such as a psychotic disorder, bipolar disorder, or major depressive disorder.



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### **An Advocate for Iowa's Aging Population**

With a passion for gerontological nursing, registered nurse Darcy Eibs knew she might someday want to further her education. The key, however, was finding a program that would not only allow her to remain in Laurel, Iowa, but also be flexible enough to accommodate her hectic schedule as a full-time nurse. Enter the University of Iowa's RN-BSN program, which provides access to baccalaureate education for nurses throughout the state.

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### **Daack-Hirsch Elected UI Faculty Senate President**

In late April, the University of Iowa Faculty Senate convened for the last time this year, ending with the departure of the current officers and welcome of incoming officers for the 2019-20 academic year, including new Faculty Senate President Sandra Daack-Hirsch, an associate professor and director of the college of Nursing's PhD program.

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### **Felton to Receive UI's Distinguished Alumni Award**

College of Nursing Dean Emeritus Geraldene Felton has been selected to receive the University of Iowa's 2019 Distinguished Alumni Award.

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### **Newman Receives National Nurse Practitioner Award**

Assistant Clinical Professor Larry Newman, DNP, RN, AGPCNP-BC, director of the college's Adult/Geriatric Primary Care Nurse Practitioner program was recently bestowed with the Outstanding Faculty Practice Award by the National Organization of Nurse Practitioner Faculties.

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### **Watson Selected as Inaugural AONE Fellow**

University of Iowa College of Nursing Adjunct Clinical Professor Carol Watson, PhD, RN CENP, FAAN, has been named one of the American Organization of Nurse Executives' (AONE) inaugural fellows. This fellow designation recognizes a nurse leader's sustained contributions to the specialty of nursing leadership, commitment to service, and influence in shaping health care.



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**PHOTOS**

- [Graduate Programs Graduation – May 2019](#)
- [Undergraduate Graduation – May 2019](#)
- [Pinning Ceremony – May 2019](#)
- [DNP Defenses – April 2019](#)

**[In Memoriam](#)**

Death notices for UI College of Nursing alumni. Links to online obituaries provided when available.

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