

excellence
distinction

College Ranks 18th Best Public, 27th Best Overall

In its 2007 report on the nation's best graduate school programs, *U.S. News & World Report* ranked The University of Iowa College of Education 18th best among public schools granting doctoral degrees. Among all schools assessed, both public and private, the College ranked 27th.

Specialty programs within the College of Education also continue to rank highly, according to the *2007 America's Best Graduate Schools*. Top ranking programs as compared to other public universities include:

- Rehabilitation Counseling #3
- Higher Ed Administration #9
- Counseling/Personnel Services #11
- Secondary Education #13
- Curriculum and Instruction #17

"These numbers are great indicators of our dedicated faculty and staff, and a reason why so many students choose to come to Iowa for their education," President David Skorton said.

John Keller, dean of the Graduate College, agreed, "It's gratifying to realize that a large number of our programs are putting The University of Iowa on the map as an institution of superior graduate education."



education
first

Rocklin Finds UI Center for Teaching

Professor Tom Rocklin, recently named UI associate provost for undergraduate education and dean of the University College, was the rock upon which the University's Center for Teaching was built. Beginning a decade ago as its first director, Rocklin laid the Center's



Assoc. Provost Tom Rocklin

strong foundation that continues today.

"Tom was instrumental in launching the UI Center for Teaching," said John Folkins, associate provost at the time. "He is great at fostering enthusiasm and aligning innovations with faculty values. I learned a great deal from him."

While in this post, Rocklin and his staff served faculty and teaching assistants across campus by providing a variety of workshops, a quarterly newsletter, consultations, classroom observations, and developing the highly acclaimed nTITLE (New Technology in the Learning Environment) program—a large-scale faculty development program designed to help faculty integrate new technologies into their teaching.

Currently one of the Center's initiatives is developing a workshop for faculty who teach large "gateway" classes, such as general chemistry.

"When we touch these types of classes, it reaches all students across campus," he said. "If we can improve these learning experiences, we're hoping it will improve the students' persistence and help them achieve educational goals."

Another important initiative is leading the Service Learning Faculty Institute, created to help craft new courses where students can learn while providing valuable community services and participating in civic engagement.

Rocklin says the focus on service learning is integral to the University's Strategic Plan.

"Tom has distinguished himself as an innovative teacher, a prolific scholar, and a deft administrator," Provost Michael Hogan said. "I am eager for him to continue focusing those skills on our efforts to enhance undergraduate education at The University of Iowa."

reaching
out

Community-based Rehabilitation Counseling

"For too long we've done things to people with disabilities, rather than engaging them and letting them take control," said Randall Gray (MS '75), president and CEO of Marc Center, a community-based rehabilitation center in Mesa, Ariz., at a colloquium last month.

Gray, whose center serves 3,500 people daily, said organizations should focus on planning for the future, position themselves in the market, integrate values in day-to-day operations, and be open to consolidation in order to survive. And that process should involve the people the organizations serve.

Rehabilitation Counseling Professor Villa Tarvydas, said she sees an important role for Gray in the field's future.

"He's one of the people who will allow rehabilitation counseling to thrive by emphasizing ideas that require us to make some changes for the good of people with disabilities," she said. —by Heather Spangler



Gray's dedication makes an impact in the lives of the disabled.

Tenure and Promotion

The University of Iowa recently approved five College of Education promotions.

Promoted to the rank of associate professor with tenure are **Gail Boldt, William Liu, Jodi Saunders, Kathy Schuh, and John Wadsworth.**

Professor **Tom Rocklin** has been appointed associate provost for undergraduate education and dean of the University College.

Damico Elected Chair-Elect



Dean Sandra Damico

The Organization of Institutional Affiliates, a policy group of the American Education Research Association, elected Dean **Sandra Bowman Damico** chair elect.

During this two-year executive committee term, Damico will provide leadership and participate in Governmental Relations Committee activities as the OIA discuss federal government funding with senior congressional staffers, among other important educational research topics.

Research Awards

The National Conference of Bar Examiners awarded Measurement and Statistics doctoral candidate **Lei Wan** the 2006 Covington Award for Research on Bar Admissions Testing. Wan's research examines classification consistency and accuracy with complex assessments, such as those that involve multiple-choice items and open-ended responses.

The National Council on Measurement in Education awarded CASMA research scientist **Won-Chan Lee** the 2006 Bradley Hanson Award, which recognizes a project that promises to make a significant contribution to the field of educational measurement. The Committee presented Lee the award in recognition of his project, "Integrating Procedures and Software for Estimating Classification Consistency."

Hoover Honored for Research Contributions



Professor H.D. Hoover

The American Educational Research Association (AERA) recently presented Emeritus Professor **Hiram "H.D." Hoover** the E.F. Lindquist Award, which recognizes a distinguished scholar for outstanding research in the field of testing and measurement. The award is co-sponsored by AERA and the American College Testing program (ACT, Inc.).

Named in honor of E.F. Lindquist, a pioneering scholar and researcher who started the Iowa Testing Programs at the UI and co-founded ACT, the award recognizes outstanding applied or theoretical research in the field of testing and measurement. It also acknowledges a body of research, as opposed to a single work, of an empirical, theoretical, or integrative nature that, ideally, advances the twin goals of greater understanding and improved use of testing and measurement techniques.

"Professor Hoover was honored for four decades of contributions to the theory and practice of educational measurement," the AERA said in announcing the award at its 2006 annual meeting in San Francisco. "A past president of the National Council on Measurement in Education, he was the senior author of the Iowa Test of Basic Skills. Throughout his career, he has supported professionally responsible test use."

National media often quote Hoover on standardized and high-stakes testing, including *The New York Times*, the *Washington Post*, the *San Francisco Examiner*, and PBS. The *CBS Evening News* prominently featured Hoover in both segments of a two-part report that aired April 3 and 4. The first segment, "The Trouble With Testing?," may be viewed at www.cbsnews.com/stories/2006/04/03/eveningnews/main1467643.shtml. The second segment, "Too Much Testing?," may be viewed at www.cbsnews.com/stories/2006/04/04/eveningnews/main1472010.shtml.

Jepsen Receives Extended Research Award

The American Counseling Association (ACA) awarded Counselor Education Emeritus Professor **David A. Jepsen** its Extended Research Award, recognizing his quality research on significant counseling profession issues over the years. His line of inquiry in career development has contributed substantially to the field's understanding of basic and advanced career development principles.

"Professor Jepsen and his colleagues have produced basic research that has led to essential applications of these theories and models to the career development of children, teenagers, and young adults," ACA officials said. "His research can best be viewed as a description of career development and career decision-making across the lifespan, both through synthesizing what has been learned and in conducting new empirical studies."

The ACA said Jepsen's results have enhanced the development of a generation of young and middle-aged adults, and his research has made its way into many career development texts and applications.

"His legacy of personal scholarship and influence on a new generation of scholars is impressive and unsurpassed," the ACA said. —by *Stephen Pradarelli*



Professor David Jepsen

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