COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS AND SCIENCES

# Poligram

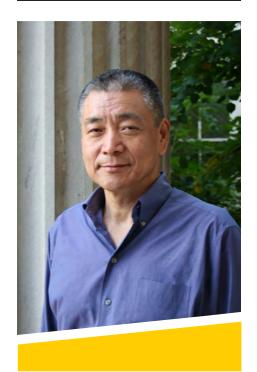
Fall 2016

#### DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE



# Welcome!

Wenfang Tang
Department Chair



Welcome to the 2016 *Poligram* newsletter! As the new Departmental Executive Officer, I am eager to carry on the national and international reputations of political science research and teaching at Iowa. In the past several years, there has been a national trend of a declining number of students majoring in political science, partly due to the declining enrollment in law schools and partly due to competitions from other disciplines that offer more practical job perspectives, such as business, statistics and actuarial science.

One way to face these external challenges is to create undergraduate certificate programs that will make our students more competitive in the job market, such as certificates in political risk analysis, political data analysis, and campaigns and elections. Another way to increase student enrollment is to expand our distance education program. I plan to work with our faculty members and promote our new online B.A. degree program, increase the number of online courses in the summer and during the regular semesters, help to strengthen the political science program at the Iowa Center for Higher Education in Des Moines, and expand the existing internship programs. At the graduate level, in addition to promoting our nationally and internationally renowned Ph.D. program, I would like to explore the possibility of offering a Master's degree in public policy. It is my hope that such a degree will attract more graduate students domestically and from other countries. Finally, I plan to consult closely with the Political Science Advisory Board, and building stronger ties with our alumni. The department has been empowered by the generous donations from our alumni and friends. We are proud that philanthropy is a growing part of our departmental culture. As always, I am grateful to our alumni who provide generous support to undergraduate and graduate studies and faculty research in the department.

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### Expanding Our Reach...

#### **Tom Rice**

Faculty Director, John and Mary Pappajohn Education Center

#### **Martha Kirby**

Senior Academic Advisor, Political Science

#### Sara Mitchell

Professor,
Political Science



The Department of Political Science is now offering its Bachelor of Arts degree in Des Moines! Students can take classes in-person at the Iowa Center for Higher Education campus in Des Moines and online from Iowa City. The Center was made possible when the 95-year-old AIB College of Business closed its doors this summer and gifted its beautiful 20-acre campus to the University of Iowa. In addition to political science, UI is offering degrees in enterprise leadership, social work, and sport and recreation management at the Center.

UI manages the Center as a resource for all three state regent universities. According to Center Director Tom Rice (former UI political science DEO and associate provost), discussions are ongoing with Iowa State University and the University of Northern Iowa to bring some of their signature programs to the Center. Tom, who has taught at all three state schools, appreciates competition between the schools in sports, but when it comes to educating Iowans he says, "that the schools should work

together when they can and the Center offers an excellent opportunity to do so in Des Moines."

Fall 2016 course offerings included a class on the 2016 elections by Tom Rice, a public policy course by Kelly Shaw, and an international conflict class by Sara Mitchell. Professor Mitchell traveled to Des Moines once a week and enjoyed interacting with her students in the conflict class. "I had a mix of younger and older students, many of whom are active with political campaigns in the Des Moines area. It was very interesting to discuss foreign policy issues in the presidential election, including nuclear weapons' use and proliferation and the relationship between trade agreements and conflict." Many potential Hawkeye students are place-bound for a variety of reasons, thus the Department is excited to make the Political Science degree more widely accessible in the state of Iowa and beyond.

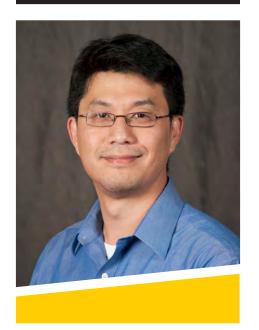
Not only has the department expanded to the state capitol, but it is now also offering

a Bachelor of Arts degree online. The online program is intended for those who are not able to attend courses on campus and enables students to complete an undergraduate degree with a major in political science from anywhere in the world without sacrificing a quality education. These online courses are taught by the same faculty teaching the on-campus courses and students can meet with the department's professional advisor, Martha Kirby, through scheduled virtual office hours. Martha conveyed, "In the first year we have welcomed nine students to the program, and anticipate a steady increase in students as word of the online degree program spreads." While the department's primary focus continues to be on the UI campus, our online degree program is already providing access to higher education to adults returning to finish a degree begun many years ago, veterans and active military personnel, and others who are not otherwise able to pursue an undergraduate degree at the University of Iowa.

# STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

#### **Undergraduate News**

Brian Lai
Director of Undergraduate Studies



Academic Year 2016-2017 brings some new initiatives from the department for our undergraduates. We added more alumni to our career workshops, providing students an opportunity to see the career paths of their fellow Political Science and International Relations Hawkeyes. In a recent career workshop, Abigail Moliter (2012 B.A.), Elaine Luthens (2014 B.A.), and Allie Stecker (2016 B.A.) provided invaluable insights about law school admissions, law school, and getting a job after law school to our undergraduates. Ron McMullen (1985 Ph.D.), Audrey Williams (2013 B.A.), and Mackenzie Borders (2016 B.A.) discussed different career paths for students interested in international politics. Building on the interest and enthusiasm our undergraduates had for our alumni, the department is starting an alumni mentor network in which current undergraduates will have the opportunity to receive career advice and guidance from alumni. We are currently in the process of recruiting interesting alumni and finalizing the network process. If you are interested in becoming an alumni mentor, please let the department know by emailing us at polisci@uiowa.edu.

Finally, starting Fall 2017, the department will partner with University Housing to offer our own Living Learning Community. First year students interested in politics and government will live on the same floor in a UI residence hall together, take Political Science classes together, and engage with faculty, alumni, and more senior students.

## We would like to introduce you to some of our current majors...



Eli Bratsch-Prince — Sophomore, Political Science

2016 recipient of the Richard Tyner Scholarship. He also studied Arabic in Morocco during summer 2016.



Cormac Broeg — Senior, History and Political Science

2016 recipient of the Teri G. Rasmussen scholarship who also devotes his time to working at the Herbert Hoover Presidential Museum.



Emily Creery — Freshman, Political Science and Communication Studies

First-year student making her own path in the program. She is most interested in domestic politics and possibly law school.



#### Madison Creery — Senior, International Relations and Political Science

2016 recipient of the James D. Robertson Award for Excellence in the Social Sciences. She also interned at the State Department this past summer.



#### Alexa Den Herder — Senior, Political Science and International Relations

Chairman of the UI College Republicans and VP of public relations for our own Undergraduate Political Science Association. She also internedat NASA this past summer. Studies Russian.



#### Lilian Sanchez Garcia — Junior, Political Science, Philosophy and Ethics & Public Policy

President of the UI pre-law fraternity, an atlarge senator for UISG, and a peer leader for first generation college students.



#### Hans Graf — Sophomore, International Relations and International Studies

Interested in joining the US Foreign Service. He also spent this past summer in Germany. Raised in Venezuela and has dual United States and Venezuela citizenship.

#### **Graduate News**

#### Fred Boehmke Director of Graduate Studies



The Department of Political Science's graduate program has a long tradition and record of success. We offer training in six broad areas: American Politics, Comparative Politics, International Relations, Research Methods, and Political or Formal Theory. Students receive in-depth training from our faculty in all of these areas as well as across them given the department's long history of collaboration across fields.

Our graduates go on to jobs at a variety of academic and non-academic employers, ranging from teaching at small liberal arts schools to working at top research Universities to doing work for nonprofit advocacy groups or the Department of State, as can be seen in the listings below.

The department offers a number of programs to support graduate student training and research. Many students have received support through our small grants program in recent years to buy software, hire data coders, or pay research subjects to complete surveys on perceptions of inequality in China. Students also receive funding to attend conferences and summer workshops in Ann Arbor, Singapore, or Essex.

Our graduate students also play a critical role in our teaching mission, holding sections for our introductory courses totaling over 1000 students this semester alone, and teaching their own courses on topics like Religion and Politics, Chinese Politics, and Survey Research.

#### Recent Grads:

Christopher Anderson, Ph.D. '16

Dissertation title: Ethnocentricism in Russia and Ukraine

Placement: U.S. State Department

Charlotte Lee Ridge, Ph.D. '16

**Dissertation title:** Women and Gender in the Local Government

Placement: Juniata College -

Pennsylvania

Yang Zhang, Ph.D. '16

**Dissertation title:** Taming Factions in the Chinese Communist Party

Placement: Washington University -St. Louis, Post doc

Yingnan Zhou, Ph.D. '16

Placement: University of Texas, El Paso -**Assistant Professor** 

**Dissertation title:** Governance in **Authoritarian Settings** 

#### Dongkyu Kim, Ph.D. '15

**Dissertation title:** Foreign Direct

**Investment Under Globalization Dilemma** 

Placement: University of Texas -Rio Grande, Assistant Professor

#### Mi-son Kim, Ph.D. '15

**Dissertation title:** Parties without

**Brand Names** 

Placement: University of Texas -Rio Grande, Assistant Professor

#### Rebecca Kreitzer, Ph.D. '15

Dissertation title: Policy Making at

the Margins

Placement: University of North Carolina -

Chapel Hill, Assistant Professor

#### Emily Schilling, Ph.D. '15

**Dissertation title:** Reassessing

Legislative Relationships

Placement: University of Tennessee,

**Assistant Professor** 

#### Kieun Sung, Ph.D. '15

**Dissertation title:** A Study on Rebel **Groups and Third Party Interventions** 

**Placement:** Korean Military Academy

#### Jonathan Ring, Ph.D. '14

**Dissertation title:** The Diffusion of

Norms in the International System Placement: Cleveland State University,

**Assistant Professor** 

#### **Faculty News**

**G.R. Boynton**Professor Emeritus

New Media and Politics



In my opinion, 1964 to 2016 was enough time for a lot of learning. Learning and sharing what I am learning has been my way of life. This is a list of learnings in chronological order: survey research about support, comparative legislatures, mathematics and politics and cognition, congressional committees, global news, campaign advertising, medieval England, video in elections, Twitter. There is a story that weaves almost all of this together. Communication and cognition are one, and I have been interested in communication for individuals and communication in the public domain since 1974.

I developed the Laboratory for Political Research, served as the first program director of political science at NSF, and chair of the department. I also served as the chair of the Communication section and the Information Technology and Politics section of the APSR.

Three examples: I have been an archivist since 'the Lab.' In 2010, I put together an archive of Twitter collections, which won an award from the Research Libraries and there have now been 124,000 downloads.

I taught by sharing the learning. In 2006, a class and I were working on campaign advertising by editing campaign ads into a coherent story. I told the students if they did a really good job we would get the university award for technology innovation. And we did.

Since 2009, my latest research is about Twitter which is transforming public communication about politics. What I think is most interesting is the discovery of a new route to political leadership when individual

Twitter users can post messages that reach a million people. That is political leadership.

I am sorry to give up sharing what I am learning with students, but I am not going to stop learning. – G.R. Boynton

## Vicki Hesli Claypool Professor Emeritus Comparative Politics



After 27 years at Iowa, Vicki Hesli Claypool retired this past May 2016. She exemplified how analyzing politics can take one all over the globe. While writing her dissertation on Canada, she undertook research on South Korea, followed by a project on the Soviet Union. She helped lead the UI surveys in Russia, Ukraine and Lithuania from 1990-1997. She soon added Spain to her collection of research sites. In the late 1990s, she initiated new research projects in Russia and Ukraine, followed by work in other post-Soviet states: Georgia, Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan. Her research on Ukraine led to an honorary doctorate from Taras Shevchenko National University, where her portrait is displayed prominently. In recent years, she extended her work into Iraq and Egypt. Being such a peripatetic professor, she brought lots of stories into the classroom and was invaluable to our comparative subfield, ensuring we had coverage of critical topics such as religion and nationalism and of in-demand world regions, for example with her popular undergraduate course on War in the Muslim World. She mentored graduate students working on an equally broad array of topics.

The department will miss her many contributions and wishes her the best in the years ahead. – William Reisinger

#### Joining Us...



Elise Pizzi received her Ph.D. in 2015 in Political Science from the University of Colorado. Her research examines public goods provision in developing countries, including both government investment in infrastructure and local community coordination of water management. She received a Fulbright grant to conduct fieldwork in China on water provision in rural areas. Her work has been published in Civil Wars and is forthcoming in the British Journal of Political Science.



Bryce J. Dietrich received his Ph.D. in 2014 in Political Science from the University of Illinois. His research uses novel quantitative, automated, and machine learning methods to analyze non-traditional data sources such as audio (or speech) data and video data. He uses these to understand the causes and consequences of elite emotional expression in a variety of institutional settings, with a particular emphasis on non-verbal cues, such as vocal pitch.

#### **Research News**

#### It's Not What You Say, But How You Say It

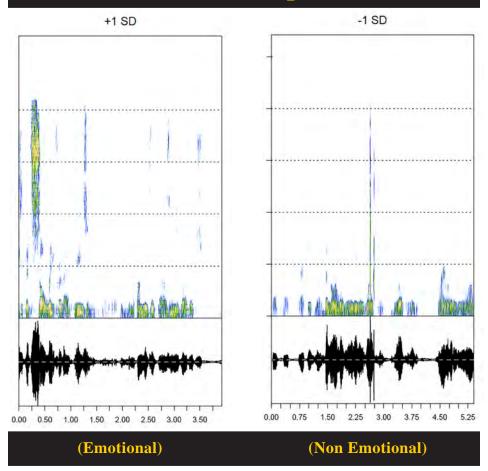
#### **Bryce Dietrich** *Assistant Professor*

Whether it is speeches delivered during congressional debates or questions asked during oral arguments, what political elites say cannot be fully captured using text alone. Indeed, saying "no" is different than saying "NO!" My research attempts to understand the difference between these two types of expressions using nonverbal cues, such as changes in vocal pitch. When one is emotionally activated, one's heart begins to race, palms begin to sweat, and muscles - including our vocal cords tighten. Often times this reaction occurs below conscious awareness, meaning changes in vocal pitch may give us insights into a speaker's emotional state that his or her words do not. In previous research, I have demonstrated changes in vocal pitch are predictive of votes on the Supreme Court, party polarization in the U.S. House, and Twitter volume during presidential debates. By comparing the figures labeled "+1SD" (emotionally activated) and "-1SD" (not emotionally activated), it is easy to see why such relationships exist. In these figures, two short audio samples from the late Antonin Scalia are plotted with their amplitude (yellow and red areas indicate higher amplitude) and vocal pitch. In traditional models of political speech, all words would be treated equally, but these figures show Justice Scalia emphasizes some words over others. For example, the word "that" is spoken at a lower amplitude and pitch when Justice Scalia is emotionally activated as compared to when he is not. The words we say are easier to manipulate than non-verbal cues, such as vocal pitch, making

such cues more honest indicators of our underlying emotional state. This is precisely why lie detector tests do not consider what an individual says, rather they consider other factors that are more difficult for the individual to control, such as their respiration rate. Unfortunately, those listening to political elites cannot use similar techniques

to determine whether political elites are sincere, meaning listeners have to rely on other non-verbal cues, such as changes in vocal pitch. Even though audio analysis has its own challenges, it is an exciting new area of research. In the future, I plan on applying these techniques to state-level institutions, including legislatures and courts.

#### **Audio Samples**



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#### **Research News**

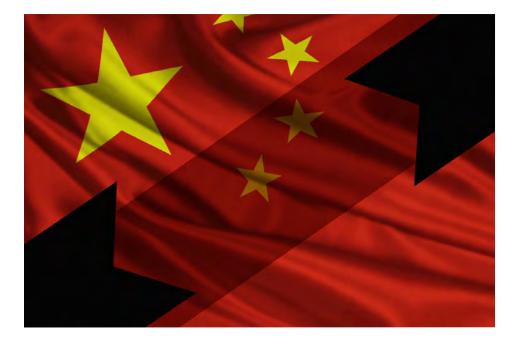
#### The Rising Inequality in China: Who Believes Propaganda?

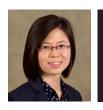
#### **Shuai Jin** *Graduate Student*

Widening inequality in China contradicts the official populist ideology that claims to represent the interests of all people. How does the Chinese government handle this contradiction? How is economic inequality portrayed in the Chinese media and who believes the government rhetoric on inequality? I used a survey experiment in China to answer these questions. The Chinese government and official media report inequality very carefully, emphasizing the Chinese Communist Party's populist ideology and the government's promises to reduce inequality while avoiding the discussions of the facts or causes of inequality. I interviewed 328 participants with low-, middle-, and high-incomes to examine whether the government rhetoric is effective in alleviating people's concerns over inequality. When I recruited participants, everyone was randomly assigned into treatment or control group. The treatment group reads a piece of government rhetoric before taking the survey, while the control group takes the survey without reading anything. The piece of government rhetoric was drawn from an actual document in the newspaper, People's Daily. It emphasizes the Chinese Communist Party's populist ideology, the policy measures the government has taken to control inequality, and policy proposals to

reduce inequality in the future. The results show that low-income Chinese respondents believe the propaganda, but the middle class is resistant to the political messages from the government. Low-income respondents who received the treatment think inequality is a less serious problem and is supportive of the government's policy proposals. However, middle class respondents in the treatment group are more critical of inequality, thinking that inequality is unfair, illegitimate and intolerable. High-income

respondents in the treatment group agree with the government's inequality stance and generally comply with the government positions, at least on the surface. They are also more supportive of redistribution under treatment than their counterparts in the control condition. My research concludes that middle class is the critical force in Chinese society. Propaganda increases social division and results in serious challenges to the governance of the Chinese government in the future.





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#### Legislative Studies Quarterly: A Little History



#### **Gerhard Loewenberg**

Professor Emeritus Co-founder, Legislative Studies Quarterly

Director, Comparative Legislative Research Center



Mickie Wiegand
Managing Editor



The Legislative Studies Quarterly was established at lowa in 1976 at a time when legislative research was attracting a great deal of attention in the political science profession. Practitioners in the legislative field included specialists on Congress, on state legislatures, and on the rapidly increasing number of legislatures in newly developing democracies.

In the early 1970s the Iowa department had half a dozen scholars interested in legislatures—Joel Barkan, G.R. (Bob) Boynton, C.L. Kim, Gerhard Loewenberg, Samuel C. (Pat) Patterson, and John Wahlke. It had secured substantial research grants focusing on legislative research and established the Comparative Legislative Research Center to administer them. Over the years, the Center had grants from the Agency for International Development (AID), the Ford Foundation, the Rockefeller Foundation, Pew Charitable Trusts, among others. Gerhard Loewenberg was the Center's first Director and Mickie Wiegand its first research secretary. Responding to prominent scholars who urged the department to start a journal dedicated to the publication of legislative research, Loewenberg and Malcolm E. Jewell (a colleague at the University of Kentucky) decided to undertake the project as an "experiment." They wrote later that they were "flying by the seat of their pants" and relied on volunteer help from department faculty members, staff, and graduate students.

The Quarterly was one of the earliest of the newly specialized journals in the profession and its founders were anxious to take advantage of new, cost-effective publishing technologies. LSQ was one of the first "desktop" publications in the profession. The double-blind peer review process, copy-editing, preparation of camera-ready proofing, subscriber database management, marketing, and budgeting was all administered within the Center by Mickie Wiegand. The journal received a small startup grant of \$3000 from the Vice President for Research in 1976. Since then, the Quarterly has been supported entirely by its subscription revenue and external research grants without requiring University funds.

The first issue of LSQ had a modest subscriber list of just 300 individuals and 200 libraries (hand-packed and mailed from the Center office). By 2015, print and/or digital access to its content was being purchased by 3,819 institutions. Moreover, philanthropic initiatives have extended low-cost or free access to current content to an additional 4,757 developing world institutions. Although the journal's submission rate has increased significantly from just 91 articles during its first year, it has maintained a rigorous acceptance rate of just 15% because of a strenuous review process. LSQ has become the most widely cited legislative research journals in the world and has made an important impact in the field of political science.

The growing complexity of the worldwide digital distribution of the *Quarterly* led it to sign a publishing contract with Wiley-Blackwell in 2008. The journal continues to be self-sustaining based on its subscription and advertising revenue. This year, Brian Crisp, a legislative research specialist at Washington University in St. Louis, took over as Executive Editor of *LSQ* while Mickie Wiegand continues as Managing Editor.

#### **Grants & Alumni Spotlight**

#### Selected Faculty Research Grants

#### **Diffusion Analytics for Public Policy Research**

Sponsor: National Science Foundation (2016 – 2019) Recipient: Professor Frederick Boehmke

#### Identity Claims: Expanding the Issue Correlates of War (ICOW) Dataset

Sponsor: US Department of Defense, Department of the Navy, Office of Naval Research (2016 – 2018) Recipient: Professor Sara Mitchell

#### Attitudinal Policy Feedback and the Affordable Care Act

Sponsor: Russell Sage Foundation (2016 – 2017) Recipient: Professor Julianna Pacheco

#### **Standardized World Income Inequality Database**

Sponsor: National Science Foundation (2015 – 2018) Recipient: Professor Fredrick Solt

#### **Broadband Use Mapping, Data and Evaluation**

Sponsor: National Science Foundation (2013 – 2015) Recipient: Professor Caroline Tolbert

#### **World Values Survey China**

Sponsor: The CCK Foundation (2012 – 2015) Recipient: Professor Wenfang Tang

#### **Bureaucratic Corruption in the Post-Soviet Region**

Sponsor: U.S. Army Research Office (2014 – 2017) Recipient: Professor William Reisinger



#### **ALUMNI** SPOTLIGHT

Franklin D. Gilliam, Jr., '78 M.A., '83 Ph.D., was elected last fall as the Chancellor of the University of North Carolina at Greensboro (UNCG). Prior to his current position at UNCG, Gilliam was a longtime UCLA professor of public policy and political science, and served as the Dean of the Luskin School of Public Affairs at UCLA since 2008. His research interests include strategic communications and its effects on shaping public policy; electoral politics; and racial and ethnic politics. A full professor of political science since 1996, Gilliam also served as UCLA's associate vice chancellor for community partnerships. In addition, he was founding director of UCLA's Center for Communications and Community, which connected research on communications to neighborhood transformation.

A native of Bloomington, MN, Gilliam earned a bachelor's degree in political science (1977) from Drake University and holds master's (1978) and doctoral (1983) degrees in the field from the University of Iowa. Early in his academic career, he taught at Grinnell College and the University of Wisconsin-Madison before joining the UCLA faculty in 1986 as an assistant professor of political science. Twice nominated for UCLA's Luckman Distinguished Teaching Award, Gilliam also taught at the University of Dar Es Salaam, Tanzania, and was a Visiting Scholar at Brandeis University. In addition, he taught at Fisk University, Middle Tennessee State University, and with former Vice President Al Gore at Columbia University. In 2007, Gilliam won a Distinguished UI Alumni Award.

Despite his many professional obligations, this Iowa graduate has remained connected to the UI Department of Political Science and to the University of Iowa. His loyalty to the Iowa Hawkeyes runs deep (his father was a member of the 1957 Iowa Rose Bowl football team), and he has been a superb ambassador for the department and the university over the years.

#### **Alumni News**

The Department would like to give a warm welcome to our newly appointed Alumni Advisory Board Members.

## Darrell Netherton Alumni Advisory Board Retired Attorney



Darrell Netherton (B.A. '66, M.A. '72, J.D. '77) - Following two years teaching social studies at Mid-Prairie HS in Wellman, Iowa, and military service in Vietnam, he returned to graduate school and earned an M.A. in government and politics from the University of Maryland in 1972. During and following his graduate studies he served on the staff of a senior member of the U.S. Congress, and after receiving his J.D. from American University's Washington College of Law, was named Assistant Counsel to a Congressional Committee. From 1979 to 2001, he also held various positions with the U.S. Merit Systems Protection Board, including Legislative Counsel and Director of Regional Operations, a position in which he oversaw the work of 70 administrative judges throughout the United States.

Following his retirement from the U.S. Government in 2001, Darrell spent three years in Delaware, and then relocated to San Diego, California in 2006, where he is active in non-profit organizational work, and is also a certified arbitrator for the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority (FINRA).

Tom Wickham
Alumni Advisory Board
Parliamentarian of the U.S.
House of Representatives



Tom Wickham (B.A. '90, J.D. '94) - After being immersed in the most-inside of "inside baseball" in the House of Representatives over the last 21 years, Tom is looking forward to collaborating with alumni and students of the University of Iowa. Tom is humbled by the opportunity to work with such a broad array of talented and committed alumni. His public service career has infused in him the value of a strong political science education when working with the nation's leaders. In advising on issues that range from impeachment to post office naming bills, the lessons learned in Schaeffer Hall are still carried with him every day in the Capitol building. "I am excited to join with my fellow Board Members to bring those experiences to the students and faculty of the Political Science Department."

#### Howard Kerr 2016 International Impact Award Recipient



Howard Kerr, a native Iowan, 1960 graduate of the UI, and former naval commander and advisor to the United States presidents, has been named the 2016 recipient of the International Impact Award.

The University of Iowa's International Impact Award, established by UI International Programs in 2010, honors exceptional individuals in any field who have made sustained and deep contributions internationally or in the United States to promote global understanding. The award is presented by the UI president during International Education Week in a public ceremony.

Kerr has been a strong advocate and aide to the University of Iowa, specifically the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. He serves on the CLAS Dean's Advisory Board and has provided a generous amount of time and effort to the political science department, regularly lecturing in presidency and foreign policy courses. Kerr combines a unique appreciation of academic education with fascinating experiences in the real world and government.

# Poligram

#### THE UNIVERSITY OF IOWA

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