Study tracks student debt

Iowa college students graduate with some of the highest debt in the country.

By BRITTANY TREVICK

More college students are using grants and scholar-
ships to pay their tuition, accord-
ing to a national study. And at the University of Iowa, a certain amount of
tuition dollars are set aside for scholarship programs. This year, the university has increased $31 million in the 2010-11 school year to help undergraduates afford college.

But Iowa’s students are still graduating with a high amount of debt. According to a Sallie Mae study, there was a 10 percent increase in the number of grants and scholarships being used by students to pay tuition for the 2010-11 school year.

Mark Warner, the assistant secretary for enrollment man-
gement and director of U1 Student Financial Aid, said the amount allocated for grants and scholarships increases each year as tuition increases.

“Clearly, what we are allo-
cating to support university scholarships and grants to undergraduate students, the outpays increases as tuition increases,” he said.

“More often than not, it’s by a larger U.S. issues guidelines on assaults

Universities and colleges are now required to provide medical, counseling, academic, and other support services to sexual-misconduct victims.

By ERIC MOORE

The University of Iowa and most of the nation’s other colleges and univer-
sities will deal with instances of sexual assault differently this year. The Department of Education’s Office for Civil Rights released a let-
ter requiring them to be consistent with new national standards.

Iowa City Gazette
The cancer survivor held a book signing at the UI Children’s Hospital.

By CARY HOWITZ

Crystal Prusa said she didn’t mind being held while she was cancerous. She laughed and said hair just grows back.

And while she had done a bun up in one of the UI Children’s Hospital’s photos, she said they’re just not for her.

Though her hair has grown back in five years since her treatment, she still has a part for children fighting cancer.

As a cancer survivor who was treated at the University of Iowa Children’s Hospital, Prusa, 28, has written a children’s book called The Day I Beat Mr. C, which was published in December. While the book references some specifics about her experiences, it is also generalised in order to reach out to other children fighting cancer.

The book was written and illustrated by Prusa. The idea came from a little girl dealing with being cancerous. Her parents supported her by painting her hair her head every day to make her feel pretty.

“A lot of little girls and their families might be dealing with cancer,” Prusa said.

Just before her 15th birthday, doctors found a rare form of cancer, Ewing’s sarcoma, in Prusa’s pancreas, which was the first mistake of a shadow on an ultrasound scan, which was then discovered to be a 5-centimeter tumor.

Prusa said being born normal was the most normal thing in the world. She had a bone, but in her case, it was found in the soft tissue.

“The tumor actually fell out of her body, but she did not get to dive inside out,” said Prusa, 55, 2217.5, 20, South 8th Ave., Moline, 309.283.

Despite her intense treatment, Prusa tried to surmount some of her high-school activities and social life.

The honor-roll student was also an avid dancer at Marshalltown High School in Marshalltown, but she did not get to do her senior year.

“The hardest part for me was missing on much school,” Prusa said. “I was a very social person.”

She had to give up a lot, including credits and future extracurriculars, but she made it to her high school and junior year.

“I was worried — I didn’t think anyone would take a hold girl to prom,” said Prusa.

Her father, Clay Prusa, was a major source of inspiration for her to begin writing and illustrating the children’s book. He said he knew that writing this book was something she needed to accomplish.

“I told her to just write something for the kids that would at least give them some hope,” said Clay.

Prusa said there is a library in the hospital and librarians bring books to kids about once a week.

Prusa said there was a book signing at the UI Children’s Hospital and a copy of the book remains in the library.

“Just a second of something I’ve always wanted to do anyway,” I was little,” Prusa said about writing a children’s series. “I plan on doing a series of different childhood diseases.”

The book was written naturally because she viewed the story in a very short period of time and illustrated the book about two weeks. She has another book in the works about a little boy who loses a limb and learns to do things one-handed, like tying shoes.

Prusa said a personal achievement was The Day I Beat Mr. C and she said she hopes to bring a little bit of light into the lives of children who are fighting cancer.

“I think that’s what keeps her going,” O’Dorisio said. “She’s (in) moving forward by helping others.”

**BLOTTER**

Arthur Joya, 41, Orla, was charged Tuesday with possession with an intent to deliver a controlled substance.

Perrett Blanchard, 23, address unknown, was charged Monday with criminal trespassing. Building Inspector, 30, 105 S. 6th St., was charged Monday with possession of an open alcoholic beverage container.

Harrel Clew, 55, 2217.5 South Ave., Moline, was charged Thursday with possession of a controlled substance.

Matthew Fitch, 20, South 8th Ave., Moline, was charged Tuesday with possession of drug paraphernalia.

Clay Fitch, 80, Corvallis, was charged Thursday with public indecency.

Anthony Searcy, 25, Waterloo, was charged Tuesday with possession of marijuana and possession with an intent to deliver.

Rebecca Rehfeld, 19, North Liberty, was charged Tuesday with possession of drug paraphernalia, drug-related activity, obstruction, and possession of a controlled substance with intent to deliver.

Edward Howard, 36, 2434 Cherry Court, was charged Tuesday with second-offense domestic abuse.

Terry Gug, Jr., 22, Chicago, was charged Tuesday with possession of drug paraphernalia, drug-related activity, obstruction, and possession of a controlled substance with intent to deliver.

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“Her tone is very diverse community that we provide a clear and meaningful environment that more clearly moves the world with which our graduates will live and work,” Barron said.

University officials said the increase in first generation students reflects a nationwide trend.

“More have to take off as a would-be, and we want to match that with a mild variety of students,” she added.

A diversity is a valuable key to a quality institution, and the UI will continue to strive for it — by Jerónimo Reinhardt

**Reminders for Bicycle Operation**

- Ride safely. Redlight is not permitted.
- Never ride on the grass and plan trees.
- Never ride in University buildings.

**Delta 5K Walk Saturday, September 10, 2011 10am Willow Creek Park on Teg St. in Iowa City**

Sponsored by Delta Sigma Theta, Inc.

**FUNDING & TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC SAFETY**

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Sponsored by Delta Sigma Theta, Inc.
ASSAULT CONTINUED FROM 1A

The letter presents clarifications for the ways in which federally funded colleges and universities handle sexual-assault issues. The 10-page letter feature details about sexual harassment, sexual battery, sexual coercion, and sexual assault.

The letter’s guidelines require schools to promptly begin steps against ongoing sexual violence, as well as to begin interim steps before investigations are complete. It also recommends schools not wait for criminal investigation or proceedings to begin before starting their own investigation.

Throughout the school’s investigation, officials can mandate lawyers at their discretion. The letter also “strongly discourages” schools to allow the accused to question the accuser.

Karla Miller, the executive director of the Rape Victim Advocacy Program, said the letter clarifies what is required of schools in instances of sexual misconduct.

“Title IX has always had those requirements, but they’ve been unclear in terms of what schools had to do,” she said. “It’s a good thing in that it makes it very clear. It provides the blueprint that schools will follow in cases of sexual harassment.”

The specific actions noted in the letter will ultimately require universities to be more accountable, making fines or a loss of federal funding if they don’t comply.

“In many ways, there is a new sheriff in town... It has the potential to really change campus climates if universities take it as the wake-up call it’s intended to be,” Lisa Maatz, the director of public policy for the American Association of University Women, told Daily Iowan.

Changes to Title IX

Title IX: Passed in 1972
• Amended to include 504 and ADA
• Passed in 1990
• Amendments added to handle sexual violence
• Passed in 1993
• Amendment added to include Title IX clarifications and distinctions on sexual violence as a form of sex discrimination

Titled IX clarifications and distinctions on sexual violence as a form of sex discrimination

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UI drug fines represent conflict of interest

Last year, the University of Iowa collected more than $160,000 in drug fines from students charged with illegal possession of drugs and alcohol. There was a rumor last week that officials are considering raising the fines, which would represent a 50 percent increase over the year before and is similar enough for some to say it is unfair two years previous to suppress illegal activity while also budgeting for money collected from said activities represents a significant conflict of interest. This situation could even worsen when after an unprecedented increase of drug fines just two years ago.

The university didn’t start issuing fines for drug use before 2009. Instead, it issued a much harder penalty if found guilty.

“Typically, students were evicted from University Housing,” said Greg Thompson, the manager of Residence Life.

Today, students are fined anywhere between $200 and $700, depending on the amount involved. Though it is admittedly much less harsh than across-the-board, minor violation, the UI has successfully enforced the aforementioned $140,000, even going so far as to fine up to $2,000 for the most serious offenses. For students acting in an active manner to mitigate it is simply self-arousing.

A preferable alternative would be a simple two-tier, three-strike eviction system. It would deter students from engaging in illegal activities and give the university incentive to keep the residence halls substance-free, as the current fines do. The difference is, neither is the university nor the student would benefit from a student’s arrest.

In 2007, the University of Iowa, Iowa State University, and the University of Northern Iowa were all fined $60,000 by the UI drug fines represent conflict of interest. The dollars were 104 illicit-drug fines included in that number, with illegal possession of drugs and alcohol. There were 104 illicit-drug fines included in that number, with illegal possession of drugs and alcohol.

The regulations are set to end the crusade for a more environmentally friendly campus and the almighty Republican Party. Go figure, script solutions from our long-term versus short-term solutions. The estimates are showing that a $90 billion cost to Democrats.

But the purported cost estimate comes with a cautionary note. The cost estimate does not include any money spent on energy-related issues, but instead looks at existing policies, which are supposed to end the crusade for a more environmentally friendly campus and the almighty Republican Party. Go figure, script solutions from our long-term versus short-term solutions. The estimates are showing that a $90 billion cost to Democrats.

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The state unemployment rating is currently 6 percent, compared with 9 percent nationally. Reich agreed with Solow when he said investing in higher education was beneficial for the economy during a preliminary interview Thursday, before speaking at the University of Iowa last March, investing in higher education is becoming more costly to students.

“More and more people are making their living with their brains,” Solow said. “Investing in higher education was never a bad investment, Solow and Reich agreed having the right education.”

Reich maintained that many students will move out of the state into larger U.S. cities in order to find places to implement their skills and a job is doing nothing to keep them here.

“Universities provide problem solving, critical thinking, entrepreneurship, and the demand for that is growing,” Solow said. “Students aren’t spending four or five years to turn up and university grads will be unemployed. They have no real world job experience.”

“Basically the report is saying that almost all the time the water is safe throughout the state of Iowa,” Alt said. “There are some exceptions when systems periodically exceeded the drinking water standards, and the public is at risk.”

Violations were issued to 1,366 public water supplies throughout the state. More than 100 public water systems in Johnson County alone incurred violations.

Despite that number, Alt said there were no reported monitoring violations in Cuming or Ringgold counties at the end of the UI.

The Natural Resources said in its annual public drinking water program report Compliance report more than 2.5 million Iowans received safe drinking water in 2010.

Official: Local water is safe

By KRISTEN EAST

Whether it comes from a faucet, a plastic bottle, or a motion-sensor fountain, the water in your city is safe to drink.

And one expert said the addition of another filtration system is unnecessary.

“University of Iowa Student Government leaders and Office of sustainability officials will meet next week to discuss the possibility of adding additional water-filtration systems on campus, despite officials from the Iowa Department of Natural Resources and the University of Iowa saying the project is unnecessary.”

The University is exploring two filtration systems, such as the Elkay EZH2O bottle fillers and the in-line retrofitting device, which further filters out the taste, odor, and color of the potable water. The Elkay bottle filler already exist in most dorm buildings on campus, and they run from $2,100 to $2,700, plus installation costs. USDA sustainability- initiatives director Kelby Zeiser said the total cost of this project and the number of filtration systems that need installing will not be determined until after next week.

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Chief: Water safe

Former Secretary of Labor Robert Reich speaks at a lecture in the IMU on Wednesday. Reich served in three national administrations, most recently as the Labor secretary under President Clinton. He is also the author of 12 books. (Daily Iowan/Robin Johnson)

Reich said Iowa’s economy has direct spending, not tax cuts.

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According to the report, Iowa State University had 71 percent of its students graduate with an average debt of $30,411. Robert Johnson, the ISU director of financial aid, said one of the reasons for why so many Iowa students graduate with such debt is because of the state grant program. In other states, the program is available in varying forms to students attending either private or public schools. But in Iowa, only students attending private institutions receive grants from the program. But those private-school students still have to pay a higher tuition.

“Despite the fact that [these students] get this appropriation from the state Legislature, there are a few private institutions are still higher,” she said. “Students have to make up the difference.”

ISU also saw an increase in the number of its grants and scholarships, with awards going from 31,474 in 2008-09 to 33,227 in 2009-10. Johnson credited the economy.

“The economy being the way it is, many schools are realizing they need to step up or students would not be able to afford even being here,” she said.

Matthew Reed, the program director for the Institute for College Access and Success, said Iowa has generally been ranked near the bottom 10 in the top since the project began. He pointed to the cost of attendance, available grants and money and the number of out-of-state students as some possible reasons for Iowa’s high ranking.

In order to fix this, he said, Iowa universities should focus on educating their students about the loan process and also directing money to those who need it the most. “Colleges and the state [should] focus aid on need-based aid and work to ensure the federal Pell Grant program is fully funded,” he said. “There are all important factors in eliminating the need for borrowing.”

Debt

The state of Iowa has the fourth highest average debt for students graduating from college.

• Vermont: $27,786
• Maine: $29,143
•  District of Columbia: $30,033

• New Hampshire: $28,344
• Maine: $29,143
•  Iowa: $28,064
• Vermont: $27,786

According to the report, Iowa State University had 71 percent of its students graduate with an average debt of $30,411. But even with these increases, students nationwide are graduating with an average debt of $24,000—an increase of 6 percent over the last year—according to a 2009 report by the Project for College Access and Success. The project aims to educate the public about the trend of increasing student debt and work to ensure the federal Pell Grant program is fully funded.

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Warner said it is difficult to explain why Iowa saw the increases, students attending private institutions receiving grants from the program. But those private-school students still have to pay a higher tuition.

“Despite the fact that (these students) get this appropriation from the state Legislature, there are a few private institutions are still higher,” she said. “Students have to make up the difference.”

ISU also saw an increase in the number of its grants and scholarships, with awards going from 31,474 in 2008-09 to 33,227 in 2009-10. Johnson credited the economy.

“The economy being the way it is, many schools are realizing they need to step up or students would not be able to afford even being here,” she said.

Matthew Reed, the program director for the Institute for College Access and Success, said Iowa has generally been ranked near the bottom 10 in the top since the project began. He pointed to the cost of attendance, available grants and money and the number of out-of-state students as some possible reasons for Iowa’s high ranking.

In order to fix this, he said, Iowa universities should focus on educating their students about the loan process and also directing money to those who need it the most. “Colleges and the state (should) focus aid on need-based aid and work to ensure the federal Pell Grant program is fully funded,” he said. “There are all important factors in eliminating the need for borrowing.”

Debt

The state of Iowa has the fourth highest average debt for students graduating from college.

• Vermont: $27,786
• Maine: $29,143
•  District of Columbia: $30,033

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AlcoholEdu: This year, 5,500 UI students are expected to complete the program.

Details:
- Created in 2001
- Includes online course that discusses the effects of binge drinking
- Completion is required of all students

University of Iowa officials are not sure of knowing whether the school’s alcohol education program, AlcoholEdu, has long-term effectiveness.

Though program administrators require all students to complete a survey before they actually participate in the course, there’s not as far as the tracking goes.

And there are no plans to change the procedure, said Stephanie Beecher, a health educator for Health Iowa.

“It’s a difficult number to track,” she said of the possibility of tracking of graduates UI seniors who regularly binge drink.

And national experts say the lack of surveying over time may not even be effective beyond the participant’s first semester.

If incoming college freshmen take part in a class that educates the student about binge drinking — although proven positive — still lost.

The lack of surveying over time may even become even more curious with information from a recent study conducted by the American Journal of Preventive Medicine. According to the report, programs such as AlcoholEdu may even be effective beyond the participant’s first semester.

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By LYNN CAMPBELL

DES MOINES — The Ottumwa School Board in late July hired Davis Eidahl to be its new superintendent.

Matt Milcher, content editor of the Ottumwa Courier, said the board did everything it could to hide the process, leading the public to believe that the board made a decision to hire Eidahl after interviewing all three finalists.

“Few are willing to call out the Ottumwa School Board for being less than transparent,” Milcher said. “But, it’s clear there is a huge credibility gap that has been established.”

The Courier is Ottumwa’s only newspaper, and is a part of the Morning Telegraph newspaper group. The Morning Telegraph newspaper group prints the Des Moines Register and the Omaha World-Herald.

The board should be damned, but not surprised. Lack of trust is almost inevitable when you go to the lengths the board did to hide things.

But School Board Presi dent Carol Michael and the board’s decision to hold a closed session to interview the three candidates was in accordance with state law. She and the move also came upon the advice of legal counsel and at the written request of each candidate.

“During the interview process, there were two focus groups comprised of community members and all levels of school personnel. These interviews were open to the public,” Milcher said. “Members of the board and our school administrators took pride in the fact that we have always been (and will continue to be) transparent in our decision-making regarding all aspects of the district.”

But Bilbais, publisher of the North Scott Press, said the most prevalent issue was how the superintendent hired in the one you wrote to the Ronald Reagan Presidential Library, a memorial to the former president.

“Ray’s handling of the process was a mockery of openness, but that is how he does it all the time,” Bilbais said. “It is one thing for applicants’ names to be secret in the initial search. You can argue that either way. But when they whittle the list down to a top three or five finalists, those names need to be public.”

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By PHILIP ELLIOTT

WASHINGTON — A Senate panel rejected a change in the Republican president’s nomination Wednesday, with Rep. Ron Paul and Sen. Rick Perry strongly criticizing each other in a debate at the Ronald Reagan Presidential Library in a moment to the conservative who once wanted to see the names of the top candidates come for an interview, they want to show an example of how to do things.”

He said once working in support of the Democrat Perry’s team, he released Paul’s 1987 resignation from the GOP.

The back-and-forth between two Texans, who have never been particularly close, was an amended several weeks in the making. Paul, a libertarian-leaning Republican who has a strong opinion of his doctor’s support and a big bank account, came within 152 votes of winning an important candidate in Iowa on the same day that Perry, who leads in several national and state polls, entered the race to save the race for great fame among the party’s conservative base.

As both candidates have seen their standing in the GOP fade, they have accused each other of more than just the top couple of candidates.

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At the state level, Gee Terry Branstad’s spokesman, Tim Alteewitz, said the governor also believes that recruitment of personal and new employ- ees should remain confiden- tial. “We can make it known who has a good job right now,” he said. “If they are someone we know has a good job right now, we want to show an example of how to do things.”

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CG-HAWK
CONTINUED FROM 10A

Former Iowa running back Akeel Read joins coaches toward the end during the Hawkeyes’ 20-14 win over Iowa State in Kinnick Stadium on Sept. 11, 2010. (The Daily Iowan/File Photo)

E-CHUG national director Stephanie Van Sickle said the e-CHUG program is useful for assessing binge-drinking rates among students, but does not provide a total picture of binge drinking on campus. 

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Nasenbenny bounces back

Sophomore midfielder Katie Nasenbenny has come back strong for Iowa after a major injury last season.

By BEN WOLFSON

The Daily Iowan

Katie Nasenbenny

When Iowa Corn unveiled the new Cy-Hawk Trophy at the Iowa State Fair on Aug. 19, public reaction was evil and negative. Traders and Facebook quickly link up with complaints from fans that the trophy — which depicted a farmer tossing over a basket of corn with his family — had little to do with football. Former Iowa coach Hayden Fry and Iowa Gov. Terry Branstad announced the new design. Yahoo Sports called it “the unworldly trophy in sports” and ESPN.com said it “looks more like some homes shopping channel.”

But Hawkeye fans, by appar- ently oblivious to all the controversy, seemed to like the trophy. They laughed at the idea that someone would buy it at a farm auction. The controversy was par- tially summed up by head coach Kirk Ferentz. “The idea is to win, regardless of what you look like or what it is,” he said. “I think (the players) are like us in that respect. It’s not something we’re going to get upset about, but not before claiming he hadn’t seen the new trophy. “I didn’t even realize there was so much reaction,” he said. “I can’t imagine what it looks like or what it is,” he said. “I think (the players) are like us in that respect. It’s not something we’re going to get upset about, but before claiming he hadn’t seen the new trophy.

On Wednesday, West High senior Benny Wolfson planned to come back strong for Iowa after last year’s ACL injury. He was one of the state’s top field hockey players before tearing his ligament in the first game against DePaul.

By YOUNG KIM

The Daily Iowan

Nasenbenny bounces back

Junior forward, Katie Nasenbenny, was in the starting lineup for the Iowa women’s soccer team during the 2011 season. She had a season-high 19 assists during the 2011 season.

By SARAH LOUWAGIE

The Daily Iowan

Former Iowa State quarterback Austin Arrundell is back to Iowa players during the third quarter of the Hawkeyes’ 25-7 win over the Cyclones in Kinnick Stadium on Sept. 10, 2010. Iowa has won the last three meetings between the teams. (The Daily Iowan/Phillip Bopho)

Hawks gearing up for Ames

The Daily Iowan, September 9, 2011

THE DAILY IOWAN, SEPTEMBER 9, 2011

IMMURALS

A revamped UI alcohol program gives refunds of entrance fees to participating flag football teams. 9A

Frost golfer works on swing

Golfer Brian Ballington might not compete this weekend, but that doesn’t mean he won’t play in tournaments down the road.

By RICK SCHUFF

The Daily Iowan

Nasenbenny bounces back

First-year field hockey player Katie Nasenbenny returns through drills during practice on Wednesday. Nasenbenny, a sophomore, missed most of last season with an ACL tear. She has scored four goals in Iowa’s first five games this year. (The Daily Iowan/Adam Wesley)

Hawks gearing up for Ames

The Daily Iowan

The Iowa men’s and women’s basketball teams unveiled their schedules for the 2012-13 season according to releases from the pro- grams on Monday. The Big Ten also completed its television schedule on Monday, the Hawkeye men will play all of their home games at Carver-Hawkeye Arena. Lisa Bluder’s squad is hosting fashion in Carver-Hawkeye campaigns on Nov. 6 in double-header fashion with Missouri State at 3:30 p.m. and F ran McC affery’s men’s team will tip off against Northwest Missouri State at 3:30 p.m. The Big Ten also completed its schedule for the 2011-12 season, ESPN ne twork s even times. The Big Ten also completed its schedule for the 2011-12 season, ESPN ne twork s even times.

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Society’s mother

Janis Ian will headline the 18th-annual Iowa Women’s Music Festival at the Englert Theatre on Saturday evening after a series of performances by artists in Upper City Park.

By CARLY HURWITZ
carly-hurwitz@uiowa.edu

Many of the women playing at this year’s Iowa Women’s Music Festival say that without the generations of strong female musicians before them, they would have probably never entered the field.

“When you’re young, you don’t necessarily think about the gender of the people you’ve listened to,” said Lindsay Mac, an Iowa City native and alternative folk/pop musician who will take the stage during the festival Saturday.

Musicians such as Mac said their appreciation for female music artists has grown as they have matured musically; this weekend is a chance to show that gratitude.

The free-admission day stage will open in Upper City Park at noon Saturday. At 8 p.m. Saturday, Janis Ian will perform with guest Natalia Zukerman at the Englert Theatre; 221 E. Washington St. Admission is $25.

The festival is an occasion to highlight the musical talent of women. And while the focus is on “girl power,” the musicians performing at this year’s festival share a common thread — they don’t think about the female aspect of their work as much as they think about themselves as musicians.

“I think about myself as a musician first, and I happen to be a woman,” Mac said.

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Henley on writing

The Hill sat down with the director of Iowa’s Renée Henley, the director of the writing program, to talk about the program now in the writing field on the University’s campus around the globe.

DJ: How is nonfiction writing changing?

Henley: What’s a good question. I mean it’s been changing for quite some time. There are changes especially in the U.S. great literature, which I think is the direction, and the boundaries of writing are fairly new. So we have what’s known as the graphic novel or the graphic memoir and even a way in which there is sort of a return to what we refer to as nonfiction, or what people recognize as fiction, or what people are recognizing as nonfiction, there are some that are referring to it as fiction, and there’s a lot of experimentation.

DJ: What do you enjoy reading writing more than others?

Henley: I don’t think I enjoy any one kind of fiction or nonfiction or poetry. I think there are some things that interest me, sometimes, and so there are some kinds of work that are better than others. There are some, actually — half my books and I’ve also done a lot of teaching, nonfiction writing and sort of feel sometimes that certain guidelines that people have for the traditional short story, and nonfiction hasn’t been overly thorough, and so people are more readily digested by the nonfiction.

DJ: What is the essence of a good nonfiction writer?

Henley: I think it’s hard to define, but because there’s the idea that because the essence can’t be poetic or it can be narrative, there are a lot of variation and potential depending on the writer. Sometimes the way people write short stories can sometimes rigid because of certain guidelines that people have for the traditional short story. But nonfiction hasn’t been overly thorough, and so people are more readily digested by the nonfiction.

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Latino American music floats through the air as people learn how to dance the mambo and salsa, get to taste Latino finger foods, and the Association of Latino Native American Cultural Center, members of Campus Activities Board’s cultural director. The team at the Riverside Theatre has worked in productions with Gogerty in the past, and they said she has cultivated a close relationship with Gogerty to write her one-woman show First Foot First in the Water with a Baby in my Teeth, which will premiere at 7:30 p.m. Friday at the Riverside Theatre, 213 N. Gilbert St. Admission is $15 for student-rush tickets, $25 for adults, $28 for over 60/under 30, $15 for those 18 and under.

The tale of the steamboat fire serves as a metaphor for the themes of parenting in the show. "Her dose anybody raise a child," Gogerty said. "I just kind of have to go in there and wog it figure it out." The play looks at her experience of discovering how to be a parent, what the experience does to a person and all the expectations that go along with raising children. "I was just wearing my Chuck Taylor All-Stars for a minute or two," she said. "And now, what? What? I'm responsible for this person!"

The UI theater alumni wanted to create a piece about feminism but found herself writing more about her personal journey, struggling with being a mother, and all of the expectations that go along with raising children. "The truth is always greater than what you make it," said director Alexis Chamow. "She tells the truth," he said. "We kind of went through the process of discovering what that transition of not being a parent to being a parent is and how much it deals with the tougher aspects is something Chamow values as well. The truth is always greater than what you make it."
The festival is maybe more about just raising those questions than making any answers, "she said. "Certainly, [my producer] was interested in those questions than making any answers than making any answers and that's a great place to be for my music."