

## Scholars in Action Panel

### **Gloria Gibson, Ph.D., Provost and Professor of Ethnomusicology**

Gloria J. Gibson was named executive vice president and provost at the University of Northern Iowa effective July 1, 2009. Gibson was formerly the dean of the College of Humanities & Social Sciences and professor in the Department of English, Folklore and Ethnomusicology at Arkansas State University. She also held faculty rank at Indiana University and served in several administrative positions. Provost Gibson earned her doctorate in folklore, with an ethnomusicology concentration from Indiana University. She also has Ph.D. minors in Afro-American studies and African studies. She holds an M.A. and B.A. in music education from Southern Illinois University in Edwardsville, Ill. Her research and publications have been interdisciplinary and have revolved around ethnomusicology, cinema studies, and Africana Studies. "Music & Culture of West Africa: The Straus Expedition" is a multimedia investigation of the Straus Expedition, a 1934 field research study in West Africa. The multimedia format allows students to hear sound recordings, see photographs, and view film footage shot during the 1934 expedition. Discussions of fieldwork, instrument classifications, and the role of ethnomusicologists are explored along with how to integrate the technology in the classroom. Other publication highlights include: "Cinematic Foremothers: Zora Neale Hurston and Eloyce King Patrick Gist," in Oscar Micheaux and His Circle: African-American Filmmaking and Race Cinema of the Silent Era, eds. Pearl Bowser, Jane Gaines, and Charles Musser; "African American Folklore and Cultural History in the Films of Spike Lee," New York Folklore; and "Identities Unmasked/Empowerment Unleashed: The Documentary Style of Michelle Parkerson" in Feminism and Documentary, ed. Diane Waldman and Janet Walker.

### **Mohammad Iqbal, Ph.D., Professor, Earth Science**

Dr. Mohammad Iqbal specializes in hydrology and environmental science. The main areas of his research are studies of contaminant transport in groundwater and soils, watershed hydrology, and environmental impacts of land use on aquatic ecosystems. His research is dominantly field-oriented and it includes geo-hydrochemical aspects such as water quality, mass balance of nutrients in terrestrial water bodies, nutrient degradation in soils, and application of isotope techniques in hydrology. Dr. Iqbal's current research includes installation of a real time water quality data acquisition and transmission facility at UNI, which is funded by the National Science Foundation. The long term goal of this project is to provide students with experiential learning opportunities to study the local as well as the regional hydrologic environment and related water quality issues. Dr. Iqbal's research has been funded by NSF, NASA, Roy J. Carver Trust Fund, Center for Global and Regional Environmental Research, and Iowa Science Foundation.

### **Amy Petersen, Ph.D., Associate Professor, Special Education**

Amy Petersen teaches in the department of Special Education and serves as co-director of the Center for Disability Studies in Literacy, Language, and Learning. Dr. Petersen is currently involved in a number of projects that integrate teaching, research, and service across the state of Iowa. In these projects, she works collaboratively with preservice and inservice teachers and other educational professionals to increase literacy and communication outcomes for students with disabilities. Her research interests include inclusion, intersectionality, and qualitative inquiry.

### **Lori Seawel, M.A., Educational Technology Specialist, Information Technology Services**

Lori Seawel has a BA in Elementary Education, an MA in Computer Applications in Education, and a second MA in Elementary and Secondary Administration. Following eighteen years in K12 education, Lori joined the Educational Technology team at UNI in February 2000. Lori's publications include an article in the Journal of Computing in Childhood Education based on the results of her Master's thesis related to word processing and children's writing and an article related to electronic portfolios in the Journal of Educational Technology Systems written collaboratively with colleagues, April Chatham-Carpenter and John Raschig. Along with her colleagues in ITS-Educational Technology, Lori provides instructional design and development support to faculty as they seek to use technology to support teaching, learning and research. She recently earned certification as a Peer Reviewer for Quality Matters, a nationally recognized peer review process designed to certify the quality of online courses and online components. In addition to her work at UNI, Lori served for six years as an ISTE (International Society for Technology in Education) mentor for K12 educators throughout the United States through a grant program funded by Hewlett-Packard.

### **Thomas Stancliffe, Ph.D., Professor of Art**

Tom Stancliffe (BS Illinois State University, MFA Northern Illinois University) is an artist who creates large-scale metal sculptures. His primary intention is to produce works that engages the various contexts (historical, visual, and functional) of a given installation site. With that goal in mind, he has completed over twenty commissioned sculptures for public art collections throughout Iowa and across the nation. His most recent project, title *To Wing*, is comprised of three soaring sculptures, made of stainless steel, that stand nearly 60 feet high, adjacent to the entrance to the Eastern Iowa Airport in Cedar Rapids. Many of Professor Stancliffe's former students have gone on to become public art sculptors, and have built up an impressive list of prestigious commissions and exhibitions.