Dr. Scott Laderman, professor of history, is the recipient of a 2015-2016 Fulbright U.S. Scholar grant. He is using the award to teach at the University of Hong Kong for 10 months.

Scott Laderman Receives Fulbright U.S. Scholar Grant to Teach in Hong Kong

Dr. Scott Laderman, professor of history, is the recipient of a 2015-2016 Fulbright U.S. Scholar grant. “I am delighted and honored to have been given this opportunity,” Laderman said.

“Much of my research and teaching addresses how Americans have historically engaged with the rest of the world. To be able to venture out into that world while teaching about the United States is a great privilege,” he added.

Laderman is using the award to teach at the University of Hong Kong for 10 months. In the fall, Laderman taught American Studies classes on youth culture and popular culture, and he is currently teaching a seminar on Vietnam and America.

In an interview with CLarion, Laderman discussed how teaching at the University of Hong Kong is similar to and different than teaching at UMD: “The University of Hong Kong, or HKU, is a world-class institution that values the expertise of its faculty and provides them with the resources and time...
On January 25, 1985, UMD’s newsletter, Currents, announced that
the Board of Regents had recently approved a name change for the
College of Letters and Social Sciences to the College of Liberal Arts.
Thus the 2015-2016 academic year has been a celebration year for
CLA, marking 30 years (over a generation) of change, renewal, and
continual dedication to the liberal arts mission. Entering into my
seventh year as dean this summer, I am now the second longest
serving dean in CLA history (Dean Linda Krug holds the record).
In the generation plus that CLA has existed, departments have
seen different configurations. When first dean Dr. Robert E. Franz Jr.
oversaw the name change to College of Liberal Arts, he served
a college with seven departments: Communication, English, Foreign
Languages and Literatures, History, Philosophy and Humanities,
Political Science, and Sociology-Anthropology-Geography. Soon
English would split into the departments of English and Composition.
Other programs would coalesce into departments: American
Indian Studies and Women’s Studies became departments, and
eventually Composition became the Department of Writing Studies.
International Studies, once aligned with Geography, would travel
over to Political Science. In other words, the CLA of 2016 is still
fundamentally anchored in the original departments of 1985, but the college has always changed with the
times, and some of the disciplinary borders have shifted or accommodated new dimensions. Graduate
programs have come and gone.

In 2016, the college is facing new changes and challenges. English and Writing Studies will be reuniting
under the name Department of English, Linguistics, and Writing Studies. A new BA in Journalism and
attendant faculty members are reuniting with Communication. A team of faculty members is working
on a stronger vision for the BA in Interdisciplinary Studies that will offer tracks (for instance, health care
professions and medical arts) along with the traditional self-designed choice for this degree program.
The Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies department is moving toward a future that includes
intersectionality studies and an emphasis on social transformations, using the acronym WIST, an old
word meaning knowledge. Recent additions to CLA’s programming—African and African-American
Studies; Area Studies in Chinese, Latin America, and Russian; Museum Studies Certificate; Geographical
Information Systems BA, minor, and certificate; Cultural Entrepreneurship; Cognitive Science; Master’s
in Tribal Administration and Governance (MTAG) and the undergraduate TAG, for instance—keep us
responsive to student interests and the regional economy. The Great Recession still impacts

CLA and its aftermath has affected enrollment trends, retention of students in our majors, and financial
burdens on a great number of UMD students. Weighing the needs and interests of this generation of
students against the foundations of liberal arts training is necessary, and I hope that the next 30 years
of CLA history show that we made wise and strategic decisions and investments in the decade
of 2010-2020.

Thank you all for your continued support of CLA’s mission as we prepare students for creative leadership
and global citizenship.

Susan N. Maher
Dean
Larry Knopp is quite familiar with the University of Minnesota Duluth campus. From 1989 to 2009, he served as a Professor of Geography (including two terms as Chair), Coordinator of the Urban & Regional Studies Program, Director of the Center for Community & Regional Research, and Associate Dean of the Graduate School at UMD. Not only did Knopp hold several administrative positions at UMD, he also established the Emma Goldman Scholarship in Geography.

Since then, Knopp has been serving as a Professor and Graduate Program Coordinator in the School of Interdisciplinary Arts & Sciences (IAS) at the University of Washington Tacoma. He was the Director of IAS from 2009 to 2013, and now teaches courses and advises students on both the Tacoma and Seattle campuses of the University of Washington.

Even though Knopp resides in Washington, he continues to impact and empower UMD students’ lives. On March 18, Knopp visited UMD to talk on “Race, Religion, Sexuality, and the Cultural Politics of Place: Legacies of a Radical Farmer Movement in Sheridan County, Montana.”

What prompted you to initiate the Emma Goldman Scholarship in Geography at UMD?

Larry Knopp: I spent 20 years as a faculty member in the Geography Department at UMD. Throughout that time, the demographics of our Geography majors mirrored those of Geography students nationally: namely, disproportionately male and white.

When I won UMD’s Albert Tezla Teacher/Scholar Award for 2005-2006, I decided to use the cash prize ($1000) to start the Emma Goldman Scholarship. My hope was, and remains, that it will encourage and support women, feminists, and social justice advocates in the field by helping to fund their educations, as well as by signaling support for women and feminist principles to a broader public (including prospective Geography students).

The scholarship recognizes students whose achievements embody the ethics, values, and accomplishments of Emma Goldman, a Lithuanian-born activist and intellectual. What else would you like people to know about Emma Goldman and her work?

Knopp: Emma Goldman is a tremendously inspiring feminist historical figure who had close ties to the world of academic Geography, primarily through her association with the Russian anarchist intellectual and geographer Pyotr (Peter) Kropotkin.

She emigrated to the U.S. in 1885, gained U.S. citizenship, but was imprisoned for anti-military activism in 1917 and deported in 1919 as part of an early-20th-century “red scare”. As a fierce voice for independent thought, women’s and civil rights, and a critic of militarism, she quickly became disillusioned with the authoritarian Soviet Union and spent her remaining years in various parts of Europe (including Spain, where...
We’re excited about the generous gifts from donors, friends, and alumni who share our desire to make UMD the best university it can be. There’s a renewed sense of optimism as we head into 2016-2017. We are proud to acknowledge and celebrate these new scholarships that were awarded this year. Thank you to all who have supported CLA!

**Cultural Entrepreneurship Scholarship**

The Cultural Entrepreneurship (CUE) Scholarship was established by board members of the CUE program to encourage promising students in the field and help recruit more students to this new and innovative major. Students are selected based on their academic achievements and commitment to the program.

**Gary D. Slette Scholarship in Urban Studies**

This scholarship was established in 2016 by the J.A. Wedum Foundation in honor Gary Slette. Slette received his BA in Urban Studies from UMD in 1977. The scholarship is awarded to students majoring in Urban and Regional studies in the Geography, Urban, Environment and Sustainability Studies Department in the College of Liberal Arts at UMD.

**Roland and Evelyn Theisen Scholarship**

Roland Theisen established the scholarship in 2016 to provide scholarships to students studying History, Political Science, or Environmental Studies. Theisen received his BA in Social Sciences from the UMD College of Liberal Arts in 1958.

**Women’s Studies Legacy Award**

This scholarship was established in 2016 by an anonymous donor from the UMD campus community. The area of women’s studies has made a lasting impact on the donor’s life and he/she would like to assist a student in achieving their own successes. Awards will be made to students pursuing a degree in the Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies.

**Jerry and Carolyn Zanko Reaching Higher Scholarship**

Jerry and Carolyn Zanko created this fund in 2007 in honor of their long-time affiliation with the University of Minnesota Duluth. It provides scholarships for full-time juniors or seniors who are studying political science in the Department of Political Science, or who are studying integrated elementary/special education or secondary education in the Department of Education.

We also wish thank Alta Oben and Dr. Kay Simo for establishing endowed scholarships that will be acknowledged in subsequent CLArion editions as they are awarded.
More important than achievements are mistakes. And Kim Hyatt, a UMD 2014 grad, says she has made plenty of them.

Grateful for Failures

Kim doesn’t give many details about getting kicked out of art school in 2010, but she insists her failures have taught her more than her successes. She’s had a lot of successes.

In 2015, she received the prestigious Minnesota Newspaper Association Dave Pyle New Journalist Award. “This is the greatest recognition in the state for a journalist my age. This was a dream I manifested with hard work and unyielding curiosity to see and learn more, and of course, risk making a few more mistakes,” she said.

“THAT’S not on my resume,” she said. “But without that experience of getting fired, there’s no way I would be where I am today.”

All those failures didn’t keep Kim from landing internships and freelancing throughout Duluth and even abroad in Liverpool (Kim’s favorite summer course at UMD was The Lives and Music of the Beatles).

What’s more, they paved the way to a journalist position in Owatonna, Minn.

Owatonna is known for Federated Insurance and cattle farms. It’s also pretty famous for its stunning and historic National Farmers Bank and the state’s former Public School Orphanage — now used for city government, arts, and recreation.

She wrote about all of those topics, and more. From car crashes, fires, theater reviews, workforce shortages, hops farming, production of Viking stadium glass, countless school board meetings, and racist tweets, she’s covered a lot so far in her career.

A visit from a famous actor prompted her story’s opening line,

Dear Friends,

It has been another exciting year in the College of Liberal Arts as we celebrated our 30th Anniversary. I continued to be amazed by the scholarly work of our faculty, our students and our alumni, and optimistic about what lies ahead.

This year, we welcomed Nicole Kangas as our new Development Officer who will be working with me to advance the mission of CLA. Nikki graduated from the college with a degree in Communication in 2009 and began working in the development office in 2013. It is always an honor to find that the best-qualified candidates are already Bulldogs!

We both are passionate about the work we do in CLA and the role we play in connecting alumni and friends to our students and faculty. You play a part too. Your gift of financial support enhances the educational experience of our students while also giving them extra confidence to meet the challenges of our world.

Thank you for being part of the CLA family and thank you for your support.

Jennifer M. Berges
UMD Honors Students Enter the World Wide Web of Literary Publishing

Aisthesis Honors Student Journal

If it’s been awhile since you’ve read a copy of *Aisthesis*, you might be surprised to learn that it’s now an online journal created by students in the University of Minnesota Duluth Honors Program, as part of the Honors Advanced Writing class taught by Associate Professor Elizabethada (Liz) Wright.

Putting together an online journal within 15 weeks took teamwork, leadership, and organizational skills. “Students solicited contributions from undergraduate students in Honors Programs across the country, ultimately receiving submissions from about a dozen schools. Creating a call for papers, email scripts to encourage submissions, students worked through this initial phase as they also examined texts of various professional journals to better understand what a strong professional article should look like,” Wright said.

“The best part of my job, aside from the new-found confidence in my abilities, is the fact that I got to work with a really wonderful team on this edition. The editorial board were wonderful in helping along the way and were always focused on making *Aisthesis* the best it could be,” said Kallie Quinn, Editor of *Aisthesis*.

The seventh issue of *Aisthesis* features research, poetry, fiction, nonfiction, and artwork. “*Aisthesis* is all about presenting perspectives of undergraduates in campus-wide honors programs located around the country. These different perspectives are what make this journal a very important work. Every piece brings a unique-take or sense of the world. We have students of all backgrounds and majors included,” Quinn added.

Reaching out and reading submissions from other students enrolled in national collegiate honors programs helped UMD honors students make connections and build relationships with academic and literary communities around the US. “I hope that *Aisthesis* grows into a journal that other honors programs will look to as something to aspire toward, in terms of research and creativity. I also hope to see *Aisthesis*’ online presence grow and to receive more submissions every year,” said Quinn.

To read the current issue of *Aisthesis*, visit: http://d.umn.edu/lib/d-commons/libpub/journals/Aisthesis/2016/

Kallie Quinn is a junior at UMD majoring in marketing with minors in management and theatre. She currently serves as the Public Relations Director for the University Honors Program. After graduation she hopes to go into advertising, sales, or event planning using her degree.
In 2010, Gaelynn Lea was performing with musician Charlie Parr at the UMD Farmer’s Market, surrounded by fresh veggies and baked goods. It was just an ordinary sunny day, but as luck would have it, Gaelynn happened to catch the ear of a rockstar. Although Gaelynn didn’t know it then, Alan Sparhawk, from the nationally-acclaimed band Low, had been listening. “Two weeks later he texted me and asked if I would work on a project with him,” Gaelynn agreed to the collaboration.

The project, which turned out to be a success, involved a more ambient sound than Gaelynn had played in the past. A special synchronicity developed between the two. Alan and Gaelynn found they enjoyed playing together so much, they formed The Murder of Crows and released Imperfecta EP.

As her performance schedule ramped up, Gaelynn's music blossomed. It’s rich with hints of classical music, Irish fiddle, and American folk tunes. She adds original lyrics, a looping pedal, and haunting solos for an inimitable sound. Alan and Gaelynn continue to perform together and he joined Gaelynn in Washington, D.C. for two of the four songs recorded at the Tiny Desk concert.

**UMD Motivation**

Gaelynn, who graduated from UMD in 2008, studied political science and psychology, and she made waves. Gaelynn was born with brittle bone disease, a congenital disability, and she put her zeal for helping others into public speaking and advocating for disability rights.

While was co-coordinator of Access For All, a disability rights student group, they led a movement toward the creation of a deaf studies minor. The group’s petition received more than 1,400 signatures and hundreds of people came out for a public forum. “I actually drafted the proposal for the minor myself,” she says. The proposal was approved by the Board of Regents the following semester. “The deaf studies minor has been alive and well ever since,” she says. Gaelynn thanks the teachers who challenged and supported her.

“**There are so many people at UMD who had an effect on me,**” she says.

“My favorite teachers Steven Chilton, Beth Bartlett, and Milan Kovocovich all influenced me. And Nancy Diener... I can’t forget Nancy.” Gaelynn now performs, teaches music and continues in her role as an activist for disability rights.

**Forging Ahead**

“**It’s going to be a fun couple of months,**” Gaelynn says. She’s off to a four concert, mini-tour with NPR and gigs of her own across the Midwest. Check the calendar on her website to see her ambitious schedule: [http://violinscratches.com/shows/](http://violinscratches.com/shows/)

Her work and her music have had a positive impact on UMD and Duluth, but Gaelynn won’t take all the credit. “I’m indescribably thankful for the beautiful people in my life and for the path that brought me here,” she says.
WHY WE TEACH

Dr. Janelle Wilson, professor of sociology, is the author of Nostalgia: Sanctuary of Meaning (Bucknell University Press, 2005). Her primary topics of study include collective memory, generations, and nostalgia.

Since the College of Liberal Arts was established it has served thousands of students across the nation and the globe. The connection students make with their faculty members and the excellent preparation they receive to impact their world matters. The “Why We Teach” series features CLA faculty who are committed to their students and passionate about their work.

What attracted you to teach at UMD? What were you doing before you came here?

I came to UMD directly following the completion of my Ph.D. at Western Michigan University in Kalamazoo (21 years ago!). When I interviewed at UMD in February 1995, I felt like UMD was a good fit. I was very pleased when the Assistant Professor of Sociology position, for which I had interviewed, was offered to me. I had envisioned wanting to teach at a place that was primarily dedicated to undergraduate education because my own undergraduate experience (at Saginaw Valley State University) was that way and I had a fantastic student experience there.

Reflecting on your career trajectory, what has been the most memorable and/or meaningful moment you have experienced at UMD?

I treasure the meaningful moments that I’ve experienced in the classroom when I feel like my students genuinely understand and appreciate the value of the sociological perspective. This is sometimes evidenced by comments students make in class, or in students’ written responses to essay questions, or in the papers they write. Whether the students in my classes are Sociology Majors or not, I want them to be able to use their “sociological imagination” and to see how approaching phenomena sociologically expands our viewpoint and, I would argue, gives us a more holistic understanding.

Over the years, I have had particular classes that have been characterized by a lot of rapport and have truly felt like a “community.” In such classes, everyone is engaged with the subject matter, discussion flows effortlessly, and respectful debate occurs. In such classes, when the semester comes to a close the students sometimes talk about organizing a reunion for the class!

Other memorable moments have occurred in one-on-one advising sessions, both with my own advisees but also with a larger population of students during the six years I served as department head. These are often moments when the student recognizes his or her agency, proceeds with a plan for how best to make progress toward the degree, and also understands perhaps the “bigger” life lesson(s) that may have come from particular challenges or speed bumps encountered.

Going back some years (to the late ’90s) when I was the coordinator of the Graduate Teaching Assistantship Training and Orientation Program, the closing ceremony at the end of the training, during which we would hand out certificates to the participating GTAs, was always a highly meaningful moment. A number of these new GTAs were international students who, in many cases, had only been in the U.S. for a few days prior to the start of the 4-day training and orientation program. Their courage and ambition were inspiring; it was very rewarding to see their smiling faces at the closing ceremony, clutching their certificates with humble pride and a sense of accomplishment.

What is most rewarding about your work? What makes it worthwhile?

The most rewarding thing about my work is connecting with students – fostering their learning, growth, and development. With respect to research, I employ qualitative methods which, in my view and in my experience, is not only rewarding, but an honor. Most often, I am interviewing individuals who are gracious enough to take the time to share with me whatever it is I wish to learn about them or their experiences. It is also rewarding when complete strangers contact me to ask me about my work and get my input on their current projects. This has happened a lot with the nostalgia work, and the queries most often come from doctoral students and professors in Europe.

Is there any advice you would give to a person who is starting out in your chosen career?

I would advise someone starting out in this career to seek out a mentor who can provide guidance and direction. While it is important (and feels natural) to feed our passion – that is, our chosen discipline and our particular research project(s) – I would also advise one to strive for balance. We are better professors, writers, colleagues, etc. when we recognize the need for balance. We’re also just more interesting people when we’re not one-dimensional.

What’s next for you in your work? What are you looking forward to?

While I seem to be most defined by my work on nostalgia, I am eager to explore some other topics. As they say: “nostalgia isn’t what it used to be.”

My current efforts are directed toward the study of marginality, which I find interesting for a number of reasons, including the dual psychological and structural dimensions of the experience of marginality.

In addition, I have been doing

▸ Why We Teach cont. on pg 10

J. A. Bernstein won the 2016 Hackney Prize for the Novel. His essay collection was named runner-up for the 2016 Red Hen Press Book Prize, and his short fiction collection is a finalist for the 2016 Pleiades Press Book Prize. Stories and essays of his are forthcoming in Tampa Review, Beloit Fiction Journal, Chicago Quarterly Review, and other journals.

Shane D. Courtland, assistant professor, Department of Philosophy, is the recipient of the 2015–16 Chancellor’s Award for Outstanding Public Service.

Runa Das, associate professor, Department of Political Science, published an article, “The Rise of a ‘Masculine’ Nuclear India” in Business Line, one of India’s leading newspapers. Her recent book, Revisiting Nuclear India: Strategic Culture and (In)Security Imaginary, Sage Publications 2015, prompted the article.

Crystal S. Gibbins, assistant professor, Department of Writing Studies, is the recipient of the McKnight/ARAC Individual Artist Fellowship Grant from the Arrowhead Regional Arts Council. She also received Honorable Mention for the Minnesota Emerging Writers’ Grant through the Loft Literary Center. Crystal published her poems “Sultana Island Gold Mine” in Poetry City, USA (Vol. 5) and “Grass Dancer: A Prayer” in The Minnesota Review: A Journal of Creative and Critical Writing (No. 86, 2016).

Linda LeGarde Grover’s book The Dance Boots won the 2015 One Book, One Community competition with the Duluth Public Library.

Erik Redix was awarded the McKnight Land-Grant Professorship for 2015-2017. He also received the Faculty Fellowship at the University of Minnesota’s Institute for Advanced Study to work on his next book, Deluge at Bakweyawaa: American Colonialism in the Twentieth Century. The book will profile the creation of the Chippewa Flowage, a 23,000-acre body of water that was created in 1923 with the building of the Winter Dam to generate power.

Krista Sue-Lo Twu, associate professor, Department of English, is the recipient of the 2015–16 Outstanding Faculty Advisor Award for the College of Liberal Arts.

Janelle Wilson, professor, Department of Sociology and Anthropology, published “Here and Now, There and Then: Nostalgia as a Time and Space Phenomenon” in Symbolic Interaction, Volume 38, No. 4, pp. 478-492, November 2015. She also contributed an essay in her “Stories of the Self” blog with Psychology Today (“Marginality: A Key Concept Revisited” September 14, 2015).

Elizabethada A. Wright, associate professor, Department of Writing Studies, and Writing Program Administrator, had her essay “Virtue and Knowledge Combined”: French Catholic Tradition within a Nineteenth-Century American School for Women, which appeared in Rhetoric Review (Volume 34, Issue 4, 2015), tie for second best essay for the Theresa J. Enos Anniversary Award. This recognition comes from voting by the Rhetoric Review editorial board.
collaborative work with colleagues in the School of Medicine on mentoring. Working with Amy Prunuske (in Biomedical Sciences), Melissa Walls (in Behavioral Sciences), and Benjamin Clarke (in Biomedical Sciences), our team is gaining insight into the experiences of both mentors and mentees in the Bridges and Pathways Mentorship programs. We had an article come out in 2013 and another article is in the works.

Another collaborative project with which I am involved is with Carmen Latterell in the Department of Mathematics & Statistics. We are exploring individuals’ development of mathematical identity.

Tell me something about yourself that people might not readily know.

I’ve always wanted to be a fiction writer – in particular, a writer of children’s books.

To read an expanded version of this interview and more installments of Why We Teach series, visit CLArion online at http://cla.d.umn.edu/

In Memoriam

John Aayan Arthur, who was a professor in the Sociology and Anthropology Department at UMD for more than twenty years, died March 31, 2016, at the age of 89. Arthur was a professor in the Sociology and Anthropology Department at UMD for more than twenty years, died March 31, 2016, at the age of 89. Schabowicz was born in Pajeczno, Poland on March 5, 1926, and came to the United States post WWII after serving as a contract employee of the United States Army. He graduated from UMD in 1954 with a degree in Sociology.

Schabowicz went on to serve for many years as Administrative Assistant to the Sheriff of Lake County Illinois and Director of the Work Release Program of Lake County at Camp Logan. After the death of his wife, Josephine, he established the Josephine T. Bartos Schabowicz Scholarship in CLA to honor memory and their joint commitment to education.

Stanley Schabowicz, an UMD alumnus, died October 29, 2015, at the age of 89. Schabowicz was born in Pajeczno, Poland on March 5, 1926, and came to the United States post WWII after serving as a contract employee of the United States Army. He graduated from UMD in 1954 with a degree in Sociology.

Schabowicz went on to serve for many years as Administrative Assistant to the Sheriff of Lake County Illinois and Director of the Work Release Program of Lake County at Camp Logan. After the death of his wife, Josephine, he established the Josephine T. Bartos Schabowicz Scholarship in CLA to honor memory and their joint commitment to education.

CLASS NOTES

Share your news here—new job, publication, award, achievement, volunteer experience, etc. Email your classnotes to newsedit@d.umn.edu.

The 1960s

Bill Laulo (Liberal Arts ’60) and his wife Mary (Brewster) Laulo returned from an Antarctic Cruise in December; they enjoyed seeing the rugged snowy scenery and the wildlife. Bill and Mary have now visited all 7 continents and all 50 states. They will continue to travel, as long as they are ambulatory.

Robert O. Harder (Geog/Poli Sci ’66) was an Air Force ROTC Detachment 420 Distinguished Military Graduate. After serving five years as a B-52 navigator-bombardier and flying 145 combat missions during the Vietnam War, he became a national chain retail executive. A free-lance writer, he is a member of the Society of Midland Authors; two of his published short fiction stories have won awards. His nonfiction book-length work includes Flying from the Black Hole: The B-52 Navigator-Bombardiers of Vietnam (2009) and The Three Musketeers of the Army Air Forces: From Hitler’s Fortress Europa to Hiroshima and Nagasaki (Dec, 2015), both published by the Naval Institute Press.

Peter Rennebohm (Lib Ed ’68) is the author of Shepherd Lake (North Star Press). He has been holding Various book signings around upper Midwest.

The 1970s

Keith Alden Loveland (Phil/Pre-Law ’71) is a nationally recognized attorney, author, consultant and teacher within the fields of investments, securities and securities offerings, ethical versus fraudulent practices regarding investments and securities, and fiduciary matters. Keith has also been a teacher for many years. Among other engagements, he was Adjunct
Class Notes continued

Professor, William Mitchell College of Law, from 1978 to 1987, and Adjunct Professor, Hamline University, from 1979 to 1981, where he taught Philosophy of Law and Jurisprudence. He is currently Adjunct Faculty for The Center for Fiduciary Studies, teaching the Accredited Investment Fiduciary course in Prudent Practices for Investment Stewards, Investment Advisors, and Investment Managers.

Ken Buck (Poli Sci ’76) achieved the Society for Human Resource Management designation of Senior Certified Professional. After serving as a Vice President of Human Resources for Idea Drilling, LLC, Ken reopened Ken Buck Consulting, LLC in March 2015. He serves the Human Resource needs of business clients in the upper Midwest.

The 1980s & 1990s

Jeff Polcher (Crim/Soc ’87) serves as a substance abuse prevention and intervention social worker in St. Louis County. In February, Jeff announced his candidacy for the St. Louis County commissioner position.

Steve Werel (Edu ’94) earned a Masters in Liberal Studies and recently published Stassen Again (Minnesota Historical Society Press, 2015), which is a contender for the Hognander Minnesota History Award through the Minnesota Book Awards. Read more about Peter on Page 1.

The 2000s

Scott Nelson (Poli Sci/Hist ’04) is a Senior Regional Policy Advisor for the Defense Technology Security Administration, a Department of Defense agency responsible for the development and implementation of technology security policies for international transfers of defense-related goods, services and information.

Peter Nagell (Inter/Poli Sci ’08) recently founded Nagell Law, PLLC, a Minneapolis based law firm focused on the representation of immigrants and applicants for Social Security benefits.

Justina Oliveira (Psy/Spanish ’09) recently obtained her PhD in Industrial Organizational Psychology from The Graduate Center, City University of New York and is currently an Assistant Professor of Psychology at Southern New Hampshire University. She does research on the topics of survey ethics, the importance of understanding culture in the workplace, and cognitive ability testing.

The 2000s

David Cowardin (Engl/Writ ’11) is an author and filmmaker in Duluth. His latest book, Down South Justice, recounts his wild journey filming animal rescuers in the American South. David is a recent 20 under 40 award recipient in Duluth where the community recognized his work as important and transformative.

Mollie Piron (Anthro/Hist ’13) is the Collections Manager at the Nicolaysen Art Museum, a contemporary art museum that exhibits the works of regional contemporary artists as well as masters like Pablo Picasso and Frederic Remington. She is also currently in graduate school for Museum Collections Management and Care at the George Washington University.

Gwendolyn Hoberg (Eng ’13) is the author of The Walk Across North Dakota (North Dakota State University Press).

Editor’s Note

I am honored to be named editor of CLArion for the UMD College of Liberal Arts.

This issue features CLA students, faculty, donors, friends, and alumni who are impacting their world—from award winning alumni composing music and stories, to University Honors students entering the electronic age of literary publishing.

I’m also proud to feature Scott Laderman, Janelle Wilson, and Larry Knopp in this issue. They join an inspiring list of faculty who are committed to their students and passionate about their work. It’s a fascinating mix of people, all making a difference in their part of the world.

If you have a story, accomplishment, publication, or milestone to share, please email me at newsedit@d.umn.edu. I’d love to hear from you.

Enjoy.

Crystal S. Gibbins
Editor, CLArion
2008 College of Liberal Arts graduate Gaelynn Lea Tressler credits her friends and family for her success. “Indescribably thankful for the beautiful people in my life and for the path that brought me here.”

Read her story on page 7.