

Mollie Ullestad

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EDUCATION:

University of Northern Iowa

- B.A. Social Science Teaching (Geography emphasis) December 2015
- GPA: 3.8/4.0
- Dean's List Fall 2011-Fall 2012, Fall 2013-Spring 2015

PUBLICATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

Peer Reviewed Publications

- Araya, Fabián, Ximena Cortés, Alex Oberle, and **Mollie Ullestad**. "Proyecto Colaborativo para la Educación Geográfica Sustentable: Región de Coquimbo (Chile) y Estado de Iowa (EEUU)". Forthcoming. *Revista Geográfica del Instituto Panamericano de Geografía e Historia*.
- Oberle, Alex, Fabián Araya, Ximena Cortés, and **Mollie Ullestad**. "Developing a Binational Geography Curriculum in Sustainability". Accepted with Revisions. *The Geography Teacher*.
- Araya, Fabián, Alex Oberle, Ximena Cortés, and **Mollie Ullestad**. "Geographic Education for Sustainability: Developing a Binational Geographical Thinking Curriculum". Under Review. *The Power of Geographical Thinking*. Clare Brooks, ed. Springer Press.

Professional Presentations

- 11/14, "The Earth From Above: Incorporating Imagery into Text Sets". National Council for the Social Studies Annual Conference, Boston, MA (with Sibyl Cox, Blair Miller, Alex Oberle and John Ophus).
- 8/13, "The Earth From Near-Space: High Altitude Ballooning as a Means for Integrating Geography, STEM, and the Common Core". National Conference on Geography Education, Denver, CO (with Alyssa Holt and Alex Oberle).

RESEARCH INTERESTS

- Urban Geography
- Historical and cultural development of neighborhoods
- Cultural and ethnic change in European and North American cities
- Sustainability in an urban context

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Undergraduate Research Assistant

August 2013-July 2015

Geographic Alliance of Iowa, University of Northern Iowa

- Collaborated with external partners including the, Mid-Iowa School Improvement Consortium, IA Department of Education, National Geographic Society, and University of La Serena (Chile)
- Co-authored a National Geographic Education blog about education and the “Big Cats Initiative”
- Lead an initiative to help the GAI better serve pre-service Geography/Social Science Education students
- Managed and maintained the GAI website
- Created a “text set” on geographic aspects of genocide that articulates with the Common Core E/LA, National Geography Standards, and Odell Education, and will be used as a model for statewide partners and the national Alliance Network
- Reviewed and edited annual GAI grant proposal and no-cost extension prior to submission to the NG Educational Foundation

NASA-ISGC Iowa Near-Space Project Integrating Research and Education, 2012-2014

- Integrated high-altitude balloon technology into standards-based geography curriculum
- Gained skills in balloon/atmospheric dynamics, data capsule construction, soldering and basic circuitry, and collection/analysis of remotely sensed data
- Visited NASA Wallops Flight Facility (VA) to collaborate with NASA scientists in the Scientific Ballooning Program
- Supported a high-altitude balloon launch and collected geographic data via aerial photographs and other sensors.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Field Experiences

2012-2015

Holmes Junior High School, Cedar Falls, IA

- Participated in hands-on observation and interaction with both 7th and 9th grade classes with diverse backgrounds and inclusion of special needs
- Observed and interacted with 7th and 9th grade classes that included students with diverse backgrounds and special education needs

Cedar Falls High School, Cedar Falls, IA

- Participated in observation, student interaction, co-teaching, and teacher assistance with a 10th grade class with diverse backgrounds

Roland-Story High School, Story City, IA

- Participated in a week-long, full-time classroom observation, co-teaching, and independent teaching experience with 9th-12th grade social studies students

English Teaching in China

Summer 2015

Tung Wah School, Dongguan, China

- Taught daily fifty-minute English and Social Studies lessons to 30 6th grade Chinese students
- Developed students English-speaking abilities and understanding of American culture.

Student Teaching

Fall 2015

Johnston High School & Middle School, Johnston, IA

- Taught 9th grade U.S. History and 10th grade World Studies including full classroom responsibility, classroom management, curriculum planning, student activities, and student assessment.
- Developed units/lessons on India, the Middle East, and Japan as well as the U.S. Progressive Era.
- Communicated with students, student organizations, parents, and colleagues.
- Incorporated education and geospatial technologies such as video production, geotours, and GPS.

LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE

Dean's Office Student Representative

Fall 2013-Spring 2015

Internship (50 hours/semester); College of Social and Behavioral Sciences, UNI

- Represented the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences to university and off-campus audiences
- Engaged prospective and current students regarding the Social Science Education major and its program of study
- Raised public awareness about the college through service projects and contributed to university events, such as visiting days for prospective students, orientations, and Parent Weekend

**Program Assistant; Capstone in London and Paris
Internship (50 hours/semester); UNI Study Abroad**

Fall 2013-Summer 2014

- Co-led student group abroad including leading group to/from U.S. to Europe
- Served as liaison between students and course instructor
- Coordinated travel arrangements and itineraries and assisted course leader with on-the-fly travel logistics
- Resolved student conflicts during travel

HONORS:

- UNI Social and Behavioral Science Scholar, 2011-2015, \$6,000 per year
- National Society of Collegiate Scholars, inducted fall 2012
- Kappa Delta Pi Educational Honor Society, inducted fall 2012
- Deborah Witte Memorial Scholarship recipient, 2015, \$5,000

COMMUNITY OUTREACH:

- Relay for Life
 - Fundraiser, 2012
- UNI Dance Marathon
 - Fundraiser, 2013-2014
- Special Olympics Volunteer
 - Athlete buddy, 2013-2014
- High School Football Playoffs
 - Admissions Volunteer, 2013
- MLK Day of Service
 - Volunteer, 2014