

Contact: Rachel Boon

**PRESENTATION FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTHERN IOWA: CENTER FOR SOCIAL & BEHAVIORAL RESEARCH: 50 YEARS OF STATEWIDE SERVICE**

**Action Requested:** Receive the presentation from the University of Northern Iowa

**Executive Summary:** The Center for Social and Behavioral Research (CSBR) at the University of Northern Iowa was founded in 1967, making it one of the most experienced and successful applied research organizations in the state. As part of the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences (CSBS), CSBR faculty and staff members conduct original research and provide applied research services to faculty, academic institutions, nonprofit organizations and public agencies throughout the state. Research services include quantitative (survey) and qualitative study designs, sampling, survey and evaluation instrument development, data collection, data analysis and reporting. In the center's 50 years of service to the state it has investigated over 780 funded projects working with six federal agencies, 27 state and local agencies, and many academic, private, and not-for-profit groups.

**Presenters:**

Dr. Mary Losch is the Director of the CSBR and a Professor of Psychology at the University of Northern Iowa. She has served as the center director since 2014 and prior to that was the Assistant Director since 1998. Dr. Losch is also an Adjunct Clinical Associate Professor at the University of Iowa College of Public Health in the Department of Community and Behavioral Health. Dr. Losch has been the Principal Investigator for numerous grants, contracts and investigations of public policy, public health and other topics.

Stephanie Smith is an undergraduate with a double major in MIS and Marketing and works in the Computer-Assisted Telephone Interviewing (CATI) Lab as a research interviewer and more recently as a CATI LAB facilitator. For her work, Ms. Smith is trained in human research subjects' protection, general interviewing skills, computer-assisted telephone interviewing software, and project-specific procedures.

Stephanie Strong received two degrees from UNI: Bachelor of Arts in Psychology in 2014 and Master of Arts in Psychology: Clinical Science in 2017. As an undergraduate, Ms. Strong was part of the McNair Scholars Program. She worked CSBR as a telephone interviewer as an undergraduate and as a graduate research assistant during her graduate work. She currently works in a temporary professional position as a project assistant and plans to start a PhD program in the near future.