

IPR Announces Promotions and New Hires**Date:** Friday, September 10, 2010**Category:** Press Release

September 9, 2010 (Des Moines, IA) -- In an aggressive move to manage growth and fill vacancies as a result of retirements and talent shifts, Iowa Public Radio is pleased to announce the following new hires and promotions:

Kelly Edmister joined Iowa Public Radio as Chief Administrative Officer on September 7, 2010. Kelly is a Certified Public Accountant and earned a BA in Finance from Fort Hays State University in Hays, Kansas, and an MBA from Rockhurst University in Kansas City, Missouri. Kelly most recently served as Assistant Controller at American Equity Investment Life Insurance Company in West Des Moines.

Don Russell joined Iowa Public Radio as a Broadcast Engineer on September 1, 2010. Don most recently served as a Chief Operator/Network Specialist at Maverick Media in Rockford, Illinois, and received his certification as a Certified Broadcast Radio Engineer from the Society of Broadcast Engineers.

Kate Wells joined Iowa Public Radio as Cedar Rapids Reporter on September 1, 2010. Kate holds a BA in Religion from Principia College. She had been a summer intern for Iowa Public Radio, and previously interned at New Hampshire Public Radio.

Kathleen Masterson joined Iowa Public Radio as the CPB LJC Agriculture Reporter on August 23, 2010. Kathleen comes from National Public Radio in Washington D.C. where she served as an Associate Producer on the science desk. She has also held print and radio journalism positions in Madison, WI and has worked on film documentaries. Kathleen has a Bachelor's Degree in English from Bowdoin College in Brunswick, Maine, and a Master's Degree in Journalism from the University of Wisconsin.

Charity Nebbe joined Iowa Public Radio as the Talk of Iowa Host on July 1, 2010. Charity most recently worked for Michigan Radio as the All Things Considered Host. Charity returns to Iowa having previously hosted Morning Edition, Talk of Iowa and Midday at WOI in the Ames. It was during this time that she also launched the nationally syndicated program Chinwag Theatre as the co-host along with noted children's author Daniel Pinkwater.

Jeff Schmidt was promoted to Executive Producer of Talk Shows on July 1, 2010. Jeff joined Iowa Public Radio in August of 2006 as a reporter, and was named a producer for the talk shows in 2008. Before coming to IPR, he held news management positions in commercial radio and television in Cedar Rapids and worked on a national sports radio program.

Alex Heuer was promoted to Talk Show Producer on July 1, 2010. He is responsible for producing The Exchange and also helping out with Talk of Iowa. Alex joined Iowa Public Radio as the organization's first Cedar Rapids Reporter in January 2009.

Iona Myers was promoted to Senior Development Officer on July 1, 2010. Iona attended the University of Iowa and double majored in African American studies and English. She has served IPR in underwriting sales for more than five years.

Kristy Conrad was promoted to Senior Development Officer on July 1, 2010. Kristy is a graduate from the University of Northern Iowa with a BA in Communication Studies. She has served IPR in underwriting sales for more than four years.

Amanda Acton was promoted to Communications Manager on July 1, 2010. Amanda holds a BA in Anthropology from the University of Northern Iowa and an MPA from Drake University. Amanda joined IPR December 2009 after serving in a marketing and events capacity at Children & Families of Iowa.

Iowa Public Radio informs, enriches and engages Iowans through radio programming and other media. IPR enhances civic and cultural connections across the state, strengthening communities and reflecting Iowa's sense of place.

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