



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Disassembly Phase of the Alma Mater Sculpture Complete**

CHAMPAIGN, IL (October 22, 2013) – The disassembly phase of the conservation work on the Alma Mater is complete according to lead conservator Andrzej Dajnowski of the Conservation of Sculpture & Objects Studio (CSOS) in Forest Park, Illinois. Removal of parts of the sculpture has created access for CSOS to work on replacing the approximately 1,000 bolts used to hold the different sections of the Alma Mater together.

The disassembly process began in May with the removal of the heads from the sculpture. Due to the narrow design of Labor's sections, Dajnowski said it was also necessary to remove its torso and legs to help replace bolts inside those pieces.

The conservation work on the Alma Mater will be completed in Spring 2014 and the sculpture returned to campus in time for Commencement ceremonies in May.

**Images:**

Video and images of the conservation work on the Alma Mater can be found at <https://uofi.box.com/almamater>. All content, including a recent interview with Dajnowski, is available for download and media use.

**Conservator Visit:**

Dajnowski will return to the Urbana campus at **4:00 p.m. on Friday, October 25** to participate in a panel discussion about the Alma Mater's conservation at Spurlock Museum's Knight Auditorium. Media availability with Dajnowski will be at 3:30 p.m. prior to the event.

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