Lenko Stefanov

Lenko Stefanov, 23, a third-year student at Grinnell College living in the school's South Younker hall, died in his room in the hours before Monday, May 5. His death was ruled a suicide.

A "Celebration of the Life" of Lenko Stefanov was held at Grinnell College's Herrick Chapel Saturday afternoon, May 10, at 2 p.m. The service included remembrances from Russell Osgood, president of the college, and Jonathan Brand, vice president for institutional and budget planning and a lecturer in political science, along with those of his friends and peers.

An earlier service of prayer and remembrance was held Tuesday at the chapel.

Stefanov was born on April 15, 1980, to Stefan Stefanov and Anelijia Stefanova in Varna, Bulgaria. He graduated from high school in his home town and served in the Bulgarian Navy.

He was the recipient of the Eastern European Scholarship from Grinnell College in 2000 and began his studies her that August. During his tenure at the school, he often appeared on the Dean's List and was an excellent student in his chosen fields, economics and mathematics. He also studied British and German modern history.

In the summer of 2002, he worked for the Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco as a research associate intern. He had recently engaged in a competitive national application process for an internship for the summer of 2003, and was the first choice off Credit Suisse First Boston Bank, and was given by the bank the first pick of placement sites for his internship.

He had served as a student advisor on the campus for two years. He was also a member of the Grinnell College men's soccer squad.

He is survived by his parents and one brother.

Memorials may be directed to the Greek Orthodox Church of St. George, 1110 35th St., Des Moines, Iowa 50311, in the form of checks made payable to the church that note "Lenko Stefanov Family Fund." Cards and letters to the family may be sent to Stefan Stefanov and Anelijia Stefanova, No. 22 Svoboda Street, Apt. 113, Varna 9009, Bulgaria.