



*Division of Student Affairs*

September 2013

Dear colleagues,

As we are about one month into the fall term, I want to thank everyone who contributed to our fall enrollment of 12,159. This number of students exceeds our original budget plan by over 350 and is due to the exceptionally strong efforts of many of you. Special thanks to the staff in the Office of Admissions along with colleagues in Student Financial Aid, Registrar, Community College Relations, New Student Programs, Residence, Graduate College, CHAS, CSBS, CBA, COE, University Relations, Continuing and Distance Education, Athletics, Alumni Relations, NISG and many others. Job well done with more challenges being tackled every day!

Here are some updates that might be of interest to you.

### **UNI to host Iowa's Military and Veterans Conference**

On Monday, September 23 from 8:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., UNI will be hosting Iowa's Statewide Military and Veterans Conference for the first time. The title of this year's conference is "Uncamouflaging Campus Diversity: Creating Transparency through Cultural Competence." Breakout sessions will cover issues such as how to best serve those suffering from post-traumatic stress disorder and traumatic brain injury, how military culture brings diversity to our campus and community, how to support military family members on campus and other topics. The conference is free to all UNI employees and full-time UNI students, but all attendees must register. For more information and to register for the conference, please visit: [www.uni.edu/military/conference-2013](http://www.uni.edu/military/conference-2013).

Thanks to Julia Heuer, Coordinator of Military and Veteran Student Services, for bringing this conference to our campus and for leading its planning. Please consider attending if you are able.

### **Grand re-opening set for Redeker Center; Panther Village II to be dedicated**

The Redeker Center grand re-opening ceremony and the dedication of Panther Village II are set to take place on Wednesday, October 9, 2013 from 2-4 pm. in the Redeker Center. Congratulations to staff in DOR who, with strong support from Facilities Planning, successfully completed these two major projects on time and on budget. PVII is full and the new Redeker spaces are a hit. Join us for this event in October.

### **Rialto, Piazza, and Prexy's receive Blue Zone Restaurant Certification**

UNI's dining centers, Rialto and Piazza, as well as Prexy's restaurant in Maucker

Union, were awarded the Blue Zones Restaurant Certification. This designation is given to restaurants that meet a specific set of criteria by implementing changes that create a healthy dining environment. Some of UNI's efforts include serving healthy sides with entrees, making half portions available, and providing nutritional information as a part of the online menus. The Blue Zones project is an initiative designed to improve community well-being and help citizens make healthy choices through permanent changes to environment, policy, and social networks. Cedar Falls currently has five restaurants with the Blue Zones designation. Congratulations to the entire staff of Dining Services for this recognition and for their continued leadership regarding healthy eating.

### **Save the Date!**

Within the next few months, there are several University events that you should be aware of and consider adding to your calendar:

- September 28: Panther Open House, 8 am – 3 pm, campus-wide
- October 4: Installation of President Bill Ruud, 10 am, GBPAC
- October 15: Student Affairs P&S Meeting, 8 – 9 am (refreshments 7:30 a.m.), Maucker Ballroom
- January 9: Student Affairs Division Luncheon, 11:30 am – 1:30 pm, Maucker Ballroom
- January 22: Town Hall Meeting on Diversity, time and location TBD

### **2013 Iowa TRiO Leadership Conference to be held at UNI**

UNI Student Support Services will host the 2013 annual TRiO Student Leadership Conference on October 9 from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. This conference provides UNI the opportunity to host a large group of potential Panthers as 150 to 200 high school juniors and seniors from across Iowa who will spend the day on campus. The TRiO conference seeks to “provide a day of empowerment, self-awareness, and celebration of diversity for TRiO students, build a sense of community among TRiO students through education of TRiO history, and provide a quality campus visit that will showcase UNI's campus and resources.” Thanks to UNI SSS for including Student Affairs in this important venture.

### **Admissions challenges Career Services to “pay it forward”**

A "pay it forward" challenge has been moving quickly through the Division of Student Affairs. In the spring, the [Office of the Registrar took a green walk on campus](#) where they picked up trash. The [Office of Student Financial Aid assisted with the disaster relief](#) efforts in Oklahoma by collecting items to send to victims. Following this lead, the [Office of Admissions gathered school supplies](#) for their "Adopt a Family" school, Lowell Elementary, in Waterloo.

Staff in the Office of Admissions has since challenged staff in Career Services to join the effort by doing something positive on campus or in the Cedar Valley community. Once the staff in Career Services has completed this challenge, the Office of Admission requests that Career Services then challenge another office to also "pay it forward." The participating offices are all very excited to see how the Office of the

Registrar's green walk continues to be "paid forward" throughout this school year.

Thanks for all you do to help students succeed.

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