Dear Colleagues,

According to the Ground Hog Day predictions not long ago, we are poised for an early spring. Someone told me yesterday he saw a "flock of robins" so I am hopeful that predictions of an early spring are accurate!

Please check out the information below to catch up on the latest news within our Division.

**Important Dates**

**February**
- See story for Black History Month activities and dates
- 17 – UNI Job & Internship Fair, 11-3 pm; McLeod Center
- 26 – Up-Close; an Open House for Admitted Students; McLeod Center

**March**
- 14 – First consideration date for applications for Vice President for Student Affairs
- 14 – 18 Spring Break
- 25 – Panther Open House
- 28 – Panther Open House

**April**
- 2 – Panther Open House
- 8 – Panther Open House
- 12 – Student Leadership Awards Ceremony

**May**
- 2 – 6 Finals Week
- 7 – Commencement

**October**
- 1 – Homecoming
- 21-23 Family Weekend
Staff Updates

-- Please help recruit outstanding candidates for Vice President for Student Affairs. Detailed information is provided [here](#).

-- Linda Chapin, a Record Analyst II in Admissions will be retiring effective April 1st of this year.

-- Laurie Russell will be retiring from the Admissions office from her position as a Record Analyst II effective July 1st.

-- Nick Rafanello has transitioned into a new role, moving to Director of Residence Life at UNI. Nick brings with him experience from his previous position as the Assistant Director of Residence Life.

-- Brittany Hudson, former Residence Life Coordinator for Campbell, has transitioned roles to the Assistant Director of Residence Life. Brittany will hire, train and supervise staff-in residence, advise student groups, and serve on a variety of committees.

-- New to the Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships is Marcy Gosse, Clerk III. Marcy previously worked in the Academic Learning Center but has recently joined our office in application processing. Her role includes verification of FAFSA data, record transmission, editing and awarding, Federal Pell Grant processing, and much more. We are excited to have Marcy on board.

UNI Hosts RA Conference

The 26th Annual UNI RA Conference was held the weekend of January 29-31. UNI hosted over 500 RAs and Advisors from 50 colleges and universities spanning the Midwest. The weekend was one of professional development, networking, and a lot of fun!

UNI Celebrates Black History Month

The Black Student Union along with more than 20 other areas of campus continue to host events across campus to celebrate Black History Month during February. UNI celebrates and welcomes a diverse student population working towards creating a welcoming environment, if you would like to participate in any upcoming events the schedule can be found [here](#).

Dining staff receives honor

Niche.com, a site dedicated to ranking various attributes of institutions across the country, has awarded our dining staff with the Best College Food in Iowa award for 2016. The site gets its rankings according to meal plan costs and student reviews citing that, “Top ranked colleges offer outstanding on-campus dining - students can easily access healthy, quality food across a wide range of cuisines and dietary preferences.” Congratulations on the honor. Staff and students appreciate the hard work you put in to make us the best!

Student workers needed

UNI Dining Services is currently hiring, if you are aware of any student you believe would make an excellent candidate to continue providing top notch dining services encourage them to apply [here](#). Benefits of working for UNI dining include; scholarships available to student employees, opportunities for advancement, flexible scheduling and an excellent wage and incentive plan.
Department of Residence hiring

The Department of Residence is currently searching for a Director of Dining Services to oversee residential dining, retail operations, and catering services at UNI. If you have any colleagues or know of a qualified candidate urge them to apply here.

UNI Overseas Fair a success

UNI Career Services celebrated our 40th Overseas Teaching Fair in early February. This successful event, coordinated by Tracey Godon, served over 120 international schools and 500 teaching candidates.

Registration open for summer camp and conference housing

The Department of Residence provides housing and dining opportunities for conferences, camps and academic programs throughout the summer. If you are interested in applying the link can be found here. We also encourage you to pass along this information to any colleagues you know of that may be interested in hosting this summer.

Summer housing opportunities

Contracts are now available to students wishing to live on campus over the summer regardless of enrollment status. If you know of any students looking for a place to stay this summer direct them here.

As always, thank you for all the great work you do every day.

Jan Hanish
Interim Vice President for Student Affairs