Welcome to the spring 2016 semester...though "spring" and "January" do not seem to go hand in hand! But as we all know, it will be but a blink and we will be making plans for spring break and commencement.

### Important Dates

**January**
- 20 – Last day to add a full-semester course without department head approval
- 22 – Last day to drop a full-semester course without a “W”
- 26 – Webinar: Training Staff to Respond to Racial Climate Challenges, 1 pm.

**March**
- 14 – 18 Spring Break

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

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

### Staff Updates

-- Ashley Brickley, Coordinator for Student Disability Services, has submitted her resignation letter. Ashley will be leaving to take the Assistant Director position in the Disability Center at the University of Missouri, Columbia. Please help me say farewell to Ashley, thank her for her service to UNI, and congratulate her on her new position on Thursday, January 21, from 3:00-5:00 pm in the Student Health Clinic - Large Conference Room 068. Light refreshments will be served.

-- The Student Health Clinic has hired a new psychiatric nurse practitioner, Andrew Batovsky. Andrew is coming to us from the Department of Veterans Affairs in Des Moines and is a graduate from State University of New York with both his master's and bachelor's of nursing from there. We are excited to fill this much needed position.
**Staff development opportunity: Training Staff to Respond to Racial Climate Challenges**

On January 26 UNI will participate in a webinar facilitated by Rev. Dr. Jamie Washington. This session will provide strategies for training professional and para-professional staff to best meet their needs, as well as the needs of a diverse student body. This 90 minute session will begin at 1:00 pm and will be held in the University Room of Maucker Union. Discussion will follow from 2:30-4:00 pm.

**Career Services hosting UNI Overseas Recruiting Fair**

This year marks the 40th anniversary of the event that has served hundreds of American K-12 international schools and nearly 28,000 educators. UNI Career Services connects international K-12 schools with certified educators year round. This year’s event will take place February 5-7 in Waterloo where 130 schools and 500 educators are anticipated to attend the event.

**Student Affairs staff honored with Sue Follon Exemplary Service Award**

The Sue Follon Exemplary Service Award recognizes individuals in the Division of Student Affairs who are committed to quality and excellence and whose efforts and achievements are worthy of emulation as staff work to carry out the division’s mission of helping students succeed. This award is named in recognition of former Vice President Sue Follon who served the University from 1985 to 1998 and modeled the values upon which this award is based. This is the highest award given to staff in Student Affairs.

Recipients were announced at the annual staff recognition luncheon on Thursday, January 7. Individuals honored include Cathy Wylam, Technology Coordinator in the Department of Residence; Henderson Thomas, Custodian II in Noehren Hall; Lynne Lemert, Secretary II in Rider Hall; and Kristi Marchesani, Associate Director for International Recruitment and Admissions.

A surprise presentation was made to Dr. Terry Hogan for his exemplary leadership of the Division of Student Affairs from 2007-2015. Dr. Hogan will retire from UNI in June 2016.

Congratulations to all award recipients who have made a positive difference in the lives of students! Your work is worthy of emulation.

**Campus colleagues recognized with “Helping Students Succeed Commendation”**

For the fifth year, Student Affairs formally recognized staff in other divisions for their collaboration with us to help students succeed. This year’s key partners were announced at the January 7 recognition luncheon. Congratulations to this year’s
honorees: Linda Reardon-Lowry, Recruitment/Advisor, Technology; Celeste Bembry, Student Recruitment and Retention Coordinator, College of Humanities, Arts & Sciences; Mike Waggoner, Professor, Educational Leadership and Postsecondary Education; and Pat Geadelmann, Special Assistant to the President for Board and Governmental Relations. Their efforts demonstrate a true commitment to student success.

This is a bit of "coming home" for me, and I am honored to work with you for the next few months as Interim Vice President. We have much to do as we work with students this semester and prepare ourselves for the search for new division leadership. As that process unfolds we will be sure to share the details with you. Dr. Brenda Bass, Dean of the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences, has agreed to serve as search chair and I know she will do an excellent job. Your participation and feedback during the process will be key in any decision making. So stay tuned for more information.

As always, thank you for all you do each and every day (and night!) to help our students realize their full potential and achieve success.

Jan Hanish

Interim Vice President for Student Affairs