Welcome back from Spring Break! I hope you all had a chance to enjoy at least a bit of time away from your work responsibilities. It is hard to believe that we only have about six weeks left of this semester. And we know that these are often the busiest weeks of the academic year. Among the many other events and activities, please keep an eye out for information related to any on campus interviews for the position of Vice President for Student Affairs. I would encourage you to attend any open forum and be sure to provide feedback to the search committee on this key leadership selection. I also hope you can find time to enjoy some of the programs and events as we move toward the end of the semester. Often these events recognize our students and student organizations and their significant achievements – and serve as a great reminder of the impact made over the course of a college career.

Please take a few moments to check out the latest information provided by your colleagues.

**Important Dates**

**March**

25 – Panther Open House
25 – Employee Biometric Screening, 7:00 to 9:30 am; Gilchrist Hall 007/009
25 – Cat Crew applications due
28 – Panther Open House
28 – Red Cross Club blood drive, 10:00 am to 3:00 pm; WRC

**April**

2 – Panther Open House
5 – How Students Interact with Money, 12:30 to 1:45 pm; Rod Library Scholar Space
5 – Shaping Your Retire-Mentality, 3:30 to 4:45 pm; Rod Library Scholar Space
5 – The Money Savvy Student, 6:00 to 7:30 pm; Lang Hall Auditorium
8 – Panther Open House
12 – Student Leadership Awards Ceremony
27 – Lavender Graduation, 5 pm; CME
29 – Employee Biometric Screening, 7:00 am to 9:30 am; West lounge, Towers

May
2 – 6 Finals Week
7 – Commencement
30 – Memorial Day

Financial Literacy Month

The month of April is National Financial Literacy Month. The Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships is also hosting a number of other events, which can be found here, during the month that are available to UNI students, faculty and staff.

On Tuesday, April 5, 2016, Adam Carroll, who has been recognized as one of the top transformational trainers in the country, will present two sessions exclusively for faculty and staff on “How Students Interact With Money” and “Shaping Your Retire-Mentality”. Registration for each session is required. Visit here to register today!

Adam will also present “The Money Savvy Student” on April 5th beginning at 6:00 pm in Lang Auditorium. Adam’s engaging presentation utilizes practical experiences to demonstrate how to become a savvy student now, so you can master your money once you graduate. The first 300 student attendees will receive a copy of Adam’s book, “Winning the Money Game.” Visit here to learn more about this event. Faculty, staff, and students are welcome to attend.

Accepting Cat Crew applications

The Cat Crew is a group of student volunteers who facilitate groups of new students during the UNI Now program. Applications are available through March 25 online. If you are aware of any outstanding potential candidates, please direct them to apply here.

2016 Pathfinder staff selected

We recently selected our 2016 Pathfinder staff, a group of student leaders will will facilitate Jump Start programming this August. The 2016 Pathfinders bring a broad array of skills and experiences to their work, along with a strong commitment to leading and mentoring new UNI underrepresented minority and TRiO eligible students.

Members

Brianne Baylor, Communications, Gary, IN
Raheem Black, Leisure, Youth, and Human Services, Fort Madison, IA*
Anthony Cortez, Pre-Pharmacy, San Antonio, TX
Olivia Ferguson, Communicative Disorders, Solon, IA*
Ricardo Garza, Psychology and Movement Exercise Science, San Antonio, TX
Marcus Jackson, Vocal Music Education, Rock Island, IL
Andrew Jessip, English Teaching, Hinton, IA*
DJ Jones, Accounting, Saint Louis, MO*
Courtney Klein, Social Work and Political Science, Hospers, IA
Melanie Majeed, Marketing Management, Saint Louis, MO
Ezekiel Pittmon, Family Services, Cedar Rapids, IA*
Jonathon Solis, Criminology, San Antonio, TX

Program Assistants

Juana Hollingsworth, Social Work, Waterloo, IA*
Grace Ritter, Psychology, Frankfort, IL*

* indicates a returning member of the Pathfinder staff

**UNI Staff and Students to present at conference**

Two proposals submitted by UNI staff and students have been accepted for presentation at the Association for Orientation, Transition, and Retention in Higher Education Region V conference in April 2016. The organization exists to provide education, leadership and professional development for staff and students within the field to help create a community of growth within orientation staffs. The successful proposals are as follows:

**Jump Start: Extended Orientation for Underrepresented Students**

Presenters: Jesus Lizarraga, Admissions Counselor; Juana Hollingsworth, Jump Start Pathfinder, Grace Ritter, Jump Start Pathfinder

**All in for Check In**

Presenters: Grace Ritter, Jana Johnson, and Sarah Rudy, Orientation Staff

**Thank you for a successful “Up Close” program**

A very big "thank you" is sent from the Office of Admissions to all Student Affairs staff members, student employees, and students who assisted with the two "Up Close" admitted student visit days this year. Attendance at this year's events was the largest in the 10 year history of the program. The success of these special events depends on the
strong collaboration across the campus. Thank you for helping next year's entering class determine that UNI is the right fit for them!

As always, thank you for your ongoing commitment to working with and serving our students. You do make a difference!

Jan Hanish

Interim Vice President for Student Affairs