October 2013

Dear colleagues,

I hope your fall semester is going well; it’s finally feeling like fall! Thanks to everyone who contributed time, energy and enthusiasm to the first-ever Panther Open House last Saturday. It was well-executed and well-received.

Here are some updates that might of interest to you.

**President Ruud’s installation set for Friday**
This Friday, October 4, at 10 a.m. in the Gallagher-Bluedorn Performing Arts Center, President William N. Ruud will be installed as UNI’s 10th president. I would encourage you to join the UNI community for this historic ceremony.

**Homecoming festivities set for week of October 9**
Homecoming festivities begin Monday, October 7 at 5:30 p.m. with the annual Pride Cry competition on the roof of Maucker Union. Kicking off with the Pride Cry and ending with Panther Football, there is a great array of activities that combine campus tradition and fun. Thanks to Campus Activities Board and advisor Ashley Minshall who worked alongside our colleagues in Alumni Relations and Athletics in developing a great program this year. For a complete schedule, click [here](#).

**Next “Insights for Effectiveness” program announced**
The Student Affairs Diversity Team will be offering a four part opportunity to participate in a 90 minute group dialogue about white privilege. This opportunity was heavily requested following the previous “Insights for Effectiveness” program presented by Jim Day.

Space will be limited and will be offered on a first-come, first-serve basis. The program will be repeated next semester. The committee asks that participants attend all four sessions which will be October 14, 21, 28 and November 4, 3:30 to 5 pm at Elm Room, Maucker Union. Please click[here](#) for more information and to register for the program.

**Cruz to chair Student Affairs Diversity Team**
I have recently appointed Tabatha Cruz to chair the Student Affairs Diversity Team. Congratulations, Tabatha and special thanks to Priscilla Villarreal, who most recently chaired the effort, for her service and leadership. Best wishes on your move to Des Moines, Priscilla!
And, the Student Affairs Diversity Team is currently seeking new members. It offers educational opportunities designed to equip Student Affairs staff to work well with diverse colleagues and serve diverse customers and students. Committee members assist in a variety of tasks specific to program-planning and logistics. They also research diversity-related topics and keep current on diversity issues affecting the UNI community. The group meets once a week on Fridays at 11 am. Interested individuals should contact Tabatha (tabatha.cruz@uni.edu) for more information.

**Become a Safe Zone Ally**
The Dean of Students LGBT* Outreach Program has announced Safe Zone Ally training for Wednesday, October 23 from 3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. in the Elm Room, Maucker Union.

This training will provide students, faculty, and staff with information about the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer individuals, their communities, and the prejudice they face. The training is great for anyone looking to expand their knowledge and create a more inclusive community. All levels of knowledge are welcome. Please RSVP to Heather Place (placeh@uni.edu).

**Maucker Union renovation nearing completion**
The renovation of the Plaza level of Maucker Union is expected to finish in early October. The new configuration for the Student Involvement Center will feature: renovated office suites for the new Military and Veteran Student Center and the LGBT* Student Center; a larger office suite for NISG; new offices for the Campus Activities Board, Fraternity and Sorority Life, and Service and Leadership Council; a newly configured suite of cubicles for student organizations; and a new Student Involvement Center reception area. A grand opening celebration will be held early in the spring semester. Thanks to Lisa Kratz and all of the team at Maucker (along with our colleagues at Facilities Planning) for working to bring this vision to life. More to come on this . . .

Thanks for all you do to help students succeed!

Terry Hogan
Vice President for Student Affairs