



Division of Student Affairs

Dear colleagues,

It's an exciting time of year with Commencement on the horizon and student recognition happening all across campus.

Enjoy this time (and the good weather!).

Please take a moment to catch up on some news of importance to our work:

Student appointed to Board of Regents

Please join me in congratulating Rachael Johnson, a first year elementary and middle level education major, on her appointment and confirmation to the Board of Regents, State of Iowa. Rachael is a Presidential Scholar and a Ben Allen Scholar, and has been active in the Northern Iowa Student Government and the College of Education. Again, congratulations and thanks in advance, Rachael, for your service and dedication to the University of Northern Iowa, the Board of Regents, and the State of Iowa.

Student leadership awards expanded

The 2015 student leadership awards have been expanded to include a new Servant Leadership Award to recognize students who have worked for the common good while putting the needs of others first. The Outstanding Student Leader Award will still be awarded to graduating students who have demonstrated dedication and leadership through their student involvement. The Lux Service Award remains the most prestigious award given to graduating senior students each year to acknowledge the culmination of their overall involvement, leaving a lasting legacy upon graduation.

In addition and for the first time, Dean of Students Citations will be presented to a number of students for notable contributions or achievements over the past year. The recipients of these and other awards will be recognized at the Student Leadership Awards Ceremony on Tuesday, April 21, at 8 p.m. at Maucker Ballroom.

Opportunity to attend Iowa Women's Leadership Conference

The Division of Student Affairs will once again sponsor students to attend the Iowa Women's Leadership Conference which will be held from 1 to 5:30 p.m. on Tuesday, April 21 in Cedar Rapids. We will provide transportation and registration fees. If you know of students who might be interested, please encourage them to send their name, contact information, expected graduation date and a paragraph highlighting their interest in and experience with leadership to findleyb@uni.edu.

Redington to chair Postsecondary Education Partnership Committee

I am pleased to announce Lyn Redington, Director of Residence Life, will chair the Postsecondary Education Partnership Committee. The committee's mission is to guide and grow our division's collaboration with the Postsecondary Education: Student Affairs graduate program and develop mutually beneficial programs, activities and co-curricular experiences. Please join me in wishing her success in her new role.

Lisa Kratz has provided excellent leadership as the previous chair of the committee. I greatly appreciate her commitment in leading the effort. Thank you, Lisa.

Student Affairs staff, students to serve on new Community Engagement Council

President Ruud and the Executive Management Team recently approved the formation of a new campus-wide Community Engagement Council. The group will provide leadership, coordination and advocacy to achieve the community engagement-related goals of the University. Serving on the Council will be staff appointees from the Student Involvement Center and the Department of Residence; student appointees will represent Nonprofit Leadership Alliance, Northern Iowa Student Government, Residence Hall Association, Student Athlete Advisory Council, and Service and Leadership Council.

UNI students featured at first-ever TEDx UNI

On March 28, the UNI Creative Life Research Center produced TEDx UNI: Charting Destiny, an event to launch conversations and inspire positive growth for individuals, institutions, and our culture. Of the ten speakers and performers at the event, three were students at UNI. Jordy Brown, a senior elementary and middle level education major, presented "Stories are Cities;" Hannah Shaffer, a senior English: writing major, presented "Run from Comfort;" and Keevin O'Rourke, a junior marketing major presented "How to Make Millennials Want to Work for You." Please join me in congratulating Jordy, Hannah and Keevin on this outstanding accomplishment.

Martin recognized for research project

Congratulations to Andy Martin, Outdoor Recreation Coordinator, who participated in the oral presentation category of the Annual Graduate Symposium. Martin was awarded second place for his research, entitled *Exploring the Perceived Work-Life Effects of Changes in Family Status on the Collegiate Outdoor Recreation Coordinators*. Additionally, Martin will be graduating in May with an Ed.D. in Leisure, Youth and Human Services.

Informal staff gatherings, professional staff internships to be explored

Based on discussions at this semester's "Coffee and Conversation" events, two new initiatives are being considered to support the professional growth and development of staff in the Division of Student Affairs.

First, we will explore the development of informal staff gatherings organized around common interests or circumstances. Two suggestions so far have been new/single professionals and working moms. If you have an interest in being a convener of such a group, drop me a line to let me know what your idea is.

Second, I have asked the Professional Development Committee to explore the idea of professional staff internships. These would allow current P&S staff who have a certain level of experience to propose to "grow" themselves through a professional development experience in another department. I will keep you posted as this idea develops.

Merit staff wanted for professional development focus group

The Student Affairs Professional Development Committee is in the early stages of planning next fall's Student Affairs Conference and is looking for merit staff in Student Affairs who would be willing to meet to share thoughts about professional development needs and interests. If you are willing, please contact one of the co-chairs directly: Carol Fletcher at carol.fletcher@uni.edu or Tim Klatt at tim.klatt@uni.edu.

Lavender Graduation, Multicultural Legacy events set

The Second Annual Lavender Graduation Ceremony will be held on Wednesday, April 29, from 5-7 p.m. in the Center for Multicultural Education. The Lavender Graduation aims to highlight the importance of the LGBT* community by the symbolic action of awarding a lavender graduation cord. The ceremony additionally celebrates graduating seniors and recognizes the work done by the LGBT* community. All are invited to attend. Please RSVP to lgbt@uni.edu.

Graduating multicultural students are invited to attend the Multicultural Legacy Reception on Friday May, 1 at 5:30 p.m. in the Maucker Union Ballroom. Please encourage students interested in attending to [RSVP](#) by Thursday, April 23. Thanks to Inez Murtha, Celeste Bembry, Kathleen Peters, Britt Hudson, Jesus Lizarraga, Felicia Carrillo, Racquel Zuniga, Jackelin Rangel, and Latricia Hylton for their collaborative effort in creating this event.

"The Hunting Ground" to be screened on campus

"The Hunting Ground," a documentary exposing the fight against sexual assault on college campuses through the eyes of the victims, will be screened at 7 p.m., Wednesday, April 29, in Lang Hall Auditorium. The film considers issues of sexual assault and the role of universities in aiding victims of rape as well as investigations of sexual assault charges. A panel discussion will follow with representatives from fraternities, university administration, victim advocate services, and other areas on campus and in the

community. Thanks to Steffoni Schmidt and Ryne Burds of the Student Involvement Center and all others involved for their work in organizing this event.

Thanks for all you do to help students succeed.

Terry Hogan

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