

2-2023

Community Engagement Newsletter, February 2023

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**University of
Northern Iowa.**

Community
Engagement

Newsletter: February 2023

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Engaged UNI: Green Iowa AmeriCorps



“However, in order to feel a greater connection to and ownership of one’s community, a student must know that they themselves are active members of their community.”

-Carmen Finken

Disaster response. Energy audits. Food insecurities. No matter the job at hand, the Green Iowa AmeriCorps is here to help. Green Iowa AmeriCorps is a federally funded, statewide National Service program. They are based out of the University of Northern Iowa's Center of Energy and Environmental Education building (CEEE). While they already do so much on their own, they also partner with other organizations throughout the state to make an even bigger impact. Among these different organizations include a wide variety from non-profits, city governments, K12 schools and so much more!

[To read the rest of this story and view other UNI Engaged stories click here!](#)

Funding Opportunity

Veridian Community Engagement Fellowship

All funds are still available! If you are planning a project or event for a course and need funds to support your work, please apply. These funds support faculty who engage with community partners to better the community in a manner that also enhances their teaching and scholarship.

Applications are due for classes/projects for spring, summer, or fall 2023 by **Friday, February 24th**. [To learn more and apply please click here](#). For questions please contact Julianne Gassman at gassman@uni.edu or 3-2204.

Service-Learning

Service-Learning Course Designation

If you are teaching a course with a community-engaged project, please consider applying to have the course designated as Service-Learning. Here are the reasons why:

- The process assures best practices for service-learning;
- Students can identify which courses include a community project;
- UNI is a Carnegie Classified Institution for Community Engagement and to uphold this classification we must demonstrate course based service-learning (we are preparing for re-classification).

The next deadline is Thursday, Feb 23, 2023 for Fall 2023 courses (applications accepted throughout the year). [Click here to apply.](#)

Service-Learning Institute (SLI)

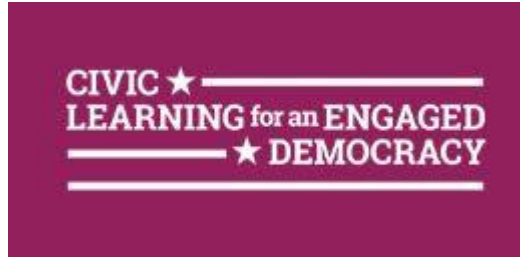
Service-learning is a high-impact practice that enhances student learning while contributing to the community. We invite all faculty who have ever thought about embedding a project into their course to apply for this summer's SLI. Please apply if you:

- Have a project idea but not sure who would be the best partner;
- Have a partner in mind (community organization, small business, nonprofit) but not sure about a project;
- Have heard service-learning is a high-impact practice that helps students learn and retain information, but not sure how to get started?
 - Participants receive a stipend.

This year's Service-Learning institute will be held May 22-24. Applications are due Friday, March 31st. Easy application process. Space is limited, apply early. [Click here to learn more and apply.](#)

Faculty/Staff Engagement

Civic Learning for an Engaged Democracy Forum 2



Campus Compact is excited to host the second forum in the CLDE Coalition's series, the [Planning and Action Forums for Educators & Policy Leaders Series](#).

Forum 2, February 6-7, 2023- [Bridging the Divides, Including All Students: Diversity, Equity and High-Impact Civic Learning Pathways](#). For U.S. democracy to succeed, Americans must know how to work together across difficult differences—racial, ethnic, socio-economic, political—and collaboratively create real-world solutions to the deep seated problems that divide societies and threaten the planet. 2:00 pm - 5:30 pm EST each day

Curriculum Redesign Institute

Wednesday, March 1, 2023 - Thursday, March 2, 2023

1:00 PM - 5:00 PM (UTC-05:00) Eastern Time (US & Canada)

This Campus Compact Faculty Development Series brings together faculty from across institutions, disciplines, and varying levels of community engagement expertise to participate in an intensive interactive learning community. Participants will leave the experience with a draft community-engaged course syllabus or course proposal, pedagogical resources, and a plan for course implementation. [More information and registration can be found here.](#)

Join a Spring Community of Practice

Communities of Practice (CoPs) provide a unique opportunity for Campus Compact members to join peers across the country to dig deeper into specific areas of engagement practice. Through discussions, joint activities, resource

sharing, and relationship building, participants develop a repertoire of resources, skills, and knowledge to use in their practice. Above all, the CoPs provide a great space to communicate and share strategies with like-minded individuals from all across the country! Applications to participate are due by Feb 13th. [To learn more and register click here.](#)

Virtual Network Gathering



Thursday, February 9, 2023, 11:30 AM - 1:00 PM
Join colleagues from Minnesota and Iowa for connection, resource-sharing, and idea generation. This is the third of four network gatherings scheduled for this academic year. Conversation circles will center around: Student Basic Needs, Election Engagement, Bridging Community and Career Engagement, and Culture of Care. [To register to attend click here.](#)

NEW Arts Integration Learning Opportunity

Waterloo Schools are preparing to celebrate their 20th Anniversary of Partnerships in Education with the Kennedy Center and the Gallagher Bluedorn Performing Arts Center. To celebrate they are excited to provide a new learning opportunity: “[Arts Integration: Building Awareness through Community Partnerships](#).” This workshop, Saturday, March 25th, will provide participants with an opportunity to engage in learning around arts integration with artists such as [Quynn Johnson](#), [Christina Farrell](#), and [Akwi Nji](#).

In-Service educators and Pre-Service educators, to learn more and register, [click here.](#)

Advising Corner: Info to Share With Students

Certified Nonprofit Professional (CNP) Credential at UNI

As a Campus Partner with the Nonprofit Leadership Alliance, UNI offers a preferred track to prepare students for the Certified Nonprofit Professional (CNP) Credential. The CNP Credential is the only national nonprofit credential preparing students for leadership and service in the nonprofit sector. At the University of Northern Iowa students can choose to earn their CNP Credential through two pathways ([detailed at this link](#)). If you would like to earn your CNP at UNI please contact: Kristina Kofoot at kristina.kofoot@uni.edu or call (319) 273-4507.

Nonprofit Explore-A-Ganza

The UNI Nonprofit Leadership Alliance invites you to the 2023 Nonprofit Explore-A-Ganza!

During this event, students will have the chance to network with local nonprofits in a “speed interviewing” format. The Explore-A-Ganza is an excellent opportunity for students to learn about internship, job, and volunteer opportunities that local nonprofit organizations have to offer. The event is being held February 13th, 2023 in the Gallagher Bluedorn Performing Arts Center Lobby from 3:30-5:00 pm, and is open to all of campus! [To have a student register click here.](#)

Awards/Nominations

Iowa & Minnesota Campus Compact Engaged Campus Awards



UNI is a member campus and is invited to nominate an awardee in the following three categories: Alumni Leadership, Community Collaboration, and Emerging Innovation. The deadline for award submissions is Monday, March 13. [The nomination form and more information can be found here.](#)



UNI Engaged Podcast: Black Business Entrepreneurship Accelerator (BBEA)

This episode of the UNI Engaged Podcast features the Black Business Entrepreneurship Accelerator (BBEA). This program, directed by ReShonda Young, provides support for individuals in developing and starting small businesses throughout the Cedar Valley. Join students along with ReShonda in finding out more about this unique and influential program. This month's episode "UNI Engaged: Black Business Entrepreneurship Accelerator (BBEA)" can be found on [Spotify](#). Follow us on social media for the release of additional episodes.

Events

INSPIRE Conference

The INSPIRE Student Research and Engagement Conference is for undergraduate and graduate students to present their research projects and volunteer/internship experiences and club activities to the campus community. The conference is sponsored by the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences at the University of Northern Iowa and the Graduate College. [For more information click here.](#)

When: Monday, April 3-Tuesday, April 4th

Community Engagement Celebration Day

Many UNI faculty, staff, and students are involved in community engagement work through courses, research, student organizations and professional service. Community Engagement Celebration Day gives everyone an opportunity to showcase their community engagement work.

When: Friday, April 28

Where: Gallagher Bluedorn Performing Arts Center Lobby

Time: 9:00-11:30 am

Registration: [Click here](#)

For more information on events, visit the [Community Engagement Website!](#)

Panther Experience

The Volunteer Center of Cedar Valley offers the Panther Experience. The VCCV curates volunteer opportunities best for UNI students, faculty & staff. Share this link and check out the new opportunities updated on a weekly basis. [Click here to visit the Panther Experience page on the VCCV website.](#)

Office of Community Engagement

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