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Student Affairs Newsletter, January 2015

University of Northern Iowa. Division of Student Affairs.

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Dear colleagues,

Please take a moment to catch up on some news of importance to our work (and keep warm!):

Student Affairs Diversity Committee announces next “Insights” workshop

The Student Affairs Diversity Committee has announced the next “Insights for Effectiveness” program entitled “Why Weight?” The workshop will be held on Tuesday, February 10 from 1:30-3:00 P.M. and Wednesday, February 11 from 9:00-10:30 A.M. Both sessions will be held in the Old Central Ballroom, Maucker Union. I would encourage anyone available to register [here](#). Registration closes at noon on Friday, February 6.

Provost candidates to be on campus in February

Throughout the first two weeks in February, the last three candidates for the position of Executive Vice President and Provost will be on campus meeting with various constituencies. Each candidate will be presenting their vision for academic distinctiveness for UNI at open forums at 3:30 on February 2, 4 and 9 in the Lang Hall Auditorium. The new provost will have a tremendous impact on our university and I encourage anyone available to attend the open forums and any other events. For more information, visit the Provost Search Committee’s [website](#).

Nominations sought for Student Leadership Awards

The Office of the Dean of Students and the Student Involvement Center are accepting nominations for the annual student leadership awards. Students may be nominated for the Emerging Leader of the Year Award, Outstanding Student Leader Award, the Servant Leadership Award and the Lux Service Award. Student organizations and programs can be nominated for Student Organization of the Year and Program of distinction. Student organization advisors can be nominated for the Student Organization Advisor of the Year Award. Winners will be announced at the Student Leadership Awards Ceremony on Tuesday, April 21, 2015.

For full award descriptions and nominations forms, visit the student leadership awards [website](#). I would encourage staff to nominate students with whom they interact that would be deserving of these awards.

Marchesani, Place receive Diversity Matters Awards

Congratulations to Dr. Kristi Marchesani, Assistant Director of Admissions for International Relations, and Heather Place, Coordinator of the LGBT* Center, for receiving 2015 Diversity Matters Awards. Thanks for the commitment and service that resulted in your being recognized.

NCBI now offering 45-minute preview to “Leadership for Diversity Inclusion”

The UNI-National Coalition for Building Inclusion (NCBI) is now offering a 45-minute preview that serves as an introduction to the full day “Leadership for Diversity Inclusion” workshop. It is available upon request for classes, departments, campus organizations and programs. I would

encourage anyone interested to contact Victoria Defrancisco, NCBI program coordinator, at defran@uni.edu or 273-3210.

Student Wellness Services staff “It’s On Us” featured in national press release

Congratulations to the Student Wellness Services and Recreation Services staff for having their photo for the “It’s on Us” campaign included in the Generation Progress YouTube video as well as in a national press release from the White House on the campaign. See both [here](#). This is in addition to thanks for all of the hard work and creativity that went into developing the initiative at UNI.

Michael Blackwell published in Western Journal of Black Studies

Dr. Michael Blackwell, Director, Center for Multicultural Education, has had two articles published in the Western Journal of Black Studies. The first is an article entitled, “The Art and Ignominy of Compromise: M. L. King, Jr., and the MFDP.” The other is a book review of Rufus Burrow’s “Extremist for Love: Martin Luther King Jr., Man of Ideas and Nonviolent Social Action.” Please join me in congratulating Dr. Blackwell on this outstanding achievement.

Dates set for “Coffee and Conversation”

I would like to invite P&S staff to join me for an hour of “Coffee and Conversation” where we can discuss university and division business as well as career and professional development, work-related challenges and other questions of the day. Entry-level staffers (those with five or fewer years at UNI) are invited to attend on Thursday, February 19 at 9:30 a.m. in the Faculty/Staff Presentation Lounge at Bartlett Hall 1017. Mid-level staff (more than five years at UNI but not yet in a director role) are invited to attend on Friday, February 20 at 9:30 a.m. at the same location. As you may have guessed, coffee/tea and treats will be provided. RSVP to Blake Findley, findleyb@uni.edu, by Tuesday, February 17 at 5 p.m.

RA Conference celebrates 25 years

The 25th Anniversary of the annual UNI RA Conference was celebrated January 23-25, 2015 by taking guests “Back to the Future.” This year’s conference included 553 students from 50 colleges and universities in Iowa, Illinois, Indiana, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, North Dakota, South Dakota and Wisconsin. Following an evening of fun at the WRC, guests were treated Saturday morning to keynote speaker James Robilotta. Students then participated sessions throughout the day centering on leadership and community building. The day ended with dinner, an awards ceremony and a dance.

The RA Conference began in 1991 (with the theme “Field of Dreams”), through the vision and initiative of former Residence Life Coordinator Jane Moen. Jane saw the need for a setting where RAs from neighboring campuses could get together and share successes, failures, questions and frustrations. This year’s conference was fortunate enough to have Jane in attendance this year to help celebrate 25 years.

Over the past 25 years the RA Conference has provided an astounding 13,083 RAs from around the region. Congratulations to the Residence Life team on developing and maintaining such a successful event over the past 25 years. Here’s to 25 more!

Thanks for all you do to help students succeed.

Terry Hogan
Vice President for Student Affairs

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