

07 Spring Semester Events

Commuter Student Association

Monthly Meetings
(Choose the time that fits your schedule. RM 023 HSC)

◆ First Tuesday 11:00 a.m.

◆ First Wednesday 4:30 p.m.

Coffee Breaks

Free coffee & snacks every
Tuesday 10:00 –11:30 am

&
Wednesday 3:00-4:30 p.m.

Extended Collegia Hours

Tuesdays and Wednesdays
the HSC Collegia will be
open until 6:00 p.m.

Social Hour (Off-Campus)

Place: TBD

March 1

March 8

April 26

First Day of Spring

Soup & Sandwiches
Wed. March 21, 11:30 am-1 pm

It's a Piece of Cake

End of semester celebration
11:30-1:00 p.m. Cake & Coffee

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Update

Associations Take Root for Com/Non-Trads

“Express Yourself” Town Hall Meeting

On Tuesday, February 6, 2007, the Commuter Office hosted a town hall meeting entitled “Express Yourself,” an open forum geared towards allowing residents in University Plaza, the University Village, and several residences halls the opportunity to voice any pending concerns about NIU in general. The forum took place in the University Plaza Multi-Purpose Room and offered catered food from Pizza Pro’s. The invited guests to this town hall meeting were the Student Association Senators. The Student Senators are responsible for serving as the voice for students on campus, so it was only natural that their presence was felt at the program.

In attendance, there was the Vice President of the Student Association, Michael Johns, the Director of

New Commuter Student Association

An executive committee has formed for the new Commuter Student Association, which is in the process of gaining NIU Student Association recognition.

Student concerns brought before the group include on campus parking, and availability of healthy food choices for com-

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Another Successful Off-Campus Housing & Information Fair

This semester’s Off-Campus Housing Fair was held February 7 in the Chick Evans Field House. New to the fair were campus organizations involved with off campus housing. The Greek Expo, joined exhibitors. The name of the fair was changed to The Off-Campus Housing & Information Fair to include all of the various venues represented.

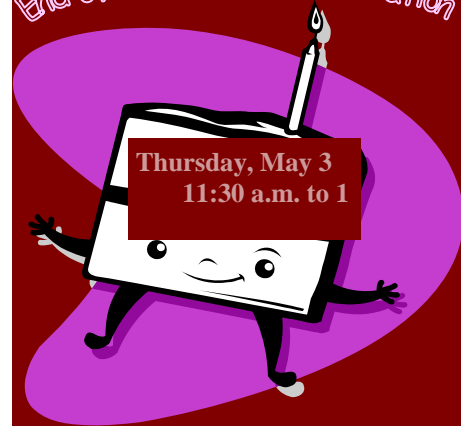
Despite the cold weather, students in attendance had positive comments about the event including several learning outcomes: what rental companies were available, that there are different housing options, to start looking early for apartments, that there are options besides apartments or residence halls for living off campus, the importance of understanding lease agreements, and that campus legal assistance is available to NIU students.

In general students believed the Off-Campus Housing & Information Fair met or exceeded their expectations for attending this semester’s event.

NIU exhibitors were Health Enhancement, Student’s Legal Assistance, Diversity & Equity, Campus Child Care, Northern View Community, Office of Ombudsman & NIU Tel. Off-campus vendors included Mason Properties, Conley Properties, University Plaza, University Village, Lincolnshire West, Granger Management & Varsity Square.



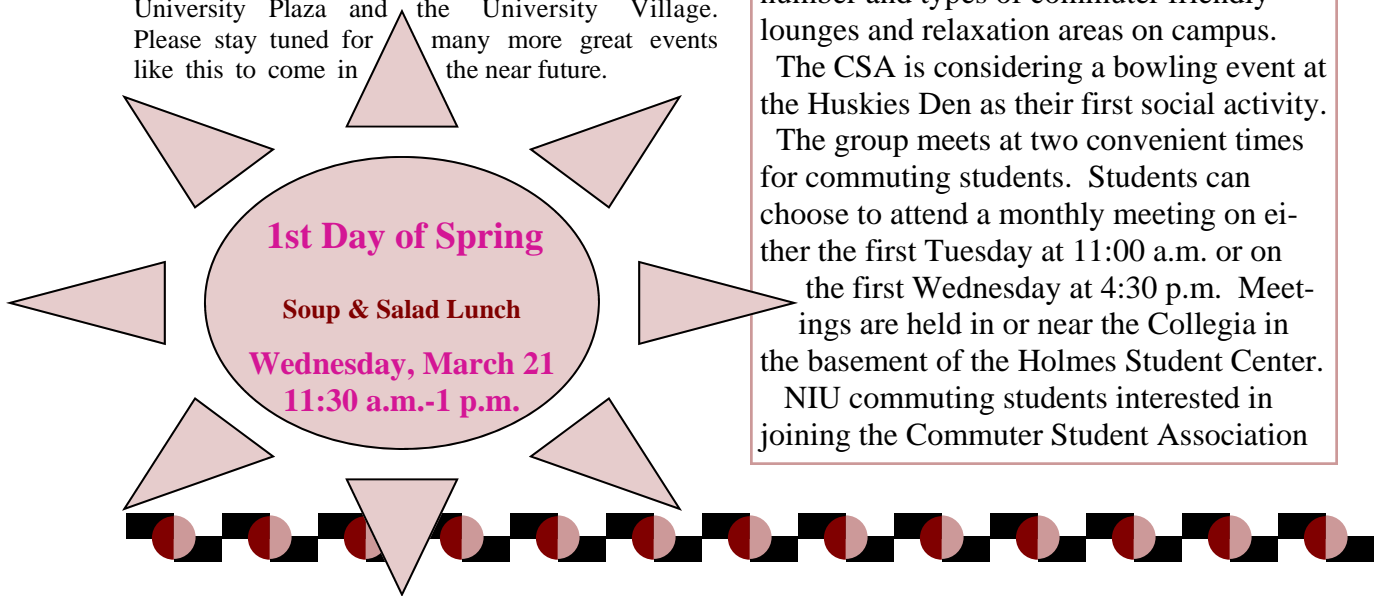
*It's a Piece of Cake:
End of Semester Celebration*



(Continued from page 1) Express Yourself Town Hall Meeting

Organizational Development, Aaron Bolden, the Senate Speaker, Rob Batey, and Senators Alex Thervil, Asa Young, Paul Bradley, and Samuel Davis. In addition, there were three students who came to express their concerns. The issues that were discussed at the town hall meeting were better marketing of the Student Association to students and better ways to promote campus events to students who live in University Plaza.

The forum served as a great first step in the right direction for bringing about change on campus. All parties involved agreed that proactive promotion and interpersonal contact with students is the best way to find out what changes can be made on campus. And finally, all participants agreed to serve on the Off Campus Liaison committee to plan more events within University Plaza and the University Village. Please stay tuned for many more great events like this to come in the near future.





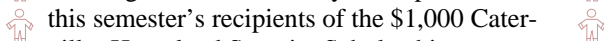
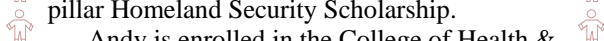
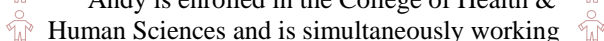

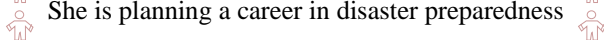


(Continued from page 1) New Commuter Student Association

muting students on campus and in the community. Another student interest is in the number and types of commuter friendly lounges and relaxation areas on campus.

The CSA is considering a bowling event at the Huskies Den as their first social activity.

The group meets at two convenient times for commuting students. Students can choose to attend a monthly meeting on either the first Tuesday at 11:00 a.m. or on the first Wednesday at 4:30 p.m. Meetings are held in or near the Collegia in the basement of the Holmes Student Center.

NIU commuting students interested in joining the Commuter Student Association


 Congratulations to Andy Thompson one of this semester's recipients of the \$1,000 Caterpillar Homeland Security Scholarship.

 Andy is enrolled in the College of Health & Human Sciences and is simultaneously working on a Homeland Security Certificate from NIU.

 She is planning a career in disaster preparedness







Commuter & Non-Traditional Student

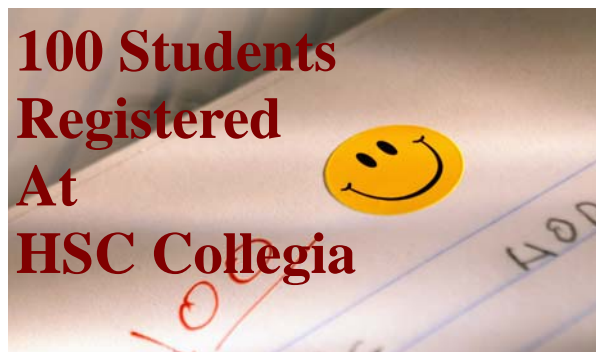
Andy Thompson

**Caterpillar Homeland Security
Scholarship Recipient**



-HSC Collegia-
Commuter & Non-Traditional
Student Services Update

As of February 15th, 100 students have registered to use the HSC Collegia!



Besides the students checking into the HSC Collegia lounge area on a regular basis, many students are using the quiet study area extending beyond the office in the HSC basement. On the average there are 17 students/ hour using the extended study area. Most of those students have registered with the HSC Collegia, and are using the refrigerator, microwave and computers in our lounge.

Commuter & Non-Traditional Student Services has increased staff size by hiring a graduate assistant, and two student workers. Due to this increase in personnel, we are able to expand the HSC Collegia hours to 6 p.m. on Tuesdays and Wednesdays.

It seems that once a student gets on a regular schedule of using the HSC Collegia lounge, they often run into the same students with similar schedules. Just think of all of the commuter and nontraditional students, who are on a different, that you have yet to meet. We hope you can come to some of the scheduled events, participate in a student association meeting, or chose to come to an informal gathering to meet fellow Collegia students off campus.

Remember, the Collegia is your home away from home. Several students have used the Collegia as a meeting place for group class projects. We encourage and welcome having the Collegia be your place of choice on campus.

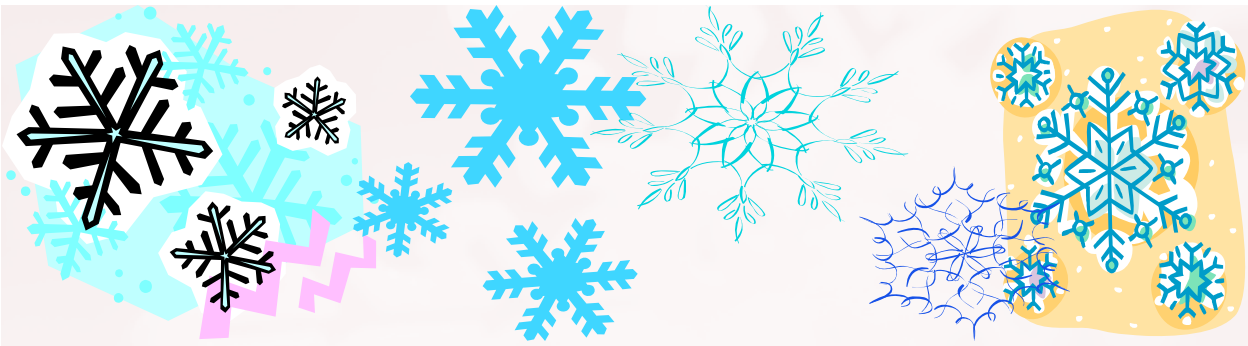
Thanks to all of you for continuing to make this new campus endeavor a success!



Definitions

Any student not living on university property is considered an off-campus student. Students who travel from locations outside of DeKalb are also off-campus, and are also considered commuter students. Nontraditional students are often 24+, or may be married, or may have children, or may have had a few years of hiatus from formal schooling. Nontraditional students may live on or off campus.

The Commuter and Non-Traditional Student Services serves in an advisory capacity for the off-campus student, the commuter student and the nontraditional student and student groups on campus. Whether the groups are established or new, each seeks to serve the evolving and unique mission in helping to address concerns for student government representation, academic support, peer support and socialization. For more information about any of these student groups call or stop by the Commuter and Non-Traditional Student Services Office or attend one of the organizational meetings or social events.



Unsure about making the drive in the winter weather?

Go to <http://www.niu.edu/weather>

There you will find complete updates on the status of university operations.

