March is the month to take advantage of available opportunities!

Great work Huskie, you made it to the mid-semester mark! You are halfway through the semester which means you are almost finished with your second-year. Take time to reflect on your experiences so far. What have you accomplished? What have you encountered that means something to you? Have you discovered anything that you want to further explore? Answering these questions and digging deeper into your college experience can assist you in setting goals for the future and with seizing opportunities that will help you reach those goals.

Now is the time to research, join, and apply to different opportunities on- and off-campus. Whether your goal is to find a campus job to help you build your resume or to get involved in an organization that helps you discover yourself, March is the month to take advantage of opportunities. Read this newsletter to explore ways that NIU can help you reach your goals.

Pictured here: The 2015-2016 FSYE Student Success Team
Need a Job Next Semester?
First- and Second- Year Experience (FSYE) is looking for Student Success Team (SST) members to work on a dynamic team of leaders. SST members assist FSYE with planning and implementing first- and second-year programming and services such as UNIV 101/202, Sophomore Days of Service, Huskies Get Connected, the Common Reading Experience and more. If you would like more information or you are interested in applying please visit us Altgeld Hall, Room 100 or e-mail us at fsye@niu.edu.

Become a UNIV Peer Educator
Are you looking to gain valuable leadership, mentoring, and teaching experience? Peer Educators are essential in assisting first- and second-year students in their transition to NIU by serving as the student liaisons for UNIV 101/201 classes. They connect students to campus resources, offer advice on transitioning, and encourage campus involvement. Peer Educators work closely with the educators of their respective classes, allowing for close interaction with NIU’s faculty members and the formation of student-faculty mentoring relationships.

For the fall 2016 semester, there is an option for a $400 stipend for their service. The Peer Educator application can be picked up from First- and Second-Year Experience in Altgeld Hall, Room 100, or accessed online at http://www.niu.edu/fsye/join_team/apply_for_pi.shtml. Attend an informational meeting to learn more:
- Tuesday, March 8, 7:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. Holmes Student Center, Room 505
- Monday, March 28, 6:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. Stevenson Smart Classroom

Social Impact Summit 2016
NIU student organization, CAUSE (Collegiate Association of Unreasonable Social Entrepreneurs), plans NIU’s Social Impact Summit each year. CAUSE brings national leaders in social entrepreneurship to campus, drawing more than 225 individuals.

The event has three goals:
1) to educate about social entrepreneurship,
2) inspire attendees to become changemakers, and
3) facilitate networking for those interested in the social space.

NIU’s Social Impact Summit event is open to everyone. Registration is $5 for NIU students and $20 for all non-students, and includes lunch. Visit the CAUSE website for registration today at www.niucause.org

7th Annual Undergraduate Research and Artistry Day (URAD)
Tuesday, April 19, 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Holmes Student Center, Duke Ellington Ballroom

Any undergraduate student who has participated in a faculty-mentored research or artistry project is eligible to showcase his or her work at Undergraduate Research and Artistry Day. This includes research conducted as part of an independent study, capstone project or any other related research or artistry projects.

In addition to the poster, exhibit, and digital media display options, students have the opportunity to present their work in a 15-minute oral presentation session. Spaces are limited so interested students should apply early. For more information about URAD and how to register, please visit: www.niu.edu/urad or contact the Office of Student Engagement and Experiential Learning at urad@niu.edu
Get Involved!

Common Question: How do I find out more about Clubs & Organizations at NIU?

HuskieLink is the most efficient online tool to help you find out everything you need to know about NIU’s over 300 clubs and organizations. By visiting niu.collegiatelink.net, you can discover hundreds of opportunities. Sign-in with your Z-ID and password and click on the “Organizations” tab to browse through each organization’s page. From there you can search for the opportunities that are right for you!

Get Personalized Help With Finding Opportunities On-Campus!

Huskies Get Connected (HGC) is a program that helps create an involvement plan that is fit especially to your wants and needs. By filling out an online request (found here: http://www.niu.edu/fsye/student_resources/huskies_get_connected/consultation_appointment_form.shtml), you can select various interests and find out how to get involved in a personally meaningful way. After you complete and submit the online form, you will meet with a fellow student leader on NIU’s campus. He or she will take some time to get to know about you and your interests, and help you discover your niche at NIU. There are so many opportunities, it’s likely that discussing your involvement goals will help you be more aware of ways to take advantage of your time (and your student fees) while at NIU. Through this program, you’re able to network with another leader on campus and you will also leave with a packet of resources tailored specifically to your interests. It’s a great way to get connected on campus and is guided by a fellow student who has already been through the process!
Skill Development Opportunities

Enjoy Free Lunch While Learning How to be Successful
Edible Education is a series of informational workshops geared towards creating events that encourage student success. Here are the workshops available this month:

Managing Anxiety
Tuesday, March 8, 12:30 p.m. to 1:30 p.m., Campus Life Building, Room 100
Counseling & Consultation Services will discuss ways to better manage stress and anxiety.

Career Exploration
Thursday, March 31, 12:30 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. Academic Advising Center
Learn more information from the Academic Advising Center & Career Services about what careers may best suit you!

Leadership Academy Workshops
The Leadership Academy provides leadership skill development opportunities focused on learning and self-reflection through a series of workshops, activities, and interactions that will empower students to become leaders at NIU and beyond.

35 Secret Weapons to Help You be “You on Your Best Day”
Pre-registration is required
Tuesday, March 1
5:00 p.m. (Check-In/Refreshments)
6:00 p.m. (Program)
Barsema Alumni & Visitors Center
(To register and learn more, visit go.niu.edu/pucino)

Leadership 101
Thursday, March 3
5:00 p.m.
Campus Life Building, Room 100

Professional vs. Personal Leadership
Tuesday, March 22
3:00 p.m. & 6:00 p.m.
Campus Life Building, Room 100

Finding Your Voice
Tuesday, April 5
3:00 p.m. & 6:00 p.m.
Campus Life Building, Room 100

Leadership 101
Monday, April 11
12:00 p.m.
Campus Life Building, Room 100
Service Opportunities

Stand up for Important Causes!

Walk a Mile in Their Shoes
Saturday, April 2, 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m, 1015 Blackhawk Road

A playfull opportunity to raise awareness about the serious causes, effects and remediations of sexual violence. Registration and walk begin at the vacant Campus Cinemas in DeKalb.

18th Annual Empty Bowls Event
Wednesday, April 13 4:30 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. Adams Hall, Chandelier Room

Empty Bowls is an international grassroots effort to raise both money and awareness in the fight to end hunger. Come enjoy delicious, homemade soups prepared by NIU students and staff while supporting a great cause. NIU Student Dietetic Association will be donating all proceeds to the Huskie Student Food Pantry and Hope Haven. There will be two seating times:
4:30 p.m. and 6:00 p.m.
Please make your reservation at niuemptybowls@gmail.com with a name, number of guests, and preferred seating time. Walk-ins will also be accepted.

NIU Cares Day
Saturday, April 16 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Are you interested in giving back to the DeKalb community? Consider joining a team for NIU Cares Day on Saturday, April 16! NIU Cares Day is a campus-wide day of community service. Volunteers comprised of NIU students, faculty, and staff come together once a year to complete projects that benefit DeKalb County’s non-profit organizations and community agencies as a way of thanking the community supporting NIU.

Volunteers are transported to locations around the county to spend the day planting, painting, cleaning, sorting, assisting with events, and various other tasks.

Volunteer Team Member/Individual registration is occurring right now! For more information on how to sign up, visit http://niu.edu/studentinvolvement/Community_Service/niucares/students.shtml.

Showcase Your Community Service Work!

The third annual Community Engagement Showcase (CES) is being hosted on Tuesday, April 19 in the Duke Ellington Ballroom from 12:00 p.m.-3:00 p.m. Undergraduate students currently enrolled at NIU who have participated in community-based service or research, including work completed during a service learning course, internship or student organization, are encouraged to showcase their work at the Community Engagement Showcase. Last year, students from various organizations, including Huskie Alternative Breaks, Huskie Service Scholars, and Sophomores in Service, showcased their work at the CES. For more information on this year’s CES, please visit: www.niu.edu/ces.
De-stress With These Fun Opportunities

NIU Health and Wellness Fair
Wednesday, March 30, 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., Holmes Student Center, Duke Ellington Ballroom
NIU Health & Wellness Fair is open and free to Faculty, Staff, Students and Community Members. The fair brings together campus departments, student organizations and area providers whose focus is on one or more of the dimensions of wellness (emotional, occupational, physical, social, intellectual, spiritual, environmental, and financial) into one place. Our attending providers will conduct free assessments, screenings, as well as have activities and informational handouts. The fair is sponsored by the NIU Employee Assistance Program and the NIU Administration.

CAB Presents Life Size Clue
Wednesday, March 23, 7:00 to 10:00 p.m., Holmes Student Center, Capitol Room
The mystery you love to solve again and again is even more intense. The classic detective game CLUE: BROUGHT TO LIFE. In Clue, players move from room to room in a mansion to solve the mystery of: who done it, with what, and where?

Open Mic @ The College Grind
Wednesday, March 23 & Monday, April 4, 8:00 to 10:00 p.m., Holmes Student Center, College Grind
It’s your turn to take the spotlight! Share your talents with your peers in a cozy and welcoming environment in the College Grind.

BINGO Night
Monday, March 28, 6:00 to 8:00 p.m., Holmes Student Center, Huskies Den
Feeling lucky? Test your luck and join us in the Huskies Den for a chance to win a grand prize. This event is open to everyone, however, prizes will be awarded to students. Please bring your NIU OneCard.

Baggo Tourney
Wednesday, March 30, 5:00 to 11:00 p.m., Holmes Student Center, Duke Ellington Ballroom
Ready? Aim! Toss! Grab your friend with the best aim and take part in our Baggo Tourney in the Duke Ellington.

Twister
Thursday, March 31, 7:00 to 9:00 p.m., Holmes Student Center, Regency Room
Get tangled with your friends and join us for a giant game of Twister!

Laser Tag
Thursday, April 7, 8:00 to 11:00 p.m., Holmes Student Center, Regency Room
Take aim and join us for a friendly game of laser tag

Battle of the Bands
Sunday, April 9, 7:00 p.m. to 12:00 a.m., Holmes Student Center, Duke Ellington Ballroom
Join us in the Duke Ellington Ballroom for one of the most epic battles of the year!

Adapted Fitness Funday
Saturday, April 16, 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., Campus Recreation Center
Come experience various adaptive sports and activities! We will have sport wheelchairs, track chairs, and Goalball. Athletes of various sports and levels of play will be available to demonstrate and engage participants.

Culture Night
Friday, April 22, 6:00 to 11:00 p.m., Holmes Student Center, Capitol Room
Join us for a fun and knowledgeable night as we dive in and explore the various cultures that exist within our community.
Live in the Second-Year Experience Community
NIU Housing & Dining and First- and Second-Year Experience are offering a unique living opportunity just for second-year NIU students! If you are interested in continuing an engaged and meaningful experience or are looking for a way to connect during your second-year on campus, the Second-Year Experience Community is the place for you! (Your first-year on campus is the time to apply.)

The second year of college is a time when students should strengthen their academic and career goals, deepen their friendships, become more involved in student organizations, and engage in campus and community service. In the Second Year Experience Community you will be living with other second year students, have a Community Advisor who understands specific needs of second year students, have access to educational, social, and career planning events, resources for career advising and major selection, and social programs to continue to build a second year class identity.

Students in the SYE Community will be able to participate in the following Y2@NIU events:
- Faculty dinners/desserts in residence hall;
- Service projects on- and off-campus;
- Presentations by Career Services, academic advising units;
- Mentoring by junior and senior Student Success Team members;
- Social events (e.g., bonfire at East Lagoon, road trips to special events in Chicago); and
- Second-year leadership initiatives based on StrengthsFinder.

Make your second year your best year and don’t miss out on this opportunity!

Second Year Communities are offered in New Hall West. Sign up in by logging into MyNIU with your student Z-ID, select Campus Housing Sign Up, and follow the instructions for selecting a new room and meal plan. If next year is your second-year at NIU (including transfer students), you will be able to select a room in the Second Year Experience Community.

Need information on moving off-campus?
The office of Military and Post-Traditional Student Services can help you find an apartment and roommates! They will work with you one-on-one to help you discover your housing needs. Contact their office at ocntss@niu.edu, 815-753-9999 or visit them in the basement of the Holmes Student