President’s Corner

Good Morning Huskies

As the president of your Operating Staff Council, I would like to encourage all of us to reflect on some of the good things that we are part of at Northern Illinois University. It is important that in these difficult and uncertain economic times, we are thankful for the things that are important in our lives including our family and friends here at NIU. The OSC would like to publicly thank President Peters and the administration for encouraging the Board of Trustees to pass the proposed raise for the staff and to continue to work with state legislators to be fair and responsible when addressing the state employee pension proposals.

The OSC is currently working on revising the civil service job performance appraisal form, updating the staff Code of Ethics, and updating the OSC Constitution and Bylaws.

We have recently received a number of applications for the Operating Staff Dependent Scholarship and will soon be helping to evaluate the submissions for the scholarship as well as the upcoming Operating Staff Outstanding Service Award.

As a reminder, the Operating Staff Council meets the first Thursday of every month and all meetings are open to the general public and university community. For more information, please be sure to visit our website at: www.niu.edu/osc/.

In closing, may all aspects of our lives be as kind to us as this winter’s weather has been!

Andy Small, President
Operating Staff Council 2011–2012

College of Education Alums to Lead Discussion on Women’s Education, Empowerment

Three alumnae of the NIU College of Education will lead a panel discussion Wednesday, March 21, on “Women’s Education, Women’s Empowerment.”

Presented in partnership with the NIU Alumni Association, the College of Education Community Learning Series event begins at 5 p.m. reception in the Barsema Alumni and Visitors Center. The panel discussion begins at 6 p.m.

Speakers are:

- Dr. Cheryl Crates, Chief Financial Officer, Carpentersville Community Unit School District 300.
- Dr. Ana Donaldson, President of the Association for Educational Communications and Technology.
- Dr. Darryllinn Todd, Vice President, Academic and Student Affairs, Malcolm X. College.

Seating is limited. RSVP to Jay Monteiro at (815) 753-8350 or jmonteiro@niu.edu.

Other sponsors include NIU Document Services, the Women’s Resource Center and the Women’s Studies Program.
Give Me the Beat: March 26 Concert to Benefit Music Therapy in DeKalb County, South Africa

The DeKalb High School Percussion Ensemble, the DeKalb County Hospice and the world music program at NIU are hosting a benefit concert, “Transformation Through Rhythm,” at 7 p.m. Monday, March 26, in the auditorium at DeKalb High School.

DeKalb County Hospice hopes to raise awareness of both the local and global need for music therapy, bringing diverse groups of people from our community together through music, while giving young adults an opportunity to be of service by sharing their talents.

Admission to the concert is free, and donations are appreciated.

Proceeds from this special performance will help support DeKalb County Hospice’s music therapy program, which is largely funded through donations and grants, and will help support a therapeutic drumming program in South Africa.

DeKalb County Hospice’s sister hospice, Knysna Hospice in Knysna, South Africa, has begun a new initiative called Transformation Through Rhythm, a newly developed program for children ages 13 to 17 whose parents were in hospice care, and many of whom are now orphans from AIDS.

Knysna offers therapeutic drumming circles to help these teens deal with their losses and the harshness around them, as many live in extremely impoverished conditions. Because they do not have sufficient drums or supplies to make them, they are seeking funds.

The program will involve performances of a variety of percussion ensembles from the community including DeKalb High School Percussion Ensemble, Harambee Children’s African Percussion Ensemble, NIU Afro-Pop Ensemble, NIU Pastiche Steel Ensemble, NIU Bau-House Berimbau Ensemble and NIU Percussion Ensemble.

This event is sponsored in part by WNIU/WNIJ.

For more information about the Transformation Through Rhythm concert, call DeKalb County Hospice at (815) 756-3000.

Empty Bowls Project Will Support Hope Haven

The 14th annual “Empty Bowls” project is scheduled for Friday, March 23.

Reservations are recommended for either of the two seatings at 4:30 and 6 p.m. in the Chandelier Room, 143 Adams Hall.

The menu includes chicken noodle soup, broccoli-cheddar soup, minestrone soup and chunky pizza soup, a tomato-based concoction with cheese, pepperoni and mushrooms. Guests also can munch on a variety of breads. Beverages include coffee, iced tea and water.

A donation of $15 buys homemade soup and bread, a beverage and, while supplies last, a ceramic bowl hand-crafted by an NIU art student. A donation of $10 buys food and drink only.

Additional donations are welcome. All proceeds benefit Hope Haven in DeKalb.

“Hope Haven is a homeless shelter that offers food, shelter, programs and supportive services to hundreds of unfortunate people in our community,” said Dawn Herbig of Lake in the Hills, a post-baccalaureate senior nutrition and dietetics major and liaison to the NIU Student Dietetic Association.

“As homelessness is on the rise, more funding is necessary to run the shelter and offer support to those in need. Every donation helps.”

Members of the Student Dietetic Association from the School of Family, Consumer and Nutrition Sciences (who do the cooking) and the NIU Ceramics Club from the School of Art (who make the bowls) organize the event, an international project that originated in Michigan.

Further operational support is coming from FCNS student organization Bread for the World. Meanwhile, Oak River Forest High School in River Forest, Ill., is supplying more ceramic bowls.

For reservations or more information, call Claudia Kovach at (708) 567-1855 or email z1626212@students.niu.edu.

NIU’s Celebration of Women’s History Month Puts Spotlight on Poverty, Economic Justice

March is Women’s History Month, and this year NIU will celebrate with an array of events based on the theme of “Women, Wealth, and Economic Justice.”

“Poverty and economic justice are at the forefront of national political debates today as well as key issues globally,” said NIU Women’s Studies Program Director Amy Levin. “I can’t think of a more timely focus for our events this month.”

A complete schedule of lectures, exhibits, performances and other activities is available online at www.niu.edu/wstudies/history/

Employment Changes

November 2011

Welcome New Employees

- Sara Klimpke, Kitchen Helper—Housing & Dining
- Danielle Morrow, Residence Hall Attendant—Public Safety
- Megan Selk, Space Administrator I—Finance and Facilities
- Deborah Webster, Residence Hall Attendant—Public Safety
- Rona Hardt, Events Administrator—Convocation Center
- Angela Camp, Office Support Associate—Health Services
- Reginald Denard II, Kitchen Helper—Housing & Dining
- Jessica Perez, Office Support Associate—University Honors Program
- Irma Dixon, Police Telecommunicator—Public Safety
- Sandra Fasnacht, Internal Auditor II—Internal Audit
- Bryan Campbell, Residence Hall Attendant—Public Safety
- Clarence Carter, Residence Hall Attendant—Public Safety
- Curtis Ivy, Jr., Residence Hall Attendant—Public Safety
- Jacqueline Propster, Residence Hall Attendant—Public Safety
- Jennifer Roberts Puraleski, Office Support Associate—Kinesiology and Physical Education
- Yi Chen, Institutional Research Data Specialist—Finance and Facilities
- Andrea McGuire, Business/ Administrative Associate—Health Services
- Anthony Recchia, Institutional Research Data Specialist—Finance and Facilities
Changes
Zachary Bohn to Office Support Specialist—Nursing and Health Studies
Kathleen Clark to Internal Auditor IV—Internal Audit
Vickie Hueramo to Human Resource Representative—Human Resource Services
Joan Pontarelli to Office Manager—Research Evaluation and Policy Studies
Jerri Reynolds to Office Support Specialist—College of Health and Human Sciences
Heidi Rudolph to Administrative Assistant—Vice President University Relations

Retirements
Sara Clayton, Administrative Assistant I—International Programs

Separations
Andrew Rifkin, Police Officer—Public Safety
Stephen Fitzmaurice, Medical Assistant—Health Services
Dillon Taylor, Food Service Sanitation Lab—Housing & Dining
Eric Hagele, Police Officer—Public Safety
Richard Felker, Security Guard—Public Safety

DECEMBER 2011
Welcome New Employees
Bruce Andraski, IT Support Associate—NIUNet-Telecommunication Services
Trevor Chilton, Police Officer—Public Safety
Arthur Hall, Building Heat/Frost Insulator—Physical Plant
Jonathan Krengel, Police Officer—Public Safety
Joshua Miller, Police Officer—Public Safety
Kristina Muench, Police Officer—Public Safety
Deborah O’Dell, Institutional Research Data Specialist—Finance and Facilities
Jennifer Pietrandrea, Account Technician I—Intercollegiate Athletics
John Spivey, Residence Hall Attendant—Public Safety

Changes
Barbara Daker to Administrative Aide—Conference Services
Kiana Griffin to Police Telecommunicator—Public Safety
Beatrice Kooen to Office Manager—Mechanical Engineering
Sarah Lindell to Administrative Assistant I—International Programs
Darren Mitchell to Deputy Chief—Public Safety
Renee Page to Administrative Assistant I—College of Liberal Arts and Sciences
Sherry Patterson to Senior Library Specialist—University Libraries
Emily Sipe to Police Telecommunicator—Public Safety
Janet Smith to Office Administrator—Theatre and Dance

Welcome New Employees
Michael Bergschneider, Security Guard—Public Safety
Jo Boling, Security Guard—Public Safety
Deborah Bonnell, Account Technician I—Controller
Michael Campuzano, Building Service Worker—Building Services
Florinda Cuizon, Building Service Worker—Building Services
Jennifer Dabb, Security Guard—Public Safety
Dennis Dzielen, IT Technical Associate—Registration and Records
Jacklyn Egolf, Library Specialist—University Libraries
Adalia Espiritu, Building Service Worker—Building Services
Hector Espiritu, Building Service Worker—Building Services
Tina Goodson, Building Service Worker—Building Services
Maximino Hernandez, Jr, Security Guard—Public Safety
Therese Lorenz, Building Service Worker—Building Services
Debra McGinn, Building Service Worker—Building Services
Jeremy Monteleone, Security Guard—Public Safety
Alan Slayton, Building Service Worker—Building Services
Terrence Tate, Building Service Worker—Building Services
Nicole Tischauer, Building Service Worker—Building Services
Ryan Wiggins, Pipefitter—Physical Plant

Name Changes
Maria Nalley to Maria Barnes, IT Support Associate—Customer Support Services

Changes
Debra Benson to Administrative Aide—Presidents Office
John Boudin, Jr. to Electrician Foreman—Physical Plant
Benjamin Gardner to IT Technical Associate—Human Resource Services
Dennis Grant to Police Sergeant—Public Safety
Lakeisha Jackson to Admissions/Records Officer—Division of Research and Graduate Studies
Theresa La Rocco to Admissions/Records Officer—Division of Research and Graduate Studies
DeMarcus Lindsey to Police Sergeant—Public Safety
Kartik Ramakrishnan to Police Lieutenant—Public Safety

Deaths
Susan Manlove, Office Manager—History
Marsha White, Operations Support Services Specialist II—Student Financial Aid

Department Changes
Mollie Montgomery, Administrative Assistant I to Human Resource Services
Karen Plioplys, Office Support Specialist to College of Engineering and Engineering Technology

Retirements
Roger Britn, Building Service Worker—Building Services
Wesley Coates, Purchasing Officer III—Procurement Services
Elizabeth Cummings, Office Manager—Art
Mary Ann Erickson, Program Services Specialist—Office of the Ombudsman
Robert Glover, Building Service Worker—Building Services
Valerie Harris, Cook—Housing & Dining
Laura Mabel, Admissions/Records Officer—Registration and Records
Ruth McNy, Office Manager—Health Services
Shirley Napora, Public Functions Supervisor—Conference Services
Janet Phillips, Building Service Worker—Building Services
Donna Rapp, Food Service Administrator III—Housing & Dining
Barbara Rice, Administrative Assistant I—Human Resource Services
Linda Tatro, Program Administrative Assistant—College of Business
LaRonda Thuestad, Clerk—Controller

Separations
Kimberlee Barnes, Mailing Equipment Operator/Expediter II—Materials Management
Reginald Denard II, Kitchen Helper—Housing & Dining
Angela Emanuel, Building Service Worker—Building Services
Julie Freyer-Halatek, Office Support Specialist—Family, Consumer and Nutrition
Christina Henry, Ambulatory Care Aide I—College of Health and Human Sciences
Curtis Ivy, Jr., Residence Hall Attendant—Public Safety
Shawna Underwood, Office Support Specialist—Special and Early Education
John Work, Admission/Records Representative—Admissions

January 2012

Welcome New Employees
Thelma Bridgewater, Purchasing Officer III—Procurement Services
Joan Burke, Office Support Specialist—Media Services
Judith Fisher, Office Support Specialist—Literacy Education
Freddie Johnson, Jr., Building Service Worker—Building Services

Separations
Katherine Bollenbach, Clerk—Testing Services
Chris Draeger, Security Guard—Public Safety
Crystal Foster, Office Support Associate—Theatre and Dance
Aimee Pollack, Accountant I—Controller
Anthony Recchia, Institutional Research Data Specialist—Finance and Facilities

Name Changes
Maria Nalley to Maria Barnes, IT Support Associate—Customer Support Services
Service Awards

**NOVEMBER 2011**

5 Years
James Collin—Physical Plant
Daniel James Williams—NIU Outreach Naperville
Janice Wylde—Career Services

10 Years
Tammy Arneson—Customer Support Services
Vicki Blevins—Bursar
Karen Jean Carey—Information Technology Services
Cheryl Henert—Development Operations
Laurel Kilmer—Holmes Center Food Service
Susan Kwosek—Information Services
Ellen Wilson—Health Services

15 Years
Theresa Allen—Holmes Student Center
Sofia Komitas—Housing & Dining
Jodi Lynn Long—Econ Illinois
Mollie Montgomery—Executive VP and Provost

20 Years
Patricia Church Arne—University Libraries
Vicki Thompson—Housing & Dining

25 Years
Diana Lynn Grace—University Libraries
Merwin Plapp—Grounds
Anne Seitzinger—International Programs

**JANUARY 2012**

5 Years
Chiemi Bentley—University Libraries
Patricia Crumpacker—College of Education
Philip Lindner—Housing & Dining
Stephen Ludwig—Div of Research & Grad Studies
Festus Mwinzi—Media Services
Rita Miller—Foreign Languages & Literatures
Cynthia Oleson—Media Services
Daniel Olson—NIU Outreach Hoffman Estates
Oliver Penney—Physical Plant

10 Years
Bonnie Bamborough—Lorado Taft
Timothy Brown—Housing & Dining
John Campbell—Public Safety
Jori McCullough—Convocation Center
George Mildner—Public Safety
Linda Novotny—Controller
Carolyn Ramsey—Career Services
Sophia Varcaos—Media Services
Cynthia Zimberoff—Public Safety

15 Years
Jason Hutchison—Building Services
Mariano Spizzirri—Media Services
Ruth Stone—Building Services
Delyce Turner—Building Services
Mary Whalen—Building Services

20 Years
Robert Anthenat—Housing & Dining
Konstantina Bahramis—Housing & Dining
Stacey Bivens—University Libraries
Georgia Harris—Student Affairs & Enrollment Management
Dana Hughes—Div of Research & Grad Studies
Norma Shaw—Materials Management
Charlene Smith—Art
Guy Stephens—Northern Public Radio

25 Years
Margaret Berg—Accountancy
Tina Erickson—Materials Management
Patti Schoo—Housing & Dining
Barbara Watson—Housing & Dining

30 Years
Deana Eberly—Music
Bernard Schuneman—Information Security & Operations

To Err is Human...
The following employment changes were inadvertently missed in the last newsletter:

**SEPTEMBER 2011**

Change in Department
Shelley Harold, Office Manager to Statistics

**OCTOBER 2011**

Welcome New Employees
Victoria Nay, Admissions/Records Representative – Registration and Records

Death
Stanley Grevis, Cook – Housing and Dining