Fellow Huskies,

This Student Affairs & Enrollment Management eNewsletter gives us all the opportunity to step back and take a look at some of the great work we are doing for our students. Across the Division and beyond, many committed student leaders, employees, faculty, and staff members are working hard to help our students achieve their academic goals.

For me, this is an opportunity to be reminded of your work, and the work we have done together, this year. One of the initiatives that I am most excited about is our Bystander Intervention Education Initiative. As a Division, we have been focusing on helping our students know how to be effective bystanders: to Speak Up if they see something that does not seem quite right, to Get Help for themselves or others if there is a problem, and to Just Act if there is something they can do to help their fellow Huskies. By speaking up, getting help, and just acting, we can all support this year’s Northern PACT principle of a disciplined community, where all of us are working together towards the common good.

I urge you, especially in light of recent events, to work with your students to remind them of the important responsibility they have to create a healthy and safe campus environment.

Sincerely,

Kelly Wesener Michael, Ed.D.
Acting Vice President for Student Affairs & Enrollment Management
Student Affairs & Enrollment Management’s Bystander Intervention Education Initiative

Speak Up. Get Help. JUST ACT. These six words serve as the foundation for Student Affairs & Enrollment Management’s (SAEM) new Bystander Intervention Education (BIE) initiative. Grounded in research from interpersonal violence and sexual assault prevention, BIE is designed to promote positive norms, behaviors, basic patterns of social interaction, values, and customs.

By definition, a bystander is a witness — someone who sees a situation but may or may not know what to do, may think others will act, or may be afraid to do something. According to the Bystander Effect, the more people who witness an event, the less likely someone will intervene. Therefore, the goal of BIE is to reduce the Bystander Effect and encourage students to intervene in a safe manner. Through education, anyone and everyone can intervene in some capacity across a variety of situations, including (but not limited to) bias incidents, alcohol misuse, violence, and other community problems.

This year, BIE will be in two forms. The first is through the use of a multimedia social marketing campaign. This campaign focuses on community-wide prevention and is designed to educate and elicit behavior change. To that end, the campus will be saturated with posters, table tents, and screen savers with active bystander behavior messages and the tag line ‘Speak Up. Get Help. JUST ACT.’

The social marketing campaign will be augmented by several educational workshops focusing on education, motivation, and skill-building behaviors. These two-hour interactive trainings will help students recognize clues that something may be wrong, enhance the feelings of responsibility to safely intervene before imminent harm, and increase the commitment and sense of empowerment to act.

There are multiple ways SAEM staff can be involved with BIE. Consider hosting a BIE workshop. Volunteer to be a staff facilitator. If you are an advisor for a student organization, participate in training with your students. Serve as mentors and role models. Support bystander intervention on campus by stepping up and interrupting a possible situation. For more information, contact Health Enhancement at www.niu.edu/health.
**Highlights from around the Division**

Beginning with our fall 2012 eNewsletter, our Division will highlight the outstanding work that is being done by our departments. Would you like to feature your department in the next eNewsletter? Contact Kelli Bradley at kbradley3@niu.edu or 753-6112.

**Admissions**
The Office of Admissions is pleased to announce the launch of a blog created with the purpose of highlighting the thoughts and viewpoints of a small group of NIU undergraduate students. Our core group of student bloggers will be writing on a wide range of topics pertaining to life on campus and in DeKalb, including arts, politics, entertainment, academics, work, travel, and social causes. We are also inviting other students, staff, and faculty to contribute “guest blog” entries on a similar variety of topics.

**Housing & Dining**
Through the opening of NIU’s newest residence hall, another milestone in the New Northern LifeStyle has been reached. This 1,000-bed facility opened at full capacity and continues to impress students, parents, and visitors who come to the NIU campus. Renovations on Gilbert Hall and Grant D Tower are well underway in anticipation of their reopening in fall 2013.

**Latino Resource Center**
The Latino Resource Center’s Adela de la Torre Honor Society has been very active in its first official year as an Honor Society. Student members have attended the UIC Graduate Fair, participated in the NIU graduate prep seminar, attended a resume workshop, and hosted academic and professional development speakers.

**Office of Community Standards & Student Conduct**
The Office of Community Standards & Student Conduct worked with the Women’s Resource Center and Safe Passage to provide twelve hours of training on the Dynamics of Sexual Assault, Domestic Violence, Stalking, and Dating Violence for our Student Conduct Board members. This engaging training provided a framework for the Board members to better understand and respond to interpersonal violence.
Professional Development Offerings for the 2012-2013 academic year

The Division of Student Affairs & Enrollment Management is offering both staff and GA professional development programs again this year. Although professional development programs are specified as either staff track or GA track programs, all employees in the Division are invited to attend any program in either track. Programs are offered at least once a month beginning in September and lasting through May. GA professional development programs can be found online on the Graduate Assistant Resources website. Below is a listing of staff track programs offered during the 2012-2013 academic year (programs that have already taken place are not listed). E-mail invitations will be sent before each program. The program schedule/topics are subject to change.

Please contact Kelli Bradley at kbradley3@niu.edu or 753-6112 if you have any questions about professional development program offerings.

DECEMBER:
Bystander Intervention 101
December 3, 2012, 2:00–3:30 p.m.
Altgeld Hall 315

JANUARY:
Professional Identity
January 31, 2013, 9:00–10:30 a.m.
Altgeld Hall 315

FEBRUARY:
Creating Effective Student Learning Outcomes and Assessment Tools
February 26, 2013, 9:30–11:00 a.m.
Campus Life Building 100

MARCH:
Work/Life Balance
March 27, 2013, 1:30–3:00 p.m.
Altgeld Hall 315

APRIL:
How Generational Differences Influence Student Service
April 23, 2013, 2:30–4:00 p.m.
Altgeld Hall 315

MAY:
Conference-style learning
May 22, 2013, 1/2 Day Program
Holmes Student Center
(Illinois, Heritage, Lincoln rooms)