Welcome Huskies!

Welcome to the fall 2014 semester at NIU and to the second edition of the Huskie Leadership eNewsletter! To all the new students at NIU, we are thrilled to have you on campus and look forward to helping you get connected. To all the returning students, I hope this year at NIU is better than ever!

In Student Involvement & Leadership Development (SILD), we are so excited to begin working with you this year. SILD has made some significant strides in leadership over the summer, and this eNewsletter will highlight some of these positive changes we have implemented.

We overhauled our Leadership Academy to serve even more Huskie leaders in a more intentional way, increased the number of leadership workshops we offer, and have even created a workshop series for student organization leaders.

Within this eNewsletter alone, you have an opportunity to learn more about our revamped Leadership Academy, events on campus, and what’s going on in the world of leadership. Also, we have spotlighted two student organizations as well as your Student Association president, Joe Frascello.

If you have questions about your leadership journey, don’t hesitate to connect with me at KBradley3@niu.edu or 815-753-6505. Please stop and see us this fall in room 150 of the Campus Life Building. We look forward to working with you!

Happy reading.

Kelli Bradley
Assistant Director for Leadership and Student Organizational Services

Did You Know…?

69% of business leaders say it’s important to have a mentor.
--Grant Thornton’s View newsletter, December 2005

At least 90% of organizations led by well-supported, high-performing transitioning leaders meet their three-year goals.
--news.executiveboard.com
The Leadership Academy, a three-tiered program, combines theoretical and practical leadership experiences to create an interactive learning environment for future leaders. The Leadership Academy is a great opportunity for students interested in leadership to develop leadership skills and knowledge.

This year, we are very excited for all the new program changes in the Leadership Academy and are working hard to foster leadership on campus and within the DeKalb community. We also have a number of workshops planned this semester with topics ranging from public speaking, dressing for success, leadership 101, and much more.

Many of our past Leadership Academy members have reached out to give feedback on the many things they learned as a member of the Leadership Academy. Students shared learning about growth opportunities as a leader, how to be an effective leader, finding balance between leadership roles and other responsibilities, leadership in the career world, and many other skills and competencies.

If you are interested in learning more about our Leadership Academy, please contact us. We are more than happy to assist our future leaders!

I look forward to working with you,

Antoinette M. Schrader
Graduate Assistant, Leadership & Student Organizational Services

Student Organization Spotlight-TRiO DALLAS

The Northern Illinois University TRiO Disability ALLy & Advocacy ASSociation (TRiO DALLAS) is an organization designed to promote awareness of individuals with disabilities. They aim to assist students with disabilities and allies by fostering personal, career, and community development along with creating fellowship, enhancing positive belief in self and personal growth for students, and providing professional development opportunities for faculty and staff members. This organization’s goal is to have students with disabilities out in the open and getting involved to enhance résumé development and work-related skills.

For this fall, TRiO DALLAS has the following activities tentatively planned:
a) Department of Rehabilitation speaker (informing students with disabilities of DRS benefits and college assistance), b) Mind and Body Presentation by two students with disabilities (via yoga and fitness training), c) Bake sale, d) Designing a career development workshop for all students, but with added information for those with disabilities.

If interested, email: triodallas2014@gmail.com President: Danielle Keys Assistant Advisor: Genesis White
The NIU LEAD Summit is the premier leadership conference open to all NIU undergraduate students. Participants will have the opportunity to attend various workshops related to developing leadership skills, hear from a keynote speaker, and network with other student leaders and staff members.

The LEAD Summit also features a Greek track specifically designed for student members of Fraternity & Sorority Life.

The LEAD Summit is scheduled for **Saturday, September 20, 2014** in Barsema Hall. Check-in will begin at 8:00am, and the program will take place from 9:00am-3:30pm. There is no cost to attend this program! Students can register at www.niutickets.com. The deadline to register is September 15, so sign up today!

Contact Antoinette M. Schrader at 815-753-6595 or aschrader1@niu.edu or Kelli Bradley at 815-753-6505 or kbradley3@niu.edu if you have any questions about the NIU LEAD Summit. We hope to see you there!
Student Spotlight

Joe Frascello
Student Association President

What does leadership mean to you?
Leadership includes the ability to manage people and resources, but it goes beyond that. Leadership is the act of charting the course and setting the sails for the crew. A leader provides direction and support to his/her crew while providing a clear purpose of the mission. A leader instills and maintains a spirit of motivation and inspiration to work together and thrive.

Why do you feel it is important to get involved on campus?
When a student gets involved, they are more likely to enjoy their campus experience. So often I meet fellow Huskies that are a part of an organization (or several organizations) who truly love their time at NIU. That sense of community and belonging is why increasing student involvement is so important to me and my administration.

What are some recommendations you have for incoming students as it relates to leadership and campus/community involvement?
NIU is fertile ground for leadership development and civic engagement. The key is to get involved with what matters to you the most. Take a look around at the opportunities our campus has!

How has being involved in leadership enhanced your experience at NIU?
The qualities that make a good leader are the same qualities that make a well-rounded person. This goes beyond the classroom and the office; leadership skills apply to the home, too! One of the most important lessons I have learned as a leader is the value in accepting that I don't know everything. I'm not afraid to ask questions when I am confused and I encourage others to do the same.

Student Organization Spotlight:
Student Association (SA)
The SA provides a number of services and outlets in order to provide the optimum support for the student body. The SA supports many campus events and activities through organizational funding. Funding is allocated through the SA to various organizations on campus.

For more information:
Location: Campus Life Building, Suite 180
Phone: 815-753-0483
Student leaders have the unique opportunity to learn and lead during their college years - an experience not easily replicated after graduation. Learn how individuals who serve in student leadership roles are poised to be successful in the workforce after completing college.

1. You'll gain confidence.
Many student leaders are chosen or voted into their positions by their peers. Having your abilities recognized by others is empowering, and the work you do in a leadership role is likely to be recognized. You can gain confidence in your leadership skills by starting a club on-campus, writing for the school newspaper, organizing sports rallies or serving as a tour guide for incoming students.

2. You can develop communication skills.
Public speaking plays a major role in many careers today. As a student leader, you'll have to speak with confidence and poise to diverse groups about your organization's mission and goals. Diplomacy skills and persuasion tactics are applicable to almost any career. You can develop your communication skills by speaking at school events or mentoring incoming freshmen.

3. You'll gain responsibility.
Student leaders aren't only responsible for themselves - they also have extended responsibilities that affect a wide range of people. Leaders of a group must not only make sure that tasks get done, but that all members of the organization are performing to the best of their abilities. If someone doesn't follow through on a task, leaders make sure that, ultimately, the task is completed. This responsibility can be a lesson on how to hold others accountable.

4. You can develop negotiation skills.
Most student groups work on collaborative projects that may have competing interests. Student leaders must learn to establish priorities and compromise when necessary. Success occurs when the integrity of a project is maintained and everyone involved feels valued and empowered. This form of negotiation is invaluable for helping any group meet its goals, including professional teams in the workforce. To further develop your negotiation skills, consider taking a conflict resolution or cooperative learning workshop offered either on-campus or off-campus.

5. You'll be able to network.
Student leaders may communicate with many people that the average student doesn't typically interact with on a daily basis. In a leadership role, one can become familiar with school administrators, leaders from other campus groups, managers in off-campus partner organizations and other high-profile figures. Building relationships with these people can yield valuable personal and professional contacts.

6. You'll gain management skills.
A strong leader is one whose management skills become second nature. Leaders must oversee operational tasks, make budgets, prioritize workloads, build consensus, and perform other executive duties as necessary. Practicing these skills in college can teach you how to use your personal talents for the overall advantage of your group. You'll likely make mistakes, but learning how to handle them now can better prepare you for the workforce.

7. You can hone problem-solving skills.
Student leaders have many obligations to meet while maintaining a full course load and attending to other personal responsibilities. It will take some creative problem-solving to get everything done and keep life in balance. Leadership experiences allow you to hone multitasking abilities that future job and life responsibilities demand.

8. You'll discover new talents.
While student leadership involves delegating work and holding others accountable, leaders have to complete some tasks on their own. For example, if you're leading a small group, you may have to serve as an accountant or creative director for your organization's new marketing campaign. New tasks can be challenging, but they can also awaken undiscovered talents that may prove useful in the future.

9. You'll be recognized.
The student leader often becomes the face of the group he or she represents. If a leader is involved and successful, individuals from all fields of study may recognize the leader around campus, even when official business is not being conducted. Leaders are often approached with unique and engaging opportunities by other students and faculty members. Leadership work may also lead to school awards, which can add another distinction to your resume.

10. You'll improve your resume.
Employers recognize the responsibilities that student leaders take on, and they respect the initiative it shows to head a college organization. With leadership experience on your resume, you're more likely to get the attention of a hiring manager. A student leadership role is also a great talking point during interviews.

(Adapted from Education Insider News Blog, retrieved July 22, 2014)
# FALL CALENDAR OF EVENTS

## September
- 9/18/14 Leadership Academy Workshop: Leadership 101
- 9/20/14 NIU LEAD Summit
- 9/24/14 Leadership Academy Workshop: Public Speaking 101

## October
- 10/6/14 NIU Homecoming Kick-Off
- 10/7/14 NIU Homecoming Recycled Boat Race
- 10/9/14 NIU Homecoming Yell Like Hell
- 10/10/14 NIU Homecoming Parade and Bonfire
- 10/11/14 NIU Homecoming Game: Central Michigan vs. NIU
- 10/16/14 Leadership Academy Workshop: Dress for Success
- 10/22/14 Leadership Academy Workshop: Leadership 101

## November
- 11/11/14 Leadership Academy Workshop: Leadership 101
- 11/15/14-11/21/14 Hunger & Homelessness Awareness Week
- 11/19/14 Leadership Academy Workshop: Leading With and Without Authority
- 11/26-11/30/14 Thanksgiving Holiday

## December
- 12/6/14 Classes End
- 12/8-12/13/14 Final Examinations
- 12/13/14 Fall Graduate Commencement
- 12/14/14 Undergraduate Commencement
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Antoinette M. Schrader
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Kelli has been serving in the Assistant Director for Leadership & Student Organizational Services role since October 2013. Before obtaining her position in Student Involvement & Leadership Development (SILD), she served as the Professional Development & Operations Coordinator in the Vice President’s office in Student Affairs & Enrollment Management.

Kelli has thoroughly enjoyed her role in SILD, particularly because she is able to work directly with students and witness first-hand how their leadership skills improve throughout their time at NIU.

Antoinette is the Graduate Assistant for Leadership & Student Organizational Services. She has been in the role since July 2014. Antoinette has worked in a number of professional roles on campus and most recently worked with student athletes in Student Athlete Academic Support Services as an Academic Case Manager.

Antoinette is currently finished her last year in the College of Education’s Counseling Program and aspires to have a career in school counseling upon graduation. She is excited to work with students and develop the leaders of today and tomorrow.