Diversity at NIU
Northern Illinois University celebrates diversity in all its forms. We feel that diversity in gender, ethnicity, physical ability, religious beliefs, age, and sexuality is what makes the world an interesting place. Creating an environment in which those differences are not only acknowledged but celebrated is our goal. Diversity makes the educational experience richer and makes NIU the ideal place to learn.

By learning in an environment that is filled with students, faculty and staff from a wide range of backgrounds, we create an environment where stereotypes are challenged, experiences are shared and minds are opened. This experience lays the groundwork for working and living with people from all backgrounds.

By giving you the skills you need to understand and accept these differences, we open your minds to new areas of study, open your awareness to the needs of the underserved, and give you the tools you need to affect social change.

Not only does one third of our student body come from a diverse ethnic background, approximately 900 international students call themselves Huskies. We encourage our students to celebrate their culture on campus, which helps make their first experience away from home more successful and familiar.

The Office of Academic Diversity, Equity and Inclusion strives to improve access, retention and completion for all students and to uphold the NIU mission to value “A community of diverse people, ideas, services, and scholarly endeavors in a climate of respect for the intrinsic dignity of each individual.”

Next Steps
Learn about the Diversity and Inclusion Task Force Three-year Plan at www.niu.edu/diversity/about/three-year-plan.

Resources
Faculty Toolkit at www.niu.edu/diversity/resources/toolkit

Got Questions?
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