WELCOME BACK AND HAPPY NEW DECADE!

We are so happy to have students back on campus and we hope you enjoyed the time off! It is a brand new semester with so many opportunities to continue doing great things and even create new goals to strive for. As you begin new classes, remember to reach out to those around you for help, whether that be clarification or just a friend, don’t be afraid to speak up. As always, feel free to stop into the lounge (CLB 170) to hang out or ask questions. We are here for you! Good luck this semester!
OFF-CAMPUS HOUSING FAIR

Are you in search of a new place to call home next school year? Stop by the off-campus housing fair on February 18 from 11-2 p.m. in the Gallery Lounge HSC. This is an opportunity to ask questions about living off campus and meet property owners. We will be there to assist you in finding the best places and guide you through the off-campus housing process. There will also be free pizza!

CENSUS IS HIRING

Every renter can take ownership of the future.

Every 10 years, the United States counts everyone living in the country on April 1, regardless of their nationality or living situation. This includes renters. To ensure an accurate count, remember to:

- Count every person living or staying in your home.
- Respond at the address where you were living or staying on April 1, 2020.

What’s in it for me?
The 2020 Census is an opportunity to create a better future for our communities and the next generation by providing an up-to-date count of our population. The data collected will help determine how over $675 billion in federal funding is distributed each year for things like housing assistance, infrastructure, and public transportation.

What else do I need to know?
Responding to the 2020 Census is:

- Easy: Every household in the United States will receive a notice to complete the census in early 2020. You can complete the form online, by phone, or by mail.
- Safe: Your personal information is confidential, is protected by law, and can never be used to identify you. It can never be shared with law enforcement agencies or your property manager.
- Important: Businesses and leaders in your community will use the data collected in the census to make decisions about where to build new buildings, revitalize old ones, open stores, create jobs, and more.

Is the Census Bureau hiring?
Yes! Earn extra income while helping ensure that everyone in your community is counted. The U.S. Census Bureau has a variety of temporary jobs that need to be filled, including census takers, recruiting assistants, office staff, and supervisory staff. You must be at least 18 years old, have a valid Social Security number, and be a United States citizen to be eligible. Interested? Apply at 2020CENSUS.GOV/JOBS.

For more information, visit: 2020CENSUS.GOV

THE FISH HOOK

Each month Associate Director Jeff Salmon shares insights and thoughts with Post-Trads.

Happy new decade! I hope everyone had a wonderful winter break and is ready for the new semester.

What are you looking forward to most in 2020? Classes? Internship? Graduation?

A new year and a new decade bring endless possibilities. To start 2020, I’ve already moved my office from Campus Life Building Room 240 to 162. There are a lot of changes to CLB with the Disability Resource Center and Testing Services now on the first floor.

I recommend heading to the HSC in the next couple weeks. The bookstore is once again fully operational and the Huskie Den has extended its food hours to 9 p.m. You’ll also find the Campus Activities Board in the HSC.
We are so excited to share that we have launched a new program for veteran students. We are currently in the process of recruiting mentors, so if you or anyone you know is a veteran student and is interested in being a mentor there will be an informational meeting on February 12, in CLB 160, from 1-2 p.m.

If you are unable to attend and want to know more, please feel free to email us at OCNTSS@niu.edu

To apply to be a mentor, click on the link below.

http://go.niu.edu/gbc4zu
“CANNABIS AT NIU - Cannabis may be legal in Illinois starting January 1, 2020, but you still cannot possess or use it on NIU campus property including at any NIU-affiliated events that are held off-campus. Possession and use are illegal under federal law, including both recreational and medicinal use. Federal law supersedes any state law authorizing cannabis possession or use on campus. See the full cannabis FAQ: go.niu.edu/cannabis”
On this Valentine’s Day be sure to love yourself and take care of yourself. You deserve that piece of chocolate no matter who gave it to you. Remember to be kind to yourself and others as this day is about showing appreciation and gratitude for those around you. We love our students and thank you for making campus such a special place.
**Upcoming Events**

**Martin Luther King Concert**
(January 19, 3 - 4 p.m.)
Place: Music Building, Boutell Memorial Concert Hall

**Spring Involvement Fair**
(February 5, 5:30 - 7:30 p.m.)
Place: Holmes Student Center

**Full Moon Night Hike at Sycamore Forest Preserve**
(February 7, 6 - 7 p.m.)
Place: Sycamore Forest Preserve
955 E State St, Sycamore, IL

**Career Fair Prep Workshop**
(February 11, 5 - 7 p.m.)
Place: Capitol Room HSC

**Arts, Media and Communication Fair**
(February 12, 4 - 6 p.m.)
Place: Regency Room HSC

**Off-Campus Housing Fair**
(February 18, 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.)
Place: Gallery Lounge HSC