Happy Holidays From Your Operating Staff Council

Call for Nominations 2017 Outstanding Service Award
The annual NIU Outstanding Service Award recognizes individual civil service employees who demonstrate outstanding service and significant contributions to the university and community. Up to four awards of $1,500 are presented at the spring Awards Luncheon.

More details are available at go.niu.edu/service-award.

The complete nomination package (nomination form, one nomination letter and two letters of support) must be received all at once—if incomplete, the nomination will not be considered. Send or deliver to Human Resource Services, ATTN: Outstanding Service Awards Selection Committee. DEADLINE FOR NOMINATIONS is 4:30 p.m., FRIDAY, FEB. 22, 2019.

2018-2019 Operating Staff Council Members
Front row (left to right): Debbie Williams, John Hulseberg – Operating Staff Personnel Adviser, Pat Wielert – Treasurer, Stacey Bivens – Secretary, Holly Nicholson – President, Jeffry Royce – Vice President, Jay Monteiro – Parliamentarian, Karen Smith
Second row (left to right): Natasha Johnson, Renee Kerwin, Cindy Kozumplik, Jesse Tellez, Dave Berg, Nancy Skelley, Rave Meyer, Rebekka Ayres, Angie Gutierrez-Vargas
Not pictured: Ellen Cabrera, Katja Marjetic

Operating Staff Dependent Scholarship
MyScholarships makes applying for scholarships easy! The Operating Staff Dependent Scholarship is included in the system, and all students need to do is complete and submit one general scholarship application to be considered for this and many other opportunities. The system will be open in mid-November through January 2019 for the following academic year. To apply and for more information, visit go.niu.edu/scholarships.
Huskie History

As readers probably know, the winds of change are once again coming to the Holmes Student Center in the form of a (mostly) indoor renovation of space on the lower two levels of the building. Groundbreaking is slated for sometime this fall, and work will likely be completed in time for (or soon after) fall 2019. During this time, campus mainstays such as the Huskies Den are closed; and the Blackhawk Café and Diversions have hosted their final events and will be replaced by new, improved venues after the remodel is complete.

According to Glen A. Gildemeister’s *Castle on a Hill*, NIU’s first student center took the form of an eatery called the College Tea Room (later known as Jimmie’s) in fall 1940, which was located across from what is now the Music Building. Construction on a new University Center eventually began, and in fall 1962 the two-story Center opened at the corner of Normal Road and Lucinda Avenue. Just six years later, in May 1968, a 16-story tower was added onto the west side of the center. As it does today, the tower housed mostly hotel rooms and some offices.

In 1974, the University Center was renamed in honor of former NIU President Leslie A. Holmes, who was president during the time that the University Center was built. In addition, a plaque in memoriam of Leslie Holmes is located on the northeast lawn of the center, near Alumni Corner, along Normal Road under a shady tree.

During the building’s 56-year history, the Center has hosted famous guests including legendary musician Edward “Duke” Ellington, who played his final full performance with his orchestra in the Ballroom (now named in his honor) March 20, 1974. Notable figures such as Chicago author Studs Terkel, actor Leonard Nimoy (*Star Trek*) and politician Jesse Jackson have also visited the Holmes Student Center.

The final major renovation to the HSC, prior to 2018, was the recladding of the exterior tower walls in 1988. The Sky Room balcony was removed, and limestone panels were added along with the pyramid dome at the top of the tower. The now-235-foot tall tower is allegedly the tallest building in all of DeKalb County, and a welcome beacon for travelers. On a clear day, you can see NIU from I-88 and other surrounding areas.

For more information about the 2018 renovation project, please visit go.niu.edu/HSCReno.

NIU Police Introduce Safe Selling Space

Looking to buy or sell something online, but nervous about meeting up with a stranger? Arrange to meet in the lobby of the NIU Police and Public Safety dispatch center at 395 Wirtz Drive on the DeKalb campus. Due to the increase in popularity of online sales, NIU police are making online sales safer for our campus community.

All sales transactions at the dispatch center will be under video surveillance, and the dispatch center will be manned 24 hours a day.

The safe-selling initiative is part of a campuswide safety effort to encourage Huskies to form safe habits and be proactive about safety.

“With the growing number of sales happening via the internet, we’re trying to create an area where people feel comfortable to do those sales,” Deputy Chief Jason John said. “You can come into the building and let the dispatcher know you’re there to complete a safe-selling transaction. You complete the transaction, and then you let the dispatcher know you’ve completed it and the both of you go on your way.”

The area already is open to the public, and the initiative comes at no cost to the university. “We have the facility, the equipment, the cameras and the personnel to do this already,” John said.

He stressed the sale of drugs, weapons or any other contraband is strictly prohibited, and police will not get into the middle of any disputes involving any sales transactions. Any abandoned property left on the premises will be considered abandoned property in accordance with law, he said.

Employment Changes

**SEPTEMBER 2018**

**Welcome New Employees**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Department</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Maria Arguello Cortes</td>
<td>Housing Attendant/ Housekeeper</td>
<td>Conferences Event Management</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shea Bernard</td>
<td>Housing Representative</td>
<td>Housing and Residential Services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Theodore Campbell</td>
<td>Associate Director</td>
<td>Information Technology — Constituent Resource Management</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Andrew Clayton</td>
<td>Snack Bar Attendant</td>
<td>Campus Dining Services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Krystal Collins</td>
<td>Program Adviser</td>
<td>Intercollegiate Athletics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lisa Dienst-Thomas</td>
<td>Human Resource Officer</td>
<td>Human Resource Services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jennifer Dolman</td>
<td>IT Technical Associate</td>
<td>Infrastructure Services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ramses Flores</td>
<td>IT Support Associate</td>
<td>Operation Services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Keyalo Gray</td>
<td>Program Adviser</td>
<td>Academic Advising Center</td>
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</table>

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Brandon Haley, Snack Bar Attendant — Campus Dining Services
Joshua Hall, Security Guard — Public Safety
Danielle Hintz, Child Development Supervisor — Child Development and Family Center
Xavier Hoppe, Culinary Worker II — Campus Dining Services
Katelyn Kozinski, Office Support Specialist — Statistics
Mandy Kreitzer, Business/Administrative Associate — College of Health and Human Sciences
Rachel Lower, Program Adviser — College of Engineering and Engineering Technology
Brett McCullough, Admissions/Records Specialist I — Admissions Recruitment Outreach
Jody Mooneyham, Office Support Specialist — Economics
Jose Rivera, Instructional development Specialist — Faculty Development
Wardell Roseman Jr., Food Court/Snack Bar Supervisor — Campus Dining Services
Elizabeth Schewe, Program Coordinator — Outreach, Engagement, and Regional Development Marketing and Messaging
John Schleifer, Staff Clerk — Development Operations
Irshad Shaik, IT Technical Associate — Report Cards
Keven Shepke, Publicity Promotion Specialist — Graduate School
Phyllicia Williams, Resident Hall Attendant — Public Safety

Retirements
Sue Anderson, Administrative Assistant — Executive Vice President and Provost
Ray Foster, Stores Supervisor — Chemistry and Biochemistry
Nancy Graff, Business Manager II — College of Health and Human Sciences
Valerie Lorusso, Administrative Assistant — Student Affairs
Kris McClure, Nurse Practitioner — Health Services
Sherry Patterson, Senior Library Specialist — University Libraries
William Vickers, Senior Electronics Technician — College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

Separations
Judy Flores Sender, Human Resource Representative — Human Resource Services
Nicole Henryson, Office Manager — History
Hillary Hoshaw, Physicians Assistance in Medicine — Health Services
Mandy Kreitzer, Business Manager II — College of Health and Human Sciences
Jasmine Merritt, Residence Hall Attendant — Public Safety
Naícia Miner, Human Resource Representative — Human Resource Services
Kara Rominski, Telephone Operator II — eSports Network
Jeremy Shearon, Storekeeper II — Materials Management
Rickey Sparks, Procurement Officer Supervisor — Procurement and Strategic Sourcing
Caroline Wells, Office Support Specialist — Mathematical Sciences

OCTOBER 2018

Welcome New Employees
Christel Ackland, Office Manager — Industrial and Systems Engineering
Cynthia Bosanac, Assistant Food Service Manager — Campus Dining Services
David Brauer, Public Information Coordinator — Administration and Finance
Matthew Brej, Building Service Worker — Building Services
Kevin Brown, Statistical Clerk — Development Operations
Billie Callahan, Program Coordinator — Not for Profit Non-Governmental Organizations
Rebecca Cammuca, Storekeeper II — Materials Management
Nicholas Campbell, Safety Officer II — Environmental Health and Safety
Haripriya Chinthapally, IT Technical Associate — Report Cards
James DeForest, Building Service Worker — Building Services
Matthew Downing, Grounds Worker — Grounds
Sandra Hablick, Catering Supervisor — Conferences Event Management
Megan Harris, Building Service Worker — Building Services
Scott Hawk, Building Service Worker — Building Services
Rachel Hunt, Food Court/Snack Bar Supervisor — Campus Dining Services
Kristy Johns, Public Information Coordinator — Illinois Manufacturing Excellence Center
Lisa Johnson, Building Service Worker — Building Services
Namon Kent, IT Support Associate — English
Carla Marcuccelli, Office Support Specialist — Education Technology, Research and Assessment
Sonya Mendoza, Human Resource Assistant — Human Resource Services
Kristine Murphy, Stores Supervisor — Chemistry and Biochemistry
Kyle Murray, Snack Bar Attendant — Campus Dining Services
Heidi Nelson, Senior Events Administrator — Holmes Student Center
Jhakia Pack, Residence Hall Attendant — Public Safety
Alyson Rains, Building Service Worker — Building Services
Travonna Rhodies, Residence Hall Attendant — Public Safety
Jordann Scott, Residence Hall Attendant — Public Safety
Irasema Silva Sr., Educational Program Evaluation Coordinator — Family Violence and Sexual Assault
Michael Sloat, Assistant Food Service Manager — Campus Dining Services
Elson Smith, IT Technical Associate — Application Services
Kendall Smith, Food Court/Snack Bar Supervisor — Campus Dining Services
Patrick Smith, IT Technical Associate — Bursar
Lauren Teso-Warner, Housing Administrator — Housing and Residential Services
Rayshawna Thomas, Building Service Worker — Building Services
Carissa Valenti, Building Service Worker — Building Services
Benjamin Walter, Building Service Worker — Building Services
Miranda Whitford, Child Development Supervisor — Family and Consumer Sciences

Death
Peter Sopko, Building Service Worker — Building Services

Retirements
Elizabeth Espe, Assistant Parking and Traffic Coordinator — Parking Services
Jeffrey Glass, Chief Broadcasting Engineer — Northern Public Radio
Danell Nixon, Program Administrative Assistant — Operation Services
Judy Waterfield, Admissions/Records Supervisor — Registration and Records

Separations
Maurice Bailey, Route Driver — Materials Management
Amber Ballard, Laboratory Animal Care Supervisor — Psychology
Susan Brandenbusch, Payroll Specialist II — Human Resource Services
David Brauer, Public Information Coordinator — Administration and Finance
Kayla-Lyne Gagliardi, Admissions/Records Representative — Registration and Records
Michael Good, Waiter/Waitress — Holmes Student Center
Joshua Hall, Security Guard — Public Safety
Xavier Hoppe, Culinary Worker II — Campus Dining Services
Matthew Janouskovec, IT Support Associate — College of Business
Megan Mattingly, Office Support Specialist — College of Education
Sonya Mendoza, Human Resource Assistant — Human Resource Services
Kaitlin Miles, Program Adviser — College of Engineering and Engineering Technology
Tyler Miles, Security Guard — Public Safety
Victoria Nay, Collection Assistant Manager — Bursar
Aaron Sturtz, Laboratory Mechanic — College of Liberal Arts and Sciences
Jimmie Wright, Residence Hall Attendant — Public Safety
Service Awards

SEPTEMBER 2018

5 Years
Bonifacio Garcia — Building Services
Heather Oronia — Building Services
Jamie Colbert — Counseling, Adult and Higher Education
Danell Jakowski — Controller
Benjamin Manning — Physical Plant
Reinhard Miller — Lorado Taft Operations
Connie Moon — Registration Services
Kenneth Putzstuck — Building Services
Linda Rains — Building Services
Leslie Scarpace — DoIT-Admin-Business Finance
Michael Strunk — Holmes Student Center

10 Years
Andrea Drott — University Recreation and Wellness
Guy Faber — Materials Management
Jeremy Hale — Physical Plant
Noreen Hudspeth — Holmes Student Center
Will MacVenn — Giorgi Law Clinic
Karen Odom — Public Safety
Kouame Sanan — Operation Services

15 Years
Larry Ellington — Public Safety
Karen Smith — Child Development and Family Center
Maegen Swanson — Health Services
Patricia Wallace — Research Compliance, Integrity and Safety

20 Years
Glenda Davies — Campus Dining Services
Darlys Davis — Campus Dining Services
Cindy Kozumplik — DoIT-Admin-Business Finance
Cindy Kubasiak — Finance

25 Years
Herbert Kaelin — Heating Plant
Julia Kaelin — Building Services

OCTOBER 2018

5 Years
Colleen Leonard — Alumni Services
Shawn McGinn — Physical Plant
Lora Oberg — Budget Office
Richard White — Physical Plant

10 Years
Lisa Heal — Center for South East Asian Studies
Norma Laino — College of Engineering and Engineering Technology
Julie Lorang — Physics

15 Years
Kristin Bigelow — Sponsored Programs Administration
Alan Smith — Public Safety

25 Years
Phyllis Livingston — Building Services
Rodney Neace — University Libraries

30 Years
April Spivey — Registration and Records
Jean Ann — Procurement and Strategic Sourcing

Calling All Operating Staff! A Questionnaire for YOU!

We are looking for feedback from Operating Staff employees across campus about how your office/department/division creates a fun, welcome, supportive environment for your team. We plan to share some of these ideas in future issues of this newsletter.

Please take a few moments from your day (we know everyone is busy) and share some things YOUR department does to help try to make your workday AWESOME! You can email your responses to rayres@niu.edu. We hope to hear from you before the Winter Break starts Dec. 21. Thank you in advance for sharing with your fellow Operating Staff colleagues.

1. How does your department boost team building?
2. How does your department celebrate special occasions and/or holidays?
3. Does your office decorate or encourage any ongoing, year-round fun or stress-busting activities?
4. Whom can we contact in your department (if not yourself) for more information?