CONTENTS

FAMILY WEEKEND 2015
PAGE 4

A WORD FROM
RESIDENTIAL SERVICES
PAGE 12-13

THE OFF-CAMPUS
LIFE OFFICE
PAGE 5

SHEIL CATHOLIC CENTER
PAGE 14

A HEALTHY
CONVERSATION
PAGE 6

NORTHWESTERN HILLEL
PAGE 15

NUHELP APP
PAGE 7

MARTIN LUTHER KING JR.
COMMEMORATION
PAGE 16-17

FRATERNITY AND
SORORITY LIFE
PAGE 8-9

CAPS WINTER
WORKSHOPS
PAGE 19

NORTHWESTERN CAREER
ADVANCEMENT
PAGE 10-11

ATHLETICS
PAGE 19

ONE BOOK ONE
NORTHWESTERN
PAGE 20
Greetings from the office of New Student and Family Programs!

College is a weird and wonderful time. It is an exciting journey not only for the students navigating the experience, but also for their families. As a family member of a college student, your role is different, but you have the opportunity to share in their adventure.

As 2015 winds down (can you believe it?), now is a fitting time to reflect on the challenges, successes and experiences of the past year. Just like Northwestern students, we all had opportunities to learn, grow and change this year. We faced obstacles, celebrated victories and came to know more about ourselves and the world around us.

Now is also a time to look toward the future – toward 2016 – and start to think about the hopes, aspirations and dreams we have for the coming year. Like Northwestern students, some of us have no idea what this new year will bring, and others have it all planned out. Either way, each year is a brand new adventure, for students in the midst of their college experiences and for those of us here to guide them along the way.

In this issue of Wildcat Family Focus, you will be introduced to a conversation about health and wellness for college students, fraternity and sorority recruitment season, and a host of upcoming job and internship opportunities for Northwestern students. Make sure to take advantage of all that Northwestern has to offer its students, and remind your students of all the people on campus who are here to educate, guide and support them.

As you celebrate the end of this year and welcome the new one, remember that you are not alone in your journey as a Northwestern family member. Those of us in New Student and Family Programs are here as a resource for you too. If you have a question, concern or simply don’t know where to begin, send us an email at family@northwestern.edu or give us a call at (847) 467-3988.

Happy Holidays, Happy New Year, and Go 'Cats!

All the best,

New Student and Family Programs
From Friday, November 6, through Sunday, November 8, Northwestern welcomed about 1,700 families – nearly 6,000 total visitors – to campus for Family Weekend.

On Friday, parents and families attended faculty lectures on topics ranging from 3D printing to Latino poetry. They had the opportunity to visit with campus leadership at an afternoon panel, attend receptions hosted by the undergraduate schools, and enjoy campus tours guided by Family Ambassadors.

Saturday morning, families gathered at Wildcat Alley for a Family Weekend tailgate brunch, and then cheered on the Wildcats to victory over the Penn State Nittany Lions in the final seconds of the game. On Saturday afternoon, visitors attended interest sessions hosted by campus partners. Northwestern Career Advancement, Counseling and Psychological Services, Study Abroad, and Fraternity and Sorority Life shared information and answered questions.

Parents and families had the chance to attend various student performances, enjoy religious services, eat brunch in a dining hall, learn more about life at Northwestern, and most importantly, to spend time with their students all weekend long.

If you were unable to join us for Family Weekend this year, we hope to be able to welcome you to campus next time! Family Weekend 2016 will take place Friday, November 4, through Sunday, November 6, and registration will open in early June.
Off-Campus Life is the first point of contact for students moving and living off campus. We strive to help students:

- Manage their own affairs off campus, making use of appropriate Northwestern and Evanston/Chicago resources and services.
- Articulate their rights and responsibilities as members of both the Northwestern and Evanston/Chicago communities.

Living off campus means joining the Evanston or Chicago-metro community. For students, their neighbors are no longer just their peers down the hall. They are families, professionals, and non-student residents who often maintain very different hours and lifestyles than our undergraduates.

Off-Campus Life has worked with Evanston non-student residents to develop some guidelines for building positive community relationships. Please keep in mind that the top two issues attracting negative attention off campus are noise and trash. We encourage you to share the following tips with your students if they currently reside – or are preparing to move – off campus:

- Go beyond first introductions and establish ongoing communication with neighbors. Being mindful of their schedules and helping neighbors understand students’ routines can help mitigate problems before they start.
- To learn more about how to create lasting neighborhood relations, abide by city codes and ensure that your students have a great off-campus experience, you can access our 6 Easy Steps to Being a Good Neighbor brochure on our website.
- Observe quiet hours between 10 p.m. and 7 a.m. At best, loud music and parties may result in unhappy neighbors; at worst, the police may knock on the door.
- Know your garbage collection day, and make sure that trash doesn’t accumulate outside. Check the City of Evanston website to find what day of the week the city will pick up garbage in your area.
- Discuss concerns with neighbors as soon as they arise and before they escalate into larger issues. If your student has questions or needs help with a conflict, please have them contact Off-Campus Life.

If you have any questions or would like more information about off-campus living, please reach out to Off-Campus Life at offcampuslife@northwestern.edu or (847) 491-8430. As fall quarter slowly comes to an end, Northwestern Off-Campus Life Office would like to wish all parents a wonderful holiday season!
A HEALTHY CONVERSATION

Kevin Meier, MPH
Coordinator of Alcohol and Other Drug Education and Outreach

It probably seems like yesterday that you were saying goodbye to your student as the school year began. I know it does for us! But now that your student has nearly completed fall quarter and will be home for winter break, there is no better time to have a conversation about their health and wellness. What do I mean by this? Often, we think that if our students are performing well academically, nothing bad could be going on. What we need to do is look deeper than their outward appearance or the grades they show us on Canvas. With that, I challenge you to ask your student how they are really feeling by asking engaging questions.

“Engaging questions” could mean asking your student how their study habits are shaping up and whether they are making time for a healthy amount of sleep every night (seven to nine hours), or if they have found a student organization or activity they enjoy. It could even mean asking them about their choices around alcohol or other substance use.

While ALL first-year and transfer students have completed Part One of the AlcoholEdu for College online course, a record 90 percent of first-year students completed Part Two, which asks them to reflect on what their use looks like six or more weeks into the quarter. Since we already asked students to revisit this topic, they’re primed and ready to continue that conversation with you.

Maybe your student has chosen to remain abstinent from alcohol. After all, 32 percent* of first-year students identified this way prior to starting at Northwestern. Maybe they’re experimenting for the first time and implementing protective behaviors such as setting a limit and keeping track of how many drinks they have each time, pacing their drinks to one per hour, or refraining from participating in drinking games. Or maybe they are among the 29 percent* of first-year students who now identify as heavy episodic drinkers. In the past two weeks, these student consumed on average between five and nine drinks (male) or between four and seven drinks (female) on their day of highest alcohol consumption. We want every student, no matter what their choice around substance use is, to minimize the harm to self and others so that we may foster an environment in which we can all live and learn. By talking with your student, you will help us promote healthy behavior and support each individual’s health and well-being.

It may surprise you how much your student will open up when you simply ask these questions, and how much of a positive impact you can have on your student’s health, well-being and success while in college. Maybe this can even become a more regular conversation you have, so that it doesn’t seem so awkward to wait until they’re home on break.

If you would like more information about the AlcoholEdu for College program, please visit the AlcoholEdu for College website and AlcoholEdu for Parents website.

From all of us in Health Promotion and Wellness, we wish you happiness and health this holiday season and into the new year. Be well!

* AlcoholEdu for College, 2015 (First-year students)
NUHELP APP: SAFETY AND WELLNESS RESOURCES JUST A TAP AWAY

Safety is always a top priority at Northwestern. This year, the university has developed campus safety options available right at the fingertips of Northwestern community members. The NUhelp App is a brand new resource that helps users navigate safety and wellness at Northwestern. The app, available on all Apple (iOS 7+) and Android (4.4.+ {KitKat}) phones, is designed to be easy to use even during emergencies.

Launched two years ago, the NUhelp website was created by the Dean of Students Office, with support from Associated Student Government, to give community members quick access to campus resources and services. The new NUhelp App, launched in September, seeks to build on the original website, where users can find contact info for various campus resources like Safe Ride, Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS), and 24/7 Neighborhood Desks from the convenience of their phone.

Additionally, the NUhelp App introduces SafeWalk, a feature through which users can set an alert that will notify a friend if they do not reach their destination in a certain amount of time. The selected contact is encouraged to check in on the friend if this occurs, or call NUPD in case of emergency. The goal of this feature is for students to help keep each other safe while commuting between locations.

The app’s interactive map feature gives users walking estimates between campus buildings, or in the neighborhoods adjacent to the Evanston campus (and even off-campus favorites like Edzo’s Burger Shop and Whole Foods Market).

Students can also quickly report concerns to the university if they notice any behavioral issues regarding other Northwestern students. For reports regarding sexual misconduct, the app gives additional directions on how to file a report, and provides resources for sexual assault victims.

The NUhelp website at www.northwestern.edu/nuhelp/ is still available to the Northwestern community, and the app transfers the resources from users’ desktops straight to their phones. These platforms will complement each other in the continuing effort to keep students safe and supported at Northwestern.

Encourage your student to download the NUhelp App to get easy access to Northwestern’s safety and wellness resources right from their phone. Students can download the app through the Apple App Store or Google Play Store.
FRATERNITY AND SORORITY LIFE
It has been an exhilarating fall quarter for Northwestern Fraternity and Sorority Life! Before the first home football game of the season, our four councils hosted a new student tailgate during Wildcat Welcome, where new students had the opportunity to meet current members of our community. Since that time, chapters and councils have been busy planning and participating in happenings across campus. Our Interfraternity Council (IFC) chapters have hosted Sunday Night Dinners each week, where students interested in joining a fraternity can stop by chapters to eat dinner with brothers of each fraternity in order to learn more about each chapter. The Multicultural Greek Council (MGC) and National Pan-Hellenic Council (NPHC) hosted their Yard Show, where each chapter showcased their organization to the Northwestern community through their annual step and stroll show. The Panhellenic Association (PHA) hosted Recruitment Preview, which gave women interested in joining a sorority an opportunity to experience what a day of sorority recruitment looks like.

The arrival of winter quarter brings with it a season of growth for our councils and chapters. As classes resume in early January, our IFC and PHA chapters will kick off their recruitment processes. Recruitment is the period during which we have the privilege of welcoming many new students into the fraternity and sorority community at Northwestern. While the intake processes look slightly different for MGC and NPHC, and are individual to each chapter, these councils and chapters are gearing up for exciting events such as awards banquets and probates for their members!

January brings another exciting opportunity for the growth of our community. We will welcome a new chapter to campus, Delta Upsilon Fraternity. Delta Upsilon will join the community as a member of the Interfraternity Council and begin recruiting members after IFC formal recruitment finishes the first week of classes. Check out their Facebook page to learn more!

Fall quarter has certainly been eventful for Northwestern Fraternity and Sorority Life, and we look forward to an incredible winter quarter. If your student is interested in joining a fraternity or sorority chapter in January and/or you have additional questions, check out www.northwestern.edu/gogreek/.
Four professional development opportunities for your student in the New Year

The first few weeks of January are busy with recruiting and career development opportunities from NCA. Here are a few happening right after winter break that your student won’t want to miss!

1. All-Day Drop-In Career Advising: Tune up your resume and prepare for winter recruiting

The NCA career counseling and advising staff will be on hand to help your student prepare for the Winter Internship & Job Fair, get answers to quick career-related questions, and revise a resume or cover letter. All-Day Drop-In Career Advising takes place in lieu of scheduled appointments from Monday, Jan. 4 through Monday, Jan. 11 between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. at the NCA office at 620 Lincoln St.

What can students do to prepare now? Review their resume and form a list of questions to ask a career adviser so that they get the most out of their meeting.

2. Company Information Sessions: Meet directly with company representatives

Starting the first week of January, students will have the opportunity to meet directly with representatives from some of the world’s best companies. A full list of company information sessions can be found on CareerCat.

What can students do to prepare now? Log into CareerCat using their Net ID and Net ID password, find information sessions under the Events › Information Sessions tab, and mark their calendars for the sessions they’d like to attend. It’s also a good idea for students to update their CareerCat profiles and select their career interests to hear more about opportunities they care most about from NCA.

3. Two-Day Winter Internship & Job Fair: Network with employers and learn about opportunities

Your student is invited to meet representatives from approximately 100 companies and organizations in a wide range of industries hiring for internships and full-time positions on Tuesday, January 12 and Wednesday, January 13 from 12 p.m. to 4 p.m. at Norris, 2nd Floor. Different employers are attending each day, so please encourage your student to attend on both Tuesday and Wednesday. Employers include: Colgate-Palmolive, Shedd Aquarium, Macy’s, Citizen Schools, PepsiCo, Visa, Capgemini, Northwestern Mutual, Deloitte and more. Students must bring their Wildcards and resumes, and dress in business professional attire. Please find more information and a list of employers on the NCA website.

What can students do to prepare now? Log into CareerCat to find the most current list of employers attending and begin to research those they’d like to meet at the fair. They can also practice their professional introduction, revise their resume, and choose business professional attire to wear in advance of the event. The NCA website has more tips to help students prepare.

4. Northwestern Externship Program: Job shadow a Northwestern alum

In January, your student can register to get a behind-the-scenes look at a career or field they hope to pursue from a Northwestern alum as part of the Northwestern Externship Program (NEXT). NEXT is an annual one-day job shadowing program that pairs Northwestern students with alumni at organizations in all fields across the country and the world.
Last year, a record number of more than 500 alumni-student matches provided job shadowing opportunities at organizations such as Leo Burnett, Vanderbilt Children’s Hospital, Google, National Geographic, Allstate, CNBC, the Cook County Public Defender’s Office, and hundreds more.

The program is open to all current Northwestern undergraduate and graduate students. Registration is open from January 20 through February 7, 2016, with externships taking place between late March and late April. More information can be found on the Northwestern Alumni Association website. Co-sponsored by Northwestern Career Advancement and the Northwestern Alumni Association.

**What can students do to prepare now?** Make sure to mark their calendars for the registration period, stay tuned for NEXT information session times and locations in CareerCat (under Events > Workshops) to learn more about the program, and begin to think about the industry they’re most interested in exploring.
Winter Break Residence Hall Closing
All residence halls will be closing for Winter Break at noon on Saturday, December 12, 2015. All residents must complete the tasks on the checklists posted on their room doors prior to leaving for the break period. Residence hall staff will complete safety inspections in all rooms during the closing period. The buildings will re-open on Saturday, January 2. We hope you and your student enjoy a safe and happy holiday season!

Housing Master Plan update
Northwestern University’s Housing Master Plan is well underway with the recent groundbreaking of our newest residence hall, 560 Lincoln. Photos from the groundbreaking event, which took place on Friday, November 6, can be viewed on our website, along with renderings and floorplans of the new building. 560 Lincoln is the first new residence hall since Slivka Hall opened in 2002. 560 Lincoln is expected to open in the fall of 2017.

In addition to the construction of this new building, Goodrich House, Shepard, and PARC buildings are closed for renovations during this 2015-2016 school year. These buildings will be refreshed with new floors, furnishings, bathrooms and paint. Additionally, the first floors of all three buildings will undergo major demolition to make room for more open community spaces. Two new faculty apartments will also result from these current renovation projects. All three of these buildings are set to reopen for fall quarter 2016.

To read more about the Housing Master Plan, visit the Residential Services website.

Summerfest
This January, students will have the opportunity to learn about a number of ways to spend summer at an event known as “Summerfest.” At Summerfest, students can learn about summer activities in different places, start planning for any applications, find out if they can earn degree credit, and meet the people at Northwestern who can help them plan for summer. Advisers from more than 20 offices and programs will be there, along with
Northwestern Career Advancement (NCA) staff who will be offering advice on internship searches, cover letters and resumes. Whether your student is interested in studying abroad, conducting academic research, interning at a company, or even just taking summer classes at Northwestern, we recommend that you encourage your student to attend Summerfest so they can start planning ahead. We know that, despite this cold winter weather, summer always sneaks up quickly!

Housing Selection

The 2016 Housing Selection process is just around the corner. All current residents who wish to return to on-campus housing for the 2016-2017 academic year must participate in the re-contracting and room selection process that takes place February through April. Be on the lookout for further information in January.

Students who live on campus enjoy many benefits. Here are just a few of them:

- **CONVENIENCE**: Live close to class, multiple dining options, gyms, the library, AND friends!
- **ACCOMMODATIONS**: Free laundry, XFINITY Comcast, and a full maintenance staff make everyday living easier. Utilities fees or lazy landlords? Not on campus!
- **BETTER GRADES**: Studies show that students who live on campus tend to have higher GPAs. Maybe it’s because we host tutoring and study sessions or because they’re closer to academic resources.
- **OPPORTUNITIES**: From hall government to hundreds of student groups, the possibilities are endless. When students live on campus, they’re right in the middle of everything!
- **SOCIAL LIFE**: There is always someone around to talk, eat, study or just hang out with.
- **SECURITY**: Staff are on duty 24 hours a day to respond to any concerns.

**Coming Soon to a Classroom Near You**

During the first week of November, students from 1835 Hinman, Bobb-McCulloch Hall, and Elder Hall gathered with professors to discuss class options for next quarter at Residential Services' Coming Soon to a Classroom Near You. Faculty in attendance gave brief “elevator” speeches describing their offered winter and spring courses for the students. Students were given the opportunity to interact directly with a diverse range of professors, to be exposed to classes ranging from comparative literature to electrical engineering, and to discover new courses available across a wide range of curricula.
Fall quarter got off to a terrific start with First Night! A leadership team of a dozen upperclassmen welcomed about two dozen first-year students to campus the night before the residence halls opened. The students enjoyed Mass with their parents, a delicious BBQ, a painting party, and the wisdom of older Wildcats before moving in. The executive board of the Catholic Students Association was on hand to greet the students and invite them to an opening pizza and movie night (a great success with more than 30 students in attendance), as well as provide helpful hints about mixing faith with academic life.

We hosted a Pope-watching party with bagels, coffee and donut holes for students and non-students to see the Pope’s address to Congress and the United Nations. Students who are going on our Nicaragua mission trip in December are already engaged in weekly meetings to talk about Catholic Social Teaching and missions in general. Our first CORE seminar of the year welcomes 20 students to talk about Catholic theology for a five-week mini course. Our student-led Kairos retreat, with 24 participants, took place October 9 through 11.

In addition, 125 students and guests welcomed astronomer Brother Guy Consolmagno, SJ, to campus on Tuesday, November 17. Brother Guy is the director of the Vatican Observatory and the 2014 winner of the Carl Sagan Medal for outstanding communication by an active planetary scientist to the general public. His latest book is “Would You Baptize an Extraterrestrial?”

Responding to Brother Guy and adding their own perspectives on extraterrestrial life were Astronomer David Slavsky and Islamic Scholar Omer Mozaffar. Co-sponsoring the event with Sheil were the Northwestern University Department of Physics and Astronomy and NUHillel.
Wrapping Up a Packed Quarter

As we approach the end of the quarter, NU Hillel is thrilled about the excited programs we've been sharing with our students and the broader Northwestern community!

On Wednesday, November 4, NU Hillel hosted Rabbi Lord Jonathan Sacks, who spoke on the topic of his new book, “Not in God’s Name: Confronting Religious Life.” This event was hosted in partnership with the Office of Religious Life, the Crown Family Center for Jewish and Israel Studies, and the Buffett Institute. Speaking to an audience of more than 200 students, faculty members, and community members, Rabbi Sacks spoke about religious violence and the need for establishing a positive future.

This year, we are thrilled that Simcha Masala has joined our staff as our Israel Fellow. On Wednesday, November 11, she taught students about the unique heritage of Ethiopian Jews through a dinner and discussion on about Sigd, a biblical holiday that symbolizes the acceptance of the Torah. Joined by over 40 students, Simcha created a cultural experience that (of course!) involved Ethiopian cuisine and discussion about the Jewish Ethiopian community.

To wrap up this quarter, we were excited to work again with A&O Productions to bring Ilana Glazer and Abbi Jacobson, the creators and stars of BROAD CITY, as this year's fall speaker event! In Cahn Auditorium, over 500 students laughed along, as Glazer and Jacobson discussed their Judaism and respective paths that led to their current success.

What's Next?

While students are wrapping up their finals, we are excitedly preparing to send over 50 students to Israel this December on our Birthright Israel trip as well as on our Northwestern Israel Leadership Initiative (NILI) trip. We are also working hard to prepare for our 5th Annual Abel and Judy Friedman NU MegaShabbat! Last year we welcomed over 500 students and campus community members together in the Norris Student Center for Shabbat dinner. We are ecstatic for this to be our best MegaShabbat yet! Save the date: Friday, January 22!
Northwestern’s MLK Day Events Coming Soon

At Northwestern University, Martin Luther King Day is more than a day off from classes. It is an opportunity to learn more about the struggles of a former generation and to give back to our community in any way that we can. Starting January 18, Northwestern will host an event series packed with opportunities for students to learn more about social justice, African culture, and the work of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

The celebration kicks off with a Day of Service on January 18. During Day of Service, members of the Northwestern community can give back through service projects in the Evanston and Chicago areas.

The second annual Student Oratorical Contest is now accepting video entries through January 4. This contest will feature responses to the following Dr. King statement, “The ultimate measure of a man is not where he stands in moments of comfort and convenience, but where he stands at times of challenge and controversy.” Three finalists will compete on January 18 for the opportunity to speak on stage during the Keynote Speaker event on the following Monday, January 25.

The Campus Observance and Keynote is the signature event of the week. In addition to the Student Oratorical Contest winner’s performance, this January 25 event will be highlighted by keynote speaker Diane Nash. A Chicago native, Nash went on to become one of the civil rights movement’s pioneers. She was a leader and strategest of the student wing of the 1960s civil rights movement and continued to make major strides in the activism field working with President John F. Kennedy and becoming an instructor of a philosophy of nonviolence as taught by Gandhi. The Campus Observance and Keynote event will be held at Pick-Staiger Concert Hall at 6:00 p.m. and will be opened with performances by Northwestern student groups.

The celebration will come to a close on Friday, January 29 with Harambee, the annual celebration of African culture. Hosted by Multicultural Student Affairs and the student organization For Members Only, this event will feature food, performances and presentations at the Norris University Center.

Northwestern University is proud to honor the life and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. each year. For a complete events listing and more information, visit www.northwestern.edu/mlk.
Images from the Northwestern Student sit-in 1968. To see more images like these visit the Northwestern Archives.
ATHLETICS

Football
Northwestern Football capped the program's fourth-ever 10-win season and reclaimed the Land of Lincoln Trophy on November 28th at Soldier Field with a 24-14 victory over Illinois. The 'Cats will be taking on the University of Tennessee Volunteers at the Outback Bowl on Friday, January 1. For more information, visit NUsports.com

Basketball
Northwestern Basketball season is underway. Single-game Big Ten tickets are now on sale for both the men's and women's programs. To purchase, visit NUsports.com

CAPS WINTER WORKSHOPS

Remind your student to take time for their mental health this quarter by attending Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) workshops centered on a variety of life skills including stress management, success strategies and mindfulness. Students can practice meditation techniques and simple relaxation exercises together, learn ways to be happier and sustain happiness, and focus on solutions to distractibility and improving concentration.

Workshops are free and available on the Evanston and/or Chicago campuses to undergraduate, graduate, professional and continuing studies students. Students can sign up on the CAPS website beginning winter quarter.
November has been a busy month for One Book One Northwestern. In honor of Native American Heritage Month, we have hosted or were involved in 11 programs. Three highlight events were: NU in Chicago: Indigenous People in Chicago, Dittmar Dinner: Why You Can’t Generalize about Native Americans and Why You (Sometimes) Can and the Commemoration of the Sand Creek Massacre.

NU in Chicago, on Sunday, November 15, spent an afternoon centered on Indigenous People in Chicago. The students heard from local leaders within the Chicago indigenous community during a visit to the American Indian Center (AIC) in Uptown. While at the AIC, they ate Native food, heard from staff members, and took a walking tour of the surrounding area.

Then, they heard from Chi-Nations Youth Council, a group focused on creating a supportive environment for Native youth through education, activism, and arts initiatives. After sharing their history and mission, representatives from Chi-Nations helped frame and facilitate a conversation about the use of indigenous figures as athletic mascots. This issue is especially pertinent in Chicago; the Chicago Blackhawks team name is a divisive issue, even within the indigenous community.

On Nov. 17 Dittmar Dinner, Why You Can’t Generalize about Native Americans and Why You (Sometimes) Can was the first of two dinners we host annually. This lecture/dinner featured Psychology Professor Doug Medin. Our discussion of this topic started with the 560 federally recognized tribes living in diverse environments, each with its own distinct history. Professor Medin described one example where relying on aggregate measures of “Native Americans” yields a very misleading picture and correspondingly poor policies and policy recommendations. Professor Medin also pointed out there may be some recurrent challenges that indigenous people have faced and are facing that have led to some common relationships and orientations. He described some ongoing research and research partnerships focused on how humans are related to the rest of nature. The audience then discussed over dinner the issues raised during the talk at smaller tables of 7 people. Over 40 undergrad and graduate students attended the dinner.

The final event for the month and fall quarter was the commemoration of the Sand Creek Massacre. Native American and Indigenous Student Alliance (NAISA) hosted members from the Northwestern and Chicago communities to come together in ceremony to honor the victims of the Sand Creek Massacre. This annual commemoration is the signature event for Native American Heritage Month. NAISA hosted lunch in the Norris Center as part of the commemoration.