Message from the Vice President

WORKING TOGETHER TO ACHIEVE OUR MISSION AND SUSTAIN OUR VISION

Welcome to Fall Quarter!

Successful partnership with multiple constituents throughout the Division of Student Affairs, undergraduate and graduate students, senior administrators, the Board of Trustees and our consultants Keeling and Associates generated a formidable Strategic Plan which is in place for 2013-2018. My gratitude goes out to all who contributed to this in-depth and collaborative process.

I was delighted to be able to share this information with so many of you during our first staff meeting in September. As I mentioned during that event, each and every one of us plays an important role to activate and maintain this strategic plan for Student Affairs. Now is the time to shape our community in a positive and meaningful way for ourselves and for our students and I invite you to join me.

Please see page 2 to review our Strategic Plan!
Here is the Student Affairs Strategic Plan in our first newsletter of the academic year:

**VISION**
We will be full partners in the student learning experience. (The Division of Student Affairs partners with the academic schools/college and other University divisions in alignment with the University’s vision and mission to advance student learning and success.)

**MISSION**
The mission of the Northwestern University Division of Student Affairs is to educate students, engage the community, and enrich the Northwestern experience. (We pursue our mission through providing learning programs, services, and mentoring to maximize students’ potential, remove barriers to learning, strengthen readiness to learn, and contribute to sustaining a safe and healthy Northwestern community.)

**VALUES**

- **INTEGRITY:** We exercise the highest ethical and professional standards in our advancement of the student learning experience and in relationships with community and external partners.

- **SOCIAL JUSTICE**
  * We commit ourselves to creating a Northwestern community that facilitates full and equal access to learning in and outside the classroom.
  * We assess our programs, services, and institutional climate to contribute to an equitable and inclusive Northwestern experience.

- **INNOVATION**
  * We look for creative and sustainable approaches to enhance our work, challenge assumptions, and promote strategies to advance student learning and success.
  * We inspire and are inspired; we infuse energy and passion into the pursuit of our vision and mission.

- **COLLABORATION**
  * We practice open, authentic, and civil communication. We seek first to understand.
  * We partner with one another, students, faculty, staff, alumni, and community members in a collegial manner that is consistently professional, respectful, and empathic.

- **STEWARDSHIP:** We strive to be thoughtful and responsible with our natural and institutional resources, facilities, and spaces.

**GUIDING PRINCIPLES**

- **COMMITMENT TO EXCELLENCE:** Upholding excellence as our ultimate principle in our personal conduct, work, programs, policies, and services.

- **ACCOUNTABILITY:** Holding ourselves and others responsible to our values and guiding principles and institutional resources.

- **COMMUNICATION:** Consistently listening intently and sharing clear information with internal and external constituents in a timely manner.

- **CURIOSITY:** Asking questions and seeking new approaches and strategies to find solutions and improve programs, policies, and services.

- **AUTHENTICITY:** Engaging with sincerity and honesty in our interactions and decision making.

- **INTENTIONALITY:** Making deliberate and strategic decisions that contribute to the welfare of our students, colleagues, and community.

**STRATEGIC THEMES**

- **BUILD ORGANIZATIONAL HEALTH:** We will create a healthy, functional and sustainable Student Affairs organization committed to excellence by continuously improving internal and external communications, technologies, professional development, policies, and procedures.

- **ENRICH THE NORTHWESTERN EXPERIENCE:** We will provide services, programs, shared experiences, and a unifying identity that contributes to a vibrant Northwestern community.

- **FURTHER STUDENT LEARNING**
  We will create holistic learning experiences for students outside the classroom, remove barriers to student learning, and provide opportunities for the integration of their learning. We will utilize an attainable and measurable framework for student learning outside the classroom.

- **ADVANCE SOCIAL JUSTICE:** We will work authentically and ethically to create an inclusive and socially just learning environment for all members of the Northwestern University community.

- **FOSTER PURPOSEFUL PARTNERSHIPS:** We will collaborate with our student affairs colleagues, students, faculty colleagues, alumni, departments, and divisions outside of Student Affairs.

- **OPTIMIZE RESOURCES:** We will continually look for opportunities to attract, align, and maximize resources, and to use them wisely and effectively to improve programs, services, and facilities for students and to strengthen our infrastructure and technology.
DID YOU KNOW?

- Student Affairs manages 67 buildings/facilities, including 31 residence halls, 28 fraternity/sorority houses, Norris University Center, University Health Service, the African American Student Affairs House, the Multicultural Center, the Career Center, Career Services, Seabury, Alice Millar Chapel, Shanley Hall, Cahn Auditorium, and the Guild Lounge.

- Over the last ten years, Northwestern student satisfaction with their overall undergraduate education has been increasing. On the 2002 Senior Survey, 78% of the respondents reported being “very satisfied” or “generally satisfied” with their undergraduate education. In 2012 that percentage had jumped to 89%.

- On the 2012 Campus Activities and Involvement Survey that explored Northwestern undergraduate student involvement in campus activities, 88% “strongly agreed” or “somewhat agreed” that their participation in out-of-class experiences increased their ability to work in a team.

- On the 2011 – 2012 Patient Satisfaction Inventory, 97% of the students surveyed reported they were “very satisfied” or “satisfied” with the overall quality of care and services received at the University Health Service.

FALL QUARTER STAFF DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS
For more information about the Fall quarter staff development programs, go to northwestern.edu/studentaffairs/resources/staff-development/index.html

First Annual Student Affairs Pie Cook-Off
Wednesday, October 10, 2012  1:00 – 2:30 pm
Scott Hall Lower Level Conference Room

Micro-Aggressions in Every Day Life: Race Gender, and Sexual Orientation
Thursday, October 18, 2012
Presenter: Dr. Derald Wing Sue

Workshop 1 - Microaggressions in Higher Education
9:00-11:00AM

Workshop 2 - Facilitating Difficult Dialogues in the Classroom and Office
Noon-2PM (Lunch Provided)
Workshop 1 & 2 will be held at: Hilton Garden Inn – 1818 Maple Avenue in Evanston

Participants must register for one or both workshops through Renee Redd, Director of the Women’s Center at r-redd@northwestern.edu

Workshop 3 – Microaggressions in Everyday Life: Making the “Invisible” Visible
5:30-7:30PM and is open for Northwestern staff
OLC Forum, Jacobs Center

Yoga @ Seabury
Wednesday, October 24, 2012  4:00 – 5:00 pm
Seabury Conference Room

Student Affairs 101 for Housekeepers
Monday, October 29, 2012  8:00 – 9:00 am
Foster Walker East Dining Room
Presenters: Patricia Telles-Irvin, Vice President for Student Affairs; Julie Payne-Kirchmeier, Assistant Vice President for Student Affairs; Burgie Howard, Assistant Vice President for Student Affairs; and Paul Riel, Executive Director, Residential Services

Recognizing Problematic Behavior: A Staff Development Program Especially for Front Line Staff
Thursday, November 1, 2012  Noon – 1:30 pm
Location: TBA
Presenters: Representative from CAPS & Paul Hubinsky, Assistant Director, Residential Services

De-Stressing: Strategies for Balancing Life and Work
Wednesday, November 14, 2012  Noon – 1:00 pm
Searle 3-220
Presenter: Cheryl Gandolfi, LCSW, CADC, CEAP, Perspectives

Lunch with the Vice President
12:30 – 1:30 pm
Wednesday, December 12, 2012
Northwestern Room, Norris University Center

Open House – University Career Services
2:00 – 4:00 pm
Thursday, November 29, 2012
620 Lincoln
Never been to 620 Lincoln? Put on your walking shoes and head north to learn about University Career Services, what they do, and see where they work. Refreshments will be provided.

Student Affairs Holiday Party
4:00 – 6:00 pm
Thursday, December 13, 2012
Allison Dining Hall

Conflict Resolution
1:00 – 4:00 pm
Tuesday, December 18, 2012
Searle 3-220
Presenter: Alyson Carrel, Training Director, Northwestern University Center for Conflict Resolution
Tribute to Harsha Maddula

When many of you arrived to campus last week, you embarked on another year of journey in your life. A new beginning of excitement, curiosity, and happiness. However this new beginning brought with it a trial for our community, a great loss of a member within our Northwestern family. I use the term ‘family’ not as construct in vain, because in this time when most students across the country are more worried about their class schedules and ‘hitting up’ the party scene, you came together to support Harsha and his family.

You went out for hours on search efforts, flyering on foot and reaching out to as many people as possible both through physical effort and via social media. Last night by the Rock, you embraced each other and prayed for Harsha and his family. I have never been more proud to be a member of this community, to call myself a Wildcat for although this week brought grief and sadness, it also brought us to recognize that we indeed are family, and Harsha was one of us.

Although no words may extinguish the pain of Harsha’s loss for his parents and family, we come together to send tranquil thoughts and blessings from our respective faith traditions for Harsha. “Harsha” as my old Sanskrit teacher taught me, means delight, happiness and great joy. Harsha is delight, Harsha is happiness, so we will always remember Harsha not in a state of sorrow but for who he was, a great source of happiness—a great source of joy.

Written and presented by Tahera Ahmad, Associate University Chaplain
NU Community Gathering - Deering meadow
Friday evening, September 28, 2012

Student Affairs Newsletter Masthead
Chael Wright-Isak, Editor
Contact Us – chael@northwestern.edu
We welcome your feedback, questions and, your submissions.

Patricia Telles-Irvin, Publisher
Jill Brazel, Newsletter Design
Jim Roberts, Director of Information Technology
Chris Walker, Web Applications and Developer