



**University of
Northern Iowa.**

Community
Engagement

Newsletter: May 2023

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Celebrating our Award Recipients!

May 2023

As the semester comes to a close it is a time to celebrate accomplishments and the completion of another successful year. This newsletter is our opportunity to celebrate students, faculty, staff, and community partners from across campus and the Cedar Valley community! There is also a list of other items important to be aware of during the summer, and in planning for fall. Be sure to check out the last section. This newsletter will resume in August/September.

- Kristina

Community Engagement Celebration Day



Thank you for helping us CELEBRATE! Community Engagement Celebration Day was a great success and we couldn't have done it without all of you.

Students, faculty, and staff were joined by members of the community as over 50 community engaged projects, programs, and entrepreneurial endeavors were showcased.

The awardees for the day came from across campus and are as follows:

Service-Learning/Live Client Project

Northern Iowan En Español

Submitted By: Dr. Juan Carlos Castillo, Languages and Literatures

Students in SPAN 3159 Translation for Heritage Speakers have completed a total of 19 translations for articles in the Northern Iowan, as part of the wider project Northern Iowan en Español. [To read about this project click here.](#)

Student Organization/Student Choice

Spanish Program Community Translation Projects

Submitted By: Dr. Juan Carlos Castillo, Languages and Literature

Students translated projects for Iowa Legal Aid (a non-profit that offers legal help for low-income Iowans) and Friends of the Family (a support group for victims of abuse).

Research-Based Project

Submitted By: Kieran Luedke

Major: Psychology

Thesis Title: Perceived Parental Support of Transgender and Gender Non-Conforming (TGNC) Emerging Adults: A Moderator of Minority Stress, Internalizing Disorders, and Substance Use

Social Justice:

Deaf Cultural Experience Club, Communications Sciences and Disorders Department

Submitted By: Kylee Fall, Hannah Krejci

The Deaf Cultural Experience Club (DCE) highlighted two major service projects they have completed this year. One provided inclusionary access to a local deaf organization and the other provided service and support to an event at the Iowa School for the Deaf.

Sustainability and Environmental Awareness:

Good Neighbor Iowa, Center for Energy & Environmental Education

Submitted By: Amelia Gotera

Good Neighbor Iowa is a student-started, student-driven public health education initiative that has grown to be a statewide initiative. The aim of this initiative is to reduce unnecessary, urban pesticide use to protect child health and the environment.

Individual Student Project/Internship:

Submitted By: Kassidy Lovig
Major: Public Health, Health Recreation and Community Services

During an internship with Friends of the Family, Kassidy's project was planning a public health program called Fostering for Hope which will provide safe foster homes for pets of people escaping domestic violence.

Commitment to Service:

Dr. Chad Heinzl, Earth and Environmental Sciences

UNI Earth and Environmental Sciences shared examples of community engagement efforts including work with the Dry Run Creek Watershed, investigating Radon sources for mitigation in the Cedar Valley, working with the Meskwaki Settlement Food Sovereignty program and students, and connecting Iowa's teachers with industry professionals.

People's Choice:

Office of International Engagement & Culture and Intensive English Program Services

Submitted By: Carolina Coronado-Park

Students highlighted volunteer efforts and opportunities that are accessible to students and the Cedar Valley community

Veridian Community Engagement Fellows

Congratulations to the 2022/2023 Veridian Community Engagement Fellows. This Fellowship encourages faculty to engage with community partners to better the community in a manner that also enhances their teaching and scholarship. The 2022/2023 recipients are as follows:

- Jennifer Onuigbo, Gallagher-Bluedorn & Eric Lange, Theatre
- Michael Fleming, Applied Human Sciences

- Gary Gute, Applied Human Sciences
- Lindi Roelofse, John Pappajohn Entrepreneurial Center

These individuals celebrated at Community Engagement Celebration Day. Thank you to Veridian Credit Union for their continued support of UNI faculty, staff and students! [To read more about these projects please click here.](#)

Engaged Campus Award Winners

The Engaged Campus Awards are presented by Iowa/Minnesota Campus Compact. Iowa and Minnesota Campus Compact's mission is to strengthen the capacity of colleges and universities to fulfill the public purposes of higher education through its network of 56 campuses across the two states.

Every spring each member campus is given the opportunity to recognize special achievements on campus and in the community with the annual Iowa & Minnesota Campus Compact Awards. Two types of awards are offered each year: the Presidents' Awards and the Engaged Campus Awards.

Congratulations to the following individuals for being recognized by the region for their commitment to others, and leadership in our community.

Engaged Campus Award:

- Alumni Leadership, Honorable Mention: DaQuan Campbell, UNI Graduate, with a major in Business Management

President's Awards:

- President's Student Leadership: Jace Bell, Environmental Science
- Civic Engagement Leadership: Dr. Lindi Roelofse, John Pappajohn Entrepreneurial Center
- Community Partner: SHIPHT Youth

Read more about the [Engaged Campus Awards](#) and our awardees.

PROJECT HERE Pilot

This past year, the Office of Community Engagement has been working with Dr. Bettina Fabos and Kamyar Enshayan on PROJECT HERE, a pilot for an interdisciplinary, university-wide community outreach initiative that combines

the energy and innovation of UNI faculty and staff and hundreds of students with Iowa community partners throughout the state. To learn more about [PROJECT HERE](#), [click here](#).

Iowa Nonprofit Alliance Launch



All UNI faculty and staff are invited to the launch of the **Iowa Nonprofit Alliance** in the Cedar Valley. The [Cedar Valley Nonprofit Association](#), [Volunteer Center of Cedar Valley](#), and the [Iowa Nonprofit Alliance](#) are hosting an event to share information about INA and how it will help grow and strengthen our state.

Monday, May 22, 2023

3:30 - 5:00 pm

Location: Single Speed Brewery

325 Commercial St, Waterloo, IA 50701

[Link to Registration](#)

The Iowa Nonprofit Alliance is dedicated to supporting Iowa's 23,000 nonprofit organizations through education, advocacy, and networking. Members of the Iowa Nonprofit Alliance get access to a slate of services and benefits. If you can't attend the celebration, but want to learn more about how to join INA, [click here](#).

Community Transit Survey

Available through May 15th

Please take the opportunity to respond to this survey regarding the Waterloo MET transit system. This is the first time a transit study has been done in 30 years and community and campus input is vital. This survey will influence the Waterloo area MET transit services into the future. [To take the survey please click here](#).

Opportunities with Campus Compact

Volunteer to Lead a Summer Community of Practice

Campus Compact is seeking co-facilitators for their summer [Communities of Practice](#) to lead communities focused on topics of their choice. This is a great opportunity for those who are seeking a national leadership opportunity in the field of civic and community engagement. Applications are due June 5.

Start Preparing a Compact24 Session Session Proposal

In less than two weeks, Campus Compact will begin accepting sessions for their upcoming Compact24 conference. Now is a great time to begin brainstorming and collaborating with partners to prepare to submit a session proposal. Learn more about [Compact24 here](#). Early bird registration opens May 15th, 2023



UNI Engaged Podcast:

This episode of the UNI Engaged Podcast features Ethnic Minorities of Burma Advocacy and Resource Center (EMBARC). In this month's episode join students as they learn about the services EMBARC provides in the Cedar Valley.

[To download and listen to our Podcast click here!](#)

See you next fall, but in the meantime...

We will resume our monthly newsletter in Aug/Sept, however there are a few things to keep in mind once you begin planning for your fall semester/courses. Maybe even save this newsletter for reference after you take a break, enjoy the summer, and begin planning for fall. There are also opportunities this summer worth noting.

- **Cedar Valley Leadership Institute** - Every year Grow Cedar Valley hosts a leadership institute designed to foster community awareness while developing individual leadership skills. The Provost's Office will pay the tuition for any UNI faculty or staff accepted into this program. Registration for 2023-2024 opens mid-summer. [Learn more here](#). Mark your calendars to apply in July as classes fill up fast.
- **Fall Volunteer Fair - Wednesday, August 30th, 2023** - Consider adding this date to your syllabus to inform students when they can learn about volunteer opportunities in our community. 40+ nonprofit organizations will be on campus that morning.
- Planning for your students - [Civic Action Academy](#). The 2023 Civic Action Academy is November 10-11 in Grinnell, IA at Grinnell College. This event brings students from Iowa and Minnesota together to learn new ways of making a difference and building skills through civic and community engagement. Funding and transportation available through the Office of Community Engagement. Consider building this into your courses and / or student organization activity. Contact Kristina Kofoot.
- **Service-Learning Course Designation** - As you plan for your fall courses, if you embed a community project, please apply for the Service-Learning (SL) Designation on your course. Course instructors can apply throughout the year. Learn more and [click here to apply](#).
- Summer reading - Campus Compact offers a number of books that make great choices. Some titles we recommend include:
 - [*The Craft of Community Engaged Teaching & Learning*](#) (and its [companion workbook](#)) by Marshall Welch and Star Plaxton-Moore
 - [*The Community Engagement Professional's Guidebook*](#) by Lina Dostilio and Marshall Welch

[Visit the Bookstore](#)



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