

## Orientation Transformation

NEIU Orientation 2009 was a success with record numbers of first-year and transfer students in attendance. The program hosted 15 First Year Orientation programs, three Transfer Student Orientations and two Family Orientations. Eleven Peer Leaders provided outstanding assistance to students new to NEIU during both first-year and transfer student orientation. Special Thanks to our committed Orientation Committee members and especially our academic colleges and to Yvonne Gulli and the advising center staff.



## Adult and Women Student Programs



The Office of Adult and Women Student Programs is now relocated in B-119 within the suite of the Office of Dean of Students and Career Services. With this new relocation, it is also a pleasure to announce the kickoff of new and continuing program initiatives. For additional information about any of the programs and services, please feel free to contact Sheena L. (Glover) Warren, Director of Adult and Women Student Programs at extension 4871 or via email at [s-glover@neiu.edu](mailto:s-glover@neiu.edu).

### *Soldier to Student Life Transition Roundtables*

This outreach initiative is in collaboration with the Student Veterans Club, Veteran Services and other federal Veteran resource programs. Roundtables are coordinated to foster community amongst the active military and veteran student population and to help connect students with vital university resources to assist student success and persistence.

### *Purple Ribbon Campaign*

Purple Ribbon campaign is held from September to October, providing awareness of societal issues related to sexual and domestic violence. The campaign kicked-off with a blitz of the university campus trees draped in purple ribbons and bows. Purple is the color used to raise awareness of the issue of domestic violence. The campaign is aided by the efforts of 30 students within Shelley Bannister's Violence Against Women course. Other month long initiatives are: **The Silent Witness Exhibit; Light up the Lakefront; The Clothesline Project; and The White Ribbon Campaign.**



### *Adult Learners Roundtables*

Adult Learner Roundtables are coordinated with university resource departments. This initiative fosters community and development of adult learners (students age 25 or older) in student organizations, for activation of the national adult honorary society entitled 'Pinnacle' and helps to make the connection to university resources for student success inside and outside of courses.

### *Nontraditional Student Appreciation Week* November 2-6, 2009

For the third consecutive year, NEIU will participate in the national Nontraditional Student Appreciation Week. This is a university wide collaboration between Nontraditional Degree Programs, the Weekend College, the Wellness Council, El Centro, and CCICS. Nontraditional Student Appreciation week's focus is to acknowledge and highlight the nontraditional student population, their collegiate experiences, and their lofty contributions to the educational fabric of all institutions of higher learning, specifically at NEIU.

# BUILDING 'GREAT SERVICE' — THE *ASK ME* CAMPAIGN

When students have questions about NEIU, answers are everywhere with the *ASK ME Campaign*

The *ASK ME* Campaign serves NEIU to: 1) create a friendlier, more caring, and engaging campus environment; 2) lessen new students' anxiety by providing answers in a personalized manner; 3) encourage faculty and staff to participate in campus life; 4) help improve coordination among services; and 5) foster an enriching campus experience leading to greater student retention. For Fall, 2009 *ASK ME* kicked-off on August 29th during the Weekend Institute and with the 'Class Act' Student Activities Program.



Over 180 staff, 55 faculty, and student leaders participated from 55 campus department and programs by answering more than 900 student inquiries. The most frequently asked questions related to building locations, financial aid services, parking, campus employment, health service, student organizations/clubs, advising and campus activities

From August 31 to September 11, 2009 the *ASK ME* banner hung in Village Square over the information resource table hosted by the Office of the Dean of Students. Staff who signed up on-line received a campaign kit with the button, fact sheet, frequently asked question/answer sheet, and an office sign for posting. This campaign implements the NEIU Strategic Goal One, action step 1.5 to "improve coordination among student and academic support programs and services with a focus on quality, customer service and intentional integration with the curriculum."

Thank you to everyone who participated. We encourage all NEIU departments, programs, faculty, staff, and student leaders to join us as we again kick-off the *ASK ME* campaign during the first two weeks of Spring, 2010. The campaign will continue each Fall and Spring semester. Please contact the Dean of Students Office, B 119, for more information.

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## STUDENT COMPLAINTS

The Office of the Dean of Students distributes the Student Complaint Form for requesting a formal review. The form must be submitted for a complaint to be investigated. Note that grade appeals, exceptions to University procedures, student disciplinary complaints, and affirmative action cases do not fall under these guidelines.

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### Partners for Success: The Minority Student Mentoring Program

Celebrating its 20<sup>th</sup> year, the Partners for Success: Minority Student Mentoring Program held its 2009 kick-off reception on Thursday, September 22nd in the Golden Eagles. Newly selected mentees met their mentors who are an NEIU administrator or faculty. The Partners for Success: Minority Student Mentoring program is designed to provide first-year students new to college with a mentor to assist with commonplace tasks. Mentors provide advice on higher education, careers of interest, practical life information and even what modes of public transportation that are quickest to get to campus.

If you are interested in becoming a mentor or mentee, please feel free to contact Ms. Flora Llacuna in B-119.

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### Dean's Office Staff

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