

**PRESIDENT’S REPORT TO THE  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF NORTHEASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY  
April 11, 2013**

**TABLE OF CONTENTS**

**I. ACTION ITEMS**

A. Tenure Recommendations .....	1
B. Conferring an Honorary Degree .....	5
C. Increase in Student U-Pass Fee .....	6

**II. INFORMATION ITEM**

A. Purchases Between \$50,000 and \$100,000.....	7
B. News and Events	
1. Innovation Roundtables .....	8
2. Black Heritage Month Activities .....	9
3. NEIU Alumni Piano Pedagogy Event .....	10
4. Personal and Social Responsibility Inventory (PSRI).....	10
5. Seventh Annual Wellness Fair.....	10
6. Spring 2013 Education Job Fair.....	10
7. International LGBTQ Human Rights: Uganda and Beyond .....	10
8. Black and Latino@ Historical Crossings.....	11
9. It’s a Major Deal! .....	11
10. Learning Strategies Seminar/Study Session .....	11
11. NEIU Athletic and HPERA Alumni Event .....	11
12. HERstory Month .....	11
13. Admissions Open House Marketing Campaign .....	12
14. Asian Women’s Leadership Series.....	12
15. Alumni Relations 101 Workshop.....	12
16. New NEIU Website Proposal Presentation.....	12
17. Addressing Homophobia Forum .....	12
18. What does it Mean to Learn with Integrity? .....	13
19. NEIU Alumni Advisory Board Meeting .....	13
20. Town Hall Meeting .....	13
21. Alternative Spring Break .....	13
22. Spring Greek Week .....	13
23. Senate Appropriations Hearing.....	14
24. Senator Dan Kotowski, NEIU Visit .....	14
25. Enough is Enough.....	14
26. CTU’s President, Karen Lewis, visits NEIU .....	14
27. Mini-Kane Mini-Golf .....	14
28. Eighteenth Annual Asian American Heritage Conference .....	15
29. Inaugural United Greek Council Greek Step and Stroll Competition ..	15
30. Cesar Chavez Day .....	15
31. Scholar/Donor Luncheon .....	15
32. NEIU Lobby Day at Springfield .....	16
33. Public Relations Outreach to WTTW .....	16

**I. A. ACTION ITEM: TENURE RECOMMENDATIONS**

Board approval is requested to grant tenure to the following members of the Faculty:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Department</u>
Kimberly Ambriz	Art
Howard Bultinck	Educational Leadership and Development
Christina Ciecierski	Economics
Alireza Dorestani	Accounting, Business Law and Finance
Timothy Duggan	Educational Inquiry and Curriculum Studies
Travis Heath	Music
Eileen Kaiser	Teacher Education
Michele Kane	Special Education
Alberto Lopez-Carrasquillo	Teacher Education
Andreas Savas-Kourvetaris	Sociology
Joan Schuitema	Library
Marshall Thompson	Political Science
Lance Williams	Educational Inquiry and Curriculum Studies
Qiumei Xu	Management and Marketing
Ai-Ru Yen	Accounting Business Law and Finance

**Kimberly Ambriz** holds a Master of Fine Arts and a Master of Arts in Printmaking. She is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Art. Ms. Ambriz has participated in and curated numerous invitational and juried exhibitions which have received national and international exposure. She has had her work reproduced in two poetry books and was awarded four artist residencies. She is a member of the collaborative art group, *The Moving Crew*, whose project was exhibited in Rijeka, Croatia and is part of the collection of the Faulconer Gallery at Grinnell College and at the Museum of Contemporary Art in Rijeka, Croatia.

**Howard Bultinck** is an Associate Professor and Chair of the Department of Educational Leadership and Development. His research interests include personnel, leadership and ethics. He has co-authored one book, and is under contract for another. Several pieces from Dr. Bultinck's first book are being published by the American Association of School Administrators on their newly-designed website. He has also been an invited presenter for national, state and local organizations and has conducted workshops for the Principal's Academy for the North Coast Educational Service Center. Additionally, Dr. Bultinck and a colleague were awarded the prestigious Golden Gavel State Bar of Wisconsin for "exceptional journalism that strengthens the public's understanding of the justice system."

**Christina Ciecierski** is an Associate Professor in the Department of Economics. She has an impressive research agenda that continues to result in peer-reviewed journal articles and working papers. Her article "Do State Expenditures on Tobacco Control Programs Decrease Use of Tobacco Products Among College Students?" is published in the prestigious *Health Economics Journal*. She is the author of many successful grant applications and has served as Principal Investigator on seven external grants and as Investigator on five other. Dr. Ciecierski is an actively pursued research partner, as is the case with her joint project for the University of Bath. She is a well-recognized expert in her field and, in turn, brings a valuable and critical perspective to NEIU's social science research programs.

**Alireza Dorestani** is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Accounting, Business Law and Finance. He is an accomplished and prolific scholar. Since his arrival at Northeastern Illinois University, he has published close to ten refereed journal articles in some of the most prestigious journals in his field of Accounting. He has supported several of his colleagues in their attempts to publish as well. Dr. Dorestani has presented his research in many local, regional, national and international venues.

**Timothy Duggan** is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Educational Inquiry and Curriculum Studies. He has published two books, and has another in progress, and he has written other articles and has presented at over 25 local, state, regional and national presentations. His scholarly work is coupled with his outstanding creative work. He composed music for the NEIU productions of Shakespeare's *Twelfth Night* and *As You Like It*, and he acted in the latter as well. He writes, performs and records original songs in the folk tradition.

**Travis Heath** is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Music. He has published articles in national and international refereed journals including *The Instrumentalist* and *The International Trumpet Guild Journal*. He is a performer whose abilities range from Jazz, Blues and Americana to Orchestral and Chamber music. His Brass Roots Trio maintained a schedule of more than 40 performances each year throughout the country, which includes an invited performance at the White House for President Obama. Dr. Heath is Principal Trumpet of Camerata Chicago, a world-class chamber orchestra. He has also performed in the Chicago Brass Festival, the Jewel Box series, St. Charles Singers, Cube, Chicago Chamber Orchestra and Metropolis Symphony Orchestra. He founded and administers the Chicago Brass Festival.

**Eileen Kaiser** is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Teacher Education. Her article, "The Language of Collaboration: Dialogue and Identity in Teacher Professional Development," was published in the internationally reviewed journal, *Improving Schools*. She is also expecting to see two more of her articles published in *Critical Issues in Education* and the *Bilingual Research Journal*. She has presented the fruits of her research in national, regional and local venues as well.

**Michele Kane** is an Associate Professor in NEIU's Special Education Department. Her scholarship in the field of gifted education is well-known, as she has a steady publication record of articles in both refereed and non-refereed journals, and in book chapters. She is a sought-after scholar who has given invited presentations at international, national, regional, and local conferences. Dr. Kane also serves on the editorial board of two prestigious journals in her field.

**Alberto Lopez-Carrasquillo** is an Assistant Professor in NEIU's Teacher Education Department. His research agenda centers on the influences of social and institutional contexts on teachers' practices, as well as on the role of curriculum and teaching in building a democratic society in the face of the antidemocratic structures within society that promote social injustice and intolerance. He has written peer-reviewed journal articles, collaborated in the writing of academic book chapters, and was the primary author of the 2010 Illinois School Board of Education Report on the Elementary program and of the ACEI/NCATE Report on Elementary, Bilingual/Bicultural and MLED Programs in the College of Education.

**Andreas Savas-Kourvetaris** is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Sociology. He is an accomplished scholar whose research makes significant contributions to the sociological literatures on globalization, race/ethnicity, politics, policy, and immigration. Dr. Savas-Kourvetaris has published in the peer-reviewed *International Review of Sociology* and the *International Review of Modern Sociology*. He has also presented papers at several national and regional sociological conferences. His work on "Stories of Immigration in Albany Park: An Immigration Research Proposal" is especially fitting for our NEIU community.

**Joan Schuitema** is an Assistant Professor and Resource Professional at NEIU's Ronald Williams Library. She is the Library Technical Services Coordinator and the subject librarian for the Department of Music, a very highly specialized field of librarianship. She has contributed a chapter in a forthcoming book published by Scarecrow Press, and she has presented the fruits of her work at national, regional and local conferences.

**Marshall Thompson** is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Political Science. Dr. Thompson has published in such prestigious academic journals as *PS: Political Science & Politics*, *African and Asian Studies* and *The Caucasus and Globalization*. He has another article forthcoming in *The Journal of Development Alternatives and Area Studies*. Additionally, he has book reviews forthcoming in *African and Asian Studies*

and in Africa Today. His book-length manuscript on state strength and republican government has recently been submitted for consideration for publication.

**Lance Williams** is an Associate Professor in the Inner City Studies Education Program of the Department of Educational Inquiry and Curriculum Studies. He is also the Assistant Director of the Jacob Carruthers Center for Inner City Studies, and for the Spring 2013 semester is serving as the Acting Chair of the Department of Educational Inquiry and Curriculum Studies. He is the sole author of one book and has co-authored a second: *The Almighty Black P Stone Rangers: The Rise, Fall, and Resurgence of an American Gang*. His research has led him not only to contribute to the understanding of the complexities of gang life, but also to include the integration of theory and practice around engaging youth in a critical analysis of hip-hop and its effect on their lives. These research interests and the dissemination of them have received national recognition. Thus, he is a sought-after speaker for local and national presentations.

**Qiumei (Jane) Xu** is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Management and Marketing. She has published seven articles in peer-reviewed journals, such as the very prestigious *British Journal of Management and Organization Science*. Additionally Dr. Xu has published a book titled, *Employee Self Development: The Effects of Individual and contextual Variables*, a book chapter, and she has made several presentations of her research at academic conferences.

**Ai-Ru Yen** is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Accounting, Business Law and Finance. She has published articles in renowned peer-reviewed journals such as the *Review of Accounting and Finance*, the *Journal of Global Business Development*, and the *Journal of Accounting, Ethics and Public Policy*. She has also presented her research at local, regional and national conferences.

**I. B. ACTION ITEM: CONFERRING AN HONORARY DEGREE**

The University would like to confer an honorary degree for the May 2013 commencement. Ordinarily, at this Board meeting we would put forward a name for your approval to confer the honorary degree. At this time, a speaker who would be a potential honorary degree recipient has not been identified. Since it is not possible to put forward a name at this time, we request approval of the following one-time adjustment to the conferral of honorary degrees policy:

For the May 2013 commencement only, the Board will delegate authority to the University President to confer the honorary degree.

**I. C. ACTION ITEM: INCREASE IN STUDENT U-PASS FEE**

The Chicago Transit Authority (CTA) informed the University on February 28, 2013 it will increase the cost associated with the student U Pass program for all Chicago area colleges and universities. This unexpected rate increase came after the Northeastern Illinois University Board of Trustees approved the FY14 tuition and fees, including the recommendation that the U Pass fee remain level with the previous year.

The CTA U Pass daily rate will increase from \$0.81 to \$1.07. Additionally, the CTA is charging the University a new fee of \$5.00 for each new U Pass created. As a result, the requested fee is \$128.00 per semester for full-time students.

This proposed fee will result in a decrease of \$23,022 in the funds available to the University to administer the program, which will allow the University to keep the student fee increase to a minimum.

Board approval is requested for an increase to the student U Pass fee to \$128.00 per semester to address program costs resulting from the CTA mandated rate increase.

**II. A. INFORMATION ITEM: NOTIFICATION TO THE BOARD OF CERTAIN  
EXPENDITURES**

**PURCHASES BETWEEN \$50,000 AND \$100,000**

Board of Trustees' Regulations require that the President report to the Board purchases of at least \$50,000 but less than \$100,000 other than those exempt from Board approval (e.g. utilities). The following lists those purchases since the last board meeting.

<b>VENDOR</b>	<b>DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>PURCHASE ORDER AMOUNT</b>
Bailey Edward	Micro -Organism Lab Renovation	\$58,420
TranSystems Corporation	Parking Lot Renovation Consulting	\$96,012



## C. NEWS AND EVENTS

### 1. Innovation Roundtables – February 20, 22, 28, March 1, 13, 14 and April 11

“Imagine the Possibilities Part III: University Roundtables” began in February and continued through March. The creation of these Roundtable discussions across the University is the next step following from “Imagine the Possibilities Part II: University Colloquium on Creativity, Innovation and the Future,” which was held on Friday, November 2, 2012. The Roundtables provided an opportunity to continue the discussion of our vision of the future of NEIU, with special emphasis on the evolution of the curricula of the colleges and meeting new workforce needs. Other Roundtables focused on supporting student success and operational productivity. A brief description of each Roundtable is listed below.

#### **College of Business and Management, Innovation Roundtable – February 20**

On Wednesday, February 20, the College of Business and Management held its Innovation Roundtable. Keynote speaker, Dr. Rita Gunther McGrath, Associate Professor, Executive Education, Columbia Business School, New York City, spoke on the topic, *Thin Ice: Cracks in the Business School Model*. Faculty and staff from across the University attended the Roundtable. Results from the discussions are being reviewed in the college's departmental meetings.

#### **Student Affairs, Innovation Roundtable – February 22**

The Division of Student Affairs hosted an Innovation Roundtable on Friday, February 22. It was facilitated by Dr. Jeanna Mastrodicasa, Assistant Vice President for Student Affairs, University of Florida. Dr. Mastrodicasa co-authored *Connecting to the Net Generation: What Higher Education Professionals Need to Know about Today's Students* and several book chapters related to the role of technology in the life of millennials. The Student Affairs Office also reviewed its strategic planning process, current topics in higher education, and University priorities.

#### **College of Graduate Studies and Research, Innovation Roundtable – February 28**

The College of Graduate Studies and Research hosted its Innovation Roundtable on Thursday, February 28. The topic of the roundtable was: *Cultivating and Sustaining a Research and Sponsored Projects Agenda at a Teaching Institution*. The event included a presentation from Dr. Ron DiMelfi, former Director of the Office of Sponsored Research at Chapman University. The presentation was followed by an engaging conversation between faculty and staff members. A summary of the event will be available in the near future.

#### **College of Arts and Sciences, Innovation Roundtables – March 1 and April 11**

The College of Arts and Sciences hosted two Innovation Roundtables. On Friday, March 1, the first Roundtable, *Public Universities, Social Solutions: Liberal Education Leading the Way*, included discussions on history and contemporary relevance of liberal education and was facilitated by Dr. Katrina Bell-Jordan (Communication, Media and Theatre), Dr. Cris Toffolo (Justice Studies), Dr. Tim Libretti (English and Linguistics), and Dr. Paulo Acioli (Physics).

On Thursday, April 11, the second Roundtable, *Public Universities, Social Solutions: Reimagining Food*, featured Dr. Howard Rosing from DePaul University who specializes in both high impact pedagogical practices and food issues in Chicago. Discussion topics included Food and Health, Food and the Arts, Food and Community Engagement, Food and Science, and Food and Globalization.

### **Library, Innovation Roundtable – March 13**

The Ronald Williams Library Innovation Roundtable, *Envisioning a New Ronald Williams Library: Future Library Spaces for Student Engagement*, was held in the Library on Wednesday, March 13. The event was an excellent opportunity to “kick-off” the Library’s upcoming master space plan. The vision of a revitalized library space included a short term perspective (5 years) and a much broader, long term perspective (10-20 years). The Roundtable was facilitated by Dr. Kara Malenfant, Ph.D., Senior Strategist for Special Initiatives for the Association of College and Research Libraries (ACRL). Participants included faculty, staff, and students.

### **College of Education Innovation Roundtable – March 14**

The College of Education (COE) Innovation Roundtable, held on Thursday, March 14, addressed the knowledge, skills and dispositions that COE graduates need for work and life in a dynamic city, as well as implications for COE curricula and instructional practices. Presenters included Keynote Speaker, Mr. Miguel del Valle, Member of the Illinois Commerce Commission, Co-Chair of the Illinois P-20 Council and an NEIU alum; Ms. Anna Pavichevich, Principal at Amundsen High School; Teresa Ramos, Outreach Director for Advance Illinois; Mike Rodriguez, Executive Director for ENLACE Chicago; Jeff Bartow, Executive Director for Southwest Organizing Project; Dr. Suzanne Benson, Associate Professor of Human Resource Development; Dr. Zada Johnson, Assistant Professor of Inner City Studies. After Roundtable discussions, the COE plans to develop an action list of ideas for increasing the number of candidates of color in programs, more consistently integrate innovative technologies into programs, and continue to share expertise and educational applications with community partners.

## **2. Black Heritage Month Activities – February 6 - 28**

The 2012-2013 Black Heritage theme was *“Powerful Beyond Measure”*. Featured events included *What is Your Signature Worth?* a session that discussed ways to improve one’s credit history; a 70s and 80s Steppers Dance held at the CCICS campus; a Kwanzaa Celebration; *Hidden Colors*, a documentary film about the untold history of people of color around the globe; *The Story of Daisy Bates*, a film about the forgotten civil rights icon who forced Little Rock’s Central High School to desegregate.

The Annual Awards Ceremony was held on Friday, February 22 from 5:30-10:00 pm in Alumni Hall. President Hahs and Trustee Azcoitia attended the celebration and welcomed guests. Awards for Excellence were awarded to Alderman Walter Burnett (Community Service), Dr. Chielozona Eze (Faculty), Joseph Winfield (Staff), Larone Ellison (Student), and Verla Grays (Alumni). The William “Doc” Speller Lifetime Achievement Award was presented to Murrell Higgins Duster, and the Dr. Melvin Cleveland Terrell Award in Research and Literature was presented to Dr. Marshall Thompson.

### **3. NEIU Alumni Piano Pedagogy Event – February 23**

The NEIU Music Department and Office of Alumni Relations hosted an Alumni Pedagogy event on Saturday, February 23. The event's focus was to bring piano alumni back to campus and provide an opportunity for their piano students to perform in the Recital Hall. Six alumni participated and 10 students performed. The Office of Alumni Relations hosted a Career Connections lunch prior to the recital where the piano alumni discussed their careers in music. Each student and the student's parents received a Northeastern Illinois University application and brochure.

### **4. Personal and Social Responsibility Inventory (PSRI) – February 25 - March 15**

Student Affairs and Academic Affairs, with support from Institutional Advancement and Institutional Research, collaborated on the first administration of the Personal and Social Responsibility Inventory (PSRI) at NEIU. This survey was developed by the Association of American Colleges and Universities (AACU) to assess the university climate by reaching out to students, faculty, and administrators regarding key aspects of personal and social responsibility: striving for excellence, cultivating academic integrity, contributing to a larger community, taking the perspectives of others seriously, and developing competence in ethical and moral reasoning and action. NEIU's participation in this study is one of several initiatives tied to our involvement in the AACU Campus and Community Civic Health Initiative. NEIU is one of twenty-five universities nationwide--the only campus in Illinois--selected to participate in this program designed to celebrate the tenth anniversary of the AACU's American Democracy Project.

### **5. Seventh Annual Wellness Fair – February 26**

On Tuesday, February 26, Campus Recreation hosted the 7th Annual Wellness Fair under the programming of Martha P. Montes, Associate Director of Campus Recreation. The fair was held in the PE Complex and open to all NEIU students, staff, and faculty. Activities (sponsors in parentheses) included: blood pressure screenings (Swedish Covenant Hospital), fitness assessments (NEIU Personal Training Program), chair massages (Pro-Holistic Institute), structural analysis (Athletico), Nutrition Information (Galter Life Center), group fitness classes and a Zumba party (NEIU fitness instructors), Health Services and Counseling information.

### **6. Spring 2013 Education Job Fair – February 26**

The Spring 2013 Education Job Fair was held on Tuesday, February 26 in Alumni Hall from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm. Thirty-seven schools and school districts, including representatives from California, Texas, Arizona, and Japan, were present to meet with applicants to discuss Fall 2013 teaching positions. More than half of the applicants were NEIU students and alumni. This event was hosted by Academic and Career Advising.

### **7. International LGBTQ Human Rights: Uganda and Beyond – February 26**

On Tuesday, February 26, Jessica Stern, the Executive Director of International Gay and Lesbian Human Rights Commission, spoke to the NEIU community on both

challenges and progress being made globally on LGBTQ human rights. The discussion ranged from anti-LGBTQ laws being considered in Uganda to progress being made in parts of Central Africa and the ways global political and religious leaders are both helping and hindering the fight for human rights.

#### **8. Black and Latin@ Historical Crossings – February 27**

On Wednesday, February 27, Dr. Gabriel Cortez, Assistant Professor of Educational Leadership and Development, collaborated with the Latin@ Resource Center, the African/African-American Resource Center, and El Centro, to present a panel discussion about the historical intersection between Black and Latino communities. The discussion centered on Black History month and the multiple identities within these two specific communities of color.

#### **9. It's A Major Deal! – February 27**

On Wednesday, February 27, an advisor from Academic and Career Advising was available in Village Square to answer questions about major declarations. This event was designed to increase student awareness on the major declaration process, encourage students to plan ahead, promote student degree completion in four years, and to gain a better understanding of how to reach academic goals.

#### **10. Learning Strategies Seminar/Study Session – February 27**

On Wednesday, February 27, the Learning Support Center, along with Academic and Career Advising, provided students with practical strategies for improving their study skills and learning techniques. Tutors from the Learning Support Center also participated in the sessions and provided support and advice.

#### **11. NEIU Athletic and HPERA Alumni Event – February 28**

The NEIU Office of Alumni Relations and the Chuck Kane Golf Committee hosted the second NEIU Athletic and HPERA Alumni Event on Thursday, February 28. The event took place at one of NEIU alumna's establishment, the Nil Tap on Elston owned by Linda Dewald. Over 60 alumni and friends attended who represented nearly each decade that sports was offered at NEIU including basketball, baseball, volleyball, football, gymnastics, and cheerleaders. NEIU President Sharon Hahs, NEIU Foundation and Board of Trustee Member Jonathan Stein and Trustee Bob Biggins gave remarks.

#### **12. HERstory Month – March 1 - 31**

During the month of March, over 20 events and programs recognized National Women's History Month. HERstory Month made a concerted effort to incorporate the 2013 national theme, "Women Inspiring Innovation through Imagination: Celebrating Women in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics [STEM]". Events included the Women in STEM bus tour (March 8), Why Feminism Matters Conference (March 26), and NEIU's first Women's Retreat (March 8-10). The events were sponsored by the Women's Resource Center, LGBTQA Resource Center, Student Leadership

Development, and student organizations Latinas In Power (LIP), Sigma Gamma Rho, and the Northeastern Programming Board (NPB).

**13. Admissions Open House Marketing Campaign – March 4**

On Monday, March 4, NEIU conducted an Open House to recruit new students. This event was heavily supported by the Marketing Office, which created collateral material for Enrollment Services, developed advertisements, and researched and bought media placements. The March Open House campaign produced a record number of registrants (962) and 397 actual attendees.

**14. Asian Women's Leadership Series – March 7 - April 11**

This series of presentations highlighted issues relevant to Asian and Asian American women in various fields and promoted efforts to overcome stereotypes. The four part series was intended to expand the understanding of the roles of women who balance work, family, and Asian values both globally and locally. Presenters included photojournalist/author Sadaf Syed; author Jodee Blanco, Jane Hyun, and NEIU student Sumaiya Maniya. The event was sponsored by the Asian/Global Resource Center in collaboration with the Women's Resource Center, Special Education, HPERA, Counselor Education, and student organizations Anthropos, Assyrian-Chaldean Club, Delta Lambda Psi, Feminist Collective, French Club, GLBTQA Club, Psychology Club, and Student Association for Multicultural Multilingual Education (SAMME).

**15. Alumni Relations 101 Workshop – March 11**

This spring, the Offices of Development and Alumni Relations have partnered to host Alumni Relations and Development 101 Workshops around the University to each of the colleges and area units. On Monday, March 11, alumni and development staff presented to the College of Arts and Sciences. The goal of the Offices of Alumni Relations and Development is to "de-mystify" fundraising and alumni relations at NEIU, and to provide the University community with ways to help and partner with the offices.

**16. New NEIU Website Proposal Presentation – March 12**

An internal steering committee representing all divisions of the University is working with Pixo, a web development vendor, to produce a new NEIU website. This is a large, comprehensive undertaking that involves substantial coordination with administration, faculty, students and staff professionals to develop structure, content and messaging. Pixo was on campus on Tuesday, March 12 to present design and messaging concepts, which received broad appreciation. The website is on track to launch in December 2013.

**17. Addressing Homophobia Forum – March 12**

On Tuesday, March 12, the NEIU community came together to discuss strategies to confront anti-LGBTQ language. Students agreed that all community members must

respect all NEIU values, including civil discourse, and decided to begin a letter-writing campaign that would ask for ongoing support and discussion with regards to challenging homophobia at an institutional level. The forum was sponsored by the LGBTQA Resource Center.

**18. What does it Mean to Learn with Integrity? – March 12 - 13**

On March 12 and 13, Student Rights and Responsibilities hosted its first program to educate and provide resources to NEIU students on maintaining integrity in and out of the classroom. The program agenda included two panel discussions: "Maintaining Integrity" and "Integrity Leading to Professional Ethics." Each panel, facilitated by faculty and professional staff, discussed ways to maintain integrity and enhance professional ethics. A viewing of a CNBC documentary, *Faking the Grade: Classroom Cheaters*, was also presented. This program was planned in partnership with the Student Integrity Planning Committee in partnership with the NEIU Honors Program, English Department, Learning Support Center, and Ronald Williams Library.

**19. NEIU Alumni Advisory Board Meeting – March 14**

On Thursday, March 14, the NEIU Alumni Advisory Board met to review and approve a \$30,000 endowed scholarship for internship opportunities to NEIU students; approve new membership NEIU Alumni Association levels that include a new family membership, lifetime membership and student membership; and approve the granting of a complimentary one-year Alumni Association membership to all graduates as a gift of the NEIU Alumni Advisory Board and Alumni Association. There are currently eleven alumni members that actively serve on the NEIU Alumni Advisory Board, which provides advice and guidance to the Office of Alumni Relations and NEIU Alumni Association.

**20. Town Hall Meeting – March 14**

President Hahs held a Town Hall Meeting for faculty and staff on Thursday, March 14. The meeting provided an opportunity for dialogue within the University community in an informal setting. Topics were presented, followed by a question and answer session.

**21. Alternative Spring Break – March 18 - 22**

During Spring Break (March 18-22), Northeastern sponsored its 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Alternative Spring Break (ASB) program. This year, 49 students, accompanied by faculty and staff advisors, participated in several week long trips. Locations included Arizona, Chicago, Guatemala, and Oklahoma. All trips focused on social justice issues and community service. The Student Leadership Development Office coordinated ASB.

**22. Spring Greek Week – March 25 - 29**

During the week of March 25, the United Greek Council (a student organization), held its annual programmatic week and showcased NEIU Greek-letter organizations to the University Community. Over 15 organizations participated with events geared toward showcasing organizations and recruiting potential members. Events included an

organizational poster contest, games, a philanthropic event, Easter basket building for a Children's Hospital, and the annual Greek Talent Show.

**23. Senate Appropriations Hearing – March 27**

President Hahs testified in front of the Senate Appropriations II Committee on Wednesday, March 27 in Chicago. Hahs presented the University's requests for fiscal year 2014. Other NEIU representatives included Provost Richard Helldobler, Vice President Mark Wilcockson, Director of Budgets Ann McNabb, Presidential Fellow Erick Howenstine, and Executive Director for Government Relations Suleyma Perez.

**24. Senator Dan Kotowski, NEIU visit – March 27**

On Wednesday, March 27, Illinois State Senator Dan Kotowski visited NEIU to learn more about the University. During this visit, Senator Kotowski met with representatives from various university constituency groups including students, faculty, deans and administrators. Senator Kotowski serves as the Chair for the Senate Appropriations II Committee that recommends the higher education appropriation amounts to the State Senate.

**25. Enough is Enough – April 1 - 5**

Enough is Enough is an annual anti-violence program initiated by the National Association of Student Personnel Administrators (NASPA) in response to incidents that occurred at Virginia Tech and Northern Illinois University. It is a critical collaboration designed to create a new paradigm for peace and safety on campuses by addressing societal violence and seeking peaceful solutions. During the week of April 1, activities included a Quilting Hope Project, *Bowling for Columbine* film screening and discussion, *The Vagina Monologues*, and a non-violence lighting ceremony. The program was sponsored by the Students Rights and Responsibilities Office.

**26. CTU's President, Karen Lewis, visits Northeastern – April 3**

On Wednesday April 3 at noon in LWH 1002, Northeastern welcomed Chicago Teachers Union President Karen Lewis. Lewis spoke on public education in Chicago and explored how we can guarantee a quality education for all. Lewis is an NEIU alumna with a Master's Degree in Inner City Studies. She is an accomplished educator, teaching high school chemistry for over twenty years, and a Vice-President of the Illinois Federation of Teachers. Her presentation was co-sponsored by NEIU AFSCME Local 1989 and NEIU UPI Local 4100, with support from the Office of Alumni Affairs. The talk was open to all members of the University and public.

**27. Mini-Kane Mini-Golf – April 4**

On Thursday, April 4, approximately 100 NEIU community members participated in the annual Mini-Kane Golf event, which was organized by the NEIU Office of Alumni Relations. Seven unique and challenging holes were hosted by various groups on

campus including the P.E. Complex, Library, WZRD radio, United Greek Council, Student Ambassadors, The Independent Newspaper, and the NEIU Alumni Association. A group of children from the NEIU Day Care Center also enjoyed a few holes. Money was raised for the Kane Golf Outing, along with engaging the NEIU community in recognizing the University's oldest philanthropic event in August that supports student scholarships.

**28. 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Asian American Heritage Conference – April 4**

The theme "Asians and Asian Americans: Multiple Stories" focused on NEIU students' multiple and intersecting identities with discussions emphasizing the transformative power of personal narratives. Featured sessions included: *Many Cultures One Market (2010)* by author Robert Kumaki; "Popular Culture: From Yellow Peril to Exceptional Subject" by DePaul University Professor Camilla Fojas; and "The Asian American Movement: Knowing our Stories and Leading for Social Justice" by Vijay Pendakur, Director, Office of Multicultural Student Success, DePaul University. From April 1-19, a photography exhibit, *Kizuna 2: The Bonds of Emotion*, was on display. *Kizuna 2* highlighted Chicagoans' life-changing experiences with the March 11, 2011 earthquake and tsunami in Japan through the lenses of The Chicago Photography Collective. The conference was sponsored by the Asian/Global Resource Center.

**29. Inaugural United Greek Council Greek Step and Stroll Competition – April 5**

A city-wide Greek Step and Stroll Competition, organized by the United Greek Council student organization, was held on Friday, April 5 in Alumni Hall. Students performed synchronized stepping and strolling routines. The competition was well-received by the NEIU community.

**30. Cesar Chavez Day – April 6**

On Saturday, April 6, the Office of Student Leadership Development (SLD) held its first Cesar Chavez Day of Service in Albany Park in coordination with Global Garden (a refugee training center), The North River Commission, Peterson Garden Project, Roosevelt High School, and Volta Elementary. Participants volunteered for various tasks including planting around the perimeter of the Peterson Garden Project, painting concrete planters near the Brown Line El stop, creating raised beds for an upcoming school learning garden at Volta Elementary, and creating yarn signage on the Peterson Garden Project fence. Several businesses provided in-kind donations of goods, supplies, and parking.

**31. Scholar/Donor Luncheon – April 9**

The NEIU Foundation hosted a luncheon for scholarship donors and recipients on Tuesday, April 9 in the Golden Eagles room. Thanks to an extensive inventory project in Development and the help of colleagues across the University, the Foundation has awarded 110 scholarships to NEIU students in FY13.



**32. NEIU Lobby Day at Springfield – April 10**

NEIU Lobby Day was held on Wednesday, April 10, in Springfield, Illinois. A group of twenty four students, faculty, and administrators including President Sharon Hahs and Trustees Bob Biggins and Jin Lee participated in Lobby Day. The group visited with twenty-two key members of the General Assembly and the Governor's Office to advocate for NEIU's operating budget appropriation. The event was sponsored by the University Foundation.

**33. Public Relations Outreach to WTTW**

Staff in the Public Relations Office recently met with several producers for WTTW's "Chicago Tonight" daily news program to discuss ideas on how NEIU and WTTW can work together to meet each organization's independent goals. The meeting already is proving successful for Northeastern, with an increased number of Northeastern faculty and staff appearing on the show as subject matter experts.