



***Build communities of outstanding citizens and scholars  
through example, challenge and support.***

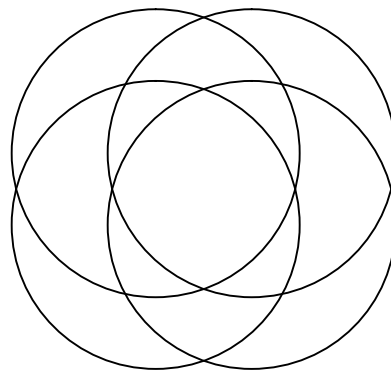
Residence Education Mission

**Outstanding Citizenship**

*Invest in myself and my community*

Pursue optimal  
mental, physical and  
spiritual health

Practice responsible  
life management skills  
(money, time, etc.)



Learn how to relate  
effectively to all types  
of people

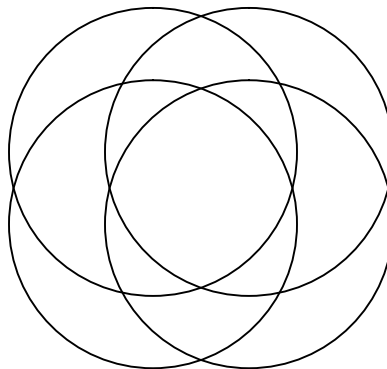
Contribute in ways  
that enrich local and  
global communities

**Outstanding Scholarship**

*Focus my learning to prepare for a great career*

Practice effective  
academic skills and  
attitudes

Select major, minor  
and programs that  
enhance personal  
uniqueness



Identify personal  
uniqueness: interests,  
talents, background

Meet deadlines and  
requirements to  
complete a degree

# University of Northern Iowa

## Residence Education

### 2008-2009

#### **Purposes of Residence Education**

The larger purposes of residence education are to *challenge* students to learn and to *support* them in their efforts to do so, all within the unique environment of residential living on a college campus.

On-campus living provides a rich environment for personal growth: close proximity of resources; convenient services; knowledgeable and caring professional staff; knowledgeable and caring student staff; and physically close proximity with a multitude and variety of peers over the course of many months or years. These elements combine to create a natural setting for young adults to learn who they are and where they fit in the world.

The role of residence educators—professional and paraprofessional live-in staff members—is to influence the direction of that learning, just as family, teachers, friends and others have, over the years.

#### **UNI Residence Education Mission**

“Build communities of outstanding citizens and scholars through example, challenge and support” is the Residence Education Mission. It directs each hall’s staff to help students understand and practice the highest levels of personal responsibility—as citizens and scholars—in preparation for lives as outstanding citizens of the world and professionals in their chosen careers.

#### **Mission Outcomes**

There are eight general outcomes that students are challenged to accomplish. These are discretely defined in order to help students focus on growing as outstanding citizens and scholars during their college years. This growth, in turn, is preparation for a lifetime of successful attitudes and habits.

##### **Citizenship Outcomes**

- Pursue optimal mental, physical and spiritual health
- Learn how to relate effectively to all types of people
- Manage time, money and other resources well
- Contribute in ways that enrich local and global communities

##### **Scholarship Outcomes**

- Practice effective academic skills and attitudes
- Identify personal uniqueness: interests, talents and background
- Select major, minor and other programs that enhance personal uniqueness
- Meet deadlines and requirements to get a degree

#### **Crucial Elements: Example, Challenge and Support**

Live-in residence life staffs use a variety of resources and protocols to fulfill the residence education mission. At the heart of their efforts are three crucial, overlapping elements: example, challenge and support.

Learning happens most naturally by imitation and emulation. From parents to super-heroes, learners grasp images of how to do things “right.” It influences their understanding of underlying principles and specific actions to achieve desired ends. This awareness informs residence life staff as they make choices in their own lives because they realize that they are decisions that impact more than their individual lives. Example matters!

In addition to being a good example, staff members are charged with being good challengers. This means challenging residents to reflect on their lives, make smart choices and to embrace the consequences of those choices. Challenge matters!

Finally, staff members are charged with supporting residents in their growing and learning. This means recognizing the fits and starts in individuals' lives as they strive to do better. It means providing information and direction to resources, pats on the back for achievements, patience with counterproductive behavior and a listening ear when things just aren't going well. Most importantly, it means being assertively "in relationship" with residents, so they are aware that the staff member cares about their lives and unique circumstances. Support matters!

### **Residence Education Programs**

Within the larger picture of residence education at UNI are six broad programs that inform and guide the work of the residence life staff. This includes the Academic Initiatives Program; the all-freshman Springboard Program; the Leadership Advising Program; the Inclusive Communities Team projects; the Safe Zone Task Force projects and the Citizens and Scholars Calendar. Together, their overlapping sets of priorities and strategies provide foundational elements of the overall residence education program.

### **Residence Education Plans**

Each semester residence life coordinators (RLCs), graduate residence education coordinators (GRECs) and graduate residence life coordinators (GRLCs) develop residence education plans for their respective hall communities. (GRECs work with their supervisor, the RLC, on the plan for their halls.) They determine their plans in collaboration with the Assistant Director of Residence/Education.

Hall-specific plans are built upon a foundation of numerous residence education expectations for all halls. These system-wide expectations are based on a combination of formal and informal assessment of residents' needs, as determined by the Director of Residence and Assistant Director of Residence/Education.

Additionally, they review residence education item results from the Educational Benchmarking Institute's data for the previous year. Finally, they do their own assessment of the needs of their particular residents, based on their professional experience and educational training.

The plan that results is the blueprint for the semester ahead. Once approved—in consultation with the Assistant Director of Residence/Education—the plan is implemented in the semester ahead.

### **Strategies and Reflections**

Each strategy in the hall-specific plans includes six elements: Executed by, For whom, Actions, Key dates, Budget ceiling, and Success criteria. RLCs/GRLCs/GRECs determine what these elements are, as part of their preparations for achieving specific outcomes.

Additionally, as a part of the learning and reporting functions, RLCs/GRLCs/GRECs record reflections on the strategies executed. The five elements of reflection: Reflection date, Total spent, Triumph/s, Trouble/s, Recommendation/s.

At monthly one-on-one appointments with the Assistant Director of Residence/Education, the RLCs/GRLCs/GRECs discuss the status of the residence education strategies being employed that semester and what the coordinator is learning through the process.

### **Measures of Success**

The overall success of the residence education program is measured by several means: EBI results in residence education factors; house feedback survey items targeting Citizen and Scholar work done by

RAs; smaller surveys (e.g. Peer Advisor In Residence, Spring Residence Education, Leader Reflections) that provide focused measures of staff performance in targeted areas.

## Programs within the Program

There are a number of overlapping elements of the Residence Education Program. They include:

- Citizens and Scholars Calendar, which is a set of expectations for live-in residence life staff to pursue in fulfilling the Residence Education Mission to “Build communities of outstanding citizens and scholars through example, challenge and support.”
- Academic Initiatives Program, a multi-faceted, collaborative program between the Office of Academic Advising and the Department of Residence. It centers on outreach from Peer Advisors in Residence, residence life coordinators and RAs to challenge and support residents in their academic growth.
- Community Leaders Program, designed to challenge residents to take on leadership roles and develop skill sets that will equip them to be effective leaders in many venues for years to come.
- Hall-specific Residence Education Plans, the outcomes-based plans that each Residence Life Coordinator generates each semester to address citizen and scholar developmental needs which may not be adequately addressed through expectations in the Citizens and Scholars Calendar. These plans include consideration of Educational Benchmarking Institute data, input from the Assistant Director of Residence/Education, the previous year’s recommendations from that halls’ coordinator, and the professional expertise of the coordinators in each building.
- “The Word Is...” Immersion Project, a series of eight two-week periods throughout the academic year, each designed to surround residents with information and experiences that challenge them to improve their ability to grow in specific areas (e.g. friendships, managing time, sleep, drinking safely, preparing for finals).
- “Springboard,” all-freshman housing in eight houses across campus, provides extra assistance to residents who live in communities that differ from the mixed-class traditional houses of freshmen, sophomores, juniors and seniors. This includes an early move-in program called “Dive In Days” and concentrated programming from Peer Advisors in Residence.
- “I Protect” Personal Safety Program: On-going information dissemination and program facilitation to equip students to be safe and help keep their communities safe, including programs providing by the UNI Police Department.
- “Get Smart” quizzes, used by RAs to teach residents about services and rules they should know about to live successfully on campus. Quizzes are based on information in the *Panther Planner*.
- Panther Planner, which is the official calendar guide for residents about on-campus living, including important dates related to social and academic life on campus.
- Inclusive Communities Team, a volunteer group of resident assistants, led by a residence life coordinator and advised by the Assistant Director of Residence/Education. This group organizes programs designed to impact student leaders—residence life staff and volunteers—who live on campus, so they can be better understand and serve the diverse populations of residents in their houses and halls.
- “Safe Zone” Team, a volunteer group of RAs and interested members of the UNI community, led by the Assistant Director of Residence/Education. They provide orientations—and sign up opportunities—to students, staff, faculty and administrators who are interested in providing

“safe zones” at UNI for on-campus students who are gay, lesbian, bi-sexual and transgender—as well as those who are Safe Zone allies to these students.

- “The Party Queen,” alcohol safety prevention program, designed to get students involved in conversations about how to succeed socially without sacrificing personal safety and health, reputation and good legal standing. This is a collaborative program between the Department of Residence and Wellness Recreation Services.

In-depth information about three of these programs follows.

2008-2009

### **Academic Initiatives Program**

Department of Residence and Office of Academic Advising

#### **Background**

Several academic and student affairs departments support students in the pursuit of academic success. Among these departments are the Department of Residence and Academic Advising Services. A collaborative effort between these departments was begun in 2002. It is called the PAIR (Peer Advisors In Residence) Program. The 2007-2008 PAIR Program involved one peer in each of eight halls, working 5 to 8 hours a week in their respective buildings. Their jobs varied slightly, according to the populations and the results of consultation with the in-hall staff.

PAIR Responsibilities:

- Gave out business cards to invite residents to consult them with academic performance concerns
- Created and posted bulletin board topics designed to improve academic performance
- Presented programs on academic excellence, during house meetings and hall gatherings
- Held “office hours” for students to stop by for consultation regarding academic performance issues
- Sent a monthly newsletter of academic information and tips to RAs, who forwarded them to their residents
- Consulted with RAs and residence life coordinators on strategies to best serve residents of specific halls

PAIRs’ fulfillment of these responsibilities resulted in very favorable evaluations of the program by residents (according to an April 2008 online survey completed by 829 of the residents in the eight residence halls who had PAIRs):

#### **Conclusions About Survey Results**

The following are conclusions drawn from the April 2008 PAIR Survey results, as they relate to the PAIR Program (survey item results are at the end of this document.)

- Almost all (95.9%) of respondents were aware of the PAIR program, indicating that awareness of its availability is not an issue. Goal: maintain high levels of awareness.
- Approximately half (47.5%) the respondents utilized the PAIR program during the academic year. Goal: increase this to 60%.

- Approximately one fifth (21%) of the respondents utilizing the program indicated that it was very (16.6%) or extremely (4.4%) important to their academic success. Goal: increase this to 30%.
- The areas that received the highest percentage of “extremely” and “very” important regarding “how important it is to have PAIRs provide information and resources” were, from most to least: Scheduling Issues (68.4%); Majors, Minors, Certificates (68.4%); Advising Issues (57.5%); University Resources and Tools (57.3%) and Skills to be Successful (53.3%). Goal: Maintain an awareness of these priorities when allocating time devoted to them in providing programs and services.
- The “most beneficial” aspects of the program were ranked as follows: “availability” (#1); “advice from a student perspective” (#2); and “programs offered in the hall” (#3). Goals: make PAIRs even more accessible and provide better (more and/or higher quality) programs.

### **Academic Initiatives Program**

In order to more aggressively and specifically assign tasks to the PAIRs and residence life staff in the work of supporting residents’ academic success, the Academic Initiatives Program will replace the PAIR Program in 2008-2009. The *primary purpose* of the new program is to help equip on-campus residents to enjoy higher levels of academic success. The specific goal will be to increase from 21% to 30% the percentage of residents who indicate that the Academic Initiatives Program (formerly PAIR Program) was “extremely” or “very important” to their academic success.

In addition to what the PAIRs do, specifically, there will be other elements, coordinated by the Assistant Director of Residence/Education, in cooperation with the residence life coordinator staff.

### **Academic Initiatives Outcomes for Residence Hall Students** (as indicated by them):

The following are the Academic Initiatives Program’s desired outcomes for students living in residence halls. Students will indicate that they feel:

1. Adequately equipped to obtain information about and select a major, minor, certificate program
2. Adequately equipped to schedule classes for the next semester and do long-term schedule planning
3. Adequately equipped to obtain and utilize academic advising assistance from an advisor
4. Adequately equipped to use university resources and tools (e.g. MyUNiverse, degree audit; where to find tutoring, internships, student organizations)
5. Adequately equipped to set goals, study effectively, get the most out of classes and manage my time
6. Sufficiently supported and encouraged about pursuing academic success.

### **Elements of the Academic Initiatives Program**

PAIRs will do the following:

- Replace “office hours” with other efforts to directly encounter residents (programs, house meetings, individual appointments, bulletin board maintenance, sending RAs emails)
- Meet bi-weekly with RLCs to fine-tune efforts in the hall
- Provide feedback cards at every program to obtain immediate impressions about how to improve subsequent programs
- Respond to RA *advance* invitations to come to *every* house meeting to provide brief, timely, helpful tips and promote residents making individual appointments for “preventive” and “responsive” help with academic issues.
- Do four Academic Success sessions for Springboard students at Aug 21 *Dive In Days*

- Facilitate *A.C.E. It!* (self-directed academic assessment and commitment) sessions in Springboard and other “new student” house meetings throughout September and October.
- Present a pre-determined, well-publicized calendar of programs (e.g. pre-registration) throughout the year in each hall (including programs that target transfers and their particular transition issues).
- Establish and maintain a hall-wide PAIR bulletin board that is refreshed at least monthly
- Replicate Academic Success sessions from Fall *Dive In Days* for all new hall residents in every hall in January.
- Disseminate bi-weekly academic newsletters by going door to door to initiate conversations and by leaving them under doors when residents are gone.
- Two centrally coordinated programs put on by RAs and PAIRS during “The Word Is...” immersion weeks: “Preparing for Finals” (November 9-23) & “Grades” (January 11-25).

Other aspects of the program:

- RLCs/GRLCs/GRECs will work with RAs to develop multiple-per-hall campus tours/visits for all new residents. These tours will focus on key support offices on campus: Academic Advising, Career Services, Math Lab, Counseling Center, Health Center, Writing Lab, including relevant handouts, to encourage residents to be aware of the services and their locations. These will take place within the first two weeks of classes each semester.
- RAs maintain an A board in each house to recognize good grades throughout the year.
- RAs generate semester-long campaign to win “Top Academic Houses” awards that will be given out by RLCs/GRLCs/GRECs to 5 (Noehren, Campbell), 3 (Dancer, Bender) or 2 (Bartlett, Hagemann, Lawther, Rider and Shull) houses, based on Fall Semester House GPA. Winning houses recognized at *Among the Stars*.
- Dean’s List individual letters recognition by RLCs/GRLCs/GRECs
- Honor (with their permission) those in attendance at *Among the Stars* who made the Fall 2008 Dean’s List and got 4.0s
- RLCs/GRLCs/GRECs will send e-letters (prototypes provided by the Assistant Director of Residence/Education) to all residents who get D & F slips each semester, letting them know that the RLCs/GRLCs/GRECs knows they got the slips and encouraging them to work hard to finish the semester strong and providing concrete information about resources they can access, including the RLC.
- RLCs/GRLCs/GRECs will send e-letters (prototypes provided by the Assistant Director of Residence/Education) to all residents within a week of D & F slips coming out each semester, encouraging them to work hard to finish the semester strong and providing concrete information about resources they can access.
- RLCs/GRLCs/GRECs will send e-letters (prototype provided by the Assistant Director of Residence/Education) to all residents immediately prior to the first week of spring semester, encouraging them to work hard to improve their grades and providing concrete information about resources they can access, as a part of the “The Word Is...GRADES!” January 11-18 immersion weeks program.
- The Assistant Director of Residence/Education will work with the RLCs and Assistant Director of Residence/Marketing to publicly (campus-wide) honor the residents who make the Spring semester 2008 Dean’s List (in October 2008) and the residents who make the Fall Semester 2009 Dean’s List (in February 2009).

**Evaluation**

In addition to learning from compiled results of individual program feedback from cards, program organizers will ask residents to assess their level of success at achieving the six outcomes, above, during an online survey in March.

### Training/Prep for the Program

Specific training regarding the elements that require RLCs/GRLCs/GRECs execution will be thoroughly reviewed during RLC training in July, 2008, and again with PAIRs during their August 2008 training.

### PAIR Program Evaluation

The following is a summary of results of a Peer Advisors In Residence (PAIR) survey of residence hall students done in March 2008 by Academic Advising Services and the Department of Residence:

#### \*Survey Item Results

How IMPORTANT is it to me that the PAIR Program provide information and resources on these topics?

5=Extremely Important 4=Important 3=Somewhat Important 2=Slightly Important 1=Not Important

	5	4	3	2	1
MAJORS, MINORS, CERTIFICATES (how to find information, selecting one)	276 (33.3%)	291 (35.1%)	137 (16.5%)	44 (5.3%)	81 (9.8%)
SCHEDULING ISSUES (steps for immediate or long-range schedule planning, scheduling resources, changing your schedule)	283 (34.2%)	283 (34.2%)	145 (17.5%)	46 (5.6%)	71 (8.6%)
ADVISING ISSUES (preparing to meet with your academic advisor, referrals, peer advice)	204 (24.8%)	269 (32.7%)	197 (23.9%)	71 (8.6%)	82 (10.0%)
UNIVERSITY RESOURCES AND TOOLS (using MyUNiverse, degree audit; where to find: tutoring, internships, student organizations)	221 (26.7%)	253 (30.6%)	199 (24.0%)	77 (9.3%)	78 (9.4%)
SKILLS TO BE SUCCESSFUL (goal-setting, study strategies, time-management)	203 (25.0%)	230 (28.3%)	182 (22.4%)	88 (10.8%)	109 (13.4%)

Total Responses: 829

I prefer to obtain academic assistance services by (rank top two):

	Avg Rank	Min Rank	Max Rank
Attending programs put on by my PAIR in my residence hall	1.5/7	1	2
Meeting individually with my PAIR in my residence hall	1.6/7	1	2
Meeting individually with a PAIR at the Academic Advising office	1.6/7	1	2
Meeting individually with a professional advisor at the Academic Advising office	1.4/7	1	2
Meeting individually with a peer in my academic department	1.7/7	1	2
Meeting individually with a professional (faculty member or advisor) in my academic Department	1.4/7	1	2
	1.8/7	1	2
Total Responses:			826

I have utilized the PAIR program in my hall this academic year (attended a program or a presentation at a meeting, personally talked with, corresponded via email, etc):



	Percentage	Responses
Often	5.2%	43
Occasionally	12.2%	101
Once or twice	30.1%	249
I know about the PAIR program but have not utilized (please skip to the end of the survey)	48.4%	400
I was not aware of the PAIR program and have not utilized it (please skip to the end of the survey)	4.1%	34
<b>Total Responses:</b>		<b>827</b>

On a scale of 1 – 5 how important has the PAIR Program and resources been to my success as a student (answered by those who used the program)?

	Percentage	Responses
5 Extremely Important	4.4%	22
4 Very Important	16.6%	83
3 Somewhat Important	33.3%	166
2 Slightly Important	23.2%	116
1 Not Important	22.4%	112
<b>Total Responses:</b>		<b>499</b>

The following aspect/s of the PAIR program has been the most beneficial to me? (Rank up to 3)

	Avg Rank	Min Rank	Max Rank
Available in the hall	1.9/7	1	7
Quality of resources	2.5/7	1	7
Programs offered in the hall	2.3/7	1	7
Advice from a student perspective	2.2/7	1	7
PAIR's connection to Academic Advising	2.4/7	1	7
Knowledge of subject	2.6/7	1	7
Other	3.9/7	1	7
<b>Total Responses:</b>			<b>472</b>

2008-2009

## Community Leaders Program

Department of Residence

### Purpose

The Community Leaders Program is designed to maximize the growth of students as leaders in the residence halls. This involves professional and graduate student live-in staff members assigned to advisor roles for student organizations within the department of residence.

### Houses

Resident assistants work as leaders, not advisors, to their house councils. While this is an appointed leadership role, they are directed to teach effective leadership strategies and techniques to residents by example as well as by advising on individual projects. It is the most informal advising role in the residence system. But, it is an important entrée for many residents into college activities organization and collaborative planning.

### Senates

Senates function for three primary reasons: to be a “leadership laboratory” for members to have hands-on experience working with others to accomplish group projects; represent constituents to the elected student organization, as well as to the department of residence; to provide stimulating, needs-

based programming to residents of the hall; to initiate requests for upgrades in facilities; and to advise the department of residence and hall staff regarding policies.

Leading the senates are a president, secretary and treasurer. There may also be specific chairpersons for projects. Typically, there are at least two senators per house. Senate meet bi-weekly to conduct their business.

Their funding includes \$7 per resident/per semester. The Senate determines how much of that \$7 goes to the houses each semester for their programming.

### **Senate Advisor Roles**

Each residence hall has a senate, comprised of executives and senators, representing communities called houses. The advisor to the senate is the residence life coordinator, graduate residence life coordinator or (in Noehren and Campbell Halls) graduate residence education coordinator. Their job includes three primary functions:

- Advise the President
- Advise the Executive Board
- Advise the Senate.

### **Senate Advisor Expectations**

The specific expectations for these senate advisors include:

- Meet at least bi-weekly with president and execs to plan for senate leadership
- Meet at least bi-weekly with senate to advise
- Develop individual and mutual expectations protocol at beginning of each semester, review them at mid-semester and help senators make individual and organizational adjustments to improve functioning
- Oversee organization and facilitation of Senate Retreats on Sept 1 (Labor Day) and January 19 (MLK, Jr. Day)
- Nominate and/or sign off on nominations of worthy students for awards
- Attend *Among the Stars* year-end recognition

### **Central Student Organizations**

There are four department of residence central leadership individuals/organizations: the Residence Leadership Association (RLA) ; the National Residence Hall Honorary (NRHH) chapter; the National Communications Coordinator (NCC) for the National Association of College and University Residence Halls; and the Programming Board (PB).

### **Central Student Organization Advisors**

In addition to advising their respective hall senates, three coordinators are appointed to advise three of the central leadership individuals/organizations: NRHH, NCC, and ProBoard. The other organization, Residence Leadership Association, is advised by the Assistant Director of Residence/Education.

These advisors' roles are similar to that of the senate advisors. They advise key leaders and overall organizations. They also attend meetings of the Residence Leadership Association, which includes the key leader whom they advise in their respected system organization roles.

### **Residence Leadership Diversity Programs**

The Department of Residence's Inclusive Communities Team and Safe Zone Task Force provide workshop opportunities that leaders in the residence system—staff and volunteer—are strongly encouraged to attend. These workshops provide insights for leaders about the lives of non-majority

constituents which they serve, as well as developing their abilities to think through challenging social issues related to leadership. This year the topics will include religious diversity, providing “safe zones” for gay/lesbian/bi-sexual/transgender students at UNI, and broader ethic and national diversity issues in the lives of students at UNI.

### **Leadership Recognition**

The National Residence Hall Honorary has two primary recognition programs. Panther Pride is a monthly program that recognizes nominated individuals and programs. These awards are linked to the “of the month” awards offered by the Midwest Affiliate of College and University Residence Halls. Among the Stars is an annual event, which takes place in April. It recognizes individuals and groups who have strengthened their on-campus communities.

### **Conference Opportunities**

UNI occasionally hosts large regional conferences of student leaders from throughout the Midwest. Additionally, delegations of students from the residence system annually attend regional and national conferences that contribute to their development as leaders. Students are also eligible to participate in Leadershape and other conference/workshop opportunities coordinated by the Maucker Union Student Leadership Center.

### **Student Leadership Center**

One avenue for on-going student leader development is engagement with the programs of the Maucker Union Student Leadership Center. Residence life student organization advisors encourage residents—including staff members and students who are not necessarily involved in residence hall organizations—to take advantage of the programs, staff and resources offered by the center.

2008-2009

## **Citizens and Scholars Calendar**

Department of Residence

The following monthly calendars include work done by residence life staff to positively engage residents as outstanding citizens and scholars at the University of Northern Iowa. Together, the live-in staff of residence life coordinators, graduate residence life coordinators, graduate residence education coordinators, and resident assistants pursue these strategies to “build communities of outstanding citizens and scholars through example, challenge and support.”

### **RA-coordinated Responsibilities (bold indicates RLC/GRLC/GREC-coordinated responsibilities)**

Plan and execute the following as part of your efforts to help your residents become outstanding citizens and scholars.

### **August**

## Routine

- Weekly scheduled “hang time” of a two-hour block of time to just get to know residents more personally
- Weekly house dinner/s to provide a gathering event and to get to know residents more personally
- RA invites PAIR well in advance to every house meeting, so the PAIR can provide academic tips
- Lead House Council as core community-building team
- Provide recognition to house residents (including *Panther Pride* nominations and informal notes/trinkets) sometime each month
- **Do whatever can be done to help residents win prizes and recognition at *Among the Stars* by being one of the Top Scholars Houses for Fall 2008—Top 5 each in Campbell and Noehren; Top 4 each in Bender and Dancer; Top 3 each in Bartlett, Hagemann, Lawther, Rider; Top 2 each in Shull and ROTH.**
- Good grades bulletin boards organized and maintained by RAs
- Post PAIR newsletters inside bathroom stall doors when PAIR provides them every two weeks.

## Wednesday-Thursday, August 20-21

- **Springboard Houses’ Dive In Days**

## Thursday, August 21

- Panther Picnic: 5:30-11p, West of UNI sports complex

## Friday, August 22

- Hypnotist Brian Imbus: 8 & 10pm @ GBPAC

## Saturday, August 23

- Panthers on Main: 11am-2pm, in downtown Cedar Falls
- Comedian Hal Sparks: 9:30pm @ GBPAC

## Sunday, August 24

- *Just Sex* program for new students @ 11am (Noehren, Lawther, ROTH, Off-campus); 1pm (Dancer, Bartlett, Hagemann); 3pm (Rider, Bender, Campbell, Shull).
- **Hall Welcome Week Programs in the afternoon**
- International Students Reception @ 6pm, GBPAC (optional)
- Some 1<sup>st</sup> House Meetings

## Sunday-Sunday, August 24-31

- **“The Word Is...FRIENDSHIPS” bulletin board posting, promotion, attendance**  
**Two weeks of immersion information and programs related to the topic.**

## Sunday-Friday, August 24-29

- Identify House Council (New!) members and engage them in organizing and/or promoting some house-generate activities and/or attendance at campus activities

## Sunday-Friday, August 24-29

- Identify 2(+?) Hall Senators and prep them to attend Labor Day Senate Retreat

#### Sunday-Friday, August 24-29

- Identify IM managers and prep them to attend WRS meetings (see dates in *Panther Planner*)

#### Monday, August 25

- Some 1<sup>st</sup> House Meetings
- Welcome Back B-B-Q @ Memorial Garden outside the Center for Multicultural Education, 5-7pm

#### Monday-Thursday & Tuesday-Thursday, August 25-28 and September 2- 4

- **RLC-coordinated campus tours by RAs and PAIRs that enhance residents' understanding of places where staff can help enhance their academic success (please include Health Center and Counseling Center re: issues that interfere w/academics!)**

#### Tuesday, August 26

- **Fire Drill: 7pm in each hall and complex**

#### Thursday, August 28

- Lawther Field movie "Ironman" @ 9pm

### **September**

#### Routine

- Weekly scheduled "hang time" of a two-hour block of time to just get to know residents more personally
- Weekly house dinner/s to provide a gathering event and to get to know residents more personally
- RA invites PAIR well in advance to every house meeting, so the PAIR can provide academic tips
- Lead House Council as core community-building team
- Provide recognition to house residents (including *Panther Pride* nominations and informal notes/trinkets) sometime each month
- **Do whatever can be done to help residents win prizes and recognition at *Among the Stars* by being one of the Top Scholars Houses for Fall 2008—Top 5 each in Campbell and Noehren; Top 4 each in Bender and Dancer; Top 3 each in Bartlett, Hagemann, Lawther, Rider; Top 2 each in Shull and ROTH.**
- Good grades bulletin boards organized and maintained by RAs
- RAs hand out "Talk to Me" bookmarks at a house meeting, encouraging residents to talk to them about "issues."
- Post PAIR newsletters inside bathroom stall doors when PAIR provides them every two weeks.

#### Sometime This Month

- New Roommates Special House Meeting
- "A.C.E. It!" PAIR-facilitated self-assessment Special House Meeting for all Springboard Houses
- "A.C.E. It!" PAIR-facilitated self-assessment Special House Meeting for some non-Springboard Houses
- *Shared Spaces* agreement if needed with troubled roommates
- "Get Smart Prize Giveaways" (two) led by RA at house meetings

#### Sunday-Sunday, Aug 31-Sept 13

- **“The Word Is...DRINKING” bulletin board posting, promotion, attendance**
- Two weeks of immersion program involvement, promotion, attendance**

Monday, September 1 (Labor Day)

- **Fall Senate Retreats**
- Remind senators to go!

Tuesday, September 2

- “I Protect” door hangers under doors late at night, followed by review of personal safety tips at next house meeting

Thursday, September 4

- Bash with Ben: 11:30a-1p Outside Maucker
- Volunteer Fair: 10a-2p @ Maucker Ballroom

Tuesday, September 9

- Student Leadership Center Kick-off: 8pm @ Maucker
- Promote, accompany and attend with all leaders in the house—potential and real.

Monday, September 15

- Career Fair: 2-6p @ UNI-Dome involvement, promotion, attendance
- Prep as many juniors and seniors as possible to attend: <http://www.uni.edu/careerservices/>

Wednesday, September 17

- Student Organization Fair: 10a-3p @ Maucker Ballroom
- Promote everyone going!

Monday-Friday, September 15-19

- Family Weekend
- Prep house to be welcoming for family visits on Family Weekend

Sunday-Sunday, September 21-October 5

- **“The Word Is...TIME MANAGEMENT” bulletin board posting, promotion, attendance**
- Two weeks of immersion information and programs related to the topic**

**October**

Routine

- Weekly scheduled “hang time” of a two-hour block of time to just get to know residents more personally
- Weekly house dinner/s to provide a gathering event and to get to know residents more personally
- RA invites PAIR well in advance to every house meeting, so the PAIR can provide academic tips
- Lead House Council as core community-building team
- Provide recognition to house residents (including *Panther Pride* nominations and informal notes/trinkets) sometime each month
- **Do whatever can be done to help residents win prizes and recognition at *Among the Stars* by being one of the Top Scholars Houses for Fall 2008—Top 5 each in Campbell and Noehren; Top**

**4 each in Bender and Dancer; Top 3 each in Bartlett, Hagemann, Lawther, Rider; Top 2 each in Shull and ROTH.**

- Good grades bulletin boards organized and maintained by RAs
- RAs invite "The Party Queen" to do at least one "Party On, Dude!" program per house during the course of the school year.
- Post PAIR newsletters inside bathroom stall doors when PAIR provides them every two weeks.

Sometime This Month

- New Roommates House Meeting & Program
- "A.C.E. It!" PAIR-facilitated self-assessment Special House Meeting for some non-Springboard houses
- **Who's Who report to RLC/GREC/GRLC: Name, Location, 3 uniques of every resident**
- "Get Smart Prize Giveaways" (two) led by RA at house meeting
- *Shared Spaces* agreement RA facilitation, if needed with roommate conflicts
- **D/F letter from RLC/GRLC/GREC to D/F slip recipients: "get help; here are your options!"**

Monday-Saturday, October 6-11

- Homecoming
- Prep for residents' involvement in activities

Sunday-Sunday, Oct 12-26

- **"The Word Is...SLEEP" bulletin board posting, promotion, attendance**
- Two weeks of immersion program involvement, promotion, attendance**

Sunday, October 26

- "Let's Talk": 6:30-8pm@ Maucker Ballroom
- Diversity leadership program promotion and attendance

(Wednesday, September 3

- *"Safe Zones" Orientation by invitation: 6:30-9pm @ CBB 109)*

Monday, October 6

- **"Safe Zones" Orientation: 6:30-9pm @ CBB 109**
- Promotion and attendance**

Tuesday, October 21

- **"Safe Zones" Orientation: 6:30-9pm @ SEC 244-245**
- Promotion and attendance**

Wednesday, October 22

- **Student Leaders Appreciation Day**

Sunday-Sunday, October 26-November 9

- **"The Word Is...MONEY MANAGEMENT" bulletin board posting, promotion, attendance**
- Two weeks of immersion information and programs related to the topic**

**November**

### Routine

- Weekly scheduled “hang time” of a two-hour block of time to just get to know residents more personally
- Weekly house dinner/s to provide a gathering event and to get to know residents more personally
- RA invites PAIR well in advance to every house meeting, so the PAIR can provide academic tips
- Lead House Council as core community-building team
- Provide recognition to house residents (including *Panther Pride* nominations and informal notes/trinkets) sometime each month
- **Do whatever can be done to help residents win prizes and recognition at *Among the Stars* by being one of the Top Scholars Houses for Fall 2008—Top 5 each in Campbell and Noehren; Top 4 each in Bender and Dancer; Top 3 each in Bartlett, Hagemann, Lawther, Rider; Top 2 each in Shull and ROTH.**
- Good grades bulletin boards organized and maintained by RAs
- RAs invite “The Party Queen” to do at least one “Party On, Dude!” program per house during the course of the school year.
- Post PAIR newsletters inside bathroom stall doors when PAIR provides them every two weeks.

### November 3-7

- Housekeeper Appreciation Week

### Wednesday, November 5

- **“Safe Zones” Orientation: 6:30-9pm @ CBB 109**  
**Promotion and attendance**

### Monday-Friday, November 17-21

- **RA Appreciation Week**

### Wednesday-Saturday, November 26-29

- **Thanksgiving Break programming in open halls**

### Sunday-Sunday, November 9-23

- **“The Word Is...PREPARING FOR FINALS” bulletin board posting, promotion, attendance**  
**Two weeks of immersion information and programs related to the topic**

## **December**

### Routine

- Weekly scheduled “hang time” of a two-hour block of time to just get to know residents more personally
- Weekly house dinner/s to provide a gathering event and to get to know residents more personally
- RA invites PAIR well in advance to every house meeting, so the PAIR can provide academic tips
- Lead House Council as core community-building team
- Provide recognition to house residents (including *Panther Pride* nominations and informal notes/trinkets) sometime each month



- **Do whatever can be done to help residents win prizes and recognition at *Among the Stars* by being one of the Top Scholars Houses for Fall 2008—Top 5 each in Campbell and Noehren; Top 4 each in Bender and Dancer; Top 3 each in Bartlett, Hagemann, Lawther, Rider; Top 2 each in Shull and ROTH.**
- Good grades bulletin boards organized and maintained by RAs
- Post PAIR newsletters inside bathroom stall doors when PAIR provides them every two weeks.

#### Sometime This Month

- **Senate semester-end social**  
Encourage senators to go.

### January

#### Routine

- Weekly scheduled “hang time” of a two-hour block of time to just get to know residents more personally
- Weekly house dinner/s to provide a gathering event and to get to know residents more personally
- RA invites PAIR well in advance to every house meeting, so the PAIR can provide academic tips
- Lead House Council as core community-building team
- Provide recognition to house residents (including *Panther Pride* nominations and informal notes/trinkets) sometime each month
- **Do whatever can be done to help residents win prizes and recognition at *Among the Stars* by being one of the Top Scholars Houses for Fall 2008—Top 5 each in Campbell and Noehren; Top 4 each in Bender and Dancer; Top 3 each in Bartlett, Hagemann, Lawther, Rider; Top 2 each in Shull and ROTH.**
- Good grades bulletin boards organized and maintained by RAs
- RAs invite “The Party Queen” to do at least one “Party On, Dude!” program per house during the course of the school year.
- RAs hand out “Talk to Me” bookmarks at a house meeting, encouraging residents to talk to them about “issues.”
- Post PAIR newsletters inside bathroom stall doors when PAIR provides them every two weeks.

#### Sometime This Month

- Any houses with new students “A.C.E. It!” PAIR-facilitated self-assessment house meeting
- **RLC/GRLC send congratulatory note to residents on Dean’s List**
- **RLC/GRLC/GREC organizes Welcome Week Committee for next fall**

#### Sunday-Sunday, January 11-25

- **“The Word Is...GRADES” bulletin board posting, promotion, attendance**  
**Two weeks of immersion information and programs related to the topic**

#### Tuesday, January 13

- **Fire Drill: 7pm in each hall and complex**

#### Monday, September 19 (Labor Day)

- **Fall Senate Retreats**

**Remind senators to go.**

January 27 or 28:

- **“My Personality, My Career!” workshop: 6:30-9pm @ 109 CBB**  
**For all residents who are unclear about how to match their personality with a career and major**

## **February**

Routine

- Weekly scheduled “hang time” of a two-hour block of time to just get to know residents more personally
- Weekly house dinner/s to provide a gathering event and to get to know residents more personally
- RA invites PAIR well in advance to every house meeting, so the PAIR can provide academic tips
- Lead House Council as core community-building team
- Provide recognition to house residents (including *Panther Pride* nominations and informal notes/trinkets) sometime each month
- **Do whatever can be done to help residents win prizes and recognition at *Among the Stars* by being one of the Top Scholars Houses for Fall 2008—Top 5 each in Campbell and Noehren; Top 4 each in Bender and Dancer; Top 3 each in Bartlett, Hagemann, Lawther, Rider; Top 2 each in Shull and ROTH.**
- Good grades bulletin boards organized and maintained by RAs
- RAs invite “The Party Queen” to do at least one “Party On, Dude!” program per house during the course of the school year.
- Post PAIR newsletters inside bathroom stall doors when PAIR provides them every two weeks.

Sometime This Month

- RLC/GRLC/GREC supports NRHH nomination processes for year-end awards.
- RLC/GRLC/GREC works with hall senate to begin promotion of year-end election processes

Sunday-Sunday, February 8-22

- **“The Word Is...SEXUAL ORIENTATION” bulletin board posting, promotion, attendance**  
**Two weeks of immersion program involvement, promotion, attendance**

Monday-Friday, February 9-13

- **RA Appreciation Week**

## **March**

Routine

- Weekly scheduled “hang time” of a two-hour block of time to just get to know residents more personally
- Weekly house dinner/s to provide a gathering event and to get to know residents more personally
- RA invites PAIR well in advance to every house meeting, so the PAIR can provide academic tips
- Lead House Council as core community-building team

- Provide recognition to house residents (including *Panther Pride* nominations and informal notes/trinkets) sometime each month
- **Do whatever can be done to help residents win prizes and recognition at *Among the Stars* by being one of the Top Scholars Houses for Fall 2008—Top 5 each in Campbell and Noehren; Top 4 each in Bender and Dancer; Top 3 each in Bartlett, Hagemann, Lawther, Rider; Top 2 each in Shull and ROTH.**
- Good grades bulletin boards organized and maintained by RAs
- RAs invite “The Party Queen” to do at least one “Party On, Dude!” program per house during the course of the school year.
- Post PAIR newsletters inside bathroom stall doors when PAIR provides them every two weeks.

Sometime This Month

- **D/F letter from RLC/GRLC/GREC to D/F slip recipients: “get help; here are your options!”**

Wednesday, March 4

- **Student Leaders Appreciation Day**

Friday-Saturday, March 13-21

- **Spring Break programming in open halls**

Sunday, March 29

- **“Common Ground”: 6:30-8pm @ Commons Ballroom  
Diversity leadership program promotion and attendance**

**April**

Routine

- Weekly scheduled “hang time” of a two-hour block of time to just get to know residents more personally
- Weekly house dinner/s to provide a gathering event and to get to know residents more personally
- RA invites PAIR well in advance to every house meeting, so the PAIR can provide academic tips
- Lead House Council as core community-building team
- Provide recognition to house residents (including *Panther Pride* nominations and informal notes/trinkets) sometime each month
- **Do whatever can be done to help residents win prizes and recognition at *Among the Stars* by being one of the Top Scholars Houses for Fall 2008—Top 5 each in Campbell and Noehren; Top 4 each in Bender and Dancer; Top 3 each in Bartlett, Hagemann, Lawther, Rider; Top 2 each in Shull and ROTH.**
- Good grades bulletin boards organized and maintained by RAs
- RAs invite “The Party Queen” to do at least one “Party On, Dude!” program per house during the course of the school year.
- Post PAIR newsletters inside bathroom stall doors when PAIR provides them every two weeks.

Sometime This Month

- **Senate semester-end social  
Encourage senators to go.**

April 12-16

- **Student Employee Appreciation Week**  
**Treasure Trove “thank you’s” of non-RA employees (by RLCs)**

**2008-2009**  
**RLC Overview of Dive In Days**  
**Department of Residence**



Welcome to UNI  
Springboard  
*Dive In Days!*

**RLC “To Do” List**

- Pass along *Dive In Days* e-roster received from Margie (by August 6) to hall secretary, so she can use it to check in *Dive In Days* students who have signed up (and those who just show up!).
- Provide parents at *Dive In Days* check-in with Autumn’s parent brochure.
- Print enough “Welcome to UNI Springboard *Dive In Days*” flyers to give out to Springboarders when they arrive on Wednesday.
- Work with RA/s to have plans for (a) Wednesday evening, after 6:30pm, to help residents get acquainted, (b) other activities throughout Thursday through Sunday of opening weekend and (c) the first six weeks of the semester (including collaboration with the PAIR on prepping Springboarders to take academics seriously).
- Get nametags, markers and materials for RAs.
- Direct RAs to coordinate the serving of pizzas and pop that will be delivered (to rec rooms in the Towers; to main lobbies of the other halls) at 5pm on Wednesday for all *Dive In Days* participants.
- Give RAs lunch and dinner meal cards (provided by Drake by August 11) that they will disseminate to their residents prior to lunch on Thursday.
- Return (labeled by hall name!) leftover meal cards to Drake by Tuesday, August 26.
- Make sure RAs, PAIRs and you schedule yourselves (unless there are class conflicts) for an October 27 4-5pm meeting in the Campbell Main Lounge. Purpose: share how Springboard Houses are going.

## RA Information on *Dive In Days*



Welcome to UNI  
Springboard  
*Dive In Days!*

### Purposes of Springboard Houses

1. enhance entering students' transition to UNI
2. create peer reference groups
3. encourage group identity development
4. provide an integrated learning experience for first year students by connecting faculty, students, academic disciplines, and campus experiences
5. enhance students' academic and social success.

### Purpose of *Dive In Days*

Give students living in an all-freshman environment some early opportunities to get better acquainted with neighbors while learning early pointers on success.

### Schedule

#### Wed, Aug 20

8 am - 4 pm	Residents check in, get Welcome Letter from RLC and begin to set up room
8 am - 2 pm	Move-in Crew volunteers available to help carry things to residents' rooms
10 -12am, 1– 3 pm	Lofts from <a href="http://bedlofts.com">bedlofts.com</a> may be picked up at locations designated at <a href="http://www.bedloft.com">www.bedloft.com</a>
1-4 pm	Residential Computer Consultants available to help Springboard residents get internet connection set up
5 pm	House (by hall) Dinner of delivered pizza and pop
6:30 pm	House activities, organized by the RA

#### Thurs, Aug 21

9:00 am	RAs gather residents to go to Curris Business Building
9:30 am	Rotating sessions in Curris Business Building from 9:30 to 11:45 am: "How to Get Great Grades" by the PAIRs; "Top Ten Tips: Roommates, Homesickness, Safety and More" by Drake Martin;

“Money Matters” by Financial Aid’s Tim Bakula; “Get Engaged in Campus Life” by Erin Wheat and MU SIAC staff.\*

Noon House Lunch in Piazza  
 1:00 pm Residents work on rooms and run errands  
 6:30 pm Panther Picnic, west of UNI sports complex

**Room Assignments**

Curris Business Building Rooms	Sessions			
	One – 9:30	Two – 10:05	Three – 10:40	Four – 11:15
Good Grades: 227	Cam	Hag & Ben	Dan	Noe
Top Ten Tips: 229	Noe	Cam	Hag & Ben	Dan
Money Matters: 320	Dan	Noe	Cam	Hag & Ben
Get Engaged: 332	Hag & Ben	Dan	Noe	Cam

**The Rest of the Weekend**

- “Pantherize Me: Hypnotist” Friday @ 8 and 10 pm at GBPAC.
- “Panthers on Main” - Fun Downtown in Cedar Falls, Saturday from 11am to 2pm
- “Comedy Paws” Comedian Saturday @ 9pm in GBPAC
- “Just Sex?” program for new students: Sunday in Lang Auditorium at 11am (Noehren, Lawther, ROTH, Off-campus); 1pm (Dancer, Bartlett, Hagemann); 3pm (Rider, Bender, Campbell, Shull)
- Hall and house activities: Sunday afternoon
- House meetings: Sunday or Monday evening

[RLC flyer to give to Dive In Days residents when they check in.]



Welcome to UNI  
Springboard  
*Dive In Days!*

- We're glad you're here. Be sure to stop by YOUR RA's room when you start moving in. Here are the Springboard RAs' names and room numbers:

Jeremy Cooper	Outback House	1010 Bender Hall
Scott Heemstra	DeJaVu House	3055 Campbell Hall
Lindsey Niffenegger	Everafter House	4055 Campbell Hall
Jessica Staudt	Happy House	1018 Dancer Hall
Sarah Kerns	Amy House	154 Hagemann Hall
Melanie Hammer	Andromeda House	484 Noehren Hall
Skyler Mayberry-Mayes	Hercules House	410 Noehren Hall
Anne Rohde	Niobe House	447 Noehren Hall

- Join other Springboarders for dinner tonight at 5. Your RA will tell you where.
- If you live in Campbell Hall, you already have a loft in your room. If you reserved a loft from [bedloft.com](http://bedloft.com), you can get it between 1 and 3pm today. If you live in Bender or Dancer or Halls, go to the B Parking Lot, just west of Campbell Hall. If you live in Hagemann or Noehren Halls, go to the location just north of Hagemann Hall.
- Reminder about community standards...
  - No illegal drugs, anywhere
  - No underage possession/drinking, anywhere
  - No "of age" drinking in public areas, anywhere
  - No smoking on campus
  - Visitation of opposite sex (but, no co-habitation) is 24 hours a day
  - Quiet hours are in effect and must be observed the entire week before classes.

**Fair Warning:** failure to abide by any University rules and regulations during *Dive In Days* may result in disciplinary action. Failure to attend all *Dive In Days* activities from dinner Wednesday through Thursday morning will result in your being billed \$60.

So, participate and have fun!!

*We're glad you're here!*