Student Affairs: Week in Review

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Feature:
RAs Bring STEM Olympics to Area Children

The Office of Residence Life's RA staff sponsored a 'STEM' Olympic Service program from 10 am-noon on Saturday, January 18, at the Indiana Free Library.

A series of STEM activities designed to encourage and inspire preschool and elementary students about the wonders of STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) were offered to 65-70 participants throughout the library, despite the challenging winter weather. Children exchanged their STEM passports for fundraised prizes and enjoyed interacting with IUP's RAs, many of whom are earning degrees in STEM-related fields. The Office of Residence Life looks forward to continuing this community outreach effort next year.

Updates

Entries are now being accepted for the Emerging Student Leader Grant Award. If you know of a student who has a great idea that makes a positive impact at IUP, please encourage them to apply for this award. The grant, sponsored by the Center for Multicultural Student Leadership and Engagement (MCSLE) is for $250. Interested students have until April 3 to submit their applications. Questions can be directed to Kevin Foster at kfoster@iup.edu.

Let your students know that they can use Financial Aid to pay for their textbooks! Students are able to utilize their Financial Aid until the end of Add/Drop to assist them in purchasing supplies from the Co-op Store. Students with questions should email the Co-op Store.

Searching for programming space on campus? Folger Hall still has available space that could work as a venue for your next program. Interested? Call the Center for Multicultural Student Leadership and Engagement (MCSLE) at 724-357-2598.

Achievements and Recognition

"It's On Us" Grant Awarded to IUP
Staff for Third Year

Congratulations to Dr. Jessica Miller and IUP's Haven Project on being awarded Governor Tom Wolf's It's On Us grant for the third time. The $30,000 grant will be used to expand Green Dot bystander intervention curriculum, provide risk education and personal protection workshops, educational programming, and will introduce a "Break the Silence" campaign.

LLCs (Living-Learning Communities) with Li

At IUP, we recognize the educational impact of residential living and strive to build programs that further enhance the student experience in ways that go above and beyond just providing fancy amenities. One example of how we do this is through Living-Learning Communities. A Living-Learning Community (LLC) is a group of students who live together in a residence hall with a similar academic pursuit or interest area. Through partnerships with a variety of academic departments, faculty, and staff, LLCs provide students opportunities to extend their learning beyond the classroom and into our residence halls. This ties directly into their academic success at IUP.

We are looking for more faculty and staff members to be engaged with students outside the classroom and in our residence halls. There are many ways you can be involved with LLCs, for example:

- Attend an event/program organized by our Resident Assistants (RAs)
- Become a guest speaker at an LLC program
- Conduct advising/tutoring sessions in a residence hall
- Host or collaborate with Residence Life staff on an event/program in a residence hall
- Host office hour(s) in a residence hall
- Serve as a living-learning partner for a particular LLC
- Promote LLC events in your classroom/department

Faculty Perspective
"What I value most from my experience as a Living-Learning partner is the opportunity to meet our students, quite literally, where they live. Learning together and interacting outside the space of the classroom changes the traditional professor/student dynamic. I know our students more wholly because I know them through our Living-Learning Community".
– Dr. Dawn Smith-Sherwood, Professor of Spanish

Student Perspective
It is always nice to know that professors care about my success in and outside the classroom. It is comforting to have someone there on the student's level who is willing to listen to their students. Personally, I would like to see more faculty interaction with students on campus."
– Sydney Elslager, Senior

Upcoming Events

Pup Against Perps

The Haven Project is collaborating with Health and Wellness Promotion on Wednesday, January 29, from 6:00 pm-7:30 pm in Suites on Maple East. The Just Paws therapy dogs will be on hand to provide free hugs. The Haven Project will be providing information on stalking, as well as additional helpful resources.

Tobacco Cessation Meeting

Interested in quitting vaping or smoking? We offer free nicotine replacement therapy, a quit plan tailored to your needs, supportive coaching and guidance, and stress management tips. Classes start Friday, February 7, at 12:15 pm in G57 in Suites on Maple East. Register by emailing atod-oasis@iup.edu. Free and open to all.

The True Black History Museum; A Traveling Museum

All are invited to visit this traveling exhibit that has made its way across the country. Learn about Black history by viewing rare and authentic artifacts. Free for all. The event is today from 10 am- 2 pm in Elkin Hall's Great Room. Questions? Call the Center for Multicultural Student Leadership and Engagement (MCSLE) at 724-357-2598.

Respect; The Aretha Franklin Journey through the Civil Rights Movement

MCSLE is sponsoring this exciting multimedia event! The life and music of Franklin will be showcased, as well as the civil rights movement. The event is free for all and will take place on Monday, February 17, at 6 pm in Fisher Auditorium. Questions? Call the Center for Multicultural Student Leadership and Engagement (MCSLE) at 724-357-2598.

#WaybackWednesday

MCSLE is hosting an 80s/90s theme night. Please encourage all students to attend this free event. The late-night event will feature laser tag, DIY slime, snacks, and so much more! It is taking place in Folger Hall from 8 pm-12 am on Wednesday, February 5. Questions? Call the Center for Multicultural Student Leadership and Engagement (MCSLE) at 724-357-2598. A special shout out goes to co-sponsors, CCOI! Oh, and bring a friend!

Mindfulness LLC to Travel to UPMC Shadyside

The Mindfulness Living-Learning Community is sponsoring a trip to UPMC Shadyside to learn about their Mindfulness-Based Stress Reduction Programs on Thursday, January 30. The trip is led by the Living-Learning partner, Dr. Kim Weiner. If any of your students are interested, please contact Brad Henry at this link to register.

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