

Student Success Team Meeting

April, 2011

Agenda

- On Iowa! Student Leader Recruitment
- Phone Survey of non-returners
- Meet the Challenge Award Winners
- The IOWA Challenge Work Groups
- Later today in this room:
“What are Students Learning at The University of Iowa”
3-5 p.m.
- SST Newsletter

On Iowa! Student Leader Update

Phone Survey – Michelle Cohenour

Meet the Challenge Awards

- Five awards given – one in each category of The Challenge (Excel, Stretch, Engage, Choose, Serve)
- 47 nominees across the categories:
 - Choose (7)
 - Engage (14)
 - Excel (6)
 - Serve (11)
 - Stretch (9)
- Selection Committee:
 - John Rigby, UISG President
 - Lyndsay Harshman, ECGPS President
 - Bill Nelson, Division of Student Life
 - Sarah Hansen, SST
 - Michelle Cohenour, Office of Retention
 - Brooks Landon, Faculty, Department of English
 - Rachel Williams, Faculty, Art/Art Education

Choose – Zhi Xiong

- Nominator: Julie Claus, Academic Advisor
- “Zhi Xiong chose to follow her dream. Last year, she applied to medical school and was not accepted. Zhi chose to make herself an even stronger applicant. She chose not to graduate in May of 2010. Instead, she delayed graduation and signed up for additional science courses...Zhi chooses to act with compassion. When she helps nurses bathe burn patients, she does not focus on their scars; instead she wants to know them as individuals. She marvels at the physical and emotional strength of patients facing life threatening burns. Zhi Xiong met the Iowa Challenge by choosing to be truly exceptional.”

Stretch – Kristina McLaughlin

- Nominator: Anne Gannaway, co-worker
- “Kristina’s experiences have exemplified "stretch" as defined by the IOWA Challenge through interning in Washington D.C., studying abroad at the University of Ghana, and participating in field research in the Antarctic Peninsula.
- “Her experience working for the Pan American Health and Education Foundation challenged her to interact professionally with those of many different backgrounds. She worked almost exclusively with native Spanish speakers originally from South and Latin America.”
- “Kristina spent a semester studying in West Africa. While her courses at the University of Ghana dramatically changed how she thinks, the most defining aspect of her semester in Ghana was the time spent volunteering at a local school.”

Excel – Mallory Perkins

- Nominator: Kelley Ashby, Instructor/Mentor
- “In just three years, Mallory will have a BA in Communication Studies, a minor in Human Relations, a Nonprofit Management Certificate, a Certificate in Leadership Studies, and will have completed the Career Leadership Academy-having earned a 3.86 G.P.A. along the way! Not only is Mallory an Honors student, but she has taken responsibility for her own success by taking the initiative to seek out meaningful educational experiences. Mallory's commitment to excellence is second to none.”

Engage – Vincent Geis

- Nominator: Anne Gannaway, co-worker
- “Vincent has contributed to University life by working directly for the University in both the Treasury Department and the Undergraduate Admissions Office. Vincent is the President of the University of Iowa Mock Trial Club, where he is also the Captain of a team that is rated 4th nationally, among over 600 teams. Though he practices between three to five nights a week for over three hours, he finds time to help other organization leaders with the beginning stages of their groups. Vincent has used his experience in Mock Trial to help a brand new organization, Collegiate 4-H, by securing funding, organizing logistics, and providing useful contact information.”

Serve – Darcie Becker

- Nominator: Melissa Baker, colleague on committees
- “Darcie's involvement choices all seem to revolve around service. If you look at her resume, it is a part of every position she has held and every opportunity she has taken advantage of while she's been a student here at Iowa. As current president of the Tippie Optimist Chapter, service is a part of Darcie's everyday life. The Tippie Optimist Chapter is an organization that is devoted entirely to getting students connected to the Iowa City community through ongoing service projects.”
- “In addition to her involvement with TOC, Darcie has served on the Business Week Marketing committee, as Chair of Guest Relations for the Career Leadership Academy, and is currently the Volunteer Coordinator for the Living-Learning Center. She's been a Relay for Life Captain, a Dance Marathon participant, and a volunteer at The UI Children's Hospital.”

The IOWA Challenge Work Groups

- Groups in each Challenge area
- Focus on “small wins”

“Renewal may be a big deal, but it is often accomplished by small changes that influence integration, sense, and attention. My basic assumption is that renewal is more successful when people do less, but do it more often, than when they do more, but do it less often. “

–Karl Weick

The IOWA Challenge Work Groups

- Chairs:
 - Jane Schildroth (Excel), Eric Rossow (Engage), Trisha Schiltz (Choose), Kate Sojka (Stretch), Valerie Garr (Serve)
- Steps in the process:
 - Internal scan:
 - What programs/services are already in place that could be more explicitly connected to The IOWA Challenge?
 - What opportunities exist to more clearly communicate about the specific element of The Challenge?
 - Sharing across groups to look for overlap

The IOWA Challenge Work Groups

- A few examples of progress so far:
 - The IOWA Challenge will be included in the Orientation video for first-year students
 - TRIO Day video included students talking about how they've met The IOWA Challenge
 - Staff meeting discussions of each component of The IOWA Challenge at Pomerantz Career Center
 - Signage will be placed in CRWC and SHS re: Choose
 - Pick One video will include student testimonials about Engage
 - Downloadable graphics are available at:
 - <http://thechallenge.uiowa.edu/teach/graphics.html>
 - We will also be adding examples of "Challenge language" that can be incorporated into program descriptions and press releases
- Continue to look for connections in your own work – students benefit from hearing how the experiences we provide help them meet The IOWA Challenge

SST Newsletter – Amy Baccei