



THE HUSKER ADVOCATE

DIVISION OF STUDENT AFFAIRS
UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA-LINCOLN

Fall 2013, Vol. 5, No. 2



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Message from Juan N. Franco

Coming off two weeks of big events, Parents Weekend and Homecoming, this week feels like we do not have as much to do. Then I remembered that we are dealing with a student crisis, we are in the midst of remodeling the City Union, finishing a new residence hall, opening bids for the East Campus Recreation facility, planning a new University Health Center . . . Ok, so maybe we continue to be busy.

The cool fall weather reminds us that winter can't be too far behind. We were reminded of this during Saturday's football game. Many of us had our winter coats on, others, perhaps as a result of wishful thinking, were still wearing their summer clothes. Even the excellent play of our football team could not keep some of us warm.

The game and the crowning of the Homecoming King and Queen were the culmination of a week-long of Homecoming activities. Throughout the week, students were engaged in all kinds of activities including a talent contest, the Homecoming Concert that drew about 4,000 students, the decoration of the Greek Houses' lawns, and of course, the parade. This year, the activities were made a bit more challenging because of the weather. The students, of course, would not let a few storms rain on their parade.



Jordyn Lechtenberg and Anders Olson (photo: Craig Chandler / University Communications)

There are many exciting things occurring on campus. This year we had a very large entering freshman class. Even though we opened the new residence hall (University Suites), we still needed to postpone the closing of Cather Hall. This is a good problem to have. Further, a larger number of the freshmen are out-of-state or international students. We are needing to accommodate the needs of these students. For example, during long weekends, when most of the Nebraska students go home, these students stay on campus. We need to provide activities for them to engage in.

We have opened a food pantry for students in need. Featured in this newsletter, the Open Shelf will provide basic hygiene items and non-perishable food for students needing a hand up. We also had a very successful Parents Weekend. With more than 500 parents and family members registered to attend, this was the largest number of participants we have ever had. As would be expected, most of the participants were from Nebraska, but we did have quite a few from out-of-state. For example, we had 26 families from Minnesota, 23 from Illinois, 19 from Colorado, 8 from South Dakota, 8 from California, and 6 from Wyoming. In all, 23 states were represented.

It is hard to believe we are already in October. Soon we will be planning for end of semester activities. As we head for the home stretch, stay warm and stay healthy.

-Juan N. Franco

Find calendar information at:

UNL Calendar:
<http://events.unl.edu>

Student Affairs Calendar:
<http://stuafs.unl.edu>

Student Involvement:
<http://involved.unl.edu>

Featured Department. . . OpeN Shelf

by Dr. Kelli Smith, UNL Career Services

OpeN Shelf, a campus pantry, is a new initiative on campus to support our University of Nebraska-Lincoln (UNL) students in need. Basic necessities will be provided to lessen barriers for UNL students pursuing higher education. The primary focus will be on personal care items such as shampoo and laundry detergent.



The inspiration for OpeN Shelf came from Keith Zaborowski in Residence Life sharing the story of a couple UNL students struggling at the end of the Fall 2012; both students were unable to afford laundry detergent and to pay for washing their clothing and bedding throughout the semester. After exploring a couple ways to help, I eventually reached out to the Director of the Food Bank of Lincoln, Scott Young. He wrote back almost immediately with a positive response, and fortunately Dr. Franco gave the idea and our ability to move forward his blessing. It was the start of our campus pantry concept. What followed were several meetings with Scott's team and various stakeholders across campus, some of which are those of you reading this article.

What has been truly inspiring is the campus and community support for this program. If it were not for the support of the Food Bank of Lincoln, Student Affairs Staff Council, and UNL Greek Affairs for donating items; the Lutheran Student Center and Pastor Adam for agreeing to host the location and become a partner in this effort; Housing for helping to spread the news via their RA and other staff and bring this to our attention; the designation by Dr. Franco and Linda Major for an AmeriCorps volunteer slot for the program and sophomore Megan Rudolph to build the pantry over the summer; an anonymous student's suggestion of OpeN Shelf as our name; and the financial contribution of the Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs, we would not have been able to launch OpeN Shelf on the first day of classes this fall. OpeN Shelf represents a highly collaborative effort and the care people, outside and inside UNL, have for our students. In particular, the support so many of you, our colleagues in Student Affairs, have shown in both words and action is truly inspiring.

We hope you will help us spread the word about this new initiative. Please know that if you are meeting with a student in need that could benefit from OpeN Shelf, you and our RAs are welcome to pick up products for the student on their behalf during the open hours. We hope that all students feel welcome and comfortable coming on their own, and we are grateful that several already have, but we also want to ensure that students get the items they need.

For more information, please visit our newly launched website, <http://openshelf.unl.edu>, or email us at openshelfpantry@gmail.com.



Featured Student Eric Reznicek



“The Good Life.”

Maybe I am biased; I have indeed spent every day of my life residing within the borders of Nebraska, barring travel of course. But still, there is something to be said for this slogan. For those that don't know Nebraska that well, or have just been granted the opportunity to begin getting to know this great state, we have a different outlook on life here. We take life seriously, but not too seriously at the same time. We stress the importance of growth and innovation, but at the same time, we look forward to those moments spent relaxing with our friends and family. There is a prevalent theme in all of our actions, however: we take pride in what we do. I guess you could say that's what's brought me to where I am today.

Before I get ahead of myself, I am Eric Reznicek, a senior at the University of Nebraska–Lincoln, currently pursuing an education in marketing and finance as I currently serve as the Student Body President. I was born and raised in Omaha, NE, and although it may sound cliché, I wanted to be a Husker all of my life. Granted, the initial dream was to come and bleed scarlet and cream for our football team, I soon realized early in my high school career that a career in academia may be better suited to my strengths.

I began my college career cautiously and calculated; living in Neihardt, focusing on my interactions with the honors program, and spending a majority of my time investing directly in my education. I soon found that I had a yearning for something more. It wasn't a sense of being unfulfilled, but rather, I had a need to develop more of an emotional connection with my campus.

“Buy in, or get out.”

I remember my high school coach repeating this on a daily basis. What he wanted to instill in us was a sense of character; if you weren't there to give it your all, then why were you there in the first place? This is the mentality I decided to accept and continue to foster.

My first involvement on campus was as an off-campus representative for our Committee for Fees Allocation (CFA) with ASUN, and to say it was an eye-opening experience would be the understatement of the century. We dealt with every fee-using entity on campus; touring their facilities, looking step by step through their budgets. It was incredible. My number one takeaway from the experience was that students truly do have the opportunity to make an impact on their campus, and what I have learned since is that the students at the University of Nebraska–Lincoln have the greatest opportunity of all. In comparison to many of the top colleges across the nation, we have the greatest respect for our student opinion.

From there, I became engrossed with our campus. I have since served as a representative and executive member within such groups as the American Marketing Association (CBA), the University's Enrollment Management Council, the Big Event (ASUN), Farmhouse Fraternity, my on-campus position within CBA, Communications Committee (ASUN), and as an Honors Peer Mentor within the Honors Program.


My life, my career, and my relationships, have been made better by being able to attend the University of Nebraska–Lincoln. The opportunities given to the students and me on this campus are incomparable elsewhere. I began my studies within computer science, and found myself in business; I joined a Greek House and became involved in student government; both things I would have denied until my demise merely four years ago. The opportunity for growth I have been able to experience here is incredible.

As a fellow student, I must encourage all students to invest, engage, and grow on their campus. Find something you are passionate about and make it your calling; “Buy in”. Explore opportunities, and say “yes” more often. Take a chance, embrace the experience, and never be afraid of failing; you’ll realize at our University, there is always someone to help pick you back up when you do. UNL has some sort of multiplier associated with its campus. Whatever you put in, you’ll see ten-fold in its returns. I have been blessed to experience this, and I hope that all of you seize the opportunity to experience “The Good Life” as well.



Show Your Red

THE BUILDING BLOCKS OF
INTEGRITY



Cs Citizenship <small>Engaging in service and community</small>	Dp Dependability <small>Following through on obligations</small>	Ct Commitment <small>Being faithful to a cause</small>	Rs Respect <small>Showing deference to others</small>	Ca Caring <small>Being actively interested in someone</small>	Op Open-mindedness <small>Being willing to accept other's ideas</small>
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Get Involved – spread the word!
When you see someone go out of their way to do the right thing, it's worth sharing.

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Send an email to showyourred@unl.edu



- Citizenship • Dependability • Commitment • Respect • Caring • Open-mindedness

Find more information on this Student Affairs initiative at <http://stuafs.unl.edu/showyourred>.