Division of STUDENT AFFAIRS THE UNIVERSITY OF UTAH Student Affairs Updates

November 20, 2020

Reclaiming Visibility

While communities that identify as American Indian or Alaska Native (AI/AN) are the original inhabitants of the land, they remain invisible to the non-Native society -- illustrated through the high numbers of murdered and missing Indigenous women and transgender youth. Although this issue has been prominent in AI/AN communities in the U.S. for many years, it has not been visible in the national dialogue until very recently. Learn more on the <u>Equity, Diversity & Inclusion website</u>.



November is Native American Heritage Month. See what's happening

across campus on this sub-calendar.



Native American Heritage Month Panels

For Native American Heritage Month, Student Development and Inclusion hosted a series of virtual panels on Indigenous Representation, Indigenizing University of Utah, and Land Back: A Critical Conversation About Reconciliation. If you missed any of the panels, <u>visit their page</u> to view the recordings.

Congratulations HRE!



Congratulations to Housing and Residential Education (HRE) team for their recognition by and leadership in the Association of Intermountain Housing Officers (AIMHO)!

Award Recognition

- **Matt Phiste**r, Resident Director, Kahlert Village, received the AIMHO Committee Member of the Year. Matt was recognized for his work with AIMHO services data and case study development for the 2020 Case Study Competition.
- **Jimmy Thren**, Resident Outreach Coordinator, who was nominated for the Outstanding Mid-Level Professional Award. Jimmy was nominated for this award for his dedication to supporting residents through any life challenges.

Leadership Roles

- **Kolay Carver**, Assistant Director of Conduct and Outreach Management was elected as the Corporate Partner Coordinator.
- **Todd Justesen** has served as the Association's President-elect for the past year and now serves as the President.
- **Barb Remsburg** is honored to have been selected by Todd to serve as the Sage for the upcoming year.





Congratulations to the <u>University Counseling</u>

<u>Center</u> for successful completion of the American Psychological Association (APA) Accreditation process for the doctoral psychology internship program! Under Steve Lucero and Susan Chamberlin's leadership, through this arduous and important process, the program has again received full accreditation for 10 years. Thanks to the entire UCC staff for their hard work and professionalism.

Catching up with Kyle Ethelbah

Lori McDonald had a conversation with Kyle Ethelbah, Director of <u>TRIO Programs</u>, to learn how they are supporting students and planning for the future.



Mental Health Support for Students of Color We are excited about a new collaboration



between the <u>University Counseling Center</u> (UCC) and <u>Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion</u> (EDI). Two counselors will be embedded into the <u>Center for Ethnic Student Affairs</u> (CESA) to make counseling more accessible to students who use CESA. **You can read more in the** <u>@theU article</u>.



COVID Testing for Students

Have you heard about the testing plan for college students in the state of Utah? Learn more about the University of Utah's plan to protect students, their families and the health of the

community with the upcoming holiday. The plan is in accordance with the State of Emergency and Executive Public <u>Health Order Gov. Gary R. Herbert issued</u> on Nov. 8, 2020. **Read the complete** <u>FAQs in @theU</u>.



Thanksgiving Holiday

Next week is Thanksgiving break. Our newsletter will return on December 4th.

Note: If you are a benefitted employee, remember to enter Thursday and Friday as holidays in KRONOS.

Winter Break Staffing

The University of Utah is moving to all online instruction from Thanksgiving until the end of fall semester. While our office remain open, teleworking is encouraged. **Read the full article in** <u>@theU</u>.





Importance of Pronouns

Pronouns—they're something a lot of us take for granted in everyday life. If you identify with the sex you were assigned at birth, pronouns might not be something you've had to think

about. If you or someone in your life is transgender, genderqueer or another gendervariant, you probably know how important it is to get pronouns right, even if you don't do so the first time. **Read the full article in** <u>@theU</u>.



Join us in implementing the strategic plan for the <u>McCluskey Center for Violence</u> <u>Prevention</u>! Descriptions of working groups are included <u>here</u>. Any member of the U of U community - faculty, staff, and students - are welcome to join us. No previous experience necessary! To join a working group, please complete the form linked at the bottom of the list of descriptions. Please direct questions to <u>cvp@utah.edu</u>.

Student Affairs Committee Updates

Staff Survey -- We Need to Hear From You!

Please take a few minutes to share your input and experiences to help shape the work of the four Student Affairs Staff Committees. Please respond by **November 29th!**

PROFESSIONAL



Training Tuesdays -- We will be offering a new series of Training Tuesdays in Spring 2021! If you are interested in presenting with us, please email us at pdc@sa.utah.edu

Virtual Trainings Library: Your colleagues in PDC want to make your professional skill development convenient and accessible. Please stop by our <u>Virtual Training</u> <u>Database</u>, where you can find a variety of trainings that are organized by competency areas.



Featured On-Demand Training

International Students Week is celebrated in November! As we seek to learn more about how we as student affairs pros can support international students, we found this training to be particularly relevent. International students have faced numerous challenges this year and are an

important part of our community.

Supporting International Student Mental Health During Challenging Times

Host: JED Higher Ed Webinars

Presenters: Sofia B. Pertuz, PhD- Chief Diversity and Inclusion Officer and Senior Advisor the JED Foundation & Jan Collins-Eaglin, PhD - Senior Scientific Advisor The Steve Fund

Competencies: Advising and Supporting (AS)

You can access this training <u>here</u>.



Dear Student Affairs colleagues,

The Social Connections Committee's recent use of "namaste" in our upcoming event was culturally insensitive, as we did not use the term in its original religious intent. This is contrary to our committee and division's professional standards and beliefs. We deeply regret using this phrase and for the unintended harm it caused to our campus community and Student Affairs professionals. In a time when we are all reflecting on our biases and being more intentional about our words and actions, we missed the mark.

As Student Affairs professionals, it is important for us to educate ourselves on the impact insensitivity has on our community.

In a recent educational article by NPR, author Kumari Devarajan writes,

"The first part of namaste comes from 'namaha,' a Sanskrit verb that originally meant 'to bend.' Deshpande says, 'Bending is a sign of submission to authority or showing some respect to some superior entity.' Over time, 'namaha' went from meaning 'to bend' to meaning 'salutations' or 'greetings.' The 'te' in namaste means 'to you,' Deshpande says. So all together, namaste literally means 'greetings to you.' In the Vedas, namaste mostly occurs as a salutation to a divinity."

The Social Connections Committee sincerely values diversity and inclusion, and we commit to actively ensuring cultural, spiritual, and religious sensitivity and inclusive practices in the future. Our team will be participating in ongoing diversity training to live up to our own and your expectations and standards. In addition, we have launched a thorough review of our approval and oversight processes across our committee to help ensure that our values are represented in our events moving forward.

We encourage an open forum for folx to express any considerations or concerns if you notice any cultural insensitivity in our activities.

We have renamed our end-of-semester activity to "Winter Yoga Exhale." We hope you will join us on December 2, 2020 at 6 p.m. where we will have the opportunity to address and acknowledge our insensitivity and share our commitment to diversity and inclusion, followed by a restorative one-hour virtual yoga class.

If you'd like to join us, please use the following Zoom registration link: <u>https://utah.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJAlfumorTojE9OqFsn-nGuizm_K3jTTsx8I</u>

To learn more, we recommended reading the following resources along with us:

How Namaste Flew Away From Us https://www.npr.org/sections/codeswitch/2020/01/17/406246770/how-namasteflew-away-from-us

How to Decolonize Your Yoga Practice - <u>https://decolonizingyoga.com/decolonize-yoga-practice/</u>



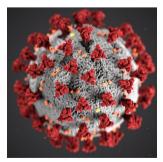
University Community Drive-thru Flu Clinic through December 17th

Engineering Building parking lot - *enter from North Campus Drive*

Tuesdays: 1-5 pm Thursdays: 1-5 pm (Except Thanksgiving) Saturdays: 10am - 2pm

Utah Department of Health COVID Survey

The Utah Department of Health (UDOH) has developed an anonymous, 10-minute survey specifically for our university/college stakeholder communities to better understand perceptions, behaviors and barriers related to COVID-19. Please take a moment to provide input.

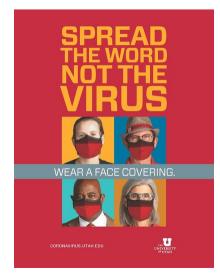


Take the survey here

Weekly COVID-19 Updates from University of Utah Health

Dr. Michael Good, Senior Vice President of University of Utah Health, provided his weekly update on COVID-19 on November 17th. You can watch it here:





COVID-19 Resources

<u>Coronavirus.utah.edu</u>

General Campus Questions Hotline **801-213-2874**

Health and Testing Hotline **801-587-0712**

Something on Your Mind?



Vice President for Student Affairs University of Utah 801-581-7793 <u>studentaffairs@utah.edu</u>

FORWARD TO A FRIEND

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