Partnership Highlights

One of the four goals of the Theme Semester program is to have a topic that touches each of the 11 colleges and is all encompassing. The Just Living Theme Semester brought together students, faculty, staff, and the community on a topic that is part of our daily lives: social justice. It was important with this Theme Semester, as it is every day at our institution, that our students, faculty, staff, and community felt that their voice was heard. Events, activities, and educational opportunities touched on many areas of social justice, including race, identity, interfaith cooperation, environmental justice, and more. The speakers and guests involved with hundreds of events and programming engaged in discussions, extended their skills during workshops, and answered questions. We introduced a new component to the program, our Student Ambassadors, who represented the student body throughout the semester; our connection to academics grew stronger; and we integrated new resources at the University of Iowa such as the One Button Studio.

The conversations we started don’t end this month. There will be a piece of the social justice Theme Semester in future topics. Our hope is to continue the ideas of the committee and campus in new ways in the future. We invite you to the final event, Just Living at the University of Iowa, on Monday, May 2 from 4:30 - 5:30 p.m. in the Old Capitol Museum Senate Chamber to join the discussion, share your experience with the semester, and provide feedback on how campus can continue to move forward. View events details.

Grants Available for 2016-17

The Office of Outreach & Engagement has opened grant applications for funds to be used during the 2016-17 academic year. There are three grant opportunities: Community Impact Grants, Outreach & Engagement Micro Grants, and Theme Semester Supplemental Grants. More information on the grant application process can be found at http://bit.ly/OEgrants.

Stay connected with us on social media! You can like us on Facebook, follow us on Twitter, and view us on Instagram.

PROGRAM UPDATES

Art Share
The PanAmerican Steel Band will be touring in Iowa communities this May! Each year following spring semester finals, Professor Dan Moore takes his percussion students on a week-long tour throughout the state for the PanAmerican Steel Band tour. The band is so popular that the tour fills up in the fall, with some requests coming in to Arts Share over a year in advance! This year they will tour May 14 - 20, performing for schools, community organizations, and formal venues in the following communities: Marshalltown, Burt, Forest City, Winfield, Davenport, Eldridge, Burlington, Oxford, Monticello, Cedar Rapids, and North Liberty. The 18-member ensemble will travel over 1,000 miles to share their talents with the rest of the state!

Arts Share is accepting applications for their Summer Arts Camp! The camp is 8:30 a.m. - noon from June 16 - 20 for children entering first through sixth grades. For more information visit artshare.uiowa.edu or email director Leslie Finer at leslie-finer@uiowa.edu.

Grant Wood Art Colony

While the Grant Wood Fellows finish up their year in Iowa, their activity is far from slowing down!

Music Fellow Christopher Jette had several weekends booked as his collaborations took the stage: LOUi (the laptop orchestra of the University of Iowa) performed its original work during a performance on April 23. The final piece, "The First Gathering" by Jonathan Wilson, was a collaboration with theTranslation Program. On the following Sunday, Jette's piece, "Utauqu," was performed by Shannon Wettstein Sadler during the Center for New Music recital. Jette concluded his year on Sunday, May 1, with a world-premiere performance of "Psionic" in collaboration with oboist Courtney Miller.

All three Fellows' work will be featured at GWAC 1516: Grant Wood Fellowship Exhibition, May 21 - June 30, in the old art museum (now known as Music West). Fellow Neal Rock will display his large-scale, three-dimensional, silicon paintings. Fellow Terry Conrad will hang several of prints made from a system using found materials collected from local Iowa landscapes and towns and a few made in collaboration with Jette. Conrad will also install one of his presses in the exhibition space. For more information view the event details.

Hawkeye Lunch & Learn

The Hawkeye Lunch & Learn lecture series is wrapping up this week with the last two lectures of the semester in Des Moines and Iowa City! It has been an exciting semester exploring topics ranging from business, law, politics, and art! View all of the 2015-16 Hawkeye Lunch & Learn lectures on the YouTube Playlist.

Your feedback is important! Please fill out the end of the year assessment survey by Friday, May 13 to assist staff in improving the Hawkeye Lunch & Learn lecture series experience.

Iowa Initiative for Sustainable Communities

Join students, faculty, staff, and partners from across Iowa as the IISC celebrates the culmination of two years of partnership with the City of Decorah/Winneeshiek County, the City of Iowa City, and the Siouxland Interstate Metropolitan Planning Council/the City of Sioux City this month! Over the course of these partnerships, spanning the 2014-16 academic years, the IISC has completed 69 projects that address the economic, social, and environmental sustainability of the communities and have engaged teaching, learning, and research at the university with significant priorities across the state.

A student talks with community members at IISC's 2014-15 final celebration in Decorah.
The final activities range from student presentations to open house events. Learn more about the events and presentations.

RC&D Partnership

Student projects across all nine RC&D regions continued throughout April, with additional community visits by students as well as community partner visits to campus. More than 14 student groups traveled to communities across the state, including visits to towns such as Fairfield, Independence, and Eldon, Iowa. Student projects will wrap up the first two weeks of May, with presentations scheduled both in communities across Iowa as well as on campus. In total, there will be 20 presentations by students to their community partners. Presentations will vary from formal PowerPoint presentations to community workshops to film presentations.

Theme Semester

Join the Just Living Theme Semester for the concluding marquee event of the semester, Just Living at the University of Iowa. This event will reflect on the efforts of campus and community during the spring 2016 social justice activities. The Just Living Planning Committee and President Harreld will discuss the Just Living Theme Semester, social justice at the University of Iowa, and the vision for diversity and inclusion on campus. There will be an opportunity to ask the committee questions. Following the discussion, a reception will be held in the rotunda of the Old Capitol Museum. Guests will have the opportunity to visit the exhibit Them: Images of Separation and learn more about the spring 2017 Theme Semester. This event is free and open to the public, but RSVP is encouraged.

Provide feedback about your experience with the Theme Semester program. Take this brief survey by Friday, May 13.