

UIS Parent & Family Newsletter

2019 Summer Newsletter

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Orientation and
Parent Relations

ILLINOIS
SPRINGFIELD

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Summer Notes

from the Director of New Student Orientation & Parent Relations

By: Lisa McGuire

Happy Summer! For a while there it seemed it would never warm up and never stop raining here in Central Illinois. But now it is finally drying out and the heat is on!

We have had a busy few months in NSOPR. In early April, the New Student Orientation & Parent Relations Offices moved from the Student Affairs Building to the University Hall Building. Most of our furniture came with us and nearly 100 boxes were packed and unpacked. Thank goodness for our facilities staff. They moved all this stuff from one building to another in less than six hours. The move has made it easier for me and my staff to run back to the office for things we need during our Orientation programs. It also brings us physically within the Enrollment Management unit and closer to our work partners in Admissions, Financial Aid, and Records and Registration.



After the July Orientation session, I managed to squeeze in a visit back to my hometown near Buffalo, NY to see my family. One of my favorite things to when I am back home in the summer is visit Fort Niagara State Park. It is at the end of the Niagara River and beginning


of Lake Ontario. On a clear day you can see the Toronto skyline across the narrow part of the lake. Unfortunately, it was a little too hazy to see it this visit, but it was wonderful to feel the lake breeze on a nice sunny day picnicking and reading with my mom and nephew. I haven't been home during the summer for several years because of the orientation schedule, so it was great to do this. I hope you all had an opportunity to do something fun and relaxing as a family over the summer break before your student starts school.

Speaking of classes starting, as we near the end of summer break we will close out our summer orientation season with our third Transfer/Graduate program on August 16, our last KickStart Orientation for first-years August 19 and 20 and the second part of first-year Orientation – Semester Launch August 20-23. Classes start Monday, August 26.

Hold the dates! In a couple of weeks we will send out information about Family Days. They will be on Friday, October 4 and Saturday, October 5. We will be mailing out a postcard and sending email if your student has it listed in their record. We look forward to seeing your students in a couple of weeks.

Lisa

www.uis.edu/newstudentorientation

Follow NSOPR on Facebook 
www.facebook.com/uisnewstudentorientation/





Student Insurance

All students enrolled in any On-Campus or Blended courses, without a waiver on file for the current academic year, are automatically assessed for the UIS Student Insurance plan with Blue Cross Blue Shield at the current rate of \$866 for coverage each semester of the academic year. Students will have the option of continuing coverage over the summer, even if they are not enrolled in classes for a fee of \$464.

If your student wants to opt out of coverage and has an alternate source of comparable insurance, they must submit an online waiver once per academic year. The waiver is opened and publicized via UIS email in mid-August and will continue to be available through mid-September. The process is repeated with the beginning of the new academic year.

Thank you. UIS Office of Student Insurance.

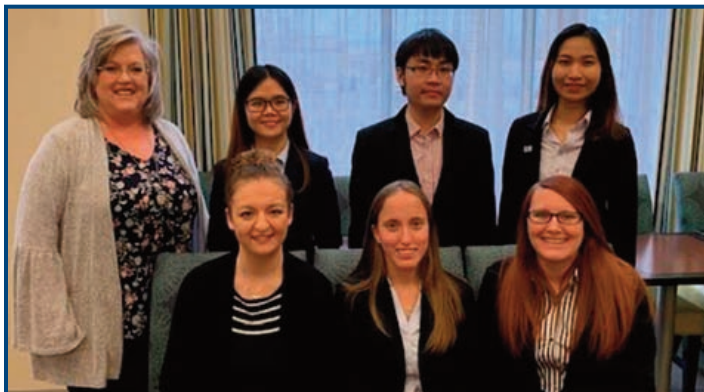
Contact: Phone: (217) 206-7237.

Email: studentinsurance@uis.edu

College of Business and Management

By Renee Clausner, Assistant to the Dean

The College of Business and Management would like to highlight three student groups which have had great success during the spring semester:



UIS Society for Human Resource Management (SHRM)

UISSHRM earned 2nd place in both competitions at the annual Illinois State Student HR Conference and Competition this past weekend. Case Competition 2nd place out of 8 different college teams winners included:

- Undergraduates: **Alexis Eddings, Tracy Cessna, and Marina Gendeck**
- Graduates: **Cuong Nguyen, Trinh Tran, and Le Tran**

HR Games (Jeopardy Style) Competition 2nd place out of 18 different mixed college team winner was **Alexis Eddings** who also served as Team Captain and Director of Competition on UIS SHRM Exec Board. Also pictured, Donna Skowronski, SHRM Faculty Advisor.



UIS Society for Advancement of Management (SAM)

The UIS competition team of SAM at UIS Student Chapter returned home with two prizes received from the SAM 2019 International Management Conference:

- The UIS Case Competition Team (**Mike Kirchgesner, Turner Clark, Shreyas Shirish, and Rohith Madamshetty**) won the Third-Place Prize in the *International Collegiate Business Skills Championship*.
- **Turner Clark**, from the SAM at UIS Student Chapter, won the First-Place Prize in the *Extemporaneous Speech Competition*.

Dr. Hasan Kartal serves as Faculty Advisor of SAM at UIS. Picture also includes Dr. Rassule Hadidi, Head of the MIS Department at UIS and Dr. Somnath Bhattacharya, Dean of the College of Business and Management.



Campus 1871 startup competition

A group of three University of Illinois Springfield students took part in the sixth annual Campus 1871 event, a weekend-long initiative that simulates the realities of launching and running a startup company, in Chicago April 6-7, 2019.

For one weekend a year, 1871 brings together more than 100 students from local universities for the ultimate startup experience. Students come together to share ideas, collaborate and build out business solutions with mentoring and coaching

from 1871 entrepreneurs. The weekend concludes with a pitch competition in front of a panel of top leaders in Chicago's tech community for assorted prizes.

The three UIS students who participated included **Nikita Newcomb**, an undergraduate business administration major from Russia; **James Ukonu**, a graduate data analytics major from Nigeria; and **Olamide Ogunbameru**, a graduate computer science major from Nigeria. Also pictured below faculty advisors, Bruce Sommer and Nabih Elhajj.

Newcomb and Ukonu's team took first place in the business solutions track and Ogunbameru's team took second place in the diversity and inclusion track. There were a total of 11 teams that competed.

Founded in 2012, 1871 was created to support Chicago's digital startup community. Since that time, it has become the hub for the city's thriving technology and entrepreneurial ecosystem. Located in The Merchandise Mart, 1871 is the home of more than 400 early-stage, high-growth digital startups.

UIS News

By: Blake Wood, UIS Assistant Director of Public Relations

Students celebrate graduation during the 48th annual UIS Commencement ceremonies

The University of Illinois Springfield held two commencement ceremonies on Saturday, May 11, 2019, at the Bank of Springfield Center in downtown Springfield. Out of the 1,274 UIS students who were eligible to graduate, 745 participated in the ceremonies.

UIS Chancellor Susan J. Koch presided over the ceremonies, welcoming thousands of guests. She reflected on the importance of earning a University of Illinois degree and the "pathway to opportunity" that degree will create for the 2019 graduates.

"You will make a difference in the world," said Koch. "In saying that, I am not talking about an abstract ideal. Each of you—with your own skills, aspirations, contributions and achievements—will leave a mark on this world, and it's such an honor to know that UIS will have helped play a part in your future success."



Koch was joined on stage by University of Illinois President **Timothy Killeen** during the second ceremony. Killeen spoke about how students have always been at the center of the University of Illinois System's mission since its founding a century-and-a-half ago.



"We were created to open our doors wide to every deserving student, not just the privileged few, providing an education that would transform their lives, one by one, and collectively send off new waves of talent year after year to lift the fortunes of our state, our nation and our world," he said.

The student commencement address was delivered by **Jeffrey Nevins**, who graduated with a bachelor's degree in communication. He currently works as the technical director/show systems manager at the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum.

Nevins reflected on his educational journey at UIS, which started in 1994.

"I've finally finished," he said. "In that 25 years, I've learned a lot – both in school and out. So, like every other middle-aged white guy you've ever met I'm going to regale you with all of my wisdom. And as an added bonus, it's in the form of a numbered list!"



Nevins went on to share his list of wisdom on topics ranging from self-care, to always sitting in the front row and always backing up your files. He also told the audience that you're "never done learning," "no means no" and "it is far better to be kind than right."

"Congratulations to my fellow 2019 graduates," he said. "It has been an honor and a privilege to learn alongside of you. And in the words of Abraham Lincoln: 'I bid you God-speed.'"

Photos and more video are available at the commencement website:
www.uis.edu/commencement/.

First students graduate from UIS' new public policy bachelor's degree program

A group of four students made up the first graduating class of the University of Illinois Springfield's new public policy bachelor's degree program. Students first started to enroll in the program in Fall Semester 2016.

The degree is designed to give students comprehensive training in the field of public policy, including applied policy implementation and program evaluation. The degree prepares students for careers as lawmakers, policy analysts, legislative aides, community activists, lobbyists and attorneys.

"This program was started as a way to provide students who are interested in government and politics with a more applied curriculum and to utilize our location in the state capital to allow students, who already are interested in government, a chance to start interning and



working in the field,” said Magic Wade, UIS assistant professor of political science.

In addition to what students learn in the classroom, they are also required to complete a six credit-hour internship with a state, local government or policymaking agency as part of the public policy bachelor’s degree curriculum. The internships are designed to introduce students to various post-graduate professional options.



The four students who graduated on Saturday, May 11, 2019, with their bachelor’s degrees in public policy include **Tristan Akers** of Cambridge, **Jason Edwards** of Springfield, **Andrew Jarmer** of Springfield and **James Wheeler** of Rochester.

For more information on the UIS bachelor’s degree in public policy, contact Magic Wade at 217/206-6523 or mwade7@uis.edu. Students may apply online at www.uis.edu/admissions/applytoday/.

UIS study finds “bedazzled” recycling bins don’t increase recycling behavior on campus

A recent study conducted by students and faculty at the University of Illinois Springfield has found that “bedazzled” or more aesthetically pleasing recycling bins did not increase recycling behavior on the Springfield campus.

The waste management study, funded by a \$3,654 PepsiCo Recycling grant, was conducted from October 1 to November 16, 2018. The researchers randomly deployed both “bedazzled” recycling bins featuring colorful nature photos with phrases, such as “thanks for pitching in,” on them and traditional blue recycling bins in main campus buildings to test their hypothesis.



“The idea for the study was built on research that found nature scenes in product marketing create a positive emotional response for consumers who are less concerned about environmental issues,” said Carolee Rigsbee, UIS assistant professor of management. “We thought positive emotions from viewing nature scenes would also increase recycling behavior, but we did not find this outcome using the bedazzled containers on the UIS campus.”

The 20 “bedazzled” recycling bins and 20 standard blue recycling bins purchased by the PepsiCo Recycling grant will still be put to good use on campus. The UIS Department of Residence Life will be deploying the recycling containers in residence halls and near townhouses/apartments to increase recycling convenience.

“Education will be a big part of this effort to increase recycling on campus,” said **Marissa Jones**, a UIS environmental studies major who helped conduct the study. “We’ll be working with RAs and the Residence Life leadership team during upcoming training sessions. The idea will be for them to spread the word to students and become champions for campus recycling.”

Rigsbee points out that the collaboration between students and faculty was an important part of the research study. UIS faculty members Jorge Villegas, interim associate dean of the College of Business and Administration, and Megan Styles, assistant professor of environmental studies also helped with the study.

In addition to the new recycling bins in campus housing, the student-led UIS Green Fee Committee has recently



implemented a number of sustainability initiatives on campus including low emission vehicle (LEV) parking spaces, reusable water bottle refilling stations, a sustainable garden for Cox Daycare Children Center, a bicycle repair station located under the overhang at south entrance of PAC and added nine new bikes to UIS Campus Recreation's bike rental program.

Hundreds of students take part in the 27th annual Springfest competition

April saw the 27th annual Springfest competition at the University of Illinois Springfield. Springfest is one of the longest running student traditions on campus, which started in 1992.

Students competed in fun events, such as the Scavenger Hunt, Flag and Chant, Game of Games, Trivia Night and Sports Day. During Sports Day, students competed in everything from flag football to the annual mud tug-of-war. Students also gave back to the community by helping to build a Habitat for Humanity home.

This year, 31 teams made up of more than 300 students took part in the week-long event.



Four UIS students present their work at the National Conference on Undergraduate Research

Four students from UIS presented their work at the National Conference on Undergraduate Research at Kennesaw State University in Kennesaw, Georgia in April.

Students submitted abstracts and were selected in a competitive process by the UIS Undergraduate Research Steering Committee. They were later approved by the national conference committee. The students represent multiple programs and colleges.



Students presenting include **Benjamin Schulte** (Psychology), **Brendan Mitchell** (Public Administration), **Rebecca Smith** (Chemistry) and **Natalie Kerr** (Chemistry).

The 33rd annual National Conference on Undergraduate Research is a program of the Council on Undergraduate Research. Approximately 4,000 students from around the country are presenting their research and creative activities.

The students were accompanied on the trip by Anette Sikka, assistant professor of legal studies, and Keenan Dungey, associate vice chancellor for research and institutional effectiveness.



Campus Recreation

By: Jay Swenson, Assistant Director – Intramural and Club Sports



It was a fun spring semester in the Campus Recreation department that was packed with activities! We started the semester by taking 50 students to Snowstar Winter Park in the Quad Cities. This trip was only \$25 and included bus transportation, ski or snowboard equipment and a lesson. This was a perfect day trip for student to get a taste of something they have never tried before. A week later, we took a weekend trip to Welch Village in southern Minnesota. This ski and snowboard trip had ten students attend and gave a wider taste of the sport. Outdoor Adventures are a great way for students to explore the outdoors and maybe try something new such as whitewater rafting. All trips are partially funded by Campus Recreation which makes them reasonable as well!

On the intramural side, we had a successful basketball season with eight teams in both our men's and coed leagues. Students played several games throughout February and March with the championship games held March 24. The championship night included a three-point

contest and free Dippin' Dots. Other sports played this spring were volleyball, futsal and a kickball tournament. Intramural sports are free and schedules are based around student schedules, so it is an easy way to stay active without having a huge time commitment.

Another easy way for students to get involved in Campus Recreation is through group fitness classes. These classes are all free and there is no registration required. The classes are taught by a mix of instructors that include UIS students and licensed instructors from the community. Some popular classes this semester included Kickboxing, WERQ Dance Fitness, Yoga and Zumba. The classes vary each semester, so there is always something new to try!

One last event Campus Recreation helped sponsor along with UIS Health Services was the annual Health and Wellness Fair. This event, held during Springfest each April, welcomed many health professionals and organizations from around campus and the community to TRAC. Students were able to learn their blood type and also get put on the national bone marrow registry among other activities. This event was free and had a great student turnout.

While it was a great semester, Campus Recreation is already planning for the fall semester. The third annual Recpalooza event is scheduled for Wednesday, September 4. The event highlights Campus Recreation's offerings and concludes with a street party with music and food trucks.

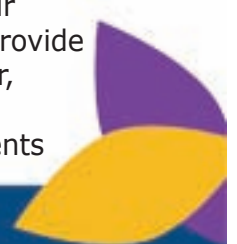
For more information, visit our website at www.uis.edu/campusrec/, or email us at campusrec@uis.edu.

College of Public Affairs and Administration

By: Chrissy DeWerff, Office Administrator – College of Public Affairs and Administration

The College of Public Affairs & Administration is at the forefront of the UIS mission to provide an intellectually rich, collaborative and intimate learning environment for students, faculty and staff, while serving local, regional, state, national

and international communities. Our College faculty and staff hope to provide an integrated package of curricular, co-curricular and extra-curricular initiatives that will guide our students





to develop a strong sense of civic engagement, a commitment to social responsibility and an understanding of democratic values. The spring semester was an active one for students in the College of Public Affairs and Administration, from amazing doctoral dissertations from students in the Doctorate of Public Administration program to students making news headlines for their exceptional projects.

Environmental Studies

undergraduate students and Sustainability Coordinators, Caleb Froidcoeur and Marissa Jones, have been in the news this semester for their recycling research study conducted last fall with ENS Assistant



Professor Megan Styles, Management Assistant Professor Carolee Rigsby, and Business and Management Administration Associate Professor Jorge Villegas. The project explored whether "bedazzled" or more aesthetically pleasing recycling bins made people more likely to recycle on campus, (see article on page 5).

Students in both the **Political Science** and **Legal Studies Department** participated in the Model Illinois government (MIG) Moot Court. Political Science students, Ben Szalinski and Andrew



Cunningham were the winning team for the 3rd UIS victory in five years. This is the 4th time in five years that our team has made it to the final round. Along with Szalinski and Cunningham, three other UIS students were

honored with awards during the annual Model Illinois Government (MIG) simulation at the Illinois State Capitol on March 1-3, 2019. These students include Aislinn Diaz, who was named outstanding committee person in the senate, Bryce Thomas, who won the award for outstanding chair in the senate and Brock Titlow,

who won the outstanding staff member award.

One of our winning students from the MIG simulation in 2015, Andrea Carlson, is now advising the team from NIU, having recently graduated from U of I College of Law. She is also working as an attorney in Rockford.



Students in the **Global Studies Department** as well as Political Science majors participated in the The Model United Nations Club (MUN), which is for students who plan to attend the annual National Model UN Conference in New York each spring. Model United Nations is a conference that simulates an actual United Nations meeting. In the fall before the conference, the UIS delegation begins to form and members gather information about the country they will represent. In the spring, the delegation submits position papers to the National MUN and attends the conference in New York, where resolutions are discussed, debated, and voted upon by all countries. The UIS delegation consisted of 18 students and one faculty member. Hundreds of international colleges and universities competed during the event. This year UIS students won third place overall and students Alex Phelps and Jessica Villegas won outstanding delegates for the world food program. There were also two students who applied and were awarded chairs of their respective committees: Jessica Villegas and Maame Aggrey. Students worked for close to two semesters learning about their assigned country, drafting resolutions, working on diplomacy and consensus building, and writing position papers on specific issues. This year, UIS represented the State of Kuwait.



The first cohort of four students graduated this May from the **Public Policy program**.

The Public Policy Major from the Political Science Department explores the full policy-making process, including the study of specific policy issues. Public Policy students will develop the necessary tools to participate in the advocacy, drafting and analysis of public policy. The Public Policy BA is designed to facilitate study and/or employment in applied politics and policy making, utilizing the locational advantages of the state capitol of Illinois. Public Policy offers exceptional internship opportunities and an educational experience to prepare you for a variety of variety of careers, (see UIS News on page 4-5 for more).



The National **Criminal Justice** Honor Society, Alpha Phi Sigma, granted \$250 to their UIS Epsilon Chapter, which has donated to the Prairie Center Against Sexual Assault (PCASA) as part of

their ongoing community advocacy. The grant was to recognize our chapter's past volunteer work for PCASA.

President Julia Meadows and Vice President Nicholas Zambito presented the check to Clare Frachey,

Preventionist at PCASA. Alpha Phi Sigma is the only Criminal Justice Honor Society accredited by the Association of College Honor Societies. Established in January 1942 at Washington State University, Alpha Phi Sigma recognizes academic excellence of undergraduate and graduate students of criminal justice, as well as those seeking a Juris Doctor degree. For undergraduate students, at least 4 criminal justice courses must be completed. Both an overall GPA of 3.2 on a 4.0 scale in all completed criminal justice courses as well as a cumulative GPA of 3.2 on a 4.0 scale for all completed university courses are required. An eligible undergraduate student must also be within the top 35% of his/her class and must be a declared criminal justice major or minor.



UIS Theatre

By: Nikkie Stefan, Box Office Manager UIS Theatre

2019-2020 Season

God of Carnage by Yasmina Reza
(translated by Christopher Hampton)
Winter 2019 – Directed by Eric Thibodeaux-Thompson

Performances: October 25, 26, 27 (Fri., Sat., Sun.) & October 31, November 1, 2 (Thurs., Fri., Sat.), 2019

Winner of a 2009 Tony Award for Best Play, *God of Carnage* brings together two sets of Brooklyn parents for a meeting to resolve the matter of a playground altercation between eleven-year-old boys. At first, diplomatic niceties are observed, but as the meeting progresses, and the rum flows, tensions emerge, and the gloves come off, leaving the couples with more than just their liberal principles in tatters.

CAST: 2 women, 2 men

AUDITIONS and
CREW INTERVIEWS: September 4 & 5, 2019

Twelfth Night by William Shakespeare
Spring 2020 – Directed by Missy Thibodeaux-Thompson

Performances: April 17, 18, 19 (Fri., Sat., Sun.) & April 23, 24, 25 (Thurs., Fri., Sat.), 2020

One of Shakespeare's beloved comedies, *Twelfth Night* employs mistaken identity, misguided love, and mistreatment of a pompous servant. The following is from the Folger Shakespeare Library: "After the twins Sebastian and Viola survive a shipwreck, neither knows that the other is alive. Viola goes into service with Count Orsino..., disguised as a





young man, "Cesario." Orsino sends Cesario to woo the Lady Olivia on his behalf, but Olivia falls in love with Cesario. Viola, in the meantime, has fallen in love with Orsino."

Meanwhile, Olivia's kinsman, Sir Toby Belch, along with his friends, make fun of Olivia's steward, Malvolio, by playing a sinister joke on him. Unbeknownst to Viola, her brother Sebastian has been rescued, and Olivia mistakes Sebastian for Cesario (Viola's disguise!). By play's end, Malvolio vows revenge on Sir Toby and his gang, while the mistaken identities are revealed, and two couples head towards marriage.

CAST: FLEXIBLE – "gender blind" casting will be employed when possible. Minimum of 4 women, 7 men

AUDITIONS and
CREW INTERVIEWS:
January 21 & 22



Major Players

UIS Theatre is proud to offer a B.A. in Theatre, as well a minor, giving students the opportunity to further develop their talents as theatre artists, by working with great dramatic literature in the classroom and on the stage. The program provides a professional setting in which to work as an actor, a director, a playwright, a stage manager, a dramaturg, a designer, a make-up artist, or as a lighting, sound, or props technician. All of our courses are open to all students, regardless of major or minor.

Fall 2019 Courses

***THE 108: Principles of Stagecraft**

D. Powell • Tues & Thurs 10am-11:40am

***THE 273: Principles of Acting**

M. Thibodeaux-Thompson • Tues & Thurs 2pm-3:40pm

***THE 274: Introduction to Theatre**

M. Thibodeaux-Thompson • Tues & Thurs 12pm-1:15pm

THE 310: Topics: Scene Painting

D. Powell • Mon & Wed 10am-11:15am

THE 375: Stage Combat

E. Thibodeaux-Thompson • Mon & Wed 12pm-1:40pm

THE 476: Directing for the Theatre

M. Thibodeaux-Thompson • Mon & Wed 4pm-5:40pm

These courses fulfill Visual, Creative, and Performing Arts and/or Humanities requirements in the UIS General Education Curriculum



2019 Theatre graduates Kimberly Riddle and Sherri Mitchell with Theatre faculty Missy and Eric Thibodeaux-Thompson

UIS Women's Center

By: Rexann Whorton, Program Director Women's Center

The Women's Center had a big spring semester, with both Women's History Month and Sexual Assault Awareness Month taking place on campus. In March and April hundreds of students attended events focused on awareness, history, leadership, and culture. Two events we would like to highlight are the Chancellor's Women's Leadership Reception and our 12th Annual Take Back the Night March and Rally. As part of

Women's History Month our campus hosted the 2nd Annual Chancellor's Women's Leadership Reception, students who attended were able to engage with alumni and community leaders on topics such as balance, leadership, and community engagement. Students were also able to network with many alumni in attendance and more than a few business cards were exchanged.



UIS students, staff and faculty participate in the Women's Center 2019 Take Back the Night

Our 12th Annual Take Back the Night (pictured) continued the tradition of being both well attended and deeply impactful to our students. Take Back the Night is a nationally recognized event that protests against the prevalence of sexual and interpersonal violence. The event began with a gathering at the campus colonnade,

followed by the march, and then rally in Lincoln Residence Hall. Students spoke out, shared stories and poems, and provided support to each other. Many thanks go out to our many campus and community partners that help make this event a success from year to year. Special thanks to student Hayden Schumer for designing this year's shirts.

This summer we launched an educational social media campaign called "Women You Should Know Wednesday" highlighting lesser known women of historical significance. We encourage everyone in the University community to follow the UIS Women's Center on Facebook and Instagram for this and other educational information.

Facebook:
<https://www.facebook.com/uiswomenscenter/>

Instagram: uiswomenscenter

Career Development Center

By: Rose Oston, Career Counselor

It was an exciting spring at the Career Development Center! In February, we welcomed over 100 employers to campus for our annual **Career Connections Expo**. Job-seeking students came armed with resumes and looking their best.

Students joined us for **Career Café: Networking Business Cards** in April. They enjoyed coffee, tea and treats while taking part in our make-and-take activity, then left with professional business cards for the job search and networking.



The Toastmasters Club helps students learn to speak with confidence and savvy.

In March and April, we had the pleasure of partnering with the UIS Student Toastmasters Club, McBrian Lincoln Douglas Toastmasters Club, and GPSI Program to present the **Speechcraft Workshop Series**.

We are also looking forward to welcoming students to campus with our fall activities. On August 22 from 5:30-7 PM in the Student Union, we will be holding **Crafts, Paths & Cookies**, where students can make flower pens, pillows, and more. They will leave with free original creations, an info card about the [Career Pathfinder](#) program, and a sweet treat.



Students get creative at Crafts, Paths & Cookies.



The Career Development Center will also host **Resume Mania** on August 26-27 from 2-4 PM here in Student Affairs Building Room 50. Students can drop or call in to get help from staff in creating and revising resumes and cover letters.

Opportunities abound for student jobs, internships, and volunteer work, and we will be showcasing many of them at the **2019 Foot in the Door Fair**. With the help of our co-sponsors—Student Employment, Student Life, Internships & Prior Learning Services, International Student Services, and the Volunteer & Civic Engagement Center—this event will be held on Thursday, August 29 from 3:00-5:30 PM in the Student Union. We hope your student will join us to get a “Foot in the Door” to both on and off-campus opportunities!

In the meantime, please check out the [Career Development Center website](#) to learn more about our services, events, and student tools.

Diversity Center

By: Justin Rose, Director, Diversity & Inclusion



On Saturday, May 4, 2019, UIS and the Diversity Center hosted their annual Black and Hispanic/Latinx graduation special celebrations. The special ceremonies are essential because they are

intended to give the UIS community a chance to appreciate the various cultures of students on the campus who self-identify with the Black and Hispanic/Latinx diaspora. In that light, UIS and the Diversity Center provides a platform and opportunity to recognize some of our most traditionally underrepresented identity groups. Students who elect to participate in The Black and Hispanic/Latinx special graduations/ ceremonies are acknowledged as minority students and leaders who have demonstrated characteristics of hard work, conscientiousness, commitment, and an overall contribution to their university community. In that capacity, we took the opportunity to celebrate such an incredible achievement. Of the 233 eligible Black and Hispanic/Latinx (H/L) identifying graduates, for this year's commencement celebration; some wore regalia that has dual Kente cloth and Serape cloth with embroidery throughout stating, “For The Culture” & “Para La Cultura.”