MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. DAY OF SERVICE

Join Student Leadership and Development and Volunteer Services on January 16, 2017, as they honor the legacy that Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. left behind. Several community organizations will come together to address the roots of social problems, such as poverty, racism, and further injustices.

Martin Luther King, Jr. Day of Service was created as a national opportunity for individuals to give back to their community. Faculty, staff, and students have engaged in meaningful volunteer opportunities as a means to create a more socially just society.

Last year, 106 individuals participated at eight various service sites. In total, they contributed about 280 hours of service. Volunteer opportunities were dispersed among several communities including but not limited to: Lincoln Park, River North, Uptown, and Crestwood.

continued on page 3

“Everybody can be great...because anybody can serve. You don’t have to have a college degree to serve. You don’t have to make your subject and verb agree to serve. You only need a heart full of grace.

A SOUL GENERATED BY LOVE.

—DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.
1. What do you most value in your friends? I value the fact that they are honest. They will tell me if I'm wrong about something.

2. Who is a living person you most admire? I admire Michelle Obama. She is the epitome of a beautiful black woman. She is professional, she is poised, she is intelligent. She can handle any and all situations and I kind of idolize that.

3. Do you have a motto that you live by? It is better to have it then need it, then need it and not to have it. Even with different jobs that I've wanted, I wasn't able to get those types of jobs because I didn't have a degree. No one was going to tell me that I wasn't going to get this job because I didn't have a degree, so I'm going to go and get the degree so that I won't be held back.

4. Do you have a biggest fear? It's a fear but it's also something that you can grow from. I have a fear of failure but at the same time I've learned from the failures that I've encountered.

5. Besides necessities, what is one thing you couldn't live without? I could not live without french fries. I will eat french fries every day. I love french fries.

6. If you could star in a movie, what would be your first choice? If I could be in a movie, I would love to be in Fast and Furious. I love the action flicks.

7. What do you value most in a job? I value a lot but one of the things within my career at UIC I value is having a good and respectful relationship with my supervisor. I can talk to him about anything and not feel ashamed. I can make decisions and not feel afraid to make those decisions. I am empowered; I feel comfortable in my role because I have a really good supervisor that supports me.

8. If you won the lottery, what would you do with that money? If I won millions, all of my close family and friends would each get a million dollars and we will all be millionaires. We will pay off all their bills and then the rest we will see. But, I would still work and do the same thing. No one would ever know I won the lottery, I wouldn't change my routine.

9. What is a skill you would like to learn and why? Public Speaking. When I am in front of an audience, I get nervous. I watch people as they're speaking to an audience and think, I wish I could do that and not be so nervous.

10. What motivates you to work really hard? My son motivates me because he watches every move I make. The fact that he sees me getting up every morning going to work and not slacking off, that motivates me. I want him to be able to have that same ethic and be successful himself.

11. What did you want to be when you were younger? Growing up I always wanted to be a surgical nurse. My aunt was an anesthetic nurse and I wanted to follow in her footsteps.

12. How many pairs of shoes do you own? No woman can really give an accurate number of how many pairs of shoes they have. I would say I have at least over 50 pairs, I may be close to 100. All of my shoes are still in their original boxes. I want to take a picture of the shoe and stick it on the outside of the box, it would keep it nice and organized.

13. What is your most treasured possession? My grandparents used to collect coins and so I have them.

14. What would you do for a career if you weren't doing this? If I wasn't doing what I'm doing now, I would probably still be doing social work. It's one of those jobs where you have to look at it’s not about money, it’s about the children that you work for, the families that you're helping, it’s all about that type of gratification and that’s what I received from it.

15. What is one thing you will never do again? I will never let anyone tell me that I can’t be someone or reach a goal or do something that I want to do.
MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. DAY OF SERVICE

continued from page 1

Service projects involved cooking and serving meals for shelter residents, making enrichment toys for animals at the Anti-Cruelty Society, organizing clothing and food donations, writing cards of encouragement, and many more.

This year, the goal is to increase the number of participants in order to directly impact the community at large. Every individual has the power to make a difference; don’t miss out on an opportunity to give back and impact lives. Turn your passion into service and show others you care!

The upcoming Day of Service assignments through UIC will be held at the following locations: The Anti-Cruelty Society, Gads Hill Center, Hearts in Motion, the UIC Children’s Center, Chicago HOPES for Kids, Open Books, City Year Chicago, and Lincoln Park Community Shelter.

For sign up and more information, click HERE. Sign up closes on January 12, 2017.

ICYMI
IN CASE YOU MISSED IT

Commencement
December 10
Congratulations to our December graduates! For full coverage of Graduate Ceremony, click HERE and for Undergraduate Ceremony, click HERE.

Holiday Hoopla
December 15
Students Affairs celebration of the holidays and close of the semester. See more staff in action HERE.

NEED TO KNOW

January 9
FIRST DAY OF CLASSES

January 10
NOMINATIONS FOR CHANCELLOR’S STUDENT SERVICE & LEADERSHIP AWARDS (CSSLA)
Beginning January 10th, nominations can be submitted by UIC students, staff or faculty HERE.

January 10 & 12
WINTER INVOLVEMENT FAIR
11:00AM–2:00PM
Illinois Room, SCE
Get connected to over 200 student organizations and campus departments! Food, fun, and giveaways.

January 14
WINTER FEST
6:30PM–10:00PM
Maggie Daley Park
Free admission and skate for UIC students, faculty, staff, and alumni.
For more information and reservations, click HERE.

January 16
DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. HOLIDAY
No classes. Check with your department for hours.

January 16
MLK DAY OF SERVICE
For more information and to sign up, click HERE.

January 17
DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. PEACE BREAKFAST
9:00AM–10:00AM
UIC Forum
Keynote speaker is Dr. Melissa Harris-Perry. RSVP by Friday, January 13, 2017 HERE.

January 21
FLAMESFLIX PRESENTS SELMA
5:00PM & 8:00PM (showtimes)
UIC James Stukel Tower
Free admission.

January 26
LOL AT UIC
7:00PM
UIC Forum
Performer to be announced.
TOP HONORS FOR CAMPUS HOUSING

Tiffany Gonzales was recognized with the prestigious GLACUHO (Great Lakes Association of College University Housing Officers) Professional Development award at the recent GLACUHO conference in Cincinnati, OH. She also won a Top Ten Program Award for “Body Positivity and Self Image.” In addition, she ran for GLACUHO President and was elected into the position for a 3 year term. We are so incredibly proud of her and representing UIC so well. Please join us in congratulating Tiffany!!

NEW HIRES

ROSEMARY ACOSTA
Housekeeper, UIC Forum

LESLIE BOWIE
Child Development Associate, Children’s Center

YANELET DELGADO
Assessment Specialist, Student Affairs

JOHNNIE GALLOWAY
Building Service Worker, Student Centers

BRITTANY MALONE
Child Development Associate, Children’s Center

ALEFIYAH PISHORI
Clinical/Counseling Psychologist, Counseling Center

TATJANA RAPAJIC
Associate Director for Career Assessment & Evaluation, Career Services

KEVIN ROGERS
Building Service Worker, Student Centers

KENORIS ROSS
Building Service Worker, Campus Housing

DEEP SHAH
Intramural/Recreation Coordinator, Campus Recreation

BRANDY WALKER
Building Service Worker, Student Centers

BRITTANY YOUNG
Child Development Associate, Children’s Center

NEW POSITIONS

YVETTE ARIAS
Assistant Director of Arena, UIC Venues

SARA DIDIO
Assistant Director, Retail Operations

RUBY LEPE
Assistant Director, Student Centers

KATHLEEN NEELSEN
Associate Director of Student Services, International Services

NATALIE SHANE
Associate Director of Student Services, International Services

RETIEMENT

BOOKER SUGGS
Executive Associate Director, Student Centers

ONE MORE THING...

STUDENT AFFAIRS STRATEGIC PRIORITIES COMMITTEE BEGINS WORK

This semester will be a time to set the plans for far-reaching, exceptional change in the ways we serve our students and also a time to move the needle in the much-needed direction of forward progress. To help us better serve our students and campus stakeholders we need to be dedicated to leaning in to listen and gather their feedback as well as yours. Further, we must be committed to ensuring our programs, services and facilities are meeting the priorities of the institution. This semester you will see department-wide efforts to accomplish these goals of gathering feedback and setting Departmental priorities that are in line with the university through the work of the Strategic Priorities Committee (SPC). A group of fifteen staff members, representing each of the three Associate Vice Chancellor areas, has been appointed to the Student

continued on page 5
Affairs Strategic Priorities Committee to work on behalf of the greater Department. The charge of the Committee includes:

- Identify ways to seek feedback from the Division about strategic priorities
- Reaffirm/revise the mission, vision, and values of UIC Student Affairs as needed
- Identify and draft the strategic priorities for UIC Student Affairs to guide the work of the Department
- Contribute to a communication piece which will articulate the direction of UIC Student Affairs

On December 19th, the Strategic Priorities Committee participated in an initial planning retreat to get started on their work. Over the coming months opportunities will be offered for you to share your thoughts and ideas though various venues about the strategic direction of Student Affairs, as well as to provide feedback to the Committee on drafts put forth. Many thanks in advance to this group for their leadership to reimagine the student experience at UIC. Look for more information and updates on the strategic priorities process this semester.

**STRATEGIC PRIORITIES COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP**

JEFF BROWN  
Director, African American Academic Network

JIM FRICKE  
Assistant Director, Student Affairs Financial Services

JOSEPH HERMES  
Director, Counseling Center

CARLOTTA JOHNSON  
Associate Director, African American Academic Network

RUBE LEPE  
Assistant Director, Student Centers

SPENCER LONG  
Associate Director, Student Development Services

MARK MANDERINO  
Director, Student Affairs Assessment

JASON MASLANKA  
Executive Director, Digital Services

ANDREA NEVELS  
Student Success Initiatives Director, Student Affairs

WILLIE RODRIGUEZ  
Associate Dean of Students, Office of the Dean of Students

SHIRLEY RODRIGUEZ-VEGA  
Associate Director, Financial Aid

CYNTHIA SOTO  
Director, Native American Support Program

PRISCILLA VELARDE WILSON  
Associate Director, Campus Housing

JOY VERGARA  
Executive Director, Center for Student Involvement

AUDREY ZENNER  
College Teacher, Academic Center for Excellence