NIU ENCOURAGES HALLOWEEN INCLUSIVENESS & SENSITIVITY

For Halloween, NIU joined with other universities in reminding students to think carefully about the emotional and hurtful impact of costumes that mock the sexual orientation, gender identity, cultures, ethnicities and races of others. The “Conscientious Costumes” campaign seeks to keep Halloween a fun and imaginative time for students who plan to share and display their creativity during weekend parties. What is not considered fun, however, are costumes that reinforce negative and inaccurate stereotypes about any group. Costumes that contribute to ethnic, racial, religious or sexual stereotypes only exacerbate the problem and do not contribute to a genuine understanding or individual persons and cultures. For example, many Halloween stores this year are selling costumes packaged for couples who would dress as both the 1970s version of Bruce Jenner as well as the Vanity Fair cover photo of Caitlin Jenner. While those outfits might make some laugh, members of the transgender community are unlikely to find their identity as an appropriate basis for a Halloween costume.

NIU students and staff supported the campaign by posing for photographs with their message written on a dry-erase board. “Many people think that it’s really OK to perpetuate or reinforce stereotypes through costumes. Halloween should not be viewed as that vehicle,” said Vernese Edghill-Walden, senior associate vice president for Academic Diversity and chief diversity officer. We value what everyone brings to this community, and there’s a certain level of respect that we expect in this community,” she added.

Show that everyone matters whether it’s their race, gender, sexuality, culture, social status and/or occupation.” For more info: http://www.niu.edu/diveq/about_us/index.shtml

USE YOUR VOICE

Who said

“…tackle preconceived notions about different races all over the world.”

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“…show that everyone matters whether it’s their race, gender, sexuality, culture, social status and/or occupation.”

*****

“We must respect and value the unique qualities of everyone’s story.”

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To find out, go to: http://www.niutoday.info/2015/10/28/conscientious-costumes/
WHAT YOU MISSED...Neighborhood Block Party, 20th Anniversary of the Million Man March in Washington D.C., Conscientious Costume Campaign, Annual Breast Cancer Walk & Balloon Release...

Neighborhood Block Party!!!!!!

John Henrik Clarke Honor Society
Presents our Annual Breast Cancer Walk & Balloon Release in Collaboration with:

Special Guest: Breast Cancer Survivor, Charlinee Mont-Davis

For More Information, Contact Cheyenne Williams or Berkley Juhun at cwilliams18@niu.edu or bmgjulun@gmail.com

When: Saturday October 17th, 2015
Where: Meet at the Center for Black Studies
Time: 11am-1pm

Conscientious Costumes Campaign
“My Culture is not your Costume”
November:

November 4, 2015
Campus Life Building- Room 100
Meet and Greet
Black Student Union & Black Faculty and Staff Association

November 5-8, 2015
North Eastern University- Boston, Massachusetts
25th Annual Conference
Association for Black Cultural Centers

November 19 & 20, 2015
Talented Tenth
50 High School Seniors from Chicago
STOP BY AND VISIT : )

CBS – WHO WE ARE & WHAT WE DO…

Dr. Joy Coates, Acting Director
- Advisor, Black Studies Minor
- Advisor, Black Graduate Student Association
- Mentor, CONNECT

Ms. Regina Curry, Succeed & Succeed Plan (S-Plan) Coordinator
- Coordinator, Succeed & Succeed Plan (S-Plan)
- Advisor, John Henrik Clarke Honor Society
- Chair, Black History Month Steering Committee
- Chair, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Planning Committee

Mr. Derrick Smith, Academic Counselor
- Coordinator, African American Mentoring Program (AAMP)
- Advisor, Black Student Union
- Executive Committee, Black History Month Steering Committee

Mr. Don Bramlett, Graduation Specialist
- Advisor, Black Male Initiative (BMI)
- Advisor, Supporting Opportunities for Latinos (SOL)
- Advisor, Latino Student Alliance (LSA)

Mrs. Crystal Slaughter, Office Support Specialist