

Contact: Diana Gonzalez

**PRESENTATION AT THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTHERN IOWA:
“MENTORS IN VIOLENCE PREVENTION LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE - EDUCATION IN
INFLUENCING YOUR PEERS AND COLLEAGUES TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE”**

Action Requested: Receive the presentation.

Executive Summary: Dr. Jackson Katz will present an overview of a prevention initiative in the UNI Center for Violence Prevention that focuses on systematically incorporating the Mentors in Violence Prevention (MVP) Strategies program throughout a number of programs of study, including the teacher education program. MVP Strategies is a primary prevention approach that educates students, faculty and staff on how to become empowered bystanders who confront and eliminate school and community based sexual violence and bullying when they observe it. This initiative engages the campuses of all three Regent universities and is emerging as a set of skills and strategies designed to inform and enhance students' future roles as teachers, principals, coaches, police officers, and human service providers. Dr. Katz will also talk about the training of faculty, staff, and students to deliver the MVP bystander approach throughout the Regent system as a prevention strategy to engage students to make the campuses safer for everyone.

Dr. Katz is an educator, author, filmmaker, and social theorist who is recognized as one of America's leading anti-sexist male activists. In 1993, he conceived and co-founded the Mentors in Violence Prevention (MVP) program at Northeastern University's Center for the Study of Sport in Society. The multi-racial, mixed gender MVP program was the first large-scale attempt to enlist high school, collegiate, and professional athletes in the fights against all forms of violence against women. Today, MVP is the most widely used gender violence prevention program in college and professional athletics. It has been implemented by a quarter of the teams in the NFL, a number of major League Baseball clubs, NASCAR, and many other sports organizations.

Dr. Katz is the founder and director of MVP Strategies, an organization that provides gender violence prevention training and materials to U.S. colleges, high schools, law enforcement agencies, U.S. military services, community organizations, and corporations. His book, "The Macho Paradox: Why Some Men Hurt Women and How All Men Can Help" was published in 2006. He holds academic degrees from the University of Massachusetts-Amherst and Harvard University and a Ph.D. in cultural studies and education from UCLA.