

Contact: Rachel Boon

**PRESENTATION AT UNIVERSITY OF NORTHERN IOWA:**  
**“UNI’S FOCUS ON COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT”**

**Action Requested:** Receive the presentation.

**Executive Summary:** UNI's new strategic plan brings focus to the role of community engagement in student's success. UNI's Iowa Campus Compact Civic Action Plan provides a framework that supports faculty, staff and students in service-learning and other forms of community engagement. Presenters will discuss the role of Iowa Campus Compact is supporting UNI and the other Regents' institutions in embedding these high-impact practices in a way that impacts workforce preparation, civic agency, personal fulfillment, and impacts community needs. Specifically the Service-Learning Institute faculty development model will be shared, as a student recounts their experience in a service-learning course.

**Julianne Gassman** is an Associate Professor in the Division of Leisure, Youth & Human Services and serves as UNI's Director of Community Engagement and the Campus Director of the Nonprofit Leadership Alliance. Her research interests includes service-learning, student's engagement in student organizations, and the impact of student debt.

**Emily J. Shields** is the executive director of Iowa Campus Compact (IACC), a statewide organization supporting colleges and universities in community engagement and the civic mission of higher education. She received a B.A. degree in journalism and political science from the University of Iowa and a master's degree in philanthropy and nonprofit development at the University of Northern Iowa. Shields served as chief of staff for the Rebuild Iowa Office and was senate liaison and policy adviser to Iowa's governor. She has worked in field organizing and fundraising and served as an AmeriCorps VISTA member.

**Kelsie White**, from Waterloo, Iowa, is a Senior at the University of Northern Iowa, who is completing an English major. She is also a member of The National Honor Society of Leadership and Success and is undergoing a work-study with the North American Review.