

Contact: Jason Pontius

PRESENTATION FROM THE REGENT UNIVERSITIES: MENTAL HEALTH & STUDENT WELL-BEING

Action Requested: Receive the university presentation on mental health and student well-being

Executive Summary:

Presentation will highlight how student mental health and well-being are inextricably linked to student academic success, retention, and persistence to graduation. The presentation will review the needs of college students, the challenges in supporting them, and the programs and services provided by the universities.

Presenters:

Dr. Paula Knudson is the Vice President for Student Affairs at the University of Northern Iowa. She began at UNI on June 26, 2017. Prior to her arrival she served as the Vice Chancellor & Dean of Students at the University of Wisconsin La Crosse for 11 years. Dr. Knudson, a native Marcus Iowa, attended the University of Iowa and received her bachelor's degree in math education. She earned her Ph.D in Higher Education from the University of Minnesota in 2003.

Dr. Melissa Shivers Melissa Shivers is the Vice President for Student Life at the University of Iowa. Melissa also currently serves as The University of Iowa's Interim Chief Diversity Officer, which includes the Center for Diversity and Enrichment, Equal Opportunity and Diversity, and the Diversity Resources Team. She is a first-generation college student and graduated with her Bachelor of Science from Georgia Southern University, Master of Education from Clemson University, and her Doctor of Philosophy from the University of Georgia.

Dr. Martino Harmon assumed the position of senior vice president for student affairs on March 21, 2016. His previous appointment was as the associate vice president at Iowa State University since 2013. He brings extensive experience in admissions and enrollment management, student development, student activities, and diversity programming to Iowa State University. Dr. Harmon earned his doctoral degree in higher education and administration from the University of Toledo, and he holds a bachelor of business administration degree and a master's in education from the University of Toledo.

Erin Baldwin is the assistant vice president for student health and wellness in the student affairs division, starting in 2018. Baldwin also serves as the director of Thielen Student Health. As assistant vice president for student health and wellness, Baldwin is responsible for developing a holistic, multidisciplinary approach to student health and well-being for a growing and diverse student population. She earned a bachelor's degree in respiratory care at the University of Kansas (2003) and master's degrees in health care administration and public health from the University of Iowa (2006).