



Western Iowa Regents Resource Center

Winter 2023

<https://wirrc.org>

Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/WesternIowaRegents>

Distance Education Scholarships available for Spring enrollment

The Western Iowa Regents Resource Center is offering \$1,000 scholarships to eligible students who enroll in a distance education program at one of Iowa's public universities. This amount effectively covers the cost of one undergraduate course. Certain programs at the University of Northern Iowa may be eligible for a larger tuition reduction. **Interested individuals should contact one of our transfer specialists at the bottom of this newsletter to determine eligibility and to apply by December 20, 2023.**

We are pleased to have already awarded six scholarships for Spring 2024. Among the awardees are Angela Sewalson (pursuing an MA in Strategic Communication) and Mike Cagley (pursuing an EdD: Education Policy & Leadership).



University of Northern Iowa Elementary Education on the Western Iowa Tech campus



The University of Northern Iowa and Western Iowa Tech Community College have reached an agreement to provide seamless Elementary Education support to area residents. Dr Monaliza Chian is an Elementary Education instructor from the University of Northern Iowa who will be teaching classes for WITCC as well as teaching upper-level education classes for UNI while based on the Sioux City campus. Dr Chian is looking to bring students who have existing credits into the program and complete their degree from UNI without leaving northwest Iowa. Interested individuals are encouraged to contact her directly at monaliza.chian@uni.edu or calling 319-273-2167.

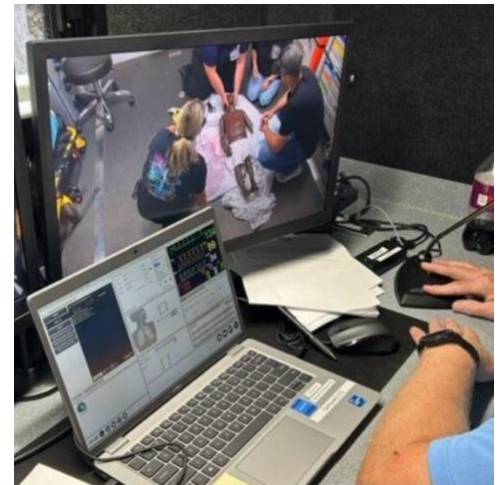
Local outreach and activities

University of Iowa Brings Writers Workshop to Harlan

Koada Heacock from the University of Iowa's Arts Share program came to Harlan on November 3 to engage with area residents in a writers workshop. The event was a partnership between the University of Iowa, the Harlan Community Library, and WIRRC. The program provided an opportunity especially for youth to develop writing samples and have them evaluated by a University of Iowa poet and poet.

Emergency Medical Provider Training in Harlan

Emergency Medical providers in the Harlan area received training through the University of Iowa's Simulation In Motion team on September 11. The system and trainers provide high-fidelity simulated health care emergencies to enhance the skills of providers around the state. The Center worked extensively with the University of Iowa to ensure that this training could take place in western Iowa and is looking to assist in future events.



University of Northern Iowa Conducts Western Iowa Tour

Representatives from the University of Northern Iowa visited community college campuses in Sioux City, Council Bluffs and Creston from September 19-21. The delegation included professionals from the College of Business, the College of Education, and the Department of Technology. The UNI representatives met with community college advisors at each institution, as well as provided information, food, and UNI "swag" for prospective students.



University of Northern Iowa Engagement in Council Bluffs

The University of Northern Iowa has increased its engagement with the residents of Council Bluffs and southwest Iowa. A key example of that is the hiring of Amanda Duran as a Student Support Specialist on the campus of Iowa Western Community College. In that role, Amanda assists area residents explore on campus and distance education opportunities through the University of Northern Iowa. Her presence on the Iowa Western campus is an example of the strong partnership between Iowa Western and UNI. People in the greater Council Bluffs area can reach out directly to Amanda for guidance on getting a degree or certification through UNI by emailing her at amanda.duran@uni.edu or calling directly to 319-273-2281.

Another example of the engagement was a visit by the Wilson College of Business Dean Leslie Wilson on June 29. During her time in Council Bluffs, Dr Wilson discussed opportunities for further interactions with Iowa Western Community College instructors and administrators, met with Amanda Duran (pictured r), and presented to the Council Bluffs Chamber of Commerce Workforce Development Committee.

Based on the interactions from those meetings, UNI will continue to provide more opportunities and growth for the region and extend the connections between UNI and IWCC.



WIRRC Participates in Siouxland Chamber of Commerce Small Business Expo



Services available to western Iowa residents were highlighted at the Siouxland Chamber of Commerce's Small Business Expo, held on November 2. The event took place at the Marriott Conference Center in South Sioux City. Center staff interacted with business leaders, employers, and area residents to promote programs offered by Iowa's public universities. We also engaged with alumni from the universities and received positive feedback from their experiences.

Upcoming events

The University of Iowa Simulation in Motion-Iowa (SIM-IA) Mobile medical training system will be interacting with medical providers in Atlantic on February 10.

University of Iowa soloist Eugene Ryoo is scheduled to perform with the Cherokee Orchestra at 4 PM on February 18 at the Cherokee Community Center.

The University of Northern Iowa will be at a teacher appreciation event in Harlan on March 14.

The Center is working with the Woodbine School District to bring programming related to Agriculture, Business and Marketing, Computer Science, and Health Sciences from each the state universities to students in the district.

Distance Education Degree Opportunities

Our website contains links to the distance education degree options available from Iowa's three public universities. Between them, there are 22 undergraduate degrees and over 70 graduate degrees available online. A complete listing is available at <https://wirrc.org>

The following individuals are available to answer questions on how to enroll in any of these programs:

- **Jennifer Conley** works on the **WITCC Sioux City** campus. She can be emailed at jennifer.conley@witcc.edu
- **Mariah Oliver** works on the **Northwest Iowa Community College** campus in **Sheldon**. She can be emailed at moliver@nwicc.edu
- **Deb Pantini** works on the **Creston** campus of **Southwestern Iowa Community College**, and to the branch campuses in Osceola and Red Oak. She can be emailed at pantini@swcciowa.edu
- **Jennifer Salvo** works on the **Iowa Western Community College Council Bluffs** campus. She can be emailed at jsalvo@iwcc.edu
- **Lori Stitz** works on the **Iowa Western Community College** campus in **Harlan**, with outreach to the **Atlantic** campus. She can be emailed at lstitz@iwcc.edu

Our Mission

To provide increased access to graduate and undergraduate education, as well provide Regents university resources for prospective students, businesses, and organizations in western Iowa.

How we serve

Through the center, area residents can interact with transfer specialists to access a variety of undergraduate and graduate programs. Individuals can participate in credit courses, complete degree programs and obtain information on new and transfer admissions to the Regents universities. The Center also works with communities across the region to deliver educational, cultural, and other university resources to enhance the quality of life in western Iowa.