**Take The Lead**

**Mission**
Familiarize staff and employees with Leadership opportunities at UNK and opportunities in the Kearney area. [unk.edu/leadership-unk](http://unk.edu/leadership-unk)

**UNK vs. NW Missouri State Basketball Games**
January 24, 2019
Women start at 5:30 pm
Men start at 7:30 pm
UNK Health & Sports Center
Mention Leadership UNK at the gate for free admission for you and your family.

---

**Leadership UNK Alumni Spotlight >>>**

**Kayleigh Dawson**

**Hometown:**
Arapahoe, Nebraska

**Department:**
Office of Equity & Compliance

**Job Title:**
Title IX Specialist

**Job Responsibilities:**
My primary roles include: 1) investigating reports of sexual misconduct for the University, 2) assisting with Title IX training for our campus community, and 3) helping prepare the Affirmative Action Plan annually.

**Hobbies:**
Spending time with my family, going to music events/concerts, writing poetry, shooting hoops

**In 3 words, describe what true leadership looks like to you:**
Integrity is everything

**If you could do another job for just one day, what would it be and why:**
I always thought it would be cool to be a bounty hunter, but realistically I’m like 5’4” so the odds of that working out are not in my favor. Therefore, I’d have to say either an attorney or a private investigator as I love watching crime documentaries and court proceedings.

**Tell us something that might surprise us about you:**
I will elaborate on one of my hobbies mentioned above. I enjoy going to music events and concerts. Last summer, I saw the Broadway musical, “Wicked” which was awesome! While I love music (and listen to a little bit of everything), I prefer alternative, classic 80’s or rock music and have attended several concerts over the years. A few of my favorite were: Sevendust, Trapt, Breaking Benjamin, Chevelle, Lynyrd Skynyrd, and Disturbed. I just saw the lineup of rock bands coming to the state fair and it looks like I will be attending.

---

**Upcoming Event >>>**

- **Bud Synhorst** - Independent Certified Coach, Teacher, Trainer and Speaker with The John Maxwell Team.
  - Bud will be leading 2 sessions on February 21, 2019 at 10am and 2pm. Topics include “Good Leaders Ask Great Questions” and “The 15 Invaluable Laws of Growth”. More information will be coming soon!

---

**final thoughts...**

“I believe the success of any leader comes through personal relationships to excite constituents through a vision and plan for success.” - Bud Synhorst
The morning began by having diversity round table discussions. Leadership UNK invited representatives from the Office of Multicultural Affairs, International Education, Disability Student Services, TRio, someone to speak on gender and sexual orientation and students to be part of the conversations. Each area had its own table and Leadership UNK class members traveled in pairs around the tables learning about our student population and how we can best serve and advocate for them.

“The concept of diversity encompasses acceptance and respect. It means understanding that each individual is unique, and recognizing our individual differences. These can be along the dimensions of race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, socio-economic status, age, physical abilities, religious beliefs, political beliefs, or other ideologies... It is about understanding each other and moving beyond simple tolerance to embracing and celebrating the rich dimensions of diversity contained within each individual.”

We then visited the Big Blue Cupboard. Leadership UNK was able to donate approximately 500 items thanks to all your generous donations! See page 3 for a Did You Know! section about the Big Blue Cupboard.

The group also participated in an activity where they learned about privilege. In this activity, titled “The American Dream,” participants had an opportunity to self-reflect on their own privilege. What advantages have they had? Disadvantages? The purpose of this exercise was to drive home the point that there is much more to a person than what one can see. Finally, the day wrapped up with Dr. Myers who spoke on public speaking. He shared tips on how to combat nervousness and anxiety. We will invite Dr. Myers back in February to critique the problem-solution speeches.

January not only kicked off a new semester but also the last half of the 18/19 Leadership UNK class. The topic for the session was about coaching and recognition. The morning started off with the class hearing about the Staff Senate Recognition Committee from Kristy Buchmeier and Paula Fuestman. Rashawn Harvey visited with the class about his approach to coaching, not only high school athletes but also TRio students. Chancellor Kristen- sen wrapped up the morning of guest speakers. He shared with the class the happenings on campus, issues in the upcoming legislative session, changes on the Board of Regents and his vision for UNK and the campus. We ended the session with a Love Languages activity led by Cacia Barnes. The class was able to identify and discuss the ways they preferred to recognize both in the workplace and personally.

Diversity and Advocating
Led by Lisa Mendoza and Laura Tadlock

Recognition and Coaching
Led by Cacia Barnes, Lisa Mendoza and David Roberts
Did you know...

UNK’s food pantry, The Big Blue Cupboard, opened in 2012 and has been fighting food insecurity on campus ever since. The pantry is stocked with “college foods”, hygiene products, and even a deep freeze full of hot pockets, pizzas, and other frozen foods. People are often curious how much the pantry is utilized. This fall 2018 was the busiest semester on record with a total of 615 student pantry visits totaling 2,573 food and hygiene items utilized! These numbers were up from 503 visits with 2,036 items utilized in 2017. The need for donations is ongoing and hygiene products are always in need along with food items.

If you have any questions or would like to help please contact Monica Mueller muellermr@unk.edu.