Meet, Eat & Learn:

November 2nd
Noon-1pm
At the International Centre

Featuring:
Jackie Hoffarth (Freestone)

Hoffarth will discuss victimology as it has related to her personal experiences. Jackie’s 21 year old brother, James Freestone, was killed by a drunk driver fleeing from police in June of 2010 in Grand Forks. She will speak about her relationship with her brother and her experience as a victim with the judicial system, with social institutions such as the media, with the perpetrator, and with other community members and victims.

International Education
Women’s Panel Lunch

November 16th
Noon-1pm
At the International Centre

Four women will discuss their educational experiences in the USA and abroad. Panel will include International Students currently enrolled in classes at UND and UND students who have traveled abroad for their college education. They will be discussing their experiences and challenges while studying abroad and in the USA. Everyone is welcome.

In This Issue:

- Upcoming Events
- Article: President (Insert Your Name Here)
- Pumpkin Dessert Recipe

Thanksgiving Day
Thursday, November 24th
No Classes
November 24th and 25th

Stop by the Women’s Center!
Hours:
Monday-Friday
8:00am-4:30pm

Or visit our website at:
http://und.edu/student-life/womens-center

Kay Mendick, Director
Patty McIntyre, Program Associate
“Be confident in your personal intentions,” said Robert Kelley, the President of the University of North Dakota. This was a statement that made a big impact on me out of all the speakers that I have had the opportunity to listen to this fall. This statement makes it clear that President Kelley is a leader, as were all of the other speakers this semester. I have had the opportunity to listen to many strong independent leaders, and learn about the very unique skills and wisdom they have acquired to become effective leaders. All of us at some point in life will be put in a position of leadership where we will need to communicate effectively with others in a work, school, or social environment.

Each speaker had different sets of skills that helped them achieve their goals and their organization’s goals. President Kelley discussed how people need to create a toolbox of skills to draw from for all the different types of people and work situations. President Kelley discussed how effective listening is important, along with the idea that decisions don’t always have to be made instantly. We can wait to hear all ideas before making a decision, and even allow other people to make the decisions they feel are necessary if they are more equipped to understand the situation.

Norma Konschak, Dean of Academic Affairs at Northland Community and Technical College in Thief River Falls, talked about how she became a leader accidentally, instead of deliberately. She explained how we all need toolboxes, just as President Kelley said, and she claimed to be a “rummage sale” tool collector. She did not deliberately put herself in the path to be a leader so she had to grab what tools and skills she could along the way. Many of us do not plan to be leaders, but we become leaders on the way and need to develop skills as we need them. Konschak learned that as a leader who was collecting her tools, it was important to always ask questions and collaborate with people to create the necessary qualities and tools to lead. She discussed how important it is to know who you are and what strengths you have, and learn from your peers about the areas where your techniques and tools that might not be strong. This way you know how to best collaborate with others to allow everyone to be most successful.

Konschak is a woman in the academic and business world, and sometimes as a woman who is full of vigor and exuberance, it can present difficult interactions with people who do not take her seriously. But when asked how she deals with this as a woman who is a leader, she explained that she puts her foot down, stands her ground, and gets stern when needed with grace and manners. Learn to take a step back from the situation and not react so harsh and quick when things get hard and heated. Not all of us plan to be leaders, but as Konschak says,

“You end up where life takes you and then you do the best you can”.

President Anne Temte of Northland Community and Technical College discussed how creating unique ideas to problem solve was extremely important as the types of students at her university are changing. Being willing to try new ideas to solve problems to make changes quickly is important for being a strong leader and administrator. Many leaders strive for perfection, but it can be very difficult to learn how to juggle imperfections. Dan Rice, Dean and Professor of Educational Leadership, explained that even though we can not inspire every student or person we are leading to the highest extent, it is what we should be striving to do.
When we worry that our weaknesses as a leader get in the way of others and achieving goals, Rice discussed how we need to remember that it is more important to do just a few things well and continue in developing those qualities, than try to do everything and be good at everything and get overwhelmed. When we become leaders and people get frustrated with our leadership style, we should try our best to make good decisions and lead people, a business, or an organization in the right direction. We cannot let the worry of offending someone stop us. If we do offend someone, then we should address it promptly. Rice said,

“By not offending anyone, we also don’t inspire anyone”.

Leigh Jeanotte, Director of the American Indian Service, discussed how we should not blanket all students under the same idea. Instead of worrying about equality for all students, worry about the unique needs and situations of each student to allow everyone the chance to succeed.

Diane Langemo, a Professor Emeritus formerly in the School of Nursing and a consultant and researcher in wound care, explained that one of the most important things a leader can do is to be approachable. Keeping an open door policy can be difficult, but it allows for more communication between the staff and the leader. It allows a leader to obtain input about different issues from the staff and lets the staff know the leader is thinking about them and their needs creating higher morale. Langemo said, “Some of the best input can be from your employees”. Face to face communication is always better according to Langemo, because the communication means more. It is important to give compliments and criticism to the people you are working face to face with. The benefits of speaking up to give feedback outweigh the risks. When being a leader, it is important to be visible, especially when things are stressful in the work place by pitching in, even when it’s not your normal duties.

Langemo explained that there are many little fires that need to be put out at work and it is important to address the issues head on and talk to the group or persons immediately. Myrna Olson, Professor in the Teaching and Learning department, explained that the best way to learn how to address issues at work is to switch roles and have someone play you in the conversation and you play the role of the disgruntled person. One responds with how they think they might feel and how they might respond to another in this crucial conversation. This allows a person to better understand their position as well as know how to approach an issue. Always be direct.

There are many situations that come up in life to stretch and strengthen us as a person when we are put in a leadership position. These courageous leaders have left me with lasting impressions that will help me in my endeavor to one day become a great leader; and I hope all of you who are reading this will have a better idea of how to become the leader you have intended to be or are being led to be. The most important skill I have learned in being a leader is do not be afraid of the unknown, telling someone how you feel, telling someone that something is not right, or letting the fear of what others will do influence the decision you need to make. Being a leader can sometimes be stressful and cause us to be in the middle of a fire of different opinions and arguments and leave us in very heated situations. President Kelley said,

“Learn to love the heat”.
Thank You!!!

The Women’s Center would like to thank everyone who was involved with the 17th Annual Clothesline Project and Take Back the Night Rally. Many thanks to all the organizations, students, and faculty that took part in the Project. We look forward to working with you again next year!

Pumpkin Dessert
From the Kitchen of Pat Jordheim

Ingredients
2 Festal Pumpkin Pie cans
1 yellow cake mix
3/4 c butter
3 eggs, slightly beaten
1 cup sugar
1/2 tsp. salt
1 tsp. cinnamon
1/4 tsp. cloves
1/4 tsp. nutmeg
1/4 tsp. ginger
1 cup milk

Directions
1. Make 2 pumpkin pie fillings according to the Festal Pumpkin Pie Recipe on the can
2. Pour into a 9x13 pan
3. Crumble 1 box of yellow cake mix over the top
4. Melt 3/4 c of butter and drizzle over the top
5. Bake at 350 for 1 hr.

Stop by the Women’s Center!
Hours: Monday - Friday, 8:00 am - 4:30 pm
701-777-4300

Or visit us 24-7 on the web:
http://und.edu/student-life/womens-center

Email: und.womenscenter@email.und.edu

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Where to Find Us: