



# **The Four Seasons of Leadership**

**Bid for IRHA Conference 2021  
February 20-21, 2021  
Northern Illinois University**

**Presented at IRHA 2020  
Western Illinois University**

# **Future Forecast**

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# Greetings from the Weather Forecaster (Letter from the Conference Chair)

Dear IRHA board,

I am writing today to excitedly express the intent for NIU to host IRHA's Annual Conference in 2021. Throughout my time with IRHA and Housing and Residential Services, I have explored leadership in various forms, including attending two IRHA conferences and loved every moment. NIU has a long history of involvement with IRHA and is excited to invite IRHA to DeKalb, Illinois in 2021. NIU hasn't hosted the conference since 2004 and hosting IRHA 2021 would be a great opportunity for NIU to showcase our appreciation for IRHA.

With our newly renovated student center, NIU would love to share our campus. We have a full Starbucks, a Qdoba, and many breakout rooms for programming. We also would love to show off some things that are special to NIU. We have a Sky Room on the 16<sup>th</sup> floor in the Holmes Student Center that we are excited to share with the CC's from the schools for boardroom. During our night activities, we will be having delegates participate in many unique activities. We have our Huskie Den that has new bowling alleys and pool tables. We have crate climbing at the indoor recreation center, where delegates will have the opportunity to reach new heights by climbing milk crates while being harnessed into the ceiling. We also are happy to share that our campus is conveniently located next to I-80.

The bid team is very enthusiastic about bidding as well. We have all taken time out of our very busy lives to put all these pieces in place. We've been planning for this conference since IRHA 2019 because we are eager to host and share our idea of leadership. Our "Four Seasons of Leadership" will emphasize on the aspects of how weather and leadership are unpredictable.

The bid team and I are very excited to be bidding for IRHA 2021 and we hope you enjoy looking over our bid as much as we loved making it!

Sincerely,



Marianna Carr

Conference Chair



# **Previous Weather Conditions at NIU (About NIU)**

**Northern Illinois University (NIU) was founded on May 22, 1895 by Illinois Governor John P. Altgeld. It started off as a normal school (teaching college) but in 1955 it expand to other colleges.**

**NIU is located in DeKalb, Illinois. It is 67.5 miles west of Chicago.**



**NIU President:  
Dr. Lisa Freeman**



**Fun Fact about DeKalb:  
Barbed wire was invented  
here in 1837.**

## **Notable Alumni**

- Dan Castellaneta (Comedian)**
- Markos Moulitsas (Publisher and Author)**
- Maria Kanellis (Wrestler and a Model).**

# Theme



The weather in the Midwest can be very unpredictable, just like being a leader. Many students have found it difficult to “forecast” the necessary leadership tactics they would need to use during their college experience. It

is the job of leaders though, to forecast the necessary responses to difficult situations.

Our theme encourages delegates to be open minded about the skills they will have to use in various leadership situations. As one should always be prepared for when it rains by carrying an umbrella, a leader should be prepared to handle a dispute amongst friends or colleagues by remaining calm and using their communication skills to resolve the conflict.



Looking at a weather forecast before leaving our home may never be 100% accurate. It is our hope that leaders never know when they will step up and showcase your skills. We hope our conference theme can help delegates realize that things are not always going to go as planned and that's okay. Just like the weather in Illinois, you never know what to expect on a certain day.

Your environment is always changing, rain or shine, cold or warm, you adapt to your surroundings. Leadership follows this thought as you have to change your leadership style to best fit the situations and be a successful leader.

# **Field Reporters (Conference Staff)**



## **Let's Talk About the Weather with Marianna (Conference Chair)**

**My name is Marianna Carr and I am a Junior Organizational/ Corporate Communications major with a minor in Deaf studies. A fun fact about me is that my dream job would be to plan weddings in Chicago.**



## **Make it Rain, Chad! (Finance Chair)**

**My name is Chad Canaday. I am a Junior Accountancy student here at NIU. I hope to get a job in the public accounting field after graduation. One fun fact about me is this is my 11th year living in the residence halls here at NIU.**



## **Have Fun Under the Sun with Megan (Mass Gathering and Entertainment/ Programming Chair)**

**My name is Megan Bednaroski and I am a Senior majoring in Environmental GeoScience and minoring in Geography. One fun fact about me is that I am an animal lover.**



## **Take Shelter with Theresa (Registration and Housing Chair)**

**My name is Theresa Dolasinski and I am a second-year Junior getting a major in Chemistry for Pre-Professional studies, a minor in Biology and a Creative Writing certificate. A fun fact about me is that I was a gymnast for 15 years and competitively competed for 8 of those years.**

# **Field Reporters Continued...**

## **(Conference Staff Continued)**



### **Check the Weather Radar with Ariana (Technology Chair)**

**My name is Ariana Cortes. I am a Junior Health and Human Science major with an emphasis in Physical Therapy with a double minor in Chinese Studies and Kinesiology. A fun fact about myself is that I am trilingual.**



### **Talking Up a Storm with Kendall (Spirit Chair)**

**My name is Kendall Winiecki and I am a Junior. My major is Psychology with minors in Social Change and Leadership and Deaf Studies. A fun fact about myself is that I have been working for the YMCA as a camp counselor for 3 summers and I love children!**



### **Sign Up to Help with Storm Recovery with Angela (Philanthropy Chair)**

**My name is Angela Varghese and I am a senior. My major is in Public Health and my minor is in Psychology. An interesting fact about myself is that I really love a good card game.**



### **Read the Farmer's Almanac with Kat (Dining Chair)**

**My name is Katherine Hahn-Boisvert, but I like to go by Kat. I am currently a Sophomore Communication major with an emphases in organizational studies. A fun fact about me is that I know how to yo-yo.**

# **Field Reporters Continued...**

## **(Conference Staff Continued)**

**Zac, the Weather Channel Producer**

**(Co-Advisor)**



**My name is Zac Birch and I am the Assistant Director of Residential Life for Student Leadership. I have a master's degree in Student Affairs and Higher Education from Indiana State University and a bachelor's degree in Chemistry from Illinois Wesleyan University. Outside of work I have a 5-year-old pup named Hank.**

**Elina, the Weather Channel Producer**

**(Co-Advisor)**



**I am Elina Savoie and I am a Complex Coordinator in Stevenson Hall. I have a bachelor's degree from NIU in Elementary Education and received my master's in College Student Personnel Administration from Illinois State University. I love being outside in every season and enjoy singing in my free time!**

**FORWARD TOGETHER  
FORWARD**



## Rain Check (Finances)

Hotel		\$75	\$	18.75	\$ 1,875.00	\$ 2,343.75	\$ 2,812.50
Hotel Tax		11%			\$ 206.25	\$ 257.81	\$ 309.38
Dining	Dinner		\$	8.95	\$ 895.00	\$ 1,118.75	\$ 1,342.50
	Hospitality		\$	3.00	\$ 300.00	\$ 375.00	\$ 450.00
	Breakfast		\$	-	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
	Lunch		\$	7.95	\$ 795.00	\$ 993.75	\$ 1,192.50
	Banquet		\$	18.00	\$ 1,800.00	\$ 2,250.00	\$ 2,700.00
Registration	IRHA		\$	5.00	\$ 500.00	\$ 625.00	\$ 750.00
	IRHA		\$	3.00	\$ 300.00	\$ 375.00	\$ 450.00
Rec Well	Crate Climbing	\$20/hour			\$ 80.00	\$ 80.00	\$ 80.00
Honorarium	Keynote Speaker				\$ 200.00	\$ 200.00	\$ 200.00
Awards					\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00
Shirts	Shirts			\$5	\$ 750.00	\$ 875.00	\$ 1,000.00
	Tyedye	\$411.75			\$ 411.75	\$ 411.75	\$ 411.75
	Tarp	4 tarps			\$ 77.16	\$ 77.16	\$ 77.16
Painting	Brushes	50 brushes			\$ 17.99	\$ 17.99	\$ 17.99
	Canvas		\$	-	\$ 76.63	\$ 95.79	\$ 114.95
	Paint		\$	-	\$ 16.47	\$ 16.47	\$ 16.47
Philthanthropy	Socks		\$	228.80	\$ 228.80	\$ 286.00	\$ 343.20
	Rice		\$	95.98	\$ 95.98	\$ 119.98	\$ 143.97
HSC	Space Rental		\$	262.50	\$ 262.50	\$ 262.50	\$ 262.50
Decorations			\$	200.00	\$ 200.00	\$ 200.00	\$ 200.00
Printing Costs					\$ 100.00	\$ 125.00	\$ 150.00
Miscellaneous					\$ 250.00	\$ 250.00	\$ 250.00
Credit Card Fee				2.25%	\$ 214.62	\$ 257.78	\$ 300.93
	Total				\$ 9,753.15	\$ 11,714.47	\$ 13,675.80
	Price Per Student Delegate				\$ 97.53	\$ 93.72	\$ 91.17

**Max cost per student:  
\$98**

**Max cost for advisor  
double: \$119**

**Credit card and  
check will be  
acceptable  
payment methods**

# **The Calm Before the Storm (Registration Timeline)**

**Website goes live:  
July 27, 2020**

**Registration:  
November 30, 2020-  
February 5, 2021**

**Late registration:  
February 6 -  
February 13, 2021  
\$10 add on to  
conference fee**



**Banners and roll call are  
due February 8, 2021**

**Delegation cap  
will be 15 students  
and 2 advisors**

**Displays, pop tabs, and  
plastic grocery bags  
are due on the day of  
the conference**

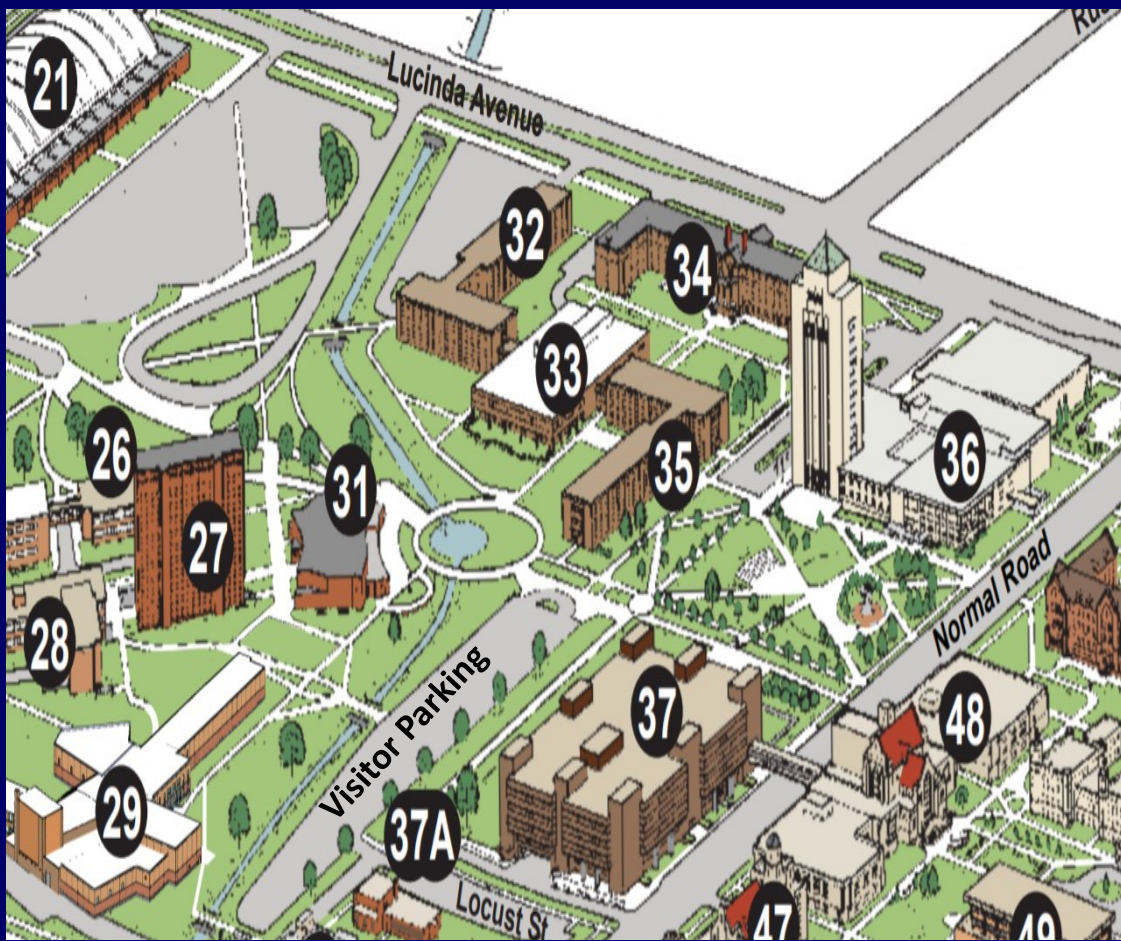
# **Two Day Weather Forecast (Schedule)**

## **Saturday**

<b>Check In</b>	<b>9am-11am</b>	<b>Holmes Student Center (HSC)</b>
<b>Opening Ceremony</b>	<b>11:30am-12pm</b>	<b>Carl Sandburg Auditorium (CSA)</b>
<b>Key Note Speaker</b>	<b>12pm-12:45pm</b>	<b>CSA</b>
<b>Roll Call</b>	<b>12:45pm-2:00pm</b>	<b>CSA</b>
<b>Boardroom</b>	<b>All Day as Needed</b>	<b>Sky Room in HSC</b>
<b>Program Session 1</b>	<b>2:15pm- 3:05pm</b>	<b>HSC</b>
<b>Program Session 2</b>	<b>3:15pm-4:05pm</b>	<b>HSC</b>
<b>Dinner</b>	<b>4:30pm-5:30pm</b>	<b>Neptune Dining Hall</b>
<b>Program Session 3</b>	<b>5:45pm- 6:35pm</b>	<b>HSC</b>
<b>Program Session 4</b>	<b>6:45pm-7:35pm</b>	<b>HSC</b>
<b>IRHA Social</b>	<b>7:45pm- 9:30pm</b>	<b>Huskie Den</b>
<b>Night Activities</b>	<b>9pm-12am</b>	<b>Rec Center</b>

## **Sunday**

<b>Breakfast/Checkout</b>	<b>7am-9am</b>	<b>Holiday Inn Express Sycamore</b>
<b>Philanthropy</b>	<b>9:30am-10:30am</b>	<b>Capital Room</b>
<b>Top Ten Programs</b>	<b>10:45am- 11:35am</b>	<b>Reavis Hall</b>
<b>Closing Ceremony</b>	<b>12pm-2:30pm</b>	<b>Duke Ellington Ballroom</b>



## Campus Map

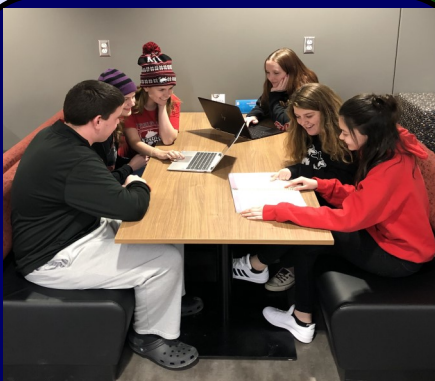
**School vans will be parked in the visitor parking**

**Holmes Student Center 36**

**Neptune Residence Hall 33**

**Reavis Hall 26**

**Indoor Recreation Center is a short distance down  
Lucinda Avenue**



# **Storm Shelter (Hotel)**

## **Holiday Inn Express & Suites Sycamore**

**1935 DeKalb Ave, Sycamore, IL 60178**

**4 person room: \$75 plus tax**

**\* Included in overall  
budget**

**10-13 minute  
drive from NIU**

### **Hotel amenities**

- . Free continental breakfast**
- . Free parking**

**Friday night stay is optional  
for schools with far travel for  
additional cost**



# **Food Harvest (Meals)**

## **Saturday Snacks**

**Light snacks before  
opening ceremony**

## **Saturday Dinner**

**Barbeque style buffet  
in Neptune Dining**

## **Sunday Breakfast**

**Provided by Hotel**

## **Sunday Lunch**

**Homestyle Winter  
buffet in the Duke  
Ellington Ballroom**



**NIU Nutrition  
team can help  
with dietary  
restrictions**

# **Weather Conditions (Programming Themes)**

- . Forecasting: Career Development**
- . Weather Engagement: Community Engagement**
- . Climate Zones: Cultural Competence**
- . April Showers Bring May Flowers: Personal Growth and Development**
- . Blue Skies Ahead: NRHH**

## **Philanthropy**

**Delegates will make  
heat socks that will be  
donated to Hope Haven,**

**a DeKalb  
homeless  
shelter**



**Delegates will make  
appreciation cards  
to bring back to  
campus**



# **Star Gazing (Night Activities and IRHA Social)**

## **Huskie Den:**

- **Bowling**
- **Billiards**
- **Board Games**
- **Karaoke**



## **Recreation Center:**

- **Crate Climbing**
- **Tie-Dye**
- **Painting**
- **Board Games**
- **Sports**

# **Storm Day Prep (Parking/Safety/Transportation)**

## **Parking**

- **Parking is free on weekends on campus and at the hotel**
- **Schools will park in visitors parking located by Neptune and the Holmes Student Center**



## **Safety**

- **43 blue safety boxes are throughout NIU campus**
- **Police will be notified that delegates will be traveling around campus at night in groups**

## **Transportation**

- **Delegates will transport themselves short distances from all conference activities**
- **We have the Huskie Safe Walk: NIU students, trained by the NIU police, will walk you to your destination at night**
- **Delegates will have to have their own transportation from hotel to NIU campus**



# **Check your Thermometers! (Spirit and Awards)**

## **Spirit items to prepare before the conference:**

- . Digital banner**
- . Roll call video**
- . Program submissions**
- . Displays**
- . Pins**

**Raise the heat  
and earn degree  
points! The  
school with  
record breaking  
temperatures  
wins most  
spirited!**

## **Earn more Degree Points**

- . Pop tabs: donated to Ronald McDonald House**
- . Plastic grocery bags: donated to Huskie Food Pantry**
- . Nonperishable food and household products: donated to Huskie Food pantry**

## **Conference Hashtags for Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter**

**#NIUIRHA2021**

**#stormIRHA2021**



# **Doppler Radar (Technology)**

- . All conference information will be on WIX website**
- . Programming submissions will be through our website**
- . Program acceptance, denial and feedback will be given to delegates through email**



## **Gophers (Volunteers)**

**Fun fact: a gopher  
is a meteorologist  
intern**

**We hope to recruit volunteers from:**

- . College of Business**
- . Honors Program**
- . Community Service Organizations**

# Letter of Support from RHA



To the Distinguished Members of the IRHA Board:

I am writing to express my sincere support for NIU to host the 2021 IRHA Conference. Hosting this conference would be an extraordinary privilege for both the Association and the University. Our IRHA bid team has been working tirelessly to prepare for this event. Our team is very committed

and very excited for the prospect of hosting this conference at our school.

NIU has many unique aspects that would make it ideal for such a conference. In our recreation center, we have crate climbing, a unique and exciting experience, where delegates will be able to soar to new heights by ascending creates one by one. The newly renovated Huskie Den in the Holmes Student Center will be a great place for social activities. The Huskie Den includes a Starbucks, a quick service restaurant, a Qdoba, billiards, bowling, and arcade games.

The opportunity to host the 2021 IRHA conference would be very advantageous for NIU and RHA. IRHA will create much excitement among Community Councils and residential students to fuel participation in our leadership programs. This will also considerably bolster Huskie Pride. At NIU, we are very proud of our campus, our culture, and, most importantly, our people. We would love the chance to share our campus with IRHA delegates from around the state.

We cannot express how excited we are for this great opportunity. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at [jpatten@niu.edu](mailto:jpatten@niu.edu).

Warmest Regards,

John D. Patten  
President  
NIU Residence Hall Association

# Letter of Support from NRHH



To the IRHA Board,

As the National Residence Hall Honorary Director at Northern Illinois University, I am enthusiastic to send a letter of support for NIU's bid to host the 2021 IRHA conference.

Our bid team has put in countless hours into preparing and writing this bid showcasing the work ethic they have. The bid team is a group of NIU residents that are highly motivated individuals that make a great team of leaders on campus.

Our NRHH chapter will support the bid team in all their endeavors. NRHH acknowledges the huge opportunity we have bringing student leaders from around the state to NIU and providing the best conference as possible. With this we can come together with other leaders in a great environment to come out of the conference sharpening every individual's leadership skills and opportunities.

With bringing the conference to DeKalb the NIU and DeKalb community will benefit from it. NIU and DeKalb will both benefit from the philanthropy projects completed throughout the conference. NIU will also get to showcase our campus and what we have to offer to other schools. DeKalb businesses will be able to benefit from the extra revenue the conference will bring to DeKalb.

Finally, NIU has great facilities that are awaiting the IRHA 2021 delegates. We have our newly renovated Holmes Student Center that will offer great space to use and enjoy during the conference. With confidence I say that NIU is ready and excited to host IRHA 2021!

Best Regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Chad Canaday".

Chad Canaday  
Director, National Residence Hall Honorary  
Northern Illinois University

# Letter of Support from NIU Housing and Residential Services

February 19, 2020



**Northern Illinois  
University**

*Division of Student Affairs*

Housing & Residential Services

Dear IRHA Leadership,

It is an honor to provide this letter of support for the 2021 Bid Package being presented by the leadership of our NRRH Chapter and our Residence Hall Association. This dedicated group of student leaders are committed to creating a memorable weekend for IRHA delegates when you all come to visit Northern Illinois University in 2021.

The conference theme of The Four Seasons of Leadership is an intentional plan on their part to provide a fun and comprehensive engagement opportunity for your association. The eight committee chairs on the host committee are proven student leaders on our campus who excel both in and out of the classroom. I am confident they will be able to take this bid package from concept to reality and deliver an exceptional weekend for IRHA.

The professional staff of Housing and Residential Services are poised to support the students in this endeavor. We are excited to offer our partnership to this leadership group for IRHA 2021. We look forward to having you join us in DeKalb next February. I wish you all the best with IRHA 2020 in Macomb.

Sincerely,

Daniel Pedersen  
Director, Housing and Residential Services  
Northern Illinois University

**Learning Today, Leading Tomorrow**

Northern Illinois University is an Equal Opportunity / Affirmative Action Institution.