



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **University Center brings NIU anti-bullying conference to Lake County**

Grayslake, IL (September 22, 2016) University Center of Lake County is collaborating with Northern Illinois University to bring their “Bullying: How Schools Can Respond” conference to Lake County. The conference will take place simultaneously in DeKalb and Grayslake on Wednesday, October 26, 2016 from 8 am to 2:15 pm. The sites will be linked through interactive video and some sessions will originate from each location.

The goal of this professional development conference is to educate administrators, teachers, counselors, and staff members about how they can respond to the issue of bullying in their schools. It is the sixth annual conference organized by the NIU College of Education Office of External & Global Programs and NIU College of Liberal Arts and Sciences External Programming and the second consecutive year in which they have partnered with University Center of Lake County.

The keynote address, “Expanding Our Approach to Gender-Based Bullying,” will be given by Molly Holmes, Director, NIU Gender and Sexuality Resource Center, with Z Nicolazzo, Ph.D., Assistant Professor, Adult & Higher Education Program, Faculty Associate, Center for the Study of Women, Gender, and Sexuality, NIU.

Additional sessions/speakers include:

“Preventing and Addressing Cyberbullying: Resources and Tools” by Christine Malecki, Ph.D., Professor and Director of the School Psychology Program, Department of Psychology, NIU, with Michelle Demaray, Ph.D., Professor, Department of Psychology, NIU.

“Prevention Strategies: From Evidence-Based Practice to the Lived Experience of Students and Parents” by Andy Duran, Executive Director, LEAD/ SpeakUP! Prevention Coalition with parent Micaiah Robinson.

Registration is now open at <http://www.niu.edu/clasep/conferences/bullying/index.shtml> with the early bird registration ending on October 7. Full details, including a schedule, a flyer, and a registration form, are also available at <http://ucenter.org>

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Contact: Hilary Ward Schnadt, PhD  
Associate Dean for Academic Services & Programs  
University Center of Lake County  
1200 University Center Drive  
Grayslake, IL 60030-2614  
847/665-4004  
[hwschnadt@ucenter.org](mailto:hwschnadt@ucenter.org)