NU Employee Engagement and Wellbeing

Prioritizing Campus-Wide Wellbeing

Wellbeing is our ability to feel good and function effectively, despite challenges. High levels of wellbeing have been shown to be associated with a range of positive individual & organizational outcomes, including:

- Improved individual performance Employees with high levels of wellbeing are likely to learn more effectively, be more creative, have better relationships, be more pro-social in their behavior, feel more satisfied in their jobs and perform better (Chida and Steptoe, 2008; Diener et al., 2010; Dolan et al., 2008; Lyubomirsky et al., 2005).
- Up to 8 times more engaged Employees are up to eight times more likely to be engaged in their role when wellbeing is a priority in their workplace (New Economic Foundation, 2014; World Economic Forum, 2010).
- Up to 3 x more productive Employees with high wellbeing are able to work longer and more effectively due to their improved goal attainment and levels of resilience (Medibank Private, 2005; World Economic Forum, 2010; PwC, 2014).
- Healthier employees -- Workplace health & wellbeing programs can achieve an average of 32% reduction in workers' compensation and disability claim costs (Chapman, 2003) and up to 30% reduction in sick leave. Healthy workers take up to 9 x less the annual sick leave absences of unhealthy workers.
- **Retained Talent** Employees who take an unfavorable view of their workplace's commitment to health & wellbeing are four times more likely to leave in the next 12 months. In contrast, 64% of those who take a favorable view indicate they are likely to stay for the next five years (World Economic Forum, 2010).

Faculty & Staff Wellbeing Drives Student Success

A 2016 Gallup survey found that 52% of Higher Ed faculty were not engaged at work and another 14% were actively disengaged (Gallup 2017). Paired with recent research that shows 39% of colleges and universities don't offer any employee engagement opportunities (Cornerstone & Ellucian 2016) - we have the potential for an **engagement crisis in our higher ed institutions** across the country.

It is especially important for educators to be engaged because we know that when educators are engaged, students thrive. Specifically in higher ed, Gallup found that without university employees who "go above and beyond," "students are less likely to be engaged in education and prepared for life." (Gallup & Purdue University, 2014). The research report also found that if a student has a faculty member who cares about her/him as a person, they are 1.4x more likely to be thriving.

Faculty and staff experiences matter and their ability to be engaged at work can make all the difference in outcomes for students.