What my SIU Degree Means to Me

For our March newsletter contest, we asked upcoming graduates to describe, in three words, what their SIU degree means to them. Here’s what they said...

Turn the page to learn more about some of our May graduates in the Student Highlights section on Page 2.
A NOTE FROM NTSS

It’s an exciting time of the year as we approach commencement ceremonies on May 10. For some of our non-traditional students, graduation means accomplishing a personal goal or setting an example for their children or family. For others, receiving their diploma means opportunity for a new career or career advancement. We celebrate with our graduates and look forward to offering resources, support, and encouragement as the rest of you move one step closer to earning your degrees.

We’re excited to feature some of our graduates in this month’s Student Highlight section. Our March newsletter contest, Calling All Grads, invited May graduates to share what their SIU degree means to them. The responses were inspiring and the diversity of degrees and hometowns represented by the 71 participating non-traditional students amazed us. This month we recognize eleven graduates and we will feature the remaining 60 students in a special ‘grad section’ of the May 2014 issue. We hope you are inspired by these descriptions of “What My Degree Means to Me!”

Deborah

STUDENT HIGHLIGHTS: May 2014 Graduates

“What My SIU Degree Means to Me!”

Name: Brandi Fields
Degree: Master of Science in professional media management
Hometown: Maywood
“Immeasurable life achievement”

Name: James Ghanayem
Degree: Master of Science in medical dosimetry
Hometown: Chicago
“Commitment to excellence”

Name: Travis J Neal
Degree: Master of Science in plant biology
Hometown: Yorkville
“Changing the World”

Name: Dania Laubach
Degree: Master of Science in public health
Hometown: Denver
“Feeding the future”

Name: Heather Michelle
Degree: Bachelor of Science in radiologic science
Hometown: Benton
“Determination pays off”

Name: Michelle Hartke
Degree: Master of Science in public health
Hometown: Teutopolis
“Earned, Advantage, Pride”

Look for a special ‘grad section’ in the May 2014 newsletter featuring 60 additional graduates sharing ‘What my SIU degree means to me’.
COMING IN APRIL

- **Scholarship Fundraiser “Tax-Time Tiki Juice Bar”,** April 15, Faner Hall South, 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. *Needs: volunteers and juice donations
- **Monthly Meeting:** April 16, Student Services building, Room 484, 4:30 p.m. (elections)

For more info, contact **Scott Schackman, treasurer**, at sschack@siu.edu.

Stay up-to-date by joining us on **OrgSync** (a portal for SIU’s registered student organizations)
Mark Your Calendar
EVENTS & ACADEMIC CALENDAR

1 Start by Believing at SIU: Sexual Assault Awareness Month Kick Off - Faner Breezway, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m., and Carbondale Civic Center, 7-9 p.m.

2 Compassionate Communication - Student Center-Delta Room, 5:30-6:30 p.m.

3 Film "Girl Rising" - Lesar Law Building, Auditorium

3 NTSS Lunch & Learn Series: It's Our World, focusing on Environmental Wellness, Student Center, Thebes Room, 12 p.m.

5 VITA Program Volunteer Income Tax Assistance - Rehn Hall, Room 18, 8 a.m. to noon.

5 SIU Honors Day - Student Center Ballroom, 1 p.m.

11 NTSS sponsors International Coffee Hour, Northwest Annex, 3-5 p.m. (We need 10 students to donate an item for our taco bar; see nontrad.siu.edu for details)

12 VITA Program Volunteer Income Tax Assistance - Rehn Hall, Room 18, 8 a.m.—noon.

12 Family Hike and Cookout, Giant City Park, leave from SIU at 10 a.m. *For details or to sign up, visit nontrad.siu.edu

15 ANTS Scholarship Fundraiser "Tax-Time Tiki Juice Bar", Faner Hall South, 11 a.m. -12:30 p.m. (Volunteers and juice donations needed, contact sschack@siu.edu to help)

16 Association of Non-Traditional Students (A.N.T.S.) Meeting: New Officer Elections! Student Services Building, Room 484, 4:30 p.m.

25 Friday Fun at the Rec: Parents Night Out, SIU Recreation Center, 5-7 p.m.

Will you need child care for fall? Many providers are now accepting fall 2014 applications.

Finish the Semester Strong...
Did you know? The Writing Center welcomes all SIU students. Students may work with writing tutors at both our Morris Library and Trueblood Hall locations or chat with a helper in real time about a writing project through our Online Writing Lab, if that is more convenient. Tutors work with students at any stage of the writing process: getting started on essays, organizing and focusing ideas, developing and connecting points clearly and using grammar and punctuation effectively. To set up an appointment, access handouts on writing issues or find out more about our services, visit the website write.siu.edu, or call the center at 618/453-1231. All services are free!

This Month’s Contest

Congratulations to our March contest winner and May graduate, KRISTEN JORDAN, who won a $100 University Bookstore gift card as a result of our graduate board posting. Kristen, a zoology major from Indianapolis, Ind., joins hundreds of graduates who will earn their degree on May 10. (See page 2 of this newsletter to meet just a few of them). Her response to “What my degree means to me” is...Opportunity, Possibilities, and SUCCESS! Congratulations Kristen!

Our April contest is about giving back and protecting our environment. As we celebrate Earth Day on April 22, we’ve set a goal and we need your help! The mission, should you choose to accept it, is to invest in your region this month. Whether it’s an hour, two hours or all day, let us know how you participated and the time you invested by emailing nontrad@siu.edu or posting on the NTSS Facebook page. If it is a family project, report their hours, too.

If we reach our goal of 50 volunteer hours, participants will be entered in a drawing to win $50 worth of earth friendly products!

If you’re looking for some great Earth Day ideas, join us April 3 for the It’s Our World workshop, part of our Lunch and Learn series (see pg. 3 for details).
OUR GOAL IS TO HELP YOU REACH YOURS!

Family Hike
Saturday, April 12, 2014
10 a.m.

Sponsored by
Non-Traditional Student Services
in collaboration with
SIU Wildlife Society and Zoology Club

(We will leave from the parking lot of the Student Services Building at 10 a.m.)

Fun for the whole family!

Giant City State Park Nature Trail
(suitable for children)

Cookout to follow at Giant City Park picnic shelter and playground.

To make your day more fun, you should bring a drink/water bottle and insect repellent!

Sign up now at nontrad.siu.edu!

Rocky Ledges 5K Trail Run

Saturday, May 3rd
Touch of Nature Environmental Center

Race Start Time: 9 a.m. at Camp 2
Price: $20 per register, $25 day of race
Register: Go to Active.com (search for SIU)
Tell your friends to join for a challenging on the 3,100 acre retreat on the outskirts of Carbondale.

Asian American Heritage Month

April

1. Asian American Heritage Month Kickoff
   4-7 p.m., Student Center, Chippewa Room

2. Origami Demonstration
   11 a.m. - 3 p.m., Student Center, Substation Ballroom

3. Cultural Experiences: Experiencing Asian Cultural Influences on the Wu Ting Chang
   11 a.m., Jordan Room

4. Sabrina Lane: Learning from the Campuses of Leading Asian-American Poets: The Online
   1 - 3 p.m., Student Union Ballroom, Room 367

5. Exploring the Myth of the "Model Minority Concept" Through Amy Chua's Controversial Best-Selling Book
   The Tiger Mother
   8:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m., Student Center, Dos Bocas

6. Open Mic Night
   8 p.m., Student Center, Student Union

7. Asian American Student Union Open Mic Night
   8 p.m., Student Center, Student Union

8. Asian American Heritage Month Keynotes
   Speaker: T Mau's "Reflections on Asian American Cultural Identity: Dramatic Performance"
   10 a.m., Campus Union in Student Center

WSIU and Cedarhurst Center for the Arts invite you to
Curiosity Day at Cedarhurst
Saturday, April 26 • 1 - 4 PM
Cedarhurst, 2600 Richview Road, Mt. Vernon, IL

Photo Opportunities with Curious George & The Man With the Yellow Hat!
Outdoor Painting • Fly Kites • Music & Sound Sculpture •
Watch Curious George Videos • Plant Seeds •
Joy PBS Kids Books and Games • Children’s Art Exhibit

Bring your mobile devices with you to download apps and take pictures!

Find what’s happening on campus at siu.edu/events
COMING UP...

Special newsletter offer **SAVE $3 per ticket** (does not apply to already discounted kids’ tickets) Special Offers Code: HONOR

Restrictions, exclusions and additional charges may apply. Subject to availability. No double discounts. Not valid on VIP Floor seats. **Buy tickets**

The Student Programming Council Concerts Committee presents

**SPRINGFEST 2014**
Tuesday April 22 • SIU Arena • 7:30 p.m.
Southern Illinois University Carbondale

**CAPITAL CITIES** = Special Guest

**CAMPUS CONSCIOUSNESS**
Your Campus, Your Community, Your Planet.

**TICKETS**
General Admission $10.00 Children/PubAd
$5.00 SIU Student with a valid ID

Online: pasnaitix.com
Phone: 1-800-226-3337
In Person: SIU Arena Box Office

**YOU COULD WIN THIS BIKE BY BEING SALUKI “GREEN”**

1. Record a short video of SIU students being environmentally responsible.
2. Post video on Vine, Facebook, or Instagram and hashtag #SUIearthday14.
3. Contest ends April 21, 2014. Only current SIU students are eligible to win. Winning video will be chosen on Earth Day - April 22.

For contest details visit studentcenter.siu.edu or call 618/453-7103. A special thank you to the University Bookstore for donating the bicycle.

Find what’s happening on campus at siu.edu/events