Hello everyone! I hope this finds you doing well as you finish up your semester.

In this issue, I wanted to take the opportunity to introduce myself as I was excited to begin serving in the role of Coordinator, Non-Traditional Student Services/Single Parent Programs on November 1st. It was a busy month which started with activities during Non-Traditional Student Recognition Week and finished with a New Student Orientation where I had the opportunity to meet more students who will be joining the Saluki family in the spring. In the pages to follow, you will find helpful resources, scholarship opportunities, upcoming activities, etc. Please let me know what else you might find helpful for future issues.

Help me help you...stay in touch! Deborah
Hello everyone! My name is Deborah Barnett (Debi is fine) and I was excited to join the team in Student Life and Intercultural Relations on November 1st as your Coordinator, Non-Traditional Student Services/Single Parent Programs!

As a non-traditional student myself, I can identify with the excitement of pursuing a college degree and can relate to some of the challenges and responsibilities that we might face as adult students. While I have goals to advance programs and services for non-traditional students at SIU, I really want to hear from YOU!!! As you have ideas, experience challenges, or celebrate accomplishments, please share them. I am happy to come alongside to try to assist you during challenging times and will be there to applaud you during times of celebration!

A little about me...I currently live in Marion where I have resided for over 20 years. I am married and have a son who is just starting college himself. After a long gap in my education, I returned in my mid-30’s to follow my dream of completing a bachelor’s degree that I had abandoned years earlier. I not only graduated but discovered that, after all those years, I really loved to learn! After earning my bachelor’s degree, I enrolled in graduate school at SIU and, in December 2010, completed my master’s degree in education and am now pursuing my PhD. Dreams really do come true!!

Let me know how we can help YOU achieve YOUR dreams. I look forward to meeting you...Deborah

Non-Traditional Student Recognition Week is a national celebration held each year during the first week of November. This year, activities were held on the SIU campus and were sponsored by student RSOs (NYTS: Not Your Typical Students and Students with Children) in collaboration with The Veteran’s Center, Family Housing, and Undergraduate Student Government. The theme for this year, CELEBRATING CHANGE, was threaded throughout multiple celebrations as we honored non-traditional students/families, veterans, and faculty/staff who had been nominated for recognition of their significant contributions to SIU’s adult student population (complete listing on next page).

Meet your new Coordinator, Non-Traditional Student Services/Single Parent Programs

Celebrating Change Reception

Clockwise from top: Honorees gather for refreshments; Natasha Aldrich honored for her dedication to the Saluki Single Parent Program; Kristian Alton honored for her dedication to Non-Traditional Student Services; some of the honorees gather for a group photo; and Angie Royal, New Student Programs, was among the honorees.

Celebrating Space

Students at SIU’s Morris Library enjoyed milk and cookies in celebration of the Family Study Room which offers students with children a place to study.

Other Events included:

Celebrating Student Parents
(dinner at Evergreen Terrace hosted by Students with Children RSO)

Celebrating Learning Workshops

Celebrating Families
(Family Favorites Dessert Potluck)

Celebrating Veterans Tailgate
Many students are unaware that deadlines for a number of scholarships are in the months of January, February, and March. This is a great opportunity to use your winter break to apply for scholarship funding. Following is a list of just a few that we have found.

**College of Agricultural Sciences**
http://coas.siu.edu/default2.asp?active_page_id=264

**College of Applied Sciences and Arts**
http://www.asa.siuc.edu/casa/ *click on Scholarships and Honors

**College of Business**
http://business.siu.edu/services/Pages/scholarships.aspx

**College of Education and Human Services**
http://web.coehs.siu.edu/public/scholarships.php

**College of Engineering**
http://www.engr.siu.edu/education/scholarships.html?submenuheader=10

**College of Liberal Arts**
http://cola.siuc.edu/undergraduate/scholarships.html

**College of Mass Communication and Media Arts**
http://mcma.siu.edu/current-students/mcma-scholarships

**College of Science**
http://www.science.siu.edu/ *click on Financial Aid

**Graduate Students**
http://www.gradschool.siuc.edu/financialaid.html

For more information or to conduct a thorough search, go to http://scholarships.siuc.edu/

Did you know???

Some scholarships are never awarded because there are no applicants...apply today!

**Need help:** http://scholarships.siuc.edu/ click on TIPS.
Also consider groups such as the Rotary Club, Lions Club, VFW, Professional Women’s Chapters, and SIU Alumni Association.
Mark Your Calendar...

Upcoming Events & Academic Calendar

⇒ Study Break (December 10th) *see sidebar for more information
⇒ Final Exams (December 12th—December 16th)
⇒ Commencement (December 17th)
⇒ Holiday: Martin Luther King Jr.’s Birthday (January 16th)
⇒ Spring Semester Begins (January 17th)
⇒ RSO Fair: Student Center Ballrooms (January 19th, 5-7 p.m.)

COMING IN JANUARY -
WINTER FAMILY CARNIVAL
SIU Recreation Center

Other Campus and Community Resources:

• 21st Annual Lights Fantastic Parade: City of Carbondale (December 3rd, 6:00 p.m.)
• Managing Stress for Academic Performance Workshop: Student Health Center Auditorium (December 5th, 4:30-5:30 p.m.)
• Saluki Athletics Calendar of Sporting Events: http://www.siusalukis.com/calendar/events/2011_201112.html
• 33rd Annual Holiday Craft Sale: Student Center Art Gallery and International Lounge (December 1st - December 3rd)

This Month’s Contest

Each month you will have the opportunity to win prizes just by reading the newsletter. We will be providing “zoomed in” photos of places across the SIU campus that help non-traditional students to succeed. If you think you know the place we are featuring in the picture to the left, click HERE to submit your answer.

All correct answers submitted by December 15th will be entered into a drawing for a $20 Starbucks gift certificate. GOOD LUCK!