SIU Carbondale’s Family Carnival - A Rousing Success!

Many SIU Carbondale students and families attended the recent Family Carnival where they enjoyed a day of family fun, complete with food and prizes, as they got acquainted with others in attendance and learned about resources available to them. We appreciate all of the on- and off-campus partners who helped make the event such a success.

Our next event combines an evening of fun with support for a good cause. Join us on Friday, Feb. 15, for bowling and a food drive in support of SIU’s Wesley Foundation Food Pantry, created for students to help students. The pantry can always benefit from our support so plan to come to Student Center Bowling & Billiards for SOUPer Bowl. See the story later in this newsletter for details.
A NOTE FROM NTSS

We hope your spring semester is off to a GREAT start! It has been a real treat to meet our new Salukis who recently arrived on campus this semester. In fact, over 20 percent of students at new student orientation in January were nontraditional, adult students pursuing their undergraduate degree!

We also continue to see new faces at our Tuesday Lunch Break. If you have a break on Tuesdays between noon and 1 p.m., we invite you to join us at the Student Center dining area. Invite a friend!

Team Photo: Damon, Imani, Deborah, Brenda, Prince.

We had a great time at the recent SIU Family Carnival…Under the Sea. Nearly 200 participants enjoyed a day of family fun, learned about available resources, and won prizes! Thanks to all who helped make the day a success, including the team from our office, the Association of Non-Traditional Students and the Veterans Integration to Academic Leadership initiative.

There are lots of ways to get involved in February. Check out our two Saluki basketball concession fundraisers for ANTS and our SOUPer Bowl event that combines bowling fun with a food drive for SIU’s Wesley Foundation Food Pantry.

In addition, if you have never participated in the University’s International Festival, you won’t want to miss it this year…especially the International Food Fair. It’s amazing!!

Have a great semester and, as always, let us know how we can assist you.

Deborah

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Student Highlights

NEW TO NTSS...

Jamie Eader recently joined the NTSS office team! Jamie, a transfer student from John A. Logan College, is studying journalism. She will put her journalistic skills to good use as she assists with the monthly NTSS newsletter and helps cover events and other programs for non-traditional students. Jamie’s colorful two-year-old had a great time with Cat in the Hat at the Family Carnival (see photo at right). We will share more of Jamie’s story in our March issue.

WELCOME JAMIE!

STUDENT UPDATE...

We got to catch up with a former student, Katie Infusino, at the Family Carnival. Katie interned in the NTSS office in spring 2012 and graduated in May from SIU’s College Student Personnel program with a master’s degree in education. She is now serving as Online Enrollment Services Counselor at George Williams College in Wisconsin.

WAY TO GO KATIE!

SCHOLARSHIP WINNER...

Vicki Ellison, a junior in pre-nursing, was awarded a $1500 Walmart scholarship! Vicki is an employee at the DuQuoin Walmart. She applied for the scholarship in November and received the award notice in mid-January.

CONGRATULATIONS VICKI!

For info about scholarships for non-traditional students, visit nontrad.siu.edu
For a complete list or to conduct a scholarship search, visit scholarships.siu.edu

WAY TO GO VICKI!

Each month we want to take time out to highlight the stories and accomplishments of SIU Carbondale’s returning students. If you have an inspiring story or have a recent accomplishment you would like to share, please pass it along. If you know of someone that we can feature, please let us know that as well. The SIU campus needs to hear from you, so don’t be shy. Email dbarnett@siu.edu or stop by the NTSS office (Student Center, 3rd floor) to share your story or accomplishment.
The *Under the Sea* carnival at the Student Recreation Center went “swimmingly” for everyone. There were new things to learn about, faces to be painted, and lots of smiles to be seen. Kudos to all the people who made this event such a hit!

Check out the Association of Non-Traditional Students Facebook page for more event photos.

Association of Non-Traditional Students

Our group visited with students at the recent RSO Fair, participated in the Family Carnival, and welcomed new students at our Jan. 23 monthly meeting.

YOU ARE WELCOME TO JOIN US!

*Fundraising/Volunteer Opportunity: working at the Saluki Basketball concessions Feb. 5 & Feb. 13. We can always use more volunteers, so please join us.*

To volunteer or for more information, contact Cathrine at cawhite15@siu.edu

FEBRUARY MEETING: Wednesday, February 27, 5-6 p.m. Student Center Activity Room D

Join us on OrgSync or Facebook
This Month’s Contest

Each month you can win prizes through the newsletter contest. In January, students who attended the Family Carnival or the Jan. 23 Association of Non-Traditional Students (ANTS) meeting or who visited the ANTS table at the RSO Fair were entered into a drawing for dinner and a movie! We had 74 entries into our drawing and the winner is.....

AMELIA MERCED—CONGRATULATIONS!

We enjoyed meeting everyone at these events so, for the February contest, each time you join us for one of the events listed below, your name will be entered into a drawing for a $25 Starbucks gift card.

SOUPER BOWL: Friday, Feb. 15, 6:30 - 8:30 p.m., Student Center Bowling & Billiards (see flier above) Please let us know if you plan to attend.

SALUKI BASKETBALL: Concessions volunteer/fundraising opportunities on Feb. 5 and 13. (contact cawhite15@siu.edu for details)

ASSOCIATION OF NON-TRADITIONAL STUDENTS MEETING: Wednesday, Feb. 27, 5 p.m., Student Center Activity Room
A NEW SERVICE FOR VETERANS ON THE SIU CAMPUS...

VA Health Care
now available on campus

Monday through Friday – 8 am to 4:30 pm
Veterans Services Center, Woody Hall Rm B252

WHY CARE ABOUT VA HEALTH SERVICES?

As a Veteran/National Guard member, you might be eligible for NO COST combat-related VA Medical Care.

Body armor, sand storms, miles in a vehicle—it can take a toll. Even if you feel fit, you should schedule an appointment with a VA Health Care provider to ensure that your deployment will not have an adverse effect on your long-term health.

If you are having difficulty with memory, concentration, irritability, or the feeling that something has changed since your service, this can sometimes can get in the way of your educational goals. We can talk about ways the VA can help.

THINKING OF ENROLING IN VA HEALTH CARE?

Stop by during office hours and we can fill out enrollment paperwork together.

Brenda Carter, LCSW, BCD Veterans Integration to Academic Leadership
(618) 528-4192 or (618) 453-1996
**FEBRUARY HAPPENINGS**

**Black History Month - February 2013**

**Feb. 1-2 - Wendi Deng: It’s Not Just for the College Years, It’s for Life. A Retrospective of Transformation**
- Location: Student Center, Room 210
- Time: Various, check for times and locations
- Description: A look at the life of Wendi Deng, from her early days to her current role as a businesswoman.

**Feb. 3 - 5 p.m., Kickoff Celebration, Student and Faculty Meet and Greet**
- Location: Student Center, Room 210
- Description: A kickoff event to kick off Black History Month programs and events. Students and faculty are encouraged to meet each other, build relationships, and strengthen connections across campus.

**Feb. 6 - 6 p.m., Film “Pariah”**
- Location: Student Center, Room 210
- Description: A screening of the film “Pariah,” which tells the story of a young black woman and her struggle with identity.

**Feb. 11 - 6:30 p.m., Black Women’s Network Symposium**
- Location: Student Center, Room 210
- Description: A symposium focusing on the experiences of black women in various industries.

**Feb. 13 - 5:30 p.m., State of the Black Student Town Hall Meeting**
- Location: Student Center, Room 210
- Description: A town hall meeting to discuss the state of the black student body and ways to improve.

**Feb. 14 - 7 p.m., To Sell or Not to Sell: A Look at Black History**
- Location: Student Center, Room 210
- Description: A talk on the role of sales in the black history and how it has evolved.

**Feb. 15 - 7 p.m., Maggie Anderson: Our Black Year**
- Location: Student Center, Room 210
- Description: A talk by Maggie Anderson, the editor of the book “Our Black Year.”

**Feb. 20 - 6 p.m., Darryl Littleton: Why We Laugh, History of Black Comedy**
- Location: Student Center, Room 210
- Description: A discussion on the history of black comedy and its significance.

**Feb. 23 - 2:30 p.m., ‘The Color Guard’ by Wanda Coleman**
- Location: Student Center, Room 210
- Description: A reading of Coleman’s poetry, which explores the struggle of living in a society that often marginalizes black characters.

**Feb. 25 - 5 p.m., 11th Annual Black History Month Essay Contest**
- Location: Student Center, Room 210
- Description: An essay contest to celebrate black history and culture.

**Feb. 26 - 6 p.m., 5th Annual Black History Month Celebration**
- Location: Student Center, Room 210
- Description: A celebration of black history with music, dance, and food.

**Feb. 27 - 7 p.m., Eric Thomas, motivational speaker**
- Location: Student Center, Room 210
- Description: A motivational speech by Eric Thomas, a successful speaker who inspires audiences with his message of perseverance.

**Feb. 28 - 7 p.m., Alfonso Spacey, Jr., motivational speaker**
- Location: Student Center, Room 210
- Description: A motivational speech by Alfonso Spacey, Jr., who shares his experiences and insights.

**New Beginnings**

**Divorce/Separation Support Group for Single Parents**

**Start Date: February 21, 2013**

**Purpose:** Aid parents who have separated from their partner adjust to the new changes in their life, and provide education on how to guide their children through the separation process.

**Topics Covered:** Separation grief, anger, parent and child self-esteem, and redefining the family.

**Duration:** 12 weekly sessions: 1.5 hours each

**For more information call the SIUC Clinical Center (618) 453-2361**