As 2014 comes to a close, we reflect back on opportunities we had to connect with so many of SIU’s nontraditional students. Through campus programs, office visits, or simply a phone call or email, our goal is ensuring you reach yours!

Photos: Top row (L-R) - Family Carnival, Kick off to Summer BBQ, Transfer and Commuter Student Social. Middle row (L-R) - International Coffee Hour, Student Guest Speakers at National Adult Student Recognition Week Kickoff, Friday Fun Night at the Rec. Bottom row (L-R): Chili Cook-off Judges and Winner, Football Tailgate, Family Hike at Giant City Park.
Each year, Non-Traditional Student Services and Veterans Services collaborate to select ACE Student of the Year nominees who have used ACE credit (for workforce or military training) toward their degrees. This year’s nominees are:

Clint Rudd and Samuel Hoekstra

See page 3 of this newsletter to learn more about these outstanding students.

This month, I recognize another one of the outstanding NTSS student employees.

Savannah Krieg, a junior studying Theater with specific interest in lighting design, joined the NTSS team in August. Originally from Salem, Illinois, Krieg transferred from Kaskaskia College to attend SIU.

Krieg’s primary responsibility is newsletter development and design. She conducts student highlight interviews, searches for resources and campus programs to feature, writes newsletter copy and photographs happenings at NTSS events. In addition to being very creative, Krieg is a fast learner and is highly dependable. This semester, she also assisted at tailgate events, Friday Fun nights and the International Coffee Hour. We are so glad that she chose SIU and the NTSS office!

All of us at Non-Traditional Student Services wish you all the best as you finish the semester strong!

Deborah Barnett,  Ph.D.
Coordinator,
Non-Traditional Student Services

If you’re graduating on Dec. 13, we say CONGRATULATIONS!!

In this section, we highlight a few of the fall 2014 graduates, what they studied, where they are from, and what earning their degrees means to them!

Sindy Amador
Degree: Master of Arts in foreign language and literature (Spanish)
Hometown: Tegucigalpa, Honduras
“God, Family, and Friends.”

Scott Schackmann
Degree: Bachelor of Arts in Spanish and foreign language and literature
Hometown: Odin, Illinois
“Possibility. Potential. Perseverance.”

Lindsay Anita Marie Johnson
Degree: Fashion Design and Merchandising
Hometown: Crete, Illinois
“To me, my degree means open doors for new possibilities. Having a degree is a step above the rest and will help me in reaching the goals I have for myself beyond college. It’s a confirmation that I know what I am doing in the fashion field and I am proud of doing it.”

Hubert A. Widener
Degree: Bachelor of Science in aviation technologies
Hometown: Vero Beach, Florida
“Attaining a bachelor’s degree has been a long journey and I am proud to have finally made it to my destination. Thank you to Mrs. Willie Cave-Dunkel, my first academic advisor, for making this possible!”

Continued on Page 5
WANT TO EARN CREDIT DURING WINTER BREAK?

Classes held during the winter break last for up to five weeks (or often less) and count as a part of the spring 2015 term for credit hour and tuition/fees calculation purposes. For details or a class listing, visit registrar.siu.edu

JOBS, JOBS AND MORE JOBS!

Did you know that 500 positions are currently posted on the Saluki Recruiting site through SIU’s Career Services, with nearly 250 now accepting applications? This is just another great way that Career Services can help you in your future career. Check it out at careerservices.siu.edu, select Students – Job Search Assistance – Saluki Recruiting!

STRETCH YOUR SPRING BUDGET!

Enroll now for the spring tuition payment plan. The deadline to enroll with no down payment is Dec. 30, with balance payable in four monthly payments from January through April. For details, visit bursar.siu.edu and select “Installment Payment Plan.”

DO YOU KNOW ABOUT THE HEALTH INSURANCE REFUND?

If you already have health insurance, you can request a refund of your student health insurance fee. The deadline for the spring semester is Jan. 24. For details, or to submit a request, visit shc.siu.edu.

SAFE.SIU.EDU

Southern Illinois University is committed to a safe, healthy and supportive environment. By now, many of you have participated in training to help identify and protect yourself and others from potentially unsafe situations. If you have not participated in the Salukis Step UP! series or HAVEN training, we encourage you to visit safe.siu.edu for upcoming dates and online training.

As part of the training, 10 key themes are emphasized. Each month, this section of the newsletter will be dedicated to providing information and resources related to a key theme.

This month’s theme:
Healthy Relationships, Part 3

If your partner is possessive, jealous, or often gets angry over little things, it may not be a healthy relationship.

A healthy relationship doesn’t drag you down. It inspires you to be better.

Coming in January: Media Stereotypes and Unrealistic Expectations

2014 ACE Student of the Year Nominees

Clint Rudd is a first-year law student at SIU and used ACE credit toward his bachelor’s degree work at Missouri State University. His inspiring story was featured in the October 2014 newsletter as part of the NTSS Family Affair student highlight series.

Samuel Hoekstra used ACE credit toward his bachelor’s degree that he completed in December 2013. He is pursuing a master’s degree at SIU and serves as a Peer Support Specialist with the United States Department of Veterans Affairs (VA). He is assigned under the VA Veterans Integrated to Academic Leadership (VITAL) program to support SIU’s student veterans.

To learn more about the ACE Student of the Year Award, visit acenet.edu.
DECEMBER

1-5 End of the Semester Stress Buster activities, 11 a.m.-1 p.m., Student Center, first floor

2 Lunchtime Bowl and Burn, 11 a.m., Student Center
   Pona Nobis Pacem – “A Song Of Peace” Choral Union/Concert
   7:30 p.m., Shryock Auditorium

   Performing Cultures Performance Spotlight Hour, 8 p.m., Marion Kleinau Theatre

4 Wind Ensemble, 7:30 p.m., Shryock Auditorium
   Cosmic Bowling, 8 p.m., Student Center

   2014 Holiday Craft Sale begins, 10 a.m., Student Center Art Gallery

   5 New Arts Jazztet in Concert, 7:30 p.m., Altgeld 112

   6 24th Annual Lights Fantastic Parade, 6 p.m.

   Visit lightsfantasticparade.com for details and parade route.

   SIU Men’s Basketball vs. Austin Peay, 7:35 p.m., SIU Arena

   *additional home games on Dec. 14, 16, 19, 22 and 31.

   Visit siusalukis.com for complete athletic event schedules.

   Remember, athletic event tickets for an SIU student’s spouse
   and/or children are only $5 with the Family ID card available
   through NTSS.

   8-12 Finals Week

   13 Commencement, 2 p.m., SIU Arena

   The university is closed Dec. 25-Jan. 2

   Spring semester 2015 classes

   begin Tuesday, Jan. 20.

   Enjoy the winter break!

Did You Know?

The Wesley Foundation at SIU has a food pantry open to students at SIU and John A Logan.

Fall 2014 semester hours are Mondays from 2-5 p.m. and Wednesdays from 1-5 p.m.

You will need to bring you SIU ID card or John A. Logan class schedule with you to use the food pantry.

DON’T FORGET - Saluki Express Break Route!

Saturday, Dec. 13-Friday, Jan. 16
The Saluki Express will be using the Break Route
Click “Route” below to see the schedule.

Route

Monthly Contest

Congratulations to Sindy Amador winner of November’s Contest!

This month, everybody wins!

Beginning Wednesday, Dec. 3, stop by the office (Student Services Building, room 484) and grab your
“Finals Survival Kit.” It is available to the first 50 students, courtesy of Non-Traditional Student Services.

NOTE: This newsletter is designed to be electronic. If you received a copy in print form and need access to links, visit nontrad.siu.edu and click on Staying Connected.
Ali Abuali
Degree: Bachelor of Science in aviation management
Hometown: Chicago
“Hoping to get a job as a pilot with an airline, or work in a large airport.”

Mariela Agrawal
Degree: Doctor of Philosophy in education administration and higher education
Hometown: Carbondale, Illinois
“An enormous sense of accomplishment and pride in knowing that my effort paid off, and now I am one more Latina with a Ph.D. degree.”

Deborah Barnett
Degree: Doctor of Philosophy in workforce education and development
Hometown: Marion, Illinois
“Achieving what was once unimaginable! KEEP DREAMING BIG!”

Cory Davis
Degree: Bachelor of Science in applied science and arts
Hometown: Hoffman, Illinois
“My degree means a better opportunity to provide for my children and myself.”

Rachel Hamel
Degree: Doctor of Philosophy in applied psychology
Hometown: Bellefonte, Pennsylvania
“My degree allows me the freedom to pursue the career that I want, doing what I love to do.”

Dan Hunt
Degree: Bachelor of Science in aviation management
“This degree will open the doors to the career field I’ve always seen myself in.”

Teigan Jones
Degree: Bachelor of Arts in criminology and criminal justice
Hometown: Charleston, Illinois
“My degree shows my perseverance to finish what I started.”

Yinghua Lu
Degree: PhD in Philosophy
Hometown: China
“Pursing for PhD degree is a striving process, which not only teaches me scientific knowledge, but also life wisdom. Through anxiety and smile, I learned a great deal from this academic training.”

Gabrielle Smith
Degree: Bachelor of Arts in political science
Hometown: Herrin, Illinois
“The culmination of over a decade of hard work and overcoming obstacles to succeed. It means fulfilling a promise I made to myself and those who love me.”

Bernetta L. Vaughn
Degree: Bachelor of Science in workforce education and development
“My degree means that I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me, and with God and education I am unstoppable!”