CONGRATULATIONS, GRADUATES!

On Saturday, May 16, SIU graduates join faculty, staff, classmates, family and friends to celebrate the culmination of hard work, perseverance, growth and broadened opportunities. If you’re graduating, we say WELL DONE! As you cross the stage, we will be cheering you on.

And remember: ONCE A SALUKI, ALWAYS A SALUKI!

As you prepare for your big day, review the 2015 commencement brochure, which is packed with everything you will need to make your graduation special.

Also, take a look inside this newsletter for our new section, “Saluki Info Blast,” featuring tips and strategies for new graduates.

Photo: SIU University Communications
As always, we like to highlight student accomplishments. This month we extend special congratulations to Maria Martinez, a graduate student studying music history with a focus in the flute and piccolo. Under the instruction of SIU professor Dr. Douglas Worthen, Martinez recently performed a modern piece titled “Spindrift,” composed by Ken Benshoof, at the Spring Flute Studio concert April 12 as part of a course requirement. Worthen said Martinez has a “remarkable, beautiful, clear sound and wonderful sense of phrasing.” She did exceptionally well, and the students and audience appreciated her performance.

Under the supervision of Dr. Eric Lenz, Martinez also has worked in the music department’s graduate studies office. “Maria has been indispensable in her work with communication with prospective students,” Worthen said. “She has really done an excellent job.” He went on to note that Martinez is an excellent student who has a strong interest in music history, particularly 18th century composers from her native Mexico.

Congratulations, Maria, on your performance – and for the excellence with which you approach your academics and your work. We applaud you!

Michelle Snyder, a master’s student pursuing a degree in public health, recently led one of SIU’s Alternative Spring Break trips (in which students participate in social service and/or environmental activities in different locations throughout the country). Snyder chose SIU because it was close to her home, and it offered many degree options that interested her. Like many other nontraditional students, she found that balancing school with her family responsibilities can be difficult at times, but she makes it possible by using the programs and services SIU offers. Morris Library’s family study room and “Friday Fun Night” at the Student Recreation Center give her the opportunity to study while knowing her children are safe and having fun. The advice she has for other students is this: “Be involved!” Snyder says she did not realize until beginning her master’s degree how important it is to be a part of the SIU campus community, but now she takes advantage of the opportunities available to her as an SIU student.

For more information about the Alternative Spring Break opportunities, visit http://alternativespringbreak.siu.edu/
**FINAL EXAMS**

Don’t know when your finals are? Visit registrar.siu.edu and select Final Exams to find out.

**COMMENCEMENT**

Graduation can be a stressful time for students as they try to iron out all of their last-minute plans and details. Check the times and forward information to your relatives by visiting commencement.siu.edu.

**DON’T FORGET:**
Family members can watch the graduation in real time as well!

**COMMUNITY RESOURCES**

Have you heard about all the resources the Carbondale Public Library offers? Not only can you rent books online and pick them up when they are available, but you can also rent newly released movies and television shows, too. But don’t stop there! The library also has free Wi-Fi, easy computer access, and programs for children, teens and adults! It’s a great option for summer fun. Check it out in person, or visit carbondalepubliclibrary.org for details.

**APRIL WORKSHOP RECAP**

“Land Your Dream Job” workshop attendees learned helpful tools and tips as they prepare for the working world. Topics included, networking and participants took note about how to network, but more importantly how to follow up and how to stay connected.

For additional tips to develop your professional self, see the NEW Saluki Blast section!

**CAREER CHECKLIST**

As you prepare for your career, here’s a checklist to help make the job market less intimidating and get you ahead of the game.

1. **CONTACT CAREER SERVICES**
   - Résumé/Interview/Cover Letter Critique – Have your resume viewed by a professional. Career services assists SIU students as well as alumni with tips and tools for success.
   - Create a Saluki Recruiting Job Search Account – Ask Career Services about its Saluki Recruiting Web-based job search system, which is used extensively by employers and students alike.

2. **NETWORK! NETWORK!**
   - SIU Alumni Association – The SIU Alumni Association offers May graduates a gift of a one-year free membership for registering by June 30. As a member, you become part of the 250,000 alumni worldwide in nearly every professional field imaginable, along with many more advantages.
   - Faculty, Friends, Former Colleagues – Networking is by far the most effective way to become known in a particular area or industry, and to learn about positions that recently have become available.

3. **MARKET YOURSELF**
   - Social Media Cleanup – Recent studies indicate that 80 percent of employers will look at social media before extending interview invitations to applicants. Make sure there aren’t any questionable photos or posts that could cause problems with a potential employer. You are now in the working world, so switch from Facebook to a professional network such as LinkedIn.
   - Make Good Impressions – Statistics show that 65 percent of hiring managers say clothes can be the deciding factor between two similar candidates. Make sure the attire you choose not only appeals to you, but the employer as well.

Written by Adara Dimuke, undergraduate student intern

“Bear to endure, yet still I arise”
Mark Your Calendar
EVENTS & ACADEMIC CALENDAR

MAY
1 Combined Jazz Orchestra, 7 p.m., Altgeld Hall, room 112
2 Mindfulness Camp For Kids, 9 a.m., Rehn Hall, room 334
3 Saluki Softball vs. Missouri State, noon, Charlotte West Stadium
4 Write-In, 7 p.m., Morris Library Computer Lab, room 261
5 Soul Singing at SIU, 7:30 p.m., Shryock Auditorium, room 105
6 Dollar Night, 7 p.m., Student Center Bowling
7 Salsa Dancing, 7 p.m., Grinnell Dance Studio
8 Dawgs Nite Out, 8 p.m., Recreation Center
9 Saluki Baseball vs. Missouri State, 2 p.m., Itchy Jones Stadium
10 Mother’s Day
11 Finals Week begins
16 Commencement Day
18 Intersession classes begin
24 Public Astronomy Observation, 9 p.m., Neckers rooftop
25 Memorial Day – university closed

For a complete list of programs and events, visit calendar.siu.edu

Join us Friday, May 8
FREE BASEBALL TAILGATE
Saluki Baseball vs. Missouri State, 6:30 p.m., Itchy Jones Stadium
Join us for our final cookout of the baseball season. Look for the tan canopy “on the hill”. Game admission FREE for students with valid ID. See siusalukis.com for other ticket prices.
Sponsored by Veterans Services and Non-Traditional Student Services.

Here are two tips as you spring clean or declutter from another busy semester.

Go with gravity
Always start from the top and work your way down. Think about it like this: Dust falls down, so if you start at the top you will never have to re-clean.

Prepare yourself
Get a water bottle, eat a snack, turn off your phone and get your music queued. Do not allow distractions or you’ll find reasons to procrastinate.

For more helpful tips and tutorials, check out Pinterest; it’s my go-to website for anything cleaning or organizing.

Savannah, Non-Traditional Student Services student staff

Congratulations to Jennifer Lundberg, the winner of the April newsletter contest! The question was: “In March 1951, SIU’s mascot became the Saluki – but what was the SIU team name before that?” The answer is the Maroons.

For this month’s contest, as we approach graduation ceremonies, we thought it would be interesting to see who knows the answer to this SIU trivia question: “In what year did the first class graduate from SIU Carbondale?” Email nontrad@siu.edu if you know the answer.

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.
COMING UP...

YOU'RE INVITED!
Join us this spring for Saluki baseball at Itchy Jones Stadium.

Free cookout for veteran and non-traditional students on
Friday, Mar. 6 (3 p.m.)
Friday, Mar. 20 (6:30 p.m.)
Friday, Apr. 3 (1 p.m.)
Saturday, Apr. 11 (12 p.m.)
Softball doubleheader at SIU's Charlotte West Stadium
Friday, Apr. 17 (6:30 p.m.)
Friday, May 8 (6:30 p.m.)

Sponsored by SIU's Veterans Services and Non-Traditional Student Services. Families welcome.
Visit siusalukis.com for ticket information.

Dawgs Nite Out
VACATION
DESTINATION
2015

Personalize Street Signs
Make & Take Your Own Video
Glow Miniature Golf
Surf Contest
Mechanical Bull Contest
Massage Chairs
Wax Hands
Free Food and Fun
Must Have VALID SIU Student ID

WANNA GET AWAY?

For more information visit spc.rso.siu.edu or call 618/536-3393

Student Programming Council Special Events presents

SALUKI PALOOZA
MAY 2, 2015

Hot Air Balloon
Starts at 5 p.m.

Food

Games

Tie Dye

Pet a Puppy

Wing Eating Contest
Starts at 4 p.m.

Arrive early to compete in the wing eating contest.

Prizes include iPod Mini and Beats Headphones

Sam Rinella Field
Across from Brush Towers

3 - 7 p.m.

FREE
with valid SIU Student ID

Sponsored by:
Residence Hall Association
Wright Way Residence Halls
and SPC Visual Arts

SIU Student Programming Council