

Important Dates for Summer Quarter!

- Summer quarter officially begins on Monday June 16, 2008
- The last day to drop a class with 100% refund is Friday June 27th
- The last day to request the Pass/Fail option is Friday June 27th
- The last day to withdraw from a Summer 2008 class is Friday August 1st
- Summer quarter classes end on Friday August 22nd
- For an extended list of deadlines please visit <http://oaa.depaul.edu/what/calendar.jsp>.
- Visit <http://www.snlonline.net/Current/registration.asp> for more information about online courses being offered in the summer 2008 quarter.

Spring Graduation

- The School for New Learning Commencement ceremony will be held on Saturday, June 16, 2008 at 3:00 PM at the Civic Opera House located at 20 N. Wacker Drive, Chicago. Students must arrive by 2:00PM. No tickets necessary.

Blackboard Courses for Summer Quarter

- The Center for Distance Education will be offering all courses in the Blackboard Learning Management System during summer quarter.
- Blackboard resources are available online at <http://www.snlonline.net/Current/blackboardresources.asp>.
- For an interactive Blackboard student tutorial please visit: <http://www.itd.depaul.edu/website/Students/studentblackboard.asp>.
- The DePaul Technology Contact Center (TCC) has put together a handout with information regarding resolution of the issue with Blackboard and Vista / IE 7.0. For more information please visit: <http://www.snlonline.net/Blackboard/Vistale7BlackboardSnl.pdf>.

Meet SNL's New Dean

Based on the recommendation of the university search committee, and with the support of the SNL faculty and staff, Marisa Alicea has been confirmed as Dean of the School for New Learning.

Marisa, who has been serving as interim dean since the start of the academic year, has demonstrated that she has the capacity to do the job and do it well. Her fellow deans, her colleagues and other university executives have been enormously impressed with her leadership and actively supported her selection.

Marisa has been guiding SNL through a comprehensive program review designed to refine and update the strong, original concept of the school, which since 1972 has been a leader in adult student learning. SNL, like our newly named College of Computing and Digital Media, successfully implemented a distance learning program. The school also has capitalized on our suburban campuses, making a DePaul education available to adults who live or work south, west or northwest of the city. A 21-year veteran of DePaul and former associate dean of SNL, Marisa assumed



Marisa Alicea, Dean, School for New Learning

the responsibilities of Susanne Dumbleton, who stepped down from the dean's post that she held for 11 years. Marisa grew up in Chicago's Humboldt Park and West Town neighborhoods after her parents migrated from their native Puerto Rico. She earned a Ph.D. in sociology from Northwestern University.

Congratulations Marisa!

Meet an SNL Online Student

Meet Judith Trusdell from Evanston, IL

Judy is a Manager of HR/North America and International Recruiter/SE Asia for Global Sources, a Hong Kong-based company.

Why did you decide to return to school at this point in your life?

I returned to school for personal reasons, I had unfinished business and found SNL Online at the time I considered going back to school.

What is your intended focus area? Why did you choose it?

Human Resources for community based NFP (Not For Profit). I currently work in for profit HR and would like to gain more training in non profit.

What has been your favorite SNL Online course so far?

Critical Thinking, I was able to look at the world through different eyes and question what is given to us on a daily basis.

How do you plan to utilize your DePaul degree after you graduate?

I would like to start up my own non profit organization or perform HR work on a volunteer basis during retirement. I also have an interest in working in volunteer management.

What advice would you give to a student who is new to the program?

Try not to overload your schedule, prepare for a time commitment, the amount of time classes take, talk with family and friends as you won't see them as much while doing your studies, get yourself comfortable with the online format, also ask questions when you need help as everyone is eager to help.

Textbooks for Fall:

- Textbooks for fall courses will be confirmed during the middle of summer quarter. Please wait to buy your fall books.

SNL Scholarship News

- The School for New Learning awards scholarships to adult students each year. If you think you might qualify for one of these scholarships, we encourage you to apply. For a listing of available scholarships, please visit <http://snl.depaul.edu/StudentResources/Scholarships/index.asp>.

DePaul ID Cards:

- Please visit http://is.depaul.edu/systems/cards_passes/depaul_id.asp for more information about obtaining a DePaul ID card.

Early Warning!

- Please make note that DePaul University will be upgrading its Blackboard Learning Management System for the winter of 2009.

The new version has several improvements, including easier discussion, improved gradebook, and improved communication options. *However, it will take some getting used to. More information will be coming — look for it!*

Faculty Teaching New Online Courses

Zachary Cook has taught political science full-time at DePaul since 2006. Previously he was an instructor at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. A native of New Orleans, he did his undergraduate work at Williams College in Massachusetts and his graduate work at Northwestern University, IL. Cook's professional interests include campaigns and elections, political parties, and the American Presidency. He combines his teaching interests with experience volunteering for political candidates and parties at the local, state and national level.

Ken Feil has been teaching media studies courses since 1992 and is currently Scholar-in-Residence in the Department of Visual and Media Arts at Emerson College. He earned his Ph.D. in Radio-Television-Film at The University of Texas at Austin. Ken is the author of *Dying for a Laugh: Disaster Movies and the Camp Imagination* (Wesleyan University Press, 2006), numerous articles and reviews. Ken has also written (alone and in collaboration) several films and Public Service Announcements. He is currently co-writing and co-editing

the film *The Validation Legacy* as well as authoring a book on American comedies of the 1960s and 1970s.

Tom Tresser is a consultant, producer, educator and trainer works with individuals, companies and communities to leverage and amplify their creative assets in order to solve problems, create economic value and trigger civic engagement. He recently designed and produced training programs for the provincial government of Saskatchewan on how to use the arts and culture for local economic Tom has acted in some 40 shows and produced over 100 plays, special events, festivals and community programs. He is teaching a number of classes on art, creativity and civic engagement for the School of the Art Institute and DePaul University.

Tom also consults with arts organizations on strategic planning, audience development and peer-to-peer marketing.

Please visit page 3 in this newsletter to find out more about the courses these new instructors will be teaching this summer.

SNL Faculty Research & More

The following have been published recently by SNL Faculty:

Downing, K. F., Holtz, J.K. (in press; June 2008). *Online Science Learning: Best Practices and Technologies*. Hershey, PA: IGI Global Publishing

Holtz, J. K. and Downing, K. F. *A Best Practices, Didactic Model for Design of Web-Based Science Education*. 2007 International Mind, Brain, & Education Society. November 1-3, 2007. Fort Worth.

Holtz, J. (2006). *Online Learners and "Horridifying" Cognitive Dissonance: Exploring the Tuskegee Syphilis Study*. International Forum of Teaching and Studies, 2(3): 23-29.

Holtz, J. (2005). *Establishing Authentic Student Voice in Asynchronous Distance Learning: Outcomes Based Assessment*. International Forum of Teaching and Studies, 1(2): 38-43.

Holtz, J. K., Radner, B. (2005). *Assessment and College Progress: Capacity Building*

through Formative and Summative Program Evaluation. In Online Assessment, Measurement and Evaluation: Emerging Practices. David D. Williams, Scott L. Howell and Mary Hricko, Eds. Hershey, PA: Information Science Publishing.

Holtz, J., Strohschen, G. *Connecting with Online Students: Asynchronous Conversation versus Discussion*. 2005 International Conference of the Council for Adult and Experiential Learning (CAEL). November 10-12, 2005. Chicago.

Polly Hoover, Peggy St. John, Suzanne Sanders-Betzold and Michelle Navarre-Cleary recently presented on and have submitted for e-publication the following wikii: <http://blikiresearch.pbwiki.com/FrontPage> The main essay is titled "Working with Wikis in Writing-Intensive Classes."

Meet SNL Online Director Beth Rubin

Meet Beth Rubin, Director of SNL Online:

What is your current job title, and what are your primary responsibilities at SNL? How does your work affect students?

I am the director of SNL Online and Assistant Professor at SNL. As Director, I manage the operations of online courses and programming. I oversee visiting faculty, scheduling, technology, as well as student and faculty support for online courses. As Assistant Professor, I am a faculty mentor, I conduct research, teach classes, and participate in administering within the college and school by sitting on committees.

How long have you been at DePaul? At SNL?

I've been at DePaul and SNL for almost two years, I came on July 3, 2006. I came here from DeVry University, where I was the Dean of Academic Administration at DeVry Online. We recruited 90 new faculty every term, scheduled and ran 1200 courses every term. Before that, I held many positions at Cardean University – I managed faculty, I managed part of the business curriculum, and I was the

Director of Assessment for the university. And before that, I was a regular tenured professor in the Business School of the University of Manitoba.

What do you like most about working at DePaul, and at SNL?

I love the people – the people I work with, and the people I teach. I also love the commitment to helping people, to giving everyone an opportunity to learn, and to make the world a better place. I like the way DePaul – and SNL – look to the future to meet the changing needs.

What advice would you give to a student who is new to the program? For a staff person who is new to the program?

I would advise a new student to communicate with people – using email, using blackboard, using the phone. Communicate with your faculty, with your fellow students, with your mentor, with your advisor, with the SNL staff. As the old phone commercial used to say, "Reach out and touch someone." When you have a problem, when you have a question, when you have something wonderful you want to



Beth Rubin, Director, SNL Online

share – share it! There's a lot of help and information out there; you just have to find it. And the people here are very helpful.

I would advise a new staff person to always keep the student in the center of their work. We are here because of the students. That doesn't mean the degree is easy, or standards are low – but it means that our work is to help students develop themselves, their skills, their knowledge, and succeed in reaching their educational goals.

New Summer Quarter Courses

HC 242 - Creative Tools for Social Change - Innovations in Effective Activism. Theater and political protest. Media activists and anti-globalization. Online Flash movies for sustainable development. Hip Hop and voter registration. These are just a few of the ways art and social change are coming together. Artists and activists are blending their approaches, strategies and tactics in a creative stew for progressive social change. This class will examine how social change activists are using creative tools and methods to achieve their change agendas. The class will: (1) Give students a foundational understanding of the principles and practices of direct action organizing, (2) Expose students to innovative and non-traditional strategies and tactics for mobilizing for social change, and (3) Investigate organizations who are engaged in creative social change. Competences: A3X, H11, H2X, FX. Faculty: Thomas Tresser

HC 257 - Participation and Democracy in America. This course studies a famous question of American democratic theory: why don't more Americans participate in the political process? Different forms of participation will be discussed, with a primary focus on voter turnout. We will investigate some famous proposed answers including individual scarce resources, social-psychological factors and legal-institutional barriers. Special attention will be paid to inequalities in participation and the ongoing 2008 elections. Students will have the option of participating in the latter as one of the course competencies. Competences: A3A, H3A, H4, S1A. Faculty: Zachary Cook

AI 325 - "Make 'em Laugh!": Hollywood Film Comedy. This class delves deeply into the history of Hollywood comedy as well as theories of comedy, and is divided into two parts. Part one explores theories of comedy, both formal/aesthetic

(the elements of artistic form) and socio-cultural (philosophical and psycho-social theories of comedy). The second part of the course explores historical developments in Hollywood comedy in terms of the development of artistic form (performance, verbal and visual gags, narrative structure, visual style), the film industry, and questions of socio-historical impact. Students can also opt to learn how to write a comedic screenplay. Films and artists to be discussed include the Marx Brothers, Mae West, Mel Brooks, Blazing Saddles, The Royal Tenenbaums, The Seven Year Itch, Charlie Chaplin, Buster Keaton, The Philadelphia Story, Hairspray, and There's Something About Mary.

* Please Note: Students taking this course should not pursue both the H-2-G and A-2-A Competencies, since the final project for each of these Competencies is so demanding. Competences: A11, A3G, H2G, A2A. Faculty: Ken Feil



Travel to Ireland for Externship and Advanced Elective in Fall 2008

The traditional fishing village of Clifden, in breathtakingly beautiful Connemara, is the setting every fall for one of Ireland's most famous arts festivals. Traditional, popular and classical musicians gather with poets, novelists, sculptors, dancers, philosophers, and artists to celebrate Ireland's unique heritage and history. Many tours of Ireland involve moving every day to see new sites.

This tour is different: you stay in one place, and Ireland comes to you, in the form of the nation's most renowned artists and entertainers. Tour cost of approximately \$1,700 includes travel from Shannon airport, accommodations with some meals, and entry to all concerts, readings, art exhibits, heritage walks and other activities for ten days. A one-day excursion to County Mayo will explore additional aspects of the Irish experience, focusing on the great famine of the 1840s and its impact on Irish immigration; another all-day

trip takes students to medieval Galway City with its exciting cultural life.

Airfare is not included so that students may arrange to stay later if they wish; tuition is separate and based on number of competences taken. The course covers Externship and Advanced Electives, or other competences by negotiation. Travel: Sept. 18-28, 2008. Pre-requisite: Research Seminar for Externship/Advanced Electives; permission of mentor for other competences.

Availability is limited; the tour will be offered again in 2009. For details, please contact Dr. Patricia Monaghan at PMONAGHA@depaul.edu. Dr. Monaghan has written several books on Ireland and has appeared herself as a featured artist at Clifden Arts Week.

CAEA Conference

SNL's Center to Advance Education for Adults (CAEA) hosted its first conference "A Collaborative Conversation on Globalization, Technology and Complexity" on Friday April 25th.

Conference highlights included a conversation started by Futurist, Elliott Masie, a panel discussion on globalization and adult learning, talk and book signing by Daniel Pink, Breakout conversations on trends and new research, and DePaul faculty panelists, researchers, and discussants.

Conference attendees were represented from the following organizations: McDonald's Corporation, Abbott Laboratories,

LaSalle Bank Corporation, Sears Holdings Corporation, Workforce Chicago, CAEL, Chicago Police Department, Evanston Northwestern Healthcare, City Colleges of Chicago, Roosevelt University, Lesley University, and many more!

If you would like to learn more about CAEA at SNL, please contact Shannon Stone at caea@depaul.edu or call 312-362-6508 or visit online at [http://snl.depaul.edu/About/Centers/Center to Advance Education.asp](http://snl.depaul.edu/About/Centers/Center_to_Advance_Education.asp).