



Office of Adult Student Affairs Scholarship

The Office of Adult Student Affairs is pleased to announce their Scholarship Program for the 2012-2013 academic year. This program is designed to assist the growing number of adult learners who are returning to school. Adult undergraduates (24+ years of age), graduate, professional, and military veteran students (regardless of age) are eligible to apply.

Three students will be chosen from the applicant pool in Fall, Winter, and Spring quarters. Each recipient will be awarded a \$1,650 scholarship. These awards are not renewable and recipients of the scholarships cannot apply for another Adult Student Affairs Scholarship in the same academic year.

Winter Quarter deadline is November 9, 2012

For more information, please visit: http://studentaffairs.depaul.edu/adultstudent-services/students_you_should_know/index.aspx

Adult Student Resource Fair

Free adult student event on Thursday September 27th, 11am-6pm DePaul Center, Concourse Level 1 E. Jackson Blvd.

- Free Health Screenings
- Demon Discount Vendors
- Chair Massages
- Live Music
- Refreshments
- Raffle Prizes, & Much More

For more details call 312-362-6216 or email adultstudents@depaul.edu

Career Center Event

- **November 2, 2012:** Communication, Marketing and Sales Job & Internship Fair at DePaul Center (DPC)

For more information, please visit: <http://careercenter.depaul.edu/events/default.aspx>



STRATEGIC Planning and Action SNL Engages For An Innovative Future

In 2010-11 the School for New Learning faculty, staff, advisors and other stakeholders participated in a year-long planning process to review our history, core values and future trends. The result was a forward thinking plan that recommitted to serving adult learners by providing the highest quality education and innovating in response to new trends. Upon completion of the plan, SNL embraced the next critical phase of the process, moving from strategic planning into strategic action.

Beginning in the fall of 2011, Pamela Meyer, Director of SNL's Center to Advance Education for Adults, was asked to facilitate a strategic engagement process. She shared that, "for a plan to become action, the people who are charged with implementing it need to be invited to engage with it in a generative, meaningful way." Over several months Meyer facilitated sessions with staff, faculty, advisors, students and alumni to provide an opportunity for them to reflect on the

plan and then begin generating innovative ideas to move SNL's strategic priorities into action. This resulted in the formation of five strategic action groups centered on the priorities of Staff Development/Communication, Highlighting Our Leadership in Adult Learning, Improving Student Experience, Retention and Employability, as well as toward the launch of the new "Essential Commitments Staff Development Fund."

A few of the ideas that are already moving into action, many in collaboration with other SNL committees, include: a series of upgrades to improve student experience and simplify the registration process, 40th Anniversary events focusing on providing resources and guidance for SNL students and alumni to enhance their employability, a Photo Booth project highlighting student success, improved communication systems for SNL events and activities, a showcase of faculty and alumni publications. Please check <http://snl.depaul.edu/40> for the most current list of 40th Anniversary events and other opportunities to get involved at SNL this year!

CELEBRATE 40 YEARS WITH SNL!

SNL Adult Student/Alumni Success and Employability Open House and Summit

Friday, October 12, 2012 and Saturday, October 13, 2012

Join DePaul University School for New Learning as we celebrate our 40th Anniversary with an SNL Adult Student/Alumni Success and Employability Open House Summit. These events are for School for New Learning alumni, current and prospective students to connect with resources, alumni, faculty and staff to support them in meeting their personal and professional goals. Both a celebration and resource fair, attendees will enjoy many networking opportunities, resume and interview workshops, an overview of adult student/alumni success resources, as well as on-site advising and mentoring. This event will also showcase and celebrate the School for New Learning's 40 years of innovation in adult learning with the debut of the Photo Booth project, student/alumni success stories and faculty profiles, many of whom will be on-site telling their stories in person. In addition, prospective students are invited to attend to learn about the program and meet one-on-one with a member of our advising team.

For More Information, please visit: http://www.snل.depaul.edu/About/40th_Anniversary/index.asp



New SNL Online Courses in Winter 2012-13 Quarter

HC 212: Global Leadership

A3F, H1A, H5 and FX competencies

Leading global and domestic organizations requires understanding, appreciating and managing the impact of culture and the interplay of cultural patterns in everyday interactions. To be successful, leaders must be able to interpret complex cultural contexts and develop intercultural competence, not only in themselves, but in the people they lead and the other organizations they work with. Developing intercultural competence is an ongoing endeavor that requires stretching one's thinking to adopt new cultural perspectives regarding others' values, attitudes and behaviors.

But it is not an end in itself: intercultural competence is the basis for successful social interactions and business communications, which are especially important in today's "flat" world. *Global*

Leadership will explore the demand for and ways to develop this distinct skill set among leaders so they can establish communities and initiate change across diverse groups of stakeholders.

FA 254: Strategic Management

H-1-I, H5 and FX competencies

This is a ten week course on strategic management in everyday life. Students will learn the basic concepts of strategic formulation including understanding the competitive forces, competitive advantage, strategic decisions, and the impact of the internet on strategy. Next students will look at how strategy can be applied to business, governmental, societal and global issues. Students may focus on developing a strategy for an organization for the F-X competence, or look at strategy from a governmental or societal perspective with the H-1-I competence, or analyze the strategy of a country or global issue for the H5 competence.

Externship: Mindfulness Meditation Retreat SP 2013

This unique hybrid involves a four-day retreat (April 25–28, 2013) at the beautiful Starved Rock Lodge and Conference Center in Utica, IL (1.5 hour drive from Chicago). Starved Rock Lodge sits high atop a wooded bluff overlooking the Illinois River in the magnificent Starved Rock State Park. There will be a fee of \$715 for the retreat, in addition to the 4 credit hours of tuition for the L-10 and L-11 competencies. All the other pre- and post-retreat learning activities will take place online during the Spring, 2013 quarter. Enrollment

is limited to just 20 students. Check the syllabus for the course for additional details. To pre-register for this course, contact Michael Skelley directly at mkskelley@depaul.edu

Mindfulness meditation practices are simple, relaxing, yet powerful ways of developing your mind so that you can be more fully and freely engaged in your daily experiences. The approaches to mindfulness meditation that you will learn in this course are related to Buddhist traditions,

but also draw from contemporary insights in neuroscience, psychology and philosophy. No prior experience with meditation is necessary for this course.



SNL Student Gregory Fitzsimmons

Meet Gregory Fitzsimmons

Why did you decide to return to school?

I returned to school because I was inspired by the people who I was helping in my job as a group facilitator at community mental health centers. Several years after dropping out of art school, I had entered social work because I thought it was the field as close I could get to teaching art without having a degree. I received on-the-job training in my role as an instructor for adults in art, wellness, and activities groups. Part of my job involved speaking with people about their goals and encouraging them to keep seeking out new challenges and working to improve their lives. Helping others made me realize that I had not completed my own goals of finishing school, finding more time to be an artist, and to teach. Recognizing my desires, many of my co-workers, family, and friends also encouraged me to return to school.

What is your focus area and why did you choose it?

My focus area is Creative Art. I chose this area because art is a natural vocation for me. When I first started at The School For

New Learning, I thought that I might choose a social service area as my focus. But I decided during Foundations of Adult Learning that I should pursue my education in an area that made me feel passionate and motivated to work towards my long-term goals. I paint, draw, and make books, but I have been working mostly in photography over the last couple of years. Because I chose Creative Art as a focus area, my advanced project was fun and intriguing. I never got bored or discouraged, despite long hours of work.

How do you manage your time as a student? (balance family, work and school)

In many ways, my education has been a journey for both my wife and I. We have learned to balance our needs by frequently talking, discussing and planning. Pursuing an education while working can be difficult because of lack of time to relax. I have always told myself to take time off with my family when I can and have found many ways of thanking the people who have been supportive of my being in school, even if that support has sometimes only been just leaving me alone on weekends to get homework done. I try to balance my life by practicing patience and understanding with myself and with others. I let my wife, family, and friends know if I will be busy with school. We plan ahead when I might not be available in the evenings or weekends, and occasionally on holidays. Going out for a movie or dinner is one of the best ways to thank the people who have been patient with my need for study time.

What advice would you give to a student that is new to the SNL Online program?

The most important knowledge that you will gain at SNL is about yourself, as a learner, as a person, and as a professional. Be open to the ideas of other students. Be very involved in the online discussions, and frequently read and respond to other students' posts. No one can tell you at the beginning what you will learn about yourself but you will probably discover ways of growing intellectually and personally that will come as a surprise. The format allows you to think about class topics outside of traditional classrooms. In several of the online classes, I have had to think outside of my accustomed manner and have developed new ways of seeing the world.

What are your plans after graduating from DePaul?

I will be continuing my education and teaching after receiving my degree from DePaul. I have been accepted into the master in fine arts program at The School of the Art Institute of Chicago and will be working as a teaching assistant there. After graduate school, I would like to return to working in communities by making collaborative art with other people.

Connect With SNL Social Media

SNL Blog

Want to stay informed about all things SNL Online? Now you can get updates from our blog right to your inbox. Just click the 'Sign me up' button located in the sidebar at <http://snlonline.wordpress.com> to subscribe to this blog and receive notifications of new posts by e-mail.

Facebook

Become a fan of SNL's Facebook page and find news, updates, social and networking events, helpful tips and much more! Find us on Facebook at <http://www.facebook.com/DePaulUniversity> Click on School for New Learning and become a fan of SNL!

Twitter

For quick updates on the go, follow us at Twitter: <http://twitter.com/snldepaul>

SNL Faculty Accomplishments

Ruth Gannon Cook was a co-presenter of a paper with Roy Sutton, Ph.D., Director of Doctoral Programs for Jones International University at the EdMedia 2012 World Conference on Educational Media & Technology on June 28 in Denver, Colorado, USA.

Akilah Martin is this year's recipient of the Excellence in Teaching Award. Dr. Martin will be recognized and given her award at Convocation.

Michelle Navarre Cleary has a new work "Anxiety and the Newly Returned Adult Student" in *Teaching English in the Two-Year College* (TETYC) 39.4 (2012): 364-376.

Based on interviews with students who had recently returned to school, this essay demonstrates the need for, challenges of, and ways to respond to the writing anxiety many adults bring with them back to school. Available at: <http://works.bepress.com/navarreclarey/6>

Don Opitz co-edited a book that was published this past summer titled *For Better or For Worse? Collaborative Couples in the Sciences*, edited by Annette Lykknes, Donald L. Opitz, and Brigitte Van Tiggelen, and published by Birkhäuser Springer. The book contains two chapters that he wrote. One of the chapters analyzes the collaboration of a husband/wife team in physics at their private country mansion in England in the period from about 1870 to 1920.

Their household was a quite religious household, and so part of his analysis concerns the evangelical Anglican context for scientific research at a time when reli-

gion and science often blended indistinguishably.

This theme, of course, relates to his online course, *Issues in Science and Religion*, which he is currently teaching this winter. His other chapter concerns the collaboration of a homosexual couple in the natural and social sciences in the decades around 1900, again in England. This subject connects to his teaching on the *Science of Sexual Orientation*, a course he is teaching in at the Loop campus this fall. The book is available in electronic format from DePaul University Libraries at <http://library.depaul.edu/checkurl.aspx?address=http://www.springerlink.com/content/978-3-0348-0285-7/>

Gabriele Strohschen was elected to serve her profession of adult education as President of the Adult Higher Education Alliance for the 2012/2013 term. And at DePaul University, she was elected to serve as President of the Phi Beta Delta Honor Society – Delta Theta Chapter. In both capacities, she is committed to advancing intercultural/international adult education practices by supporting research and exchange opportunities for practitioners and scholars. Dr. Strohschen also recently published several chapters. These included:

- Strohschen, G. (2012). *In Black and White: Transformation through examined selves*. In Boden McGill, C.J., & Kippers, S.M. (Eds). *Pathways to Transformation: Learning in Relationship*. (pp. 207-221). Charlotte, NC: Information Age Publishing.

- Strohschen, G. (2012) *Recurrent CTE: Philosophies and principles of e-learning, cross-cultural, and competency-based instruction and assessment*. In King, K., & Wang, C.X., *Handbook of Research on E-Learning Applications for Career and Technical Education: Technologies for Vocational Training* (pp. 469 - 484). Hershey, PA.: IGI Global Publishing.
- Strohschen, G. (2010). *Framing a philosophy for 21st century global recurrent education: From blended shore education to Metagogy*. In Wang, V. (Ed), *Encyclopedia of Information and Communication Technology and Adult Education Integration*. (pp. 118-133) Hershey, PA.: IGI Global Publishing

Dr. Strohschen and SNL M.A.E.A. graduates Virginia Heaven, Gregory Dennis, and Vincent Wiggins have been selected to present this October at the 2012 Mentoring Conference of the The Mentoring Institute at the University of New Mexico in Albuquerque, and will publish their collaboratively written paper, *Akpa le tome take kenya tai fe vieve nyenyee: Empowering views from those who known the water*, in the Conference Proceedings.

With this focus on strengthening sound mentoring practices for adults, she recently contributed to the field with a review of Dr. Zachary's new book, *The Mentor's Guide: Facilitating Effective Learning Relationships*, by Lois J. Zachary with foreword by Laurent Daloz. *Adult Learning*. Los Angeles: Sage Publications (2012).

New SNL Online Faculty Teaching Fall Quarter

Carol Mahan Kimsey has a MSW from the Jane Addams School of Social Work, a MHPE from the Dept. of Medicine at UIC and BA in Psychology with a Philosophy minor from Purdue. She is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker who interned in Medical Ethics at the UIC Medical Center, and worked in the UIC Department of Psychiatry. Carol is teaching *DCM 318: Social Justice*.

Shannon Olison is a graduate of Illinois State University and the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign with a Masters Degree in Sport Management. She has taught high school, worked for the Urbana Park District, the University of Illinois, and is now a recreation supervisor for the Homewood-Flossmoor Park District. Shannon is teaching *SW 367: Leisure, Recreation & Health*.

Patricia Stifter received her DDS from the University of Illinois School of Dentistry, and is an instructor of Biological Sciences at several colleges. Patricia is teaching *IN 307 Advanced Elective: Pills, Potions, Possibilities*.

Caroline M. Kisiel is an Assistant Professor and a member of the SNL Resident Faculty. She holds an M.A. in Interdisciplinary Arts (Columbia College Chicago), an M.Res. in Humanities and Cultural Studies (Birkbeck College, University of London), and a Ph.D. in Literature (University of Essex, UK). Her background includes work in the fields of immigration law, training and development, creative writing, and improvisational storytelling and movement. Integrating the arts with workplace, cultural, and identity concerns, she aims to cultivate onsite and online classrooms that enable adult learners to express themselves deeply and authentically. A travel writing scholar with a focus on Illinois and Ohio Valley history and early American culture, her research explores the intersections between travel, culture and creativity, in both print and digital arenas. She has presented, published, and facilitated workshops both nationally and internationally.

Get to know Gina Sian, ASK Associate Director

How long have you been employed with DePaul? What do you like most about working here?

I started working at DePaul in March 2009. Managing a program that serves all students and alumni, I have the opportunity to collaborate with students, alumni, faculty, and staff from a variety of fields. I am constantly inspired by everyone's career aspirations and desire to serve and make a difference in the world. There is no single path to success and happiness and I enjoy seeing the diversity in people's goals and successes. No matter what the goal or the obstacle, DePaul always seems to have the support necessary to help our students achieve their dreams.

What are your main responsibilities in working with the ASK Program at DePaul?

Alumni Sharing Knowledge (ASK) is a network of over 1,200 DePaul alumni and friends who volunteer as career mentors for students and alumni. I organize career mentoring activities, networking events, career workshops, and presentations. I also advise students and alumni on job search strategies and career development resources, as well as collaborate with academic and student service departments to offer services to our entire 25,000 student body and over 148,000 alumni population.

Can you tell us more about the ASK Program as it pertains to students, as well as alumni?

ASK mentors can help students and alumni who are in the midst of career decisions. This could include selecting an academic concentration, understanding the joys and challenges of a certain job, practicing job interview answers, discovering the skills and education needed for a certain job, as well as learning more about different industries. One of the benefits of connecting with ASK mentors is that they were once DePaul students too. They are more especially motivated to help DePaul students because they have been in their shoes, maybe even sat in the same classrooms or learned from the same professors as our students. You can ask them questions that might be more uniquely DePaul-related compared to other professionals who might not have received the DePaul experience. In addition, ASK mentors signed up to volunteer, which means they are eager and waiting to hear from students, so the chance of you actually connecting and getting advice is very high compared to just approaching any alumni or any professional you just randomly meet.

What resources are available with the ASK Program for SNL Online Students?

The directory of ASK mentors is available online, making it easy for SNL online students to search for mentors anytime and anywhere. Majority of our volunteers are in the Chicagoland area but we also have volunteers in other states and other countries. SNL online students can connect with volunteers via phone, email, or in-person, whichever is the most convenient for the student



ASK Associate Director, Gina Sian

and the mentor. We also encourage students to connect with more than one mentor to get multiple perspectives and the online system makes it easy for students to do so. In addition to career mentoring, we also set up practice interviews to help students prepare for job or internship interviews. Those who are in Chicago can participate in in-person practice, while those away from Chicago can participate in a phone practice interview. They can also use the Career Center's online tool called Interview Stream to record interview answers and we can submit these video answers to ASK mentors for feedback.

Do you have any recommendations for current students getting involved with the program? What opportunities are there for students graduating in the near future? How can they get involved as a volunteer after graduation?

Networking with professionals could be intimidating especially for those who have not done it before. First, since the connection starts with an online communication, how you request for assistance is important. Professionalism in your wording and tone make a difference. Secondly, follow up and responsiveness are important. Don't let too much time pass in-between communication. Lastly, know that we're always here to help. We hold workshops in-person and via webinar to guide you in the process and can answer any question you have. You can reach us at ask@depaul.edu or 312.362.8281 and we're happy to help.

After you graduate, we invite you to stay in touch and join ASK as a volunteer career mentor. Your experience in completing your degree and your full volunteer and work history all form meaningful insights that can benefit future students and fellow alumni. You can join by visiting our website at <http://ask.depaul.edu>.