



**NASPA**

Adult Learners and  
Students with  
Children KC

November 30, 2015

# Crossroads

**Adult Learner And Students with Children  
KC Newsletter**

**Quarterly Update**

Volume 4, Issue 1  
Fall 2015

## Inside...

Letter from Our  
Chair

Pg.2

Online Learning  
Module Introduced

Pg.2

Point: Counter-  
point  
Blog post gath-  
ers some inter-  
esting com-  
ments.

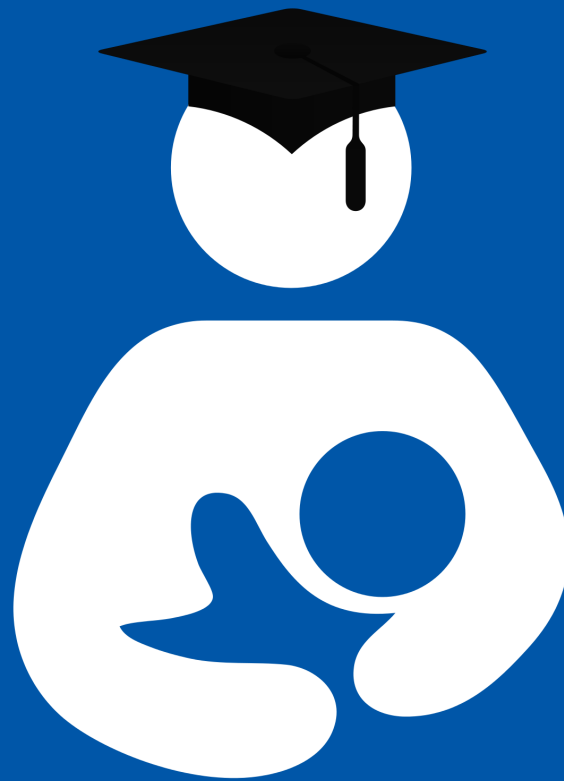
Pg.3

National  
Nontraditional  
Student Week  
Programs, Steal

Pgs.4-5

Holiday Family As-  
sistance Program at  
UNM goes online

Pg.6



**Advocating for Pregnant &  
Parenting Students:  
How to be Proactive Not Reactive**  
*New KC Online Learning Module Introduced pg. 3*



**Katy Kemp is the  
Director, Student  
Services- Center for  
Academic  
Performance at the  
University of North  
Texas Health  
Science Center**

## Letter from the Chair

Greetings ALSC KC Members,

This semester has been busy for the Adult Learners and Students with Children Knowledge Community membership. Our online module- “Advocating for Pregnant & Parenting Students: How to be Proactive not Reactive” launched and our first awards process is complete. As the weather changes and final exam schedules come to a close, I hope you will all take some time to re-charge over the semester break. Busy student affairs professionals spend a lot of time working with adult learner and student parent populations on time management. We also stress the importance of self-care and rest. We should heed our own advice this winter and focus on our own renewal.

This spring we will honor two outstanding programs during our open meeting and reception in Indianapolis as part of our awards program.

We also look forward to working with an engaged group of professionals during our preconference workshop “Students with Children: Success Re-defined”. There is still time to sign-up to help out at the Knowledge Community fair and spread the word about this ever growing and outstanding student population.

We know you are doing excellent work on your campuses and we want to help tell your stories! Please send us programming descriptions and help us increase knowledge and community.

See you in Indy,  
Katy Lee Kemp  
Chair, ALSC KC  
[Katy.kemp@unthsc.edu](mailto:Katy.kemp@unthsc.edu)



## Introducing ALSC KC Online Learning Module!

As Katy said, there have been some exciting achievements by our Adult Learners and Students with Children Knowledge Community this year. With guidance from NASPA and a collaborative efforts from our Leadership Team, the OLC Module, “Advocating for Pregnant & Parenting Students: How to be Proactive not Reactive” is up and running and generating some excitement. The purpose of the module is to provide NASPA members with a list of examples of the many directions from which an institution may choose to approach supporting this growing population of students. To dive into the module, be sure you are a member of NASPA and the ALSC KC. Then write to [Martha Harper](#) for an [access code](#).

We are waiting for the big reveal on who the first recipients of our two KC awards will be. In the meantime, it is time to start considering your institution and the hard work you do for a 2017 award. Check them out on our KC Website. <http://www.naspa.org/constituent-groups/kcs/adult-learners-and-students-with-children>

## Discussion Point: Student Sets Bar Really High



By Scott Jaschik

*The following article appeared on Nov. 19, 2015 and was reprinted with permission from "INSIDE HIGHER ED"*

Professors trade stories about students who invent ailments as excuses not to complete course requirements. A photo going viral Wednesday shows a student meeting a deadline for taking an online test -- even while experiencing real pain. Tommitrise Collins finished an exam for her psychology course at Middle Georgia State University while in labor at the hospital and shortly before having a healthy baby girl. Shanell Brinkley-Chapman, her sister, took the photo and posted it to Facebook, writing: "This is

what you call strong priorities. Contractions three minutes apart and still takes her psychology test! You are going to be a great mom, baby sis!"

### Kudos for Mom's Choice,

"Good for her!

I had a student go into labor during a final once. When I asked if she wanted to leave she insisted on finishing the exam. Her rationale was that in the previous week, when she had been in hospital with complications of pregnancy, she had had plenty of time to study. IIRC, she aced the exam and the course. "

"I had an online student do this once for a persuasive writing final essay. She submitted her paper in pieces through her labor. "

"Bonus points! "

"Some of our students are really amazing. I've had students show up at class the day after a tornado or a fire took out their house, apologizing that they don't have their notes or textbook, yet not asking for an extension on assignments or exams. I never would expect a student to take an exam or turn in an assignment who is facing such circumstances, of course--it's their commitment to learning and succeeding that drives them. Kudos and best wishes to this new mother.

Maybe she had prepared for the test, the test wasn't "open" until she went into labor, AND

she realized after delivery, she just wouldn't want to do it. I can imagine wanting to just be done with one thing before starting another. Bravo for giving it a go anyway - regardless of the grade. :)

### But did she have to... ?

"I don't quite know what to do with this story...did the student not tell the professor that she was going to be delivering a baby soon and it might interfere with deadlines? Did the professor refuse to be flexible? Maybe she was doing it just to keep her mind on something besides pain."

Title IX requires flexibility. See <http://www2.ed.gov/about/offic...>

"I foresee arguments in the future. 'Yes you're going to school today!!! I don't care if you don't feel well; I took a test while I was giving birth to you!!!'"

"Well this just makes everything else sound wimpy."



# National Nontraditional Student Week

*National Nontraditional Student Week, an annual recognition opportunity raised up by ANTSHE (Association for Non-Traditional Students in Higher Education), has really taken off! Look at what some of your KC members are doing at their institutions. Time to start planning for next year. Always the first week of November.*



University of Hawaii at Manoa's Student Parents At Manoa (SPAM) **partnered with the Veteran Student Services Office** to Host: "Celebrate Non-Traditional Students!" on Campus with the Theme of **"There's Many Fish in the Sea"** - reflecting our "non-trad" diversity. Games, Resource Tables, & Photo Booth Declaring "I Support Non-Traditional Students. . ." were a big hit ~ bringing "non-trad" students together & more visibility for the diversity of our students.

Sponsorship with the Assoc Students of UH paid for various SPAM Logo items.



The Office of Student Development at the University of North Texas Health Science Center collaborated with The Employee Benefits Action Committee on Oct. 29<sup>th</sup> to host a Halloween Party for all UNTHSC faculty, staff, students, and their families. The program featured games such as a witch hat ring toss, pin-the-nose on the pumpkin, and ghost bowling. Additionally, the UNTHSC P. D. provided Halloween safety tips as well as Teal Pumpkin options (i.e., non-food treats) to raise awareness and show support of kids with food allergies. Each child was provided a Halloween bag upon arrival to collect their candy/toys at each game station. This party was complete with a witches brew, and spooky music. Over 200 people





# Showcase: Steal These Ideas

Page 5

At Austin Peay State Univ. Clarksville Campus, the week started off with a collaborative event with the Hispanic Cultural Center. Latino students have been celebrating Dia de los Muertos at AP for years with a Sugar Skull Painting event, but for the last two years a family friendly version of the event has been added. Also included that week were a poetry workshop with the English Department and an invasive "line" of A.N.T.S. snaking through campus and randomly tossing out T-shirts!



## NATIONAL ADULT STUDENT 2015 RECOGNITION WEEK OCT. 31-NOV. 7

Saturday, Oct. 31

### MILITARY APPRECIATION DAY AT SALUKI STADIUM

10 a.m.-2 p.m.  
Saluki Expo  
Celebrate the Saluki fleet and honor our Department of Veterans Affairs resources. We'll have a variety of vendors, food, games, and more for all military veterans and active-duty members.

### "TRUNK OR TREAT" FAMILY FUN

11 a.m.-3 p.m.  
Trunk or Treat  
Children are encouraged to wear their costumes and go trick-or-treating in the Saluki fleet and general public areas prior to the 3 p.m. football game. Contest for best costume!

Sunday, Nov. 1-Thursday, Nov. 5

### VIRTUAL COMMUTER CAR SHOW

Do you love your car? Post a photo of your car, truck, motorcycle, etc. to [www.facebook.com/siu](https://www.facebook.com/siu). We'll hold it on our Facebook page for voting. The rule with the most votes wins a commuter price package.

Sunday, Nov. 1

### KEEP CARBONDALE BEAUTIFUL CLEANUP

9-11 a.m.  
Town Square Pavilion, Carbondale  
Join us for our annual cleanup of the downtown area. We'll be giving back to the place where SIU calls home. Join us to keep Carbondale beautiful by collecting litter and participating in an organized event. Water, bags and gloves provided. Maintenance (land and grounds) will be providing refreshments for the volunteers.

### SEVENTH ANNUAL HAUNTED HOLLOW

1-4 p.m.  
SIU Youth Center  
A fun fall festival featuring creepy costumes, haunted houses, nature hikes, games and carnival activities. For cost and admission registration, visit [www.siu.edu](http://www.siu.edu).

Monday, Nov. 2

### BREAKFAST-ON-THE-GO

7-8 a.m.  
Saluki Express South  
In recognition of SIU's graduate and family housing community, we're providing breakfast treats during your morning commute. Saluki Express South will be serving a variety of breakfast items. Grab a cup of coffee from Evergreen staff, then grab breakfast.

### ADULT STUDENT RECOGNITION WEEK KICKOFF

11 a.m.-1 p.m.  
Student Center, First Floor  
Take your chance at winning a prize while you hear about the week's events. While you're there, pick up a donation bag for Saturday's Food for Your Future.

Tuesday, Nov. 3

### VIRTUAL LUNCH AND LEARN: TECHNOLOGY AND TIME-SAVING STRATEGIES

Noon-1 p.m.  
Online  
Learn time-saving techniques for managing your time and staying organized using the course! Office 365 tool - it's not just for email! Whether you're on campus, off campus, at home or in your office, log in for this online session. For log in information, visit [www.siu.edu](http://www.siu.edu).

Wednesday, Nov. 4

### FALL 2015 UNIVERSITY ETIQUETTE DINNER

6-8 p.m.  
Student Center Old Main Room  
The year-end dinner where students and faculty come together to celebrate the year. It's a chance to hear from the President and Vice President, and to hear from the Student Body President. It's a chance to hear from the President and Vice President, and to hear from the Student Body President.

Thursday, Nov. 5

### THANK YOU THURSDAY: A DOSE OF GRATITUDE

11 a.m.-1 p.m.  
Student Center, First Floor  
Stop by the Student Center to participate in stress-reducing activities to express gratitude. As a bonus, take home gratitude bags. The Student Center will be providing a variety of stress-reducing activities to express gratitude.

### PARENTS OF PRESCHOOLERS: IT'S POTTY TIME!

9:30 a.m.-12 p.m.  
Children's End Child Development Center  
If you are a parent of a preschooler, this is the place to go! Learn the best techniques to reduce the time and stress of potty training, and learn how to create a positive experience for you and your child.

Friday, Nov. 6

### INTERNATIONAL COFFEE HOUR

9-10 a.m.  
Center for International Education  
The year-end dinner where students and faculty come together to celebrate the year. It's a chance to hear from the President and Vice President, and to hear from the Student Body President. It's a chance to hear from the President and Vice President, and to hear from the Student Body President.

Saturday, Nov. 7

### SOUTHERN ILLINOIS COMMUNITY STAND UP FOR VETS

9 a.m.-2 p.m.  
Evergreen Park (on Pleasant Hill Road)  
A day of fun and games for the benefit of the Southern Illinois Veterans Home. Kick off the season of giving by joining your Saluki for a day of fun and games for the benefit of the Southern Illinois Veterans Home.



Program Learning Outcomes  
● Personal and Social Responsibility  
● Cultural Competency  
● Interpersonal and Organizational Development  
● Intellectual and Professional Skills

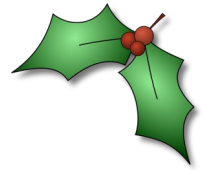


National Adult Student Recognition Week is coordinated by SIU's Veterans and Nontraditional Student Advisory Team. In collaboration with: Career Services; Center for Service Learning and Volunteerism; Center for International Education; Student Center Craft Shop; Graduate and Family Housing; Rainbow's End Child Development Center; Saluki Athletics; Saluki Express; SIU Sustainability; SIU Wellness Center; Youth of Nations.

SIU SOUTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY CARBONDALE  
NON-TRADITIONAL STUDENT SERVICES  
SIU SOUTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY CARBONDALE  
VETERANS SERVICES

Meanwhile At Southern Illinois University Carbondale, the week was jump started on Halloween with a football tailgate for Military Appreciation Day at Saluki Stadium. It included a Trunk or Treat event while the cars were already parked! Sunday was included in SIU's celebration with a Keep Carbondale Beautiful Cleanup combining community engagement with the service of adult learners. SIU mixed its calendar with programs specifically for student parents like "Parents of Preschoolers: It's Potty Time!", and promotion of coinciding university traditions that all students can participate in such as International Coffee Hour and their annual Etiquette Dinner.

## Its That wonderful Season...



Does your campus have a family assistance program at the holiday season? This common program occurs on many campuses with large adult learner populations. According to research, fully 71% of defined Adult Learners are between the ages of 25 and 39, the same ages in which the vast majority of us embark on parenting (National Student Clearinghouse Research Center, "Snapshot Report: Adult Learners". 2012). However, according to Susan Warfield, Program Director of the Student Parent HELP Center at Univ. of Minnesota, "Our students do not typically qualify for other holiday assistance programs. When community-based agencies find out they are attending the University, they assume they are economically more secure than the working poor or unemployed families typically served by various community-based programs."

But are they? Students who are attending full time are more often using maximized student loans in amounts defined by the university as necessary to pay tuition and household expenses. Some funding formulas for student loans may include minor household members but they never include the finances necessary to provide for holiday traditions and other innumerable expenses incurred by parents trying to give their children a sense of normalcy.

Universities and colleges with large adult populations are very aware of this need and many have a variety of ways to help

student parents provide a holiday tradition for their children in the midst of exams, work and multiple financial pressures.

For the past few years Univ. of Minnesota has taken their 20 yr. old Adopt-A-Family assistance program to a new level by moving the program online and supporting it as a service opportunity for the Family & Parent Program at the university. Parents of traditional age students have a way of connecting even closer to the university family by thinking about the needs of nontraditional students who are in the classrooms side by side with their college student. Susan Warfield says, with parents of students growing awareness the needs of student who are parents has become a community wide effort with many local offices and businesses coming back year after year to adopt a family. So successful is the program, that UNM's Parent & Family Program won a national award for the AAF last year. "Association of Higher Education Parent/Family Programs Professionals, national award for most innovative institutional initiative, 2014"



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