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Celebrating our Students

**Susan Warfield
serves at
Director of the
Student Parent
HELP Center at
the University
of Minnesota**



Letter from our Chairperson

The first week in November is Non-traditional Student Week as identified by the Association for Non-traditional Students in Higher Education (ANTSHE). Our current newsletter will reflect back on Non-traditional Student Week and we hope that our readers will be encouraged to recognize Non-traditional Student Week on their campuses in the years ahead, if they are not currently doing so.

Recently it struck me how often the discussion around adult learners and students with children in higher education becomes bogged down in semantics and the “naming” of our student populations. In an effort to identify a catchy theme or by-line for this issue featuring non-traditional student month activities, it occurred to me how often the way we identify or “name” a given population often speaks volumes about how we serve or conduct research about that same population. How does confusion around terms or the “naming” of a group, impact a given population’s place in higher education or even their own identity or ability to seek services and support. This confusion resulted in a fairly amusing conversation at a recent ALSC KC meeting over whether the non-traditional in non-traditional

student should have a hyphen. I myself have had heated discussions about why using “students with children” is preferable to “student parents” in some contexts.

Adult learners, older than average students, students with children, student parents, post-traditional, non-traditional, and of course, nontraditional, are all terms utilized when describing the population of students the ALSC KC wishes to highlight through our varied activities. Beyond confusion around nomenclature, other points of confusion often arise. Can you study or meet the needs of adult learners without considering who among them might also be parenting children? What about typically aged pregnant and parenting college students? Are they adult learners simply due to their parenting status regardless of age? What if they happen to be veterans as well? What about first generation college attendees, (who tend to be highly represented among both the adult learner and student parent populations)? When all of these terms and points of intersection are considered, we can see how identifying these students, let alone serving them, can be a task in itself. More importantly, how do these students identify, or as

we often find, fail to identify themselves at all when seeking help. I cannot think of another student population where I have witnessed as much confusion exists and I think this in and of itself creates barriers to service and support.

As we reflect on the purpose of and activities surrounding Non-traditional Student Week, we would ask that our readers ponder the issues outlined above. Consider how your institutions marketing materials identify, or fail to identify, these non-traditional students. Think about how the naming of student groups, services and programs impacts, (for better or worse), recruitment and service delivery to the very students we hope to serve. Most importantly consider how offering even the smallest amount of programming for Non-traditional Student Week (with or without the hyphen), can be a means of breaking through semantics, eliminating barriers and raising the visibility of these highly committed students.

- Susan Warfield, Chair

See event ideas for your campuses celebrations to honor and recognize Adult Students all through this edition of the newsletter. The issue reflects calendars, pictures, and more from over 5 institutions.

Do you celebrate Non-Traditional Student Appreciation Week on your campus? If not, this is a fairly easy opportunity that you shouldn't miss! National Non-Traditional Student Appreciation Week is normally celebrated in early November, however the dates of the national week are not widely publicized. Therefore, you can select any week of the academic year to celebrate the event on your campus. Many faculty, staff members and students are unaware of the non-traditional students on their home campus, unless they sit in the classroom next to a non-traditional student or have a non-traditional student in one of the classes they teach. The appreciation week is a great opportunity to educate your campus on the number of non-traditional students attending classes at your institution and how you define this group of students on your campus. If a week is too daunting the first time around, consider sponsoring a Non-traditional Student Appreciation Day!

Here are some extremely easy ways to celebrate this event on your campus:

- Ask for and promote discounts for non-traditional students in your cafeteria or food court.
- Sponsor a table with free coffee and cookies or a cake in a high traffic location on campus. Make a sign to place on the front of the table.
- Sponsor a family bowling or skating night.
- Encourage non-traditional students to nominate a faculty or staff member who has been supportive of them. Send a letter/certificate of appreciation from your office and recognize recipients in an ad, an electronic newsletter, and/or via social media.
- Have a recognition day for student

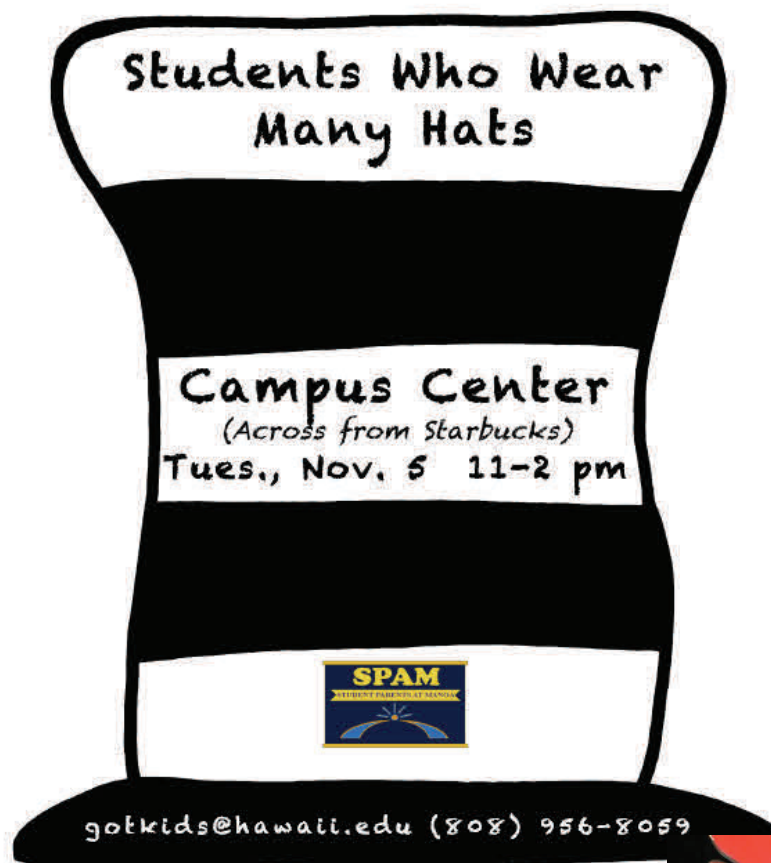
Celebrating our Students: Non-Traditional Student Week



- veterans and give them flag ribbons or pins.
- Have a drawing for a \$200 book scholarship. Maybe your bookstore would even donate this.

It is not so much “what” you do to recognize non-traditional students/ adult learners as it is to do something to recognize them. Some of the institutions that sponsor a recognition or appreciation week of this type include Syracuse, the University of North Dakota, and Kansas State University. They would probably be flattered if they were contacted with a request to share their celebration ideas

In honor of National
Non-Traditional College Student Week,
Student Parents at Mānoa Celebrates

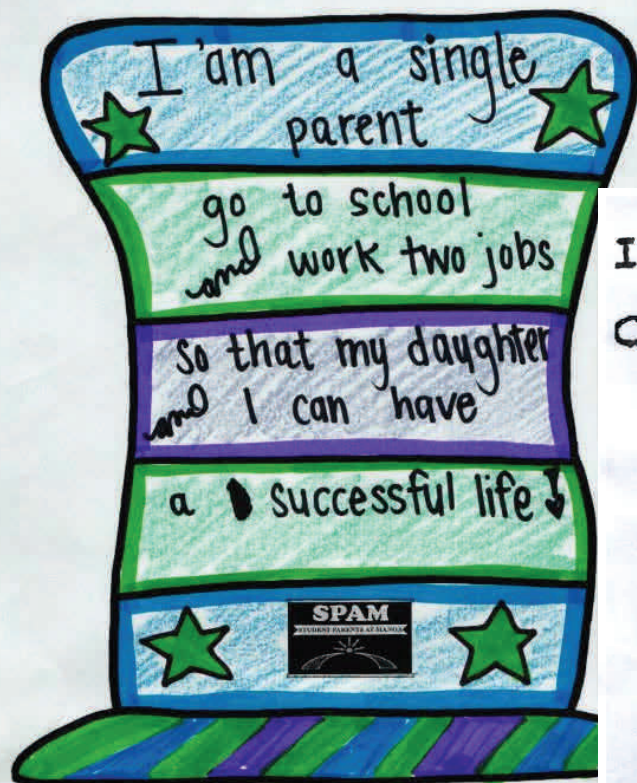


Pictures and publicity from
the events at the University of
Hawaii

Bridge to Hope & SPAM (Student Parents at Mānoa)
Manoa.hawaii.edu/studentparents
Like us on FB! Go to: <http://www.facebook.com/StudentParentsAtM>



I am a Non-traditional
College Student because...



Bridge to Hope & SPAM (Student Parents at Mānoa)
Manoa.hawaii.edu/studentparents
Like us on FB! Go to: <http://www.facebook.com/StudentParentsAtMa>

I celebrate Non-traditional
College Students because...



Bridge to Hope & SPAM (Student Parents at Mānoa)
Manoa.hawaii.edu/studentparents
Like us on FB! Go to: <http://www.facebook.com/StudentParentsAtManoa>



2013 National Adult Student Recognition Week

November 1 - 9

Friday, November 1

International Coffee Hour

Center for International Education
3 p.m. - 5 p.m.
Join us for coffee, a snack, and a chat. Get to know students from around the world and gain insight as to what it's like to be an international student. Everyone welcome!

Family Fun Night at the Rec:

Racket Night

Student Recreation Center
5 p.m. - 7 p.m.
If you are an SIU student who has children, this is a great opportunity to have a few hours to yourself or to spend time with friends while your children have a great time at the Rec with their friends on a Friday night!

Trek the Rec

Student Recreation Center
5 p.m. - 7 p.m.
Student Recreation Center staff will be on hand to give personalized tours every 30 minutes. Check out what the Rec Center has to offer. All participants entered into a "fitness" prize drawing.

Saturday, November 2

Little Grand Canyon Hike

9 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Explore the Grand Canyon of the Midwest! Tucked away along southern Illinois' scenic Wine Trail, the Little Grand Canyon offers a 265 foot climb from the canyon floor and a panoramic view of the Big Muddy River and the Mississippi floodplain. Cost for SIU students: \$20 (includes transportation).
Visit recrecenter.siu.edu for details.

Sunday, November 3

Haunted Hollow: A Fall Family Fun Event

Touch of Nature
1 p.m. - 4 p.m.
Join us for an afternoon of creepy crawlers and fun complete with nature hikes, hay rides, and a treasure hunt at SIU's Touch of Nature. Advanced registration only \$7 for adults, \$5 for children 13 & under. Children 5 & under FREE. Call 459-1121 for details.

Monday, November 4

Stress Free Monday

Student Center, 1st floor
11 a.m. - 1 p.m.
Relax with a massage and learn stress management techniques and strategies from SIU's Student Health Services and Student Recreation Center.

Books and Cookies

Morris Library
3 p.m. - 4 p.m.
Donate a new or gently used book to benefit children of our SIU students and learn about Morris Library's family study room while enjoying an after school snack of milk and cookies!

Conflict Resolution Workshop

Evergreen Terrace Community Room
6:30 p.m.
Learn tools and strategies to resolve conflict in everyday life and to create spaces for positive, constructive conversation.

Tuesday, November 5

Non-trad Jeopardy

Favor Brozoway
2:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.
Just like the game show, test your knowledge about a day in the life of non-traditional students through this quick quiz competition. Rack up enough points and you might be eligible to win a \$100 gift card courtesy of New Student Programs and the University Bookstore!

Wednesday, November 6

"Good Morning Station": Textbook Scholarship Fundraiser

Favor Brozoway
8:30 a.m. - 10 a.m.
Enjoy coffee, hot chocolate, or hot tea with a treat while helping the Association of Non-Traditional Students fund their textbook scholarship program.

Food for Thought

Student Center, 1st floor
11 a.m. - 1 p.m.
Support the Wesley Foundation campus food pantry, created by students for students, by dropping off your non-perishable items at our student center table. All donations will remain on campus and go to help individual SIU students and students with families.

Thursday, November 7

Thank You Thursday

Favor Brozoway
2:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.
Is there a faculty/staff member that has made a difference for you? Take time to let them know. Stop by the table during Thank You Thursday to write a note of thanks. Now this year, the Craft Shop will also offer their "random tokens of kindness" where you can make a small token of appreciation for that faculty/staff member who helped make a difference.

Friday, November 8

Finding the Salad Fork

The Newell House, Carbondale, IL
6:30 p.m.
Join us for dinner while learning tips from SIU's Career Services on etiquette and how to effectively network to land your dream job! Adults only. Space is limited. Reservations required by Friday, November 1. Only \$10 for students. For details and reservations, email nontrad@siu.edu.

Saturday, November 9

Military Appreciation Day

Saluki Stadium
Game Time: 2 p.m., SIU vs. Missouri State (Military Appreciation Day)
Support our military personnel as the Salukis take on Missouri State. Contact Non-Traditional Student Services to receive discounted admission prices for spouses/domestic partner and children of SIU students with the Family ID card. Junior Salukis memberships also available for children!

Sponsored by Non-Traditional Student Services and the Association for Non-Traditional Students in collaboration with SIU's Career Services, Center for International Education, Graduate and Family Housing, Morris Library, New Student Programs, Saluki Athletics, Student Center Craft Shop, Student Health Services, Wellness and Health Promotion Services, Student Recreation Center and Outdoor Pursuits team, Student Support Services, Touch of Nature, University Bookstore, Veterans Services, Wesley Foundation, and WSU Public Broadcasting.

For more information, visit
nontrad.siu.edu



SIU Southern Illinois
University
CARBONDALE

National Adult Student Recognition Week at Southern Illinois University—read more about their events at <http://nontrad.siu.edu/>

Musings over My First Year Working with Post-Traditional Students Transferring to a Research 1 University

By S. Mikiko Kumasaka

This year, I started a new position working on transfer program for students attending a local community college. I currently work at a research 1 institution and my professional experiences in student affairs have been working at predominantly white institutions that were residential colleges with mostly traditional students.

If you are an accidental student affairs professional like myself, you might understand how I accidentally began a position implementing programs and services for mostly post-traditional community college students. Having had little experience in this new arena, I had a steep learning curve coming from a very different context institutionally (research 1) and different student demographics (age, religious, race/ethnicity etc.).

What did I learn in my first year or need to relearn in my first?

Many students transferring from community colleges are post-traditional (adult learners and students with children). We started a new summer bridge program for transfer students coming into the university. Even with a lot of help from the community college staff we had major challenges to finding twenty applicants for our week-long

residential program. Students at the community college told me they would not be able to attend a residential bridge program because they worked full-time and may be single parents who are primary care givers. As a result of our experiences in the first year, we decided to implement two summer bridge programs. One program would be geared towards traditional students and have a residential component and the other would be a hybrid summer bridge program. The hybrid summer bridge program would include online components, week night workshops and a Friday night and Saturday capstone event. We are in the process of implementing the new hybrid program so we will updating you in the future about the outcomes of this program.

Your most important resource is the student affairs professionals who have worked with post-traditional students. Before we started the programs at the community college, we needed to do more research with the staff to guide us in the programs and services we would be offering their students. Many of the staff have worked with these students for years and have an understanding about what works best for these students than those from the outside. Institutional and regional cultures impact students and what

Continued on next page...

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works for these students as well. This year we implemented an advisory board consisting of staff from both institutions who work with transfer students to help guide our programs so that we can gain wisdom from the professional experiences at both institution.

Almost half the students attending this research 1 institution are transfer students and most of the transfer students are coming from a community college.

In the past, there was a thought that community colleges as junior colleges or less than what a four-year institution is. At my campus, I sometimes hear disparaging comments about the community college and the quality of these students. Institutions of higher education need to wake up that most of our community colleges are doing an amazing job educating our students and community colleges are transferring high caliber post-traditional students into these institutions.

Celebrating Adult Students with Children: Trunk or Treat at Norwalk Community College



On Thursday October 31st Norwalk Community College held its 4th annual Trunk or Treat Fall Event. This event has become an annual tradition in which student clubs and student services offices come together and decorate their cars in a Halloween theme and disburse information about clubs and services to the students while the children in their costumes get to “trunk or treat” in a safe, secure and fun environment.

The event allows students with children to bring them to campus and engage in a family friendly event. In addition to trunk or treating, the children could participate in pumpkin painting, face painting, coloring and other fall themed activities. This year over 200 people participated, making it the best attended yet. The program allows young children to be exposed to one of the many aspects of college life, and allows the parents who are students, to feel welcomed and supported in their academic journey.



Adult Student Week 2013

Monday, November 4 AWARENESS

8 a.m. **Open Houses (Kick-off Adult Student Week)**
Visit participating offices to learn about their services and how they can help you. Many offices will have giveaways and free food. Open Houses held at:

- Adult Student Center—DePaul Center 1001
- Veterans' Center—DePaul Center 1001
- Dean of Students Office—DePaul Center 1001
- School for New Learning—Daley Building, Floor 14
- Office of Student Involvement—DePaul Center 1001

4 p.m. **Engaging Critical Thinking to Vocations and New Careers**

Discover authentic strengths and talents through applying critical thinking to types of work and employment. Using adult learning methods and principles, this workshop engages participants to seek vital opportunities in pursuit of their dream jobs and lifelong development. Featuring Linda Scott, Ph.D., DePaul SNL faculty and Learning Institute co-founder. RSVP to adventsg@depaul.edu.
Daley Building 1401

Tuesday, November 5 CAREER

10 a.m. **Toastmaster's Meeting**
Toastmasters International is a world leader in communication and leadership development. Since May of 2012, the DePaul Leaders Club has influenced the professional development of DePaul students, alumni, staff and local community members. Join us for an open house to learn what the DePaul Leaders Toastmasters can offer you.
DePaul Club, DePaul Center

10 a.m. **30 in 30 Perfecting Your Pitch**
Get ready for upcoming job fairs and networking. Join us for a 30 minute workshop to perfect your 30 second pitch. Presented by Career Center. Meet RSVP through DePaul.Taportress.com.
DePaul Center 2000

1 p.m. **LinkedIn Workshop**
The Office of Alumni Relations will lead you in a discussion about taking your job search to the next level by leveraging your LinkedIn profile for professional networking and business development opportunities. Learn tips and tricks from tech savvy leaders regarding secrets to achieving key successful professional relationships and the do's and don'ts for online networking.
DePaul Club

4:30 p.m. **Finding Your Way to the Right Career**
This self assessment workshop will help you find a career or reaffirm your choice. Presented by Law School Career Center.
DePaul Center 1001

5:30 p.m. **Career Center Late Hours**
Staff from Career Services will remain open late for drop-in advising.
DePaul Center 2000

5:30 p.m. **Maximize Your Job and Internship Experience**
First impressions count. Learn how to approach employers and make a lasting first impression. This workshop helps you maximize the Job and Internship Fair as an opportunity to showcase your skills and abilities in an active job searching forum.
DePaul Center 2000

Wednesday, November 6 RESOURCES

11 a.m. **Adult Student Resource Fair**
Connect with a variety of on campus DePaul offices and departments and community resources.
DePaul Center 1000

1:30-4:30 p.m. **Free Concert from School of Music**
Enjoy a free concert and learn about all the options for performance/broadcast from the School of Music and School of Theatre.
LPC Student Center, Floor 1

4:30 p.m. **Inspiring Voices Leadership Speaker**
Plans, inspiration and lessons about leadership from a DePaul alumna leading in a socially responsible way. Sponsored by the Student Leadership Institute and Minister on Leadership: The Big Project.
Daley Building, Room 1401

4:30 p.m. **DePAUL PATH (Promoting Action Towards Health)**
DePaul PATH is a new group for those in the DePaul community that have chronic medical conditions. Come to the inaugural meeting of this group to learn strategies to improve health through movement.
North Club, DePaul Center

8 p.m. **Get to Work on Getting Work**
Learn practical tools to enhance employability. This hands-on workshop presents practical strategies to help participants break into today's competitive job market by focusing on how to run a successful job search, and a facilitated by corporate executives, job coach and educator Karen Morrison. For more information, visit adventsg@depaul.edu and RSVP through adventsg@depaul.edu.

Thursday, November 7 SERVICE

8 a.m. **PASS Community Service Event**
Join the Professional Adult Student Society to provide a Chicago RSVP required on Cityline.
Meet LPC Student Center, Room 1000

9 a.m.-5 p.m. **Help A Veteran Day**
Show your support for our student veterans. Handshakes high fives and hugs are encouraged.
LPC Student Center, Floor 1

9:30 p.m. **Thursday Night at the Lounge**
Enjoy a live concert from the Student Center, bring a covered good for the student food pantry at DePaul.
LPC Student Center

Friday, November 8 COMMUNITY

10 a.m. **POLO Lunch**
Join the Parents of Little Creek (POLC) club for a lunch. Feel free to bring your family.
DePaul Center, Floor 14, Gallery

4 p.m. **Closing Wine and Cheese Reception and Cocktail Networking 101**
Celebrate Adult Student Week and meet other adult students at the closing reception. Alumni will be present to also lead a short workshop on cocktail reception networking at 3 p.m.
DePaul Center, Floor 14, Gallery

6:30 p.m. **SNL Meet and Greet featuring the SNL Dean Hosted by SNL Student Association (SNLSA) and Student Government Association (SGA)**
Join DePaul SNLSA and DePaul SGA with refreshments, networking, coffee and hot. Enjoy casual conversation with fellow peers, faculty and staff.
Cap the night off with a LIVE STREAMED Town Hall Meeting featuring SNL Dean Maria Alvarez, Ph.D. Ask questions and meet the people that make our SNLSA community grow.
DePaul Center 1000

Saturday, November 9 CELEBRATION

9:30-10:30 p.m. **Pre-Game Reception**
Join SNL and Adult Student Affairs for a pre game reception. Feel free to bring your family. To reserve a table ask for student or for information on additional fees for guests, contact adventsg@depaul.edu.

10 p.m. **Men's Basketball Game**
Meet back on tv for a basketball game.

NASPA Knowledge Community

Adult Learners
and
Students With Children



Connect with us on Facebook and Twitter!

<https://www.facebook.com/naspaalsckc>

<https://twitter.com/NASPAALSCCKC>



University of North Texas Non-Traditional Student Week calendar

-Non-Traditional Student Week: Snag & Snack

Non-traditional students can grab free food and free information on their way to or from class.

- Non-Traditional Student Week: Housing Fair

Looking for a place to live in spring or next fall? The Fall Housing Fair helps students make contacts with housing options in the surrounding area while heading to or from class.

-Non-Traditional Student Week: Campus Services Open House

Non-traditional students, come meet key student service departments (including Off-Campus Student Services, Student Legal Services, Office of Disability Accommodation, Student Money Management Center, Financial Aid, Student Veteran Services, Child Care Resource & Referral, and more) in one place to answer any questions you may have. Snacks provided!

-Non-Traditional Student Week: "Monsters University"

Bring chairs or blankets and the kids out for a fun outdoor movie! Mike Wazowski and James P. Sullivan are an inseparable pair, but that wasn't always the case. From the moment these two mismatched monsters met they couldn't stand each other. "Monsters University" unlocks the door to how Mike and Sulley overcame their differences and became the best of friends.

Recognize Adult Learner Achievement : Phi Theta Kappa at Rio Salado College

By Melanie Abts

Faculty, Counseling, Rio Salado College

Rio Salado College Student and Phi Theta Kappa member, Linda Johnson, along with Coconino Community College student and Phi Theta Kappa member, Julie Drinkard, presented a workshop detailing the largest international honor society in higher education. Phi Theta Kappa, the honor society for two year college students promotes scholarship, professional development, leadership, and community involvement. These two adult re-entry women shared their personal journey and how their education changed their lives. Attendees learned how they could get involved on their campus and support students. The stories shared by the presenters led to cheers and tears by attendees. Survey results of the workshop were very positive.

