

The Year of Scott Air Force Base



Mural at Scott Air Force Base.

In 2017, Scott Air Force Base (SAFB) celebrated an action-packed centennial year. The year's festivities began with a kick-off celebration, (with fireworks!), during which Gov. Bruce Rauner declared 2017 the "Year of Scott Air Force Base." Gov. Rauner emphasized that Scott AFB remains a "treasured military asset," directly employing 13,000 active duty, Reserve, National Guard, and government-service civilian members, along with Department of Defense contractors, who contribute to a regional economic impact of \$3.5 billion dollars annually.

The kick-off event set the tone for hundreds of base and community-led celebratory events with the June airshow being the largest public event held on the base in five years. More than 110,000 people flocked to SAFB to see aerial demonstrations featuring the USAF Thunderbirds, as well as a ramp full of historic and modern aircraft. Picnics, parades, runs, dances, concerts, sporting events, tours, car shows, speaking events and even a Centennial-themed corn maze also showcased the year. It all stemmed from a humble beginning. In 1917, Scott Field was 624 acres, located 25 miles east of downtown St. Louis, farmed by seven families to feed a region. Over the next 100 years, it was transformed to protect a nation.

Scott Air Force Base is the fourth oldest, continuously active base in the Air Force, with a history that reaches back to World War I. It's also the only base named after an enlisted member—Corporal Frank S. Scott—who was the first enlisted member killed in an aviation accident.

In 1973, SIUC launched the inaugural VES (Vocational Education Studies, now Workforce *(CONTINUED ON PAGE 2)*)

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(SEE "THE YEAR OF SCOTT AIR FORCE BASE" PAGE 1)

Education and Development) military program at Scott Air Force Base. In 2018, SIU celebrates 45 years of serving both military and civilians at Scott Air Force Base. With hundreds of graduates and more than 130 semesters behind us, we press on and look forward to many more.

The Chair's Message



February Greetings! I hope everyone's 2018 is off to a great start! Now, we have Groundhog's Day, the Super Bowl, and Valentine's Day just around the corner.

This month's newsletter focuses on Scott Air Force Base, which was our first location for our off-campus program and the base closest to the Carbondale campus. As you can see from the article, Scott had a year of celebration last year. The Base and all who have served and worked there have a proud history. I taught at Scott many times in my early years at SIU.

The newsletter continues to provide you with useful information regarding the skills employers like employees to possess. People looking for jobs should try to acquire and/or strengthen these skills. They also need to be sure to emphasize these skills in written and oral communication with prospective employers. Even those currently employed can benefit from strengthening these important skills.

Barbara Hagler



SUPER BOWL FANS!!!



Send us your final score predictions by midnight on Saturday, 2/3. Only one entry per person. Winners will receive a prize and they will be announced on the March newsletter!

Enjoy the Superbowl and be safe!

[Click here to send your score prediction](#)

Skills That Students Need to Prepare For Future Jobs



As we initiate 2018 with new goals in mind, we decided to review the skills students need to focus on as they prepare for their future jobs. We narrowed our list to seven skills noted most frequently as valuable to employers. We added ideas proposed by educators as tools to help students develop these skills.

Adaptive thinking. In a changing environment, people must adapt quickly and efficiently, including learning to use new technologies, such as software, platforms, devices and applications to better serve their customer needs. Above all, professional must learn to approach problems from new and creative angles, and to find innovative solutions.

Communication. Digital technology has changed the way people interact (i.e. data, video and voice). People communicate visually and from remote distance, from video-conferencing to social media. Staying on-trend requires constant development of communication and technology skills.

Technology. Digital technology is ubiquitous and fast-moving. Schedule time to learn something new; do not let urgency take over importance.

Collaboration. Technology has also facilitated the growth of a culture of collaboration with others within and outside the work milieu. A collaborative attitude is essential.

Critical thinking and problem solving. Most employers prefer people who can analyze situations, think critically and offer solutions to help improve the organization.

Inquiry. Curiosity and willingness to inquire after new information are traits that go beyond the daily routine of doing the job, and they may lead to new solutions and innovation.

Creativity and Innovation. There is a difference between doing the job and wanting to help the company improve. Innovation, as mentioned above, requires an inquisitive mind, willingness to ask questions, critical thinking and other higher-order thinking skills, as well as the will to help the company move forward.

In conclusion, readings show that most employers prefer employees who are good communicators, critical thinkers, avid learners, and collaborators who want to help the company succeed. Some employers say that having field-specific knowledge/skills and broad knowledge/skills are important for long-term success.

(TO BE CONTINUED ON MARCH NEWSLETTER)

Scott Air Force Base Graduate and Staff in the Spotlight

“The moment I entered the WED program, I knew that I could apply it directly to my profession in the United States Air Force and it would aide me in becoming a more effective Senior Noncommissioned Officer. The department’s mission is to help create a world-class professional and technical workforce based on values and respect for occupational competence, the dignity of work, equal education opportunity, and life-long learning. The mission of the WED program is completely in line with the Air Force Core Values: Integrity, Service Before Self, and Excellence in All We Do. So, for me, this degree has been more than just a piece of paper to hang on the wall; it has catapulted my career!

I entered the program as a Master Sergeant and I am currently a Chief Master Sergeant. I don’t believe that I would have reached the pinnacle of the Air Force enlisted ranks had I not completed my WED degree. The WED degree provided an application based perspective for me and broadened my acumen to personnel development. I got my degree late (22 years) in my AF career; however, education is never too late! Go Salukis!!!” By Chief John LaCroix (Bachelor of Science, 2013, *magna cum laude*)



Jessie Slaughenhaupt (second row, far right), off-campus WED academic advisor at Scott Air Force Base, appears with the articulation and evaluation staff during their visit for the SIU’s Annual Advisement Conference.

Scott Air Force Base Staff

There are two full-time staff members working at the WED site at Scott Air Force Base. Jessie Slaughenhaupt began working for SIU in 2004. As an academic advisor, Jessie advised WED students at Scott Air Force Base. Over time, her position morphed into more. In 2013, Jessie assumed advising responsibilities for all off-campus WED students. Under this capacity, Jessie has constant interaction with the on-campus WED staff, Extended Campus liaisons, and students nationwide. Jessie is also responsible for clearing students for graduation each semester. Although things are sometimes hectic, Jessie does a great job of juggling many hats and making sure WED student issues are resolved in a timely manner. Outside of work, Jessie enjoys spending time with her 13-year old granddaughter and hanging out with her loyal pets (except for disloyal Sophie, the wiener dog that loves to torture her).



L-r, Jessie Slaughenhaupt and Kathleen Richey, WED academic advisors at Scott Air Force.

Kathleen Richey began working for SIU in 2007. She served as a program advisor for the Fire Service Management program at the East St. Louis Community College Center for five years before moving to the WED Program at Scott Air Force Base in 2013. Kathleen enjoys getting to know her students and watching them transform from hesitant, “I haven’t been in school in forever” program applicants, to “I can’t believe I am graduating” Salukis. Kathleen and husband Travis have 3 children ages 22, 14 and 12. And, in case you haven’t already heard, they became first-time grandparents in November, 2017. This “Lolly and Pop” are over the moon about spoiling their precious granddaughter, Alaina Jo. Because the new granddaughter is in Virginia, watch out, Oceana staff; Kathleen may be in your neighborhood often.

With Jessie and Kathleen at the helm, there is never a “dull” day at the SIU WED office at Scott Air Force Base.

WED Alumni



Ronnie L. Rice is a senior human resources generalist for a major auto-manufacturer in South Carolina. He hails from the Chicagoland area and relocated to the Carolinas. In 2002, after separating from Abbott Labs, he decided to embark on his dream by starting his own company. He named it R² (pronounced R square) Enterprises, LLC. The company provides educational services in the areas of learning enrichment coaching, motivational speaking, and leadership training. Ronnie's professional background includes computer support, training & development, sales and marketing and human resources.

Ronnie attended the SIU Workforce Education and Development program on Great Lakes Naval Base in Illinois and received his Bachelor of Science degree in 1995. In 2015, he earned a Master of Arts degree from Webster University's George Herbert Walker School of Business & Technology. Ronnie has achieved ATM-Bronze certification level from Toastmasters International® and recognition for his numerous achievement awards. He has been featured in the Greenville News, Greenville Journal, Spartanburg Herald-Journal, Chicago Sun-Times, Waukegan News Sun, Hampton County Guardian newspaper, Your Carolina television show, and also radio for his business ventures.

He is inspired by helping motivate widely diverse audiences to achieve their career and personal life goals, but admits he is most proud of the feedback he receives from individuals who share how he helps make a positive difference in their lives. Ronnie attributes much of his success to SIU's WED program. He states, "Garnering my B.S. degree opened doors far beyond what I could have ever imagined. I could never have accomplished what I have without my degree from SIU or the influence Dr. Hall and Dr. Pancrazio both had on me personally. I am confident I will continue to reap dividends from the WED program and I am equally proud to share my experience and success with others!"

Networking, Networking, Networking!

Easy and fast. Connect with the WED alumni on LinkedIn.

Enter the Workforce Education and Development group—you will connect with 3,000 people instantly! The group is strong and growing and you will have access to job postings! Also, connect with fellow Salukis through the SIU Alumni Association.

[Click here to join us today](#)

SIU DAY OF GIVING

Prepare to give the gift of experience on March 7, 2018.

On Wednesday, March 7, SIU is hosting its annual Day of Giving – a 24-hour online giving campaign. We hope you will join us and make a special gift on #SIUDAY.

For more information about #SIUDAY of Giving, click on

siuday.siu.edu

February 2018 — Important Dates

Tuesday, 2/13:	Courses start displaying on copies of official transcripts ordered by the student
Monday, 2/19, to Sunday, 2/25:	The Big Muddy Film Festival, student-run organization at SIU Carbondale

For a complete listing of courses through Fall 2018, visit registrar.siu.edu and select Schedule of Classes. For SIU events, click on [Events Calendar](#). For other calendars, click on [calendars](#).

Jobs of the Month

Curriculum Developer – Liferay, Inc., Diamond Bar, California	Read more
Instructional Designer-EMS – Public Health Seattle & King County, Seattle, Washington	Read more
Instructional Designer/Training Specialist – Zebra Technologies, Lincolnshire, Illinois	Read more
Human Resources Manager – Extensis Group, Woodbridge, New Jersey	Read more
Sr. Training Specialist (Jr. Instructor) – IAP Worldwide Services, Mayport, Florida	Read more
Instructional Designer – ReliaQuest, Tampa, Florida	Read more
Human Resources Specialist (Recruitment & Placement) – Department of the Navy, Portsmouth, Virginia	Read more
Corporate Trainer – Comporium, Rock Hill, South Carolina	Read more

For job search tips and events,
click on [SIU Career services](#).

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