Origin Story: How Did The Department Of Workforce Education And Development Begin?

We continue with our story, which we started in December, “Origin Story: How Did the Department of Workforce Education And Development Begin?”

The Department of Workforce Education and Development not only offered the program in the military but also received contracts to provide education and training to companies across states. Around 1997, WED got a contract with Savannah River Power Light to prepare their employees at their plant in Savannah, Georgia. From 1997-1999, approximately 40 students graduated from the program. Bill Shields was the coordinator of the project.

The program also reached international scope. From 1993-1998, WED got a contract through the Asian Development Bank in Nepal. Its purpose was to provide training to participants from the Council of Technical Education and Vocational Training (CTEVT). Eugene M. Hall and John Washburn traveled to Nepal for preliminary works and all the training was carried out at SIU. Twenty-six students came to the Carbondale campus for training.

Beginning in the 1980s, when Marcia Anderson was chair, the department began an alliance with the University of Technology-Jamaica (UT) to provide graduate degrees for its students. The master’s degree program was later delivered, under Richard Bortz’s leadership, to the Kingston campus, and WED faculty traveled to Jamaica to teach at UT.

The state offerings continued and between 2002 and 2003, the Center for Workforce Development (CWD) was created in the Lincoln Land Community College in Springfield, Illinois to serve the (CONTINUED ON PAGE 2)
education, business, industry, and government sectors, as well as the community at large, in the areas of education and training. CWD still facilitates solutions that involve planning, developing, delivering, and participating in education, training, leadership and technology. CWD has been very successful and has received grants amounting to more than $30 million.

The Nurse Aide Testing Project began in 1992 with the testing of only a few hundred applicants across the state of Illinois. Twenty-five years later, the project has evolved to administering more than 15,000 certification exams in both a computer-based format and in a paper-based format. Additionally, the project provides an education coordinator who travels the state conducting workshops and making compliance visits. The project also handles the re-certifications of several thousand nursing assistants who move to Illinois annually or are nursing students who want to become Certified Nursing Assistants.

In fall 2015, the name of the education, training and development (ETD) specialization changed to organizational training and development (OTD) to better represent the content of the program. At the end of spring 2016, the CTE program was suspended temporarily due to state changes in the teacher education requirements and subsequent enrollment decline. Military sites and WED off-campus programs have opened and closed over the years. But the organizational training and development specialization continues to be strong for the undergraduate and graduate population. The department successfully opened a new site at John A. Logan College in Carterville, Illinois in fall 2017. WED currently counts 16 off-campus sites, three of which offer the master’s program. WED expects to add fully online programs for undergraduate and master degrees by fall 2018.

Thus, next time someone asks you about the department or about the degrees in Workforce Education and Development (WED), be proud and tell our story.

We would like to thank again the people who provided us with valuable information about the history of WED: Marcia Anderson, Richard Bortz, Dhruba Dungel, Barbara Hagler, Thomas Hovatter, Bill Shields, John Washburn and C. Keith Waugh.
Happy New Year! I hope you had a wonderful holiday season and had a chance to relax and enjoy some family time. Breaks always seem to go by so quickly. However, it is good to be back at work. Make a resolution to always work hard, study hard, and find time to relax and enjoy your family.

This month’s newsletter continues to tell the history of Workforce Education and Development. You should now be able to better explain what WED is when someone asks you. Also included in the newsletter are pictures from some of our most recent graduates. Congratulations to all of the Workforce Education and Development December graduates! You are now a part of our proud history! Be proud to be a Saluki!

For those of you who completed your undergraduate degree, remember you are now ready for a master’s degree. For those who completed a master’s degree, remember someday to consider a Ph.D. Even if it is not in WED, education is always important and worth pursuing.

I wish you all a Happy and Prosperous New Year! I hope you have a great year of learning in 2018!

Barbara Hagler

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.

SIU Alumni Association
Whether you already graduated or are a current student, you may always join the Association. Your association benefits are great and, above all, you will develop strong connections with other Salukis wherever you are in the world.

Submit your membership request
Congratulations to our new graduates!

In addition to the Carbondale commencement ceremony, WED graduates in the off-campus program had the opportunity to attend graduation ceremonies in two locations: Joint Base Charleston in South Carolina and NAS Jacksonville in Florida. Deborah Barnett, manager of the off-campus program attended both graduations to congratulate our graduates personally. Kudos to our graduates! We are very proud of our graduates, many of them have completed their Bachelor of Science degree while working full time and keeping their many other obligations, and that's inspiring and worth of admiration.

WED will participate in the Start Seeing Pink 2017 campaign to raise funds to provide scholarships for SIU students who have been affected by breast cancer. BethAnn Roberts-Jacquot, a WED student at the John A. Logan site and SIU staff, donates the cookies. Roberts-Jacquot has fundraised more than $200 through other events. Come over to the Workforce Education and Development office for cookies and to make a donation to help our SIU students affected by this disease.
Dear WED Alumni:
We would like to keep in touch with you. Please tell us where you are and what you are doing, include a photo if possible. Submit your information here.

Alexander Fraguada is currently an Airforce aircraft maintenance instructor. He started his SIU journey back in 2014. At the time, he only possessed an Air Force associate's degree, and he believed there was no hope for him to earn a bachelor’s degree. He found out that several co-workers had completed the SIU WED program in 12 month at Joint Base Charleston. Since the degree aligned with his current position and it was at an accelerated pace, he gave it a try. Alexander says “it was one of the best decisions I’ve made in my career. The weekend class schedule worked perfectly for my family and me. The instruction was excellent and it expanded my knowledge greatly; I was able to apply concepts right away to make a positive impact at my work center.” He praises God for finishing his major coursework with straight As. He received credit for his military experience, “I was only 7 classes away from my degree.” Because of his obligations, it took him 2 years to complete his WED degree, which he did it this fall. He adds, “I’ve made my mother proud thanks to SIU’s WED accelerated bachelor’s program.”
January 2018 — Important Dates

Sunday, 1/14: Winter intersession ends
Monday, 1/15: Martin Luther King, Jr.’s Birthday Holiday
Tuesday, 1/16: On campus spring semester begins
Saturday, 1/20: Off-campus program first-half spring begins

For a complete listing of fall courses, 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

Learning & Development Manager – Wonderful Citrus, Delano, California
Read more

Human Resources Manager – ESET, San Diego
Read more

Sr. Consultant, Talent Management (Learning & Development) – Nintendo of America Inc., Redmond, Washington
Read more

Training Specialist, Global Training Administration – Abbott Laboratories, Abbott Park, Illinois
Read more

Training and Development Specialist – Stericycle, Northbrook, Illinois
Read more

Training Specialist – The Creative Group, Milwaukee, Wisconsin
Read more

Training Manager – SalesLoft, Atlanta
Read more

Manager, Organizational Development – Wyndham Hotel Group, Parsippany, New Jersey
Read more

Instructional Systems Designer (ISD) – Intelligent Decision Systems, Inc., Pensacola, Florida
Read more

“I retired in 1996 from the USAF and have been a technical trainer with the University of Arkansas at Little Rock for 21 years. I have designed non-credit training workshops, workbooks, videos and online learning modules for computers, the Internet, drug free workplace, Obamacare, Deaf awareness and more. SIU WED was one of the best decisions my wife and I have ever made.” — Timothy Lee, training specialist at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock

For job search tips and events, click on SIU Career services.

If you are not receiving this FREE online WED monthly newsletter, you may subscribe to receive your own directly.

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