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.

HERE’S HOW YOU CAN HELP MAKE A DIFFERENCE:

GIVE: All SIU alumni, parents, students, faculty, staff and friends are challenged to show their support for our wonderful institution.

We invite you to give the gift of experience to our WED students by donating $45 in celebration of 45 years of the off-campus program history since 1973.

GIVE NOW

Select Education and Human Services – type Workforce Education and Development in the area you wish to support. Your money will go to help WED students!

All gifts made online between 6 a.m. March 7, and 6 a.m. March 8, count toward the Day of Giving.

SHARE: Spread the word about #SIUDAY of Giving. Post on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and LinkedIn to share why you give back to SIU. Make sure you use #SIUDAY to see your content on the Day of Giving social media wall.

ASK: Ask your personal network to join you in making a gift!
March Greetings! As we move towards spring, I hope you are all having a great semester. Comments from students and alumni are included in this newsletter. We always enjoy hearing from our students and alumni. We like to know all the great things you are accomplishing (and we like to feel we may have had a very small part in your accomplishments).

As you will see in the newsletter, and have already probably heard, March 7 has been designated as SIUDAY of Giving. Any and all donations are welcomed and appreciated! If you wish to go online and donate, please visit siuday.siu.edu and be sure to select “Education and Human Services” and type in Workforce Education and Development so your money will go to help someone like you! You can then look for your name on the donor wall on the same website.

We will be celebrating 45 years of offering the off-campus program this year. Therefore, we are challenging you to donate $45. Our goal is to have at least 45 people donate $45. However, even $1 will help us continue to offer the program and provide some student support. Thank you in advance for your donation!

Barbara Hagler

SUPER BOWL FINAL SCORE PREDICTIONS

Unfortunately there were no prediction winners. Fans went for the Patriots! Next time let’s consider the “Cinderella team.”
“Higher Education learning can be difficult for us, ‘seasoned learners.’ We don’t really fit in with all the younger students; we’ve just had too much real life to go down that path. Getting back in the classroom is intimidating. I knew I wanted to go back and further my education in order to move forward with my career--what I didn’t know, is how much I would enjoy it.

Workforce Education and Development is set up just for us, for working adults who need something to relate to and faculty who can help us understand. Most of the WED faculty has vast experience in multiple career fields. I, as well as other students, really valued their knowledge. Lectures were interesting and inspired thoughtful conversation in class. Instructors and students were all respectful and appreciative of what each of us had to offer. Assignments were wide-ranging and creative. I often used current work experiences in the projects. I strongly recommend the WED program to everyone wanting to earn a degree in higher education.” –Rebecca Dycus, MS.Ed. ’14, publicity promotion specialist at SIU University Housing, Carbondale, Illinois

“The WED program not only helped me achieve my goal to earn a degree, it also helped me refine the training skills I learned while serving in our nation’s Air Force. Another great part of the program is that while I was transferred to a different station, I was still able to receive support from the staff. I highly recommend to anyone considering.”–Andrew Charles, B.S. ‘17 at Great Lakes, Illinois

“The SIU WED Program at McGuire Air Force Base, N.J. allowed me to quickly obtain my B.S in Workforce Education and Development. I have moved forward to obtain my master’s degree but it would not have happened without SIU. The teachers and staff assist you every step of the way. It is an awesome university!”–Crystal Phillips, WED alumna at Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, New Jersey

“I’m so very glad my degree is now within reach! Bringing the off-campus WED program to John A. Logan College is helping many adult learners, like myself, realize their education goals. I’ve been doing ‘school’ at night, one class at a time for so long. To see the light at the end is so satisfying.”–Diane Honn, B.S. student at John A. Logan College, Carterville, Illinois
“I completed the Southern Illinois University WED back in 2012. The lessons that I learned have been beneficial to me in both my professional and personal life. Finding suitable employment after I was awarded the degree was much easier than expected. Thanks to the WED, I continue to have success in my endeavors.” – Richard Woods (Woody), WED alumnus at Carbondale, Illinois

“I am very fortunate to have been introduced to the WED program. This program is designed for adult learners and has allowed me to get my bachelor’s degree in one year, while on active duty. This degree will open many doors for me, and I am excited to finally be done with it! I am extremely thankful for my advisor, Caroline, and the way the courses are designed, which allowed me to succeed in the WED program.” – Alexander Salter, student at NAS Pensacola, Florida

“The WED program from SIU has been the answer to my prayers! I’ve finally found a flexible non-traditional program that doesn’t interfere with my work schedule. I absolutely love how this program doesn’t keep me away from my two boys as much as a normal university class schedule would. And, because it’s accelerated, I can get my degree within one year. What more could I possibly ask for? This is my second semester in the program, and I absolutely love it. Both the staff and instructors are great! I find the course material very relevant to my personal and work life. I see the value in the material and apply what I’m learning to my everyday world!” – Joy Grundy, student at Scott Air Force Base, Illinois

“The WED program has had a direct impact on me and my family. In my final years in the Navy, I knew I wanted to teach in the Workforce arena. At the time, I had no idea that a WED degree even existed. I found an SIU flyer at the Navy College and immediately inquired. The program advisors immediately took me under their wing and helped me navigate the requirements so that I could start as soon as possible. I have had the opportunity to experience advisors from San Diego, Bremerton and Scott AFB. I can tell you that, at every turn, they’ve made my journey as efficient as possible. Because of my enrollment in the WED program and experience teaching in the Navy, I was able to find a great job working in the WED field right after retirement! Thanks to the incredible teachers at SIU and all the team members at every extended campus site, I will graduate this May, walk with my class on the SIU campus, and I’ll be the first of my family to do so. This is something I will forever be proud of.” – Kelly Preston, United States Navy Ret. and student at Scott Air Force Base, Illinois
Skills That Students Need to Prepare For Future Jobs

Following is the second part of article started on the February newsletter.

To help students develop the skills previously listed, some educators propose incorporating higher-order thinking projects into the curricula and promoting the student’s participation in student organizations. Following is a list of activities that may help and be adapted to the student needs:

Projects. Applied learning projects (real projects), senior project, collaborative research, and field-based projects.

TED-style talks. Carefully prepared, memorized, rehearsed, presented with visual aid but without notes.

Authentic audiences. Other instructors or students or community members who can ask questions and give feedback.

Foster inquiry. Through class discussion, forums, videos and readings. Ask the students to prepare questions before the discussion.

Peer assessments. Create criteria for the students to asses presentations, instructional videos, websites and more.

Peer feedback. Use numbers to keep the students’ identity anonymous. It allows students to compare other writing styles, ideas, designs and more.

Workshops and training programs. Promote attendance to these events.

The WED program has a great curriculum that focus on helping the learner acquire knowledge, skills and tools to succeed in almost any field and industry. Many of the WED students are coming with years of experience and training. But, there is always room for us to learn and master our skills. And remember, it is not what we know but how we apply it.

Recommended articles:
Falling Short? College learning and Career Success
How Adult Learners Are Not Getting 21st-Century Skills
How to Get Students to Engage in Higher-Order Thinking
The Best Tech Tools for Getting Students to Think Critically
14 CEOs on the Most Valuable Job Sills Right Now
10 Skills All Student Need to Be Successful
10 Soft Skills Hiring Managers Are Looking For
March 2018 — Important Dates

Saturday-Sunday, 3/3-3/4: Off-campus weekend program first-half spring ends
Saturday, 3/10, noon through Sunday, 3/18: Spring vacation

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

Sr. Instructional Designer – Bluebeam, Inc., Pasadena, California  Read more
Training Specialist – T-Solutions, Port Hueneme, California  Read more
Staff Training Coordinator – Embassy Management, Seattle, Washington  Read more
Staff Training & Development Assistant Read – Sidley Austin LLP, Chicago  Read more
Training and Development Consultant – Lockheed Martin, Orlando, Florida  Read more
Human Resources Representative–Oxford Instruments plc, Florida  Read more
Training Instructor–Spirit Airlines, Miramar, Florida  Read more
REPOST-Workforce Development Manager–State of South Carolina-Richland County, South Carolina  Read more
Curriculum Developer – Leidos-Goose Creek, South Carolina  Read more
Instructional Designer – iCIMS, Holmdel, New Jersey  Read more
Instructional Designer – PRA Group, Inc., Norfolk, Virginia  Read more

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.  Subscribe here

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