



Tip of the CAP



A NEWSLETTER FOR THE
CAPITAL SCHOLARS HONORS PROGRAM

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CAP Office Profile - Rowena Vail

Rowena Vail, assistant to the director, has been all over the world. When asked, 'where are you from,' Rowena responds, "Do you mean where was I born (Pusan, South Korea), where did I grow up (Pakistan), or where did I live before coming to Springfield (New York City)?" Her graduating high school class in Pakistan, comprised of 15 students, came from six different countries: the United States, Canada, Pakistan, Scotland, Germany, and New Zealand.

In 1986, Rowena began working at Sangamon State University in Brookens Library, Technical Services, as a typing clerk. She returned to UIS in November 2003, serv-

ing as the secretary/office manager for the Capital Scholars Program (not yet the Capital Scholars Honors Program) before being promoted to her current position in July 2007.

"Except for my predecessor as secretary, I have been in the CAP Program for every director, associate director, assistant director, recruitment coordinator, composition coordinator, as well as most of the graduate assistants and student workers," said Rowena.

Rowena earned a bachelor's degree in psychology from Nyack College in Nyack, New York in 1985. She enjoys reading, knitting, crocheting, cross-stitching, and cooking

(especially Pakistani food). She is also a huge New York Giants fan and follows Syracuse in college basketball. Her favorite movies are *Rachel and the Stranger* (1948), *Dear Ruth* (1947), and *Dear Wife* (1950). Her favorite author is Booth Tarkington and her favorite band is the Eagles.



Rowena Vail

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Matt Dobill
- 3 Quinn Huber
- 4 Hannah Freeman
Rachel Ray
Connor Tinch
- 9 Elizabeth Wright
Margaret Wright
- 12 Cierra Davis
- 13 Jerome Holston
Rowena Vail
- 15 Katherine Woelfel
- 16 Caitlin Crane
Wyatt Freeman
- 17 David Albrecht
Megan Zumbahlen
- 19 Katherine Anderson
Vivica Futrell
- 20 Darlene Jackson
Dyllan Tiburzi
- 23 Amanda Cummins
Hayden Esker
- 27 Chelsea Still
- 28 Iesha Clegg
Niessa Patton
- 29 Nathan Dennison
Kasey Figgins

Peer Mentoring News

By Shannon Szalinski

Recently, the Honors Program sent out a survey to the freshmen asking about their experience in the Peer Mentoring Program. We want to use the responses we receive to better serve the freshmen students as their Peer Mentors. The survey takes about 30 seconds to complete and consists of two questions. We hope the freshmen are satisfied

with their mentoring experience and filling out the survey is your way of letting us know what it is you are looking for in a Peer Mentor. Freshmen, if you have not already done so, please look for the survey link in your emails. Thank you for taking the time to fill out the survey and provide the Mentoring Program with your feedback.

As always, do not

hesitate to contact your mentor! Spring semester is underway and the Peer Mentors are always here to help in any way we can. Further, we are excited to put on more programs for you this semester. The next Peer Mentoring event focuses on study abroad opportunities. Keep an eye and ear open for more information.



Kirkendall's Korner

Welcome back for the Spring, 2012 semester!! I hope you all had a restful and relaxing break.

Freshmen, your class retained at 92%. This is an incredible retention rate as the first semester of Honors is always the hardest. Upperclassmen, be sure to congratulate them on their successful first semester!!

This semester I will only be teaching the mentoring class, but you will hear from me when advising starts in March. Vicki Perkins is teaching CAP 115 and Karen Coleman will be busy with our recruitment events scheduled for the Spring and overseeing advising for Fall and Summer 2011. Amy Spies is teaching CAP 115 this semester and is working on bringing in a great speaker for CAP 115/123. Freshman Symposium is scheduled for April 25th. Amy will continue to oversee our studios and tutoring program so watch for emails from her or one of the GA's announcing days and times for these programs.

As always, Eric Woods (Office Manager), and Rowena Vail (Assistant to the Director) are available to answer your questions. Eric handles all issues concerning WPI's for courses, assignment to advisers, course scheduling and textbook orders. Questions con-

cerning program administrative, laptop issues and policy matters should be directed to Rowena. Jerome Holston returns this semester as one of our graduate assistants assigned to support CAP courses and studios. Anne Shroyer will continue to help support our CAP courses and the mentoring program. Shannon Szalinski continues as our magnificent student worker in the CAP office. Amy and Vicki are organizing the Senior Symposia scheduled for April 20th. Seniors and early graduating juniors should have received information concerning preparation for this event. Aaron Shures has graciously agreed to teach CAP 402 for seniors preparing for Senior Symposia. Nikki Overcash oversees the online version of this course. The seniors will be thrilled to be done with this requirement before Springfest!!

This year the CAP Honors banquet is scheduled for April 5th (Thursday, 5-7). This event has been held each year since the beginning of the Honors program. This dinner is a time for us to acknowledge some of the accomplishments of our students during the past year and recognize our gradu-

ating seniors. Please be sure to mark this date on your calendar!! Juan Trevino has agreed to MC this years event, and Rowena will be heading a student/faculty committee for the design and organization of this program. Let her know if you have any suggestions for the format of the banquet program.

Finally, we have a couple of Faculty-in-Residence events in the planning for the Spring semester. In February we hope to visit the St. Louis History Museum to see their exhibit on the social movements of the 1960's and another to Lincoln Memorial Gardens during blossom time (April?). We will also be distributing free tickets to each of the three symphony events this semester. Watch your email for these announcements.

Once again, welcome back to campus. Please feel free to contact me if you have any concerns or questions this semester. Spring semester always goes by very fast... spring break is right around the corner!! Think sun!! KK

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WELCOME BACK, ZACH!
Zach Berillo has been named interim RD for
Lincoln Residence Hall
 ★
 ★

January CAP Student of the Month - SHANNON SZALINSKI



Shannon has been a blessing to the Capital Scholars Honors Program, not only as a student, but as the student worker in the office as well. Shannon can always be counted on to go above and beyond!

Congratulations, Shannon!

****Upcoming Events****

Writing Studios	Spring Mentoring Programs	CAP Scholars Banquet
<i>Every Tuesday from 6:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m. in the LRH Great Room and Friday from 12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m. in the LRH Conference Room</i>	<i>February 16th: Study Abroad March 22nd: TBD May 3rd: Spring Fever BBQ</i>	<i>April 5th</i>
	Presidents' Day Open House	Senior Symposium
	<i>February 20th</i>	<i>April 20th</i>
		Freshman Symposium
		<i>April 25th</i>

- CAP OFFICE FACULTY/STAFF**
- Karen Kirkendall, *Director*: kkirk1@uis.edu
 - Vicki Perkins, *Assistant Director*: vperk2@uis.edu
 - Karen Guthrie-Coleman, *Recruitment & Advising Coordinator*: kguth01s@uis.edu
 - Amy Spies, *Coordinator of Composition & Student Support*: aspie01s@uis.edu
 - Rowena Vail, *Assistant to the Director*: rvail1@uis.edu
 - Eric Woods, *Office Manager*: ewood5@uis.edu
 - Shannon Szalinski, *Office Manager Assistant*: sszal2@uis.edu
 - Anne Shroyer, *Graduate Assistant*: shroyer2@uis.edu
 - Jerome Holston, *Graduate Assistant*: jhols2@uis.edu

Capital Scholars Honors Program

Main Office Phone:
217-206-7246

Main Office Fax:
217-206-7240

E-mail:
capitalscholars@uis.edu

Website:
www.uis.edu/caphonors

We're on



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