More than 1,000 new students this Fall

More students choose Sullivan for their career-focused education

As the Herald goes to press there are still a number of new and reentering students enrolled in the Fall Quarter classes on the main campus. Dr. Stephen Coppock, Executive Vice President of the University, shared with the Herald that more than 600 new students will begin classes on the main campus this fall. He added “when we add in the new students at our Lexington and Ft. Knox Sullivan campuses, more than 1,000 new students began their education at Sullivan University this fall – attending either in the day, evening, weekend, or online.” Sullivan is unique in that it has two separate freshman classes – the first class invested in their future by beginning their college experience and enrolling in the Summer Quarter which started in July. There is a separate second class that just started the Fall Quarter in late September. These two classes combined, total nearly 1,800 new students who have chosen to attend one of the Sullivan campuses to prepare for a new career in 2006.

Online classes continue popularity. More than 105 of day division students are taking at least one online class in addition to their on campus classes. They find that combining online and on-site classes enables them to complete their degrees more quickly with less time away from family and work responsibilities. Altogether, just more than 1,000 of Sullivan’s day and evening students are taking at least one online class.

Sullivan University is Kentucky’s largest independent College or University with nearly 5,000 students enrolled from 12 foreign countries and 26 different states. They are enrolled in certificate, diploma, associate, bachelor, and master’s degrees all of which are designed to prepare the graduate for success in a variety of high-need - higher paying career fields in Business, Hospitality, Early Childcare and Legal Studies.

Sullivan University’s National Center for Hospitality Studies attracts students from across the country due to its very positive national reputation. The strong out-of-state representation makes the University’s student housing a popular option; this fall, there are 325 students in student housing.

Congratulations Chancellor Sullivan

Dr. A.R. Sullivan received the Dan Mangeot Award from Louisville Mayor Jerry Abramson.

Dr. A.R. Sullivan, Chancellor of Sullivan University, is the 2006 recipient of the prestigious Dan Mangeot Award. Presented by the Louisville Convention & Visitors Bureau at the Annual Banquet attended by more than 600 hospitality professionals. The Award is given to an individual who has made significant contributions to the advancement of tourism and has a history of supporting the hospitality industry throughout his/her lifetime.

“I was so honored to accept this award on behalf of Sullivan University’s National Center for Hospitality Studies and the wonderfully dedicated faculty that support our program,” remarked Chancellor Sullivan. He added, “Their work has prepared nearly 1,000 hospitality students,”

Professional Catering program receives brand-new facility

This fall Professional Catering students received a wonderful surprise. A kitchen was completely renovated and re-equipped making a showpiece facility dedicated solely to the Professional Catering Degree program and Juleps Catering, a professional division of Sullivan University. Chef Kimberley Jones, CPCE, CEC, and Chair of the Professional Catering program, stated that “Catering has been the fastest growing segment of the food industry in the U.S. for the past seven consecutive years . . . and is expected to lead the growth trend in the near future.” The Professional Catering lab boasts the only two Alto-Shaam combination cookers on Sullivan’s campuses. Other cutting-edge technology is a versatile piece of catering gear called an EVO, a large mobile cooking unit that quickly converts from propane or natural gas-fired.

“We are beyond thrilled with the renovation of an existing kitchen into a designated area for our business and the catering degree program,” declared Melissa Shockley, Manager of Juleps Catering. She continued, “The kitchen’s completion has come at our peak season. We are fully equipped to meet all our clients’ needs.”

Above, Chef Kimberly Jones, CPCE, CEC, is delighted with the newly-designed kitchen.

No, it’s not a space ship or a time machine but instead it’s the Professional Catering program’s new mobile cooking unit which will take Sullivan into the twenty-second century . . . on wheels!

Sullivan hires Dean for new Doctor of Pharmacy program

Sullivan University is pleased to announce the employment of Dr. Hieu Tran as the Dean of the University’s new College of Pharmacy degree, known in professional circles as the “Pharm. D.”

Magnificent credentials

Dr. Tran earned his Pharm. D. at the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy in 1993 with honors. He completed a Post-Doctoral Fellowship in 1995 at Hartford Hospital and the University of Connecticut. Dr. Tran has earned numerous certifications from such institutions as the American Academy of Pediatrics, American Lung Association, Harvard Medical Continuation Education, and the University of San Francisco.

Wide range of experience

Dr. Tran has been a vital part of the start-up of two Colleges of Pharmacy in the recent past; he was recently the founding Chair of the Department of Pharmacy Practice at a new pharmacy school in Erie, Pennsylvania. He was instrumental in that institution being accredited by the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education (ACPE). Prior to that, Dr. Tran was Head, Clinical & Pharmacy program, Education & Research for three hospitals in Delaware. He has also been a leader in teaching other faculty how to be better pharmacy educators.

Welcome Dr. Tran!
Sullivan students score high in a hot job market

Graduates and students of Sullivan’s IT Academy program virtually always find the job they’re looking for, and the path to success often begins with an entry-level position in a small company. Best Buy’s GeekSquad City pictured above has changed the landscape for students and Louisville’s Information Technology (IT) job market in general. The 125,000 square foot facility in Hillview, KY has already filled their last five openings with Sullivan graduates. Bob Ausmus, Jesse Morgan, Dominic Schneider, and Jason Rader are all Network Operations Center technicians at Peak10. Peak10 management has contacted Sullivan seeking an additional four to seven technicians for their new 22,000 square foot facility in Louisville. Chana Cohn, who rose through the ranks at Peak10 to the position of Network Operations Center Manager, has moved to Allegro IT, a leading provider of home- and business-based health care services. Chana manages their multi-location national network infrastructure.

Andy Paul, Allegro IT’s Manager of Network Services is a graduate of Sullivan’s IT Academy, as well as the Sullivan’s Graduate of Science in Information Technology and his PhD. After finishing these advanced degrees, he lived in Australia for three years, where he worked for Motorola labs in Sydney. Sidd’s Ph.D. work focused on Distributed Artificial Intelligence and Software Agents. This scholar also has generated about a dozen journal and conference publications, most recently “Personality Profiling Agent using Computer Games,” to appear in the proceedings of the Eighth International Conference of Computer Games: Al and Mobile Systems.

Dr. Soueina’s current interests lie in education, cognitive science, psychology, invention and innovation and business. Fluent in French, Arabic, Japanese and English, he came to the USA for the first time in January 2003 and has been enjoying it ever since.

Sullivan professors on Courier-Journal panel

Dr. Jeff Johnson, Dean of the Graduate School and Professor, Mike Yarmuth, Chair of the Finance Department were recently invited to the offices of the Louisville Courier-Journal to give their input on the proposals of a new master’s degree in business. Chris Langford, a Sullivan University Master of Business Administration (MBI) graduate, who works as a major account executive for the paper, created a panel that included Johnson, Yarmuth, and representatives from several local institutions including Re/Max, Jewish Hospital and Stockyards Bank. The paper’s task was to provide comments and suggestions for the new business section as the paper looked to revamp its business coverage. The Graduate School at Sullivan University is pleased to announce LaVena Wilkin, as the new Director of Alternative Dispute Resolution graduate studies. Mrs. Wilkin holds associate, bachelor and master-level degrees from Sullivan and has worked for the University in several positions including faculty member. Now in the final stages of her doctoral studies at NOVA Southeastern University, Mrs. Wilkin will replace Dr. John Willis who founded the graduate programs in dispute resolution. The Graduate School is indebted to Dr. Willis for all the hard work in building the programs from scratch and is looking forward to the future with Ms. Wilkin at the helm.

Sullivan announces new bachelor’s degree program

Sullivan University’s Justice & Public Safety Administration (JPSA) department will launch a newly accredited bachelor’s degree program for Winter classes beginning January 2-14, 2007. The addition of a bachelor’s degree adds to the program’s developing prestige. Much like the associate degree curriculum, Sullivan University has built a unique bachelor’s degree that combines the best courses in justice and public safety with courses in business management and conflict/dispute resolution. These skills provide Sullivan students with greater salary potential and career stability. Now, not only will they have the skill set needed to work in justice and public safety agencies but will also have the experience necessary to promote and become managers in their agencies.

There’s a new ‘doctor in the house’

Dean of the Graduate School at Sullivan University, Dr. Jeff Johnson and [the now] Dr. Matthias Herfert, pictured here, recently ventured to Leipzig, Germany for Dr. Herfert’s dissertation defense. The dissertation, “Nonparametric Inference of Utilities: Entropy Analysis with Applications to Consumer Theory,” attempted to link various theories on consumer preferences to business decision-making. Dr. Johnson, who served as a member of the dissertation committee, accompanied him on the trip.

“It was an honor to serve on the committee and to see another of Sullivan University’s faculty members earn a doctorate,” said Johnson, “the best part was being there, attending the celebration afterward and seeing the joy on the faces of Matthias’ family members.”

“It was one of the best experiences in my life so far when I had finally completed all program requirements and a few weeks later received my diploma, stated Dr. Herfert. “All in all, I am so enormously glad to have pursued this doctorate and can highly recommend it to anyone who is in for a real challenge.” He continued, “I also wish to express my gratitude towards Sullivan University and all of my colleagues for their great support and encouragement during this final stage of completing my degree.”

University’s Library receives high praise

The Sullivan University Library & Learning Resource Center has been conducting library-specific end-user satisfaction surveys of students and faculty. Respondents answer a series of detailed questions about the adequacy of library collections and services. These topics are of importance to the University for many reasons including accredit-ation. Student comments are also solicited and generally very positive.

I love Sullivan’s Library. It is easy for the needy to find the wealth of helpful information that mostly deals with academic stuff. You can find information on any computer. Best Buy’s new Geek Squad City in Louisville will hire the first group of employees hired and currently a Sullivan student in the program. Brian is CompTIA A+ and currently a Sullivan student in the Information Technology (IT) job market in general. The 125,000 square foot facility in Hillview, KY has already filled their last five openings with Sullivan graduates. Bob Ausmus, Jesse Morgan, Dominic Schneider, and Jason Rader are all Network Operations Center technicians at Peak10. Peak10 management has contacted Sullivan seeking an additional four to seven technicians for their new 22,000 square foot facility in Louisville. Chana Cohn, who rose through the ranks at Peak10 to the position of Network Operations Center Manager, has moved to Allegro IT, a leading provider of home- and business-based health care services. Chana manages their multi-location national network infrastructure. Andy Paul, Allegro IT’s Manager of Network Services is a graduate of Sullivan’s IT Academy, as well as the Sullivan’s Graduate of Science in Information Technology and his PhD. After finishing these advanced degrees, he lived in Australia for three years, where he worked for Motorola labs in Sydney. Sidd’s Ph.D. work focused on Distributed Artificial Intelligence and Software Agents. This scholar also has generated about a dozen journal and conference publications, most recently “Personality Profiling Agent using Computer Games,” to appear in the proceedings of the Eighth International Conference of Computer Games: Al and Mobile Systems.

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Advisory Board impacts Sullivan’s Paralegal programs

The Institute for Legal Studies at Sullivan University in Louisville is celebrating the 25th anniversary of its first graduating class. Since 1981, more than 1,000 students have graduated from a variety of Legal Studies programs offered at Sullivan. The history of the Legal Studies academic programs has been one of innovation and growth. One of the essential components is its Advisory Board. The Board includes judges, attorneys, paralegals, faculty members, a University administrator and a general public representative. Meeting three times a year, one of the Board’s meetings is a joint effort with Legal Studies faculty members. Sullivan University Chancellor, Dr. A.R. Sullivan has often stated that the Legal Studies Advisory board is the most active and involved board on campus. Nicholas Riggs, Director of Legal Studies for nearly 20 years, stressed the Board’s importance. “All major decisions that have impacted and advanced the Paralegal Studies programs at Sullivan University have been made with the advice and consent of the Advisory Board. Riggs is particularly proud of the longevity of several board members, although membership is constantly changing to bring fresh ideas to the table. “We have members like Susan Wettle and Denise Cunningham, both of whom have served on the board for more years than they might care to admit; we also have a reserved seat on the Board for the current president of the Louisville Association of Paralegals (LAP). Because the LAP presidential term is one year, we always have a constant influx of new ideas from the leadership of the local paralegal community.” Riggs further commented, “The mix of legal professionals on the Board adds greatly to its relevance and involvement. For example, take ICDRL at Sullivan University in Dublin, Tony Belak, and two of its Senior Fellows, Lord Bill Brett from London and Sergio Gardelliano from Vienna. Irish Labor Minister Tony Killeen kicked off the conference and commented that “The capacity to resolve workplace disputes effectively contributes to the quality of the working environment and has a significant impact on organizational performance in terms of reducing days lost, enhancing productivity and improving management-employee relations.” Practices of Alternative Dispute Resolution are becoming the norm in Irish workplaces and are starting to generate an appetite to develop their conflict management skills. Terms like “ mediator,” “emotional intelligence,” and “conflict positive organizations”are starting to emerge. A growing concern in Irish workplaces is the heightened awareness of bullying, harassment, and discrimination. Belak, the only non-European speaker at the conference, spoke of the work Sullivan University is doing regarding making workplaces more collaborative and harmonious. Workplace mediators trained in Ireland are certified through the ICDRL at Sullivan University in cooperation with our Irish partner Palasir Human Resources and the Mediation Institute of Ireland.

Susan Wettle. Susan is a Sullivan graduate who served on the Board in the 1980’s, then rejoined the Board in 1996, and has graciously served since then. Susan can look at paralegal trends using her background as a paralegal and working in local government over three different decades. She understands the history of the paralegal profession and the many changes that have occurred over the years. Susan has just retired from her position with the Jefferson County Attorney’s office. Because of American Bar Association guidelines, we had to appoint a new public sector paralegal to serve on the board,” stated Riggs. “Susan will be greatly missed, but this change further indicates the dynamic nature of the Board,” Riggs added.

“I became interested in the paralegal profession when it was in its infancy. After doing research on the education required, I enrolled at Sullivan and graduated in 1981. The Louisville Association of Paralegals was also just starting. I joined as a student and was an active member. I was asked to join the Sullivan Advisory Board by the first Director, Sharon Faith, and I have served under each director since. It has been a joy to only watch the paralegal profession grow but to actively participate in its growth. I have loved serving on the Legal Studies Advisory Board and I shall always remember it fondly. I hope that my participation helped to facilitate that growth. Thank you, Sullivan, for many enjoyable years as a paralegal and as a member of your family.”

SUSAN WETTLE

Current Legal Studies Advisory Board members

• Denise Cunningham, Paralegal, with the office of M. Lynne Osthoeter, Attorney
• Ruby Fenton-Iller, Attorney at Law
• Pam Byerly, Paralegal, with the office of Woodward, Hobson & Fulton, L.L.P. and Louisville Paralegal Association President and a Sullivan graduate
• Joyce Koch, Technology Director, Assumption High School
• Dana Martin, Litigation Training support Manager, with the office of Greenebaum Doll & McDonald PLLC
• Sandi Preston, Paralegal Specialist, U.S. Small Business Administration and Sullivan adjunct faculty member
• Paula Sherlock, Judge, Division 10, Jefferson Family Court
• Glades Smith, Legal Administrator, with the office of Weber & Rose PSC
• Joan “Toni” Stringer, Judge, Thirtieth Judicial District, Jefferson District Court
• James Watkins, Vice President of Academic Affairs, Sullivan University

In Dublin, Tony Belak, center, presented Sergio Gardelliano, left, and Lord Bill Brett with certificates acknowledging them as Senior Fellows in the International Center for Dispute Resolution Leadership Scholarship News

Amber Nethery, an evening division student in the Paralegal Studies associate degree program, was recently awarded a scholarship by the Louisville Association of Paralegals (LAP). Upon notice of her selection to receive the scholarship Amber said, “I was pretty shocked. I thought I was in trouble because it was given to me in a sealed envelope in one of my classes with Jennifer Gahther.” But to Amber’s surprise the envelope contained a check that helped with some of her educational expenses. “My parents and I have a difficult time paying for school, so I was very thankful for the additional funds,” Amber said.

Amber has set short term and long term goals for her education and career. In discussing her plans Amber stated, “I need to join the LAP as a student member and I want to start my externship with a local law firm in the near future. I plan to finish my associate degree and then continue to pursue the Bachelor of Science Degree in Paralegal Studies at Sullivan. I am most interested in Criminal Law and I am leaning toward doing prosecution work. I might even go on to law school.” Although Amber was unable to attend the LAP meeting at which it was announced that she would be the recipient, Amber was fortunate to meet Pam Byerly, the current LAP president, at a recent Legal Studies Advisory Board meeting held on the Louisville campus. Byerly is a graduate of Sullivan’s Paralegal Studies associate and bachelor’s degree programs.

Nicholas Riggs congratulates scholarship winner Amber Nethery. Seated are Legal Studies Advisory Board members Pam Byerly (left) and Sandi Preston.
Small Business Management

In MGT 254, Small Business Management students learn how to start up, manage, and be successful in a small business. This is accomplished by covering different business perspectives every week and tying them all together in a project to create a realistic business plan similar to those taken to investors or banks for funding. The classroom concepts include product and services development, human resources, marketing, accounting, finance, risk management, and operations. At the conclusion of the quarter, project teams submit a completed business plan to present before the class for review. It just proves that everyone feels the improvements that Sullivan provided. -TONYA CLAY

How clean are your hands?

Statistics show 80% or more of foodborne illness is actually caused by barehand contact with ready-to-eat foods.

Yet, the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has reported that quick and full service establishments, on average, only complied 55% of the time.

Sullivan’s National Center for Hospitality Studies is committed to training culinary students on the importance of handwashing. Director, Chef Walter Rhea, CMP, CEC, CCE, AAC, authorized purchase of a professional handwashing screening system to let students see the importance of proper handwashing. The system utilizes a product called GloGerm Gel. Students in Mrs. Kathy Ballard’s evening Applied Food Service Sanitation class (CAM134), rubbed the gel into their hands and then washed their hands as they normally would. When finished, students were asked to place their hands under a black light viewing system.

The GloGerm Gel contains plastic simulated “germs” that glow under UV light. This is an effective method to demonstrate to students how easy it is to miss bacteria on their hands because they are not able to see them with the naked eye. Students are amazed at how much they miss; they often wash their hands again to see if they do better.

Culinary professionals realize it is imperative to avoid a foodborne illness being associated with their restaurant. We see more shows such as Dateline that go behind the scenes to do specials on topics such as “Dirty Dining.” Today, customers are becoming more aware of food safety and will expect more of food service professionals! Sullivan students will be ready to meet their expectations.

Introduction to ‘sadistics’

Introduction to Statistics is sometimes called “Introduction to Sadistics’ and it is meant as more than a slip of the tongue. Mathematics 202 Statistics is the class most students have to take and some dread it. However, it’s really logical and if everyone turns up on his/her/their critical thinking skills, the rest is easy. Learn to take surveys, interpret results, simplify data so that others can understand, and read reports that talk about strange things such as a 95% confidence limit. All of these topics are discussed in this class where Dr. Kuhbander has a way of making all of them easier for students to understand.

Sullivan’s faculty: They’re just toast!

“One of the surprise successes of the ‘toast and quote’ project each quarter is the required toast to a Sullivan faculty member,” stated Instructor Quentin Moser.

“Often several students thank me for this assignment where they are free to say some of the things they have wanted to share all along.” Moser continued. “Students often show this assignment to the faculty member being toasted, many times even before the toast is presented in class. Perhaps my greatest pleasure comes from the occasional instructor who said, ‘I had no idea that student felt that strongly about what I do in the classroom. It just proves everyone likes a pat on the back every once in a while’ and obviously students realize instructors are no different from everyone else.”

Basic Skills

The Culinary Arts Department recently initiated a new Basic Skills final practical exam. Each student prepares a three-course meal that is designed to demonstrate and incorporate what they learned in the past three months: various cooking methods, knife skills, butchering, mise en place, sanitation and professionalism. This major change in the final practical exam reflects Sullivan University’s dedication to its Quality Enhancement Program (QEP). This comprehensive new final will better prepare students for more complicated multi-course meal preparation in later courses. Plus chef/instructors receive a much better idea of what’s being grasped and can adjust to improve the job they are doing.
A perfect match!

The demand for quality child care is on the rise with the growth of dual career families. Additionally, parents are more educated about the need for creating enriching and positive learning environments to enhance brain development and get their youngsters off to the best start possible.

Sullivan fills the need

Lisa Likins, Director of Public Relations for the Early Childhood Education Initiative, explained, "Many of our graduates who are working in family support roles are currently in high school or college and are looking for child care or a job in the field. We receive calls from frantic parents who are looking for high-quality child care for their unique situations. One such caller was Najla Aswald from Puerto Rico. Her husband was going to be transferred to the Louisville area. Her need was for a live-in Professional Nanny for her three children aged 2 to 8. Najla shared her values about caring for children, desires to be a hands-on working mom and her entrepreneur passion and success for catering gourmet kosher foods. (She is founder and president of "Najla's," best known for its Gone Chunky gourmet cookie line sold nationwide.)

Great benefit package

The Aswalds submitted a questionnaire listing their child care needs and the employment package they could offer. Ms. Likins immediately thought of Prudence Torian, Fall 2005 graduate, who wanted employment with a family with high standards and a commitment to the child's well-being. Prudence also was open to a live-in position with the use of a vehicle after a short probationary period. Ms. Likins arranged for the family and the graduate to have a telephone interview and later a face-to-face meeting. After discussing the job description, salary and benefits package with both health and dental insurance, Prudence agreed to the contract terms. In January of 2006, Prudence moved in and helped the children settle into their new environment. The family quickly learned of Prudence's many job competencies and outstanding character. They purchased a 2006 SUV for Prudence to use when transporting the three active children. Prudence is confident she will remain a positive influence for the three children while earning a living doing what she really enjoys.

More than a babysitter

Prudence is far more than a highly paid babysitter. She is providing a positive enriching environment to nurture three children while earning a living doing what she really enjoys. You should take time to enjoy them, love them and help nurture them to be well-rounded adults," Prudence said, as she shared how rewarding this career field is for her when matched with a family who shares her values and commitment to children.

Sullivan University & Muhammad Ali Center join in anti-bullying effort

Nearly 80 students, ages 10-16, from the U.S., England, and Ireland recently participated in a Transatlantic Youth Link videoconference. John Quinn, moderator and research, and 2) a report identifying and links to other resources, training, and coping strategies.

The Sullivan University System initiated and funded the creation of the Transatlantic Schools Anti-Bullying Initiative with the goals of developing 1) a free web-based resource for young people, parents, teachers, and others that provides examples of best practices and links to other resources, training, and research, and 2) a report identifying issues, trends, concerns, future developments and recommendations that will be published in the U.K. and the U.S. USA Today recently published an article titled, "CEO shells out nearly six figures to secure the perfect nanny." The article states that typically nannies start out at $30,000 but high-end nannies could easily double that in a year or two. Astonishingly, one CEO pays his nanny $100,000 and revives as her the most important hiring decision she has made. Those individuals that are given the awesome responsibility to educate and nurture children from infancy are gaining respect and earning a salary to match the high quality care they are providing!" Wonderful opportunities

Students graduating with a Professional Nanny Diploma or Associate of Science in Early Childhood Education have several career path options. With the increasingly competitive salaries for high-end educated nannies, the decision to follow the Professional Nanny path is even more appealing for Sullivan grads. Sullivan is one of only six schools (and the only university) in the International Nanny Association preparing students for a Professional Nanny career across the country.

Rapper R. Profitt performed an original composition which all the participants thoroughly enjoyed.

Going on the premise that Sullivan faculty are using heroes, General Education Instructor Mel Kuhbander is an ultimate musical. His background leads Ms. Likins to don the Who’s in Education. Assistant Principal, Assistant Professor of Mathematics, Registrar, Senior High School Principal, Superintendent of Schools, President Head of Schools, and the list goes on.

He ain’t heavy he’s my brother

Many of you may not remember that song title, nor that at one time Mel Kuhbander was Brother Mel. His decision to become an educator can be traced to his days at a Catholic high school in Dayton where the Maristians taught him and served as role models. At the age of 15, Kuhbander left home to join a religious order and his years as “Brother Mel” were fulfilling.

The world beckoned

By the late 1960’s, however, Kuhbander sought a dispensation from his vows while teaching at the Catholic University of Puerto Rico. In Puerto Rico, he met and married his wife Sandy, a nurse on the island. A Department of Education grant through the University of Pennsylvania beckoned, from 1969-81 he taught in and later became a superintendent of Pennsylvania’s public school system. Kuhbander earned his Master’s degree in Mathematics from the University of Pittsburgh, and was granted a Doctorate in Education Administration degree in 1974 by the University of Pennsylvania.

Ask and ye shall receive

In 1991, Mel became superintendent of the private Singapore American School for more than 2,000 students in preschool through grade 12. “Absolutely, a high point was when the school named its Fine Arts building after me,” Mel said. Nine years later and yearning for their roots, the Kuhbanders returned to the States. Neither had work lined up but they decided to take a chance they would find something. “That couldn’t have been any scarier than jumping out of a plane at 20,000 feet without a parachute.”

Landed on his feet

Three months later, Kuhbander added President and Head of the Ursuline Campus Schools in Louisville to his accomplishments. It was a new position in an education institution under the auspices of a religious order of Ursuline Sisters. Kuhbander was the first lay person to run the operation on a campus founded in 1877.

In 1994, Mel accepted a position as Superintendent of Schools for the Catholic Diocese of Peoria. He commuted weekends from Louisville, where his wife continued her profession and where they maintained their house.

Y’all come back now, y’all heah?

As Mel puts it, “In 1995, Sandy told me that she recognized that I was doing God’s work but God wanted me to come home now,” so I returned to Louisville. He worked a very brief stint as a sales representative for Sylvan for their in-school programs in the mid-West but realized he missed education and sought a return to the classroom.

Saved the best for last

Mel came to Sullivan in 2001. He is fond of telling people of the affirmation he gets from being in the classroom with the biggest charge coming from working with adult students who have returned to school. He immersed himself in this career-education purpose will make a difference in their life. His gift to Sullivan students is to help them learn mathematics and enjoy it. His syllabus contains the following: “We have a common goal. You want to learn something in this class and you want to pass this class. I want the same for you.”

On the first Tuesday following Labor Day in 1956, Mel walked into a classroom for the first time. This September, he has completed a full half century of active work in education. Wow!
Faculty and staff recently enjoyed Sullivan University System Day at Six Flags Kentucky Kingdom. Discounted tickets were available for all those who wanted to enjoy a steamy day at Louisville’s local theme park. Students enjoyed roller coasters such as Chang, Thunder Run and Twisted Twins; others cooled off on water rides like Blizzard River and Mile High Falls.

More than 500 student, faculty and staff dressed in their tropical attire to enjoy good food and rockin’ entertainment. The menu consisted of Roasted Pig, Aloha Chicken, Sweet and Sour Meatballs, Grilled Fruit Kabobs and more (it was mm mm good!!) Travelin’ Max got the crowd into the Luau state-of-mind by giving out leis and straw hats. The conga line formed, students participated in a Dance Contest and a Donut Eating Contest. Oh what some folks will do for a T-shirt or can of SPAM!!!

Travelin’ Max

It’s Conga time!

Aloha Sullivan

Above, Erica Jackson and Christie Smith

Glenn Sullivan, President of Sullivan University

Ariel Koehn

Tabitha Wraley

Ryan Griffin

Stephanie Clark

Aloha Sullivan

Left to right: Shane Phumphachanh, Lisa McNabb, Zac Chittum, Kristopher Ehman and Thomas Leong.

Left to right: Amber Gentile, Mallorye Cheers and Denise Holclaw

Left, Instructor Rosie Baker and friend

There was something for everyone to enjoy at the Luau. Great food, beautiful weather, good friends and lotsa fun.

Left, left to right: Glenn Bell, Jametta Carson, Jessica Banks, Yolanda Lomas and Corey Lacy.

Above, left to right: Glenn Bell, Jametta Carson, Jessica Banks, Yolanda Lomas and Corey Lacy.

Darnell Ferguson

Left, left to right: Amber Gentile, Mallorye Cheers and Denise Holclaw

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Aloha Sullivan

Travelin’ Max

It’s Conga time!

Above, Erica Jackson and Christie Smith

Glenn Sullivan, President of Sullivan University

Ariel Koehn

Tabitha Wraley

Ryan Griffin

Stephanie Clark

Aloha Sullivan

Left to right: Shane Phumphachanh, Lisa McNabb, Zac Chittum, Kristopher Ehman and Thomas Leong.

Left to right: Amber Gentile, Mallorye Cheers and Denise Holclaw

Left, Instructor Rosie Baker and friend

There was something for everyone to enjoy at the Luau. Great food, beautiful weather, good friends and lotsa fun.

Left, left to right: Glenn Bell, Jametta Carson, Jessica Banks, Yolanda Lomas and Corey Lacy.

Above, left to right: Glenn Bell, Jametta Carson, Jessica Banks, Yolanda Lomas and Corey Lacy.

Darnell Ferguson

Left, left to right: Amber Gentile, Mallorye Cheers and Denise Holclaw

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Darnell Ferguson
A group of Sullivan students and staff traveled to Indiana for the Annual Canoe Trip. The day was perfect for relaxing and floating down the Blue River, enjoying the beautiful country landscape and the quiet calming noise of some small running rapids. Students could stop on many sand bars throughout the seven mile journey to eat lunch or enjoy a little swimming or frolicking in the water.

Rainy weather didn’t stop Sullivan students from enjoying the Annual Picnic held at scenic Seneca Park. Students engaged in various activities including basketball, corn hole, putting, volleyball. There were plenty of good burgers, hot dogs and other picnic fare. Rotaract members served snow cones as an extra “sweet treat.” Highlight of the day was definitely the concert by “Thornbird,” a rock band on tour from Los Angeles. Lead singer, Bella, belted out lyrics to songs such as “Just Say You Love Me” and “Happy Song” while bass player, Spanky, sang back-up. Check out what they had to say about their experience in Louisville and Sullivan at: www.thornbird.com.
Sullivan University Graduate Employment
Success

Aaron Alumbaugh ★
Beth Haven HS, KY
SQL Application Developer
Med Plans Recruiting, Inc.
Louisville, KY

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SQL Application Developer
Med Plans Recruiting, Inc.
Louisville, KY

Jonathan Ashby ★
GED
Chef
Mitchell’s Fish Market
Louisville, KY

Monica Church ★
South Hopkins HS, KY
Paralegal
Greene & Cooper PSC
Louisville, KY

John Keller ★
St. Xavier HS, KY
Sales Manager
Electronic Merchant Systems
Brooklyn, OH

Mary Chism ★
New Albany HS, IN
Business Analyst
Electronic Data Systems
Louisville, KY

Shannon Dietzman
Holly Cross HS, KY
Front Line Leader
Humana, Inc.
Louisville, KY

Charlie Haise Jr ★
Southern HS, KY
Executive Chef
The Point Club
Phippsville, MA

Lori Griffin ★
Turpin HS, OH
Customer Service Administrator
UPS-Air Cargo Division
Louisville, KY

Cynthia Bundy ★
DuPont Manual HS, KY
Provider File Maintenance
Humana, Inc.
Louisville, KY

Danny Emmil ★
Ukiah HS, CA
Food & Beverage Director
Kentucky Department of Parks
Frankfort, KY

Delecia Calloway ★
New Albany HS, IN
Cash Disbursement Coordinator
McCann-Erickson USA, Inc
Louisville, KY

Amy Fox
Oldham County HS, KY
Office Specialist
Beverly Healthcare Hillcreek
Louisville, KY

Allison Duvall
Fairdale HS, KY
Paralegal
Nadar G. Shunnarah, Attorney
Louisville, KY

Jansen Nally
North Bullitt HS, KY
Office Manager
Ohio Valley Business Systems
Louisville, KY

Sarah Hampton ★
Bullitt East HS, KY
Accounts Payable
Enterprise Rent-A-Car
Louisville, KY

Danny Emmil ★
Ukiah HS, CA
Food & Beverage Director
Kentucky Department of Parks
Frankfort, KY

Dora Gutierrez
Louisville Collegiate HS, KY
Line Cook
Walt Disney World
Lake Buena Vista, FL

Amy Fox
Oldham County HS, KY
Office Specialist
Beverly Healthcare Hillcreek
Louisville, KY

Ann Keene ★
Nelson County HS, KY
Food Service Director
North Field Manor
Louisville, KY

This is only a partial listing of recent
Sullivan University graduate employment success!

Sullivan’s Graduate Employment Service is Fee-Free for Life
★ The star indicates alumni employment updates and/or
using the lifetime, fee-free employment assistance from
Sullivan’s Graduate Employment Services Department
Great careers begin at Sullivan University!

Stephanie Hull ★
DuPont Manual HS, KY
Sales/Managing Director
Huntington Learning Center
Louisville, KY

Adam Hurd
North Central HS, IN
Line Cook
Walt Disney World
Lake Buena Vista, Fl

Brittany Langley ★
Butler Traditional HS, KY
Accountant
C-Logics
Louisville, KY

Alan Leonard ★
Fern Creek HS, KY
Publisher Billing Coordinator
Ketchum Directory Advisory
Louisville, KY

Angela Link
Lanesville HS, IN
Line Cook
Stratto’s
Clarksville, IN

Holly Thomsen ★
Dobyns Bennett HS, TN
Baker
Mitchell’s Fish Market
Louisville, KY

Candice Payton ★
Jeffersonville HS, IN
Paralegal
Henry Schidknect, Attorney
Louisville, KY

Stephanie Lucas
Atherton HS, KY
Store Manager
Graters Ice Cream
Louisville, KY

Courtney Nasby ★
New Albany HS, IN
Pastry Chef
Proof on Main Restaurant
Louisville, KY

Romar Steed ★
P.L. Dunbar HS, KY
Supervisor
Humana, Inc.
Louisville, KY

Adam Ripperdan
Oldham County HS, KY
Staff Accountant
Simon, Underwood & Associates, CPA’s
Louisville, KY

Alisha Rifkind ★
GED
Medical Assistant
Norton Medical Suburban
Louisville, KY

Christian Workmeister ★
Mt. deSales Academy HS, GA
Executive Chef
Cafe Metro
Louisville, KY

Jeffrey Robertson ★
GED
Kitchen Manager
Gumbo A Go-Go
Louisville, KY

Scott Schamel ★
Madison Consolidated HS, IN
Chef
Raw Sushi Lounge
Louisville, KY

Marvis Hall ★
Bullitt Central HS, KY
Customer Service/Inside Sales
Kaman Industrial Technologies
Louisville, KY

Angela Schierberg ★
Ryle HS, KY
Paralegal
Carrithers Law
Louisville, KY

Cynthia Standiford
Silver Creek HS, IN
Paralegal
Carrithers Law Office
Louisville, KY

Paige Staschke
Charlestown HS, IN
Billing Specialist
Family Care Chiropractic
Louisville, KY

Cassie Ziehm ★
Charlestown HS, IN
Assistant to Corporate District Manager
Target
Clarksville, IN

Graduates of Sullivan University have a unique benefit available and that is to use the graduate employment service once, twice, or as many times as needed in their lifetime to move up in their career fields. This lifetime graduate employment service is another one of the many valuable features and benefits offered by Sullivan University.
President of KFC Corp. visits a Sullivan class

Gregg Dedrick, President and Chief Concept Officer of KFC Corp., recently served as a guest lecturer in Instructor Dawn McGiffen’s Hospitality Management & Supervision class. Dedrick is one of the people credited with the start up of Tricon/Yum! Brands. His daughter, Michelle, a Baking & Pastry Arts major, is a student in McGiffen’s class.

With 5,400 U.S. restaurants and more than 8,000 KFC restaurants among 80 foreign countries, Dedrick oversees $4.5 billion in system sales and more than 150,000 employees. Asked by one student KFC’s secret of success, Dedrick replied, “The real secret ingredient at KFC is our inclusive environment and corporate culture. We believe the secret of success is one’s ability to work with and through other people.” Dedrick fielded questions ranging from the cost of bringing in a new KFC product to market ($16 to $17 million!) to the chain’s contingency plans should there be an outbreak of Avian Flu.

The students applauded when Dedrick wrapped up his lecture, and several stayed after class to ask some additional questions. “I’ve enjoyed this class a lot,” said Dedrick. “I will definitely find time to come back when I can hopefully spend more time.”

Below, Gregg Dedrick, President and Chief Concept Officer of KFC Corp., with Dawn McGiffen, Hospitality/Restaurant Management Instructor.

Scholarship News

John Cartagena, a first-year student in Sullivan’s Bachelor’s in Hospitality Studies degree program, was recently awarded a $3,000 scholarship by the American Hotel & Lodging Educational Foundation (AH&LEF). Cartagena has already completed his associate degrees in Hotel-Restaurant Management and Culinary Arts.

“I am so grateful for this scholarship,” said Cartagena “It will definitely help me as I continue my studies.” Cartagena was one of the National Restaurant Association’s 2005 Salute to Excellence student honor delegates, according to Kerry Sommerville, Hospitality Studies Chair. “I can’t think of a student who is more deserving than John,” said Sommerville. “He’s a real professional and an outstanding student of whom we’re very proud.”

The AH&LEF is the charitable fundraising arm of the American Hotel & Lodging Association (AH&LA), relying on the financial support of hoteliers and hotel companies, food and equipment manufacturers, distributors, and hospitality management educators. The scholarship fund supports the educational development of students pursuing an undergraduate degree in hospitality management. Scholarship recipients are selected based upon their cumulative G.P.A., work experience, and commitment to the hospitality industry.

Sullivan’s Hospitality Management students were honored in Chicago

Hospitality Management students, Justin Diglia and Shane Deweese, were recently honored in Chicago during the National Restaurant Association’s (NRA’s) annual Salute to Excellence student forum and banquet, sponsored by the NRA’s Educational Foundation. Only 200 of the top hospitality students in the nation are invited to attend this prestigious event, noted Kerry Sommerville, Hospitality Studies Chair. “Sullivan University has been asked to participate each year for the past fourteen years; that’s a real honor.”

Students and faculty chapernones, Dawn McGiffen and Kerry Sommerville, attended an all-day student and faculty forum, moderated by Regnard G. Washington, Vice President of Food & Beverage, Walt Disney Parks & Resorts. An evening awards gala and banquet held in the International Ballroom of the Chicago Hilton capped off the day’s events. Despite a hectic schedule, students and chapernones toured two of Chicago’s most prestigious hotels, The Drake and the Ritz-Carlton, and spent one of the day visiting nearly 2,000 exhibitors at the convention’s trade show.

“It was extraordinary,” said Shane Deweese, who is nearing completion of his bachelor’s degree in Hospitality Studies (an online degree program). “Since being chosen to represent Sullivan University in Chicago, I accepted a job in the kitchen of the new Conrad Hotel in downtown Indianapolis, but my chef reworked the schedule just so that I could go to this event.”

Student delegate, Justin Diglia, just completed his Hospitality Studies bachelor’s degree and has applied to Sullivan’s Graduate School where he plans to begin work on his Master in Business Administration degree.

Angels at Work

Sullivan graduate, Linda Young, volunteered information and a free follow-up class on the subject of domestic violence. She provided flyers full of excellent data and tips on preventing domestic violence. Her non-profit foundation, Angels at Work, is an educational outreach that arose from the loss of her daughter and two grandchildren to domestic violence. The tragedy motivated Linda to shape preventive education classes and materials. Mrs. Young (pictured below) trained with the local Center for Women and Families to facilitate referrals for those women and men who need relief from abuse at home as well as tools to help them resolve their predicaments.

We look forward to having Linda return on a quarterly basis to share her wisdom as she shows how the story could have been different had her daughter been able to access and act on this kind of help.

Recent Wellness Center event made sense - six of them to be exact

The Wellness Fair recently featured three new aspects: a fresh theme, “Coming to our Senses;” a chiropractic clinic as the main organizer of the booths; and, the evening division’s having its own version. The purpose was to de-stress our senses and to renew awareness of their role in experiential learning. Wolter Chiropractic Center partnered with the Sullivan University Wellness Center. Wolter’s brought in health care professionals for free vision and audiology tests by Conrad Vision and Hear in Kentucky respectively. Baptist East participated in an extended display, offering free grip strength tests. This exercise in touch was complemented by great 15 minute upper body massages, given by Karen Ambuehl of the Wolter Clinic, in conjunction with the chiropractor’s screening to help pinpoint tension spots for massage. Warm Spirit’s fragrances filled the room with sensuous aromatherapy. Besides the treats brought by Wild Oats foods, Juleps Catering served up summer selections of snacks and beverages to cover the sense of taste. The Wellness Center added “The Chocolate Meditation” for taste for evening school, and a self-test to identify four different aromas.

Gold’s Gym participation highlighted the additional sense of movement. What more could an original Wellness Fair provide? Try blood pressure tests which Health Officers performed before and after students participated in a sensory activity to see what impact the activity might have on stress. By doing comparison of their own blood pressure and a related assignment, students could also earn extra credit with instructors who allowed for it in compatible courses. Exhibitors brought various door prizes and The Wellness Center also provided prizes that matched with each sense.
Sullivan students shout olé about recent Cancun trip

Sixty-five Hotel-Restaurant Management and Travel, Tourism & Event Management students recently visited Mexico’s Mayan Riviera, where they spent four days and nights in one of the area’s most luxurious, all-inclusive resorts, the Aventura Spa Palace and Resort. The resort, located about 90 miles south of Cancun near the seaside village of Playa del Carmen, is one of 12 all-inclusive resorts owned by Palace Resorts, Ltd.

Personalized greeting

As students and their chaperones stepped off the chartered motor-coaches at the entrance of the hotel, a long line of hotel managers and employees greeted them with applause and cheers. “They clapped for us as we stepped off the bus,” said student, Jennifer Wright “I felt like a rock star.” Hotel staff registered the group at a private reception area where elegant tables of refreshments and hors’d’oeuvres had been prepared by the resort’s chefs.

“They know us here,” said Kerry Sommerville, Hospitality Management department chair. “This was our third visit to one of their resorts, they appreciate our business, and understand what our degree programs are all about.” He added, “Some students even received a guided tour of the resort’s massive, underground kitchens.”

The 1200-room resort features more than 19 bars and restaurants where students could sample a variety of cuisines from Japanese and Italian to traditional Mexican and Argentine fare. “Quality of the food and the service were like nothing I’ve ever experienced before,” said student, Roy Powell. The service was very gracious; the staff really treated us like royalty.”

The all-inclusive component of the students’ tour package meant that all of the resort’s restaurants and other amenities were available to the group at no additional cost. Great off-site tours

As part of their travel package, students were allowed to select two off-site tours from a choice of eight. “The tour choices were great,” said 

Sullivan instructor is first in Kentucky to earn prestigious certificate

Mike Kleine-Kracht, Adjunct Instructor in the Travel, Tourism & Event Management degree program, successfully earned the professional certification of Destination Management Certified Professional (DMCP). The certification is issued by the Association of Destination Management Executives (ADME) and was established to recognize those leaders committed to raising industry standards and practices. Kleine-Kracht is the first Kentucky resident to earn the certification.

Kleine-Kracht is the President of Visitours, Inc., a Louisville-based Destination Management Company, which provides special event planning, tours, corporate meeting packages, chartered motorcoach services, for groups ranging in size from 50 to 5,000 attendees. He has taught numerous courses in the Event Management component of the University’s Travel & Tourism degree program and has employed Sullivan interns seeking to enhance their real-world knowledge of the fast-growing meeting planning industry.

Sullivan grad is big on business

Kelly Kuerzi is best known as co-host of Big Talk on Small Radio; six years ago she was the only large-sized energy on Sullivan’s campus majoring in Hospitality Management. Kelly had attended the University of Alabama-Birmingham but when she “decided to go back to school there was no doubt in my mind that I wanted to go to a school like Sullivan that would offer me the classes and setting that I needed to pursue my career,” she stated. “Since I had already been to college I knew I only wanted to study the classes pertaining to my field.” She added, “The small class size and the great times classes were available a bonus.” Kelsey thoroughly enjoyed attending Sullivan. “During Virginia at Sullivan I learned so much, about not only the restaurant and hotel industries, but about business in general.” After managing a well-known restaurant, she started working with her father, Steve, doing sales and marketing for his business. About a year or so after her dad started the radio show, Kelly joined and became a permanent co-host. The show has grown from an hour a week to a daily three-hour program, the Kuerzi’s have the longest-running radio talk show of its kind.

Enjoy helping people

“I absolutely love working with my Dad and the relationship we share! We love to help people find that passion for life, work, and business. If you have a passion go for it! If your current job or career doesn’t make you happy and content change it!” She also has advice for prospective and current students. “I recommend anyone either straight out of high school or looking to further their career should look into the great programs and career opportunities at Sullivan. If you have a goal for yourself go for it! You are the only one that can put limitations on your self! Listen to your gut!” And of course, also listen to Kelly and Steve Kuerzi on WKJK 1080 AM every day from 9am - Noon!
Sullivan housing students invade local fun park

Sullivan University Housing recently sponsored a night of fun and games at the Renaissance Fun Park. Students were able to choose from go-cart rides, laser tag, putt-putt, and video games. Students enjoyed socialize in between the fun events. This activity allowed for the housing residents to get to know one another as well as de-stress from the busy quarter.

The Best gets even better

Justin Diglia, earned his Bachelor’s of Science in Hospitality Management, is a student at Sullivan’s Graduate School, and a bartender at Winston’s Restaurant. Sullivan University’s on-campus gourmet restaurant. Justin was also the winner in the Bourbon Festival Drink Challenge recently held in Bardstown, Kentucky. The 2006 Bourbon Mixed Drink Challenge competition was based on the Bourbon Manhattan. Contestants had to create their drink based on ingredients of bourbon, vermouth, and a cherry. Justin’s Winning drink was called the “Knobby Rose.”

He used Knob Creek bourbon, vermouth, rose bourbon jelly, and garnished with a cherry. There were eleven restaurants from various Kentucky cities that competed and they were judged by presentation, taste, quality, and market appeal. This event was filmed by Food TV Network and will air on a Mixed Drink Challenge Show.

Congratulations, Justin!