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Career Center News

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Suzy Foster Finds Her Passion in Art Education

By: Sean Crellin



With a little over a year to go in school Suzanne Foster is already looking ahead to her career.

As a junior

at Park University, she is pursuing a Bachelor of Science in Art Education. Suzy can remember when she was a teenager her grandmother used to run a home daycare. Suzy would go over and help her grandma. This is where she realized she liked kids, and it made her feel good knowing that she could help the kids learn.

For a while Suzy ran her own online business and for a time even considered

opening up her own daycare. After serious consideration, she decided she loved art and kids so why not combine the two into a career?

Suzy is currently working at Lakewood Montessori School. Although she has only been there since January she finds that she loves the work and views it as her first step into the education world. She works with children ages 4-6 as a TA, or teaching assistant, creating lesson plans and working with the kids.

Since starting her job at the Lakewood Montessori School Suzy has learned that, while she loves children, her passion lies somewhere at the high school level. She thinks that at this age students have the option to take or not to take art classes thus weeding out some of those who would

rather not be there; also at this level she can teach harder art classes that she is interested in such as ceramics and painting.

She feels that it is a great relief knowing what she wants to do. Suzy believes that people should not be afraid of trying new things. It helps to figure out what you do (or do not) want to do with your life.

To find out about jobs or internships that can help you further your career goals, or for some advice on what you might want to do for a career, do not hesitate to call Traci Klasing at (816) 584-6407 or e-mail traci.klasing@park.edu, or Layne Prenger at (816) 584-6350 or e-mail layne.prenger@park.edu. Traci and Layne are located in Mabee #406 on the Parkville Campus.

Lakewood Montessori School

By: Sean Crellin

Over 100 years ago Maria Montessori believed that the environment can and does have a great impact on the development of a child. Lakewood Montessori embraces this philosophy. They believe that taking care of the environment, peaceful coexistence with other people and the understanding of other cultures are all essential to the education of children.

Lakewood is staffed by a cadre of certified teachers in Montessori education. They offer toddler and preschool programs to children ages 2 – 6. The students are taught a wide variety of subjects including music, art, Spanish and dance. They also offer before and after school programs where kids can do arts and crafts, music, science, and geography.

To hear more about Lakewood or to inquire about possible openings, they can be contacted by phone at (816) 795-1443. Lakewood Montessori School is located at 951 NE Wildwood Drive in Lee's Summit, MO

The Career Development Center has affiliations with several local educational facilities. If you would like to learn more, please call us at 816-584-6350 to schedule an appointment.

Student Stressor: Tuition on the Rise

By: Danielle Green



Being a smaller campus, this recession is hurting. Well let's be honest; this recession hurts whomever you are wherever you are. Many students fear the new rise in tuition cost. For the 2009-2010 school year, tuition has been raised \$25 making the cost per credit hour \$298. This makes the standard 3 credit hour class \$894. The 2008-2009 school year tuition was \$273 per credit hour. In 2007-2008 the cost was \$260 and in 2006-2007 the cost was \$242. Raising tuition is nothing new; however this isn't helping the students. Therefore, here are two tiny ways to save a lot of money this summer to help you save for fall tuition payments.

Be a Green Luncher- Often times while working a 9-5 job we feel we have to get out of the office for a bit. The most convenient time to do that is to go out for lunch. However, this costs money. Why not pack your lunch and go to a nearby park to eat it? If you use reusable baggies, water bottles, and lunch pails, you won't have to waste money on Ziplocs and brown bags and you don't have to haul that huge case of bottled water to your car at the grocery store. Plus our environment would really appreciate it.

Skip the Starbucks- Though it's great to stop into Starbucks for your half caff ,extra foam, extra whip latte, it just isn't a necessity. Why not do the same thing at home? You could buy a huge tin of Folgers Columbian Brew for the price of your large latte at Starbucks. You can buy your own whip cream and syrups to jazz up your coffee. Buy yourself a cool reusable "on-the-go" mug. This way you save money and no one can spell your name wrong.

Education: Betty Bennett

By: Danielle Green

Missouri native, Betty Bennett is a driving force behind Park's School for Education. She is the Director of Field Experience as well as the Director for the Undergraduate Program in the School for Education. Betty is a people-person who loves to work with developing minds. In fact, she says the most rewarding part of teaching is "seeing the students' growth". She said she specifically loves seeing her student teachers as they gain confidence and knowledge in the field, and then reading about their accomplishments. "Also, seeing the effect of our work and how it spreads out and touches the lives of our students is its own reward," Betty says. Her philosophy of teaching (in brief) is to "help the students test their limits". She is very proud of her students and is happy to report that Alumni surveys show that Park Graduates are well prepared and ready to tackle the difficult task of 1st year teaching. Betty's advice to those wanting to become teachers is "This field is demanding and challenging; it's not easy; it's not an 8-3 job! However, it is a job where you can really make a difference and leave the world a better place."



**DECEMBER 2008 AND MAY 2009 GRADS
PLEASE ATTEND:
FAREWELL TO THE GRADUATES**

**Friday May 1st 2009
5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.
Power Plant - Parkville, MO**