



The Graduate

VALPARAISO UNIVERSITY'S QUARTERLY GRADUATE STUDIES NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 2006

Annual Writing Workshop

Every year, students are thankful for the hands-on instruction and expert tips they receive from the Annual Graduate Writing Workshop. This year's workshop was held on Saturday, September 9th at Kretzmann Hall.

Graduate students from various programs showed up with samples of their own writings. Diane Holmes, a student in the College of Adult Scholars, said that she didn't know what the different writing styles, MLA and APA, were until she participated in Kathleen Mullen's workshop for writing for the Humanities. "I haven't written papers since Christian Core and Professor Mullen was very helpful and informative. I'm glad I came because I have more papers to write and now I feel more prepared," Diane said.

The workshop began at 8:30 a.m. with

coffee and rolls at check-in. During the first part of the workshop, students learned about writing for Graduate Studies, including organization, content, style, and strategies. During the last part of the workshop, students chose which of two areas to focus on, writing for the Humanities or for the Sciences.

Dean Rowland led the session on writing for the Sciences. Britta Neinast, CMHC program, is returning to studies as a non-traditional student. The workshop was "more than learning the APA style, I've learned to write better and learned to communicate better," Britta described. She plans on becoming a licensed practitioner with an emphasis on Marriage and Family Therapy. "Dean Rowland makes it [the workshop] enjoyable," she said. Britta also said that she will definitely take advantage

of the services VU offers students, especially the writing center.

The Writing Workshop is offered every year in the fall. For the first time ever, we will offer this workshop during the spring semester as well, beginning with Spring 2007. A light lunch is served and the workshop wraps up at 1:00 p.m. Other students who attended said it was time well spent. Writing better helps them communicate better which will give them a better advantage in their chosen fields.

University Calendar

- Homecoming** – September 30th
- December Applications for Degree** - October 6th
- Fall Break** – October 12th and 13th
- Spring Advanced Registration** - Oct 30th - Nov 17th
- Thanksgiving** – November 18th – 26th
- Classes End** – December 8th
- Final Exams** – December 11th – 15th
- Commencement** – December 10th

MALS Gathering

This Fall's MALS dinner will be Thursday, October 5th at 5:30pm. The dinner will be held at Gelsosomo's Pizzeria and significant others and spouses are welcome to attend! Please RSVP by September 29th to Jamie Haney at Jamie.Haney@valpo.edu with the number of guests you will be bringing with you.

Looking forward to seeing everyone on October 5th!

Graduate Office

The Graduate Office is located in Kretzmann Hall and is open from 8:00 a.m. - 6:30 p.m. Monday - Thursday and 8:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. on Fridays. Stop in and get to know your Graduate Office staff! Call, (219) 464-5313, email, graduate.studies@valpo.edu, or visit their website <http://www.valpo.edu/gce/graduate/>.

The Graduate Division Breaks a Record

This fall, the Graduate Division launched two new programs, the Master of Arts in Chinese Studies, and the Master of Engineering Management. In addition, two programs—the MBA and MSN—developed an innovative joint degree MSN/MBA program.

The Graduate Division enrolled 393 students this fall, the largest ever in the history of the University. At the same time, the selectivity of admission to all our programs continues to increase—in some programs the average undergraduate GPA for matriculated students is around 3.4 or higher. Together with the Law School, VU has about 850 students

enrolled in post graduate degree programs.

The programs having the largest enrollment this year are MBA, Education, Counseling, and Sports Administration (in that order), with the MBA and Sports Administration programs showing the largest increases. 51 of the students in the Graduate Division are dual degree with the JD program.

Opportunity for Online Coursework in Spring Semester

In a partnership with the Lutheran School of Theology in Chicago, VU now offers several graduate level online courses each year. This spring, the online course will be “Toward Understanding Islam.” Students in the ICP program and the MALS Theology, Ethics, and Human Behavior & Society concentrations might want to consider taking this course for their program requirements.

Attention All MALS Students

The Athenaeum is an honor society sponsored by the Graduate Division that recognizes the scholarly, creative, and intellectual pursuits of MALS students. MALS students meeting the following criteria may be nominated for membership. This information is also available on page 42 of your graduate catalog.

The requirements are as follows:

- Completion of 21 credits by the semester of nomination,
- Attainment of a graduate MALS grade point average of 3.8. Completion of all four LS seminars with grades of A- or higher,
- Presentation or publication of scholarly or creative work in a public forum (including the Symposium of Graduate

Graduate Student Advisory Council – GSAC

Did you know that all of the graduate programs have representation on the Graduate Student Advisory Council? They are your fellow students, and are HERE FOR YOU as your representatives. Feel free to contact them at any time, about anything, and they will be sure to pass on your questions, comments, and concerns to Dean Rowland. Feel free to visit our website at: <http://www.valpo.edu/gce/graduate/advisorycouncil.php> Here you will find a list of the representatives, their contact information and a schedule of the meetings.



Spring 2007 Advance Registration:
Monday, Oct. 30-Friday, Nov. 17

Certificates - Easy Add-ons for Graduate Students

Did you know that most graduate degree programs at VU allow you to take electives and, more importantly, that you can roll a large part of the coursework for a certificate program into your degree program by using those courses as electives? In this way, you can graduate with two credentials, your degree and an “add-on” certificate. At this time, the Graduate Division offers certificates in Gerontology

and Business Management. We are moving toward approval of a bilingual Spanish certificate (requires an undergraduate major or minor in Spanish, or native speaking ability) for next year. A number of other certificate programs are currently under investigation.

- Research at Valparaiso University),
- Evidence of good character.

Nominees are reviewed by the MALS Administrative Committee and recognized each spring at the Symposium for Graduate Research sponsored by the Graduate Division.

IF YOU WANT TO BE CONSIDERED FOR THE ATHENAEUM, PLEASE START YOUR RESEARCH COMPONENT AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

If you have any questions, comments, or suggestions regarding *The Graduate*, please contact the editor at

Kimberly.Wampler@valpo.edu