

# Nonprofit Management-- New Certificate Program Debuts Spring 2007

The Center for Credit Programs and the Larned A. Waterman Iowa Nonprofit Resource Center at the University of Iowa have collaborated to produce a Certificate in Nonprofit Management. Courses leading to the certificate will begin in the Spring 2007 semester. Students in the Bachelor of Liberal Studies program have the option of incorporating the certificate course sequence into their BLS degree work.

The certificate program requires completion of 18 semester hours of coursework. Courses will be offered primarily on the World Wide Web.

Persons who work for both large and small nonprofit organizations will gain leadership skills as well as a fundamental understanding of how nonprofits participate in building communities. Nonprofit organizations have unique management, funding, and finance issues that require specialized training. Courses cover a wide range of topics and issues such as community and government partnerships, website creation and maintenance, financial accountability, and grant writing.

Two courses scheduled for the Spring 2007 semester are *06J:148:EXW Nonprofit Organizational Effectiveness II* and *06T:120:EXW Entrepreneurship and New Business Formation*. Each offering awards three semester hours of credit.

Undergraduate tuition for the spring courses is \$213 per semester hour. The spring semester begins January 16 and concludes May 11, 2007.

Specific questions about the Nonprofit Management Certificate should be directed to Lon Moeller, program coordinator, at 800.272.6430 ext. 5-0924 or 319.335.0924 or via e-mail at [lon-moeller@uiowa.edu](mailto:lon-moeller@uiowa.edu). General questions may be directed to the Center for Credit Programs at 800.272.6430.

Other courses leading to the certificate are:

- Nonprofit Organizational Effectiveness I (06J:147) 3 sh
- Organizational Leadership (036:019) 3 sh
- Human Services Administration (042:204) 2 sh
- Web-Based ePortfolios (07E:196) (See New Course Spotlight on page 3) 1 sh
- Grant Writing (course number to be determined) 3 sh

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## Child Care Funds Available for Student Families

If you are at least a half-time student and if funding would help to pay for child care costs, the University offers a program to eligible student families. You do not need to pay the money back. Check your eligibility at <http://www.uiowa.edu/hr/oe/worklifefamser/vccs/financial.html>

## Student Stories

This issue features two student stories. In our regular *Student Success Story* feature, Glenda Mathes relates her journey to completion of her BLS degree on page 2. Candace Stender is the winner of the BLS essay contest and a Hawkeye tee-shirt. Her submission appears on page 3.

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## Student Success Story

# My Thirty-year Deferred Dream

by Glenda Mathes

If I had attended college after high school, I would have graduated in 1976. Instead, I graduated this May, thirty years later. My thirty-year detour included marriage, mortgage, jobs, and raising four children. A degree was my dream through those busy years, but attempts were always stalled by something that forced me to choose between college and family. I never hesitated.

Nearing my fortieth birthday, I finally decided it was time to let go of my dream. A financial crisis, chronic pain, and my age seemed to preclude future efforts. I reluctantly pried my fingers from my college education dream.

Soon after that, however, I had an opportunity to attend a community college writing course. I enrolled thinking that I would take this one course to improve my skills.

During the course, I felt compelled to complete my college education. My husband encouraged me—although we had no idea how to finance it. I took the first tentative step in my thirteen-year degree marathon.

I became a half-time student at Des Moines Area Community College (DMACC) in addition to being a three-quarter-time secretary and a full-time wife and mother. I persistently applied for every available scholarship. I took some television courses. I took Latin via correspondence from the University of Iowa. Over a four-year period, I drove forty minutes at least twice a week to attend classes on DMACC's Newton campus.

During my grueling last term, I drove to and from class four mornings a week before putting in a full day's work in a job that was sprinting into overtime. I graduated from DMACC in 1997 with highest honors.

Being burned out from school and overwhelmed with work, I took an almost three-year hiatus before enrolling in the BLS program.

The BLS program was ideal for me as an older, non-traditional student. It enabled me to craft an education uniquely suited to my needs and commitments. Its flexible format allowed me to structure schoolwork around family and work, while utilizing my work experience (Professional Fields), expanding my literary

interests (Humanities), and honing my writing skills (Communication/Arts).

I inched toward my goal by enrolling in another course each time I received a GIS scholarship. I scheduled each assignment and stuck to my self-imposed deadlines. After six years and many hurdles, I could finally see the finish line!

On a business trip to Chicago, I took a detour to the University of Iowa campus. I drove past blooming redbuds to visit the GIS office. I walked across a footbridge to purchase my cap and gown. I met, for the

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first time, two women who had been my advisors: Anne Zalenski and Judy Rowles. At a window table in the River Room Cafeteria, we sipped coffee and chatted. I felt as if we had always been friends.

Graduation day was suffused with blessing. My husband, three children, our daughter-in-law, two grandsons, my parents, two siblings and their spouses were there for me. They watched me walk across the stage to receive my BLS degree with high distinction, and then we celebrated with a wonderful meal and great fellowship. Never before had I thanked the Lord so frequently and so fervently.

“I’ve never seen you so happy,” my brother told me later. “You just glowed!”

When I walked across the stage on May 13 at Carver Hawkeye Arena in Iowa City, I crossed the finish line in a thirteen-year marathon that fulfilled my thirty-year deferred dream. Without the flexibility of the BLS program and the generosity of the GIS scholarship program, it would have been impossible!

## Fall BLS Essay Contest Winner

# A Passion Discovered

By Candace Stender

*The first winner of our BLS Essay Contest is Candace Stender who is a senior and lives in Overland Park, Kansas. Candace will be receiving a University of Iowa t-shirt for her inspiring essay.*

In my early education years I despised writing. My dislike led to hours of procrastination, a large amount of stress; and a poor grade. This only added to my frustration and dislike.

I completed high school with a minimal grade in writing. My first year in college, I skimmed by again in the required writing class. I was filled with pure dread the entire semester I was enrolled in my composition course; relieved to get a passing grade.

Almost twenty years later I enrolled in the BLS program. I did not need any more writing courses to obtain my degree, but strangely I was drawn to the Personal Writing course. The course required seven essays four to nine pages long. The thought of writing seven essays sent chills down my spine; while the challenge excited me.

I enrolled in the course. Through this course I discovered a deep love for writing. The essays I wrote helped me work through emotions and feelings that were lying dormant for many years. I challenged myself; working meticulously on each assignment; my instructor encouraging me all the while.

I was ecstatic when I received my final grade. It was an A, something I had never received in writing. The accomplishment I felt was enormous.

This class has inspired me to attempt to write a memoir on my experiences as a 911 Police dispatcher.

## Early Registration Reminders

Early registration for semester-based courses for the Winter 2006-07 and Spring 2007 sessions begins the week of November 13. To register through ISIS for Saturday & Evening or daytime classes, contact your advisor at least two weeks in advance for your registration number.

Course listings for Saturday & Evening and daytime classes will be posted mid-October on ISIS at <http://isis.uiowa.edu/courses>. No need to enter a registration number to view the course schedules; just click the Courses link at the top of the screen and choose the desired session on the course listing site. Spring Distance Education course listings will be posted in early November.

For registration forms and other related information, link to the sites listed below:

- Online registration form for term-based DE courses: <http://www.continuetolearn.uiowa.edu/ccp/delregform.htm>
- Pdf/printable DE form for mailing or faxing: <http://www.continuetolearn.uiowa.edu/ccp/delregform.pdf>
- Registration information for GIS courses: <http://continuetolearn.uiowa.edu/ccp/gis/general.htm>

## New Course Spotlight

# Web-Based ePortfolios™

By Ellen Holstein

Getting your foot in the door is the first step toward getting a desired position. Having an online resume can be a feature that captures the attention of a potential employer.

*07E/S/U:196 Topics in Teaching and Learning (Web-based ePortfolios™)* is an online course designed to build your skills in Web site creation and management. You will also gain practical experience using digital tools and knowledge about Web site content creation and design issues.

This versatile course has many applications. By the end of this course, you will have produced an electronic portfolio on the Web that can be used as an assessment, job seeking, or career enhancement tool.

Students in the Nonprofit Management Certificate program can enroll in a special section which will focus on the creation of an organizational Web site.

Have a look at these sample templates for ePortfolio/organizational sites:

- Administrator/Manager ePortfolio  
<http://www.education.uiowa.edu/edplacel/eportfolio/port/portfolio4/>
- Elementary Teacher ePortfolio  
<http://www.education.uiowa.edu/edplacel/eportfolio/sample/>
- Nonprofit Organization ePortfolio  
<http://www.education.uiowa.edu/project06/>

You must have Internet access and access to a digital camera or scanner in order to digitize artifacts for your ePortfolio project. If you do not have such access, alternate arrangements may be possible. Experience in Web editing is not required, however experience in using a Web browser is recommended.



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## Dates and Deadlines

October 17 Deadline for degree applicants for fall session.

Last date for undergraduates to drop individual semester-length courses for fall session.

October 30 Last date for undergraduates to withdraw entire registration of semester-based Saturday & Evening and Distance Education courses.

November 13 Winter 2007 session  
Spring 2007 session early registration begins.

December 1 Last date to file for Center for Credit Programs scholarship for spring session.

December 6 GIS course work due for Fall 2006 session grades.

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