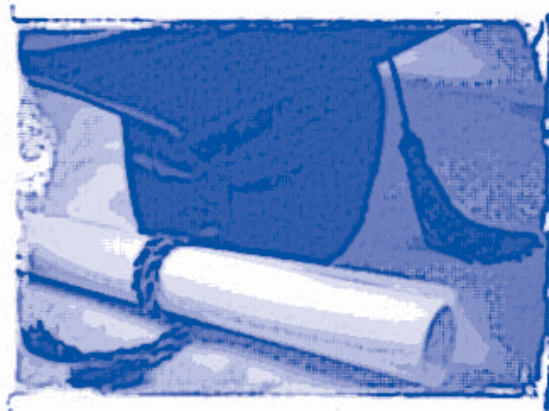


DISTANCE
EDUCATION
and
TRAINING
COUNCIL

2006

▶ **OUTSTANDING**
Graduates
and Famous Alumni





Published by the
Distance Education and Training Council
1601 18th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20009
202-234-5100; 202-332-1386 fax
<http://www.detc.org>

Printed by Cleveland Institute of Electronics, Cleveland, Ohio

January 2006

2006 Outstanding Graduate Program

Introduction

This year, 2006, marks the 80th Anniversary of the Distance Education and Training Council (DETC). Certainly, one of the major reasons for DETC's longevity as an association of institutions may be found within the covers of this booklet. The goal we espouse—and the reason for being for all of us in DETC—is our continued ability to produce accomplished, competent, satisfied graduates in our courses and programs, year after year.

Thirty-three exceptional distance study graduates were selected by the institutions they attended. Selection criteria included the graduates' academic records and the level and quality of their contributions to society and to their chosen professions.

DETC is also delighted to announce that with this year's outstanding graduate recognition program, we are also including in this booklet the inaugural list of "Famous DETC Alumni." The five alumni in this year's booklet are men and women who enrolled in a DETC accredited institution and have gone on to distinguish themselves in their profession or in life. We will add to our list of Famous Alumni in the years ahead.

We join with all the DETC-accredited institutions in saluting the outstanding achievements of these unique men and women who represent more than three million distance education students now studying with DETC members. Distance study's story is best told by the achievements of these 33 outstanding graduates.

Michael P. Lambert
Executive Director

Facts About DETC

The Distance Education and Training Council is the leading advocate of quality distance education in America. The Distance Education and Training Council (DETC), a non-profit educational association located in Washington, D.C., serves as a clearinghouse of information about the field of distance education and conducts a nationally recognized accrediting agency called the Accrediting Commission of the Distance Education and Training Council.

The DETC was founded in 1926 and has continued in its unique role for more than 80 years, promoting sound education and good business practices in the distance education field. The nine member Accrediting Commission was established in 1955; shortly thereafter it gained the approval of the U.S. Department of Education as the “nationally recognized accrediting agency” for distance education institutions. The Accrediting Commission is also recognized by the Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA).

There are presently 92 distance study institutions located around the world accredited by the DETC’s Accrediting Commission. The opportunity to apply for accreditation is open to private and public distance education institutions, both at the degree (Associates through the First Professional degree) and non-degree levels. Institutions which have been reviewed by the Commission have voluntarily made an intensive study of their own operations, opened their doors to thorough inspection by a qualified examining committee, and supplied all information required by the Accrediting Commission.

For a directory of accredited institutions, DETC publications, and more information on distance education, please visit our web site at www.detc.org.

Jose Serrano
Van Nuys, California

... a small business success story



Mr. Jose Serrano overcame a debilitating work-related injury, and with help from Allied Business School's Home Inspection program he turned an unfortunate accident into an opportunity to start a successful new career.

Distance education was the ideal choice for Jose. Due to the extent of his injury, sitting in a classroom for several hours at a time was too difficult. Despite what he had been through, he maintained a positive outlook and excelled in his studies. After completing Allied's program, Jose found a job with a home inspection company. He quickly learned a lot about the business, but the long commute proved to be too much. He decided to start his own home inspection business. With the booming real estate market, his positive attitude, and his knowledge of the home inspection field, it's no wonder Jose's business is thriving.

Jose also was recognized for his achievements by Allied Business Schools at the Organization of Bilingual Rehabilitation Associates' "The Many Faces of Success" ceremony held last year in Montebello, California. The event honored injured workers for their efforts to successfully return to the workforce after receiving vocational rehabilitation.

"Thanks to Allied Schools and their program, my dreams came true."



Anne-Marie Broodryk

Andover, Kanaas

. . . an aptitude for learning

Ms. Anne-Marie Broodryk has programmed in Assembler, C, Business Basic, Sacbol, PL 1, Fortran and RPG. In 1994, she became an ERP implementer, which allowed her to move to America. It was then that she became interested in the Object world, and finally in 2003 she embarked on furthering her knowledge at the American College of Computer and Information Sciences (ACCIS).

Anne-Marie loves more than computers. She has been married for 24 years to her high school sweetheart, and they are proud parents of two “wonderful teenage boys, ages 15 and 16.” She is into scuba diving and creative knitting, and is a champion Yorkshire breeder.

Anne-Marie currently is working as a business relationship manager for Cargill in Kansas. As for future plans, she wants to earn her master’s degree, move back to the East Coast, and teach part-time at the local college. Her dream job would be to become an application development manager and part-time college lecturer.

“Set forth a goal and work diligently to achieve it. Draw strength from the beauty around you and the knowledge your fellow students have to offer. Take part in the discussion sessions and ensure the theory becomes practical!”

Victoria K. Brown
McKinney, Texas



... distance education enabled her to reach her goal

Ms. Victoria Brown, a dedicated lifelong learner, is a business consultant, who for the past ten years has worked with integrated ERP systems. An auto accident injury left her incapable of attending class in a traditional classroom setting. After carefully researching distance education alternatives over a six-month period, she chose the American Graduate School of Management to obtain her graduate degree.

Victoria lives in McKinney, Texas, with her husband and two children. Victoria excelled in the AGSM program, graduating with a 3.97 GPA.

This valuable degree program paid off even before her graduation, when Victoria was laid off by her employer. Within two weeks, she had interviews with, and offers from, two “big 4” consulting firms. The program at AGSM gave Victoria the confidence to excel during the interviews, and set herself apart from other candidates. The degree from AGSM has yielded the kind of opportunities she hoped for when she enrolled.

“American Graduate School of Management’s online management graduate degree program enabled me to achieve what had first appeared impossible. I was impressed with the quality of education I received, and by how much I have applied this new knowledge.”



Lori Ritchie
Dumfries, Virginia

... distance education offered her the
best opportunity

Mrs. Lori Ritchie has been in federal government contracting for more than twelve years. Taking a position with the National Group of MPRI, Inc. as a Subcontract Administrator in 1999, she soon advanced to the position of Director of Subcontracting and Small Business Liaison Officer. Knowing she needed a Master's degree to move forward with her career goals she applied to the American Graduate University and earned the Master of Contract Management. After graduation she was promoted to Director of Contracting, National Group.

Her biggest obstacle in obtaining her degree was time. A Navy wife with four step-children, a one-year-old daughter, and a three hour work commute, Lori still found time to submit excellent assignments. AGU's responsive instructors and staff enabled her to proceed with her course of study at a rapid pace.

As busy as she is, Lori somehow has found time to work toward Katrina Relief efforts. During those brief moments when she has a little leisure time she enjoys fishing, horseback riding, rafting, reading, and spending time with her extended family.

"The AGU program not only helped me achieve my goal of receiving a master's degree, but the required courses included information that I could immediately apply to my job."

Michael D. Pixley

Marana, Arizona



... distance education opened doors of opportunity

Mr. Michael D. Pixley believes the degree earned with APUS has strengthened him professionally, spiritually and personally. Recently he completed a Master of Arts in Military Studies, Air Warfare from the American Military University where he earned a 4.00 GPA and the “Pass with Distinction” honor on his final comprehensive exam.

As an employee of Raytheon Missile Systems Company, Michael is the first from his company to pursue an APUS degree under the highly competitive Raytheon Advanced Studies Program. He uses what he learned in the classroom to create new operational concepts and business development opportunities as the lead performance analyst for the AIM-9X 5th generation Sidewinder air-to-air missile. Michael’s academic achievements have substantiated Raytheon’s corporate confidence in distance education and opened doors for his peers to pursue distance learning with APUS.

Michael is happily married and feels distance education helped to strengthen his marriage by providing opportunities for teamwork and mutual reliance. Michael is also a proud father of his first-born child, a daughter, who was born on the day he received his diploma.

“Distance education positively influences our national life, society, and local community in diverse ways.”



Charles Ferrao
Long Beach, California

... demanding career limited his
academic aspirations

Mr. Charles Ferrao's demanding career in criminal investigations combined with family obligations limited his academic aspirations—until he enrolled in the Master of Science in Criminal Justice degree program at Andrew Jackson University.

Through continuous study, he completed the program in two-and-a-half years, earning a 3.83 GPA. Comparing his experience favorably to the level of instruction he received during undergraduate study at a residential program, he found the AJU faculty well-qualified and readily available.

Soon after completing his master's degree, Charles was promoted to the second highest rank in his department and permanently assigned to capital cases. He also is pursuing a second passion as an adjunct professor teaching criminal justice courses at a regionally-accredited institution. During his years of public service, Charles has received recognition from numerous agencies and branches of government at the city, county, state and federal level.

"In pursuing my degree at Andrew Jackson University, I achieved a life-long goal that challenged me intellectually, bettered my skills as a homicide investigator, and enabled me to give back to my profession by qualifying me to become an adjunct professor."

Art Instruction Schools

Annette M. Capps Killeen, Texas

... award-winning artist, thanks to
distance education



Ms. Annette Capps has won numerous awards, honors and recognition for her artwork. Annette contributes much of her art success to the techniques and knowledge she gained from training with Art Instruction Schools.

Annette's artwork is exhibited in several art galleries and private collections. She has won numerous awards in local art competitions, as well as several prizes in Art Instruction Schools Annual Art Competitions. She has participated in two-person art shows and has had her work accepted into the Watercolor Arts Society juried art show in Houston, Texas.

Annette serves as a judge with the State of Texas public school system for its visual arts program. She also teaches watercolor techniques classes. She is a member of various art guilds and does freelance artwork.

"Art Instruction Schools has enabled me to develop my art ability in such a way as to open many opportunities I never dreamed possible in art. My art training has enabled me to produce high quality fine art. I am very grateful for the experience."



Ann Oransoff
Brooklyn, New York

... with her degree, she turned a hobby into a full-time career

Ms. Ann Oransoff tinkered with computers for years. A self-taught “techie,” she got a part-time support job at a K-12 prep school. She wanted a degree, but because she was on call 24/7 it seemed impossible . . . then Ann found Ashworth College.

The Associate Degree Program in Computer Information Management offered what Ann needed, and she looked forward to brushing up on her skills. Ann’s boss respected her dedication, and was so impressed he paid for her tuition. What’s more, he recognized Ann’s increased abilities and promoted her to Systems Administrator—even before graduation. Today, she helps support over 150 faculty and staff and nearly 400 computers on two campuses.

Earning her degree in less than two years—with a 4.0 GPA—Ann wanted to learn more. She has enrolled in MCSE certification classes, and passed the Apple Certified Help Desk exam. Ann is the first in her family to earn a college degree. Her husband, parents and three sisters are thrilled with her accomplishment.

“What I liked most about Ashworth is that I could study on my own. When a crisis happened at work, I didn’t have to miss class or skip an exam to handle it. My schedule was never thrown off by being a student. And having that degree on my wall was my incentive!”

Albert J. Cacace
Boca Raton, Florida

... distance education helped him start
two new exciting ventures



Mr. Albert John Cacace has extensive experience as a cross-functional problem solver. Mr. Cacace found Aspen University in May 2002 and he entered the Master of Business Administration Specialization in Information Management Program.

In 1974, Al began his career in the U.S. Army Signal Corps. After leaving the military he began an electronic engineering career with Systems Engineering Labs (SEL). From 1988 to 1993, Al held the position of Program Manager for Internetworking Products at Ungermann-Bass (UBI). In subsequent years he continued to work in capacities of increasing responsibility, including General Manager at Alta Research, a developer and marketer of computer-networking products.

After achieving his MBA in Information Management at Aspen University, Al started two new ventures: a consulting enterprise called MultiMedia Republic (MMR), where Al is the founder and President, and an internationally syndicated documentary-news agency, Broadcast Network News (BNN), where Al is the CEO.

“I was originally attracted to Aspen University for its rare combination of scholarly education and real-world experience. I now converse confidently, intelligently, and on par with my fellow executives who received their MBA in a traditional environment.”

At-Home Professions



Deanne Faith Anderson

Jacksonville, Florida

... determination helped earn
her degree

When Ms. Deanna Anderson learned her current job would be eliminated, she knew she wanted a career that would be in demand for a long time. Deanna enrolled in a Medical Transcription course offered by At-Home Professions in July 2000. While dealing with several family health issues, she completed the course in January 2002 with an impressive 97%!

In March 2002, Deanna started working from home part-time for a diagnostic center. Within the next year, she was given three more offices. Since Deanna does radiology reports, she had to provide 24-hour turnaround time — no matter how much work she had. Deanna would stay up until the work was complete. Also during 2003, Deanna's husband had to quit his job due to health concerns. Deanna's commitment to her employer and family is undeniable.

In addition to her demanding career, Deanna has been assisting other students from At-Home Professions by sharing her personal and professional experience in the medical field.

"I love being able to work from home. It was great while my husband was recovering that I was here to take care of him. I couldn't have done it without the flexible training program offered by At-Home Professions."

Leanne O’Gara
Portland, Oregon

. . . from doubts and fears to hopes
and dreams



Ms. Leanne O’Gara dreamt of having her own business as a healing touch therapist in pursuit of providing people with tools for health – physically, emotionally, and spiritually. Leanne found in Australasian College of Health Sciences (ACHS) a program that would provide her with the holistic training and flexible distance education programs that would help her make this dream a reality. Leanne enrolled in the ACHS’ Nat 401 Diploma in Holistic Health Practice program in June 2004.

Leanne is a Reiki Master and nanny in Portland, Oregon. She has 15 years’ experience preparing meals for families that address the nutritional needs of all members of a family from homemade infant foods to diabetic diets and providing families and clients with overall support.

Leanne is an Honors Graduate of the ACHS Nat 201 Certificate in Nutrition, Bodycare & Herbalism program, the first component of her Diploma course, graduating with a 4.0. She is also doing research incorporating her ACHS studies with her work in therapeutic touch.

“Now, thanks to the support of my husband, family and friends, and the staff at ACHS, I feel I’m attaining my goal to learn as much as I can in order to offer the best care to clients in all facets of their lives and better their overall health and well-being.”

Brighton College



Crystal Flatley
Emden, Illinois

. . . she constantly strives to gain
education in her career

Ms. Crystal Flatley was hired full-time as a coding clerk two months after being hired as a temp at Abraham Lincoln Memorial Hospital. She then decided formal education in the field would assist her greatly in her position, so she enrolled in Brighton College's Medical Coding program.

While at Brighton College, Crystal completed her courses to earn her Career Diploma faster than the average student. She received a GPA of 3.5.

Crystal benefited from Brighton College's self-paced courses that allowed her to gain her Career Diploma as she continued to work at the hospital.

Crystal is now continuing her training by preparing to take the CCS exam.

"The Medical Coding program helped me tremendously with my position. I gained more confidence in my coding and learned a lot."

Dana Coberly
Clay Center, Kansas



... she uses her education to help others

Becoming a Registered Respiratory Therapist (R.R.T.) had been a personal goal of Dana Coberly's for more than 21 years. In July 2005, Dana graduated with her Associate of Science in Respiratory Therapy from California College for Health Sciences (CCHS), and achieved her goal.

Dana worked as a Certified Respiratory Therapist (C.R.T.) for many years, but came to realize a degree was necessary to advance her career and increase her salary. Her A.S. degree enabled her to take and pass the National Board for Respiratory Care credentialing exams, and receive a promotion to an R.R.T.—a position she now proudly holds at Clay County Medical Center.

Excellent patient care is Dana's specialty. She loves working at a small hospital because it provides her with the opportunity to get to know and support her patients on a deeper, more intimate level.

"Being a wife and mother of five active children, distance education allowed me to achieve my degree while I continued to work full-time. It was wonderful to achieve a 21 yearlong dream at my age! My patients will benefit from the knowledge I gained at CCHS, and I was able to set a wonderful example for my family: work as hard as you can and you will achieve your dreams!"

Edward R. Samuels
North Potomac, Maryland

... he needed a flexible, high quality university
that would blend with his busy career

Mr. Edward R. Samuels began his program at California National University for Advanced Studies (CNU) to increase his professional knowledge of software development and software engineering.

Ed entered CNU already having earned a Bachelors of Science in Electrical Engineering and continued to expand his knowledge base by graduating from California National University, summa cum laude with a Masters of Science in Engineering and a 3.87 cumulative GPA. His thesis, *Designing Secure Hardware and Software*, presents a holistic approach to the development of secure hardware, software and network systems.

Obtaining a Masters of Science in Engineering degree has established Ed as a recognized authority and industry expert in Communications, Security Software and Hardware. Currently, Ed works for EMC Corporation and has lectured and taught university-level coursework in the areas of telecommunications, engineering design, software management and networking. He has also applied for several copyrights and patents in engineering.

“At CNU, I found classes, projects, and assessments needed for today’s career in engineering. Working with an outstanding faculty teaching the high tech classes was a valuable experience.”

Karen P. Lauze
Somersworth, New Hampshire

... distance education helped her faith



Distance Education was a top priority for Dr. Karen P. Lauze, who devotes herself to a very busy and unpredictable schedule as a physician. The Catholic Distance University (CDU) not only responded to her need for flexibility, but also provided her with the specific catechetical program Dr. Lauze needed to meet her request as a parish volunteer.

For the past two years, Dr. Lauze has coordinated the Adult Initiation Classes for her parish. To further her own knowledge of the Catholic faith, Dr. Lauze enrolled in CDU's adult enrichment courses. In the midst of her intense schedule as a physician, Dr. Lauze has steadily completed seven adult enrichment courses, and ten undergraduate courses with a GPA of 96.2.

Dr. Lauze recognized a need to begin an Adult Faith Formation program for the Seacoast Area's Catholic population. Her contact with adults who were deprived of a thorough knowledge and understanding of the Faith, combined with her coursework at CDU, have motivated Dr. Lauze to design this program. Through CDU, she has discovered new ways of using her gifts to serve others, thanks to the convenience of distance education.

"Distance learning affords me the opportunity to further my knowledge in a format that can accommodate my irregular schedule."



Theodore J. Kochanski
Godfrey, Illinois

. . . distance learning gave
him peace of mind

Mr. Ted Kochanski works for the Boeing Company. Knowing they needed degreed engineers, he enrolled in Cleveland Institute of Electronics' Associates of Applied Science in Electronic Engineering (AASEET) program. Ted knew that to advance in his career and have job security, he needed a degree he could use worldwide.

Ted is married and has two children at home, and he juggles his time between family, work and a part-time business. Distance education allowed Ted to decide the best time to study, and taking books with him allowed him to use "waiting time" as study time. With his plate full, Ted graduated with a grade point average of 90.48%. When Ted graduated he was awarded 50 shares of Boeing stock, a promotion and a pay raise from his employer.

Ted has not stopped advancing his education. He is presently enrolled with World College and he is working on his Bachelors in Electronic Engineering Technology degree. Ted has the opportunity to be involved in many technical activities for his company, which has a positive economic impact on his community and family.

"There is nothing comparable to the peace of mind that comes with completing my education. It feels good to know that my degree can be used anywhere in the world."

Jamie A. Gauthier
Scotts Valley, California

... distance education allowed him to follow his dreams



Mr. Jamie Gauthier completed his Columbia Southern University B.S. in Business Administration with a specialization in Human Resource Management in 2003, graduating Cum Laude. He completed his MBA with a specialization in Public Administration in 2005, with a 4.0 GPA.

Jamie worked for eight years as a Senior Loss Prevention Manager for JCPenney Company, Inc. He is now a full-time Police Officer for the City of Scotts Valley, California. After graduating, he was elected as the Alumni Association President for Columbia Southern University. He was the keynote student graduate speaker at the Columbia Southern University commencement celebration in 2005.

Jamie challenged a decades-old policy at Excelsior College, where they would not accept transfer credits from a nationally accredited school. With the assistance of the DETC, he drafted a letter and Excelsior College changed their policy. Excelsior College is now drafting guidelines to accept credits from nationally accredited schools.

Columbia Southern University is one of the most innovative and supportive universities I've ever attended. I found their degree programs to be of the highest caliber, academically challenging, flexible and engaging. I was extremely happy with my experience and would recommend any of their degree or certificate programs.

Concord Law School



Noreen C. Onesti
Dexter, Michigan

... distance education allowed her the
best of both worlds

After choosing to stay home with her young children, Ms. Noreen Catherine Onesti obtained her J.D. from Concord Law School—a unique, online interactive program of legal education.

As a young mother, Noreen was thrilled to find she could achieve her lifelong education goals online through Concord's distance education program without placing her children in the care of others or impacting her husband's career. Going to school online gave her constant access to the material, her professors and the law library. Small class sizes gave her the support she needed to excel. She obtained over a 3.0 grade point, an externship with the American Bar Association and a spot on the Dean's list each year, all without choosing between furthering her career or having a family.

Noreen is currently still at home with her four daughters studying for the bar in multiple states. She looks forward to re-entering the workforce but now is enjoying her kids while they are young.

“Getting a law degree requires a lot of dedication and energy, but Concord Law School made it so much easier by offering an efficient and flexible program. I am grateful to the school for its progressiveness and professionalism, and for the quality of the education I received.”

Jared Ross
Henderson, Nevada

... small town dreams turn to a life
of excitement



Growing up in a small town didn't stop Mr. Jared Ross from dreaming big. While working for a jeweler in Gary, Nebraska, Jared knew he wanted a career in the jewelry industry. Two years later, Jared knew where he wanted to be. He also realized education was essential to reaching his goals, and that's when he turned to Gemological Institute of America.

Jared excelled in GIA's School of Business. He attained his Jewelry Business Management Diploma in just a year while working in sales—all at age 23. Completing the program with an "A" average, Jared says working in jewelry is about passion and bringing love to life. "There is a passion that GIA has set into me, so I strive for more," he says.

Today, Jared's passion is at Tiffany & Co. in the Bellagio Hotel in Las Vegas, where soon he hopes to become a Manager. It's not a job or a career, but a dream come true. He takes pride in selling a quality product, and loves educating his customers. Jared is now close to completing GIA's Graduate Gemologist Diploma through Distance Education.

"Jewelry is an amazing industry to be in – from laughing to crying with clients. Every industry needs something to stand on and GIA has given that to me."



Susan E. Bailey
South Beliot, Illinois

... earning a degree through distance learning opened doors

After being laid off and replaced by someone with a college degree, Susan Bailey vowed that she would never be out of work again because she did not have a college degree. She looked for a university that would suit her busy lifestyle and enrolled at Grantham University in 1998. In January 2005, she graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree in Computer Science.

Susan's success at Grantham has had a positive impact on her career. After beginning her education at Grantham, she received a number of raises, a promotion, increased job responsibilities, and she now is involved in more high-profile projects.

Since graduation, Susan is more confident and secure in her career. At work, she has noticed co-workers often look to her for answers. Susan believes that knowledge should be shared openly and freely; by helping her co-workers, the corporation wins, and if the corporation wins, its customers win.

"With my degree and the knowledge and resources I obtained as a result of my education, I have been able to keep on the cutting edge of my career. Grantham has helped me develop the confidence to say 'Yes, I can do that,' and the conviction to follow through and succeed."

Pauline & Letcher
Vanderpool
Elsmere, Kentucky



... husband and wife
realize their dreams together

Pauline Vanderpool and her husband, Letcher, always dreamt of earning their high school diplomas, but along the way they faced many challenges, including visual impairment. Pauline learned that she had a detached retina and felt her low vision “had taken all that I had away.” When Letcher lost his vision as a young boy, he was discouraged but never lost hope. Now, as husband and wife, their shared dream of earning a high school diploma has been realized.

Both knew that distance education was the best way to go, especially if they took advantage of Hadley’s tuition-free, accessible courses. Pauline enrolled with Hadley in 1996 and has since completed 25 courses. Letcher became a Hadley student in 1956 and has completed 30 courses.

In June 2005, Pauline and Letcher became the first Hadley husband and wife graduates. Now in their 70s, they both feel a new sense of accomplishment with their diplomas and an invaluable education. They plan on continuing their education with Hadley in the years to come.

“The biggest thing Hadley has done for me is boosted my self-esteem,” Pauline said. “I had never felt satisfied about my education back then, but now I do.” “Hadley has impacted my life in so many positive ways,” Letcher said.

Home Study International



Gregory L. Schleif
Bradenton, Florida

. . . distance education helped build his
character

Mr. Greg Schleif enrolled in Home Study International after a rough move with his family from New Jersey to Florida. Greg was on track to graduate from high school in three years when he became ill with pneumonia and bronchitis a month before relocating. It was decided that the best way to keep up with his educational goals (he was now 1,200 miles away from his school) was to take distance education courses. Home Study International took lots of determination and the development of a strong work ethic, but he stuck to it.

After hard effort and a slow recovery from illness, Greg graduated with a 3.96 GPA. Prior to receiving a diploma, he was accepted into Southern Adventist University (SAU) based on his previous grades and an ACT test score average more than 26. He also has received more than \$6,500 in scholarships aid based on those grades.

Greg is currently enrolled in two majors at SAU: Auto Service and Business Administration, as well as a minor in Entrepreneurial Management. He also aspires to earn a Master's degree in Healthcare Administration. With a current GPA of 3.92 and a well-developed, hard-work ethic, his future looks bright.

"Home Study International was an experience that I would not give up. I feel that it has helped to build my character."

Dana K. Boykin, CLP
Detroit, Michigan

... his educational accomplishments
are truly legendary



When he was considering changing jobs a few years ago, Mr. Dana K. Boykin felt he needed to strengthen his resume with the Certified Logistics Practitioner's credentials (CLP) of the Institute of Logistical Management (ILM). He entered the 3-year program and was passionate about pursuing excellence in the shortest possible time.

Simultaneously, Dana was interviewed for an outstanding management opportunity in which the CLP would be critical to his success. He discussed this with ILM to see if we could accommodate a greatly accelerated schedule for him to earn the CLP, to which ILM agreed. Dana accomplished what we thought was impossible! He completed 6 accredited courses (normally 6 months each) in a total of 4 weeks!

Dana subsequently was interviewed by the President of the new Company and he got the job...and has since been elevated even higher into management.

"I set a challenge for myself and the courses were not easy where one can breeze through. I had to utilize the helpful staff several times a day to get my work accomplished. I am notifying everyone about the program and I intend to take other courses."

Keystone National High School



Stephanie Ferguson
Williamsburg, Virginia

. . . she earned her diploma while
sailing the world

When Stephanie Ferguson was 14, she and her family left their Miami home and set out in a sailboat to circumnavigate the world. Four years and several continents and bodies of water later, Stephanie gained a lifetime of experiences while earning a diploma from Keystone National High School.

Whether sightseeing off the coast of Spain with her visiting grandparents or being mistakenly detained for sailing near the Republic of Georgia or enduring a two-week-straight voyage near Panama, Stephanie kept on top of her studies. With infrequent access to Internet or libraries, she found other sources of help. She turned to Keystone instructors from a satellite telephone, used CD-ROM encyclopedias and met people along the way who shared their expertise, including an AIDS researcher from Austria who helped her with Chemistry.

While her family continues traveling, Stephanie is a freshman at The College of William & Mary in Williamsburg, VA, where she is studying International Relations. Since receiving encouragement from the acting ambassador of Fiji, she hopes to serve as an ambassador or a diplomat.

“The Keystone materials were well chosen, the hours were fabulous and the teachers gave a very personal level of help. I received a quality education while making the most of my time.”

Miriam D'Souza

Ottawa, Ontario, Canada

... life is a continuous journey of learning and discovery



Ms. Miriam D'Souza recently completed her Masters of Business Administration Degree at Lansbridge University while simultaneously completing a Graduate Program in E-Commerce from McGill University.

She faced with a common dilemma when transferred to Ottawa for work. She wanted to complete her MBA, so researched how she could accomplish this at an accredited e-learning institution. After thorough analysis of her options, she selected Lansbridge because of its impressive curriculum, faculty, staff and tuition.

Obtaining her MBA broadened Miriam's career opportunities with her current employer, the Department of National Defence. With 20+ years of experience, she continues to be extremely active in professional associations and holds Certification from the Project Management Institute and the American Production and Inventory Control Society. Moreover, she has and published on topics including supply chain management, management information systems design and implementation, product and quality management, strategic and tactical planning.

"I was impressed by the Lansbridge faculty and administration's dedication to helping students learn. The University does everything possible to ensure students have a good learning experience. The student services team provided me with incredibly responsive support."

Marine Corps Institute



Gage C. Rindt
Patuxent River, Maryland

... he developed as a leader and a well-rounded professional Marine

Corporal Gage C. Rindt is an Administrative Clerk who serves with the Marine Aviation Detachment at Naval Air Station Patuxent River, Maryland. Gage sought to broaden his professional education and increase his leadership potential through Marine Corps Institute (MCI) courses. He excelled in his job performance and Marine Corps resident schools because of the technical and leadership knowledge gained from MCI.

Gage completed courses in leadership, administration, and infantry combat. The skills learned in these courses have aided him in his job as an administration clerk, as a corporal, “a leader of Marines,” and in fulfilling the Marine ethos, “every Marine, a rifleman.”

Gage was selected for meritorious promotion and was honor graduate at a Marine Corps leadership course, due largely to the skills learned through MCI. He was also selected for the Marine Enlisted Commissioning Education Program, through which he will attain a Bachelor’s degree and receive a commission in the United States Marine Corps.

“I have achieved many accolades that can be credited to the knowledge achieved through courses offered by the Marine Corps Institute. These courses have developed me as a leader and made me a well-rounded professional Marine.”

Erin Dorholt

Chicago, Illinois

... she kicked her design career into high gear



Product designer Erin Dorholt wanted to improve her design software and print production skills and adapt these new skills to her present workplace, so two years ago she signed on for the Graphic Design Certificate program at Sessions.edu.

Erin was employed full-time as a designer for a large jewelry company, but distance learning made it possible for her take on a full schedule of classes. She worked through her program steadily, two courses at a time, until completion. Her instructors were consistently impressed by her focus and the high quality of her work, and several of her pieces were placed in the student gallery.

Since gaining her new skills, Erin has been able to take on several exciting freelance projects was promoted to Senior Designer, managing five other people. Her new role has plenty of perks, including travel to Italy!

“In addition to being integral in getting my job promotion, my Graphic Design Certificate program has shown me how much I enjoy graphic design, and especially packaging design. I was initially mostly interested in how I’d be able to apply what I learned to my existing job, but now I know how much I’d like to do freelance graphic work.”



Jacek Kaszynski
Tempe, Arizona

... a quest for freedom drives his
career learning goals

Imagine being a political prisoner of a regime, where your only crime was wanting freedom and basic rights. Jacek Kaszynski escaped from Poland under the Communists and settled in the United States as a political refugee. Trained classically as a Master Electrician he worked in a variety of construction related fields until he learned of the emerging career of Home Inspection. When the state of Arizona changed its licensing criteria Jacek came to the Sonoran Desert Institute and became a successful graduate of the Home Inspection Diploma program and the Home Inspection Apprentice Course

As a graduate of the program, Jacek was empowered to start his own business as a Home Inspector. He was able to pass the national licensing exam and set up his shop in Tempe, Arizona. He graduated with high academic honors.

Jacek is an excellent example of what an individual can accomplish with drive, determination and a career vision. He was one of several students who were successfully funded under the Workforce Investment Act and are now gainfully employed and making a significant contribution to our society.

“The theory portions of the program were excellent. The practicums were perfect!”

John T. Halter
Fairfax, Virginia



. . . he fulfilled a 30 year dream to complete his degree

Mr. John T. Halter found himself competing for senior information technology positions with younger and less qualified candidates who had college degrees. That's when John enrolled at UMT, completing the Executive Certificate in Project Management program and subsequently earning his Bachelor of Science in Computer Science.

John had left college in the early '70s to join the U.S. Army, where he learned computer programming. Since leaving the service, he excelled in his career, reaching executive level and working for global multibillion-dollar software leaders. Even though successful, John realized his 30+ years in information technology wasn't going to maintain his viability in the job market or satisfy employer requirements for a Bachelor's degree.

At UMT, John was able to pursue studies on his own terms, becoming a stellar student and earning his Executive Certificate in Project Management in record time. When UMT received accreditation for its computer science program, John was first in line to enroll, and the first to complete UMT's B.S.in Computer Science, graduating magna cum laude!

"UMT's distance education programs allowed me to earn a degree that reflected my years of experience in information technology . . . a dream come true! I highly recommend UMT for achieving one's goals in life."



Donna Louise Lawson
Quirindi, NSW, Australia

. . . distance learning was not an
isolating experience

Ms. Donna Lawson decided not to be part of the mass exodus to a large metropolitan area after high school. To realize her ambitions of completing tertiary education while having the advantages of country living, she started a Bachelor of Computer Science, studying by distance with The University of New England.

As well as studying externally, Donna has worked for a real estate agent, a retirement home and is currently employed by an accountant. Her desire to combine study and work were supported wholeheartedly by her husband and employers who attest to the personal and professional benefit she gained. Donna completed two more units than required for a BCompSc, achieving fourteen High Distinctions, ten Distinctions and two Credits. She achieved these outstanding grades largely without the benefit of face-to-face contact and interaction with academic staff and other students.

Her ambition is to manage her own accountancy firm. She is undertaking further tertiary study and internationally recognized professional education.

“External study allowed me to pursue a professional career without having to leave the country I love. Working during my studies enhanced my ‘real world’ perspective and allowed me to apply the skills as I learned.”

Paul Vidal
Mount Laurel, New Jersey

... distance education advanced his career



Dr. Paul Vidal graduated from the University of Saint Augustine for Health Sciences with Master of Health Science degree and a Doctorate in Physical Therapy degree in 2002 and 2004, respectively.

Dr. Vidal resides in Mount Laurel, New Jersey with his wife and daughter. He is employed by Mercy Rehab Associates in Darby, Pennsylvania where he serves as a clinical specialist in a hospital-based outpatient center. He is board certified in orthopaedic physical therapy. Dr. Vidal recently started his own private practice, Specialized Physical Therapy, LLC, in Cherry Hill, New Jersey. In addition to clinical practice, he is actively involved in academia teaching entry and graduate-level physical therapy students in a number of physical therapy programs in the Philadelphia area. He is also an Assistant Professor of Online Education for the University of Saint Augustine for Health Sciences.

Dr. Vidal is an active member of the American Physical Therapy Association and has presented on the state and national levels at scientific meetings. Since graduating, he has had several abstracts and original articles published in the peer-review literature.

“The University of Saint Augustine for Health Sciences’ distance education programs provided me the opportunity to advance my career as I continued my clinical practice.”



Andrea B. McGuire
Kernersville, North Carolina

... distance learning was key that allowed her to earn her Master's degree

Ms. Andrea McGuire received her Master of Arts in Teaching—Social Science (5-12) degree from Western Governors University in one year, making her the first graduate of this new WGU program.

Completing her undergraduate degree Summa Cum Laude with a 4.0 GPA from Wingate University in three years earned *Andrea the H. K. Helms Award* for valedictorian. She is a certified North Carolina teacher in Early Adolescent Social Studies-History, and has also earned certification through the National Board of Professional Teaching Standards. Other awards include *Recognition of Excellence* on the Praxis exam (scoring in the top 15% of the nation), and grants from Kay Chemicals and Bright Ideas.

As a single mother of two and a full time educator, distance learning was the only way Andrea could accomplish her goal of furthering her education. Her rapid completion allowed her to save tuition costs. Andrea is also a North Carolina History Bowl coach, and in her first year as head coach, Andrea's team won the state championship.

"The completion of my degree from WGU has been beneficial, enabling me to become more effective in helping my students succeed. Education generates respect so I am taken more seriously in my profession."

Frank A. Renda, Jr.
Forth Worth, Texas

... earning his degree gained him a promotion



Gunnery Sergeant Frank A. Renda Jr. knew being a member of the United States Marine Corps did not make traditional education easy, but he knew promotions were very competitive. Having inconsistent work hours because of mission and operational requirements, Frank could not enroll in local colleges or universities. Because he completed his Associates degree with Cleveland Institute of Electronics, he knew his credits would transfer to World College, so he enrolled in the Bachelors degree in Electronic Engineering Technology (BEET) in 1997.

Frank's hard work and determination paid off when he graduated magna cum laude with a 3.5 GPA, and the honors continued — he earned a promotion to Gunnery Sergeant. Frank was assigned to the Marine Aerial Refueler Transport Squadron of Marine Aircraft Group 41 stationed at the Naval Air Station Fort Worth Joint Reserve Base in Texas. Frank believes that his recent assignment, promotion, and the respect he has earned from his seniors are attributed to his Bachelors degree from World College.

"In today's world, many people work long hours, with little extra time for themselves let alone attending classes. World College makes it easy, and that is why I am certain that my Bachelors degree helped me further distance myself from the competition and earn my promotion."



Famous Alumni

John Hopper
Howell, New Jersey

... he is a lifelong learner, and strong advocate of distance education

Amid a military lifestyle of frequent transfers, Commander John Hooper looked to the flexibility of distance education to provide continuity while he expanded his knowledge and interest in military studies. Completely online, and dedicated to serving military personnel, American Military University (AMU) offered John the perfect solution to address his learning needs. John graduated from AMU in 2000 with a Master of Arts in Military Studies-Naval Warfare.

Commander Hooper's education and distinguished service have led to continued advancements and repeated selection for highly visible and important jobs. He has represented and advocated Coast Guard issues in the 2001 Quadrennial Defense Review, served with the Joint Chiefs of Staff in the Pentagon enhancing Coast Guard Weapons of Mass Destruction readiness, and currently is a maritime homeland security/defense planner at U.S. Coast Guard Headquarters.

John, married for twenty-six years with three children, also holds a Master's degree from the U.S. Naval War College and is a Doctoral candidate in Military Studies at the Royal Military College of Canada.

"The education I received at AMU has been integral to my ability to enhance our national security during wartime, and satisfy my desire for further study in military science."

Famous Alumni

Charles M. Schulz
Santa Rosa, California

... he followed his childhood dream and became a great cartoonist



Mr. Charles Schulz was still in high school when his father enrolled him in the Art Instruction Schools home study course, to learn more about Illustration and Cartooning. It was the only formal art course he ever took. Over his lifetime, he challenged himself with new creative directions and projects. His cartoons have been syndicated in over 2600 newspapers worldwide.

We will always cherish the memories of a young Charles Schulz, dutifully working through his lessons, striving to learn all he could about an art form he loved so much. As an Instructor at Art Instruction Schools, he shared his talents and insights as he taught and motivated other aspiring artists to do their best work.

Over his long and successful career as a Master Cartoonist, he shared his life with the world, through his cartoons and his philanthropy. His ability to touch the spirits of so many people around the world is unsurpassed. He will always be remembered as a great artist and a great man.

“It was a lucky day for me when I enrolled in the Art Instruction Schools course. The course taught me to value good drawing and good penwork. The instructors are dedicated people. They always encourage you to do your best work.”

Famous Alumni



Donald E. Walker
Waterford, Virginia

. . . he attributes his success to his dedication to justice and distance learning

Following completion of his Bachelor's degree in 1971, Mr. Donald E. Walker founded the family construction business overseeing business operations until 1999 at which time it was taken over by his oldest son.

Donald was appointed as part-time Magistrate in Virginia in 1992 rising to the highest classification by 1999. During that brief period he was chosen top employee in the state of Virginia. At that time he was appointed to a four-year term as Chief Magistrate for the Supreme Court of Virginia. That appointment normally takes 20-30 years of service to obtain but was accomplished in only seven years.

Donald attributes the rise to the position of Chief Magistrate to both his dedication to justice and his success at Columbia Southern University.

Mr. Walker chose at the end of his appointment to Chief Magistrate to retire in order to pursue greater societal interests and today serves his countrymen although his specific work is classified.

Famous Alumni

John A. Tidona, CLP
Staten Island, New York

. . . the power of distance learning
unleashed



While working for a major International Cargo airline as a night supervisor, John realized his career was limited due to a lack of formal education. He loved his career and he wanted to lead the changes at the managerial level in order to achieve excellence in business and personal satisfaction. John discovered ILM, and he excelled in everything he attempted.

John is married and a key member of a very large extended family in the New York area. His values, character and love of Family and Country are paramount through his words and deeds.

After completing a challenging 3-year program in Logistics at ILM in less than 1 year, John continued to take additional courses that he later transferred as credit towards a Bachelor's Degree. During this same time he completed 19 courses offered by the Federal Emergency Management Agency in order to perfect his skills in Emergency preparedness. He has been honored extensively at the local, national and international levels for his patriotism and support of voluntary gifts and supplies to our Troops in Iraq.

"The further I pursue these courses, the more I want to learn and apply."

Famous Alumni

Daniel Orr, II
Las Vegas, Nevada



... he serves as consultant for CSI

If ever the title of modern Leonardo DaVinci, Renaissance Man, were to be awarded, our candidate would be Daniel L. Orr II, DDS, PhD., JD, MD. He holds a Juris Doctor degree from William Howard Taft University along with his Dental degree, his Medical degree and a Ph.D. in Biophysics.

Dr. Orr is a Clinical Professor at the University of Nevada School of Medicine, serves on Nevada's National Disaster Medical System, and works on the sports medicine teams for UNLV, the Las Vegas 51's, and for the National Finals Rodeo. He also serves as a special consultant for Las Vegas' Crime Scene Investigators, the scientists we see each week on CBS's hit crime series CSI. Dr. Orr has been called in to identify murder victims burnt beyond recognition. Through dental records, Dr. Orr was able to identify the victims.

Dr. Orr also consults for several state boards, has been published extensively, and also finds time to care for the teeth of Victoria, one of Las Vegas' famous "big cats." Dr. Orr is such a believer he regularly refers his colleagues to William Howard Taft University.

"The California Bar was the most difficult qualifying examination I have ever taken. William Howard Taft University provided the expertise for me to deal with it successfully."





Distance Education and Training Council
1601 18th Street, N.W., Suite 2
Washington, DC 20009
202-234-5100
www.detc.org