

Created by Truman State University's School of Business Academic Peer Mentors

# It's Everyone's Business

Volume 1, Issue 1

October 7, 2010

## Hello!

### Inside this issue:

Five Minutes with the Mentors.....2

What's Next? Focus on Accounting Grad Kelly Peterson.....3

Commit to Excellence.....4

About the School of Business Academic Peer Mentor Program.....4

Welcome to the first issue of *It's Everyone's Business*, a publication created by the Peer Mentors for the School of Business. The purpose of this newsletter is to provide an additional resource for business majors to help you succeed while you're at Truman and afterward.

This monthly newsletter will feature information about careers, introduce you to some successful School of Business alum and give you more tips to succeed at Truman. The fall editions will also offer a chance for you

to get to know the peer mentors a little better (see page 2). Also, each issue will have a



Yes, we're a little crazy.

calendar with School of Business events, registrar deadlines and other important dates we think you should know.

In case you're not familiar with the Academic Peer Mentor program, check out the last page. If you need help picking out classes, deciding your career path or just want someone to vent to, feel free to stop by VH2416 Monday thru Friday from 8—5:30. There are 12 different mentors and we all have different interests and career aspirations, so most likely you will find someone to relate to.

Enjoy the newsletter!

## October 2010

2—Family Day

5—Info Session for TASB Extern Program 4-5PM VH1412

6—Career Expo 11AM-4PM SUB

13—First Block Classes End

14—Second Block Classes Begin

15—TASB Applications due by 5:00PM on Experience via Career Center website

16—Homecoming!

21-22—Midterm Break

25—Registration Begins

26—"Outward Appearances" Workshop 8:30PM VH1400

28—Resume Workshop 4PM Location TBA



## Five Minutes with the Mentors...

Each month we will highlight 3 peer mentors so you can get to know us a little better.



Liz is a junior accounting and business administration (marketing) double major.

### Liz Schrum

**Where is your hometown?**  
Marshalltown, Iowa

**What made you want to join the Peer Mentor Program?** I believe in the program, and I want to make a positive impact. I especially want to do well with it since the program is in its young stages still, this only being its second year.

**What is your favorite thing to do after you get home from class?** I really like to nap,

painting, drawing, and yoga are also fun. I really like to run in my spare time.

**What is your favorite type of music?** My favorite things to listen to right now are Lady Gaga, Taylor Swift, and Disney soundtracks.

**What do you hope to do after college?** I really want to make a difference in the world. I do not quite know exactly what I want to do, but I know I want to do something I enjoy. I am keeping my options open now in case any opportunities come that I want to pursue.

**If you could be any Disney Princess, who would you be?** I would be Cinderella, hands down. I mean come on; the whole story revolves around shoes! She had a bad life but remained optimistic and a hard worker. She knows how to travel, blue is TOTALLY sexy, and she is always home by 12AM, just like every girl should be.

**What are your extracurricular activities?** DSP, AMA, Peer Mentor, ASG, BAP.



Nate is a senior business administration major with a double concentration in Finance/Marketing.

### Nate Perry

**Where is your hometown?**  
Crystal Lake, Illinois

**What made you want to join the Peer Mentor Program?** I really wanted the ability to interact with younger students and help them advance through their college career successfully and with answers they need.

**What is your favorite thing to do after you get home from class?** Cook a meal- anything in general, no specific tastes,

last thing I cooked was a gyro.

**What is your favorite music to listen to?** Alt. Rock

**What do you hope to do after college?** Investment banking or wealth management is the main plan, but I would be open to a lot of things in the world of Finance.

**If you could be any Disney Princess, who would you be?** Wow, this is a tough one. I would have to go with Anas-

tasia- she was the first one that came to mind- she is Russian which is cool, but I guess that would make her a czar-ess instead of a princess...

**What are your extracurricular activities?** Aside from being a Peer Mentor, I am in Delta Sigma Pi, the professional business fraternity. I am very active in intramurals with them, and really enjoy playing sports with the other brothers.



Kayla is a senior business administration major, concentrating in marketing.

### Kayla Jacobsen

**Where is your hometown?**  
Scottsbluff, Nebraska

**What made you want to join the Peer Mentor Program?** When I was a freshman, I developed an informal mentor and I still keep in contact with her when I need advice. I wanted to be able to use all the knowledge and experiences I have gained the last 3 years to help other students.

I mean, let's face it: Truman's tough sometimes.

**What is your favorite thing to do after you get home from class?** Absolutely NOTHING. Okay, well I guess sometimes I motivate myself to go to Thousand Hills and hike around, play piano, do yoga or read a magazine.

**What is your favorite music to listen to?** I love Frank Sinatra, but most of the time I listen to Keane or Death Cab for

Cutie stations on Pandora.  
**What do you hope to do after college?** Merchandising or buying for a retail company.  
**If you could be any Disney Princess, who would you be?** Definitely Belle. She's classy, intelligent and—best of all—lives in the French countryside. *Ooo la, la.*

**What are your extracurricular activities?** SIFE, Alpha Sigma Alpha, Omicron Delta Kappa, Marketing intern at the Kirksville Arts Association

## What's Next? Focus on Accounting Grad Kelly Peterson



*Kelly Peterson graduated from Truman with a B.S. in Accounting in Spring 2009, and with her Masters of Accountancy in Spring 2010. She is currently employed by Defense Contract Audit Agency (DCAA) in Chicago, IL. Here are some thoughts from Kelly on how Truman and the School of Business have prepared her for her job at DCAA.*

“As far as Truman and my job at the DCAA goes, Truman and the School of Business has definitely prepared me well. The DCAA does contract auditing, which is a completely different type of audit than either public ac-

counting or internal auditing. Therefore, it requires a lot more training, as little is covered on the topic in school. Just to give you a little background, here's an example audit the DCAA might do:

Say the Army wants to purchase 100,000 specialized

rifles. The Army would submit a request for audit to the DCAA to ensure that the price they are being quoted for the rifles is reasonable. We would go through the paperwork and sometimes go out to the factory floor to see what is actually going on with the product manufacturing. Because the government will not pay for certain costs (i.e. alcohol at business dinners, among other things), the auditors are there to make sure that the rifle manufacturer is not trying to include any alcohol at any business dinners in their price for the rifles.

Essentially, what I do is make sure that the manufacturers are not inappropriately charging the government (and therefore the taxpayers). Truman has definitely prepared me for my position, specifically in critical thinking and analyzation. Because this type of auditing is nothing that you are prepared for in school, there is a huge learning curve. I have to look at a large variety of information and analyze it to ascertain its meaning, frequently within a relatively short time frame. Because we're trying to verify that the price is not inappropriate, it involves a lot of detail analysis, which takes a significant amount of analytical processing. The communication skills I learned and practiced at Truman have also proven highly useful in my new position. I have to deal with other auditors as well as the manufacturers of products who all expect me to be able to communicate professionally and concisely. Overall, Truman has prepared me well for the professional world, and despite the learning curve, I am picking up my responsibilities fairly quickly.”

**“Truman has definitely prepared me for my position, specifically in critical thinking...”**

### **Give yourself a break.**

Just as scheduling regular study time contributes to success, so does taking a 5-10 minute break every hour. Rest your eyes, wash your face... turn off the brain for a few minutes. Then get back to it. If you find yourself dozing off, stop where you are. Allow yourself to doze off-sitting up, not lying down. You'll find this "sitting doze" a form of meditation that increases alertness and concentration.

# Commit to Excellence

An elderly carpenter was ready to retire. He told his employer-contractor of his plans to leave the house building business and live a more leisurely life with his wife enjoying his extended family.

He would miss the paycheck, but he needed to retire. They could get by. The contractor was sorry to see his good worker go and asked if he could build just one more house as a personal favor. The carpenter said yes, but in time it was easy to see that his heart was not in his work. He resorted to shoddy workmanship and used inferior materials. It was an unfortunate way to end his career.

When the carpenter finished his work and the builder came to inspect the house, the contractor handed the front-door key to the carpenter. "This is your house," he said, "my gift to you."

What a shock! What a shame! If he had only known he was building his own house, he would have done it all so differently. Now he had to live in the home he had built none too well.

So it is with us. We build our lives in a distracted way, reacting rather than acting, willing to put up less than the best. At important points we do not give the job our best effort. Then with a shock we look at the situation we have created and find that we are now living in the house we have built. If we had realized that we would have done it differently.

Think of yourself as the carpenter. Think about your house. Each day you hammer a

nail, place a board, or erect a wall. Build wisely. It is the only life you will ever build. Even if you live it for only one day more, that day deserves to be lived graciously and with dignity. The plaque on the wall says, "Life is a do-it-yourself project." Your life tomorrow will be the result of your attitudes and the choices you make today.

—Author Unknown

**As college freshmen and sophomores now is the time to begin "building your house". You are currently "laying the foundation" for your future. It is important to strive to ALWAYS do your BEST. When you cut corners you are only hurting yourself. You should take pride in your work; hopefully, one day you will see the benefits of choosing to be a person committed to excellence.**

## Truman State University School of Business Academic Peer Mentor Program

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The Academic Peer Mentor Program is housed in the Business Academic Advising Center in Violette Hall 2416. The Peer Mentors are upper-class students in the School of Business majors: Accounting and Business Administration. The mentors are paired with first-year Pre-Accounting and Pre-Business majors, to provide them with peer advice and support.

The mentors have regular office hours each week, during which they are available to meet with their assigned mentees and any other student who wishes to talk with an upper-level major about the benefits and opportunities in the School of Business. Click on the links below to access information and office hours about the individual peer mentors.

Please feel free to contact Kayla (krj3167@truman.edu) if you have any comments/questions/concerns about the newsletter.