

AIU™ ink



- A Note from a President
- Finding Your Perfect Job Fit
- The AIU Alumni Referral Scholarship
- AIU's Distinguished Alumna Leverages Her Talent to Save Kids

v2 | Fall 2013



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American InterContinental University

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A NOTE FROM DR. MARTIN NEGRON, THE AIU HOUSTON PRESIDENT

"Yes. I'm the new kid on the block. I have come to learn during my short tenure as president that success is best measured by the ability to manage change; and Houston has lots of that. This once southern antebellum village is now a sprawling metropolis that morphs over rich diverse peoples who come with life pursuits, skills and hopes that challenge our human scope. This region, at first seen as a major energy node, has expanded its domain and appeal and draws best-of-breeds from all worldly ports and vocations."



Dr. Martin Negron is well known as a pace setter and for his acute sense of urgency. He joined AIU in 2007 where he served as the Vice President of Student Affairs. His organizational footprints show several university-leading accomplishments to include favorable to budget student re-entry outcomes across a four year span from 2008 to 2011. The improvements during the period increased from 27 to 31 percent over budget. He was also pressed into service during his first year to prepare his department for an upcoming special commission visit. Marty was recognized for his achievements during the year and was the recipient for the CEC's prestigious Commitment to Excellence Senior Leader Award.

But excellence in leadership is not new to Marty. He was selected as the recipient of the National Image Meritorious Service Award, Inc., the Hispanic of the Year for the U.S. Navy, 2001, the Marine Corps Base, Camp Lejeune, North Carolina Sailor of the Year, 1995, Naval Station Rota, and the Spain Sailor of the Year, 1992.

Dr. Negron received his Bachelor of Arts from Columbia College in Columbia, Missouri. He received his Master of Science in Business Education from Southern New Hampshire University, New Hampshire and in April 2012 he completed his doctorate (Ph.D.) in higher Education Leadership at North Central University.

Dr. Negron is married to Leticia and together they have two sons Jonathan and Jorman.

Events

AIU ATLANTA CELEBRATES WITH GRADUATES

AIU Atlanta celebrated graduate success at the end of April, holding two major events to honor the 2013 graduating class.

On Thursday, April 25th, the campus held its annual Graduate Reception, a chance for new graduates and alumni to celebrate and network. Each honor society inducted new members during the reception. Alumni Relations Manager Lindsey Rogers discussed the Alumni Association, how to stay connected to AIU after graduation and the benefits of association membership.

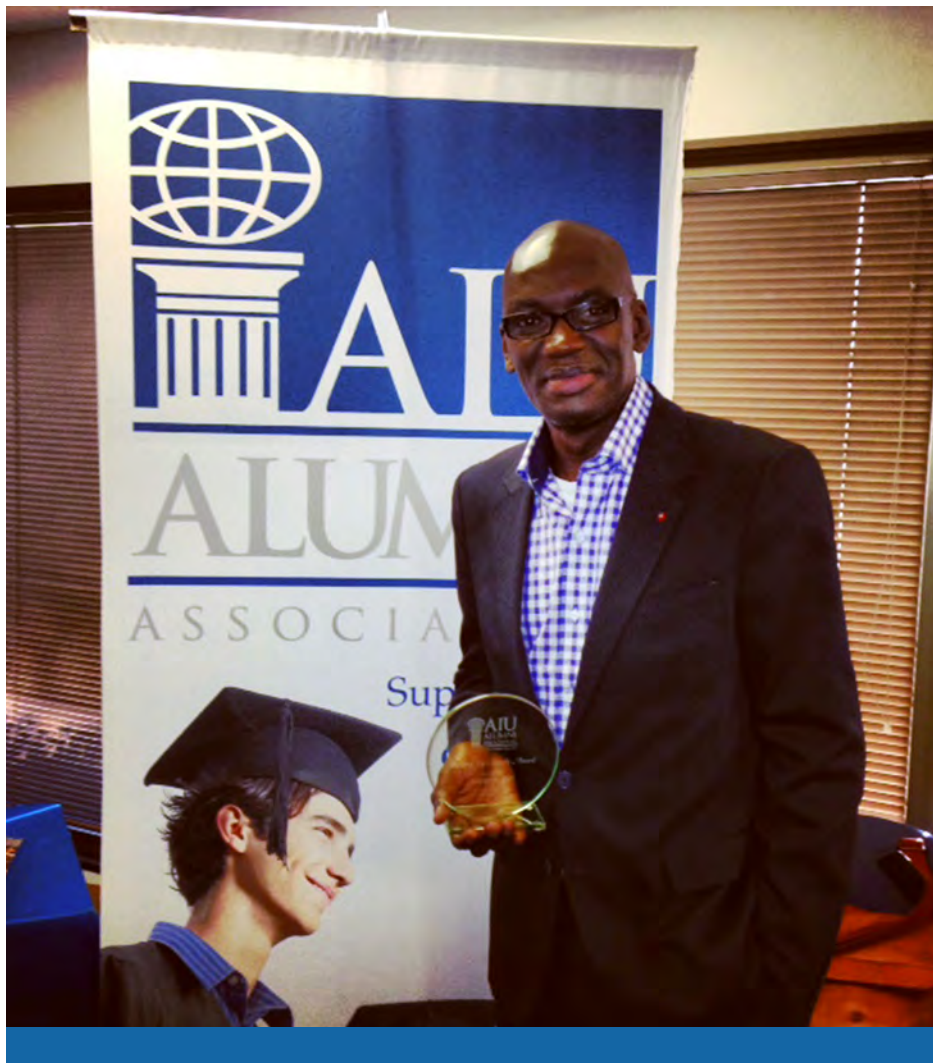
The Atlanta Alumni Chapter presented the Leading by Example Award to Mr. Amadou Fall, who shared his story with guests and graciously thanked the Atlanta Alumni Chapter. Afterward, everyone was able to enjoy hors d'oeuvres and share their excitement with other graduates, alumni, and their guests.

The following day, April 26th, was an exciting and beautiful day for commencement. Over 300 graduates and their guests arrived at the Atlanta Civic Center to celebrate the achievement of this important goal.

Dr. Hisham Shaban, AIU Atlanta Campus President, gave an uplifting and energetic speech to open the ceremony. He then welcomed Dr. Stacie Clark, who delivered the keynote address to the graduates. Dr. Clark is a veteran of the military and earned two degrees from AIU; her Bachelor of Business Administration and her Master of Business Administration. Dr. Clark then welcomed the student speaker to the stage, Nilka M. Huff-Rodgers who spoke on behalf of the 2012-2013 graduating class.

After the graduates received their diplomas, Dr. Shaban congratulated and thanked everyone for attending. "As the graduates and guests left the stage you could see the excitement in their faces," said Lindsey Rogers, Alumni Relations Manager.

Congratulations to our all of our Spring 2013 graduates. We're proud of your educational accomplishments and look forward to seeing you take the next step in your journey. 🎓



Immediately above is the 2013 Spring "Leading by Example" Award winner, Mr. Amadou Fall.



2013 MARCH OF DIMES, MARCH FOR BABIES WALK

Spring is such an amazing time for Atlanta Alumni! Not only do we get to welcome new graduates to the association and celebrate with them, but we also get to walk the beautiful streets of downtown Atlanta together for this great cause.

The Atlanta Alumni Chapter has been volunteers, donating and walking for March of Dimes for more than a few years now. It's a great way to close out the graduation weekend and be able to share information with our new graduates

who volunteer. This year, we had over 10 people participate in the walk, and most of them were new to the Chapter.

This event is near and dear to the heart of one of our most proud and most-involved AIU Alumni. We walk this every year for her and the Atlanta community. We look forward to next year and invite all the new graduates as well. See you then! 🙌



AIU HOUSTON CELEBRATES GRADUATION

Saturday, June 1st was a remarkable day for AIU. The AIU Houston campus graduated over 150 Online and Houston graduates at the Bayou City Event Center located in Houston, Texas.

To start off the ceremony, a brief invocation was given by Dr. Kolaole Sonaike, AIU Houston's Business Program Chair. The national anthem was sung proudly by Brianna Letcher, granddaughter of Cheryl Morgan, AIU Houston's Lead Retention Advisor.



The commencement address was given by AIU Online Alumnus, Mr. Frank Avignon, a 2011 MBA graduate. Mr. Avignon shared his amazing story and left the audience inspired and ready to take on the next steps of their lives. The graduating class speaker of 2013 was John Osiemo, an MBA graduate from AIU Online.

Graduating so many accomplished individuals and giving them their moment to walk across the stage in front of their friends and families is what graduation is all about. To finish the day, the closing speech was given by AIU Houston President Dr. Martin Negron.

Overall, the ceremony was flawless. Family, friends, staff and most importantly the graduates had an amazing time and were able to celebrate their achievements.

Pictures of graduates at the ceremony can be viewed and ordered at www.artandfun.com/aiu 📷



2013 HOUSTON ARTHRITIS WALK

On June 1st, 2013 the Houston Alumni Chapter participated in raising money for this great cause. This is something near and dear too many of our graduates' lives and is something we can fight to find a cure for. Last year, we saw all types of people ranging from grandparents to children and adults. Everyone is effected in some shape or form and these people come together to walk and raise money.

Invitations were sent to anyone living in the Houston area, both the online campus and ground campuses alike. We were able to raise a couple hundred dollars and wish to thank everyone who donated and appreciate their help. "We are very excited for next year and hope to keep this an annual walk." Said Lindsey Rogers, Alumni Relations Manager. 📷



OVER 200 GRADUATES WALK AT AIU SOUTH FLORIDA COMMENCEMENT

On Friday, June 21, 2013, over 200 graduates participated in AIU South Florida's graduation ceremony, held at the Broward County Convention Center in Fort Lauderdale, Florida. Hosted in the Floridian Room of the convention center, the ceremony's atmosphere was set for a momentous event that would garner all the pomp and circumstance AIU graduates deserve. Family and friends filled every seat in the audience, all eager to see their loved ones walk across the stage. Not only would they become graduates, but it symbolized the close of one chapter, and the beginning of another in the story book of their lives.

A beautiful rendition of our nation's national anthem was performed by AIU South Florida Alumna, Amber Binford. Dressed in full military regalia, color guard from North Miami Senior High proudly presented our nation's colors while Amber's voice washed over the room with patriotic fervor. Dr. Fabian Cone, Director of Education for the South Florida campus, delivered the opening procession, and presented South Florida and Atlanta Campus President, Dr. Hisham Shaban. True to his enthusiastic nature, he was able to evoke excitement in the audience and the graduates. Dr. Michael Mounts, Program Dean for Criminal Justice, also gave a moving speech that recognized the veterans in the room; not only veterans who were AIU students, but veterans in the audience as well.

It was with great pleasure that Dr. Shaban presented the Keynote Speaker, another AIU Alumnus, Dennard Mitchell, who is a motivational speaker, author, and co-founder of two successful companies. Dennard delivered an electrifying and enthralling speech which the audience rewarded with roars of applause and a standing ovation. Next, it was our pleasure to welcome another AIU Alumna, Suzanne Thomas. Suzanne works with the Cleveland Clinic Hospital network, and was just recently promoted to a directorial position at their new location in West Palm Beach, Florida. She delivered an inspirational address that set the stage for this year's Graduate



Keynote Speaker Dennard Mitchell, AIU Career Services Advisor Felicia Medina, and Alumni Speaker Suzanne Thomas.

Speaker, Marie Christelle Bernardine. Throughout her speech, she acknowledged the nuisances and frustrations of what it means to be a college student. However, she also made sure to give special thanks to some special instructors, and give proper congratulations where it was due: to the graduating class of 2012-2013.

Lastly, after great anticipation, the presentation of degrees was announced. However, before students walked the stage to become graduates, a moment was taken to recognize Anthony Brown, an AIU Student who passed away earlier in June. His sister was brought on stage to accept a posthumous Bachelor of Business Degree awarded to Anthony, and after a brief moment of silence, applause broke out and signaled the start of what each student was waiting for: Walking across the stage. Each program chair proudly called off graduates' names; family members and friends broke out in uproarious congratulatory cheer for their now graduated son, daughter, father, mother, sister, brother or friend. When all the graduates' names had been called, there was a special treat in store; a short video filmed by AIU South Florida Media Production students and starring AIU South Florida staff and faculty took the

graduates by surprise. Numerous congratulations and well wishes were directed to graduates, as well as their very own "Harlem Shake" video (<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OkI7Imdugoc&feature=youtu.be>)

After some good laughs, Dr. Shaban took the stage and prepared to confer the degrees awarded. At the end of his countdown, every student, in unison, moved their tassel from the right side of their cap, to the left side; signifying that they are now graduates of American Intercontinental University. The graduates began to cheer and congratulate one another, and each relished in the accomplishment now afforded to each and every one of them. 🙌

AIU SOUTH FLORIDA ALUMNI PARTNERS WITH GIRL SCOUTS OF AMERICA

It is always a pleasure for the AIU Alumni South Florida Chapter to lend a helping hand in our community. During the month of August, the Chapter partnered with Girl Scouts of America Troop #10735, for a back to school supply drive. The Chapter sponsored six boys between the ages of 10 and 16 from the Broward Outreach Center. For three weeks, school supplies, such as pencils, pens, notebooks, book bags, and more were collected.

On August 24, we joined the Girl Scout Troop at the Broward Outreach Center located in Hollywood, FL, for the Back to School Fun Day with the Center's residents. We assisted with numerous activities, such as mini-manicures, jewelry making, and crafts. After the two hour activity, we distributed back packs filled with the items collected to each sponsored child.

It was an AMAZING day! Several residents who take advantage of the Center's resources shared with the Chapter their experiences and stories; personally, I realized their situations can happen to anyone, at any given moment.

The Mission of the Broward Outreach Center:

Transform the lives of homeless men, women and children through comprehensive residential programs to effect lasting change and empower them to be productive members of society. They provide food, shelter, substance abuse treatment, education, computer literacy, job placement, healthcare, spiritual development and housing with Christian love, compassion and encouragement.

Click on the link for additional information

<http://www.miamirescuemission.com/boc.htm>

Mahatma Gandhi once said, "You must be the change you wish to see in the world." Everyone who participated made a difference. The Chapter would like to recognize Yolene Medina, sister of AIU Alumna, Felicia Medina, and Yolene's son, Jeremiah Desir, for assisting with the event. Thanks to Dana Williams, Career Services Manager, and daughter, Alana Rosarion, for introducing us to the Girls Scout Troop. Thanks to Lindsey Rogers, Alumni Relations Manager, for handling the event communications. Lastly, a very special thanks to everyone who donated to the drive, and made Back to School a little easier for some very deserving students, and a huge thanks to the Broward Outreach Center for making a difference in the community. 🙏



2013 CHICAGO COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY

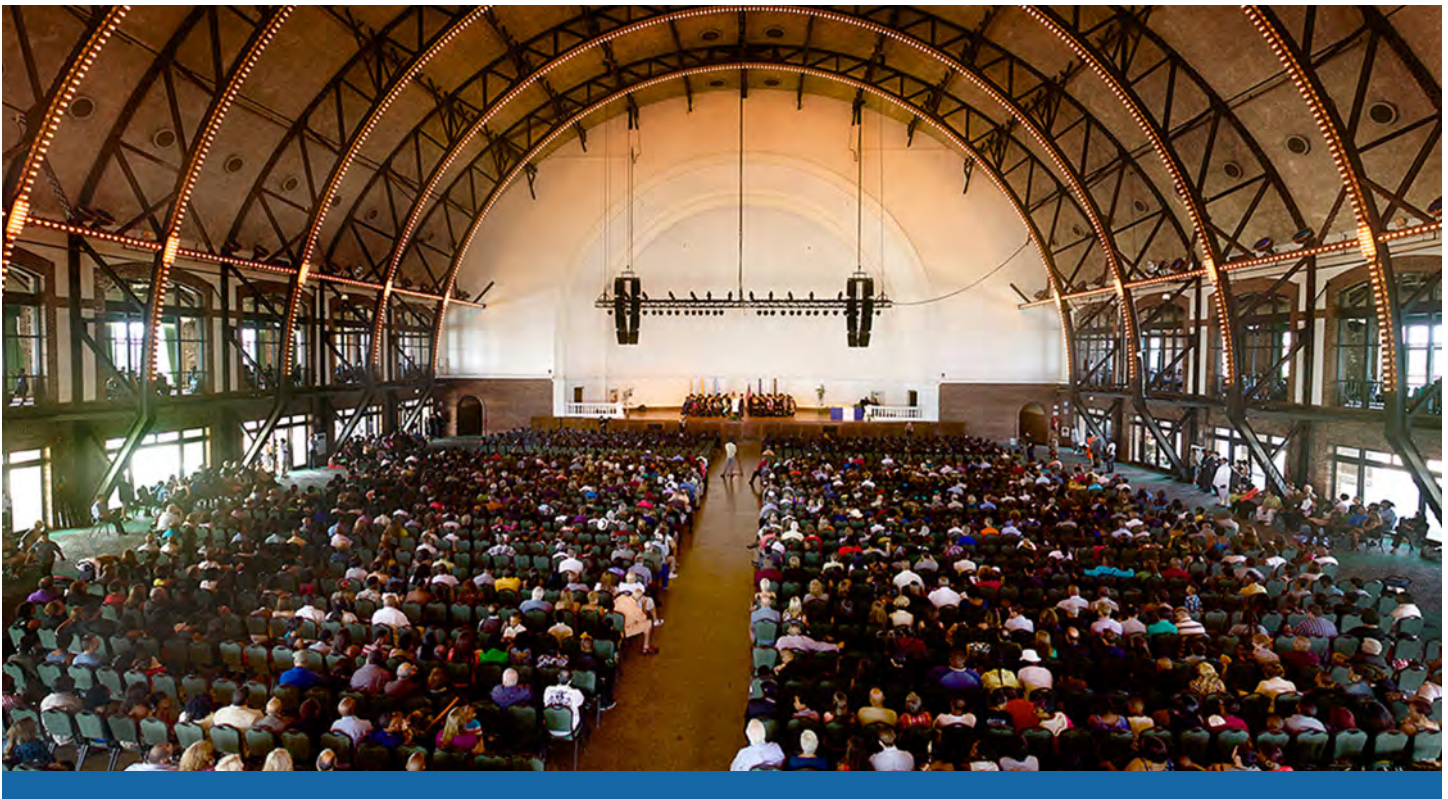
AIU hosted the 9th Chicago Commencement Ceremony this past Saturday, August 24th in the Navy Pier Grand Ballroom. 235 graduates and approximately 1100 guests joined together to celebrate the hard work and dedication taken to earn an AIU degree. 83 graduates participating in the ceremony were awarded with honor cords signifying their outstanding GPAs and 15 of those wore a 4.0 honor medallion for their flawless GPA. The ceremony also included the inauguration of the Americana Military Honor Cord. This red, white and blue was worn by over 50 active duty and veteran graduates in recognition of their service in the U.S. Armed Forces.

The day started off perfectly with the sun shining bright on the lake with graduates gathering with excitement for the event! The ceremony included an outstanding message delivered by the keynote speaker, Judge Glenda Hatchett. Her message encouraged students that "You've got to write your own story"! Attendees were inspired by her words and prepared them to process across the beautiful stage to receive their scroll from Dr. Washington and capture the moment in a picture with Dr. Miller.

Following the ceremony, graduates, faculty, staff and guests celebrated with a hors d'oeuvre reception. Smiles, laughter,

and congratulatory hugs were given to the graduates to solidify their movement into the next phase of their education journey, whatever that may be.

To view some of the amazing photos and comments from graduates, check out AIU's Facebook page www.facebook.com/americanintercontinentaluniversity 📷



AIU ONLINE'S PHILANTHROPY COMMITTEE

AIU Online believes in giving back to its community. That's why the university established AIU's WeCare philanthropy committee in 2007. The mission of WeCare is to create a difference in communities and empower the lives of those in need. Each year the committee partners with local and national foundations by organizing fundraising events for AIU employees to participate in and make a contribution. The events- such as 5k races, cupcake baking classes or silent auctions, to name a few- also foster awareness for the charities WeCare supports while enriching the community around us. A few of the organizations WeCare

has recently supported include Gigi's Playhouse, LUPUS, National Ovarian Cancer Coalition and Cell Phones for Soldiers.

To give you a dose of WeCare's success, midway through 2013 WeCare raised over \$5,500. Giving back awards AIU with a broader sense of purpose and WeCare couldn't be prouder to share our efforts and achievements with AIU Alumni!

If you have recently supported your community and want to share your story, please e-mail wecare@aiuonline.edu 📧



Career Services

CAREER SERVICES IS DEDICATED TO HELPING ALUMNI

One of the great benefits of being an AIU Alumnus is that you have the support of the Career Services Department to help you conduct an effective job search. From career planning to job offer evaluation, you can work one-on-one with a Career Services Advisor that will assist you in getting started and staying focused while you pursue a career.

Career Assessment and Planning

If you're uncertain about your career path, we can provide assessment tests and one-on-one coaching sessions to help get a better sense of careers that are compatible with your personality, skills and interests.

Career Coaching

Everyone has their marketable strengths and Career Services can show you how to highlight yours. But we won't stop there- we can also work with you to help strengthen specific areas where extra help is needed.

Resume and Cover Letter

In a competitive job market, you need a solid resume and cover letter that will stand out against a large pool of applicants. We can advise you on how to create a resume and a cover letter that will make a great first impression.

Practice Interview Sessions

Interviewing does not come easy to anyone. But the good news is that interviewing is a skill that you can learn and develop. That is why the Career Services team is available to do practice interviews to help you prepare for your next job interview. We will review questions with you, provide feedback and pointers on how to articulate your skills, accomplishments and experience.

Locating Job Opportunities

Today jobseekers have a greater chance of success in landing their dream career by being proactive and using various job search strategies. Career Services Advisor will coach you on the most effective strategies to locate positions in your industry and help you tap into the hidden market.

Optimal Resume

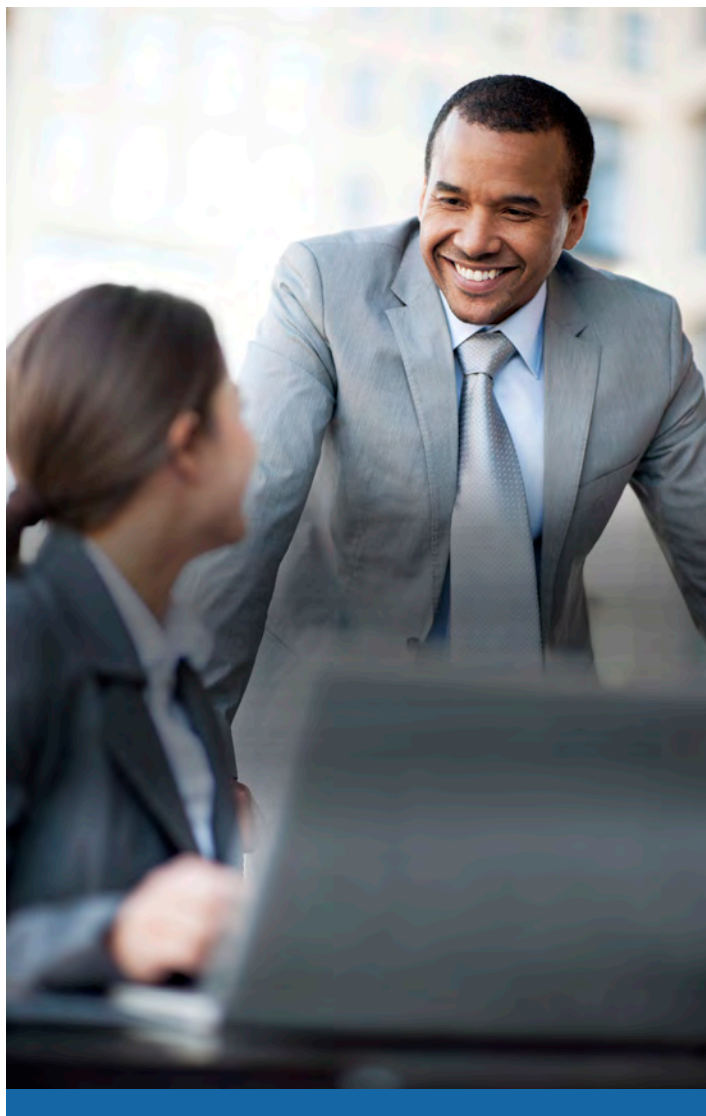
In addition to the excellent support you will receive from Career Services, there are career related resources available to Alumni. Career Services' has a partnership with Optimal 2.0 which offers valuable support. Optimal Resume is a platform where you can use a variety of career related tools to help you on your career search and ongoing career management.

Within the Optimal tool, you can also create and manage an unlimited number of job search documents such as

resumes, cover letters, references and thank you letters. Without a doubt, you can construct a winning resume and cover letter using Optimal Resume. The software includes spell check, formatting tools and tips to help you create professional documents. Along with the resume and letter builder features, there are several other modules in Optimal Resume to support you in developing an online portfolio, create a career website and practice your interviewing skills.

One of AIU's favorite Optimal Resume features is the Opportunity Dashboard. This is where AIU posts job opportunities from nation-wide companies that are interested in employing AIU graduates. Once you have an approved resume in Optimal Resume, you can begin applying immediately!

Don't miss out on all that Optimal Resume has to offer. Check out it out by logging in and creating your free account today at <https://aiu.optimalresume.com/> 🖱



Career Services' Top Tips



YOUR FIRST IMPRESSION IS NOT WHAT YOU THINK

*Written by: Samantha Urso,
Career Services Advisor for AIU
Online*

Posted: July 3, 2013

Did you know that many employers will log onto Google and type in your name before they call you for an interview? Since this is the case, it's important to make sure that you

want them to see what they find. Remember, you cannot "unsee" something once you have seen it. Follow these tips to help keep your digital identity employer friendly.

Google Yourself

Look at the first three or four pages of your Google results to see what about you is visible to an employer. Do you see anything that could prevent an employer from calling you to set up an interview? If so, try to remove it or clean it up.

Don't just be satisfied with not being able to find anything negative. With technology being so advanced, an employer

should be able to see something about you. They may think you are hiding information if this happens. Think of this as an opportunity to create your own personal brand. Develop a LinkedIn profile along with Twitter and Facebook. Put yourself out there professionally and market yourself as a potential candidate for employers. Join groups in your field of study and participate in discussions that are relevant to your industry.

Clean Up Your Social Media Persona

Make sure to go through any social media sites you belong to and check your privacy settings. Check for inappropriate language, comments, or pictures of you. Since you have accepted what is on these sites, these will be viewed as representations of you. Do you want your personal brand to be something negative? What will an employer think?

Also, if your privacy settings are set up strictly, make sure your brand is not negatively affected. In this job market, "who you know" is very important and your network could very well introduce you to someone else who may be able to help you out. Make sure it isn't impossible to find you, and that once you're found, you have presented yourself in a professional way. 🙌



4 TIPS FOR BUILDING A STELLAR COVER LETTER

*Written by: Jason Brashler,
Career Services Advisor for AIU
Online.*

Posted: June 5, 2013

After you've spent hours filling out an application and tailoring an effective, smartly-written resume, writing a cover letter may feel a bit redundant. After all, your resume already displays your previous experience,

relevant skill sets and a list of impressive accomplishments; why should you dedicate time to restate that information?

The answer lies in the narrative format a cover letter uses. While your resume is written in bullet point format and does an excellent job of articulating your relevant background in concise sentences, it does a poor job of telling an overall story. Sure, the reader might be able to guess at how everything fits together, but they may create an inaccurate narrative based on their own assumptions, or they may not get a detailed depiction of certain relevant job responsibilities.

For example, you may have a bullet point that reads something like, "Handled escalated customer service issues," which gives the reader a decent idea of what you did, and may indicate some advanced or additional job responsibilities. A cover letter, on the other hand, allows you the chance to explore the type of customer service issues you handled, and might do a better job of depicting success within that position overall.

The bottom line is that cover letters are an essential component to your job search and an effective complement to your resume because they allow you to tell a story (although brief), about yourself and why you, specifically, are a great fit for the position you are applying for.

Here are a few tips when building a cover letter:

- Avoid using the same cover letter for every position you apply for.

Each position is somewhat different, and you want to speak to the specifics of each position you apply for. Also, a cover letter designed for a specific position will the hiring manager how sincere you are in your interest.

- Keep your cover letter brief.

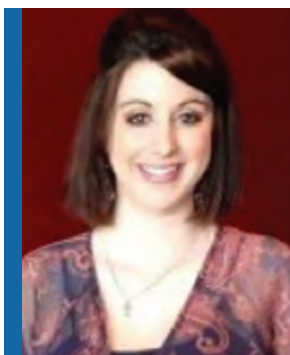
Even though you are constructing a narrative and spending some time on the details here, you still want to keep the reader's time constraints in mind. Try to keep your cover letter to three short paragraphs, and make sure the information is directly relevant to the position you're applying for.

- Sustain a polite tone.

Avoid doing anything that can be perceived as overly aggressive, such as asking to schedule an interview, in your cover letter. Make sure to thank the reader for their time.

- Proofread.

Cover letters can work against you if they are written poorly, so make sure your grammar and spelling are pristine. 🙌



FINDING YOUR PERFECT JOB FIT

*Written by: Kendall Schwartz,
Career Services Advisor for AIU
Online.*

Posted: May 15, 2013

If you're just beginning your job search, you may feel a little overwhelmed by all of the information and job hunting tools available. You may not even be sure where to begin. Every position

comes with a variety of qualifications and skills needed for you to be considered as an applicant. How do you find out what types of positions you may be qualified for? Here are four resources to help you get started.

AIU Career Services Resources

The AIU Career Services department offers many resources for students and graduates to use during their career search. One available tool is the Career Converter, found under the Career Services Resources tab in the AIU Virtual Campus. This tool allows you to explore different career paths based off of your degree program along with a general description of the position. You should also discuss your options with an AIU Career Services Advisor.

O*NET OnLine

O*NET OnLine is another resource to help you explore careers based on your current skills and education. You can examine lists of career opportunities that fit the information you provide as well as any related occupations. The summary tab allows you to view detailed information on a particular occupation so that you can determine if it is a position that interests you.

Using Your Specialization in Your Job Search

Having a specialization in your degree program gives you the opportunity to learn about a specific field that interests you and may even help open doors to a new industry or specific job opportunity. The great thing about having a degree with a specialization is that by taking both general and specialized classes, you have the opportunity to explore positions based on both your specialization and your general degree.

Job Search Boards: Seeing What Is Available

There are many ways to utilize the internet to search for jobs and see what positions you are qualified for. Job search engines can be a great place to start looking at job opportunities in your area and view the requirements of each position. Instead of just using job titles within the search engines, try pulling keywords from job duties you've performed and skills that you have.

I Found a Position I'm Interested In...Now What?

When you find a position that interests you, the first thing you want to do is examine the qualifications. Start by looking at the years of experience required. If you do not have any experience and the listing states one or two years of experience is required for the position, you should consider this job since it is likely to be an entry-level position.

Next, look at the other qualifications for the position. Do you feel that you meet 80% of the qualifications, and are you interested in performing the tasks that are being asked? If you're interested in the position and feel that you are qualified at this time, note it as one possible position you can pursue. If you do not meet the qualifications at this time, take note of this position and the qualifications that you still need in order to pursue this particular job. You will then want to look for opportunities that will help you gain the experience and skills needed for that position further down your career path. 📌

To read more tips by the Career Services Department and articles about the University please check out the AIU blog, <http://www.aiuniv.edu/Student-Life/blog>

AIU'S EDUCATIONAL ALLIANCES CENTER PROVIDES VALUE TO COMPANIES IN A MYRIAD OF WAYS



"I had never heard about AIU until you came to visit CIGNA a couple years ago and now I'm graduating in August," said that woman as she approached the information table. "I'll have my degree in Human Resources in August."

A similar refrain has been heard at companies like CIGNA along with UPS, Home Depot, Disney, Comcast and Sears. What do these companies have in common? Outside of being top grossing Fortune 500 companies, they are all Educational Alliances with American InterContinental University. AIU's Educational Alliances Center (EAC) works with over 100 companies to offer a customizable way for organizations to meet and exceed their training and development goals to drive business results.

Whether it is speaking about returning to school with an "out of costume" Cinderella at a Disneyworld event or strategizing about a company-wide certificate program with the VP of Training and Development at Blue Cross Blue Shield, AIU's Educational Alliances Center provides value to companies in a myriad of ways including:

- Providing educational benefits including tuition grants and waived application fees to employees and immediate family members from companies willing to become an AIU alliance partner.

- Coordinating marketing events for employees of EAC Alliances including information tables, professional development seminars, education fairs, e-mail blast campaigns and internal advertising campaigns to promote both the university and continued career growth.
- Collaborating with companies to help determine a solution to fill companies' skill gaps through advanced degrees, certificate programs or customized tailored classes.

Through it all, the goal of the EAC is to make more companies, and as a result more employees, aware of AIU and the real world curriculum that can help solve some of their biggest challenges. In order to assist with positioning AIU in the business to business marketplace the EAC has developed a "We're In Business with Your Business" approach. This targeted marketing initiative focuses on AIU becoming a thought leader in the business marketplace through webinars, white papers and resource materials. An example of this took place in May with an American Society for Training and Development (ASTD) Webinar sponsored by AIU-EAC titled – "The Measurement of Success". With an attendance of over 400 participants, this webinar helped create buzz about AIU as a university business partner.

Additionally, AIU's 60 new career success certificates help address a rising need in the business marketplace for a shorter, more applied education that can have an immediate impact on business needs.

"In our conversations with our customers, corporations that believe in education are looking to invest in it in smaller chunks," says Matt Charpentier, EAC Director of Strategic Accounts. "That's where certificates can come in to meet their business needs."

Whether it is working with potential students or potential alliances the AIU-EAC is another unit within the university that looks to increase the awareness of AIU. Through this awareness potential students can become degree earners that take their education and opportunities to the next level – the EAC has seen it happen before.

For more information AIU's Educational Alliances Center visit – www.aiuniv.edu/forbusiness

To view some of the amazing photos and comments from graduates, check out AIU's Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/AmericanInterContinentalUniversity>



EDUCATIONAL ALLIANCES CENTER



Alumni Referral Scholarship

Interview with Lindsey Rogers, AIU Alumni Relations Manager

SHARE THE WEALTH OF EDUCATION AND AIU CAN GIVE A \$1,000* SCHOLARSHIP IN YOUR NAME

We're excited to share the news of our recently created AIU Alumni Referral Scholarship. Through the program, AIU will give new students referred by an eligible AIU graduate a \$1,000* scholarship. We interviewed Lindsey Rogers, AIU Alumni Relations Manager, to find out how AIU grads can have a scholarship created in their name.

Q: Why did you decide to begin the AIU Alumni Referral Scholarship?

A: As the Alumni Relations Manager, I talk to many alumni who have great things to say about AIU and their education. Our grads often refer friends, family and co-workers who end up attending AIU. That word-of-mouth recommendation is powerful, and we want to show our students and alumni our appreciation for their referrals with a scholarship program that recognizes both referring alumni and the new students they recommend.

Q: What is the Alumni Referral Scholarship?

A: The Alumni Referral Scholarship Program is an opportunity for Alumni to refer new students to AIU. Alumni who refer eligible* new students can have referral scholarships given in their names to students they refer. Scholarship recipients will receive a scholarship certificate once the scholarship is awarded. Alumni will also receive a certificate and a letter announcing that a scholarship has been created in their name. Alumni who have scholarships awarded on their behalf through the program will be featured on the AIU website and will appear in AIU's alumni magazine, AIU Ink.

Q: Who can receive the AIU Alumni Referral Scholarship?

A: The AIU Alumni Referral Scholarship is limited to new students who are referred to the university on or after August 26, 2013. So if you have ever applied to AIU or enrolled and withdrew, even before attending classes, you would not be able to get the scholarship.

Q: Can new students apply for the scholarship themselves?

A: Yes, new students just need to let their Enrollment Specialist know that they were referred by an AIU graduate and let us know who referred them in order to apply.

Q: How much scholarship money will AIU be awarding?

A: The AIU Alumni Referral Scholarship is a \$1,000 scholarship given in two \$500 installments.

Q: How will the scholarship money be awarded?

A: After a new student completes his or her first quarter in good academic standing, the student will receive a \$500 account credit. Then, after the student completes the second quarter in good academic standing, he or she will get the remaining \$500 applied to their AIU account.

Q: How often can alumni recommend a student for the scholarship?

A: Alumni can refer new students as often as they wish but may only give two full scholarships per year (365 days).

Q: Can all AIU alumni have scholarships given in their name?

A: Yes, as long as you are an AIU graduate. If your name is John Smith, the scholarship will be called the John Smith Alumni Referral Scholarship.

Q: Will the alumnus know when a scholarship has been given?

A: Both the new student and alumnus will receive a printed, ready-to-frame certificate when the first portion of the scholarship has been awarded. They will also be notified by email.

Q: How many scholarships will be awarded?

A: There is no limit to the number of scholarships per year.

Q: What other types of scholarships does AIU offer beside the Alumni Referral Scholarship?

A: All of the scholarships and grants that AIU offers are listed in the university catalog. You can also learn more about AIU scholarships on our financial aid page.

Q: When will the scholarship program begin and end?

A: The program began August 26, 2013 and is ongoing, so alumni can refer multiple students over time.

Q: How can alumni and students get more information about the AIU Alumni Referral Scholarship?

A: To learn more about the Alumni Referral Scholarship Form, simply contact an AIU advisor or visit the Alumni Referral Scholarship page on our website.

* Please see course catalog for conditions:

http://catalog.careered.com/~media/Catalogs/aiu_main/catalog_addendum.ashx 📄



Features

AIU GRAD STEPHANIE DALY LEVERAGES THE CREATIVE SIDE OF BUSINESS

Stephanie M. Daly

MBA, '12 - Marketing

AIU MBA graduate Stephanie Daly was recently named the Marketing Manager and Graphic Designer for AtSite, Inc., a building performance solutions company located in Washington, D.C. where she manages AtSite's marketing, branding and communications initiatives. In her new role, she works directly under the Senior Director to develop industry outreach strategies, such as social media campaigns, conference and event marketing and ongoing branding awareness.

Daly attended the International Academy of Design and Technology (IADT) in Chicago to pursue a BFA in Advertising & Design. While studying at IADT, Daly worked as an Administrative Assistant for AthletiCo, a prominent physical therapy and sports medicine organization based out of Chicago. Her creative itch urged her to reach out to AthletiCo's HQ for a marketing position upon graduating with her BFA in Advertising & Design in 2004, and soon after was hired as a marketing intern. She rapidly moved up within the company, becoming their Creative Marketing Manager, doing in-house design for AthletiCo's internal and external marketing efforts.

In 2008, during the height of the recession, Daly decided to Daly's move back to her home town of Washington, D.C. Relocating from a city with a diverse, creative culture to one dominated by politics was also an obstacle for Daly. "It was tough [at the time] to find a job that was suitable for me and one that I really enjoyed from a creative standpoint," she recalled.

Daly was fortunate to find freelance work executing a multitude of marketing and creative projects in the non-profit arena, alongside the occasional freelance design gig. In 2012 Daly left the freelance world and joined AtSite's creative management team.

"My current position seems to have been molded for me," Daly says of her position as Marketing Manager and Graphic Designer for AtSite. "It's as if I have two jobs within the company. It's awesome, yet challenging, and I love it. I am doing something that I really enjoy for a company whose mission I respect tremendously. I won the jackpot."

Daly is in the process of acquiring her MBA through AIU's accelerated MBA program. "I feel the need to hone in on the business and strategic side of marketing," says Daly. She initially heard of AIU when she attended IADT, which is a sister school. She will receive her MBA in Marketing this coming November.

"Discovering AIU was like a gold mine for me," Daly admits. "I chose the program because it's online, it's accelerated (the program's duration is only eleven months) and it's really tailored to my lifestyle and professional needs."

While graphic design and marketing are part of her evolving life, Daly once believed that she would be a copywriter and had a dream of conceptualizing a commercial for the Super Bowl. "Keeping an open mind throughout your collegiate and professional experiences is important. Continue looking for what you're meant to be doing."

In addition to her full-time career, Daly conducts creative consulting for start-up and local businesses to include small law firms, clothing retailers and information technology firms. "I will always have my hands in the creative pie. I can't go on without design," Daly says.

Daly would love to one day own her own creative marketing business on a higher level than freelance work. For now she plans on growing within the AtSite organization and taking full advantage of her strategic and business knowledge after having acquired her MBA at AIU.

Daly is a member of Delta Mu Delta International Honor Society in Business - Mu Epsilon Installation (October 20, 2011). She also has two published blogs in AIU's *The Marketing Scene*. 📖



AIU MBA MICHELLE ACCARDI-PETERSEN HARNESSES THE POWER OF CHANGE TO TRANSFORM BUSINESS, LIFE AND HER COMMUNITY.

Michelle Accardi-Petersen
MBA – 2011

Looking at Michelle Accardi-Petersen's career and accomplishments, one can't dispute the power of agility for business, for marketing – and even for life. Michelle was recently appointed as Chief Marketing Officer for Star2Star Communications, a leading Florida technology firm specializing in integrated communication and collaboration solutions. The AIU grad is also the author of *Agile Marketing* (2011). So how does agile marketing translate to an agile life?

"Life is agile," Michelle explains, "Things always change. Life circumstances change, and while we can't always control those changes, we can control how we react to them."

When Michelle isn't working as an industry leader, thought leader, innovator and author in next-generation tech marketing, she works with girls – to help encourage them to become leaders in the tech industry, themselves. "Diversity is something we need to embrace from all angles, and it's something I appreciate about Star2Star. We believe a diverse team enables us to better meet the needs of our growing and diverse customer set."

So how does she get it all done? Michelle says that she plans for change. She even plans for interruption. Following the publication of her book, Michelle blogged, "The option I most often employ is to plan for interruption. Yes, you heard right; don't schedule your sprint to 100%. Plan for 10 to 20% interruption, depending on how agile your company is."

Leaders of the technical world call Michelle "a powerhouse," "a singular talent," "visionary," and "one of the greats." She is widely acclaimed for her ability to wield equal doses of creative and analytical power. Not surprisingly, she's been on a leadership track since she landed her first job as a project manager with Infresco Corporation.

In the midst of her climb, Michelle realized that she needed to back up her real-world experience with validation from more scholarly work. She decided on an MBA. "I have always known that education is important, especially for a young woman who wanted to move up the corporate ladder in the technology industry, which, as you can imagine, was largely male-dominated."

Michelle decided to pursue her degree online after reading articles about how online schools were a better model for what real work environments were like. She took two classes at another online school, and when they didn't meet her expectations, she came to AIU. "It felt rudimentary, so I decided to look for another school, and through that search, I met with an admissions counselor at AIU who helped me through the process."

Of her AIU experience, Michelle says, "I loved that my professors all had great credentials and, more importantly, real-world experience. I loved working with the other students collaboratively on group projects. In today's world, where people don't always have the luxury of working in the same place, I felt that this was a good emulation of the real work place."

For Michelle, earning her MBA in 2004 enabled her to have confidence in her knowledge and gave her credibility with her colleagues. "I believe this helped me grow from being a marketing manager to becoming a leader in my field."

Since then, Michelle has garnered two business awards. In 2008 Michelle was recognized by South Florida Business Journal as "Woman Who Means Business for South Florida." Then in 2009 the Gulf Coast Business Review named her among their "40 Under 40."

Michelle encourages anyone who is on the fence about getting a degree to "go for it." She says, "An education is something no one can ever take away from you. It's the one thing you can bring from job to job."

When asked about her involvement with AIU, Michelle says, "I have seen first-hand how AIU works with graduates to help them in career placement, and I'm excited that in my role as Chief Marketing Officer of Star2Star, I'll have the opportunity to work with AIU to recruit the best of the best in marketing and technology to come work with us here in Sarasota, Florida." 📌

Sources:

Star2Star Communications. (2013). Michelle Accardi-Petersen Joins Star2Star Communications [Press release]. Retrieved from <http://www.prweb.com/releases/2013/6/prweb10800473.htm>

Petersen, Michelle. (2012, September 25). Worklife, Interrupted. [Blog]. <http://agile-marketing.blogspot.com/>



SHAQUITA SMITH MODELS A BRIGHT FUTURE FOR WOMEN AS SHE PREPARES TO PARTICIPATE IN THE MISS GEORGIA 2014 CONTEST

Shaquita Smith

AABA – 2012

Whether she is acting on the stage or screen, writing her own productions, speaking publicly or modeling, AIU AABA graduate Shaquita Smith showcases so much more than her beauty. She's showing the world, especially the young women for whom she is a role model, what confidence, determination and hard work can do.

Born and raised in Birmingham, Alabama, Shaquita was the victim of abuse and domestic violence. She escaped her troubled home to live with her grandmother at the age of 11. Shaquita often says in interviews and in her own social media that her grandmother was the one person in her life who motivated her and who encouraged her to succeed.

Her experience with abuse also inspired Shaquita to reach out to abused children and families by dedicating her bid for the Miss Georgia crown to eliminating domestic violence. "I am representing a voice that has never been heard."

Shaquita began defining her future as early as high school. That's when she found an outlet for her experiences through acting. From that moment on, Shaquita embraced all aspects of stage production, from writing and casting to acting and producing her own plays. She became president of her high school theatre club and won numerous acting awards. These successes paved the way for her to win a scholarship in Theatre Arts to Troy State University in Alabama.

But in 2012 Shaquita was ready to spread her wings and get her career off the ground, which she couldn't do at a traditional college. The young student came to Atlanta and enrolled in American Intercontinental University's School of Business. "[AIU] Online was very convenient for me. I could be in L.A, Washington or even across the country but still had time to manage my work."

When it comes to staying on track at AIU, Shaquita says, "Trying to stay patient and consistent was something I had to overcome. Directing while doing homework was challenging

for me. I overcame it by setting time aside for what was important. When I was on set some days I would have my computer right next to me."

Currently, Shaquita splits her time between getting ready for the Miss Georgia Pageant, working in the finance industry, teaching acting, directing plays and doing appearances as the reigning Miss Buckhead. She also continues to forward her platform by speaking out against domestic violence and child abuse everywhere she can: at public events, meetings and church services.

So what does the future hold? Win or lose, Shaquita Smith will be returning to AIU to complete her bachelor's degree in Business Administration with a concentration in entrepreneurship, "Yes, I am coming back to AIU to continue my education. I believe that if you want to set an example for other young ladies, you must promote education and excel in it to the best of your ability."

This January, Shaquita also begins shooting a new feature film entitled Global Network, which will be released in November 2014. "I am the lead actress in this action-thriller. The film is surrounded by martial arts and combat. No heels and make up for me."

When we asked Shaquita what her winning strategy is for getting it all done she said, "My strategy is simply having faith. [But] when it comes to getting anything I want to accomplish, I write down all my goals and plans. I work toward the goals until they are completed. This particular strategy works every time for me."

Shaquita says that this quote by Mary Manin Morrissey keeps her motivated for success, "Don't wait for something big to occur. Start where you are, with what you have, and that will always lead you into something greater." 🙌



AIU BUSINESS GRAD JUSTAN CAMPBELL CHARTS A NEW COURSE FOR HIS FAMILY AS A GRAND BAHAMA SHIPYARD JR. PROJECT PLANNER

Justan Campbell

BBA – With a concentration in project management – 2013

Justan Campbell's dream job in paradise could have been a case of two ships passing in the night. The Bahamian native was hired less than nine months after completing his BBA with a concentration in project management. "My first day of work at the shipyard was July 8, 2013. The closing date for applications was May 30, 2013. Hence, had I played around and extended my graduation date, I would have missed the opportunity to begin my career."

Grand Bahama Shipyard (GBS), one of the biggest ship repair companies in the region, says that they are proud to see young Bahamians return to the island after pursuing their educations. "...I am even more pleased with the talent of the young Grand Bahamian professionals that have accepted positions here with us," said Ed Pavay, Director of Technical and Planning at the GB Shipyard in recent article published by The Freeport News.

As one of the shipyard's newest Junior Project Planners, Justan Campbell's day-to-day work includes building work lists for trade managers. He is also responsible for creating a schedule for the duration of the repair work. Each day, Justan tours the vessels that are assigned to him and creates percentage completion reports for executive management. "Knowing that large commercial companies depend on GBS to service and repair their vessels for operations, and that hundreds of thousands of passengers will then board the vessels over the years, gives me great pride in what I do," says Campbell.

In the midst of searching for the right college program, Justan learned that he was going to be a father. "The search for the right school led me to AIU," Justan explained, "AIU meant business and wanted persons alike to study and earn their degrees within a shorter time frame than at traditional schools."

Justan made the difficult decision to leave the Bahamas and study for his Bachelor of Business Administration on campus

at AIU-Atlanta. "To overcome being away from my family, I studied harder, took the maximum load of classes for several terms and requested an overload of classes to accelerate the time that I would need to get my bachelor's degree," Justan explains.

When asked about what academic advice he would give other students Justan says, "For those wanting to go back to school, the time is now. Higher education isn't a want anymore; it is a need. By settling down and taking schoolwork seriously, AIU students can gain a bank of knowledge from instructors who are more than willing to share their knowledge and experience in a classroom or online.

Justan and two other co-workers beat out more than 100 applicants for their positions. When it comes to interviewing, he says, "During my interview, I personally had to create a scenario of what my position should entail without having any experience in the ship repair industry."

Today, Justan calls on advice his professors would share about their own day-to-day challenges in the project management field, "Having these seasoned professionals as lecturers created a real-life scenario in the classroom for practices and exercises. Dr. Cash from AIU-Atlanta, for example, would often speak about the importance of knowing financial terms in addition to project planning methodologies. By listening and paying attention to his teachings, I was able to express the thorough knowledge of project management methodologies that helped me gain the position I hold today."

When Justan isn't working at Grand Bahama Shipyard and spending time with his wife and son, he gives back to the community as a Little League coach and the Vice President of the Bahamas Youth Movement whose mission is to inspire and uplift area youth, while giving kids a voice amongst leaders in the Bahamas. 📞

ANA CAROLINA LANUZA, AIU'S 2013 DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI AWARD WINNER



Ana Carolina Lanuza is the owner of Leverage Investigations, Inc which is located in Miami, Florida. She is a bilingual Licensed Florida Private Investigator with experience in criminal defense, background investigation, missing persons—especially children, skip-tracing, infidelity, surveillance & ID Theft (Protection, Detection, Restoration and Investigation).

In 2008, Ana graduated with her Bachelors in Criminal Justice with a concentration in Forensic Science Magna Cum Laude from AIU Online; at the time it would be her second degree from AIU. Today she has received three degrees from AIU and as the recipient of the 2013 Distinguished Alumni Award; Ana has said “it is a great honor.”

Growing up, school was very difficult for Ana. She suffered from A.D.D. also known as Attention Deficit Disorder. Having A.D.D. was very difficult for her because she would have to reread all her homework so many times to understand what she was reading which was incredibly frustrating. She wasn't able to focus or concentrate and was in remedial classes for reading. Ana would even wake up at 5:30 AM on exam days, which was the time that she found she was most able to concentrate.

After graduating high school in 2001, she attended her local community college in Miami. After a year, she flunked out due to lack of attendance and because the professors didn't care about her success in school. She remembers the day she came home and told her parents that she wasn't going back to college, “I know that day was a horrible day for my parents, as well as for me.” It wasn't until 2006, when she realized she needed that little paper if she wanted to get ahead in life and excel in her profession. That's when she discovered there was an online university where she could attend classes and submit assignments when it was convenient for her.

“AIU made my dreams of going back to school a reality. I remember signing up for my first class for my Associates degree and time flew by until I received my Master's

degree. AIU made it so easy to focus by offering classes for 5 week periods; I would only have to focus on one or two classes at a time depending on the degree. The professors at AIU were very caring and were always available to answer my questions. They cared about my success. AIU also made it possible for me to graduate with my degree in a year's time. AIU was the perfect fit for me. I could work and attend school without interrupting my work schedule. I never even imagined completing my Master's degree, but after enjoying my time so much at AIU, I decided to go back and give myself the value of more education.” In 2009 Ana graduated with an MBA in International Business.

During her years at AIU, Ana was also working full-time. She was working as a secretary for a small boutique law firm and also as an intern as a private investigator. In 2010, just one year after receiving her Master's degree, Ana opened her own private investigation agency, Leverage Investigations, Inc. in Miami, FL handling a wide range of investigations.

Today, Leverage Investigations, Inc. is well-known throughout the world. The agency and investigators are also known for giving back to the community by rescuing missing children pro bono or for free. Ana also currently serves as the President of the Florida Association of Private Investigators which is a statewide association. Ana's goal is to grow Leverage Investigations, Inc. into an internationally well-known private investigation agency. 🦋

NON DEGREE SEEKING CERTIFICATES

As of the August 2014 start, AIU now offers a number of professional certificate options. A certificate is a non-degree program designed to provide students with specialized knowledge that is focused on career development or knowledge of a specific discipline. Students who have already earned a degree at AIU have the opportunity to enroll into one certificate program that is different than their initial area of specialization. To show our appreciation to our graduates, these courses are available at a discounted rate.

Undergraduate certificates are comprised of 27 quarter credit hours and are available to students and professionals who are seeking to increase their knowledge, skills, and expertise in Business, Criminal Justice, or Information Technology.

Graduate certificates are comprised of 24 quarter credit hours of coursework designed to enable professionals with

bachelor degrees to acquire advanced knowledge in a chosen specialized field. Graduate certificates are available in the areas of Business, Education, and Information Technology. These certificates are appropriate for professionals who have been in the field for an extended period of time, have gained broad understanding, or are interested in experiencing formal learning to improve their marketability within their current organization or in different professional fields and organizations. Professionals seeking the Graduate certificate in Master of Education must have a M.Ed. or a B.Ed. in order to be eligible to enroll.

For more information about certificate programs, see our website <http://www.aiuniv.edu/Admissions/Non-Degree-Seeking-Students>

If you are interested in enrolling and learning more about certificates, call 847-407-0315 or email us at AIUNDSCertificates@careered.com 📧

AIU LIBRARIES NOW OFFER LIBRARY RESEARCH DATABASES FOR ALUMNI!

Electronic research databases, such as those available to you through the American InterContinental University Library's Find Articles and eBooks page, offer access to a wealth of data and information. While license agreements with database vendors contractually obligate the AIU Library to only allow enrolled and active students access to the majority of our electronic research databases, AIU has recently acquired two new databases designed specifically for alumni.

AIU strives to fulfill its mission of preparing students academically, personally, and professionally by ensuring students continue to have access to quality library and information services. To this end, as a graduate of AIU, you now have access to Business Source Alumni Edition and Academic Search Alumni Edition. While many academic libraries at universities throughout the United States cease to provide access to electronic resources after students graduate, according to EBSCO, the vendor of these two databases, AIU is one of only four academic institutions in all of Illinois that subscribes to these alumni resources.

Academic Search Alumni Edition is a multi-disciplinary, full text article collection.

Through this database, users have access to scholarly, full-text information related to many areas of academic study and is designed to support the research needs of college graduates and working professionals. Regardless of the degree program from which you graduated, Academic Search

Alumni Edition will offer you relevant and reputable content from a variety of sources.

Business Source Alumni Edition is an excellent resource when researching business-related topics. Also designed for the research needs of the post-college professional, this database provides access to nearly 1,500 full-text business magazines and journals. Business Source Alumni Edition offers full text coverage for nearly all disciplines of business, including marketing, management, accounting, finance and economics. Additional full text, non-journal content includes market research reports, industry reports, country reports, company profiles, SWOT analyses, and more.

Additionally, as an alumnus, you have lifelong access to a staff of professional librarians. After you graduate, if you have a specific topic you are researching and you are unable to find the information you need, you can contact your campus librarians for assistance in finding resources either in the two databases available to you or through the web.

member, AIU is here to support you! If you have any questions or need help using the library's resources, please let us know. 📧

The screenshot displays the 'e-Resources' section of the AIU Library website. It features a search bar with a 'Keyword' label and a 'Search' button. Below the search bar, there are two main sections: 'Find articles and e-books by database' and 'Find articles and e-books by database'. The first section lists 'Academic Search Alumni' and 'Business Source Alumni'. The second section lists 'Academic Search Alumni' and 'Business Source Alumni'. The page also includes a 'Sort by: Name' dropdown menu and a 'Showing 2 resources in Find articles and e-books by database' indicator.

Alumni Mentoring Program

HOW ALUMNI MENTORS CAN IMPROVE THE COLLEGE EXPERIENCE

College is hard. Every college student needs a support network to provide encouragement, guidance, and accountability on his or her journey. While family, instructors, and friends can help form this support network, sometimes you may need more targeted, practical advice. This is where a student or alumni mentor comes in.

The Alumni Mentoring Program can improve the college experience. Mentors and mentees alike can benefit from this type of semi-professional partnership, clarifying their goals, discovering new talents, and working to correct weaker skills. Here are a few of the benefits of participating in the Alumni Mentoring Program.

How our Alumni Mentoring Program Can Work

In our Mentoring Program, new students are matched with a graduate who acts as a mentor. The mentor is a guide and role model; alumni chosen to act as mentors are usually successful and reliable as well as personable and genuinely eager to help others.

A student is matched with a mentor who studied the same degree as the inquiring student or mentee. Occasionally it is requested to have a more specific Mentor match, in these cases the Alumni Relations Manager will work with this individual to find a more specific match for them.

Mentors and mentees email on a regular basis and discuss:

- The student's academic goals and progress
- What resources are available to the student, and how to access them
- Managing time, setting goals, and studying effectively

In an online college degree setting, mentors and mentees can also discuss getting the most out of educational software and managing relationships with far-flung classmates and instructors.

Benefits For Student Mentees

When you're starting college for the first time (or for the first time in a while), the alumni mentoring program can offer the student/mentee an instant connection to your new community. At a large, the online campus, having someone focused on making sure you are set up to succeed is a motivator and can prevent you feeling "lost".

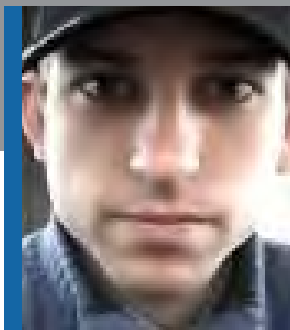
You can learn about how to make the most of your library, your career services department, and other student resources. Because mentors are typically high-performing graduates, you can also get practical tips about managing your academic workload, developing a relationship with your instructors, managing your work-life-school balance, and more. They've done it and successfully, so they know what you're going through.

Benefits to Mentors

Alumni who choose to mentor new students develop a stronger bond with their school community. They also have the opportunity to share what they've learned and make a lasting impact. The process of mentoring may also help mentors refine their own goals and aspirations, due to positive pressure that comes as a result of being a role model for someone else.

Finally, mentors can learn about different backgrounds and experiences from the students they partner with. Mentoring can help students and graduates develop personal qualities such as patience, reflectiveness, and the ability to motivate someone to perform better. These are skills that a mentor can take along wherever their future path lies.

AIU Alumni Association members can learn more about the AIU Alumni Mentoring Program at: www.aiuniv.edu/student-life/alumni or email alumni@aiuniv.edu 📧



AN INTERVIEW WITH ALUMNI MENTOR, BRANDON ALLOE BIT, MIT and M.ED GRADUATE

“...Each student deserves to have the opportunity to communicate one-on-one with a mentor who shares the same interests.”

Whether you are returning to school or beginning your college career for the first time, starting a degree program is a big transition. Even though new students have every resource available to them, AIU goes one step further, and puts each new student in touch with an experienced graduate who knows all the ins and outs and is ready to guide them. Alumni volunteers like Brandon Alloë make ideal mentors for new students. Brandon earned his bachelor and master of information technology and also holds a master's degree in education from AIU. Brandon currently works for Allied Barton Security. He gives back to the AIU community each day by sharing his considerable experience and real-world perspective with new students.

Why did you choose to mentor new students?

The primary reason I have chosen to become a mentor at AIU was to improve a student's transition from a traditional classroom setting to an online learning environment. The challenges that I provide students assistance with include; answering course content questions, locating assignment resources, APA formatting style guidelines, using Microsoft Office, navigating the AIU online learning platform and

career-centric job searches. In times of frustration, each student deserves to have the opportunity to communicate one-on-one with a mentor who shares the same interests. Mentoring new students also helps to alleviate the student's feeling of being alone the first day of class.

What do you enjoy most about it?

I enjoy motivating students to succeed in pursuing their dreams by inspiring each to never give up. It also allows me to effectively gain relevant experience in the field of Education by being an active listener and responding to the needs of every student on my roster.

Why did you choose AIU for your degree?

The main reason for selecting AIU as my home to earn a college degree was the flexibility. AIU offers students the ability to contact academic departments and classroom peers through instant messaging. In addition, many traditional colleges tend to provide reading materials without ever having used them during the course. At AIU, these books are delivered to the student placing learning right at each student's fingertips. AIU also makes it very easy for students to study and complete assignments on the terms of each student. Finally, having the ability to encourage collaboration through the use of social networking and forum-based communication is essential for success moving forward in a professional manner. 🙌



AN INTERVIEW WITH ALUMNI MENTOR, MADANI NDIAYE, MBA

“I enjoy motivating students to succeed in pursuing their dreams by inspiring each to never give up.”

Thanks to experienced volunteers like Madani Ndiaye, new AIU students have access to dedicated mentors to help get their academic careers off to a strong start and offer advice along the way. Madani Ndiaye graduated from AIU earning an MBA with a specialization in finance. Madani is currently a teacher in his own right, instructing French to naval personnel and diplomats prior to deployment overseas. Of his professional career Madani says, “When my students are able to communicate and understand French with ease, I am satisfied.”

Why did you choose to mentor new students?

When alone in front of a computer, it can be very stressful and frustrating to make progress. For that specific reason, I decided to offer my experience and be useful to students who value my sharing.

What do you enjoy most about it?

The part I enjoy the most is when I get positive feedback from students acknowledging that my assistance was useful to them and that it helped them make further progress in school.

Why did you choose AIU for your degree?

I heard about AIU in 2002 at the U.S. Embassy in Mexico. I was a spouse of a U.S. diplomat posted at the U.S. Embassy in Mexico City, and I had no job or occupation. I then decided to use my time positively, going back to college to complete my education in order to advance my career. I contacted the CLO Office at the Embassy in 2002, and they recommended AIU Online.

What was your AIU experience like?

My AIU experience was amazing, because I received the best books with the online assistance from fantastic professors. I realized my dream with AIU in regard to education. The MBA was my goal, and I reached it.

How does being a teacher help you mentor new students?

Being an educator requires lots of patience, organization and commitment in order to assist students in reaching their goals, but it is my student experience that I use most to assist the mentees.

What do you help AIU students with the most?

I mostly share my online experience and personal organization method for making it to graduation day, which includes reading, research, exercises, time management and serious discipline on a daily basis.

In your opinion, what are the challenges your mentees most often face?

In the beginning, it might be a little difficult for students to familiarize themselves with the online tools. After two weeks' time, it should go smoothly. Most students' biggest challenge is the lack of time after you add up work and study.

After you get started, I personally believe that, when you are an AIU student working from the comfort of your home with excellent course materials, all you need is time and discipline to complete your educational goals. 🙌

Third-Party Comment Notice:

American InterContinental University is seeking comments from the public about the University in preparation for its periodic evaluation by its regional accrediting agency. The College will host a visit December 9-11, 2013, with a team representing the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association. American InterContinental University has been accredited by the Commission since 2009. The team will review the institution's ongoing ability to meet the Commission's Criteria for Accreditation.

The public is invited to submit comments regarding the University:

Third-Party Comment on American InterContinental University

The Higher Learning Commission
230 South LaSalle Street, Suite 7-500
Chicago, IL 60604-1411

The public may also submit comments on the Commission's website at www.ncahlc.org.

Comments must address substantive matters related to the quality of the institution or its academic programs. Comments must be in writing and signed.

All comments must be received by November 9, 2013

Keep Moving With The Serious U™

Achieve even more with your AIU™ degree and advance your credentials even further. We support the goals of our alumni and will help you on your way!

- Move up to a Bachelor's or Master's
- Immerse yourself in in-depth study in your field
- At least half of your courses are in your specialization*
- Learn about grants and scholarships available to AIU graduates



AIUniv.edu

*Does not apply to Bachelor's of Accounting and Master's of Accounting. AIU cannot guarantee employment or salary. Not all programs are available to residents of all states. Find disclosures on graduation rates, student financial obligations and more at www.aiuniv.edu/disclosures. Financial Aid is available to those who qualify

AIU IS PROUD TO ANNOUNCE A STUDENT REFERRAL PROGRAM



When a student or alumni refers someone who enrolls and successfully completes a class with AIU, the referrer will receive a \$50 gift certificate to use at the AIU apparel site.

IN ORDER FOR A STUDENT OR ALUMNI TO BE TRACKED IN THIS PROGRAM THE REFERRAL MUST BE ADDED FOLLOWING ONE OF THE SUBMISSION WAYS BELOW:

1. Direct the current student or alumni to submit the referral on the AIU website | <http://www.aiuniv.edu/Student-Life/Refer-a-Friend>
 - a. Note: As we add more locations for referrals to be submitted they will all link to this page on the website
2. Provide the referral's information along with the referring student or alumni's name and student ID to the Admin staff at your campus
 - a. For Online: Use the referral email template found at \\edc-fs2\data\Admissions\Admissions Forms\AIU Online Admissions Forms\Admin Website\AIU Admin Website.htm
 - b. For Ground: Follow the process outlined for you at your campus location.

Referral program terms and conditions

WHO CAN ENTER: The American InterContinental University Spread the Word program is open to all current students and alumni of AIU Online, Houston and Atlanta campus

locations who reside within the United States and are in good academic and financial standing with the University. Students and alumni who are employees, faculty or staff of AIU or Career Education Corporation or its schools are not eligible for the Program.

HOW TO ENTER: Eligible participants may participate in the Program by completing the referral form on this webpage by providing the name and contact information of prospective students who may be interested in enrolling at AIU. The referral form must include the first and last name and email address of the referring student or alumni (Referrer" or "Participant"; the referrer should enter his or her student ID if possible. The Referrer may refer to AIU as many prospective students as he or she likes, but the Referrer may only receive two gifts (as described below) within a 365-day period*. Individuals who have requested information from AIU in the 60-day period prior to referral by the Referrer will not qualify as a referred student.

*For the purposes of this program, the 365-day period begins as of the date of the award of the first Gift Certificate.

GIFT: Referrers become eligible for a \$50 Gift Certificate for use on the AIU Apparel Site only as of the date on which the referred student successfully completes his or her first session at AIU Online, which completion must occur within six months of the date of referral. Referral and session-completion verification will be conducted approximately every six weeks. Upon determination of qualification of the Referrer with respect to a referred student, the \$50 gift certificate to the AIU Apparel Site will be emailed to the Referrer's email address provided in the referral form. Undeliverable Gift Certificates will be deemed forfeited.

GENERAL: By completion of a referral form, referrer agrees to these Program Terms and Conditions. AIU may terminate the program at any time without notice. Gift Certificates are not transferrable or redeemable for cash. Gift Certificates may have an expiration date. AIU is not responsible for technical problems or submission errors. AIU reserves the right to disqualify any participant if, in its sole discretion, a participant has not complied with the Terms and Conditions or has otherwise attempted to disrupt the Program. Participant releases AIU from all liability arising out of participation of the program. AIU cannot guarantee employment or salary. 📄

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Have you heard the news? AIU Alumni Association members now enjoy incredible savings on movie tickets, travel, shopping and more. This value-packed benefit is called the AIU Alumni Savings Connection—and it's FREE for all of our members.

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FOR INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR MEMBERSHIP VISIT:

Online: www.aiuniv.edu/alumni
Email: alumni@aiuniv.edu



CHAPTER LOCATIONS

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AIU Alumni Association Mission

The mission of the AIU Alumni Association is to establish and strengthen a mutually beneficial relationship between AIU and its alumni, provide opportunities for the professional, social and intellectual growth of its members and enhance the stature of AIU by promoting its interests.

American InterContinental University cannot guarantee employment or salary. Not all programs are available to residents of all states. Find disclosures on graduation rates, student financial obligations and more at www.aiuniv.edu/disclosures.