Paralegal students receive top honors

Four Sullivan Paralegal students were recently honored by Sullivan’s Legal Studies Advisory Board and two legal publishing companies. Looseleaf Awards, awarded by Looseleaf Publications, were given to Esrain Cortez and Kathy Selby. Estein has a grade point average (GPA) of 3.59 and is currently pursuing his Bachelor’s degree in Paralegal Studies at Sullivan. Kathy, with a 3.5 GPA, is currently pursuing an Associate’s degree in Paralegal Studies and has been a member of Sullivan’s Mock Trial Team. West Book awards, donated by West Publishing Company, were given to Jennifer Kohonen and Samantha Bevins. Both Jennifer and Samantha graduated from Sullivan with their Bachelor’s degrees in Paralegal Studies and were members of Sullivan’s Mock Trial Team. Jennifer, who graduated with a 3.44 GPA, was captain of the team and won individual awards at Eastern Kentucky University’s mock trial tournament. She intends to pursue a legal career in the Air Force. Samantha, who graduated with a 3.68 GPA, is currently pursuing a Master’s in Criminal Justice, is working on the “Innocence Project,” designed to free wrongfully-convicted prisoners, and plans to continue her education and attend law school.

Sullivan Paralegal student has her day in court!

Sullivan University Paralegal student Vache King was recently sworn in as a Court-Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) by Franklin County Court Judge Reed Roher and has been appointed to her first case. CASAs are trained volunteers who represent children in Court. These special advocates provide another layer of protection for neglected and abused children by investigating, and making reports and recommendations to the Court. For information about CASA programs in Kentucky refer to www.casenet.org/cps/StateTable.asp.

Congratulations to Emily Huffman from Harrodsburg, Kentucky who recently graduated from Sullivan University with a Bachelor of Science in Paralegal Studies. The $5,000 scholarship is offered each spring by Sullivan University. The Scholarship Committee of the Legal Studies Advisory Board selected Emily from a number of worthy applicants. Candidates must have received their associate’s degree in Paralegal Studies from Sullivan University and be taking at least two classes each quarter toward their bachelor’s degree. They were judged on their cumulative grade point average and their essay, which identified an obstacle they had encountered in their life and overcame.

The verdict is in: Professor Mike Wilson and Sullivan are clear winners!

Sullivan University students recently selected Professor Mike Wilson as Faculty of the Year. Paralegal student Theresia Rainey wrote, “Mr. Wilson truly is an educator. I have been out of school for 20 years and I’m starting over at 40. Had it not been for Mr. Wilson, I don’t know what type of instruction he would be learning all over again. He is one of the best teachers I have had in the history of my life and I am so blessed to have him in my life. My professors have genuinely cared about my success and I couldn’t ask for a better teacher. Mr. Wilson truly is the best.”

Paralegal student Vache King was recently awarded the 2007 scholarship to pursue a Bachelor of Science in Paralegal Studies from Sullivan University and www.casanet.org/_copi/StateTable.asp. Programs in Kentucky refer to www.casenet.org/cps/StateTable.asp.

SchoL- University awards $5,000 to paralegal student

Burgers and Briefs

Sullivan’s Contemporary Legal Topics class recently met at Professor Helen Bongard’s home for “burgers and briefs.” They enjoyed grilled hamburgers and sides before setting down on the porch to discuss their assignment for the night.

Students in this bachelor’s level course spent the first half of the quarter studying alternative dispute resolution and practicing their mediation skills. Their performance as mediators, attorneys and clients was judged at midquarter by two local mediators, Mike Abraham and Cheryl Sturgill. “The students really went out of their way to perform well,” said Professor Mike Wilson. Front row: Emily Barton, Samantha Hitchner in sunglasses, Jennifer Kuchenbecker, and Samantha Bevins.

Sullivan’s Legal Studies Program Advisory Board

Sullivan University’s Legal Studies Program Advisory Board

Left to right, Legal Studies Advisory Board members Fred Wohlestein, Judge Isabel Yates, and Kim Bunell. The Board meets each spring and fall.

London trip planned

Buckingham Palace and the changing of the guard, Big Ben, Parliament, the Tower of London, Piccadilly Circus, Windsor Castle and much, much more. Have you ever wanted to visit these sites? Plan now for a guided trip to marry old England with paralegal professors Helen Bongard and Duane & Amy Osborne in June, 2008. Plans are underway for an eight day trip to England’s famous and legendary capital. If you’re interested, contact hibongard@sullivan.edu for more information about this fun and exciting opportunity.