

The Mentor Moment

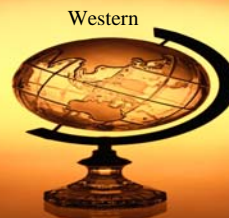
<http://www.missouriwestern.edu/>

<ResLife/mentor.html>

Deborah Becker, BS / MBA
Home Town: Saint Joseph MO



Jennifer Shaffer, RA
Home Town: Blue Spring MO



Spot Lighting Deborah Becker & Jennifer Shaffer

Deborah: What classes do you teach?

Many of the computer science courses such as CSC 410 "Computer and Network Security".

How long have you taught at Western? 4 Years.
Before here I taught at Missouri State in Springfield.

What do professors look for or expect out of their students in the classroom? I appreciate students who come to class prepared to discuss the material and take ownership for their educational experience.

What are some of your personal interests or hobbies? I enjoy cooking, researching family history and computer programming.

What do you enjoy about teaching?
I obviously enjoy the interaction with my students, but I especially enjoy the proverbial "light bulb" moment.

What have you enjoyed about the Mentor Program? I have enjoyed working with Jennifer and meeting the students. It is important for students to see faculty members outside the classroom. I look forward to building upon & expanding the program this coming semester and working with the other mentors in the building.

Jennifer: What are you majoring in and what year are you in? Biology, & eventually going to grad school for Marine Biology. Sophomore

Why did you come to Missouri Western?
When I was a sophomore in high school, my league volleyball team came to a tournament at Western. I found out how much conservation land was on it, and fell in love with the campus. I applied, got the Golden Griffon Scholarship, and the rest is history!

What do you enjoy about being an RA?
I like the interaction with others, and I like the chance to help make student's first year of college a good one.

What are some of the biggest challenges you face as an RA? Time management is challenging as I try and juggle school, personal life and RA duties!

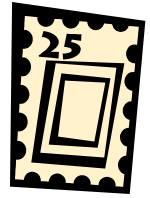
What are some of your interests or hobbies?
I love coloring, ice skating, and spending time with the people I love. I enjoy the outdoors and playing volleyball. I'm a very competitive person, so anything that lets me compete is good for me!

What do you enjoy about the Mentor Program?
I love the fact that residents have someone else to turn to for help and guidance.

Deborah and Jen volunteered at Second Harvest this past semester. Getting residents out was a challenge, but there are already plans in the making for another community service project at either Habitat for Humanity or the St Joseph Soup Kitchen. There are also plans for an Academy Awards Program this semester.

Faculty Mentors will be meeting over lunch on February 28th, PDR Room, 12 noon—1pm. The conversation will revolve around the successes and challenges of the program and how to improve its effectiveness.

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Office of Residential Life
 Commons Building 383-7100
 Missouri Western State University
 Saint Joseph, MO 64507



Semester GPAs of 3.0 or Higher Recognized by Hall Staff



Residents with semester GPAs of 3.0 & higher were recognized by hall staff through a congratulatory letter, plus public recognition by placing their name on an "All Star Bulletin Board".



HOW DO STUDENTS FEEL ABOUT BEING RECOGNIZED? ... I am excited to be recognized and it makes me feel good that all of my hard work is noticed by others." Emily Feger, Sophomore, Vaselakos Hall "I was honored by it. I even hung the letter I got on my parents fridge! It was nice that you put it up to recognize our work." Ashley Burks, First Year Leaverton Hall