PLS MISSION STATEMENT

The Professional and Liberal Studies program at Saint Joseph's University embraces the experience of our diverse adult students and challenges them to adapt to the demands of a global society through engagement in an integrative curriculum built on a strong liberal arts foundation. The PLS community prides itself on sharing its Jesuit roots and Ignatian values of ethics, social justice, and care for the whole person. It is our vision for PLS students to further develop themselves as critical thinkers, skilled creators, and innovators within their professional and personal lives.

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I was delighted when the leadership team in Professional and Liberal Studies asked if I would provide a brief note of introduction to this newsletter. I bring to my new role as interim Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences more than two decades of experience on the faculty of Saint Joseph’s University. Over that time, I have developed a deep and abiding respect for the university’s commitment to adult continuing education and to the population of adult learners themselves. Some of the most powerful classroom experiences of my career have been in my own PLS courses. The ideas and aspirations of the PLS students I have taught have shaped my understanding of the larger world around us, as well as my thinking about what Saint Joseph’s University has been, can be, and should be. I welcome the opportunity to partner with all of you in charting a successful course for the second century of adult continuing education at SJU.

-Dr. Warren
Welcome back to the new academic year! I hope that your summer was both productive and restful. The start of any new school year is exciting for many reasons, whether it be because you are realizing how close you are to finishing your degree, you are taking that last course you have been waiting for, or you are simply starting with a fresh mind and renewed energy. Whatever your reasons are, we in the office of PLS are excited to welcome you back to “Hawk Hill.” The staff in PLS remains steadfast in our commitment to bring you high quality service to support your experience and success as an undergraduate student at Saint Joseph’s University.

I think we can all agree that Philadelphia sure had a grand start to the academic year with the exciting visit from Pope Francis. His underlying Jesuit message and call for all of us to be men and women for each other is a critical reminder no matter your religious beliefs. The message is one that is rooted in all programs at Saint Joseph’s University. While mastering the content of your chosen major is a priority, we also hope that throughout the learning process, you are reminded of the Jesuit tradition and ideals that support your experience. Just as our PLS mission statement identifies, a goal of equal priority to mastery of content is development of yourself as a “whole person.” Such development will allow you to be there for yourself and for others, and it will provide a pathway to seek the Magis.

The energy and commitment you bring to the classroom combined with your ability to manage work, family, and school is always on our minds. We appreciate you, and we celebrate you as a student of Saint Joseph’s University. I wish all of you continued progress and a successful year.

-Dr. V
Welcome Dr. Reed!


Inaugural Ceremony, September 18th, 2015
POPE FRANCIS VISITS CAMPUS!

Above: President Dr. Reed shakes hands with His Holiness Pope Francis on Saint Joseph’s University campus! What a time to be a hawk!
On Wednesday, September 23rd, 2015, Professional and Liberal Studies represented PhillyColleges at the Pennsylvania Convention Center for the World Meeting of Families event! The event took place all week with representatives from SJU volunteering multiple days. SJU was thrilled with the opportunity to share in this event. There was a strong presence of hawks at the event and PLS spoke to many proud alumni. Many of which chanted “the Hawk will never die” as they passed the PhillyColleges booth.

To the left: PLS and HDC representatives sport SJU gear and Pope themed hats at the World Meeting of Families!

SJU at the WMOF
PLS Scholarships!

Charlotte Newcombe Scholarship

Established with a grant from the Newcombe Foundation, the Charlotte Newcombe scholarships are made possible by the vision of Charlotte W. Newcombe, a Philadelphia philanthropist with a strong appreciation for higher education. Since 1981, the Newcombe Foundation has awarded scholarships to select institutions based on specific eligibility standards. SJU is proud to be included among this exclusive group. Recipients must be at least 25 years old and have completed 60 credits toward their undergraduate degree, or at least half their coursework.

More information is available by clicking here!

Fall 2015 PLS awardees:

Portia Askew
Etiedidiong Davis
Barry Harris
Keera Holland
Losene Kesselly
Jessica Meads
Lisa Miller
Lanisha Moore
Allison Reinhardt
Nicole Simpkins
Maya Stewart
Lia Thomas
Amber Walker

Congratulations!
Aids to remove obstacles and problem solve, bring campus resources to adult students, and liaisons with student interests and services.

ASL advocates for adult student needs in many ways, including but not limited to: offering research grants for students presenting posters or papers at conferences, aiding students in starting an organization or group, archiving webinars for students to reference, a “what’s open when” reference page on the Nest, adult guided campus tours, and much more.

ASL also provides fun events for adult students! Adult students can contact ASL for reduced rates on Hawk basketball tickets, and pay-as-you-go Hawks Landing parking. ASL also hosts welcome back happy hours and provides Non-traditional Student Week (November 2nd-6th) coffee and snacks in the evening for adult learners!

ASL gets the word out about the resources available to adult students such as writing center tutoring and free coffee and soda in the perch from 6pm-10pm every weekday.

ASL keeps you up to date on events and news via email, so be on the lookout for their emails!

Contact information
Barbelin Hall 117
P: 610-660-1074
E: adultstudentlife@sju.edu
W: Sju.edu/int/studentlife/adult/
Always Evolving to Meet the Needs of the Non-traditional Learner

- Final installment of a series about the 100-year SJU tradition of adult education by Marita M. Hurst

From the first evening classes for adults in 1915 at Seventeenth and Stiles Street in Philadelphia, Saint Joseph’s University continues to grow and adapt educational programs for non-traditional learners. Originally one of the largest adult programs, SJU has influenced the growth of similar continuing studies schools and programs at area universities and colleges.

Early courses covered practical subjects such as commercial mathematics and business English, along with civics, Latin and modern foreign languages to help working adults gain better jobs. Courses during wartime focused on critical occupations such as nursing, electronics, science and relief training. The “Night School” was the first to offer courses with the intention to complete a degree. In 1946, this coed program became a full evening school that offered a college degree through a five-year program. This was critical after the end of World War II when students flocked to colleges to complete their degree with the assistance of the G.I. Bill (Contosta, 2000).

SJU continues to support the needs of the adult learner. According to the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES, 2015), 74% of U.S. undergraduate students possess at least one of the following non-traditional student characteristics:

- Delayed enrollment in post-secondary education
- Part-time student
- Full-time worker
- Financially independent
- More than one dependent
- Single caregiver
The Council for Adult and Experiential Learning (2000), suggests that successful programs enable adult learners to reduce barriers to pursuing education, provide resources for career and personal goal development, increase student ability to be a self-directed learner, use technology to enrich educational opportunities, and build interface with community organizations.

The curriculum within Professional and Liberal Studies continues to evolve to meet the needs of the non-traditional learner. Demand for online degree completion grows each year and ongoing conversations with faculty explore accelerated and hybrid options. New programs and student success initiatives continue to be explored. In keeping with our mission, the current team remains committed to the value and integrity of an SJU degree, ensuring the success of our students, and continuing the rich tradition of adult education.

Sources:


SERVICES FOR STUDENTS AND ALUMNI

- Individual Career-Counseling Appointments
- **Drop-In Center** for Quick Questions; Resume, Cover Letter and LinkedIn Profile Critiques
- Mock Interviews: industry-specific practice before the real thing
- Career Assessments (Strong Interest Inventory, MBTI)
- SJU Hawk Career Network in LinkedIn: Network with over 9,000 members of the SJU community!
- SJUcareers jobs database
- Career Fairs: Fall Career Fair, Spring Career Fair, Non-Profit and Government Career Fair
- Workshops and Events: see our calendar

MAIN OFFICE FOR APPOINTMENTS

- The Career Development Center has moved to 5800 City Avenue (number 58 on the campus map) behind the admissions building.
- Appointments available Monday through Friday to accommodate your needs: early morning, daytime; late evening; in-person, via phone or Skype. Appointments are offered year-round. Call 610-660-3100 to schedule.

DROP-IN CENTER FOR RESUME, COVER LETTER AND LINKEDIN PROFILE CRITIQUES AND QUICK QUESTIONS

- Monday - Friday, 1:00pm-4:00pm Marcy Dugan Wolfington Campus (5800 City Ave).
- Please note: drop-in hours are offered while classes are in session and no longer being held in Moore Hall or Campion.

CONTACT INFORMATION

- 610-660-3100
- [www.sju.edu/careers](http://www.sju.edu/careers)
- careerhelp@sju.edu
- Connect with us on LinkedIn: Hawk Career Network
- Follow us on Twitter: http://twitter.com/SJUcareers
- Like us on Facebook: Career Development Center | Saint Joseph's University

**Be sure to check the Career Development center website for the most up-to-date hours**
For important information on the Spring 2016 Constructive Schedule [click here]!

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

**Adult Student Life Webinars** - Every semester the office of Adult Student Life has a series of webinars to provide you with resources and help you overcome obstacles. Keep an eye out (email, Facebook, and twitter) for future webinar topics. If you have suggestions feel free to email them to us at adultstudentlife@sju.edu. You can also find archived webinars from past semester on YouTube and on the Adult Student Life website.

**Research Funding** - Adult Student Life provides researching funding to Adult Students who are presenting at a conference and representing Saint Joseph's University. For additional information and to complete the on-line request form please visit: [sju.edu/rfr/](http://sju.edu/rfr/)

**Fall 2015 MacLean Chair Lecture** - **Wednesday, November 18, 2:30 – 4:30pm** College of Arts and Sciences (CAS), Rev. John Martis, S.J.
I Welcome, therefore I Am: Descartes, Augustine, Marion and the Hiddenly Hospitable Self.
**Location**: Campion Student Center-Presidents' Lounge.

**Adult Student Faith Retreat: Recovering My Lost Faith In God** - **Saturday, November 21, 2015, 9:30am – 12pm**. Faith is like your keys: very important for getting the day started, but still too easy to lose. This event, lead by Fr. Brian Frain, focuses on Recovering My Lost Faith In God. All SJU adult students are welcome and encouraged to attend.
**Location**: McShain Residence Center, 5th Floor. Sponsored by Adult Student Life. For more information contact 610-660-1074.

Stay Connected with the SJU Community by Attending an Event!
STUDENT RESOURCES

Get to know the PLS Staff and their respective roles

Offices now located in Merion Hall Suite 220

Elizabeth Gatti - Director of Admissions and Recruitment, B.F.A. Fine Arts, University of Delaware, M.S. Higher Education/Counseling and Student Affairs, West Chester University.

Tiffany Sellers - Admissions Assistant, B.A. English, Florida Gulf Coast University, and M.A in Writing Studies, Saint Joseph’s University.

Marita Hurst - PLS Advisor, B.A. in Special Education, LaSalle University, and M.Ed. from Temple University, focus on adult learning.

Maria Beazley - Director of Advising and Curriculum Planning, B.A. Political Science, Saint Joseph’s University and M.A. Clinical Psychology, Catholic University of America.
Need an advising appointment? Visit: plsadvising.youcanbook.me to schedule an appointment with a PLS advisor.

Follow PLS on Facebook for important announcements and information!
Facebook.com/sjupls

Have a great semester from PLS!

Useful Links
Drexel Library Home Page
The Writing Center
SJU Bookstore
Academic Calendar
Class Schedule
Adult Student Life Office

PLS Contact Information
P: 610-660-1267
E: pls@sju.edu
plsadmit@sju.edu
plsadvising@sju.edu