Growing Together this Fall!

Achieve continues to grow and improve services for our students in new and exciting ways! We are expanding the number of rooms for test proctoring. We are improving our existing space with the newest technology and renovations. We have increased our staffing levels in response to student needs. Over the last few years, as Achieve has grown, we have seen phenomenal student success! This success is due to the hard work and dedication of our students, and their investment in the system of supports and structure that we provide. Whether you are new to campus, or a returning student, we are excited to see you back! **Good luck to each of you!**

**We’re going to have a great semester together!**

Left and Above: Students hard at work in one of our labs.
Preparations for the New Semester

New incoming student and parents will meet with Achieve staff for a parent/student orientation held at the Achieve Program offices. During our orientation, we will introduce you to your case manager, answer any questions you might have, and set up schedules for student meetings.

New Student Orientation August 19th-21st
and Move-In
Contact Leslie Love at llove@siu.edu with any questions about your appointment for New Student Orientation and move-in.

Returning Student Move-In August 22nd
Returning students, please check your email for a message from your case manager to schedule your first meeting of the semester.

Link to Housing’s Move-In schedule:
http://housing.siu.edu/residence-halls/moving-in/schedule

Link for dining options during Move-In:
http://housing.siu.edu/residence-halls/moving-in/move-in-dining-hours

ACHIEVE STAFF DIRECTORY

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Phone</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Roberto Regas</td>
<td>Testing &amp; Tech Services</td>
<td>453-6155</td>
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<tr>
<td>Leslie Love</td>
<td>Office Administrator</td>
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<tr>
<td>Roger Pugh</td>
<td>Tutoring/Recruitment</td>
<td>453-2369</td>
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<tr>
<td>Arlene Tan</td>
<td>Coordinator</td>
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STUDENT CHECKLIST

Books: Contact the University Bookstore now at http://www.bkstr.com/southernillinoisstore/shop/text books-and-course-materials to purchase your books. Some of you will have e-texts. You must get proficient in accessing their features online. We can help you.

Important Numbers: You will need to know your salukinet password, your RUN # for classes, and your dawgtag number.

Campus: Walk around campus and find your classes before Monday morning rolls around. Familiarize yourself with the buildings, and get comfortable with some of the landmarks that will help you navigate.

Syllabus: A "syllabus" is the guide for what will happen in each class you take. Each instructor will give you one. They may or may not go over it with you. You will be expected to read and understand what is covered on it, including when readings are to be done, when tests or quizzes are, etc. If you are not sure how to interpret your class syllabi, please see us for help.

Online: You will need to get comfortable accessing salukinet, webmail, and SIUonline. SIUonline is the online portal for any class content your instructors expect you to access through the computer. Most of your classes will require the use of SIUonline. We will help train you in its use.

EXAMS: Mid-term exams will happen around the week of Halloween. The last day to drop a class with no grade will occur during the 8th week of school. By the end of September, you will receive notifications for registering for the next semester. Register as early as possible to get the best choice of classes.

Activities: On campus, you will have access to swimming pools, walking trails, boating, equipment rental at the lake, and camping and adventuring gear to rent at the Rec Center. The Rec Center also offers indoor tracks, weight rooms, basketball, racquetball, handball, tennis, a rock climbing wall, and classes on just about every outdoor activity there is. There are terrific opportunities to see NCAA sporting events, for little or no cost. Venues for music and art abound, on and off campus. There are hundreds of registered student organizations in which to become involved. Find an RSO that interests you here: http://getinvolved.siu.edu/search-rso.html

Bottom line: Study, work hard, and enjoy yourself!
Students loved Friday Gameday last year! This year, we are bringing it back, even better than before! On most Fridays, indoor and outdoor games will begin at 4 pm. At 6 pm, the Achieve After Hours Roleplaying Group (AAHRG!!) meets to play Dungeons and Dragons. No experience is necessary! This is a great time to relax, play, eat, have fun, hang out, and socialize. About once a month, we provide food for students and staff because one thing we know, is that students like free food! Of course, it also happens to be a great way for us to foster the sense of community and family among students and staff. The next one is coming up: Family Weekend!
Family Weekend at SIU  
September 25th-27th

SIU  Family Weekend events kick off September 25th and run through the 27th. Go to familyweekend.siu.edu to review all of the great events planned for your family, including the football game, tailgate, the Family Weekend brunch, the 79th Annual IGC Greek sing, the Saluki Kickoff 5k Run, the Family Weekend Craft Sale, Campus Tours, and much more! For assistance in locating accommodations, please visit the Carbondale Convention and Tourism Bureau at http://www.carbondaletourism.org or Williamson County Tourism Bureau at http://www.visitsi.com/lodging. For information about local religious services, please visit http://siucmin.rso.siu.edu.

The Achieve Program will host our Open House on Friday, September 25th, from 9-5. If you want an opportunity to speak with your student’s case manager, please contact them and schedule a time on Friday to meet with them at Achieve. Consider this the best way to begin your Family Weekend activities at SIU!

Then, attend our tailgate party Saturday, September 26th, from 3-6, on Saluki Row, before the football game. This year, under Achieve’s tent, we will have great food and a relaxing atmosphere to enjoy time with our students and their families! If you plan on attending the tailgate, please RSVP Leslie Love at llove@siu.edu with the total number in your party. Follow the included map to get to our tailgate area. Look for the white balloons and our banner to find our tent. We look forward to seeing your family in September!

If you would like to sponsor this year’s tailgate, in your name or someone else’s, please contact Leslie Love, at llove@siu.edu for naming opportunities. Typically, a large banner with your name or company logo adorns the tent.

Thank you!
THE 15th ANNUAL
ACHIEVE PROGRAM FAMILY
WEEKEND TAILGATE
September 26th, 2015
3 p.m. to 6 p.m.: TAILGATE AT SAILUKI ROW
ACHIEVE PROGRAM FAMILY WEEKEND TAILGATE
THE 15th ANNUAL
Recently, I had a chance to sit and talk with an Achieve Alumni, Vince Baworouski. I have known Vince for many years, first as an Achieve student in the 1990’s, majoring in Photography, then as a friend, and more recently as a teacher, colleague, and artistically gifted professional. Vince was back in Carbondale, and stopped by the program to visit. I’m glad he did. I asked him to tell me a little about his life, and he was kind enough to share some of his breathtaking photography as well.
Achieve: When were you a student at Achieve?
Vince: I was a student in Achieve from 1991 until 1995. I graduated in 1994 and stayed for a year working on my applications and studying for the GRE exams.

A: What brought you to Achieve?
V: I was looking for a degree in Photography with an academic support program. Once I found the Achieve Program I was sold on the school experience. [Other schools] had some support but not all the services that the Achieve Program had. Also, the Photography Department at SIU was an added bonus.

A: What did you study?
V: I got a B.A. in Cinema & Photography

A: Why?
V: I love how photography can visually represent a subject or object. And it can do the opposite too---photography can be a fantasy. I can paint the film/digital media with “Time” and “Light.”

A: How did Achieve and your time at SIU help you?
V: It gave me the confidence that I could be a student. I had failed my English class four times at my junior college and here I was able to get two A’s in English classes and that was unbelievable to me! With my tutors and the writing staff at Achieve I was able to succeed in my dream. Twenty-five years later, I still have problems writing, and it takes hours and seven edits! But I know that I can do it, I just need to put the work in.

A: You are pursuing a graduate degree now. What motivated you to go back to school?
V: I had two jobs. One that I loved and one that I wasn’t really happy at. I was stuck. I had been teaching at a Community College for the last 14 years. I only have a B.A. in Photography and I couldn't teach full time because of that. I was qualified for the position but was lacking the M.F.A degree. So I decided that I would get that degree, and I am almost finished with that!
A: How has the experience been different for you this time?
V: I am attending San Franscico Art Institute (SFAI). Its very different. I am older than most of the other students (double in age). All I know is how to work. So I spend 14+ hours a day working on my projects. Its hard to hang out with people when I am the same age as their parents! The classes are small and sometimes their experiences and ideas about their art are similar to things I worked on twenty years ago, but I recognize that it is where they are at in their process.

San Franscico is expensive and I am concerned if my time and investment ultimately is worth the degree, but I have to have faith that this degree will open up more doors and I will be okay.

It’s not like a university where you have more of a “common” area to meet and study and different events to attend, i.e. sporting events. I am working on my personal art work so its different.

A: Your photography is really powerful. What subjects are you drawn to?
V: I like making images of things I am concerned about or am invested in an issue to inform or communicate a message behind the imagery. My work is very “didactic.”
I enjoy making photographs of “nothing;” objects that seem very bland, mundane, or boring, and making them into something interesting. This is how “photography” lets me express myself. Many people can write literary novels. Photography is my way of writing. Look at the word “Photography.” I look at it as “light writing.”

A: I know you do a lot of work in black & white. What is to about that medium that calls to you?
V: Digital is a great tool. But it doesn’t have the gradation of value for me. I have been working with film for 35 years and the silvery values that you can obtain from film still beat the digital process. I work in extreme lighting conditions, and film can handle this with no problem. In digital, I would have to make three different exposures and blend them together. I have the knowledge and experience to do this in one photograph with film.

Color effects your emotional response to the photograph. My photographs are about the “light” of the place. Giving you a sense of place, an experience of what I am seeing, is what intrigues me about the place. Black and white images capture that.
A: What advice could you give to an aspiring photography student?
V: Photography is about passion for your art. It’s your passion, and no one can take that away from you unless you let them. Art creates change, inside and out. Change is scary, but without change you can not grow and have new experiences. This is what photography means to me.

A: What advice could you give a new student in Achieve?
V: Enjoy the experience and the ride. Give 100%; that’s all you can give. Try and learn something new every day.

A: When do you expect to graduate, what will your degree be, and what are your plans after that?
V: I will graduate in May of 2016 with an MFA in Studio Arts. The world is a open job board. I would love to teach anywhere in the world.
A: You told me about a summer project you are doing—tell me more about what you are doing this summer.

V: I am working with one of my mentors, Charles Swedlund. I have known Charles since 1991 and he taught me the carbon printing process. Charles has been collecting photographs for the last 50 years. I am working on his Daguerreotype collection. I am cataloging over 1200 photographs for a future publication. I am color-correcting them, printing, along with key-wording them into the database. It’s an amazing collection of portraits of people east of the Mississippi in the 1845 to 1855. I have been amazed by some of the portraits and history that I have seen!

Vince is pictured here with Amy, from a couple of years back. Amy was Vince’s case manager at Achieve when Vince was here as a student. Vince, like so many of the students we have known over the years, has made a life-long impression on us. It has been our honor to share in his life and art.