Music careers/General Studies degrees make good harmony

Davey Heritier and Cody DeMille are musicians, each on his own journey. Both are General Studies majors taking advantage of the flexibility of the General Studies Program to earn their college degrees.

A guitar player in various rock bands for the past 13 years, Davey AB Heritier, has been writing, producing, recording, and performing with the Atlanta-based band, KontraBand Musik, for the past year. “We are constantly touring and recording (the band tours extensively in the U.S. and Europe), so music is a very large part of my life. I love performing and entertaining,” Heritier says.

But the challenges are sometimes a bit overwhelming, he confesses. Heritier is also a full-time student in the IPFW General Studies program. “Being away from friends and family and constantly traveling is both a blessing and a curse. I’ve had the opportunity to meet people, travel the world, and do what I love while still getting my education.”

A local boy (he grew up in Columbia City), Heritier first came to IPFW in 2000, but stopped out in 2002 to tour with his band. “Back then, Internet classes weren’t as accessible as they are today,” he points out. It was the expansion of distance learning that enabled him to return to school in 2009 and realize his dream of earning a college degree.

Heritier is a senior now taking all of his classes online—a good fit for him since he spends so much time on the road. “KontraBand Musik will be collaborating with some successful people and going on some great tours this fall,” he says.

“I’ve been doing distance learning for the last year and a half and took classes I was interested in. Last semester was tough because I was in Europe for two and a half weeks and spent a few days in Amsterdam. School was tough to really focus on… but I did it!” Heritier plans to graduate in fall 2012 with the Bachelor of General Studies, a focus on arts and humanities, and a minor in communication studies.

“Where does he expect his music will take him? “To a comfortable and early retirement!” he replies.

Cody DeMille recalls the strong impression left by the first live concert he attended at the Coliseum in Fort Wayne at the age of 12. Soon after, his mother bought him his first guitar. By middle school he was taking lessons in guitar, as well as steel drums, and clarinet.

“It was at that point I knew music would be major part of my life,” DeMille says. Today, about half of his free time ("the time not spent working, going to school, or sleeping") is spent practicing, performing, listening to, or writing music.

“The challenges of playing music, at least for me, is being able to write original, experimental music that not only is unique and fresh, but also attracts enough audience to make a reasonable living," DeMille says.

He currently performs with two local bands —“Exterminate All Rational Thought” and “Let The Trees Burn.” “At this point, playing music does not provide me with the capabilities of making a living. I work full time and attend college. Although I can’t see myself in a career outside of the musical field, I know I need to go to college to ensure my success,” says DeMille. DeMille, who is...
New procedure for graduating students
A new procedure affecting all graduating General Studies students requires that they meet with an advisor to complete a degree audit the semester before graduation. If you expect to graduate in fall ’11 or spring ’12, you are required to meet with an advisor and complete a degree audit now. This is a mandatory meeting. If you are one of our “at a distance” students, we will work with you to make other arrangements.

Advising change
Peer Advisor Cassandra Bracht has taken a position at Ivy Tech Community College. While the General Studies staff wishes her well, she will be missed by many students who contacted her for academic advising. Please call the General Studies office at 260-481-6828 to make an appointment with Julie, Sandy, or Crystal.

The Writing Center moves to Helmke Library
The IPFW Writing Center is now located in the Learning Commons on second floor of the Helmke Library where students can study and receive assistance with writing and library research in the same location. The purpose of the IPFW Writing Center is to help students learn to use language more effectively, produce clear writing appropriate to their purposes and audiences, and develop positive attitudes about writing and about themselves as writers. You are advised to make an appointment for Writing Center services online through TutorTrack at ipfw.edu/casa or drop by KT G21. Drop-in tutoring remains available for math and a other subjects through the Learning Center in Kettler G21. You are entitled to two free appointments for Writing Center services to help them in emergency situations.

New rules for federal financial aid
Students have received notification of changes in the US Department of Education’s SAP appeal process. Students will be required to meet with an academic advisor to create an academic plan with graduation as the goal. Students who received this notification should schedule a meeting in a timely manner to discuss this plan. An academic plan may include: Completion rate requirements, targeted GPAs, recommendations for reduced enrollments until the goal is met or study skill recommendations.

Associate of Arts in General Studies closing
IPFW has confirmed the closing of several associates degrees offered on the Fort Wayne campus. Changes in the A.A.G.S. in General Studies at IPFW are as follows:
1. Fall 2012 will be the last semester for admitting the following student groups:
   - Students at IPFW in another major
   - Students currently in the B.G.S. program who want to earn the A.A.G.S. first
2. Current A.A.G.S. students, those students who are returning to General Studies after stopping out, and those in category 2 have at least until December 2016 to complete their A.A.G.S.

Attention: Students on academic probation
General Studies students who received notice of probationary status are required to take part in a series of ASAP! support workshops and faculty intervention during critical weeks of the semester. Please return the ASAP! form included in your notice of probationary status to the General Studies office, Kettler 144. Academic advisors will be calling to follow up on faculty e-mails and will e-mail students about support workshops. Students often wait until it is too late to ask for help, or don’t realize their academic advisors can use a network of support services to help them in emergency situations. Student retention and graduation are the goals of this program. General Studies believes the ASAP! program will lead to your SUCCESS!

Career Services to launch two new programs in spring
The Career Services office will launch two new programs beginning spring semester for current IPFW students and alumni:

Mastodon Mentors Program will connect students with alumni through various mentoring activities designed to prepare students for life after college, to help them advance in a current position, or to explore a new career.

Mastodon Career Calls will provide alumni with an opportunity to learn about career options, finances, and more by participating in lunchtime conference calls with other alumni, IPFW seniors, and presenters from across campus.

To learn more about these programs, plan to attend the e-Mentoring Event Nov. 1 in the Walb Union Ballroom where a representative of the Career Services office will present the details.

If you missed the first Mastodon Career Call, you still can hear it in its entirety on Career Services’ Web site. Listen to Jen Fisher of the Greater Fort Wayne Chamber of Commerce discuss how to work a job fair—how to be a “rock star” in business suit at the job fair and how to follow up with potential employers when the fair is over.

Lyman Lewis, IPFW MBA Program administrator, will host the next Mastodon Career Call Webinar on Oct. 20, 2011, from noon to 1 p.m., where he will offer tips and best practices for successfully applying to graduate school. RSVP for this Webinar at www.ipfw.edu/career.

Music Careers—Continued
now a senior, started his degree in 2005 as a business major. He switched to Visual and Performing Arts in 2007 and later to General Studies in 2010 where he was able to apply credits earned from his previous classes.

“I normally dedicate either Tuesday and Thursday or Monday, Wednesday, and Friday strictly to school. On the days I have class, I spend my time going over the material and studying for tests. That frees up part of the week for other things, such as practice.”

“I feel a strong connection with music, so when I think about the future, I think about how music will be involved. Although I would love to be up on stage performing until I’m 80, I could also see myself being a composer, or even building or repairing musical instruments.”

“I can’t imagine a future without music,” DeMille says.
Students preparing for careers face more choices than ever before. And no one can help them navigate the maze of options better than those who have completed the journey themselves.

On Nov. 1, the General Studies office will host the eighth annual eMentoring event to pair junior- and senior-level students with alumni willing to share their experiences and knowledge and provide valuable networking opportunities. The event, which will be held on campus in the Walb Student Union, will include dinner and conversation in a “speed dating” environment intended to stimulate mentor/mentee matches. Students will be encouraged to seek out potential mentors in their fields of interest, ask questions, and request continuing correspondence.

**Mentors make a difference.**

**Plan to be there!**

Approximately 80 percent of IPFW’s 3,000 General Studies alumni who live in northeast Indiana are a great potential resource for current students seeking mentors. If you are interested in being a mentor, or if you are a student who would like to know a mentor, please contact the General Studies office in Kettler Hall, Room 144, or call 260-481-6828.

**Pre-dinner Mentor Fair — 5–6 p.m.** Come early to meet and mingle with representatives from Career Services, Student Life, IPFW Alumni Relations, and YLNI (Young Leaders of Northeast Indiana). At 5:30, Jen Fisher of the Greater Fort Wayne Chamber of Commerce will present important information on internships including what qualifications an intern should offer; how to locate internships; the value of internship experience when applying for employment; networking with people of influence, and more.

**Dinner and Networking — 6–8:30 p.m.**

Learn more about the program at the eMentor Web site: www.ipfw.edu/dcs/gsdp/ementor

R.S.V.P. by Oct. 10 at 260-481-6828.

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**Tina Funkhouser**, B.G.S., ’08, is a resource facilitator for the Rehabilitation Hospital of Indiana in Fort Wayne and northern Indiana helping persons with brain injuries secure rehabilitative services and any assistive devices they may require. “My job is to help them get their life back. I work with Vocational Rehabilitation to ensure people with brain injury do not fall through the cracks,” Funkhouser says. She adds that she remains in contact with former professors who help with her questions about devices, services, and therapies for her clients. She also is looking forward to returning to campus for the eMentor Event in November. “I had a great experience with one of the two girls I met last month and wrote a résumé for one of them to help her find employment.”

**Cherilyn A. Lootens**, B.G.S., ’09, now resides in Knoxville where she is working on a Master of Public Health at the University of Tennessee. Her goal is to complete the degree by spring 2012 and seek an internship and career at the Indianapolis State Health Department as a public health educator/program planner. She will soon be publishing research for the Public Health department. “I have lots of healthcare experience and wanted to go from clinical work to health promotion, education, and disease prevention. I appreciate the undergraduate experience I’ve had when I was at IPFW,” Lootens says.

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Where are General Studies alumni?

Many of the 3,000 alumni of the IPFW General Studies program, wherever they reside, have moved on to very interesting careers and activities. The General Studies staff want to hear from YOU! Please send your updated information to the General Studies office at 2101 E. Coliseum Blvd., KT 144, Fort Wayne IN 46805 or e-mail your information to mcmurts@ipfw.edu.
Alumni Events

Oct. 11 ... Grand Opening/Dedication Steel Dynamics Keith E. Busse IPFW Alumni Center and 13th Annual Mastodon Roast
Nov. 1 ... General Studies e-Mentoring Event Walb Union Ballroom, 6-9 p.m.
Nov. 9 ... 5th Annual Economic Outlook Luncheon
Dec. 3 ... Homecoming Basketball Games and Party, Memorial Coliseum

For more information, call 260-481-6807 or e-mail alumni@ipfw.edu

Call 260-481-6828 NOW!
Graduating Spring or Summer '12?

In Memoriam

Doug Olsen, B.G.S. ’06, M.A. ’11, lost his battle with pancreatic cancer in July. Olsen was a familiar figure on the IPFW campus for years, first while pursuing a Bachelor of General Studies and later, while earning a Masters of Arts in Communication, which he completed last spring. Olsen remained a close friend of the General Studies program throughout that time, serving General Studies as the representative on the IPFW Alumni Board, as a mentor in the eMentor program, and readily volunteering to help at alumni events. General Studies staff, students, and alumni alike acknowledge the loss of a special friend.

Keli Funk, B.G.S. ’09, has accepted the position of secretary in the IPFW Alumni Relations office. Funk learned about the position through WorkOne and the IPFW Website. Regarding her role in the new Steel Dynamics Keith E. Busse IPFW Alumni Center, Funk reports, “We have completed the transition into the new building despite a few final touches we are waiting to have completed. I am still learning about Alumni Relations and figuring out how other alumni can get involved but I do know there are several events throughout the year that General Studies alumni can attend to network and stay in touch with their fellow classmates as well as opportunities to volunteer.” Funk was previously employed by the Fort Wayne-Allen County Economic Development Alliance.

Alumni in the News

Amy Recht, B.G.S. ’11, four-time Summit League Player of the Year in tennis, named IPFW’s 2011 Female Athlete of the Year.
Darryl Shank, B.G.S. ’11, IPFW volleyball player named IPFW Co-Male Athlete of the Year. Now is pursuing a master’s in communication.

Shawnya Chase, B.G.S. ’10, named outstanding employee of the year at Fort Wayne’s National College campus.
Diane Zimmanck, B.G.S. ’10, departed for Hong Kong to teach university-level English.

Shellie Goetz, B.G.S. ’01, elected to the Board of Directors of the Fort Wayne Chapter of Executive Women International. Goetz is a lawyer with Baker & Daniels LLP in Fort Wayne.

Scott Druhot, B.G.S. ’95, named an outstanding faculty member in Huntington University’s Excel adult degree program by student vote.


Carol Tanner, B.G.S. ’98, is the community relations manager for Lutheran Life Villages.
Mary Ann Ziembo, B.G.S. ’98, PNC Bank, elected to the board of directors of The Fort Wayne Museum of Art.

Barry LaBov, A.G.S., LaBov & Beyond Marketing Communications and Training, opened in Scottsdale, Ariz., bringing to four the number of company locations.

Alumna joins Alumni Office Staff

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Graduating Spring or Summer ’12?

General Studies Degree Program
Division of Continuing Studies
Indiana University–Purdue University Fort Wayne
2101 E. Coliseum Boulevard
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260-481-6807

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