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From the Director's Desk

From the director...

Over the last 14 years, many students have contributed their time and efforts to making CV work. Speakers of the executive council, council members, computer admins, chairs of the intramural committee, and many others have helped build a culture in the honors program that is unique to campus. As the honors director, I am indebted to them all for making my job (and life) easier and fun.



Shravik Sethi has worked behind the scenes as a contributor and then editor for the CV newsletter since he arrived on campus. He took over a job no one else wanted, transformed how we thought about the newsletter, redesigned it, and brought more people into the fold making their own contributions. Producing the newsletter now is quite an operation, something that we in the office do not take for granted. I am proud of the newsletter and grateful to the people who give their time to produce it.

I want to express my deep appreciation to Shrivik for the many hours that he logged in on the newsletter. We all have benefitted from his good sense, his hard work, and his friendship. All of us in the office wish him well as he turns the editorship over to a new team.

Shravik.... Thanks so much for being here when we needed you. You will be missed next year.

-Dr H



“Once I started to see CV as my family, I started to see UTD as my house”

A Farewell

At roughly 5:15 pm on October 21, 2009, I officially joined the CV newsletter staff. The campus was much quieter then and smaller, absent of many of the buildings that mark UTD today.

Much like UTD, I too was still growing. I was only 2 months into my freshman year and still very much a high schooler. I did not like UTD; I only had a few friends, there was nothing to do on campus, and everything just seemed so overwhelming. More than anything, I didn’t feel that I was a part of UTD. I felt detached from UTD because it never once felt like home. It always felt more like a grocery store where I just had to shuffle from one place to another, do what I needed to do, and leave.

I think it is important for students to find some place, professor, or activity on campus they can call “home”- something that they can be emotionally invested in or comfortable with which subsequently promotes the formation of a bond with this school.

For me, that was CV. It was the one place on campus where I felt like I belonged. The familiarity of the previous downstairs CV office with (former CV coordinator) Julia at her desk, the familiarity with CV students in my CV classes, and of course, the familiarity of both the lounge and being involved in the monthly CV newsletter editions provided me with a sense of stability and routine reminiscent of my high school life. Once I started to see CV as my family, I started to see UTD as my house.



A Farewell

The CV newsletter was the first extracurricular activity I joined, and roughly 1230 days later, as a senior ready to graduate, it continues to be my longest-running activity. In that time, many things have changed in my life, but through it all, one of the constants in my university life has been being a part of the CV newsletter.

I would like to conclude by stating that **this newsletter is my last one as editor-in-chief. Upon release of this newsletter, the CV Newsletter will have 3 new CV students in charge: sophomore Kelsey Drake, junior Katelyn McWilliams, and sophomore Dakota Deutsch.** I have no doubt that they will continue to carry the CV newsletter into the future and represent CV well.

"I would like to thank you, the dedicated newsletter readers..."

I have thoroughly enjoyed my 3.5 years as editor-in-chief of the CV newsletter. It was tough at times, but looking back it has been nothing but rewarding. The CV newsletter has improved vastly from 2009, and I am exceedingly proud of the product we are putting out monthly. I would like to thank Dr. Harpham, Julia Kacergis, Valerie Brunell, Professor Seeligson, Andrew and Shikha Hoelscher, and my wonderful staff throughout the years for all the hard work, dedication, and patience you have had for this newsletter. Each one of you has left an indelible mark on the CV Newsletter, and all of you should feel extremely proud for all we have accomplished together.

And, of course, I would like to thank you, the dedicated newsletter readers, for your continued support and loyalty. The CV Newsletter lives to serve you.

I wish you the best of luck, Kelsey, Katelyn, and Dakota.

-Shravik Sethi (Shravik Sethi)

Announcements

Lost and Found: Any items lost in the CV Lounge and classroom are often given to Valerie. Currently, she has a sweater, book, planners, jewelry, and USB drive in her possession. Please go see her if you have lost something.

Senior Poster presentations: If you are a graduating senior, please remember to sign up for a presentation date in Valerie's office.

To graduate with CV Honors: 24 hours CV coursework, 3.5 GPA, and a senior thesis/project and poster presentation. Please see Valerie if you have any questions.

*"Please go see
[Valerie] if you
have lost
something"*

Food in the Lounge: Please do not leave food out in the Lounge. Pest control will be treating the Lounge on Fridays.

Graduation/Commencement dates (Spring 2013):

Honors Convocation	Thursday, May 16
Commencement.....	Thursday, May 16 – May 18
Commencement RSVP Deadline	Wednesday, April 3
Commencement tickets available online	Monday, April 22
Degree conferral date	Saturday, May 18

The CV Lounge Door

Carter Plotkin

I am perplexed by a common practice I observe at the CV Lounge. About a quarter of the time that I walk into the lounge, I find the door to it propped open by its doorstep. About half the time I'm in the lounge, at least one student will come up to the closed door and knock politely to request entrance. I have never observed a scenario where the knock goes ignored, as someone always rises from whatever they're doing to let the knocker in. On rare occasions, I actually see someone prop the door open for no discernible reason, as they don't return quickly (if at all) and they don't seem to be waiting for anyone.

Each time I enter the lounge, I shut the door. The CV administrator can recognize that I have walked in by the sound it makes as I raise the doorstep and close the door, and has identified me by name more than once, even without actually looking to see who it is. When I hear knocks, I completely ignore them, and when I see that the door has been propped open, I get up and close it. Why do I do this?

Why *don't* you? I called this practice of openness with the CV Lounge door perplexing because I don't understand it. I, along with the rest of you, submitted an application to Collegium V and scrounged together recommendation letters to get into the honors program. The CV Lounge is special, and it takes work to get in. That's why we have a keycard scanner. In conversations with other lounge rats (frequent users of

*"I get up and
close [the CV
lounge door]...
why don't
you?"*

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The CV Lounge Door

Carter Plotkin

the lounge), I find that the CV Lounge is special to many of them too, as a quiet place of study or a social space with other intelligent students.

Therefore, why are we so open to letting people in? Why do we answer knocks? Why do we prop the door open for CV events? I have not found compelling answers to these questions, so feel free to write them on the whiteboard if you have a response to this article. CV students are all granted access on their Comet Cards and may easily beep in, even through a handbag or a wallet exterior. I figure most people carry their wallets with them to drive or pay for things and therefore have their Comet Cards in tow. Additionally, CV events are for CV students. We have this special space for which there are requirements to gain access. There is nothing inherently wrong with the principle of exclusion. We should keep our CV Lounge as a CV lounge; otherwise it becomes just another library study space.

“... why do we
prop the door
open for CV
events?”

-edited by: Shravik Sethi

Tick, Tock

Katelyn McWilliams

As I stare at my computer screen typing the thoughts that will eventually become this article, I am confronted by a dilemma that I face almost every time I open a word document: procrastination. My mind persists in the delusional belief that if I stare long and hard enough at the blank screen, multiple lines of elegant, profound prose will fill the page to astound readers with my brilliance. Unfortunately, that phenomenon has yet to occur. No matter how long I wait and despite the countless other things I do in the interim, my cursor remains in the exact same spot until my exasperated computer hibernates in disgust at my inactivity.

“Procrastination plagues almost every student I know”

Procrastination plagues almost every student I know. Calendars, date books, email reminders, and study sessions are planned with the best of intentions, yet they invariably fall by the wayside as more pressing matters come to mind. Like Netflix. Or snacking. Or staring into space. The continual urge to put things off poses a serious problem. Syllabus deadlines do not change despite fervent wishes, and the eLearning and Turnitin gods do not accept papers submitted at 12:01. Consequently, what starts as an innocent and harmless failure on one assignment can turn into a serious problem if it’s allowed to get out of hand.

I recently asked some CV students if they procrastinated and if so, what their

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Tick, Tock

Katelyn McWilliams

motives are. Statistically, the reply was an overwhelming “yes” to whether they procrastinated, but their justifications differed. Some volunteers admitted that deadlines slipped away from them as they engaged in more leisurely pursuits. Others offered a more logical explanation. A few respondents intentionally delayed beginning their assignments because the thoughts they produced at the last minute greatly surpassed the preplanned, considered ideas, which actually makes sense. However, while occasional nuggets of brilliance might populate late night compositions, in my experience an increased number of typos appear as well.

So what can be done? One cannot hope to completely banish procrastination.

“One cannot hope
to completely
banish
procrastination”

While people can still be successful while procrastinating, procrastination still often brings with it problems such as an increased probability for typos and stress. Here are some tips that either I’ve found or others have shared with me that can help:

- Envision that lovely, peaceful feeling when an assignment is completed *before* the due date. It’s rare, but when that happens there is no greater sensation in the world. Perhaps this feeling will prompt you to get started a bit earlier.
- Find a friend in the same class. Work together. While joining forces sometimes leads to goofing off, two committed people might get the job done faster.
- Withhold a privilege. Say to yourself, “No TV until I study” or “No computer until I get that reading done.” While challenging, you can take this route with enough strength of mind!

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Tick, Tock

Katelyn McWilliams

- If you're determined to wait until the last minute to get those creative juices flowing, at least think your findings over. Jot down ideas as they come to you or work through an introduction in your head. Also, clear your schedule of other obligations. Textbooks or math homework *will not* get easier or more interesting with time. Get those tasks out of the way so you can focus on assignments that require greater time commitments.
- Turn your weakness into a strength. If you have a natural desire to procrastinate, use it to your advantage. The apartment needs cleaning? No, I have a lab report! Exercise? Research paper!

Of course, each individual has their own way of dealing with procrastination. However, careful attention to the problem of procrastination is the first step in finding a solution. Take this article; I've written a couple pages, and I still have hours before my deadline! Now, it's time to proofread. Then again...

***"Turn your
weakness into
a strength"***

- edited by: Carter Plotkin

MARCH 2013

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
24	25	26	27	28	1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10 SP	11 RI	12 NG	13 BR	14 EA	15 K	16 !!!!!!!
17	18	19 Etiquette workshop	20	21 Movie night	22	23
24	25 Web Regis-	26	27	28	29 LAN Party	30

Spring Break: Is the week of Mar. 11-15. There will be no school that week.

Etiquette Workshop (Mar. 19): Learn etiquette basics with Sherry Marek, Assistant Director of the McDermott Scholar program, in the CV Lounge at 3 pm.

Movie Night (Mar. 21): Will start at 8 pm.

Web Registration (Mar. 25): Enrollment appointments will be assigned in Orion. Please go online and check your time and date.

LAN Party (Mar. 29): Will start at 7 pm in the CV Lounge. Pre-gaming is encouraged.

Future Important Dates: April 21– CV BBQ at Harpham's house

May 16– Senior reception

CV Newsletter Staff

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Mikaela McMurtry

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Kinsey Cline

Kelsey Drake

Mikaela McMurtry

Carter Plotkin

Anandini Rao

Calendar/

Announcements:

Dakota Deutsch

Josh Olson

Special Thanks To:

Dr. Harpham

Dr. Dow

Valerie Brunell

Dr. Scotch

Dr. Champagne

Michael Seeligson

Collegium V: Learning That Never Sleeps



The Collegium V Honors Program at The University of Texas at Dallas was established in 1997 to provide an undergraduate honors experience that extends beyond the classroom. Small classes, innovative instruction, world class faculty, bright and inquisitive colleagues, and an array of extracurricular events offer Collegium V members special opportunities for professional and personal growth at the university.

If you are interested in learning more about Collegium V, please visit our website at cv.utdallas.edu or contact us for an application or to set up a tour.

CV Contact Information

CV Council

events@collegiumv.org

CV Network Administrators

cvadmins@utdallas.edu

CV Lounge Phone

972-883-6605

The CV Lounge (GC 1.202) is located on the 1st floor of the Green Center between the McDermott Library and Green Hall

If you have any questions/comments about the CV newsletter, please email Shravik Sethi at sps092020@utdallas.edu.

