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#### **ADELPHI UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK**

## **Speaking Up for Seniors**

Julie Dancziger, M.S.W. '11, is a mother, grandmother, entrepreneur and now a licensed social worker, specializing in geriatric care. She said that getting her graduate degree was "something I had always wanted to do," but she had to wait until her five children were "on their way." Her youngest is now 20 years old; her oldest is 29, and two of her children have children of their own.

The events of 9/11 and their profound effect on her and her clients propelled Ms. Dancziger toward an M.S.W. At the time, she was working as a social services coordinator for the United Jewish Council/Bialystoker Houses, a residence

for low-income elderly on Manhattan's Lower East Side. Witnessing her clients' frightened reaction to 9/11 made her realize how vulnerable the senior population is. "You were able to see it from



Julie Dancziger, M.S.W. '11

our windows, and a lot of them [the residents] are Holocaust survivors," Ms. Dancziger said. "The smell was like a crematorium, and it was really bringing back their memories of the Holocaust."

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## Social Work Students Have a New Source of Support

Since last fall, Lisa Henshaw '02, the new adviser/tutor for Adelphi's Manhattan social work program, has provided additional assistance to students in areas such as registration, study skills, conceptualizing course material and preparing for the licensure exam. Adelphi created Ms. Henshaw's role to ensure that students have the support they need to stay on track and excel on the licensure exam and in

their practice. Students work with Ms. Henshaw individually and in small study groups, and she works closely with professors who refer students.

Ms. Henshaw, a School of Social



Lisa Henshaw '02

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## Academic Excellence with a Personal Touch

The Adelphi University School of Social Work at the Manhattan Center offers a warm, welcoming community where students benefit from the expertise and support of a professional, caring faculty and administration. Evening and Saturday classes, as well as flexible part-time and full-time programs, offer choices to students in their pursuit of B.S.W. and M.S.W. degrees. Students will find a one-stop shopping experience where they can interact with fellow classmates, consult with their academic adviser, meet with a tutor or financial aid counselor and attend classes while working toward becoming a professional, licensed social worker. The field education experience includes extensive supervision and instruction in a variety of settings, including health and mental health clinics, schools, community residences and hospitals. The diverse backgrounds and life experiences of our students and professors enrich the learning to create a lively environment.

#### Julie Dancziger continued

Ms. Dancziger was accepted to all four social work programs she applied to and chose Adelphi because, she said, "I was very impressed with the caliber of the professors and the program, as well as the diversity and opportunities that Adelphi offered."

Once enrolled, she found great mentors among the approachable faculty members. Having been out of school for more than 20 years, she had to relearn how to learn. "I didn't even know how to use a computer when I started," she said. She caught on quickly, though, and earned nearly a 4.0 GPA. Last spring, Adelphi successfully nominated her for the Student of the Year Award from the New York Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers. "It actually took me by surprise," she said about the honor.

Ms. Dancziger feels that her Adelphi experience deepened her commitment to serving the senior population. "I find it really quite fascinating to be able to learn from people who have the ability to reflect upon decades of experience," she said. "They are a vulnerable population, and they don't have a voice. They need someone that can advocate for them."

Advocating for and helping seniors was far from Ms. Dancziger's agenda when she went to college and started working. She studied business as an undergraduate and later started what she said was a successful children's clothing boutique. While remunerative, running her business in a dog-eat-dog environment was spiritually draining.

"I just felt like something in me was lacking," she said. "I knew that I had to switch gears." She then worked in a doctor's office in the early days of managed care and said she was struck by how many people were denied "what they really rightfully deserved.

"My sense of justice and advocacy led me into social work."

Ms. Dancziger said that if she could change one thing today, it would be the way society defines aging. "The perception of a senior is very much affecting how people treat them, and I think it's a great misnomer because seniors today are much younger, more viable [and] living longer, and people fail to realize what productive members of the community they are and can still be," she said.

#### Lisa Henshaw continued

Work alumna, has taught in the program and is familiar with the curriculum. Prior to her current role, she spent several years as a clinical administration supervisor at an outpatient mental health clinic. Even then, she volunteered her time tutoring social work students. "It helped me develop my own skills and learn to work with students...to meet their needs in the best way possible," she said.

School of Social Work

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## THE ADELPHI UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF NURSING AT THE MANHATTAN CENTER

offers an innovative, evening bachelor's program that enables aspiring nurses to meet the challenges and demands of today's healthcare environment. This undergraduate program combines the study of nursing theory with research, clinical practice and community service. Dedicated to the highest professional standards, the program focuses on patient-centered care and instills an appreciation for cultural diversity. Our program fosters an understanding of the different nursing roles in a variety of healthcare settings, emphasizing the nurse's role in health promotion, long-term care, research, advocacy, teaching, change and management.

School of Nursing

Manhattan Center Contact

Irene Auteri Ferguson '79

Director Manhattan Center Nursing 212.965.8340, ext. 8366 ferguson@adelphi.edu

## What's New?

Last fall, Adelphi began its full-time, evening-only undergraduate nursing program. The unique five-semester program allows students to attend classes on weeknights from 4:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. To fully prepare students for the demands of today's healthcare environment, Adelphi has also enriched

the curriculum with new courses and seminars.

New prerequisite courses ensure that students are well versed in relevant areas of genetics and healthcare informatics. Adelphi has also added four integration seminars, which, according to program director Irene Auteri Ferguson '79, "put

all of the courses and discussions into perspective." Each seminar helps students review and synthesize the material covered in a semester's course work.

We invite you to read more about our people and programs in this newsletter and online at adelphi.edu/manhattan/nursing.php.



## Adelphi Welcomes

#### **NURSING DIRECTOR**

**IRENE AUTERI FERGUSON '79** 

Last August, Irene Auteri Ferguson '79 became the new director of nursing at Adelphi's Manhattan Center. Ms. Ferguson, an Adelphi School of Nursing alumna, has been an adjunct professor at the school since 2005.

She has extensive experience teaching nursing, including her first teaching position at Adelphi in 1983. She is currently a lactation consultant and childbirth educator in private practice, and has been working at a free health clinic that

she and her husband, Dr. James Ferguson '77, started.

In 2010, Ms. Ferguson traveled with her family to Haiti to work in a free health clinic in Port au Prince, and she's hoping to return. She and Dr. Ferguson received Adelphi's 2009 Alumni Legacy Award. She holds a B.S. in Nursing from Adelphi and an M.A. in Nursing from New York University.

### **Meet Our Students**

#### Racquel Jervis, Junior

I CHOSE ADELPHI BECAUSE of its extensive nursing program.

I'M PASSIONATE ABOUT my education and the knowledge I can pass on to others.

I'M MOST PROUD OF being a role model and an example for my siblings, younger and older.

MY MANTRA IS: My only competition is time.

MY ADVICE FOR PROSPECTIVE STUDENTS IS to stick with their plans, no matter what.

#### Monica Catral, Junior

I CHOSE ADELPHI BECAUSE of the excellent nursing program and the convenient location of its Manhattan Center.

**BESIDES ADELPHI, I AM BALANCING** *motherbood and my photography hobby.* 

I CHOSE A CAREER IN NURSING BECAUSE I love biology and learning about the human body. I also enjoy caring for others.

MY ADELPHI EXPERIENCE HAS BEEN remarkable and challenging. I enjoy my classes, and I feel lucky to be in this program.

I'M PASSIONATE ABOUT learning.

MY MANTRA IS: Practice makes perfect.

Racquel Jervis (left) and Monica Catral hone their skills in Adelphi's nursing lab.



## DID YOU KNOW?

The New York State Department of Education has enlisted Adelphi's expertise to improve the preschool education of children with disabilities who are not native speakers of English. Eva Roca, director of Adelphi's Teaching English as a Second Language/Bilingual Program, has secured a grant of \$478,939 over five years to operate a New York City Bilingual/English as a Second Language Preschool Technical Assistance Center at Adelphi's Manhattan Center.

Preschool teachers, paraprofessionals, speech pathologists, bilingual psychologists, social workers and interpreters are being recruited to participate in a series of six- to eight-day workshops. According to Ms. Roca, Adelphi will serve between 330 and 775 professionals annually.

For more information about the program, contact Ms. Roca at roca2@adelphi.edu or Manhattan Center Director of Education Programs Christopher Church at church@adelphi.edu.

**AT THE RUTH S. AMMON SCHOOL OF EDUCATION**, educators are prepared to teach and lead in a complex, multicultural society. The Ammon School at the Manhattan Center offers a range of programs that help teachers and administrators meet the requirements for New York State licensure. You can:

- Change your career by completing the requirements for teacher certification
- Increase your marketability by extending your base certification to other areas
- Enhance your educational opportunities by getting an educational leadership certificate
- Study for dual certification

The Manhattan Center allows you to:

- Earn your master's degree at an accelerated rate
- Take conveniently scheduled weekend classes

We invite you to learn more about our people and programs in this newsletter and online at adelphi.edu/manhattan/education.php.

## **Introducing** Kimberly Jackson

#### **Assistant Director of Field and Clinical Site Placement**

Kimberly Jackson started last May as the assistant director of field and clinical site placement for the Manhattan programs of Adelphi's Ruth S. Ammon School of Education. She works closely with students, guiding them in choosing courses and finding schools where they can complete their classroom observation and student teaching hours. One of her goals is to expand Adelphi's partnerships with schools and, thereby, to increase student teaching

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opportunities. Ms. Jackson holds an M.A. in International Educational Development from Columbia University and a bachelor's in political science and education from Bucknell

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If for the United Nations tees, teaching English to

University. She has volunteered for the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, teaching English to Malaysian children.

## Femi Mayungbo

Candidate for M.S. in Childhood Special Education



I CHOSE ADELPHI BECAUSE of its reputation and convenient schedules.

**BESIDES ADELPHI, I AM BALANCING** *full-time employment as a case manager for a foster care agency.* 

I CHOSE A CAREER IN EDUCATION BECAUSE I

enjoy working with children. It's my way of changing the world.

I LIKE ADELPHI'S PROGRAM BECAUSE the resources are endless and professors have experience in the classrooms.

**IN 10 YEARS,** I'll be a school principal or consultant in education.

MY MANTRA IS: Education is one's greatest weapon.

Ruth S. Ammon
School of Education
Manhattan Center
Contacts

#### **Christopher Church**

Director 212.965.8340, ext. 8351 church@adelphi.edu

#### **Kimberly Jackson**

Assistant Director 212.965.8340, ext. 8356 kjackson@adelphi.edu

## Christine Parker

M.A. in Childhood Education '11



I LOVE TO TEACH BECAUSE of those breakthrough moments with a student, when after struggling or being filled with self-doubt, he/she truly understands the material and feels a sense of pride.

MY FAVORITE ASPECTS OF ADELPHI'S PROGRAM are the professors with classroom

experience and knowledge to share, small class sizes that allow you to get to know your professors and the diversity of professors.

THE MOST IMPORTANT LESSON I LEARNED AT ADELPHI is that teaching, like anything else, is an art that must be practiced.

I'M PASSIONATE ABOUT the children I teach and finding ways to be an effective educator.

I'M MOST PROUD OF building the courage to leave a job of 10 years to do something that I truly love.

## Randy Moore

Candidate for M.A. in TESOL K-12

I CHOSE ADELPHI BECAUSE I knew that Adelphi would be a place where I could learn educational theory and apply that knowledge in a real-life setting.



BESIDES ADELPHI, I AM BALANCING a rewarding career at Year Up, a nationally recognized nonprofit organization that serves urban young adults between the ages of 18 and 24.

I CHOSE A CAREER IN EDUCATION BECAUSE I wanted to help cultivate the limitless talent and creativity that our young people possess. As a product of African-American/Dominican heritage, I have seen what it can be like for a student of color in the education system, especially in an urban environment with limited resources.

I LIKE ADELPHI'S PROGRAM BECAUSE it's honest. Adelphi gives me a platform to discuss issues, trends and experiences that I have endured as an educator, as well as exchange ideas with my fellow colleagues who are currently working or have worked in the field.

MY MANTRA IS: "If there is no struggle, there can be no progress."—Frederick Douglass

## Jessica Dorcena

Candidate for M.S. in Early Childhood Special Education

I CHOSE ADELPHI BECAUSE it allowed me to pursue my goal of gaining a master's degree while also working full time.

BESIDES ADELPHI, I AM BALANCING a fulltime position as an account analyst. I also run a monthly book club for young adults in Manhattan, and I'm a New York Cares



volunteer. I'm married and expecting a baby in early 2012.

I CHOSE A CAREER IN EDUCATION BECAUSE I believe education allows people of any race, religion and background to transform their lives.

MY ADELPHI EXPERIENCE has been transformative and rewarding.

MY FONDEST ADELPHI MEMORY IS meeting and working with other dedicated students.

I'D LIKE TO BE REMEMBERED FOR making people smile and helping others to help themselves.

## Ruby Chantire

Candidate for M.S. in Bilingual Childhood Special Education

I CHOSE ADELPHI BECAUSE of the high level of expertise professors bring to the classroom. Dedicated, quality instructors share their experiences and provide an open forum while students learn, not only by listening, but also by participating in hands-on activities.



BESIDES ADELPHI, I AM BALANCING a full-time

job at The Children's Aid Society, taking Brazilian Portuguese lessons and caring for my family.

I'M EXTREMELY PASSIONATE ABOUT educating children in the most creative and memorable form possible. I am a fan of teaching in natural environments where students learn by experience.

**IN 10 YEARS**, I hope to use my language skills to help students become masters of their craft by tapping into their hidden talents and instilling in them my mantra; "Love what you're learning!"

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#### STUDENT SERVICES

What are some of the things that I can do at the Office of Student Services?

- Pay my bill
- Register for classes
- Obtain information about tuition, fees and financial aid
- Take my ID picture
- Obtain information about local student discounts
- Get help completing my FAFSA

We invite you to learn more about our people and programs in this newsletter and online at **adelphi.edu/manhattan**.

## Manhattan Center Contacts

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## **HERE TO HELP**

## NEW MANHATTAN STUDENT COUNSELING SERVICES

Adelphi's Manhattan Center students asked for it, and Adelphi is pleased to offer it—private, confidential, on-site student counseling.

In a 2007 survey of Adelphi's Manhattan students, more than 70 percent of respondents indicated that an on-site counseling center would be beneficial. The new counseling center supports students and promotes their academic success and overall well being. Consultations with an on-site counselor are available on Wednesdays from 12:00 noon to 7:00 p.m.

"At certain times stress motivates us, but when it paralyzes us, we need to demystify it," said Carol Phelan, M.S.W. '02, director of Adelphi's Student Counseling Center. "How

we manage stress will determine the outcome [of our particular situation]."

"We try to provide psycho-education, so students can learn to better manage stress," said Bernadine Waller, counselor and diversity marketing coordinator at Adelphi's Student Counseling Center.

"You can't live in a stress-free world... but we give [students] the skills to manage life and...help them find [solutions] within themselves," Ms. Phelan said.

All counseling services are private and confidential. Walk-ins are welcome.

For more information and to schedule an appointment, contact Bernadine Waller at **bwaller@adelphi.edu** or call **516.877.3646**.

## Federal Versus Private Student Loans

Federal student loans have several advantages over private loans and credit cards.

**Interest rates:** The interest rates are lower than alternative and PLUS loans.

**Deferment:** The government allows you to defer payments if you go back to school or join the military.

**Loan forgiveness:** Depending on some professions, federal loans can be forgiven for graduates who go into teaching, health or public service.

**Consolidation:** Once school is finished, it's easy to consolidate all federal student loans into one loan, which eases payment and bookkeeping. This sometimes lets you stretch out your repayment for as long as 30 years, which significantly reduces monthly payments.

**Early repayment:** Unlike some private lenders, the federal government won't charge you if you repay your loans ahead of schedule.

The following are some of the top-rated federal loans:

**Federal Perkins Loan:** Federally backed educational loans that are awarded only to students with the lowest incomes.

**Subsidized Federal Direct Stafford Loans:** Another federally backed loan where interest is not charged while the student is in school.

**Unsubsidized Federal Direct Stafford Loans:** Awarded to almost every student who applies, regardless of income. The interest keeps building up while the student is in school. Students do not have to make payments while they are enrolled at least part time. But when they do finish school, the total amount they owe will have increased.

**PLUS:** Students who need more money after they have taken out their Perkins and Stafford loans can borrow their full remaining costs from the PLUS loan program.

FAFSA on the Web	fafsa.ed.gov
Federal student aid processor	800.4.FED.AID (800.433.3243)
Financial aid and scholarship	fastweb.com collegeboard.com
Federal school code	002666

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IMPORTANT FINANCIAL AID INFORMATION

AU TAP code (graduate)	5000
NYS Higher Education Services Corporation (for TAP and Stafford loan inquiry)	888.NYSHESC (888.697.4372)

Tuition pay plan (AMS) 866.884.8466

AU TAP code (undergraduate)

# FINANCIAL AID FAQS

The process of applying for financial aid can flummox even the savviest students. To guide you through what can be an unnerving process, the Adelphi Office of Student Financial Services has posted online a comprehensive list of 12 FAQs, conveniently available at ecampus.adelphi.edu/sfs/fast\_facts.php.

The questions cover everything from how financial aid eligibility is determined to whether one needs to apply for financial assistance every year (Yes!). Students and applicants who have even more questions are, of course, welcome to contact a Manhattan Center student services coordinator for assistance.

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## SHAPE YOUR MIND

