



Webster's Direct Connection

Spring | 2012

Let the New Year's Resolutions Begin

Happy 2012! It's hard to believe that a new year has begun. It seems 2011 just flew by! Along with ringing in the new year comes the ill-fated new year's resolutions. I know I have to remind myself the next day of the resolutions I just made the night before. In fact, I'm still working on some resolutions I made a few years ago! Some may say not to even bother making resolutions. I've tried that as well but no matter what, I end up having to come up with some goal for the year.

As I was researching what kind of advice I could find on how to

be in the 50% of those who keep their resolutions past six months, I found this interesting article by goal-setting-guide.com that gives five strategies on planning successful new year's resolutions. You may have already decided on your resolutions but these are great tips to keep your momentum going. This will be especially true once classes start, you have tests and papers to write and the stress of being a graduate student threatens to reek havoc on the what started out as a great plan. Do you feel stressed yet? Well do not fret because these

tips will see you through!

1. Make it specific- Say your new year's resolution is to lose weight. Instead of a generic "I want to lose weight", set your goal on a specific amount of weight you want to lose. If it is to go the gym more, give a specific amount of time you plan to go to the gym.
2. Make it realistic- We are told if we are going to dream, dream big. According to the setting goals website, to avoid or lessen the chances of failure, setting New Year's resolutions must be anchored on reality.
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Spring is in the Air! Helpful Hints and Dates

Please review these important dates and tips for a great Spring 1 term!

COURSE SCHEDULES—these and other program materials are located on the table in the front room.

SYLLABI—can be found by visiting our website at www.webster.edu/stpetersburg and clicking on "Schedules & Syllabi" tab on the left hand side of the page.

FINANCIAL AID—Financial Aid typically distributes after the drop/add period (the week of 10/31). If you have questions or concerns regarding your financial aid and disbursement,

please do not hesitate to contact the campus.

DROP/ADD—classes may be added Week 1. The last day to drop a class without financial penalty is Friday, October 28. After this period, you may "withdraw" from a course and receive refunds in accordance with the following schedule:
A drop in Week 1—100% refund; drop in Week 2—100% refund; Withdrawal Week 3—50% refund; Week 4—25% refund; Week 5 and 6—0% refund.

WITHDRAWING—the last day to withdraw from a class is Friday, February 17.

TERM DATES—Spring 1 term runs from January 9– March 9. Spring 2 2012 begins the week of March 19.

BOOKS—please be sure that you order your books if you have not already. The online bookstore can be visited at www.mbsDirect.net. Further information is available at the information table on campus.

GRADUATION—Graduation is not an automatic process, and we do not want you to miss out on completing this milestone in your life. Be sure to fill out your petition to graduate before your last term.

Spotlight: Faculty Coordinator Ron Hamilton



Ron Hamilton started teaching with Webster in the fall 2 term of 2003. In the past year and a half, he has also served as the business faculty coordinator for the St. Petersburg campus. Recognized by both his peers and students for his extensive knowledge and expertise in human resources and management, we are excited to showcase his most recent global achievements.

Ron conducts a training program that teaches managers how to hire top talent. The program is called Selecting Winners, and Ron has been educating companies in this process since 1999. This is a methodology that is utilized by Fortune 100 companies' worldwide as well as small start-up organizations. The importance of hiring the right people for the right jobs is one of the most important responsibilities a manager

has in his/her job. The cost of a poor hire is enormous. By utilizing this methodology, companies have great success in hiring top talent more effectively and efficiently. Ron normally conducts these programs in North America but in 2011, he traveled to 12 cities in 11 countries including Russia, South Africa, Brazil, Spain, France, and Italy among others.

Ron brings this experience to classes he teaches at Webster. Ron said that much of the Selecting Winners methodology is consistent with what he teaches in the classroom, especially the Staffing course. "These international experiences have given even greater insight into hiring because of the cultural impact on the process," Ron said.

We are excited that we are able to offer this global experience and knowledge to our students. Go Ron!

"Be always at war with your vices, at peace with your neighbors, and let each new year find you a better man."

~Benjamin Franklin

A Few Words From Campus Director Mary Ellis



2012 New Year Greetings!

2011 flew by at breakneck speed and now we are left with the memories. It is my hope that as you reflect on the past year, you find a sense of pride in your accomplishments. One huge accomplishment is your pursuit of a graduate degree as an adult who has juggled many balls at one time.

Life is full of challenges that mold us and make us the person we are at this moment. Don't let temporary roadblocks define your future; resolve to turn those challenges into opportunities. I admit I am a "glass half full" person – try it – it is more satisfying and rewarding than focusing on negativity.

Your education at Webster provides much more than a World Class academic experience; life lessons are included at no additional cost! Use the problem solving skills you learn in your Webster classes to solve today's personal and global issues. Before you know it, those new skills become a natural part of who you are.....and will create accomplishments you can reflect on at the close of 2012, which will be here before we know it!

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mary Ellis".

Kathy Erickson: A New Journey

I cannot believe it has been almost five years ago that I started my journey with Webster University. We started this campus with only seven students and now look how we have grown!

Now it is time for me to start a new journey. I am excited to share that I have taken a posi-

tion at Eckerd College. Of course, there is some sadness as I will miss all of you very much. I've seen many of you grow exponentially since your time at Webster. Some have taken advantage of new opportunities, gotten married, started a family or moved to another state or country.

and in many cases becoming friends. I hope you will keep in touch and let me know what new and exciting things are happening in your lives. In the meantime, I just want to thank you for all the memories and the friendships. Good luck with all your future endeavors!



Kathy after her first half marathon with friend Michele.

Be in the Know...Join Us on Facebook!



Don't forget to join us on Facebook!! We encourage all students, faculty and staff to type the following link into your address bar to visit, view and LIKE the page. The website address is as follows:

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Saint-Petersburg-FL/Webster-University-St-Petersburg/129474990405581>

Congratulations to our fall 2 graduates!

Wayne Chatman

Marc Daniels

Brittany Kanuck

Tyrone Major

Shurna Smith

Spring 1 2012 dates to remember

Jan 9—Welcome back! Spring 1 begins.

Jan 16— Martin Luther King Jr. Day. No class!

Jan. 17— Alumni/Student Ambassador Meet and Greet

Jan 20—Last day to drop a class without penalty.

Jan. 17-19— Student Appreciation Week! Pizza!

The week of Jan. 23 —Financial aid disburses.

Feb. 6-9— Pot Luck Week!

Feb. 7— Open House 6 p.m.

Feb. 17— Last day to withdraw

March 12-16— Spring Break

March 19— Spring 2 term begins

Welcome New Students

Please help us welcome our New Webster Students! We are thrilled to have you as a part of the Webster community,

Carlette McClellan

Bridgette Moore

Rufus Moore

MaryTess Espejo

David DePombo

Mary Strauss

Joe Pabalan

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“Each new day is a blank page in the diary of your life. The secret of success is in turning that diary into the best story you possibly can.” I wish you a Happy New Year and a diary full of the best stories ever written in your life.

**Douglas Pagels –
(Addition to Quote by
Muhammad Shaharyar
Khan)**

Resolutions..continued from page 1

As with goal setting, there must be a lifetime or long-term target involved, as well as chunks of smaller goals that all lead to achieving just one resolution.

So if your dream is to become rich and famous, set smaller attainable goals to reach your final overall goal.

3. Make it Known– We all need a little help from our friends once in awhile. Don’t be afraid to let people know your plans and let them help you stay focused. Who better to help you resist the urge to take down that whole chocolate cake than one of your friends who knows your goal and wants to see you achieve it.

4. Make it measurable by time– I did say earlier that I am still working on resolutions from a few years ago so this bit of advice definitely hit home. The Website recommends that say for example your goal is to quit smoking before June, don’t quit when it’s the end of May. Instead, cut down the cigarettes starting on New Year’s eve with gradual decrease for the next few weeks. After three months, check how you are doing. If it is too difficult, settle with fewer sticks a day until June sees you totally free from the nasty habit.

5. Make it fun and rewarding– It can be nerve wracking trying to change life-long behaviors or even behaviors

that have developed over the years. Having a reward system in place as you meet each milestone can make the process fun and rewarding. Of course, if your goal is to eat less sweets than probably a reward shouldn’t be that chocolate cake, but it can be a day at the mall or even taking healthy cooking lessons. Good luck with your new year’s resolutions!

-Kathy Erickson

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