Grad School Preparation Issue

Applying for graduate school is a process that takes planning—sometimes years of planning. The more informed you are of this process, the better prepared you will be, which will afford you more power and control in determining IF graduate school is right for you and WHAT programs best suit your career aspirations and specialization interests. Fit, in terms of a graduate school, is key. And determining fit will require research into a lot of different programs.

But when should you start looking? When should you take the GRE (or MCAT or LSAT or GMAT)? How do you make an effective curriculum vita? What is the proper way to ask for letters of recommendation? What else will make you attractive to graduate schools you are considering?

There is no one-size-fits-all answer. But there are people who have been there and can help guide you through the process. As is often the case, asking for help is key.

Grad School Preparation Workshop: Thursday!

On Thursday, November 17, at 4:30, in Kirby 108, Andrew Jones, along with other IC Faculty members, will present the Grad School Preparation Workshop!

Their expertise, as well as their experiences as former graduate student applicants, will help fill you in on the information and resources necessary to navigate the graduate school application process. See you Thursday!

http://www.ic.edu/RelId/622610/ISvars/default/Fall_2011_Workshop_Series.htm
How Early Is Too Early??

Preparing for graduate school is a reality for many of us. I first decided I wanted to further my education this summer after my internship at Lincoln’s New Salem: I realized grad school is a must in order to get the job I wanted. I informed my advisor soon after my decision, and he helped walked me through the steps. What I didn’t realize is that there are so many choices and factors to consider. I knew I would have to do some research, but I was faced with so many decisions I was not prepared for: What do I want to study? How far away from home do I want to go? Where are the best programs? What do schools look for? How much is this going to cost me? As I sorted through all this information, I realized I have excellent and important resources here at Illinois College, including my advisor, professors with direct experience in my field of choice, and, of course, TRiO!

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The Path to Graduate School

Getting into college is a big feat and graduating from college even bigger, but what about graduate school? Getting into graduate school isn’t easy by any means and requires a great deal of preparation throughout your undergraduate career in order to stay on track. Graduate school can seem intimidating, but the TRiO Program offers great support and resources to help along the way!

Coming into college, I knew I wanted to attend law school but wasn’t sure how to get there or the most effective way to do so. The TRiO Program was here for me to help lay out my priorities and recommended paths for getting into law school. I recently attended a law school fair at the University of Illinois in Champaign and quickly felt I was in way over my head: the leadership roles, LSAT tests, and strong GPA’s can seem intimidating—not to mention the low admittance rate, compared to those who actually apply! It’s overwhelming to think you’re tackling the graduate school application process alone, but the TRiO Program is here to support and help you every step of the way!

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TRiO Tip of the Week

“Putting together a competitive [graduate school] application through careful preparation is one thing. Applying to the right program is something else...It has to fit with your values, abilities, and interests. It is wise to make sure you are applying to the right program. ~ Hayes and Hayes, 1989: http://psych.hanover.edu/
TRiO Writers Live Online!: Jami Gearhart & Geeleeyaw Moore

Listen to their Live Readings Monday at 5!: True Blue Radio

Two of our TRiO students, Jami Gearheart (shown left) and Geeleeyaw Moore (shown right), will be showing off their creative writing talents live via True Blue Radio: http://www.live365.com/index.live

Tune in at five p.m. today, Monday, November 14, to hear them read excerpts from their work!

For more information on today’s live True Blue fiction readings, visit http://www.ic.edu/RelId/623005/ISvars/default/True_Blue_Radio_to_feature_student_writers_live_and_online.htm

Considering Graduate School at WIU?: Tuesday!

For years, Western Illinois University has been recognized as one of the best masters degree-granting institutions in the Midwest. And for a large public college, it does an excellent job of providing individualized attention to help students succeed.

Why not, then, have a chat with a representative from the WIU Graduate College, as well as a professor form the university’s sociology graduate program? Stop by Caine on Tuesday, November 15, from 11 a.m. to 12:45 p.m. to find out more!

Contribute to the Tribune!

Tell us your stories!!

Students are the collective conscience of Illinois College. The individual voices give meaning and purpose to the school as a whole. Therefore, consider contributing your voice. What are your successes, obstacles, and challenges as an IC student?

The only requirement is that you be yourself.

Contact Jason Stalides—jason.stalides@ic.edu, 217-291-1621—for more information!

Next Issue:

• Making Positive Changes Issue!
• The elements of choice.
• Learn the steps to make and commit to positive changes.
• Tips on not only talk-the-talk, but also to walk-the-walk.
• Why enacting changes can be challenging.
• And more!