

Gaining Skills with Student Employment

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Recommended Citation

Moss, Sarah () "Gaining Skills with Student Employment," *The Voice*: Vol. 67: Iss. 3, Article 10.

Available at: <https://digitalcollections.dordt.edu/voice/vol67/iss3/10>

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GAINING SKILLS WITH STUDENT EMPLOYMENT

Working as a student employee at Dordt can benefit students in many ways, says Kyle Achterhoff, director of student employment.

"We want to teach life skills through our student employment program," he says. "It's a great opportunity for students to earn extra money while at Dordt. They can choose to work anywhere from two to 20 hours a week, to help offset some of the costs associated with higher education."

Dordt needs student employees to function, adds Achterhoff. Students work in all kinds of roles on campus, from grounds crew to residence life to help center staff. And there are employment opportunities on campus that relate directly to students' future career paths.

Devyn Driesen is a senior graphic design major who worked for Dordt's Marketing and Communication Office for two years. During that time, she took on more responsibility and even earned raises. She says that her on-campus work has helped her to gain skills that will benefit her post-college.

"I do a lot of design work for admissions and advancement, which involves creating postcards, fact sheets, and pieces for donors," she says. "I've learned a lot about what goes into marketing and how many steps there are for one piece to be created."

In May, Driesen began work as a graphic designer for Plum Publishing, putting her design skills into practice—utilizing what she learned in the classroom and at her on-campus position.

Stephen Marques has held several different student employment positions during his time at Dordt. As a sophomore, he was a resident assistant (RA); during his junior year, he was a learning community assistant (LCA). As a senior, he worked for campus security.



JAMIN VERVELDE ('99)

Devyn Driesen did many projects for the Marketing and Communication Office, such as the wall calendar and digital ads.

"As an international student, being on a student visa, it's a little bit harder to actually get a job," he says. Being able to work for Dordt makes it easier for Marques and other international students to have an income while studying.

"I've been able to glean what has been the best way to communicate and how best to relate to people. It's prepared me for how to go into the workplace and succeed," says Marques. "Dordt does a good job of teaching you academics, which is important. But you also gain some practical knowledge that is often best learned through experience. At Dordt, you're able to get both of those."

God created us to work, says Achterhoff.

"Well before the fall, God worked," he says. "He worked to create the world. He created Adam and Eve to work. There is biblical value; God sees value in the work, no matter what we do."

"We need to look at work more from the angle of it being created before the fall," adds Marques. "Work is good for us, particularly as Christians, to work and to work hard. Having an opportunity at Dordt to apply yourself in that way is positive."

SARAH MOSS ('10)



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FACULTY NOTES

Professor of Music **Dr. Onsby Rose** is part of a group nominated for a Southeast Emmy Award for "You Were There," a musical piece written by Rose and performed by the Parris Island Marine Band from Beaufort, South Carolina. "Never in my wildest dreams would I have thought music I wrote would be included in a project that could receive a recognition like this," says Rose. "Just being nominated is truly incredible. It is up to God if it goes further, but even if it doesn't, being able to say I am an Emmy-nominated composer is pretty cool!"



Professor of Environmental Studies **Dr. Robb De Haan** ('85) contributed research to a recent issue of *Science*, a prestigious publication focused on scientific discovery. De Haan and 277 other scientists gathered more than 110,000 samples of white clover from more than 6,160 locations in 160 cities around the world. The samples were analyzed and the results shared in the article "Global Urban Environmental Change Drives Adaptation in White Clover," a cover story for the March 18 issue of *Science*. De Haan is listed as one of the co-authors for the article.



Professor of Engineering **Dr. Ethan Brue** ('92) recently released his co-authored book *A Christian Field Guide to Technology*. Using numerous case studies, historical examples, and personal stories, the book explores issues such as biblical themes and passages that relate to technology, the ethics and norms involved in technology design, and how engineering and technology tap into human dreams for a better world. Visit bookstore.dordt.edu to purchase a copy.

