



**THE NETWORK**

## Business Alumni Network

Interview with Alumni: Jackie Edmonson 2

Student Alumni

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# Interview with Alumni: Jackie Edmonson

*1963 ...Registered Nurse*

*1988...Bachelor of Science*

*1994...Master of Science in Healthcare Administration*

Why did you choose USF? USF was the nursing program associated with my school of nursing (Saint Joseph). When I decided to further my education, I wanted to attend USF because of the smaller classes and the excellent program taught by great instructors. USF prepared me for my very successful career in Nursing and Administration.

Who was your favorite professor and why? It would have to be Francis Lechrone, one of my nursing educators. She took a very sincere interest in her students and worked to produce very caring and competent nurses. She made learning interesting and participative.

What was your favorite class and why? I especially enjoyed the science classes. It is quite amazing to study the anatomy and physiology of the human body. It makes you think of the many unique processes that happen each day to each one of us in our daily routines that make us such superb specimens of the human race.

Have you stayed in touch with anyone from USF? Actually, I work closely with several of the nurses that graduated from USF at the Medical Center. We have a common bond. I also became a member of the USF Alumni Board 9 years ago and have served as the Alumni President for the past 2 years. It has been an awesome experience and has introduced me to many other special graduates who love USF as I do. It is quite a special place.

What is your current profession? I am a professional registered nurse. I have worked in many areas of the nursing spectrum over the years including Critical Care, Emergency Services, Cardiology, Women and Children Services, and most recently as Director of Surgical Services. It has been quite a rewarding journey.

What have you accomplished since graduating? I have been able to positively impact the many advancing changes that are occurring in Nursing practice. Mentoring of student nurses in the clinical setting has allowed me to extend my teaching abilities and share my expertise. USF prepared me to be able to organize and present valuable data and information at professional programs to fellow experts and other medical personnel. I have completed my Masters degree that allowed me to function as an expert in administrative roles. I have served as chairperson on numerous projects and programs that promote patient care and excellence in patient satisfaction. But actually, working closely with the physicians, my staff and students to make certain each patient's experience has been a rewarding and memorable one, has been one of my most wonderful accomplishments.

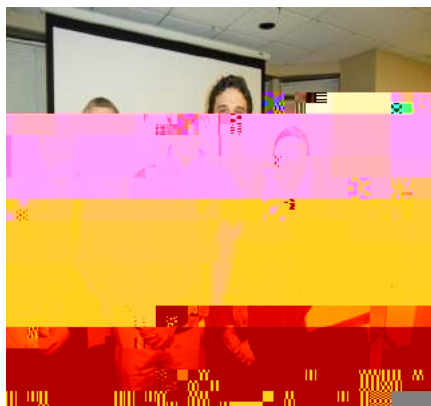
Involvement within the community? I have volunteered at numerous charity events throughout the Community. I have presented at Community meetings on Advanced Directives and End of Life decisions. Gift of Life for Organ Donation, Health Fairs, Children's Fun Fairs, and Work groups are just a few of the activities that I am involved in. I am a member of St. Mary Nativity parish and have worked closely with the Women's Club and other volunteer activities. I am a member of Sigma Theta Tau International Nursing Honor Society and American Association of Critical Care Nursing. Presently serve on the USF Alumni Board and Board of Trustees for the University.

Why is it important to you to give back to USF? USF has given me a wonderful education and preparation for my successful life and career in Nursing. I have met many very interesting and inspiring individuals in my educational years and Alumni activities. The values of humility and leadership have been engrained in me by the example of St Francis and for which I am very thankful.

Do you think USF prepared you for the "real world"? Absolutely, I learned so much from the class discussions and sharing of ideas among the many individual students in my classes. Most of them were already in jobs and could share their experiences. The Professors helped to make the discussions fruitful and worthwhile.

What is your most memorable patis,sh 0dn189 meic6004le1-3(n)(l )-2(am )ctu8JTJETfe anc

# Student Alumni Association



Alumni, friends and students were invited to attend presentations on professional/career development. They focused on social media and resume writing.

While college teaches you the fundamentals of your chosen field, every student should know before they enter the workplace.

resume writing, was given by Cynthia Hall. You can view them at [www.stfrancis.edu/videoconferences](http://www.stfrancis.edu/videoconferences).

If you are interested in presenting or networking with current students, please email us at [saa@stfrancis.edu](mailto:saa@stfrancis.edu).

## *Mentoring Program*

The inaugural year for the Student Alumni Mentoring (SAM) program was very successful with 20 pairs of students and alumni matched. The goal of the program is to bring students and alumni together in order to provide a professional relationship, which will





## Financial Research and Education through Experience (FREE) & Acceleration Club for Entrepreneurs



FREE started out the semester giving a presentation to students to inform them about credit. Topics that were discussed included: types of credit, ways to handle credit responsibly, and what steps to take when a student realizes they are in trouble with their credit. This was the first event put on by the new officers.



### *Resume and Cover Letter Workshop*

FREE collaborated with Student Business Association and Career Services to put together this presentation by Kelly Lapetino, director of Career Services. This well attended event helped students figure out how to update and personalize their resumes to help them stand out.



### *Social Media for Start Ups*

ACE (Entrepreneur Club) hosted a five week class called Social Media for Start Ups. Jason Kolb and Jeremy Kolb, two brothers, taught the class of about thirty students about using social networking sites to their advantage in the business world.

# Feed My Starving Children



In efforts to carry out the Franciscan values of service on April 6th, 2013, our community of students, faculty, and staff joined together to form a Feed My Starving Children (FMSC) Aztec profit hunger relief organization working with volunteers to produce scientifically formulated meals for starving children across the globe.

USF student Brandon Collofello was featured on WGN Channel 9 in Chicago to bring awareness about and to raise money for the Feed My Starving Children initiative here at USF.

Watch the segment at:

<http://www.kspr.com/video/gallery/73470779/News/Aztec-pushups-help-raise-money-for-hungry-children>

Brandon demonstrated 7 push-ups on the segment above, but on Wednesday, November 28th, students, community members, and faculty gathered during half-hour game in the Pat Sullivan Center to watch Brandon achieve a new Guinness world record of 31 set for the most Aztec pushups!!

Watch the video here:

[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VuAMoBIH5\\_g](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VuAMoBIH5_g)

By asking that you donate towards our cause or pledge to donate for every Aztec pushup that Brandon completes. Our University must raise twenty-two cents for each meal (\$22,000 total) for this MobilePack.

To pledge go to:

<http://www.fundraising.fmsc.org/faf/home/default.asp?event=1032986>

Across:

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3. Graduator

## 2013 Summer Events

All ticket sales are FINAL. No refunds will be given.  
Reservations MUST be made at least one week in advance prior to the event.

### Business Alumni Network (BAN) Meetings

Join fellow business alumni in a group that provides networking, social events and interaction with current USF students. The group assists alumni looking for jobs, changing careers, hiring employees or just looking to reconnect with other grads. All alumni are welcome!

Saturday, May 18  
8:30 a.m. Meeting  
Moes Room, Tower Hall

### Retirement Planning Today

This course is designed to teach you how to build wealth and align your money with your



Broadway in Chicago - West Side Story

West Side Story tells the story of star-crossed