My name is Jody Terhaar and I am the Dean of Students at the College of Saint Benedict. I started working at St. Ben’s about thirteen years ago when I was hired as the Director of Residential Life. I have been fortunate to have been given the opportunity to take on new and different responsibilities in the time I’ve been at St. Ben’s. There are a lot of misperceptions about what a Dean of Students does. The media often portrays Deans as rather frightening or intimidating people who wield a great deal of power that is usually used to make students fearful and unhappy. In reality, nothing could be further from the truth. My primary responsibility as the Dean of Students is to be an advocate for students — to assist with problems you may be having, to help you get through a difficult or challenging situation, or to help you find resources that allow you to achieve your goals.

My job responsibilities include:
- Supervise the Residential Life department
- Supervise the Student Activities and Leadership Development department (with SJU Dean of Students)
- Manage the student conduct system to insure policies and procedures are up to date, and reflect best practices
- Coordinate programs and information for parents and families
- Advise the St. Ben’s Student Senate

I report directly to and work closely with the Vice President for Student Development, Mary Geller. I also work closely with the SJU Dean of Students, Michael Connolly. My job also provides unique opportunities such as participating in an Alternative Break Experience through Campus Ministry. I just returned from the Dominican Republic and would encourage any student to participate in such an experience at least once during your time at CSB!

When I went to college I never even knew a job like a Dean of Students existed! I went to school intending to be a doctor but like many students, my path changed along with my major. I graduated from the College of St. Catherine in St. Paul with majors in Elementary Education and Math and had intended to become a teacher. However, I was also a Resident Assistant and because of that experience found myself instead pursuing a career in higher education.

In closing, I’d like to share with you three pieces of advice as you continue your education at CSB:
- Be open to new ideas, experiences and opportunities. Meet new people, try something new you haven’t done before, and step outside of your comfort zone.
- Use your voice – to speak up in class, to ask questions, to share an idea, to lead a group. Don’t ever think your voice isn’t needed or that it doesn’t matter.
- Take care of yourself by making choices that keep you safe, healthy and happy. Choose to make decisions that reflect your values and don’t let other people make choices for you.

I would welcome the opportunity to meet you and invite you to stop by or set up a meeting with me. My office is located on the second floor of Mary Commons. Please feel free to contact me at ext 5601 or via e-mail at jterhaar@csbsju.edu.

In This Issue:
- Meet the CSB Dean of Students
- Learn More about Career Services
- New Years Resolutions
- Pre-registration Advising
- Out of the Classroom funding
- Calendar of Events

FIRST GENERATION SOCIAL

On Tuesday, January 27, the First Generation Student Program kicked off its first social of the semester. Twenty-three students attended to learn more about the program and meet with other first year, first generation students. The event was held in the evening at the Mary Commons Lounge. Students were entered into a drawing for $5.00 gift certificates and completed a short survey about what activities and programs they would be interested in attending. Margo Thomas, First Generation Coordinator, and Jody Terhaar, CSB Dean of Students introduced themselves and welcomed everyone!

FIRST GENERATION SOCIAL

A Newsletter for First Generation Students

Generation You!
Connect with Career Services

Career Services can help you learn more about yourself and the work world. If you are in the process of choosing a major, a career counselor can help you clarify your interests, skills, and values. If you have selected a major, but are unsure of what you would like to do with it, a counselor can help you explore your career options. In addition, our website is filled with helpful career-related resources. Career services also hosts many campus events. For example, try one of our weekly Career Panels where alumni discuss their career paths and answer student questions. Look for topics this spring such as “Careers for the Common Good: Careers that Make a Difference” and “What can I do with a Spanish major?”

A Career Assistant helps with a resume critique

Explore

College is a time to explore and try new things, both inside and outside of the classroom. Getting experience can help you choose a major or career, as well as set you apart when you graduate. If you have a career field in mind, we can help you to set up a job shadow or informational interview to get a glimpse of what your dream job is really like (as well as make some great connections for the future). Need a job? Why not explore your interests and gain experience through on-campus employment or a summer job related to your interests. We can help you find positions, create or update your resume, and prepare for interviews. Career Services can also help you explore volunteer opportunities, internships, and much more.

What can I do with a major in...?

Explore Majors and careers:
http://www.csbsju.edu/career/majors/default.htm

Experience

If you would like to meet with a career counselor, call to make an appointment. Come in to the Career Resource Center anytime to check out our resources, search the CANE files, or get started on a resume. A Career Assistant will always be available to help. Click on “Career Calendar” on our webpage to see our upcoming events. Our website also has many resources and tools to explore.

363-5707
Academic Services Building
http://www.csbsju.edu/career
New Year's Resolutions for College Students

How are those New Year's resolutions coming? If you didn’t set any this year, here are some that are great for college students! According to Wikipedia (which would know such things), the most popular goals, in order, are: lose weight, pay off debts, save money, get a better job, get fit, eat right, get a better education, drink less alcohol, quit smoking, and reduce stress overall. But for many popular goals, in order, are: lose weight, pay off debts, save money, get a better job, get fit, eat right, make a better major, and reduce stress overall. But for many college students, it’s No. 7, get a better education, that looms largest. So, in the spirit of the season, here are 10 New Year's resolutions that would be good to make—and a fallback position for each, in case you’re living in the real world.

1. Make all the classes (or at least miss no more than two or three in any subject).
2. Take notes during the whole lecture (or at least pick up your pen every 10 minutes).
3. Do all the reading before the class (or at least do some of the reading sometime or other during the semester).
4. Show up for section and contribute to each meeting (or at least ask a question in a section meeting one time when there's that deadly silence and the first-year-graduate-student TA is sweating bricks).
5. Go to an office hour before each test and every paper (or at least grace the professor with your presence one time during the semester, like before the term paper).
6. Limit your Facebook/Twitter/College Humor/RateMyProfessors/Second City/IM-ing time to an hour a day (or at least expand your studying time to one hour a day).
7. Write drafts of all your papers (or at least proofread your papers before handing them in so there are no unintelligible sentences, wrong words, or homonyms that the spell check doesn't catch).
8. Take courses that fulfill the unpleasant distribution requirements (or at least sign up for that one math course that'll keep you in college for seven years if you keep putting it off).
9. Never pull an all-nighter (or at least pull an all-nighter only when it really counts, the night before the 50% of-the-grade final).
10. Confine your partying to weekends (or at least Thursday through Monday). And stop at three drinks (even when there’s no line for the keg).

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Out of the Class Funding, Did you know?

The First Generation Student Program has funds available for participation in out of the classroom activities. To apply for funding, simply go to our website: www.csbsju.edu/csbfirstgen and clink on funding request application form.

Some examples of opportunities you can request funding for include: Internships, undergraduate research, leadership conferences, Alternative break trips, and study abroad.

To be eligible for applying you must agree to

and meet the following criteria:

- Be a registered participate of the First Generation Student Program.
- Funding will generally not exceed $1000.
- Preference will be given to applicants who have not received funding for activities in the past.
- Funding is not available for tuition expenses.
- Proposed activity must be aligned with the mission of the First Generation Program.

Upcoming Campus Events and Activities

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>March 2009</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
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<td>1</td>
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<td>2 Spring Break</td>
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<td>9 Classes Begin</td>
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<td>23</td>
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<td>30 Tentative 1st Gen. workshop</td>
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