

# KUDOS

Noun: Acclaim or praise for exceptional achievement

Jack and Patti Phillips Workplace Learning and Performance Institute

Volume 2, Issue 1, 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter 2012

## JOIN US!

- Find out what you need to know about developing Human Capital in your organization at two events on March 15 with global expert, **Rebecca L. Ray, Ph.D., Senior Vice President, Human Capital** with **The Conference Board**:



[Bio](#)

- ❖ Breakfast- 7:45 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.
- ❖ Great Southern Club- located on top of the Hancock Bank Building  
2510 14<sup>th</sup> Street  
Gulfport, MS 39501
- ❖ Roundtable Discussion-  
2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.
- ❖ Southern Miss Gulf Coast Campus  
FEC 104

To secure your complimentary seat for either event (or both),  
R.S.V.P. to Suzy Robinson ([s.robinson@usm.edu](mailto:s.robinson@usm.edu)) by **Tuesday, March 13**

## SUCCESSFUL DISSERTATION DEFENSE



Congratulations to **Dr. Rich Stewart** who successfully defended his dissertation entitled *A Study of the Leadership Code and Employee Engagement*.

## PROMOTIONS/NEW POSITIONS

- \* **Robin Gaudet**, MSWTD graduate, accepted a new position as Organizational Development Specialist with Hancock University at Hancock Bank, Gulfport, MS.
- \* **Gwen Dabbs Parker**, MSWTD graduate, has been promoted to Director of Workforce Training and Development for Civil Service, State of Louisiana, Baton Rouge, LA.
- \* **Maria Salter**, MSWTD graduate, accepted a new position as Associate Relations and Training Manager at Margaritaville Casino and Restaurant, Biloxi, MS.
- \* **Dana Torregano**, current MSWTD student, was promoted to Human Resources Specialist II at the NASA Shared Services Center, Stennis Space Center, MS.
- \* **Nikki Towers**, current MSWTD student, recently accepted a new job as Retail Merchandising and Training Specialist for American Tire Distributors, Baton Rouge, LA. She trains front-line employees on how to operate ordering systems; educates on programs and products; and handles logistical issues.

## PUBLICATIONS/PRESENTATIONS

- \* **Jim Black**, current HCDPHD student, recently co-authored an Executive Action Report for The Conference Board with Dr. Patti Phillips entitled *Human Capital Analytics: Making the Business Case for Employee Engagement*.
- \* **Dr. John Kmiec**, HCDPHD graduate, had a blog published with The Conference Board. The blog is titled *Performance Improvement Planning Puts Business Needs First, Not Last* and can be found [here](#).
- \* **Gwen Meador**, current HCDPHD student, contributed to a recent edition of *Human Capital in Review: Focus on Human Capital Analytics* released from The Conference Board.
- \* **Janea McDonald**, current HCDPHD student, presented *Leadership Skills: Use 'Em or Lose 'Em* to the MS State Council of SHRM in Jackson, MS.

## AWARDS/ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- \* **Josh Duplantis**, current HCDPHD student, won the *Gulf-South Summit Award for Outstanding Practitioner Contributions to Service Learning in Higher Education*. The award is given to a practitioner demonstrating excellence in creating, providing and sustaining opportunities for engaging college/university students in service-learning.
- \* **Evelyn Green**, current HCDPHD student, is the winner of the *Exemplary Online Course Award for LEC Connects 2012* through The University of Southern Mississippi.
- \* **Dr. John Kmiec**, HCDPHD graduate, co-authored a case study entitled *A Learning Intervention for Work Engagement* that is the 1<sup>st</sup> place recipient of the 2011 Award for Best Published Case Study by the ROI Institute.
- \* **Dana Torregano**, current MSWTD student, received a grant from the Program for Continuing Education as part of the Philanthropic Educational Organization which provides need-based grants to females furthering their education.

## STUDENT/ALUMNI ASTD BOARD PARTICIPATION FOR LOCAL GROUPS

Join your local ASTD group for continued professional development.

Name	Current/Alumni	ASTD Chapter	Position
Darrel Lewis	Alumni- MSWTD	Baton Rouge, LA	VP of Hospitality
Elizabeth Beckham	Alumni- MSWTD	Baton Rouge, LA	VP of Publications
Dr. John Kmiec	Alumni- HCDPHD	Gulf Coast	President
Donnie Bond	Alumni- MSWTD	Gulf Coast	President-Elect
Donna Vaestro	Current- HCDPHD	Gulf Coast	Coordinator
Michelle Fleming	Alumni- MSWTD	Gulf Coast	Coordinator
Cathy Cambell	Current- HCDPHD	Gulf Coast	Meeting Planner
Janea McDonald	Current- HCDPHD	Gulf Coast	Public Relations
Susan Bush	Current- HCDPHD	Gulf Coast	Treasurer
Dr. Lindsey Miller	Alumni- HCDPHD	Hattiesburg, MS	VP Professional Development
Kathy Pipitone	Alumni- MSWTD	Jackson, MS	President
Tracey McDade	Current- MSWTD	New Orleans, LA	VP Professional Development

### FOR YOUR INFORMATION

## ROI INSTITUTE™ EVALUATION WEEK

- Evaluation Week is March 12-16. It's not too late to register. Visit [www.evaluationweek.com](http://www.evaluationweek.com).
- Current students must complete the RCR training. Be sure to send your certificates of completion to [Janea McDonald](#).
- All students, past and present, need to complete a [bio](#) and send in a picture.

Do you have something you want to share? Please let

[Dr. Cyndi Gaudet](#) or [Dr. Heather Annulis](#) know!

*Work Hard. Have Fun. Make a Difference.*



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