

WHAT GRADUATES HAVE TO SAY!

Vivian Shannon

Graduate of Fundraising Management Certificate Program, 2006

Assistant Director of Class and Annual Giving, United States Military Academy at West Point, New York

“The program was life-changing for me,” says Vivian Shannon, who adds that at age 40 she finally knows what she wants to do with her life.

“I had no experience at all in fundraising prior to the program.” Now she uses what she learned in her new job as Assistant Director of Class and Annual Giving at West Point, where her husband is a professor.

“The program was worthwhile and professional, with excellent staff.” She says the course taught her skills about fundraising in general, as well as more specifics such as the overall philosophy of development and focusing on donors – all vital to her work today.

“I use what I learned in the course every single day, and not only that, I am also able to help others in the office with what I learned about standard practices in the field,” she says.

Still connected to the Tacoma area community through e-mail and Listservs, Shannon says she tells everyone she can about this program.

“It was fabulous for me, and I recommend it to everyone I talk to.”



Robby Lanouette

Graduate of Fundraising Management Certificate Program, 2006

Development Specialist, Tacoma Lutheran Home Foundation, Tacoma

“I had known for a long time that I wanted to get into fundraising, but I had no experience in it before this program,” says Lanouette, who can thank the program and its instructors for helping him land his first fundraising job with Tacoma Lutheran Home Foundation.

“The program covered everything -- from grant writing, to annual giving to major gifts giving to strategic planning and more, and everything I have needed in my position. It also helped give me an understanding of the whole picture.”

“What I really appreciated is that instructors are people who have worked in the field for many years and they bring their real experience to class.”

Margaret Terry

Graduate of Fundraising Management Certificate Program, 2006

Branch Director of Development, YMCA Young Adult Services Program, Seattle

“I thoroughly enjoyed every class. The content is practical, real-life experience. The instructors sifted through all the knowledge about the field for me and taught me what I needed to know,” says Terry, who had grant-writing experience before starting this program, but lacked the broader picture of development.

After completing the program, Terry was promoted to her current development job at the downtown Seattle YMCA. “The UWT program really opened the door for me in getting this job,” she says.

She says the instructors really made the program beneficial to her. “Clearly, they are experts in their field, and their knowledge came through in every class I had. They are instructors who are also living the stresses and practicality of fundraising work.”

