

Since 1996, the Bachelor of Interdisciplinary Studies degree has offered ASU students an opportunity to apply knowledge in new ways to meet the challenges of an ever-changing world. Ranked among the top interdisciplinary studies programs in the nation, we currently have 2,474 majors and over 6,670 graduates. An additional 200 students are scheduled to graduate this summer.

## Dr. Stephanie deLusé Receives a High Honor

By Erica Buschatzke

For each of the past 14 years, ASU students have selected three outstanding professors from the more than 2,600 faculty to honor with delivering a “Last Lecture” to the community as if it were the last time they’d ever address an audience. Nominees are typically professors whom students find inspiring, entertaining and educational. From the hundreds that are nominated, this year one of our own BIS professors was chosen for this honor. Stephanie deLusé, Ph.D. has a unique way of teaching that earned her an “Outstanding Faculty Award” in 2005 and recognition as one of ASU’s “Featured Faculty” in 2006. In addition, she is an avid writer with work featured in more than 13 journals and publications. deLusé is no stranger to ASU. This is where she earned her bachelor’s, master’s and doctoral degrees. She truly understands the university system from multiple levels. So, when she graduated she knew she wanted to stick around. She stated, “I had been hired in the Psychology Department and was reasonably happy there but I’m an interdisciplinarian at heart. So when I learned about BIS and that they were doing a national search for new faculty, I applied and got the position. The BIS faculty, like our students, has a variety of backgrounds which keeps our great teaching program extra dynamic and interesting.”



When asked what interdisciplinary studies means to her, deLusé said, “Interdisciplinary studies is approaching problems and opportunities from multiple perspectives—as in from different domains of knowledge or ways of thinking. And from different levels—as in micro and macro, for instance in looking at something at the individual level, family, group, small business levels on up to the corporate, societal and global levels. Thinking this way enhances understanding and increases the likelihood of optimal outcomes.”

With a perspective like this it was no surprise that this wasn’t the first time deLusé was nominated for the Last Lecture honor—she’d been nominated twice before. She was surprised to receive a third nomination and upon learning she had won this year, she was both overjoyed and shocked. She said that it is rewarding to know that she was making a difference. So, while brainstorming a topic of interest for the lecture she wanted to make sure that she incorporated what she had learned from her students. Through each year of teaching she learned something new and dealt with new issues. In her courses she emphasizes personal responsibility for learning and creates a learning environment for creative and analytical thinking. This makes students bring

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Original artwork in the *Kaleidoscope* masthead was created by BIS student Rebecca Soltis.

## Are you a creative BIS student

Interested in having your work featured in an upcoming issue of *Kaleidoscope*?

Any type of creative work will be considered, such as poetry, short stories, art pieces, or photography.

Please send submissions to  
[Denise.Bates@asu.edu](mailto:Denise.Bates@asu.edu)

their best to the table each day. Thus, she settled upon the title of “Problems, Paradoxes, and Pleasures: Life Lessons Learned from Teaching.”

Her lecture was an ongoing story about a student in one of her courses years ago who had plagiarized. She uses how this student’s story unfolded throughout the entire lecture to define and explain each of her 10 life lessons. She explains that she thought this student, who she called “Perry” to protect his true identity, had bought a paper off the internet and turned it in as his own. She tried to investigate but came up with no solid evidence, so she passed him. The next semester she got the same exact paper from another student and this time when she investigated she found the original essay. This opened a plagiarism case against Perry. Ironically, at the same time she opened the case she was called as a character reference for Perry for a police job. So, this is where her lessons came into play.

She incorporated her 10 life lessons into the way she went about handling the situation at hand. Her lessons include: honesty, the greater good, grey happens, less is more, time travel, compare with care, accept appropriate responsibility, acknowledge people and emotions, practice compassion, and it is your choice to be a victim or victor. deLusé was commended for her outstanding lecture by many of her colleagues, including a professor from Harvard Medical School who later wrote her stating, “My compliments on a job well done; the students were rapt.” Another colleague responded to her with, “You held us in your palm, and graced us with eloquence and poignance.” Many of deLusé’s former BIS students were in attendance. One such alum wrote, “It’s been five years since you taught my BIS section on money and meaning. It is so gratifying to be back in touch. I learned much from listening to you, but most of all it was such FUN! More fun than I have had in a long time. I wrote down all of your 10 life lessons because at one point in your lecture a light bulb went off in my head. Oh, I thought, these are precisely the issues that my (or any writer’s) characters will address in the course of their story. I must save them and keep them with me.”

*Congratulations Dr. deLusé, we are very lucky to have you in our program!*

## Dr. Dave Conz Gains Local Recognition for His Role in Promoting Alternative Fuels

*By Kevin McIntyre*

One Saturday Dave Conz, Ph.D. was out riding on his biodiesel-fueled chopper when he ran into a former BIS 301 student and his fiancée. She happened to work for the *College Times* and was intrigued by his endeavors in promoting alternative fuels so she asked if he would be interested in being featured in the publication. In the resulting article, “Greased Lightning” published in November 2008, he explained his passion not only for teaching but for changing the world one student—or one car—at a time. As a BIS professor, Conz likes to focus his BIS 402 classes on science and technology and how they affect social institutions.

Conz believes that the BIS degree has amazing faculty who help students with integration, as well as reaching their goals—a truly unique combination. Students also get the luxury of learning from one another and making their degrees as flexible as they would like. He also believes that all BIS students should be enthusiastic about their degree and embrace it to learn as much as they can.

When Conz isn’t teaching at ASU or making biofuel, he’s most likely attending a conference on alternative fuels, having been invited to speak at many locations throughout the world on the feasibility of biofuels as an energy source. A firm believer in the idea that alternative energy is the future, he became involved in biofuel in January 2002. His first interest was nuclear fusion, but after attending a conference and hearing about biofuel, he decided to write his dissertation on the subject. The rest is history.

Conz also realizes the challenges that exist in the production of biofuels. He tells us that it is only a matter of time before it is illegal in Arizona, due to zoning and safety issues and the fact that there are too many inexperienced homeowners trying to engage in a hobby with potentially explosive results. Conz hasn’t limited himself to biofuel, however, but is interested in learning and teaching about all forms of alternative energy. In fact, he invites students to avoid limiting themselves by keeping an open mind and considering all of their interests when determining a career path.

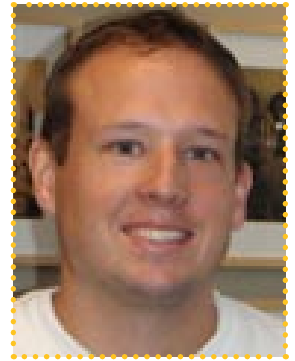


## From the Faculty Editor

Summer always interrupts the natural flow of a publication like *Kaleidoscope* that relies on the hard work of BIS 401 interns who work on a semester-by-semester basis. As the spring semester came to an end, our wonderful BIS office staff pitched in to ensure that the newsletter would continue to thrive until another BIS intern could be placed. I owe a great deal of gratitude to Riley Graves, Erica Buschatzke and Kevin McIntyre for the work they did on this dual-month issue. You may recognize their friendly faces from the BIS office on the Tempe campus. Our entire staff is the backbone of the program. Without them, the quality of our program would suffer greatly. The work that Erica, Riley and Kevin did on this issue—in addition to their other job responsibilities—is a testament to this!

I'm pleased to introduce *Kaleidoscope's* new summer BIS intern, Kelli Dodd. Some of her contributions are included in this issue, but we will also get to see her work in the next few issues. Welcome Kelli, we are fortunate to have you on board!

*Dr. Denise Bates*  
Interdisciplinary Studies Faculty  
*Kaleidoscope Editor*



## Meet the BIS Student Behind *Kaleidoscope's* Summer Issues

Hello, I am Kelli Dodd, the student writer for this summer's *Kaleidoscope* newsletter. This internship, along with one other summer class, is all I need to complete my BIS degree. With my concentrations in business and sociology, I hope to pull from both areas to contribute to this newsletter. I am originally from the Pacific Northwest and have attended five different schools to finally end here at ASU. Although it has not been the easiest, I can say that all of my hard work and determination is finally paying off! I have worked full time to put myself through school, and although the road has been long, it has been worth it. When I am not working or going to school I can usually be found watching or attending sporting events. I am a huge Arizona Cardinals fan and spend most Sundays in the fall glued to the TV. I look forward to the rest of my summer working for *Kaleidoscope* and hope you all enjoy it!

## Catching Up with BIS Alumni

### Matt Miller and Andrea Slaski

*Interviews by Riley Graves*

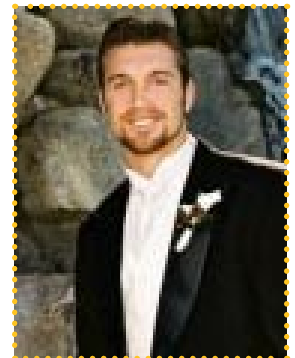
#### Matt Miller

Class of 2006

**Concentrations** business and communication

**Current Job** vehicle specialist at Arizona Fleet Services

With a remarkable ASU football career and a BIS degree behind him, Matt Miller was destined for greatness. He is currently a successful vehicle specialist at Arizona Fleet Services. He is excelling within his company and might even have a chance to one day own the business because the current owner has so much faith in his abilities. He has also had success in his personal life; he has been married for a year now to a fellow ASU Alum. However, Matt says he couldn't have been this successful on his own. The BIS degree has really helped him in his career, and he is always showing his support and love for ASU in his office. He is active in many ASU alumni groups and charities around campus and is more than willing to help out any fellow ASU advocate.



Matt originally came to ASU to pursue a football career and was well on his way. Football was always Matt's passion and with the skills he possessed, he was sure he was going to the National Football League (NFL). He was a fourth-round projected pick for the NFL and had the Raiders, Vikings and Colts all looking at him. However, he blew his ACL (anterior cruciate ligament of the knee) and had to go to rehab for a year. He still wanted to pursue his dream of going to the NFL and attended mini-camps. In the Canadian Football League, he tore his quad and hamstring. This was when he made the decision to retire from the football dream and find a new career.

Matt says that he is thankful that he chose BIS because he had a great major to fall back on when his football career didn't go as he intended. Although Matt was a marketing major when he first started ASU, he quickly changed to BIS in order to be able to pick the classes he was interested in. He loves the idea that there are so many different concentrations to choose from and a person is really able to match their personality with their degree. He thinks the communication concentration really helped him to be outgoing with his customers. His other concentration gave him insight into the business world that he is currently working in. As a BIS student, he landed an internship with Merrill Lynch and was hired full time after the 401 experience ended. Although he later decided this field wasn't what he was truly passionate about, he was glad to have received the opportunity. Matt also wants students who are looking for BIS 401 internships to know that both he and his colleagues are always looking for interns and will pay \$10 per hour!

Looking back on his years at ASU, Matt has a few suggestions for current BIS students: pick classes you are interested in, always attend class and stay away from Friday classes.

As I finished my interview with Matt, one of his final comments really stuck with me. He emphasized, "If I didn't have BIS, I wouldn't be here today."



## Andrea Slaski

Class of 2008

**Concentrations** Italian and communication

**Current Job** promotions for the *Arizona Republic*

Andrea Slaski is a BIS alum from Tucson who also lived in Germany for six years. She may have come to ASU for the in-state tuition, but she left with an array of knowledge that she can use in the wonderful world of job hunting. Like many BIS students, Andrea started off in a different degree, but soon realized how personalized the BIS degree is and quickly changed her major. Below are some questions I asked Andrea to gain a better understanding of her experiences after ASU.



**Q** *How have you furthered your education since achieving your BIS degree?*

**A** I have been working in promotions for the *Arizona Republic* and still considering furthering my education in the near future when the economy is a bit better and I don't have to focus on my bills as much.

**Q** *How have you developed your career since graduating, and how do you feel a BIS degree has helped you?*

**A** I feel that I am very knowledgeable in my field of promotions. I am naturally pretty outgoing. I think the major of communication is a great building block for perhaps business and hopefully marketing and advertising, which I would like to someday do for a company.

**Q** *What is your best memory of college?*

**A** I felt that school and classes were so fun to go to, and I just got excited to meet new people from other states and to learn about what I enjoy doing.

**Q** *Do you have any advice for current BIS students?*

**A** Yes, you should really intern with a company and do it so you don't need the money because that is the best way to get your foot in the door. Intern for free, but know they may offer you a permanent position afterwards. Getting a job any other way is quite difficult. Don't be afraid to network with anyone.



## Interns in the Spotlight

By Kelli Dodd

With hundreds of BIS students completing 401 internships this summer, we thought we would introduce you to two students who are gaining some fascinating experience in health care and wildlife management. They are true testaments to why experiential learning is so important because what they are learning in the field is not something that can be taught in a classroom!

### Anna Bennett

**Concentrations** health care innovation and family studies

**Internship Site** Donor Network of Arizona and the New Life Society

Both organizations are involved with organ donation awareness.



Donor Network of Arizona (DNA) is the federally designated, nonprofit organ procurement organization for the state of Arizona and a tissue and eye recovery organization. You can sign up to be a donor at [www.DonateLifeAZ.org](http://www.DonateLifeAZ.org) or [www.DoneVidaAZ.org](http://www.DoneVidaAZ.org). The New Heart Society was started in 1988 by heart and heart/lung transplant patients at University Medical Center in Tucson who wanted to help others in the transplant process. In 2006 Leo Corbet, a former Arizona senator, who himself had a heart transplant, became involved and was instrumental in broadening the scope of The New Heart Society to include all transplant candidates and recipients and become the New Life Society. New Life Society also has an education program that goes to schools throughout Arizona giving presentations on the importance of being an organ donor. If you would like to learn more about the New Life Society you can check them out on the Web at [www.newlifesociety.org](http://www.newlifesociety.org).

Here is what Anna had to say about her internship:

**Q** *What are your responsibilities and how are you using your concentration areas in the internship?*

**A** Instead of focusing on only one part of each organization I'm asked to float to different departments so I learn as much as I can about the different facets of organ donation. So far my responsibilities have included researching the organ donor symbols on drivers' licenses from all 50 states and gathering information for DNA to work on changing the current green sticker on Arizona drivers' licenses to, hopefully soon, be printed on the license instead. Another project I am working on with the DNA is one that requires me to gather information from donor families about their loved ones who gave the gift of life and will be using that information to put together a tribute to those donors on DNA's Web site. New Life Society is a much smaller organization. I am helping them administratively and, in return, I have been fortunate enough to attend a lung transplant support group meeting at St. Joe's in Phoenix; a driver's education class in which I assisted the volunteer speaker in the organ donation presentation; and a forum with all the transplant organizations and hospitals in Arizona to challenge AHCCS, Arizona's version of Medicaid, on its attempt to eliminate certain transplants from its coverage. I also plan on attending an all-day volunteer training session so I might become a volunteer speaker as well.

Because my areas of concentration are health-care innovation and family studies I am using them by learning as much as I can about organ donation and the impact it has on transplant recipients and donor families. With over 100,000 people on lists waiting for organ transplants and 18 people who die every day waiting, this is obviously an area in need of health-care innovation. By meeting recipients and donor families and learning about their stories and struggles, I am able to use my knowledge in family studies.

**Q** *Why did you choose this internship?*

**A** My mom got sick in 2002 and was put on a transplant list. In 2005 she received a double-lung transplant which was successful for four months until her rare blood disease, pulmonary capillary hemangiomatosis, came back into her new lungs and she died eight months after the transplant. I decided to take advantage of my internship requirement to gain as much knowledge as I could about the inner workings of organ donation awareness and education.

**Q** *Is this a field you will consider when you are finished with school?*

**A** My goal is to become a transplant nurse. My original major was nursing, but because of the intense competition at ASU, I realized I needed to take another route to get there. This internship will definitely be helpful to me in my future career. I will not only have a vast knowledge of the many different facets of organ donation awareness and education, I will also be able to genuinely share empathy and useful information with patients and families navigating this difficult time in their lives and connect them with organizations that provide support.

**Natalie Muilenberg**

**Concentrations** applied biological sciences and creative writing

**Internship Site** Arizona Game and Fish Department

They work to balance wildlife conservation and management to ensure a better tomorrow. For more information, visit [www.azgfd.gov](http://www.azgfd.gov).



Here is what Natalie had to say about her internship:

**Q** *What are your responsibilities and how are you using your concentration areas in the internship?*

**A** I am located on the Mogollon Rim in northern Arizona, and I am responsible for setting up bear hair snags. After the snags have been set up for 10 days or so, I go back out to see if the snags have “captured,” so to speak, any hair samples from bears that may have passed by the barbed wire snags. This is a non-invasive sampling technique and the bears are left unharmed and not trapped. If there are hair samples, I package them and send them to a lab for DNA analysis. The lab technicians then determine how many bears are in the area, which is useful to Arizona Game and Fish to determine a population count and affects how many bears can be harvested each year. After I am done with this fieldwork, which uses my applied biology background, I will write an article about the work for Arizona Game and Fish's magazine, Wildlife Views. This allows me to apply my creative writing concentration.

**Q** *Why did you choose this internship?*

**A** I chose this internship because it perfectly fits my two concentrations. I didn't really know much about Arizona Game and Fish, but knew that they focus on wildlife management and working for them would give me an inside look that would prove valuable when I volunteer for a conservation organization. I also liked the prospects of being published in a magazine and writing about wildlife and nature, something that needs to be written about more to lead to more understanding of the complex systems that surround us.

**Q** *Is this a field that you will consider when you are finished with school?*

**A** I am very interested in working in wildlife management; I am more focused on the nonprofit, volunteering aspect of conservation and management. I mostly chose this major because I want to write for a conservation or surfing magazine and simultaneously volunteer for a marine life conservation organization like the Surfrider Foundation. But certainly, this opportunity with Arizona Game and Fish is giving me valuable experience and insight into wildlife management.

## Meet the BIS Academic Success Specialists

### Kimberly Fielding

By Riley Graves

Kimberly Fielding is the newest Bachelor of Interdisciplinary Studies advisor and is located on the Downtown Phoenix campus. She started working for BIS in December 2008 and has been a valued member of the team since. She has always known the importance of hard work and education and has been working at universities for awhile now. While in school at the University of Arizona (UA), she was a student worker. She was then promoted to an office assistant and then started working in admissions. After finishing her undergraduate degree in May 2004, she took her first advising job at the UA. Still working full time, she continued her education to get her master's degree. By the fall of 2006, she made a decision to quit her job and focus on completing her degree. Kimberly moved to Phoenix in December 2007 to work with Drug-Free Arizona. After graduating in May 2008, she decided to work at ASU. After all, she loves the environment of college campuses because there is always something exciting going on.

Kimberly really enjoys working at the Downtown Phoenix campus. She knows it is a lot less busy than the Tempe campus and therefore encourages students to make appointments with her if there is no availability on the Tempe campus. She also has more of a flexible schedule, which allows students to have e-mail or phone appointments if they are unable to travel downtown. Kimberly has taken on the advising of one of the School of Letters and Sciences newest majors, Bachelor of General Studies. She is always willing to meet with students and discuss what is offered by the school.

This has been an exciting and busy year for Kimberly. She is staying busy outside of work with planning a wedding. She was recently engaged and will be married in September. Not only is she planning the whole wedding but she is also making the flower girls' dresses! In spite of her busy schedule she makes sure to leave time for her two rescue dogs, Belle and Ferris. Kimberly is a great role model for interdisciplinary studies students as she mixes all her interests and goals in an interdisciplinary way!



### Call for Interns!

*Kaleidoscope* is looking for interns to aid in the continued production of the newsletter for the fall semester. If you are looking for a BIS 401 opportunity and would like to get writing experience and hone your research and interviewing skills, please contact Denise Bates at [Denise.Bates@asu.edu](mailto:Denise.Bates@asu.edu). Please include two writing samples and your concentration areas with your inquiry.

Remember, the deadline for **BIS 401 fall proposals is July 16.**

## Words of Wisdom

### Making the Most of Your BIS Core Classes

By Gerald West, BIS Academic Success Specialist

Making the most of your time in the BIS program is an important part of your educational experience and can lead you to a successful graduation. Here are the top 10 things you should keep in mind when navigating the four BIS core courses:

- 1 Even though selecting your courses based on [ratemyprofessor.com](http://ratemyprofessor.com) may seem like a good idea at first, it is important to understand that it is not always a reliable source of information. Get to know the instructors yourself.
- 2 Use the instructors' office hours because you'll find they are great sources of information about the courses and they love helping students. BIS is a teaching-centered program.
- 3 Every BIS core class—no matter who the instructor—is built around the same set of objectives and standards, so you are getting the same foundational knowledge. Each instructor approaches these objectives in his or her own way, using the readings, assignments and examples of their choice.
- 4 Be prepared to learn something new about yourself. BIS courses are designed to help you connect your concentration areas and help you explore your future.
- 5 Save all your course work. BIS classes build upon one another so you might find it beneficial to have your BIS 301 work, for example, to reference as you progress through the other classes.
- 6 Plan ahead to ensure you have enough time to identify a BIS 401 internship or directed-study experience and meet the application deadlines.
- 7 Register on time. By taking advantage of your registration window you ensure you are able to add the courses you need that best fit your schedule.
- 8 Carefully consider your own learning strengths and limitations when deciding whether to take a BIS course online or face-to-face.
- 9 When choosing a BIS 402 section, review the BIS Web site and read the course descriptions because this way you'll have a good idea of what courses interest you the most since the senior seminar topics vary by professor.
- 10 Always remember that, as a BIS student, you have a solid support system and many resources at your disposal. If you ever have any questions you can consult an advisor, professor or the BIS Web site found at [sfs.asu.edu/bis/index.html](http://sfs.asu.edu/bis/index.html).



## Mark Your Calendar

### Academic Dates

July 6	First day of classes, second 5-week summer session
July 16	<b>BIS 401 applications due for fall 2009</b> ( <a href="http://sfs.asu.edu/bis/bis_courses/401.html">sfs.asu.edu/bis/bis_courses/401.html</a> )
July 23	Last day of classes, 8-week summer session
Aug. 4	Suggested postmark to meet tuition and fee payment deadline for fall 2009
Aug. 6	Last day of classes, second 5-week summer session
Aug. 18	Tuition and fee payment deadline—for registration from Mar. 2 – Aug. 16, 2009
Aug. 24	First day of classes, fall 2009
Aug. 24 – 30	Drop/add period, fall 2009

The ASU academic calendar can be found at [students.asu.edu/academic-calendar](http://students.asu.edu/academic-calendar)

### Cultural Events

July 1 – 26	Wicked, ASU Gammage, <a href="http://www.asugammage.com">www.asugammage.com</a>
July 9	20th Annual Summer Spectacular ArtWalk, Scottsdale Arts District, <a href="http://www.scottsdalegalleries.com">www.scottsdalegalleries.com</a>
July 17 – 19	Latin Rhythms Festival, Kokopelli Winery and Bistro, Chandler, <a href="http://www.kokopelliwinery.com">www.kokopelliwinery.com</a>