

Alumni/Professionals in the Classroom

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Why? Be the Teacher I can Be

- *Michael Jordan and Bob Hansen*
- *Claire Lamonica and Tom Lamonica*
- *As a teacher, what I bring to the table.*
 - *An understanding of my limitations.*
 - *Professional Experience*
 - *Contacts in the industry*

Why? Teaching Goals

- *My teaching goals:*
 - *To provide students the best learning experience.*
 - *To prepare them to reach their goal of becoming a professional.*

Why? Credentials!



Lamonica

*If you wanted to
learn more about
great teaching,
whose class
would you
choose?*



Bain

Why? Real World in Real Time

“Our ‘real-world’ experience provides insight into current issues which may be more recent than textbook information or the instructor’s own experience.”



Monte Rifkin

MJ Rifkin Associates, Chicago/Skokie

Why? Connecting Students

“Bringing alumni back gives students the opportunity to project themselves transitioning from classroom to career, to network with professionals and to build their list of professional contacts.”

Bree Davis

McLean County Health Department



Why? Same Message, New Voice



“A professor can talk until she/he is blue in the face about concepts, terms, etc., but students may not get it until they hear it from someone who is out in the workforce. It truly adds reality to course concepts.”

Samantha Jensen

‘07 alum considering law school

Why? Instructor as Student



“It gives the instructor the chance to take a break and sit in the student's seat for a day. The speaker can reinforce the instructor's message, but also can teach the instructor a new way to deliver that message.”

Carolyn Buglio

United Way of Greater Chicago

Why? Faculty-Alumni Connections



- *Alumni Support Alma Mater*
 - *Time*
 - *Talent*
 - *Treasure*
 - *Teachers & Students*
- *Faculty Support Alumni*
 - *Guidance of Scholarship*
 - *Personal Concern*
 - *Independent Mentoring*

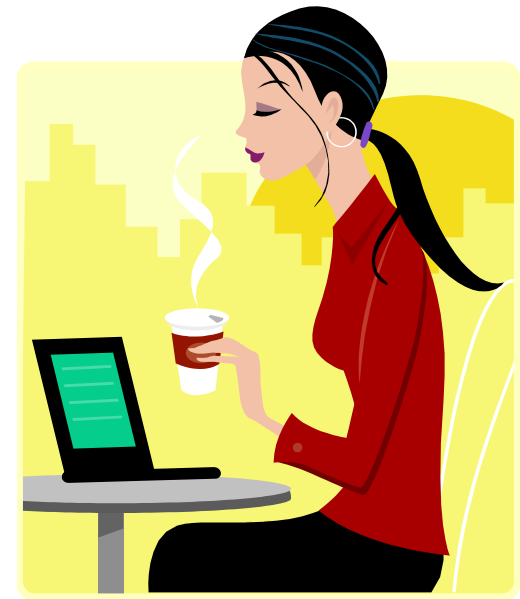
How? Pre-Qualifying

- Instructor Advance Preparation
 - Identify Topic
 - Select Potential Speaker
 - Interview Speaker
 - Interest
 - Availability
 - Understanding
 - goals
 - process
 - student interests/makeup
 - Topic specific, topic qualified



How? Student Hosts ...

- Prepare for Speaker ...
 - Information
 - Research speaker/subject
 - Write Introduction
 - Prepare Speaking Points
 - Logistic Support
 - Power point
 - Refreshments
 - Welcome/Introduce
 - Moderate Q&A Session
 - Initiate Thank You Note



How? Student Hosts ...

- *“The students are expected to interact as professionals with each other, their guest and their instructor. The host students have always been prepared and extremely professional ...”*



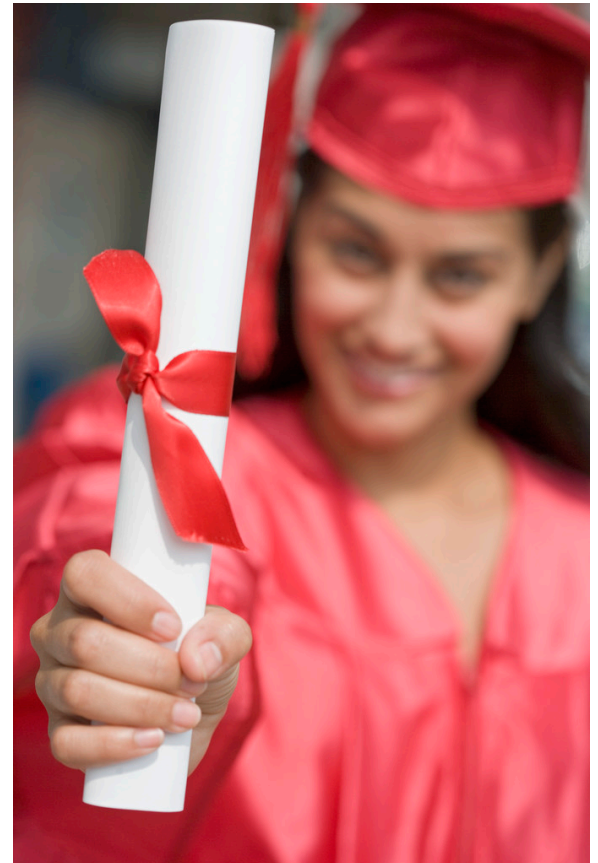
Bree Davis
*McLean County
Health Department*

Why Not?

- Reasons Teachers Avoid Speakers
 - Perceived teaching weakness
 - Students
 - Faculty colleagues
 - Alums
 - Conflicting messages/information
 - Speakers don't respect instructor, class or topic
 - Professional jealousy
 - Lack of trust

Why? Students Benefit

- Knowledge
- Professional Perspective
- Networking
 - Jobs
 - Internships
 - Mentors



Why? Long-Term Benefits

- Alumni Participation
 - Alums return to campus
 - Alums talk to today's students
 - Alums participate in educational process
 - Alums feel invested in their university and its programs



Why? Long-Term Benefits

- Academic Program Development
 - Engaged Alumni
 - Connected Students
 - Enriched Faculty
 - A future of greater possibilities
 - Academic enhancements
 - Internship/job opportunities
 - Development potential
 - Teleconferencing
 - From the world to your classroom
 - Doug Smith, CTSS 438-7412;
dosmith@ilstu.edu



Why? The Bottom Line

“Everyone benefits. Most former students feel a strong connection with their schools and enjoy the visit. And, hopefully, it provides a different educational perspective for students.”



R.C. McBride

Program Director, Radio Bloomington