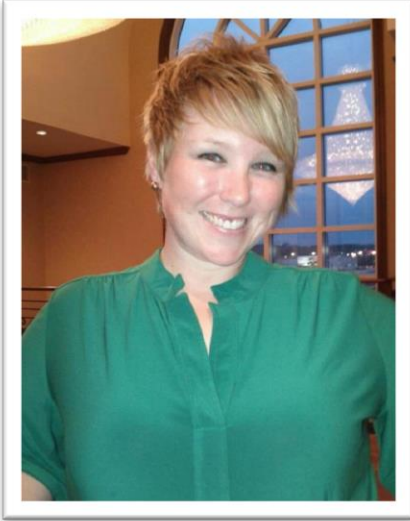


Kasi Jones graduated from UCA's CSPA program in 2007. For the eight years, Kasi has served as the Senior Assistant Director and Coordinator of Orientation Programs at Purdue University in West Lafayette, IN.

According to Kasi, the CSPA program offered a number of valuable lessons and she loves sharing those lessons with her current students. She says that she'll often talk to current students about the theories she learned in the CSPA program and that "they think it's so cool that what we apply has purpose."



When asked about her proudest moment in his career so far, Kasi says that she has had many, and that they involve developing other students as leaders. Her proudest moments are when she meets with student leaders and they tell her that they want to do what she is doing because they recognize the personal and professional growth that they have experienced and they want to be able to do that for others. Kasi says that "watching our 600 student leaders guide and mentor a little over 6,000 Boilermakers in one week [at orientation] is pretty incredible as well!"

Kasi has been involved in several areas outside of her typical on-the-job duties. Specifically, she works regularly as the Director of the Miss Purdue University Scholarship Pageant and serves on the Greater Lafayette Chamber of Commerce Quality of Life Council.

Kasi says that she always keeps an open mind when considering her life goals and she loves the excitement her job constantly brings. "Do I want a PhD? Do I not? You never know what you will have an interest in and I'm very blessed that my job is never routine and I am constantly adding/changing our programs to stay close to trends with today's college students. I'm just living in the present."

Kasi says that although UCA is not all that well-known in the Midwest, anyone that knows her knows where she comes from. She says that she loves UCA and is always a proud BEAR!

If you are an alum of the CSPA Program, drop us a line at psmith@uca.edu to give us an update on where you are now.

Kien Yow graduated from the UCA CSPA program in 2007 after coming to UCA from Oklahoma State University for his undergraduate education. For the last year Kien has served as the Institutional Relations Manager at DiKa College in Malaysia where the focus in his new position is to work with local and international recruiting agents and collaborate with business and education partners. He is also tasked with setting up the International Office to recruit international students to DiKa for the very first time.

Kien says that both being in the CSPA program and working as a Residence Coordinator at the same time really stretched him in many ways, but that it prepared him to be adaptable to work in so many different areas. He credits the real-life experiences shared in classes by Dr. Charlotte Cone, Dr. Ernie Ness, Dr. John Smith, and Dr. Johnny Purvis as really allowing him to "see the big picture of educational institutions " and understand how this is applicable to his positions, including the need to be patient in working the "inevitable bureaucracies." Kien says that the student affairs profession is "still a very alien concept to many institutions in Malaysia, as most education qualifications only revolve around teacher training," but that the CSPA program prepared him to work on both sides of education: academic and administration which allows him to bring greater value to the administrative component and allows him to better meet student needs while sharing the philosophies of the profession with others in Malaysia.



Kien says that every now and then he gets the honor of being invited to speak or host events by non-profit organizations and that some of his most notable events include emceeding the Boys' and Girls' Brigades 60th Anniversary Celebration, the Stedfast Association's 20th Anniversary Celebration, and to speak at First Baptist Church to share his insights on study and career options to the youth.

Kien's words of advice for CSPA grads is to not be afraid "to step out of your comfort zone, to go where the job takes you, and learn!"