

Department of Consumer Sciences Senior Profiles



Jennifer Van Hemert

Textiles and Clothing, 2008

It is ideal if you have a chance to practice exactly what you want to do while you are still in college. Jennifer Van Hemert had that opportunity. Jennifer wants to pursue master's and PhD degrees in textiles and clothing and become a college professor. She feels confident in her career choice because, through Dr. Penny Reighart and Dr. Nancy Rudd, Jennifer had opportunities to teach and conduct research in a university setting.

During her senior year, Jennifer worked as a teaching assistant in two of Dr. Rudd's classes- CS TXTLCL 370- Fashion Design and Illustration and Textiles and CS TXTCL 372- Appearance, Dress, and Cultural Diversity. She enjoyed functioning as a leader and resource for underclassmen. Dr. Rudd allowed Jennifer to present a topic for the class, giving her a chance to feel what it is like to teach a college class.

With the encouragement of Dr. Reighart, Jennifer joined with Dr. Rudd in studying social responsibility in advertising and promotion. A goal of the project is to develop an online course that will be taught at three universities in autumn quarter 2008.

Jennifer advises others to take responsibility for their education, "Go and meet with your professors and let them know you want to be involved. Do everything you can to get engaged, because it makes your college experience more exciting."

Bryan Danehy

Hospitality Management, 2008



There are two central reasons why Bryan Danehy enjoyed majoring in Hospitality Management- the small major allowed him to get to know people, and it enabled him to connect what he learned about in the classroom to the work that he loves to do. Bryan has been working in private country clubs since he was fourteen years old when he started as a caddy. More recently, he has held the position of management intern with Brookside Golf and Country Club where he works closely with the general manager to provide a high quality experience for the members. Becoming a general manager of a private club is the goal that Bryan has set for himself. Because Bryan has worked while studying hospitality management, he has been able to see how the information that he gets in the class has practical application in the field. "What I learned in school helped me at work, and my experience on the job allowed me to see the relevance of topics we discussed in class," he said.

Bryan is a member of the Club Managers Association of America (CMAA), which is involved with keeping people connected within the industry. This is an important organization for the field, as with most of the clubs privately owned it is important for managers around the country to connect to learn about best practices and emerging trends. Bryan has attended the two most recent CMAA world conferences, regularly attends the local meetings, and has received scholarships for his involvement.

One aspect of the Hospitality Management major that surprised Bryan was how easy it was to get to know his professors and classmates. Because it is a smaller program at OSU, when he started taking major classes, he began to notice the same classmates from quarter to quarter. The small major feel on a campus as big as OSU was welcome but was not what Bryan expected.