

# BAKER COLLEGE

## CORPORATE SERVICES

NEWS YOU CAN USE

*You'll do better with Baker!*

### You can use the SOLAR system

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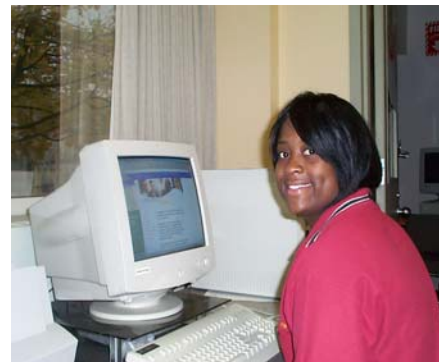
The Baker College System On-Line Link to Academic Records (SOLAR) System is a tool that enables you to manage your academic career. It is a resource available to all Baker College students.

If you begin at the Baker College web page, [www.baker.edu](http://www.baker.edu), you can access the SOLAR system simply by logging in and providing your log in name and password.

Once in the SOLAR system you can access the Student Transcript of Academic Records (STAR) system and bring up many user-friendly items.

Most students use the STAR system to view their transcripts and STEP PLANS. This is a very convenient way to track your personal progress. You can use the STAR system to plan classes that you will need in the future. Many students use the STAR system to determine if transfer credit has been posted to their transcripts.

COL 301 (Life and Learning) students may use the Online Resources to Baker's Internet Tools (ORBIT) system to get curriculum information such as Course Outcomes. They can also use the ORBIT system to change their personal information.



*Shandra Houston, DaimlerChrysler Sterling Heights Assembly Plant, accesses the Baker College SOLAR System*

**Baker College Corporate Services Newsletter**  
1050 W. Bristol Rd.  
Flint, MI 48507  
Phone: 810-766-4242

**WHAT THE ORBIT SYSTEM DOES: CHANGE ACCOUNT INFORMATION -** This section will give you utilities to change your ORBIT account information. (Mailing Address, Directory Information)

**COLLEGE INFORMATION -** This section will give you utilities to access college information. (Directory Information)

**CURRICULUM INFORMATION -** This section will give you utilities to access Curriculum Information. (Syllabus, Syllabus Guide, Course Outcomes, Supporting Resources, Master Chart, Computer Configuration)

**CARINA RESOURCES -** This section will give you access to ID Card Pictures. Access to this item is based on access to Carina.

### DECEMBER GRADUATES SPEAK

December marks the end of the calendar year, but for some people it is also the end of their academic careers. Here are some words from some of our December graduates.

**James Askins**, Die Process at the DaimlerChrysler Technical Center is graduating this term after beginning the program in 1999 at the Mt. Elliott

Tool and Die Plant. Jim's message to his fellow students is to "hang in there and finish; it will benefit you in the future."

**Janina Dylewski**, a production worker from the Sterling Heights Assembly Plant who works on second shift is also finishing her degree in December.

Janina, a native of Poland had her transcripts evaluated and as a result was able to transfer credits into her program. Thus, she was able to complete her degree in four years.

Janina's advice to her fellow students and coworkers is "once you start going to school, just keep going and you will eventually finish."

## MEET ANGELA GORDON

Submitted by  
Samir Makarem



In June of 2004, Angela Gordon was appointed to oversee the Education Department as the Education Training Coordinator (ETC) for the Woodhaven Stamping Plant in Woodhaven, Michigan.

Angela has been with Ford Motor Company since August 26, 1988, when she was hired in as a production

Worker. She began the skilled trades program in September of 1990 as a tool & die maker.

During her apprenticeship she enrolled in Henry Ford Community College using her ETAP funds. In March 1995 she entered the quality control department as a layout inspector and she enjoyed the job because it involved accepting or rejecting first run parts from the production lines thereby giving her some input with customer satisfaction issues.

In the summer of 2002, she furthered her education by enrolling with Baker College Corporate Services in the Accelerated Program for the Bachelor of Business Administration degree. She graduated with her BBA in June of 2004. "This has truly been challenging as well as enjoyable for me," Angela says.

Since her appointment, she has enrolled with Baker College Corporate Services in the MBA Program (Human Resource Management).

"Baker's program has been an asset. The program is truly designed for the full-time, working individual with a family. The Baker College coordinators are really involved and work hard to accommodate our busy schedules. In my spare time when there's no homework, I enjoy spending quality time with my family, listening to jazz and doing church activities."

For more information about classes at Woodhaven Stamping Plant contact:

Samir Makarem  
810-343-2554  
or email  
samir.makarem@baker.edu

It is one of the strange ironies of this strange life [that] those who work the hardest, who subject themselves to the strictest discipline, who give up certain pleasurable things in order to achieve a goal, are the happiest people.

- Brutus Hamilton

## FROM THE REGISTRAR

Submitted by  
Shelly Gardner

### Non-Traditional Credit

Baker College offers many non-traditional credit options for students with varied life experiences.

As an adult learner you come to Baker College with many skills and experiences. Your experience may be work related, voluntary or personal and may give you the knowledge needed to earn non-traditional credit. Non-traditional credit is available using the methods listed below.

Keep in mind that there is a limit to the amount of non-traditional credit that may

apply to your degree program. If you think you have the skills necessary or have questions about non-traditional credit, contact your Baker College Coordinator for details.

**Transfer Credit** - College level credit that was earned at a previously attended college, and transfers to Baker College toward your current degree program.

**Experiential Credit** - Life and Learning (COL 301) is a course designed to instruct students in the methods and practices required to assemble a portfolio of life related experiences. Students use life experiences to document the course objectives for

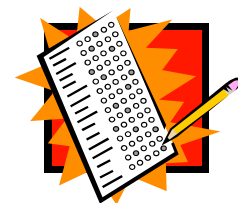
applicable classes in their programs.

### Advanced Placement Credit and Credit by Exam

- Standardized tests available for specific Baker College classes.

### CLEP and DANTES Testing

- National credit by exam programs. Baker College is an authorized testing location for both CLEP and DANTES. Testing is available on the Flint campus.



## WHY I RETURNED TO COLLEGE

Submitted by  
Portia Brooks

*Portia Brooks takes classes at Sterling Heights Assembly Plant, in Sterling Heights, Michigan. She has attended Baker College at her site since Spring 2002. Portia completed her associate degree in the Spring 2004 and is currently working on her bachelor degree. Here are some of Portia's thoughts on returning to college.*

Attending college at this point in my life has grown out of a desire of mine for many years. I always wanted to attend college and obtain a degree.

Early in my career I was not ready for the discipline necessary to complete a degree program.

After being unemployed for many years, I thought seriously about returning to col-

lege but Chrysler called me in and I returned to work instead.

By then, family and long working hours prevented me from returning to school, at least I convinced myself that was the reason. In reality, I was not ready mentally or physically to do what was required to achieve my goal.

Years later, Baker College gave me the opportunity to return to school and achieve a goal that I have always desired.

I am committed, dedicated, and have the discipline necessary to attend classes that are offered.

This is a personal goal for me to accomplish, not only for myself, but for my family as well. I hope they're observing what I am trying to accomplish and take notice that if I can do it, then they can do it, too.



*Portia shares study tips with George Hamameh, a 2004 spring graduate*

For more information on classes at Sterling Heights Assembly Plant contact:

Tanya Urcavich, Ph.D.  
810-343-0725  
or email  
tanya.urcavich@baker.edu

Injustice anywhere is a  
threat to justice  
everywhere

Martin Luther King, Jr.

## Year End Notes From The Underground

Submitted by  
Raymond Biziorek

As the calendar year surges to its close, each of us looks forward to the joys of the several holidays we celebrate, and yet we work ourselves into fits of *angst*.

We cherish the idea of seeing old friends and reinvigorating old relationships. We joyfully anticipate homey days with relatives whom we placed aside during the busy year.

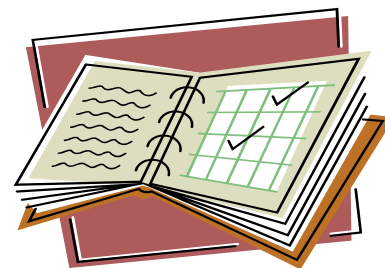
Yet, while attempting to project ourselves into such a desirable future, we erect stumbling blocks (shopping, cooking, meeting self-imposed scheduling deci-

sions) along the way which lessen the bliss we should experience along the way when the planned events actually occur.

How similar is our path to the holidays quite like that which we construct to reach our educational goals?

We anticipate the festival of graduation as something to be shared happily with family and friends, yet here, too, we construct bottlenecks to enjoying the route we chose to get to the desired destination.

We procrastinate on meeting readily achievable deadlines and cause ourselves undue stress; rather than focusing



on learning and understanding, we focus on memorizing "stuff" to pass a test; in other words, we sacrifice the joy of the means of achieving to the end of "passing."

This holiday season treat yourself to enjoying every minute of planning and executing your plans in pursuit of a truly memorable celebration.

As you do that, dedicate yourself to taking advantage of the delights of learning and understanding in becoming an educated person. May this be the best holiday season ever...for everybody.



## Bachelor Degree of Leadership in Public Safety

Submitted by  
Faye Burdzinski

The Baker College Corporate Services' **Bachelor Degree of Leadership in Public Safety** is here at last! We are in the final stages of preparation, and plan to offer courses leading to the Bachelor Degree of Leadership in Public Safety program in January 2005 (Winter term).

Classes for fire, police, and EMS personnel who currently hold qualifying associate degrees will study through Baker College Corporate Services at the Clinton Township campus located at Gratiot and 15 Mile Rd.

Class meeting times will be tailored to firefighters' "Kelly Days" shifts (24 hours on, 24 hours off; 24 hours on, 72 hours off). Each class will be offered, for example, both Tuesday evenings and Wednesday mornings. Both sections will be led by the same instructor to allow continuity of course presentation despite shift changes for some students.

Both our Director and Registrar have been working diligently with the *Macomb Police Chiefs' Advisory Committee* and the *Macomb Fire Chiefs' Advisory Committee*, through MCC's Mike Metz, a former Warren Police Chief, who currently

serves as Director of The Public Safety Institute for MCC.

Courses in the program are designed to enhance students' administrative and leadership skills within their current areas of expertise and into their retirement careers. Courses include *Human Resources and Employment Law, Administration and Public Policy, Effective Communication in Crisis Environments*, and *Current Topics in Global Terrorism*, along with various leadership and business courses.

The most frequent comment made at the introductory committee meetings has been, "Where

was this program when I was coming up through the ranks?"

These public safety veterans already have the street smarts. Baker College Corporate Services is ready to help them develop their business and leadership savvy.

For information on this degree program contact:

Faye Burdzinski  
586-855-8014  
or email  
faye@baker.edu

## A MESSAGE FROM THE BUSINESS OFFICE

Submitted by  
Nancy Belill

### Attention, Please

With the start of a new calendar year comes the replenishment of most employer sponsored tuition funds. I would like to take this time to remind all of you who receive tuition benefits from your employer that you should keep close track of how much tuition money you use throughout the year. You must also submit applications to your Tuition Assistance offices **BEFORE** each quarter ends and in many cases before the classes start. Most employers will **NOT** accept applications for tuition benefits if applied for after the quarter ends. Please check with your tuition office regarding tuition application policies and deadlines.

Please remember that we are here to help you achieve your educational goals and if you need our help, we are only a phone call or an e-mail away.

Nancy Belill  
810-766-4243  
[nancy.belill@baker.edu](mailto:nancy.belill@baker.edu)

Tammy Carr  
810-766-4244  
[tammy.carr@baker.edu](mailto:tammy.carr@baker.edu)



The staff is in the holiday spirit. From top left: Roger Hosn, Faye Burdzinski, Jim Kullman, Felecia Fawaz, Marlene Ewing, and Ray Biziorek. Bottom left: June Fittante, Tammy Carr, Samir Makarem, Tonya Urcavich and Nancy Belill.

**WHY?** Submitted by Felicia Fawaz

It seems like in life we search for the Whys.. Why do I have to work? Why do I have to clean? Why do I have to pay bills? Why do people have to act that way? Why did I have to eat so much? Why do I go to Baker College...?

In answer to the last question, it is because a quality institution can deliver premier educational programs conveniently to the work site. I also believe that it is because of the exceptional staff here at Baker College Corporate Services.

These are potential answers. Whatever it is, I challenge you to answer the why. It will make your college direction crystal clear!!!

Thanks for making Baker College one of your answers to WHY.

## Reference Page

Any of the **Program Coordinators** listed below can help you with many of your registration and scheduling questions. If you know which coordinator manages your classroom / worksite, begin with him or her.

### Program Coordinators:

FELICIA FAWAZ  
810-343-1476  
JUNE FITTANTE  
810-577-5482  
ROGER HOSN  
810-343-1644  
JIM KULLMAN  
810-343-1396  
SAMIR MAKAREM  
810-343-2554  
TANYA URCAVICH  
810-343-0725  
TIM SCHENCK  
302-575-0385

### The Business Office:

Nancy Belill,  
*Business Manager*  
810-766-4243

Tammy Carr,  
*Administrative Assistant*  
810-766-4244

- Payments and Tuition Accounts Receivable
- Past Due Bills / Collections
- Reimbursement Letters
- Scholarships

### The Office of the Registrar:

Shelly Gardner,  
*Registrar*  
810-766-4251

Marlene Ewing,  
*Assistant Registrar*  
810-766-4252

- Academic programs
- Transfer Credit Information
- Graduation / Grades
- Pre-Requisite Information
- Transcript Evaluation

## Tuition Assistance Reference List

**AAM Salary Tuition Assistance Plan or  
AAM UAW Tuition Assistance Plan**  
PO Box 9068  
Farmington Hills, MI 48333-9068  
Phone: (888) 822-2210  
Fax: (248) 223-4889

**BLUE CROSS BLUE SHIELD OF MI  
EMPLOYEE SERVICES DEPT.**  
600 E. LAYFAYETTE, BLVD.  
STE. 2150  
DETROIT, MI 48226-2927  
PH 313-225-0708

**DAIMLERCHRYSLER  
HIGHER EDUCATION LEARNING PLAN**  
CIMS: 482-04-08  
800 CHRYSLER DRIVE  
AUBURN HILLS, MI 48326  
PH 800-810-3382  
FAX 248-576-0130

**UAW- DAIMLERCHRYSLER TUITION**  
P.O. BOX 166  
SOUTHFIELD, MI 48037-0166  
PH 800-225-1416  
FAX 248-557-4315

**FORD DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTE  
SALARIED TUITION ASSISTANCE**  
2800 LIVERNOIS RD, Suite 130  
TROY, MI 48083-1219  
PH 866-633-9395  
FAX 248-526-5496

**UAW-FORD NATIONAL PROGRAM**  
P.O. BOX 33009  
DETROIT, MI 48232-5009  
PH 313-392-7015  
FAX 313-392-7010

**GM-SALARIED TUITION  
ASSISTANCE OFFICE**  
P.O. BOX 2114  
BLOOMFIELD, MI 48303-2114  
PH 800-626-0583  
FAX 248-836-1450

**UAW- GM HUMAN RESOURCES**  
P.O. BOX 7840  
DETROIT, MI 48207-0840  
PH 800-228-2946  
FAX 313-324-5050

**VISTEON TUITION ASSISTANCE**  
P.O. BOX 217040  
AUBURN HILLS, MI 48321-7040  
PH 800-560-3620  
FAX 248-732-1310

**VOLKSWAGEN**  
3800 HAMLIN RD.  
AUBURN HILLS, MI 48326-2829  
PH 248-754-4536  
FAX 248-340-4960



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**BRINGING MEANINGFUL,  
CHALLENGING DEGREE  
PROGRAMS TO BUSINESS**

## A Message From the Director

**Jim Kullman, Director**  
*Corporate Services Campus*

**Peace on earth!  
Good will toward all men!**

This traditional greeting is usually reserved for the holiday season. Today it is my wish to you and to all Americans who have endured yet another historical (perhaps hysterical) phenomenon.

This phenomenon is the American political process known as the Presidential election with all of its ancillary elections and proposals. When all is said and done, this largely American event is one of the most remarkable in the civilized world. America can take great pride in this elongated process that emphasizes a war of words rather than a war of worlds,

cultural, religious, or ethnic. At its conclusion, normalcy returns and life goes on. No fear. No violence. Is it any wonder that the many countries in this global village are envious of this unique episode within the American civilization?

At the same time, let us not forget that America is the land of the educated masses. Education plays a major role in this basic right in the land of the free and the home of the brave.

The opportunity remains in your work place for you and your co-workers to pursue your educational goals. Give yourself a gift as we approach the holiday season. Continue your education and bring a friend. Become an ambassador of education in

your world; help those around you to seek and to find the necessity and the usefulness of the educational process.

Education helps us to understand many entities within our culture including the many variables of the election process and the psychology of the inhabitants of that world.

As the holiday season marches toward us, let education be at the top of your "wish" list. Let freedom ring and base it upon the privilege and responsibility to be counted among the educated masses of America.

**Peace on earth!  
Good will toward all men!  
Happy Holidays!**



**Corporate Services**  
[www.corporate.baker.edu](http://www.corporate.baker.edu)