

Alumni E-Newsletter, June 29, 2023



It's Never Too Late to Finish Your Degree A Conversation with Kevin Dimond

Last month we shared with you the expansion of our bachelor's degree completion program which gives students continued opportunity to finish their undergraduate program no matter how long it's been or how many credits are needed. This month, we are delighted to spotlight alum **Kevin Dimond**, who recently returned to NDNU to complete his degree through this program after a 10+ year hiatus.



Please share with us your journey toward getting a bachelor's degree and how you ended up at Notre Dame de Namur University:

After high school, I went to Sonoma State University, but came home after a year and started classes at Cañada College and the College of San Mateo while working full-time at IBM, which began my 17-year career in the tech industry. At the rate of taking one or two classes at a time, it became clear that it was going to be years before I finished my bachelor's degree. My mother suggested I apply to NDNU, which offered evening classes nearby. The structured schedule of full-time coursework and nighttime classes from 6pm-10pm worked for me. I was all set to graduate in 2009, but unfortunately, couldn't complete my last class due to illness.

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NDNU has recently launched a partnership with Handshake to provide a multitude of advantages for students, alumni, and employers. Students can search and apply for jobs, engage with recruiters, communicate with NDNU alumni, create custom job alerts, chat with NDNU employer partners, and much more. The company's overall mission is to democratize access to opportunity by helping every student find the right job no matter where they're from or who they know.

And, the best part is it's completely free for all NDNU students and alumni! Be on the lookout for an email from Handshake to activate your account. If you are already a Handshake user, please join NDNU's network.

NDNU Accepting Applications for the Newly Launched Master of Arts in Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion Leadership

NDNU is currently accepting applications for the newly launched, fully online Master of Arts in Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Leadership (MA DEIL) program. The MA DEIL will be an interdisciplinary program designed to train effective, informed, and agile leaders who understand the complex terrain of inequality, bias, and social justice, while preparing them to lead organizational change and transformation.



"Too often people are placed in DEI positions without truly understanding the intricacies of the job at hand," says Susan Charles, Ph.D., who is spearheading the new program. "The new master's degree program will help create a foundational body of knowledge and depth to address critical issues of justice and equity in the workplace and beyond."

Candidates in this program will combine theory, practice, and diversity engagement opportunities to enable them to design and deploy sustainable diversity, equity, and inclusion strategies that lead to institutional and organizational change. The program culminates in a capstone project that allows students the opportunity to lead diversity, equity, and inclusion efforts to resolve real needs across multiple sectors including community-based organizations, education, research and policy, business, non-profits, nongovernmental organizations, and communities.

NDNU's MA DEIL program requires completion of 10 courses of 3 units each for a total of 30 units of graduate course credit.

To learn more, please contact a member of our Admissions Team at (650) 508-3600 or visit **www.ndnu.edu/ma-deil**.

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Please consider supporting Notre Dame de Namur University with a gift to the **NDNU Annual Fund**. As an alum, friend or supporter of our beloved university, you know first-hand the value of NDNU's educational program. You can help future generations of students enjoy the same high quality education with your tax-deductible gift. Gifts to our Annual Fund support scholarships, programs, and critical operational needs. <u>Click</u> <u>here</u> to make a secure online gift.

<u>Make your gift now to continue the tradition of giving NDNU students a</u> <u>transformative education.</u>

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