



WebCampus Staffer Takes On Marketing Role For Growth

by Wendy Pate, Associate Director, WebCampus



In 2011, Allison Rupino started in the WebCampus office as an operations associate. Coming from the University of Delaware with a bachelors in Mass Communication and a minor in Journal-

ism, she began her journey at Stevens by maintaining reports, mastering the enterprise-wide systems that make up our online learning infrastructure, and promoting best practices in distance education.

Over time, the rapport she built with faculty and the training she provided moved her into the manager and senior instructional technologist position. During this transition, Allison also received her MSM from Stevens. As a technologist, she expanded her role of training faculty and staff on the web-conferencing and learning management systems. "I really enjoy learning about a new technology

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Catching Up With Corporate Students As They Get Ahead

by Wendy Pate,
Associate Director, WebCampus



Meet **Shehram Malik**, a Network Operations engineer working for Verizon's IP Network Management Center in Cary, North Carolina. Malik started attending online classes at Stevens in the fall of 2015. When asked why he decided to seek an advanced degree, Malik responded, "One of the main reasons was career progression. I started working in telecommunications a little late, according

to my observations. Everyone who I have worked with till this day has plenty of experience and has been in the industry from the time of microwave transmissions. They had seen it all, the true evolution of technology and telecommunications. I wanted to get myself familiar with theoretical knowledge along with my on the job training." Malik decided that an advanced degree with Stevens Institute of Technology was the way to go.

Initially, Malik wanted to go for an MBA but decided that a master's degree in Telecommunications should be his first step. He began researching which schools to apply to and attended a presentation about the programs offered for Verizon through the Stevens corporate cohort program. "Stevens had plenty of good reviews from previous students and most of the Verizon employees spoke highly of the program. The presentation/webinar presented the curriculum as such that I was convinced to enroll. Also, this was being offered online, which meant I could work my full-time job and continue my degree in my free time. Also, I chose the M.S. program to bump me up the ladder within my respective field," said Malik.

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Catching Up (continued from page 1)

With eight courses completed, Malik plans to graduate in the spring of 2019! After completing his master's degree, he plans on applying for his MBA with Stevens. When asked what makes Stevens courses special, Malik replied, "The professors make the online courses interactive." When asked which course and professor made the biggest impression on him, Malik said "Honestly, every class I had with Professor Kevin Ryan was informative, interactive and a great learning experience overall. However, the SDN/NFV (TM-650) class last semester was the one I really enjoyed. Everyone is talking about software-defined networks and almost everyone is aiming to become virtual as we leap towards the future. The *Internet of Things* and *big data* are no longer buzzwords. We were able to understand the basics and the architecture of these upcoming technologies that shall revolutionize how networks have been operating and are being managed currently."

Dr. Kevin Ryan has taught for WebCampus since spring 2003. Dr. Ryan is the program director for the Network and Communication Management and Services graduate program. He has won numerous awards at Stevens. Most recently, Dr. Ryan won the Alexander Crombie Humphreys Distinguished Associate Professor Teaching Award in 2017 for the second time. WebCampus considers Dr. Ryan one of university's top online professors, always willing to try new technologies that could benefit his students. The most vivid example was his adoption of web conferencing applications. "Before web confer-

courses," noted Dr. Ryan. "Now I tell the students 'Let's meet every Thursday or Wednesday night for two hours. If you can't make it, it's ok. But I'm going to always show up and give an audio lecture. It just makes my job so much easier. The questions I get from students who listen to my audio lectures are much more focused. They ask very targeted questions," he said.

Another way that Dr. Ryan makes his students feel special is by always referring to them as "**col-leagues**." When asked why he prefers to use this term for his students, Dr. Ryan responded, "I was deeply influenced by a wonderful professor in my undergraduate studies. He always referred to us as 'fellow students.' I believe both the students and the professor are on a common journey together; to explain the known and to explore the unknown." WebCampus is grateful to have Dr. Ryan teaching online and hopes he will continue to teach in our online program for many more years.

WebCampus would like to wish **Shehram Malik** all the best as he continues on his pursuit of his master's degree and eventual MBA!

Stevens U.S. News and World Report rankings continue to climb

Year	Business Ranking	MBA Ranking	Engineering Ranking	Info Tech Ranking
2016	33	88	38	10
2017	26	78	39	15
2018	28	47	23	11

To view the full report, visit usnews.com/rankings

WebCampus Announces Its 50K Enrollment!

In the fall semester 2017, WebCampus surpassed an enrollment goal. WebCampus registered our 50,000th course enrollment! Online enrollments continue to grow year after year, and we look forward to celebrating our 75K enrollment in the future.

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and figuring out a way to make it easier for others to understand it as well," she said. "It is extremely rewarding when I can empower someone else to feel confident in using a new tool or service that they normally wouldn't feel comfortable with." Whether it was online proctoring services, digital video repository systems, or anti-plagiarism software, Allison supported the instructional technologies available to enhance the online teaching and learning experience.

During her time in WebCampus, Allison managed the Academic Recording Studio and SmartClassRoom. Allison assisted with the selection and implementation of the Extron recording system and quickly became the area's resident expert in its use. She tirelessly promoted the use of the Recording Studio across campus and at various Stevens events. She walked dozens of faculty, students and staff members through the entire creative process, from brainstorming ideas, assisting in the recording, and then editing the footage in post-production. "I strongly feel that integrating videos into the online courses should be a priority," Allison added. "Whether it is a video on the homepage welcoming a student to the course, or weekly short videos that go over 'difficult topics' for the module, students have told us that videos enhance their online learning experience."

In 2017, Allison moved from the WebCampus department into the Office of Graduate Studies as the new director for Continuing and Professional Education. Her experience as both an online student and an administrator of online courses made her an ideal candidate for the post. In this new role, Allison will focus on marketing to prospective students interested in online studies. Among many other duties, Allison will be responsible for attending recruitment events and advertising with professional societies. The Stevens Online initiative is intended to grow both the university's online offerings as well as the online student population. "With new online program tracking codes, we are now able for the first time to properly track students who are completing their degree entirely online," she said.

Allison also oversees the university's Care Center, whose main function is to support all corporate and sponsor partnerships.

"I am extremely grateful for this opportunity to continue to work with the wonderful, inspiring people of Stevens," she said. The WebCampus team wishes Allison success in her new position with Stevens!

Senior Instructional Designer Joins WebCampus

By Robert Zotti, Assistant Dean, WebCampus



WebCampus is happy to welcome Jen Obando as our new senior instructional designer. Jen's role shall include meeting with and assisting faculty

in the design, development and improvement of online courses. One of her first major initiatives will be aligning the university's online learning operations (particularly those related to online faculty training and online course design) with the standards of the Online Learning Consortiums Quality Scorecard.

Jen comes to us from Rutgers, where she assisted faculty in designing and revising online and hybrid courses, as well as advised in technology adoptions designed to enhance the learning experience. A major portion of her workload consisted of training faculty and staff in the use of Sakai as well as third-party tools such as Kaltura. Jen worked alongside other university communities such the Active Learning Community to inform faculty about and aid them in adopting diverse teaching strategies that make courses more engaging. One notable assignment included implementing a course review process that integrated teaching with requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act and Universal Design for Learning best practices.

"I'm excited to be part of the Stevens community now and hope that my experience will help make our course offerings some of the top in the nation," said Jen. "I'm looking forward to working with all WebCampus faculty!"

Instructor Tip of the Month

Cleaning up your course

When a file is added to a Canvas course module or page, the new item takes the name of the file as the object name. This name includes the file type extension such as .doc, .pdf, .xls, etc. You can clean up the items name by doing the following:

Step 1

Click on the 3 vertical dots next to the item whose name you want to edit



Step 2

Select "Edit" from the dropdown menu

Step 3

Edit the text in the box

Step 4

Click "Update"

Dialog box titled "Edit Item Details" with a close button (x). It contains a "Title:" label followed by a text input field containing "Syllabus.doc". Below it is an "Indent:" label followed by a dropdown menu showing "Don't Indent". At the bottom are "Cancel" and "Update" buttons.

Student Tip of the Month

Using BlackBoard Collaborate Mobile

BlackBoard Collaborate provides a mobile app that can be downloaded for free from iTunes or the Google App Store. Once you have downloaded the app, there are 2 different ways to go into your BlackBoard Collaborate room that's in your Canvas course:

Way 1

If you have the BlackBoard Collaborate URL, you can enter it into the mobile app

or

Way 2

Open your phone browser and go to my.stevens.edu. Log into MyStevens and access your Canvas course. When the course opens, click on the BlackBoard Collaborate link as you normally would. At this point, it will ask you if you want to open the session in the mobile app. Click on yes and you are in!

Don't Forget...

Spring break	March 12-18
Classes resume	March 19
Grad registration summer and fall	March 26
Last day to withdraw from a course	April 26
Last week of spring classes	April 30

Tell us what you think

What stories would you like us to publish?

Would you like to write a story?

Let us know!

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