Familiar Faces

Dr. Jill Budny

This year, Honors College Professor Jill Budny celebrates 20 years in academia. Throughout her tenure, Jill has taught at Beloit College, Marquette University, Alverno College, Notre Dame University, and now UWM.

As Professor and Honors College Assistant Director, she strives to foster an environment of inclusivity and sharing.

“The Honors College is a space for all sorts of creativity,” she says. “It is a gift to be present during the discussions in class.”

In addition to her other roles, Jill is an advisor for the Equity Team that most recently hosted the Race, Justice, Power Conference featuring speaker Adam Carr.

She advises students to get involved in student organizations and to attend events that challenge them.

“The diversity of opinions and thought is very special in the Honors College,” she says. “Reach out and form a community; there is an amazing group of humans here.”

Jill is an advocate for students sharing their perspectives and respecting their peers’ perspectives.

“A lot of people have a loud inner critic telling them that they are not good or smart enough,” she shares. “But fight against that voice. Be more kind to yourself. You matter. Your voice matters. Sharing your opinions with others is a beautiful thing that can be the key to human happiness.”

Outside of the Honors College, Jill enjoys cooking and gardening. She is Milwaukee born and raised, with a big family in the local area.

She loves spending quality time with her relatives, especially her husband and her daughter Audrey.

Congratulations on an amazing twenty years, Jill!

Quincy Lagrant

Quincy Lagrant may be one of the newest additions to the Honors College professional community, but he is already tackling his new role as the Honors College Enrollment Coordinator with confidence.

Originally from Milwaukee, Quincy did most of his undergraduate work at the University of Northern Iowa before transferring to UW-Oshkosh to complete a degree in Sociology.

Wanting to stay close to family, Quincy moved back to Milwaukee and worked as the Undergraduate Recruitment Coordinator at the Lubar College of Business for over a decade before joining the Honors College.

As Enrollment Coordinator, Quincy’s responsibilities include reviewing incoming applications, visiting local high schools, and reaching out to current UWM students who may have an interest in joining the Honors College.

“One of the major parts of my position is the branding,” he shares. “You’d be surprised that many prospective students and current students at UWM are not familiar with the Honors College.”

Quincy’s personal background makes him the ideal candidate to help students who are considering transitioning into higher education.

“I was the first person from my family to ever attend college,” he says, “so I remember how challenging that was for me.”

He hopes to be a resource for students who are unsure of what to expect from the college experience and to remind students that performing at a high academic level is just one part of the experience of attending college.

“Find a career path that allows you to utilize your academic strengths and personal passions,” he suggests, “and good results will follow.”