



February 3, 2009

Scholarship Awarded for the Largest Fundraising Conference in the World

Meredith Hancks, Director of Prospect Research and Management for Western Illinois University, has been named a Chamberlain Scholar by the Illinois Quad Cities Chapter of the Association of Fundraising Professionals (AFP) Foundation for Philanthropy and will attend the 2009 International Conference on Fundraising in New Orleans, LA.

AFP is the largest association of fundraisers in the world and represents more than 28,000 fundraising professionals across the globe. The AFP Foundation for Philanthropy supports programs and initiatives that help train fundraisers and increase knowledge and awareness of ethical fundraising.

Meredith started in fundraising by working at North Park University in Chicago in 1996. She worked at the University until 2007. In July 2007, Meredith came to Western Illinois University to be the Director of Prospect Research and Management. She now provides support and prospect management strategies to front line fundraisers.

In 2005, Meredith completed her MBA with elective course work in fundraising management and nonprofit leadership. In 2007, she completed the course work for her doctorate in Higher Education Administration and is now conducting research for her dissertation on conflict between faculty and administrators on college campuses.

The Chamberlain Scholarship Program honors Ralph Chamberlain, a long-time fundraiser and supporter of AFP. Mr. Chamberlain helped to form one of the organization's first chapters, the Greater New York Chapter and served as both chair of the association and the foundation. Because of his long-time support of the Foundation for Philanthropy, the AFP Board of Directors renamed the Conference Scholar Program in 2000 to honor Mr. Chamberlain's memory and commitment to the fundraising profession.

The Illinois Quad Cities Chapter of the AFP is committed to advancing philanthropy and supporting local fundraising professionals with relevant and informative educational programs and networking opportunities. If you are interested in information about membership, please visit www.afpquadcities.com.