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For more information contact:

Meredith Johnson, NEON Marketing
meredith@neonmktg.com, 601-366-8010

Student Attributes Success, Strength to Guaranteed 4.0

One Student Shares Her Story

DALLAS, Texas – June 25, 2009 – Ashley Wise always knew she would go to college. With a 3.8 GPA and plenty of extracurricular activities on her high school resume, she didn't have a problem getting into the University of Wisconsin – Milwaukee. As a freshman and sophomore, she focused on her studies and got involved at the Student Peer Center on campus as a mentor and tutor. "I loved that job," she said. "It helped me balance my education, and it was a good career builder. I had friends there who I helped, and, in turn, they helped me."

But in April of her sophomore year, life took a rocky turn when Ashley was diagnosed with an illness that affected her sleep and study habits – and also her self-esteem. "I didn't feel like the same person," Ashley said. "I felt like no one wanted to be around me."

Her grades fell to a 1.6 GPA, and she was almost put on academic probation.

She was determined not to give up. "I didn't want to stop going to school," she said. "I vowed that this disease would not take over my life. School was the only way of keeping it off of my mind."

In February of the following year, her life turned around.

Ashley saw a flyer for a seminar on campus presented by Donna O. Johnson, president and founder of Guaranteed 4.0 Learning System. The flyer caught her eye, but she was skeptical. "I thought, how can they guarantee a 4.0?" she said. "How in the world would that work?"

She decided to attend, and the results were life-changing. "I had just taken my exams, and I wished I had met Donna O sooner," Ashley said.

Johnson presented Guaranteed 4.0, a proprietary learning method that instructs students on budgeting their time, effective note taking, processing information, repetition and critical thinking.

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“If students follow the Guaranteed 4.0 three-step plan exactly and don’t receive all A’s, he or she will receive \$100 – something we have not needed to do based on the success of the program,” said Johnson. “The responses have been so positive. The students who participate in the program are performing beyond expectation.”

Johnson is not the only one who has seen positive results. Twyla McGhee, UWM senior advisor, has booked Guaranteed 4.0 Learning System seminars on campus numerous times.

“Donna O. Johnson definitely has the ability to build students’ confidence in an academic setting,” said McGhee. “She helps dispel the myths about ‘smart people’ and ‘not so smart people.’ Students realize the ‘smart people’ really just learned certain techniques earlier in life, and once they discover those techniques, the students who have been struggling step up to the plate and see improvement.”

Ashley set her own goal of a 3.0 GPA after using the three-step plan – but not executing all of the steps. “I got a 2.75 that semester, which I thought was outstanding,” she said. “I was so proud but decided I could better myself by carrying out all of the steps that Donna O. had taught me. A 2.75 was not enough for me.”

This past February, Johnson came back to the campus, and Ashley attended again – almost exactly one year after they first met. This time, she was even more motivated to attend, and she even convinced her friends to join her.

“After a long road, I graduated with a 3.6 GPA,” Ashley said. “I did it! I kept a positive outlook inside, and I kept God in my life.”

In June, Ashley is leaving for New York City to serve for a month as a UN Ambassador, a program she was nominated for by her professors. After her stay there, she will return to the University of Wisconsin - Milwaukee to work with the Center for Volunteer Leadership. In September of 2009, she plans to take the LSAT and apply to law schools.

“My advice to struggling students is to stay motivated and push for success,” Ashley said. “Keep yourself in a positive frame of mind. With my faith in God and the help of Donna O. Johnson, I was able to overcome life’s obstacles.”

For more information on Guaranteed 4.0 or to schedule an interview with Donna O. Johnson, contact Meredith Johnson at NEON Marketing: 601-366-8010 or by email at meredith@neonmktg.com.

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