

“What I love the most about Diane is that she can always be seen with a smile on her face and a Coke in her hand.”

-Amy Loganbill, Truth House President and CA

There is no better way to start out this Advisor of the Year bid than with the above quote. Diane’s bubbly personality and infectious smile rub off on all those around her. And while the Coke is not permanently attached to her hand, you can bet that it is probably not far away! Despite her busy schedule as West Hall RLC, she always takes the time to say hello, and in more serious situations, rearranges her schedule completely in order to address a student’s need. Diane is a dedicated staff member and advisor, and is most worthy of such wonderful recognition.

Fast Facts about Diane

\*Received her Bachelor of Arts in Communication

\*Has a Masters in College Student Personnel Services

\*Worked as ARLC in Putnam in '03-'04

\*West Hall RLC '04-'05

As you can see, Diane’s educational background prepared her perfectly for the job she does today. It takes an enormous amount of skill to communicate effectively with RAMA and CA staff, as well as the many residents who make West Hall their home. Her empathy and sincerity, as well as her laid back disposition, put others immediately at ease.

"Diane has been the backbone of our staff in West Hall. She has modeled by example what it means to serve others, to genuinely care for the women of West and the problems they deal with every day. She is constantly supportive and encouraging, but most importantly, she makes it FUN to be on the West Hall staff. She has taken it personally into her hands to make sure that our staff bonds and works well together. It has worked; we have not had any issues at all among our staff this year, and I know that is due to Diane's leadership. She has made my job so much easier this year. Best of all, she seems like more of a friend to me than a supervisor, stopping to chat with me and keep up on what's going on in my life. I feel genuinely cared for under Diane's supervision."

-Tracy Reif, West Hall RA

"Diane is such a giver. I don't know anyone else who is more willing to sit and listen to anything you need to talk about. She is very responsive to her staff, advisees, and residents. She is always concerned about their wellbeing."

-Tasha Harvey, West MA

## Diane's Involvement

As the RLC of West Hall, Diane has many demands that are constantly placed on her. Despite that, she finds the time to serve on several committees and advise another group as well.

\*Advisor to the Undergraduate Student Affairs group (student services).

\*Advisor to West Hall RAMA staff

\*Advisor to West Hall HGB

\*Serves on the Committee for Professional Development in the Upper Midwest Region of the Association of College and University Housing Officers

\*Serves on the Open House Committee

\*EDCEP 311 instructor

Diane's assistance on HGB has proven invaluable countless times throughout the school year. She lets HGB run it as they see fit, but is wise enough to know when she needs to step in to nudge them in the right direction. She encourages all the members to develop their leadership and team working skills, and approaches their ideas with a "go for it" attitude.

"Diane has been an integral part to West Hall this year. I certainly could not have performed the duties associated with HGB President without her guidance, creativity, and wisdom. It's been a joy to know her this past year, and I look forward to remaining a friend when I leave the halls."

-Jessica Divine, West Hall HGB President and CA

## Programs and Awards

“Programming is not my favorite thing to do, because I am more of a behind the scenes person. Programming is important to my job though, because I have knowledge of things that I need to share with others.”

-Diane, in her own words

Diane’s programming experience ranges from presenting at the Upper Midwest Region of the Association of College and University Housing Officers (UMR conference) to presenting at RAMA training to a knitting program in West Hall last semester.

\*Technology Round Table Discussion (UMR conference)

\*Diversity Made Easy (UMR conference)

\*Working with Extroverts & Introverts in Housing (UMR conference)

\*Gender Communication (RAMA training)

\*Knitting Program, Fall '04 (West Hall)

Diane received the Outstanding New Professional Award for the Upper Midwest Region of the Association of College and University Housing Officers, as well as a campus honorable mention for Advisor of the Month.

“I have enjoyed getting to know Diane this year. She is always willing to lend a listening ear to anyone and always welcomes her residents into her office. She is a hard working and caring individual that I call friend.”

-Emma Goff, HGB Secretary

“Diane’s dedication to her job is evident in everything she does. Whether on the job or playing catch with our off duty CA’s in the lobby area, she is always available, and her door is always open.”

-Amanda Jolly, West Hall HGB Vice President and CA



**West Hall Staff '04-'05**

“I love my job because I get to hang out with cool women and make an impact on their lives in a positive way, while they make a positive impact on my life. Many of my students have touched my heart.”

-Diane, in her own words

As Diane herself stated, she is more of a behind the scene type of person. Every organization needs individuals who roll up their sleeves and get the job done quickly and quietly, but often these people are overlooked. They become such a steady presence in our daily lives that we take that presence for granted. Only when it is gone do we realize how much that person did for us and for our organization. Diane is a dedicated woman, passionate about her job. What better way to honor her than by presenting her with the Advisor of the Year Award?

# Diane Hess

Advisor of the Year Nominee  
2004-2005



West Hall  
Residence Life Coordinator

April 9, 2005

Dear Advisor of the Year Selection Committee,

For the past year, it has been our privilege to work with Diane Hess in West Hall as RAMA staff members. Diane has demonstrated guidance, strength, and compassion for our staff and the women of West Hall. Because of our experiences with Diane in the past year, it is with great enthusiasm that we write this letter.

West Hall underwent a major staff turnover for this school year. Diane was one of two senior staff and seven RAMA staff members new to the building. This made for a difficult adjustment at the beginning, but Diane brought her experience and compassion to the staff to make for a smooth transition into the new school year. Diane is much more than a supervisor to our staff; she helps bring us together through game nights and communication meetings in her apartment. She always welcomes our staff members to make themselves at home in her apartment, offering her laundry facilities and refrigerator to anyone who wants them.

Diane has helped to structure our staff through personal and staff goal setting. She is totally supportive of all members of our staff, attending practically all of our programs and being there for us day and night. She helps us with all of the crazy situations we face, letting us try to figure out solutions but putting in input when she knows it is needed. She is always willing to offer her experience and knowledge to help us do the best job possible.

In Julia's experience working with Diane as advisors to West Hall's Governing Board, she has seen Diane's ability to give never-ending support to the members of the Board, her willingness to work with a student-led hall, and her desire to help Julia to grow as an advisor. Diane is consistently seen at all HGB programs, giving her support and guidance where it is needed. She allows the Board to make decisions that they feel are in the best interest of the women of West Hall. This past year, Diane has given Julia the opportunity to discover and develop her style as an advisor and has allowed her to grow in the position.

Diane has given so much to us in the past year. She has given her all to develop a strong governing board, staff, and community in the hall. She has taken the time to get to know an incredible number of the residents along with the staff and Governing Board. In short, Diane Hess is an amazing supervisor, advisor, and friend and we feel privileged to recommend her for Advisor of the Year.

Sincerely,

Julia Holman  
Resident Assistant, West Hall

Sarah McAllister  
Resident Assistant, West Hall