

C!A!R!O!L!Y!N  
D!E!N!N!E!Y



A LOOK AT OUR F!R!E!N!D!S  
OUTSTANDING SERVICE  
THROUGHOUT HER FOUR  
SEASONS...

*The true story of a young woman from  
Independence KS, and her passion for  
serving others...*

# **Season One: Her Freshman Year**

## **The one where she's on Boyd Hall HGB:**

In September 2001, Carolyn Denney became involved in the Boyd Hall Governing Board by serving as a Boyd Hall Association of Residence Halls (ARH) Representative. Through this role Carolyn participated in bi-weekly Association of Residence Halls meetings and would report back to the Boyd Hall weekly Hall Governing Board (HGB) meetings. Carolyn also had the opportunity to attend Camp ARH held in Council Grove, KS, which allowed her to become better acquainted with ARH members.



In addition to attending meetings, Carolyn also assisted in the planning and implementing of programs sponsored by the Boyd Hall HGB. Through her position on HGB, Carolyn had the opportunity to become involved with her first K-State Homecoming, an experience that would later drive her involvement on the Homecoming Committee.

## **The one where she's Catholic:**

With Carolyn's religion being an integral part of her life, she quickly became involved in St. Isidore's Catholic Student Center where she participated in various social, educational, and spiritual activities. In addition she also attended the annual Kansas Catholic College Student Convention.

## **The one where she's an Ambassador:**

In January 2002, Carolyn was selected to represent the department of Housing and Dining by serving as an Ambassador. In this role, Carolyn promoted Housing and Dining Services and Residence Life at multiple promotional events, served on student panels to answer questions from prospective students and parents, and led many tours of Housing and Dining facilities to prospective students and parents.

*"It is my honor to recommend Carolyn Denney to be the recipient of the Outstanding Service Award. Carolyn was a Housing and Dining Ambassador for me in the spring semester of 2002. She showed an extreme amount of enthusiasm for K-State and the residence halls. Carolyn was always quick to volunteer to help out with Ambassador events on campus and in the residence halls. She had a way of making prospective students feel comfortable and excited about living in the residence halls. She also demonstrated a great ability to help make current residents proud of where they live. Carolyn goes out of her way to make sure that people are served in every way she can serve them.*

*Carolyn has also gone out of her way to help me out in many situations with the Housing and Dining Ambassadors group. I know that she worked extremely hard on Open House in 2002 to make it a success for the Strong*

Complex. Carolyn has an abundant amount of pride for the residence halls and it shows. Carolyn deserves this award."

*-Ben Kohl, Former Housing and Dining Ambassadors Advisor*

## **The one where she assists her community:**

Also in January 2002, Carolyn was hired to work as a community assistant (CA) in the Strong Complex. As a CA, Carolyn would meet and greet people as they visited the hall, assist residents of the hall by answering questions, checking out various equipment and keys, forwarding mail, and assisting RAMA staff in crisis situations.

## **The one where she goes to Washington:**

Amazing, worthwhile, memorable, and life-touching are a few of the words that Carolyn uses to express the experience she had on the St. Isidore's Spring Break Alternative Trip in Washington D.C. While on this trip of



service, Carolyn devoted many hours to delivering sandwiches in the park to the homeless, working in the food kitchens at "Dinner Program for Homeless Women" and "DC Central Kitchen," serving homeless men breakfast at "So Others Might Eat," delivering dinners to terminally ill patients and cleaning homes for the elderly living in poverty. In addition, Carolyn also had the opportunity to

listen to a homeless man and woman share their life stories, describing how they ended up in their situations.

## **Season Two: Her Sophomore Year**

### **The one where she's a summer orientation leader:**

During the summer of 2002, Carolyn worked as a Summer Orientation Leader for Kansas State University. In this position, Carolyn assisted incoming students assimilate with the campus and community. In addition, Carolyn answered questions regarding enrollment, activities, organizations, and other areas of campus life.

*"Carolyn is a former orientation leader and I served as her supervisor. While working with Carolyn, I was very appreciative of her professionalism and work ethic. She was typically one of the first to arrive (and if you have worked with orientation, you know the arrival time is usually very early in the morning!) and the last to leave.*

*Carolyn was conscientious and courteous to our new students and their families. She also worked very well with her fellow staff members. I will always remember Carolyn's smile and positive attitude as a highlight. Her friendliness and caring nature will be an asset in any future career Carolyn selects."*

*-Emily Lehning, Director of New Student Services*

As a result of spending her summer helping new students, Carolyn also had the opportunity to volunteer throughout the rest of the school year, offering campus tours to prospective K-State students.

## The one where she deals with money:



Carolyn was elected to serve as the ARH secretary for the 2002-2003 school year. As part of her responsibilities, she participated in weekly Executive Board meetings and bi-weekly General Body meetings. Carolyn maintained a budget of approximately \$15,000 and worked with the Housing and Dining accountant weekly in carrying out transactions. In addition, Carolyn supported ARH programs and events.

## The one where she's still a CA and Ambassador:

With the success Carolyn had in both of these roles during her freshman year, she decided to continue on with them. Both of these roles proved to enhance her leadership abilities and provided her with a multitude of experience.

*"I had the privilege of advising and supervising Carolyn during the 2002-2003 academic year as the ARH treasurer and a CA in the Strong Complex. Carolyn was an extremely conscientious treasurer and CA. She always approached her job and her position with a positive attitude. Plus Carolyn's laugh never fails to lighten the mood anywhere she goes."*

*-Kevin Cook, Coordinator for Enrollment Management and Academic Affairs*

## The one where she plans Homecoming:

Due to the fact that she enjoyed her first ever Homecoming experience so well, Carolyn made the decision to apply for the All-University Homecoming Committee. During her sophomore year, Carolyn was responsible for not only attending weekly meetings and committee meetings, but she also co-chaired committees that planned the Faculty Social Event and the Diversity Talent Show event. Because Carolyn had a relationship with the residence halls, she also assisted in the planning of "Crazy Cat Kick-off," a residence hall homecoming activity.

## The one where she is in NRHH:

After being inducted in the spring semester of her freshman year, Carolyn became active with the National Residence Hall Honorary (NRHH), by serving on the Of the Month (OTM) Committee. This committee was responsible for reading and judging the monthly OTM submissions. In addition, Carolyn participated in weekly meetings.

# Season Three: Her Junior Year

## The one where she went to Italy:

The summer before her Junior Year, Carolyn traveled to Italy with about forty other members of the St. Isidore's choir. During her twelve days in Italy, Carolyn had the pleasure



of singing in multiple cathedrals, visiting multiple cities, and singing for Pope John Paul II.

## **The one where she's an RA:**

During the 2003-2004 school year, Carolyn Denney, along with Craig Wanklyn, served as the resident assistants to the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor. G3, as it's more affectionately known as, is home to over 100 co-ed residents. In addition to performing the required duties and participating in a rotating duty schedule, Carolyn provided support to both residents and staff. Carolyn exhibited a positive attitude in her position and proved that a smile and laugh really can go a long way.



*"My favorite thing about Carolyn was that she always maintained a positive attitude. I*

*remember when she had pneumonia and she could not stop coughing. Even then, she kept working hard and graciously accepted the sympathy of others with a smile. She is a natural encourager and will say the funniest things to make you laugh and feel good about yourself. She and I had some great long and heart laughs together."*

*-Emily Marvine, former Goodnow Hall Resident Assistant*

One of the requirements of being an RA is the task of programming. Carolyn will be the first to admit that this is not one of her favorite aspects of the position, however, she consistently provided residents with excellent programs including, a Capture the Flag contest, an all-hall Pitch Tournament, G3 Battle of the Sexes, Floor Wars, and a Leap Day Dinner. In addition Carolyn and her staff partner Craig organized an Ice Cream Social and utilized the event to educate residents about Of-The-Month (OTM) writing. Carolyn also assisted other members of the staff in the planning of the Goodnow Hall Date Auction and she coordinated Holiday Caroling and Food with staff members Emily Marvine and Bevin Wesselman. Craig and Carolyn also organized "notes from home" to hand out to residents during Finals Week.



*"Carolyn Denney has been my RA for both years of my college career. She did a terrific job of making me feel welcome my freshman year, and I've gotten to know her pretty well since. Carolyn and I really bonded over the show "Friends," and some of my best memories with Carolyn involve that show. For example, one night the two of us played the "Friends" trivia game for hours and got made fun for knowing so much about the show. We also watched the show together every Thursday night when it was still on the*



*air. Carolyn has really made my two years living in Goodnow Hall a great experience and I am blessed to have been one of her residents."*

*-Kendra Stiles, Goodnow Hall G3 Resident*

## **The one where she's a teacher:**

In the fall of 2003, Carolyn took on the responsibility of facilitating a small group of fourteen students in Leadership Studies. Through this role, Carolyn initiated discussions regarding trans-cultural leadership, ethical and servant leadership, vision and goal setting, motivation and empowerment, and the Myers-Briggs assessment.

## **The one where she promotes her college:**

From May 2003-May2004 Carolyn served as a College of Human Ecology Ambassador. Through this position, Carolyn promoted the College of Human Ecology to prospective students and represented the college at promotional events.

## **The one where she's a desk manager:**

*"Last year, Goodnow Hall did not have an Assistant Residence Life Coordinator. Carolyn stepped up and took on a lot of extra responsibility to help Mishelle Banas and the Hall out. She co-supervised the CA staff with another RA. She also helped out with paperwork and other office duties. This was a great deal of extra work that she volunteered to do on top of her regular RA and scholastic responsibilities."*

*-Ryan Zecha, Goodnow Hall Resident Assistant*

When Carolyn stepped up to assist the RLC of Goodnow Hall, she took on quite a task. In addition to assisting with the planning and implementation of CA meetings, Carolyn also facilitated desk scheduling processes and maintained supply inventory weekly and handled various administrative responsibilities.

## **The one where she's still in NRHH and still doing Homecoming:**

During Carolyn's Junior Year, she decided to try something new in both NRHH and on the Homecoming Committee. For NRHH she participated on the Recognition committee, coordinating recognition of various groups within the department of Housing and Dining. On the Homecoming Committee, Carolyn co-chaired the spirit and yard art competition committee and once again helped organize the "Crazy Cat Kickoff" event.

# **Season Four: Her Senior Year..The Final Season**

## **The one where she's a Cool Cat:**

During the summer before her senior year, Carolyn worked on the twenty-five member Summer Conference Staff team, more commonly known as the Cool Cats. Carolyn assisted on six host teams throughout the summer in which she was responsible for the check-in and check-out for these particular conferences. As part of her duties, Carolyn also worked weekly desk hours in which she completed operations of the desk, worked with conference

participants, and assisted summer residents. Carolyn also participated in the duty rotation in which she was responsible for responding to the needs of conference participants. While some situations with conferences can become a little stressful, Carolyn consistently remained calm, patient, and friendly.

### **The one where she went to STARS College:**

The summer before her senior year, Carolyn was selected along with thirty other undergraduate students across the nation to attend STARS College. Held in Montreal, Canada, this event gave undergraduates who were interested in student affairs the opportunity to be exposed to information about the field. Carolyn learned about building résumé's, conducting a Graduate School search, applying to Graduate School programs, and information on the Oshkosh Placement Exchange (OPE). Carolyn was also fortunate enough to be able to stay a few extra days for the ACUHO-I conference, which is a gathering of current housing professionals. Through this experience, Carolyn had the opportunity to make contacts with Residence Life Professionals while also learning more about the field.



### **The one where she's an Office Assistant:**

In early July, the new Goodnow Hall Residence Life Coordinator arrived to Kansas State University. Amidst all of the training that he had to participate in and people he needed to meet, Kipp Van Dyke barely had any additional time to tackle some of the administrative tasks that were beginning to pile up. Carolyn stepped up to the position of Kipp's office assistant and immediately began to help organize items for the upcoming school year. She assisted with the organization of occupancy for the fall semester and implemented a duty schedule during fall and spring RAMA training. Throughout the year, Carolyn has also completed weekly tasks set forth by Kipp.

### **The one where she went to UMR:**

In the fall semester, Carolyn traveled with two other K-State undergraduates and current K-State housing professionals to Sioux Falls, South Dakota to attend the Upper Midwest Region Conference (UMR). This conference gave Carolyn an additional opportunity to gain more knowledge about Residence Life and to network with professionals from other regions within the United States.



### **The one where still works on homecoming and NRHH:**

Once again Carolyn continued her involvement with these two organizations. As a member of NRHH, this year Carolyn served once again on the OTM committee and as the ARH liaison. This role builds a collaborative relationship between NRHH and ARH. As a member of the Homecoming Committee, Carolyn co-chaired a committee that organized a block party and pep rally after the annual parade.

## **The one where she's an RA.....part 2:**

*"It is hard to express in words how highly I regard Carolyn. The first time I heard her name was my freshman year at K-State. I had been selected by my hall to be the First Year Experience nominee and I was looking at previous bids to better understand what that honor truly consisted of. I ran across Carolyn's bid from the year before and as I read it, I remember thinking to myself what an outstanding individual she seemed to be. I never dreamt that a year later I would be hired as a Resident Assistant and given the incredible opportunity to work alongside her and learn from her amazing abilities.*



*Carolyn has such a "real" personality. She is true to herself and true to others. She has a warm heart that does not turn anyone away and an infectious attitude that cheers even the saddest person up. She is such a dynamic leader and I think that Carolyn has been a blessing to everyone who has had the opportunity to know her. I know that is certainly what she has been to me."*



*-Ashley Boldt, Goodnow Hall Resident Assistant*

Carolyn returned to the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor this year along with new staff partner, Eric Mann. Much like last season's episode of "the one where she's an RA," Carolyn once again did an outstanding job.

*"Carolyn is amazing because being a resident assistant is second nature to her. For example, as part of floor wars, G3 had to decorate our lobby. We had a family room theme. For a social program, Carolyn had the floor make winter stocking to hang on the fireplace. This program was perfect for the decorations and helped G3 win the event. This example is especially impressive since Carolyn claims that programming is her weakest area."*

*-Eric Mann, Goodnow Hall Resident Assistant*

Carolyn has been very active in planning and implementing programs this year including, Goodnow Hall Olympics, Knitting with the Carolyn's, Flower Pens, Understanding Nutrition Labels, and The One-Armed Baker. In addition, Carolyn also worked with groups to implement the Goodnow Hall Date Auction and Back to Grade School week.

*"I am amazed at the amount of involvement that Carolyn has in the Residence Halls here at K-State. She goes to HGB, ARH, NRHH, and homecoming meetings. She has been so much help with programming in our building. This*

*is especially true with the annual Date Auction. She works so hard going around to area businesses asking for donations for the program."*

*Ryan Zecha, Goodnow Hall Resident Assistant*

*As a returner to Goodnow Hall, Carolyn has not only been an incredible role model, but she's been a remarkable friend and fellow staff member. It is obvious by the statements below that Carolyn has continued to make a positive impact on both residents and staff of Goodnow Hall.*

*"Carolyn is extremely dedicated to growing as a leader in all aspects of her position. She's in many leadership groups on campus as well as being a great RA. There isn't one thing that I've ever seen Carolyn do, that she didn't put in 100% effort every time."*

*-Nathan Vallette, Goodnow Hall Resident Assistant*

*"Carolyn has been a pleasure to work with here in Goodnow. She is very down to earth and realistic and her residents love her for that. I know each of them feel comfortable coming to talk with her and are excited to have the opportunity to do so. She will be missed by residents, RAMA staff, Senior Staff, and the many others she has interacted with here at Kansas State in her many roles. I am excited to see her moving up within the housing profession and hope our paths cross again in the future."*



*-Kipp Van Dyke, Goodnow Hall Residence Life Coordinator*

*"Carolyn has always been there when both Eric is busy and I need to talk to a girl about something. She always has the ability to make me laugh and she herself has a great laugh. I am definitely going to miss her next year. I wish her the best of luck in everything she does!"*

*-Austin Apple, G3 Resident*

*"Carolyn Denney has been a precious member of my life since the day I first met her. She has served as inspiration to me and has helped me develop in my position as the Multicultural Assistant of Goodnow Hall. I greatly admire the way Carolyn works with the staff, HGB, and most importantly the residents of the hall."*

*-Jonathan Tarman, Goodnow Hall Multicultural Assistant*

*"I have loved living with her the last two years. She is one of the main reasons I returned to the hall. I wish I could have lived with her all four years."*

*-Katie Keen, G3 Resident*

*"In my first year as an ARLC, Carolyn has always been such a big supporter and such a big help to me. It is really comforting to see her smiling face and know that she is one to always go the extra mile to lend a helping hand. Carolyn has contributed a great deal to Goodnow Hall, and has not only gained the respect of her residents and staff, but she is a staff*

member that others look to as a mentor and a guide for the type of RA and person they want to be."

-Amanda Mock, Assistant Residence Life Coordinator for Goodnow Hall

"CD has always been a smiling face and a warm heart to talk with. I know that as an incomer she treated us like we were already staff. She is a blessing to all who know her and just thinking about her makes me smile."

-Kyle Baack, Goodnow Hall Resident Assistant



"After my boyfriend left for the army, Carolyn always asks me if I have heard from him and how he is doing and how I am doing without him. It means a lot that she thinks about what is going on in my life and cares enough to ask, because she doesn't have to."

-Krystal Cannon, G3 Resident

"When I think about Carolyn, one word comes to mind...mom. She's a strong, caring, and lovable person. I can go to her when I need help; I can talk to her like a friend. She doesn't do my laundry though. ☺"

-Raj Sharmacharya, G3 Resident



"Carolyn has greatly influenced me this year. Her diligence in getting to know residents and her motivation to have great programs has really inspired me. Carolyn is loved by people all over Goodnow and that shows how great her effort is to be a terrific RA. I am privileged to know her and work with her."

-Carolyn Wenzel, Goodnow Hall Resident Assistant

"She really makes an effort to talk to people and check up with people on the floor. She takes a lot of time and goes out of her way to meet with people individually."

-Megan Smith, Goodnow Hall Resident

## **The one with all the honors:**

Despite being a freshman, Carolyn Denney was the recipient of multiple honors. During the 2001-2002 school year, Carolyn received the Kansas State University Achievement Scholarship, the Joyce C. Cauthon Scholarship, and the Kansas State University First Year Experience Award. During her sophomore year, Carolyn received the Mabel Strong Scholarship and became a part of the College of Human Ecology Honors Program and the National Society of Collegiate Scholars. As a junior, Carolyn became active in the Undergraduate Student Affairs Group, the Alpha Chi Chapter of Phi Upsilon Omicron Honor Society, and the Omicron Theta Chapter of Kappa Omicron Nu Honor Society. Carolyn also received the Air Force Captain William L. Schultz Memorial Scholarship and the Nelson Family Memorial Scholarship. In addition, Carolyn received recognition as both the campus and regional Resident Assistant of the Month for October 2003.

# Audience Members Reflect on the Past Four Seasons:



*"I have known Carolyn Denney all four years that we have been at K-State. I came to know Carolyn through her involvement in Housing and Dining Ambassadors, which is where I first witnessed Carolyn's passion for K-State. She was so willing to talk with prospective students and their parents about her K-State experience. Carolyn was also a member of the Strong Complex CA staff. She always took the time to chat and to express a positive attitude to others during her shifts. Carolyn and I were both a part of the Boyd Hall intramural flag football team*

*sophomore year. It was her ability to be a team player that stood out to me the most during those games and practices.*

*It was not until my junior year, though, that I truly got to know and become friends with CD. We were both hired as RA's in Goodnow Hall and lived one floor apart. I learned even more about Carolyn's extensive K-State involvement and deep-rooted purple pride last year. Her heart is here at K-State!*

*It has been a pleasure to see Carolyn's heart for her residents these past two years. She has a great ability to put people at ease, especially with her contagious laugh, and to relate with them. I have enjoyed being able to see her grow as a person and as a RA. She has given so much of herself to K-State and to Housing and Dining Services in copious ways that I only see it fitting to give back to Carolyn by recognizing her with the Outstanding Service Award."*

*-Aaryn Clark, Goodnow Hall Resident Assistant*

*"It has been a joy to work with CD the past two years. Her bright smile and infectious laugh always put a smile on my face. Over the years CD has seemed to master the balance between her RA job, classes, personal life, and campus groups. She is an amazing RA and woman and I wish her well at her next school."*

*-Tiffany Happer, Goodnow Hall Resident Assistant*

*"Carolyn has been one of those students that it has been a pleasure to watch go through her college experience. Whether she was an orientation leader, Cool Cat, member of the ARH Executive Board, or being a RA --- Carolyn gave her all to K-State. She has been an amazing student leader who is true to herself and what she believes. Last summer I traveled with her to Montreal, Canada for our international housing conference (ACUHO-I) and I could not have asked for a better person to be with on that trip! My personal*

favorite memory - reading the menu at Ben & Jerry's in French ---- at least the ice cream is fabulous no matter what the language!  
Carolyn will be missed around here!"

-Sarah L. Decke, Coordinator for Leadership Development

"I met Carolyn Denney the first day of my freshman year at K-State. My floor went to dinner at Wendy's and by chance I lined up right behind Carolyn. I must have sensed her warm heart right away because I started telling her how scared I was to start college and how I wanted to go home. I felt so alone and in that moment Carolyn, a complete stranger at the time, gave me the assurance I needed to make it through those first few weeks of school.



It wasn't until months later that I knew it was Carolyn Denney that I had spoken to at Wendy's (she had remembered me though). This year she is my RA and the more I get to know her the more her first impression holds true. She has been an emotional support for me. I have felt so blessed that Carolyn has become part of my life. She is a strong, amazing friend and a true inspiration to me."

-Carrie Overton, Goodnow Hall Vice President

and G3 Resident

"It's extremely hard to sum up words to explain what Carolyn Denney means to me. Carolyn was my staff partner in Goodnow Hall in 2003-2004. She started out as a very shy individual with a lot of talent and has evolved into a respected and admired student and staff member on campus.

There aren't too many people that can sit on my futon and calm me down. One of those people is Carolyn. So many times I would be frustrated for one reason or another and she would always be there at my door making sure I was okay. It could have been 3 a.m., but she would have been there. I'm a hard person to figure out at times and it took her no time to do so. She also likes to laugh and always loved to sit down on my floor right next to my desk and talk to me while I was working on homework. It was always one of those times that I always looked forward to even though she never knew it. I appreciated her stopping by and spending time which we did and still do today (when I'm not waking her up from naps).

I really didn't know how my friendship with Carolyn would work. Today. . . I can't tell you how much that friendship means to me. We did things that probably shouldn't be talked about. We did things that were recognized on many levels. We made a lot of memories. But, the best part about Carolyn is the opportunities that I've had to sit down and talk with her. I've learned so much from her and she is a person that has my utmost respect.

My future years will be a challenge. Carolyn won't be right down the wing or right up the street. She has a huge picture of me. . . maybe I should get one of her. She'll have to try to figure out what's going on in my world over the phone. She is one of those special leaders and special people that

you don't meet very often in life. I am very fortunate to not only have worked with her, but be her friend. I know I could trust her with anything.

Carolyn will be one of the most successful people in life. I'm a lucky guy to have met Carolyn Denney. I really am."

-Craig Wanklyn, Former Goodnow Hall Resident Assistant and Staff Partner

"When I think back to when I first met Carolyn, officially, I laugh out loud. I was sitting in ARH meeting as an advisor and she was a new Boyd Hall representative - brand new. It was one of the first meetings of the year and when it came to giving reports, I clearly remember her being frustrated and saying something to the effect of "What's up with these reports? What kind of things are we suppose to be sharing?" Can't you just hear it??? And, I thought to myself - "that's going to be a great leader on this campus."

Little did I know how right I would be!

She was young but so eager to learn. She would sit in ARH every week and I would watch her growing and learning within Boyd Hall. It was clear that she had talent to offer the world - but how and when? Elections arrived -- of course! - ARH elections. There she was: Carolyn Denney, nominee for treasurer. She would enter the executive board and soon be an advisee that I would always remember.

We spent a year on the ARH executive board together - her as treasurer, me as advisor. The weekly executive board meetings were filled with her laughter, her teasing of the President, Josh, and her conversations with Cori on the latest TV show or the latest purse Cori had purchased! Her talent, along with about two others, I believed carried that board a long way. I saw her and others plunge through events and hold the board together administratively. She was a quiet force on the board but was coming into her own world, in her own time.

The second semester neared and I knew what I knew when I first met her - "she was going to be a great leader on this campus". So when she applied to be an RA, it was no surprise that she did well. And, I knew that I would have to pull out the big guns to negotiate her as a draft pick for my 2003-2004 staff. I did, and that changed everything for the residents of G3 in '03-'04..

Carolyn brought her bright smile, her contagious laughter, and her ability to be diplomatic to the Goodnow Hall Staff team in August 2003. She was paired with Craig Wanklyn and as I watched them all year, I felt like a genius for putting them together! ☺ They were a powerhouse and nothing could



stop them. It was all them - and her character was built stronger and better. Carolyn was tried and tested in her first year as a staff member - but then I saw it again, this time as a gleam in her eyes that she could not yet see, that spoke 'she was going to be a great leader on this campus'.

As we traveled the year together, we grew in our relationship as well, and she was a stable force in a rocky time of the second semester. She stepped up to the plate and became a co-desk manager for me in absence of an Assistant Residence Life Coordinator. She was my sounding board on many issues and it was then

*that I knew - it was time for her to go into the field of student affairs. She had a slight drive at this point to explore the field of student affairs, but was not yet sold. Yet, I knew in time she would be - and we needed her. Our year together showed me that she had grown a long way since her time sitting in the Big 12 room as an ARH representative for board. All her exposure to housing made her a prime candidate for the STARS College the summer of 2004, and from there, I transferred from her supervisor to her mentor...and the rest is history as to where we are now.*

*A simple girl from Independence, Kansas - a freshman sitting in ARH. Then, a moment, a choice, and a path that would forever change her. When I look at Carolyn now, I see what I always knew - 'She IS a great leader on this campus'."*

*-Mishelle Banas, Former Goodnow Hall Residence Life Coordinator*

## Essay

During Carolyn's four years at Kansas State University she has dedicated most of her free time to the residence halls and making them a better place for students to live. As a freshman, she came in enthusiastic about involvement in the residence halls. Now, as a senior, she not only contributes to the halls but has become a role model for younger leaders. Her leadership has impacted many and is what makes her truly exceptional.

Coming in as a freshman, Carolyn, like many freshmen, was hoping to become involved and found her niche in Housing and Dining. She served as an Association of Residence Halls Representative on the Boyd Hall Governing Board; she was also a Housing and Dining Ambassador and a Strong Complex Community Assistant.

As a first year student, she wowed people with her dedicated involvement and incredible leadership potential; thus, she was awarded the Kansas State First Year Experience Award.

Carolyn went on to become the Treasurer for the Association of Residence Halls. She also became a member of the Little Apple Chapter – National Residence Hall Honorary as well as a part of the All-University Homecoming Committee.

During Carolyn's final two years at K-State, she took on the new role of a Resident Assistant and dedicated herself whole-heartedly to her residents. She continued to remain involved in many areas of housing, but Carolyn was now looked up to and became a role model for residents, HGB members, and Resident Assistants alike.

As you can tell by the long list of activities, Carolyn has been extremely involved at Kansas State University and particularly in housing and dining; however, it is the impact that she has had on others while performing her duties that makes her truly outstanding. Carolyn has served K-State humbly but with enthusiasm. She has filled her leadership roles with grace and has warmed the hearts of her residents, staff members, and friends with her caring nature. Carolyn is exceptional in every way and truly deserves to be recognized with the Outstanding Service Award!