

# Outstanding Service Award



Off-roading with  
Jodi Roberts

Drivin' in a beat up car  
The highway is long but we've come so far  
Two thousand miles from home  
We got to find someplace that we can belong  
But, we know, the freeways in life  
Are all pointing us home  
Don't you know, nothing in this life means anymore  
Freeways, freeways.

-Bachman-Turner Overdrive: "Freeways"

Jodi Roberts is a truck girl. She loves trucks—the power, the size, and the ease of finding it in a crowded parking lot. And just like her truck in that crowded parking lot, Jodi manages to stand out in a crowd. She is not afraid to leave the safety of the main road to do a little off-roading and make her place in life. Throughout her two years in West Hall, she has influenced and changed many lives and been an invaluable member of the West Hall and Kansas State University community.

### **The Beginning of the Dirt Road**

Jodi's first stop on her college journey was the West Hall Hepburn House (2nd floor). She immediately jumped in and volunteered for the Sunshine Committee, a group whose goal is to brighten the lives of other girls on the floor by celebrating birthdays and other special occasions. The sunshine committee helped bring joy to resident's lives, much like Jodi does every day. She has truly been a positive influence on many girls, including her first RA, Julia Holman.

“I have known Jodi for two years. As my resident last year Jodi was always friendly and cheerful. She got to know the girls around her very well. She fit in well and decided to return not only to West Hall, but also the Hepburn House. Jodi has definitely impacted my life in West Hall.”  
~Julia Holman

Jodi was not only active on the sunshine committee her freshman year, but also attended many hall programs and activities. Through her involvement, she encouraged others to have a more positive attitude about residence hall life and make the most of their time in West Hall.

### **Leaving Tracks in the Mud**

With a year of experience already under her tires, Jodi came back to Hepburn House to start her second year at Kansas State University. Having been elected the Hall Governing Board (HGB) House Points Chair the semester before, Jodi was ready to get started. By creating house points bulletin boards and changing the scoring rules, she has completely reworked the house points system into a more manageable and fair competition that truly promotes community within the hall. Not only has she made beneficial changes to the house points system, she has always been one of the first people to volunteer on HGB. For example, Jodi chaired the West Hall Pant the Chant committee during this year's homecoming week. For weeks she walked around reciting chants and encouraging hall spirit. It was a huge success—the participants had a blast and West took home first place. Jodi also volunteered for Fall Westival, West Hall's fall festival. The event included face painting, musical chairs, a ball toss, and a pie-eating contest.



Jodi looks up during the pie-eating contest at Fall Westival. There is just too much to eat.

When West Hall decided to design tote bags for the residents, Jodi brought her creative mind to meetings and helped the other girls come up with a cute design for the bags while adding her own sense of style and personality to the group. The black bags, which bear a high-heeled shoe and the words “West Hall” are now proudly carried by many residents. Jodi also helped decorate for the twenty-first annual Casino Night with Marlatt. She has proven time and again her willingness to volunteer, whether it is shopping with our hall president for supplies or chairing a committee.

“Jodi once told me that she was a sucker because she always is on a committee, but I know that she is not a sucker, just a great giving person.”  
~Sarah Jones.

Jodi also serves as one of the truly amazing community assistants in West Hall. She selflessly takes early morning shifts so the other girls can get their beauty rest. When Jodi does work during the day, she always has a smile on her face. Just seeing her at the desk brightens up our days.

Along with her HGB and CA positions, Jodi is also captain of West Hall’s Relay for Life team. She organized a team of residents who are currently in the process of raising money to fight cancer and give back to the community. Relay for Life is a wonderful cause, and Jodi felt called to help. In order to involve the entire West Hall community in the project, Jodi put a container at the front desk to allow all of the girls to donate and get involved. It is a great way for everyone to help, and once it is finished she is throwing them a pizza party.



Jodi (middle) spending time with friends.

Jodi always makes time for friends, many of whom are fellow West Hall residents. Despite all of her responsibilities she never forgets who her friends are and works hard to keep those bonds strong. She is confident of what is important in her life and has learned to not take things for granted.

### **The Final Destination**

One of Jodi's greatest desires is to make a difference in people's lives, which is why she is leaving Kansas State University at the end of this semester to pursue her nursing career. While her friends and colleagues at Kansas State University will miss her greatly, Jodi is going to impact peoples lives no matter where she goes. She will still be helping people, still be caring, and will always keep on trucking off the beaten path.

"My opinion of Jodi is one of respect and friendship. She's been one of the best and most efficient CA's here at West this year, that's for sure. Jodi is so likeable and nice to everyone, and I am positive that I am not alone in saying that she will be missed after she leaves K-State and West Hall!"

Jes Divine, West Hall President



**Error!**

Jodi smiling and showing  
her glowing personality

### **Comments from the people that know and love Jodi**

“My favorite memory of Jodi is when she demonstrated her newly learned hip-hop dancing moves in the lobby of west. She was so excited about showing her moves that she could not stop laughing. I really enjoyed watching her be herself.”

~Emma Goff, Secretary

“This year I have gotten the opportunity to see Jodi grow through her involvement in the residence halls. She has served the community as a community assistant and as house points chair. You can tell that Jodi enjoys being a community assistant. She is always cheerful and enjoys interacting with people at the desk. As house points chair, she helped make some changes to the house points system to make it more fair for all of the houses.”

~Julia Holman, RA

“Last year I was trying to sleep and my phone rang then someone screamed and hung up. At first I was confused. I thought that it was Erin Jones. I tried calling her but there was no answer. I tried to find Jodi, but she did not answer and her door was open. But I found out that it was Jodi and Erin, and since Jodi’s door was open I took her phone. They ended up chasing me around West until two in the morning”

~Rachele Harris, CA

“I am so blessed to know Jodi. I have seen her mature as a leader this year and count her as a dear friend. She has been incredibly dedicated to West Hall and always goes the extra mile, even you know when you know she has a million other things to do.”

~Stephanie Yeager, Chief Justice

Short Essay for Outstanding Service Award  
Jodi Roberts

From the first time she set foot in West Hall, Jodi has been an important and exemplary member of our community. She became involved with the Hepburn House sunshine committee during her freshman year and actively attended many hall activities and programs. In the spring of 2004 she was elected as West Hall's house points chair. She has continued to serve in that capacity throughout the year and has made numerous modifications and improvements to the house points system. In addition to house points, Jodi chaired West Hall's Pant the Chant committee for Homecoming, an event in which our pairing took home first place. She volunteered to help in the Fall Westival, West Hall's fall festival, and gave tours at Open House. Jodi spends much of her time at the front desk as one of our amazing, dedicated community assistants. Despite having a hectic class schedule as a biology major, Jodi has always found the time for hall activities and still has held on to a strong GPA. Although she will be leaving at the end of this semester to pursue a career in nursing, she has made a strong finish for herself at Kansas State University. For her extensive involvement within West Hall and the residence hall system, we nominate Jodi Roberts for the Outstanding Service Award.

April 9, 2005

Dear Outstanding Service Award Selection Committee,

It is with great pleasure that I recommend Jodi Roberts for the Outstanding Service Award. I have known Jodi for the past two years, first serving as her resident assistant in the Hepburn House (2<sup>nd</sup> floor) of West Hall, and then as an advisor to West's Hall Governing Board. Over the past two years I have had the privilege of watching her grow as a student leader in the residence halls.

Jodi started out like most residents do their freshman year. She settled into her room and into her classes. Then she started getting to know people. Jodi made several strong friendships on the floor, and still has these friendships today. She enjoyed her time in West Hall enough that she decided to return not only to the building, but also to the same wing for a second year.

Jodi became very involved her second year in West Hall. She serves as a spectacular Community Assistant. She is always very welcoming and helpful at the front desk. As a resident assistant, I interact on a daily basis with the front desk and it is always nice to have someone like Jodi there to help out. She also ran for and was elected House Points chair. Jodi worked hard the first couple of weeks of school to revamp the house points process and has put a lot of hard work into House Points and HGB as a whole. One of the main activities she undertook this year was being West Hall's Relay for Life captain. This involves attending several meetings and encouraging people to sign up and raise money. She volunteered for this position and the team will be ready come Relay for Life night at the end of April. Jodi has always been very willing and eager to volunteer for activities in HGB. Due to other commitments, our original Publicity chair and Social Programming chair have had to resign. Jodi has volunteered to help with several activities these people would have originally taken care of. She has put in a lot of work for HGB.

Jodi has worked very hard to make the most of her time in the residence halls. She has contributed a lot and will be missed next year as she makes the move off campus. For her commitment to West Hall and the residence hall system, I recommend Jodi Roberts for an Outstanding Service Award.

Sincerely,

Julia Holman  
Resident Assistant, West Hall