

Students describe the Tourism & Hospitality Society

Campus organizations provide a foundation for students' future careers

June 03, 2008

Duration: 3:19

Transcript

[K. Norris] My name is Kristin Norris, I am a faculty member in the Tourism, Conventions, and Event Management Department. By now the faculty advisor for the Tourism and Hospitality Society and my goal within this organization is to develop student leaders to get involved within the industry and different sectors in the industry, to promote educational opportunities and I use students as my somewhat guinea pigs sometimes. But it's a great opportunity to get involved, to show some leadership development, and at the same time to promote initiative and develop the program. Actually our club has been around for quite awhile, many years, however over the past few years it's just growing, because our enrollment in the program is growing as well.

[A. Leavelle] My name is Ashley Leavelle and I'm an officer with THS, the Tourism and Hospitality Society. THS is a social organization, and we really strive to allow students to have an opportunity to look into careers within our major and in the hospitality industry and network with a lot of professionals in the industry, so we have guest speakers and a lot of time to get to know the other students and people that they are going to be working in the industry with in the future. This semester we have about 20 members and our membership will probably increase to at least 30 in the fall. I am also a junior and my interest mainly lies in special events. I like the corporate holiday party type of events and tours of the city, I'm currently working with Accent on Indianapolis, our local DMC, to do their tours and events at different venues around the city and I'm finding it so wonderful to get to network with a lot of the professionals in Indianapolis.

[S. Gilligan] My name is Shaina Gilligan and I'm an officer in the Tourism and Hospitality Society. I'm a junior in the tourism convention management event degree and my career interest is in eco-tourism, just helping countries develop their tourism, so it's healthier for their environment and also in event planning, I would like to be a wedding planner and special event planner as well.

Our current plan for our society is to take educational and unique fun trips to different places where we can potentially use our degree, so we can learn about them, and we're also going to have fun there. Also, we want to volunteer so we can raise money to do these trips and to go on these unique excursions.

[K. Norris] Obviously big in Indianapolis and the amateur sports capital of the world, actually. It's a perfect place for us. Lucas Oil Stadium going in is also very big, potentially getting the SuperBowl bid for 2012 and looking into Olympics and potentially looking to Chicago in 2016. So those are my... I look in sports tourism when it comes to my research interests as well as any kind of hospitality and management principles as well.