

# Tina Burd



Tina Burd returned to UNC Charlotte in search of the “University” experience that she yearned for while taking courses at a community college. Interested in pursuing a degree in Political Science, she chose UNC Charlotte for the additional education she needed to advance her career at her current employer.

Tina recalled her experience as an Adult Student at UNC Charlotte to be great! Working full time during the day, Tina took most of her classes in the evening where she met many other “adult” students attending class in the evening as well. She recalls, “*I was usually the oldest person in the class, even older than some of the professors, but that did not stop me from making friends with students of all ages*”.

One of the resources Tina took advantage of was tutoring through the University Center for Academic Excellence. Since she had a six year hiatus between getting her Associates Degree and starting back at UNC Charlotte, tutoring helped her with the changes in writing term papers. The University Center for Academic Excellence provides both one on one and group tutoring, among many other services. Adult Students often find their tutoring, supplemental instruction, and workshops useful, and take advantage of their resources and others among campus. As with Tina, a lot had changed since she was in the classroom, so these university resources provided a great gateway for her to feel more comfortable in the classroom.

When asked about the initial transition, Tina explained her journey and who was there to help along the way:

“Transitioning to UNC Charlotte from a community college at my age was a little intimidating, anything new is scary, but it went well and I got into the swing of things quickly. My advisor was very helpful, and I utilized the Office of Adult Students to turn in paper work that needed to go to one of my professors that did not have evening office hours. It was very convenient and easy to use”.



We ask all of our success story features to share a word of advice for adult students who may be currently attending, or considering returning to school. Tina’s advice is wholehearted and inspiring. She believes,

“If you are an adult student returning back to school I say, GO FOR IT!!! I believe the experience I had going to school as an adult was more fulfilling than it would have been if I went right out of high school or shortly thereafter. I wasn’t afraid to ask questions of the professors, students and other faculty members as I may have been when I was younger. I also cared more about my grades and how well I was doing on tests and other projects which I know I never did while in high school. I am proud to say that with much hard work, I graduated Magna Cum Laude from UNC Charlotte!”

As a proud alumnus, Tina will now pursue higher level positions with her employer. Congratulations Tina!

OASES sends our congratulations to Tina and all adult students for persisting and graduating from UNC Charlotte! We hope you feel inspired and have enjoyed reading more about one of our many talented adult students. If you are interested in sharing your journey or success story with us, please visit: <http://oases.uncc.edu/student-information/student-success-stories>.