

WPCC graduate becomes president of Burke Chapter of international organization

Vondra Evans, a graduate of Western Piedmont Community College, has come a long way in four years.

As a single mother with three children, she graduated in the summer of 1997 from the College with an Associate Degree in Office Systems Technology.

It was during this time that Evans heard about the International Association of Administrative Professionals (IAAP), formerly known as Professional Secretaries International (PSI).

The International Association of Administration Professionals is a non-profit, professional organization with more than 40,000 members and affiliates and 700 chapters worldwide.

Its members include administrative assistants, executive secretaries, office coordinators, information specialists and related administrative professionals.

A member of the association came to address Evans' Professional Development class on the importance of IAAP membership.

Evans was "intrigued and thrilled to know there was an orga-

nization geared specifically toward the office professional."

When IAAP advertised that they were accepting applications for their annual scholarship award, Evans considered her financial need and her interest in the association, and applied for the scholarship.

Much to her surprise, she won.

She used the scholarship to finish out her last semester at WPCC and applied a portion of it to obtain membership into IAAP.

When Evans graduated with high honors in the summer of 1997, she was a bit worried about her minimal job experience and the idea of very few job prospects, but her affiliation with IAAP, along with her educational training, gave her the confidence to push through. Soon after, she was hired full-time at Western Piedmont Community College.

She is currently a Curriculum Division Assistant with the Humanities and Social Sciences Division at the College.

Her relationship with IAAP has gone from student scholarship winner, to member, to the current 2000-2001 President of the Burke County Chapter of IAAP.

Evans credits her professional growth to Western Piedmont for its continued support of the mission of IAAP, which gave her the confidence to overcome so many obstacles.



Evans