

Holly Logsdon

Class of 2014

**Creative Writing Major and
Professional Writing Minor**

By: Tyler Keeton

“Imperfections are not
inadequacies; they are reminders
that we're all in this together.”
— Brené Brown



Holly Logsdon graduated
from Western Kentucky

University in December of 2015. As any student would be ecstatic over his or her newly-acquired degree, the case was one step higher for Logsdon. This was her moment. As “A self-described older, non-traditional student with a full-time job and family,” obtaining a proper degree was a hard-won, lifelong dream of Logsdon’s.

The second biggest experience in Logsdon’s academic career was her experience in the Students Teaching English Paper Strategies Program, or [STEPS](#), under the supervision of Dr. [Rob Hale](#). STEPS is a site constructed for students, by students to assist with writing successful literature papers. STEPS assists students in identifying themes and literary devices within different texts, as well as helping construct effective thesis statements.

On her extracurricular time on The Hill, Logsdon says, “I wasn't able to get as involved with student activities as my younger classmates. I would have loved participating in the English Club or studying abroad or joining a writing group. On the other hand,

my children watched me set priorities, balance my commitments, and strive for excellence in every class, every semester.” Logsdon is extremely appreciative of “dedicated instructors,” like Dr. [Rigby](#), who taught her to craft artful and effective sentences, and Drs. [Jones](#) and [Rice](#), who equipped her with essential professional writing skills. Logsdon explains, “My WKU experience has been rewarding for both myself and my family, and I'm a proud graduate of the [English Department](#).”

Since 2009, Logsdon has worked full-time in the [WKU Office of Student Financial Assistance](#), where she specializes in FAFSA processing and verification. “Because I counsel families about student aid programs, create content for print and web publications, and review thousands of FAFSA applications and financial aid documents,” she says, “I use both creative and professional writing skills on the job. Students often tell me that I'm the first person to explain the financial aid process in terms they can understand, and their feedback motivates me to be an effective communicator.”

In finding a balance between personal and professional life, Logsdon is thankful for her family for being such a strong support system. She lives with her husband and two children, Ashley and Noah. Logsdon also devotes much of her free time in working towards publishing a memoir, which she is currently finishing. She also plans to develop a devotional series to inspire those around her. Since graduating in December, Logsdon is “enjoying the free time to read and write for pleasure.” She loves spending time with her husband and kids. “They were always supportive and encouraged me to stick with my goals and earn my degree, so we're celebrating the newfound freedom together.”