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## 'Queen of Night School' Renee Willis Completes Her MA

Metro's Renee Willis, left, and her daughter, Krystal, were a graduating duo this spring.>



By JIMMY STROUP

(June 21, 2007) Senior Administrative Analyst Renee Willis is the self-proclaimed "Queen of Night School."

She graduated from the University of Phoenix with an MA in Business Administration. Shortly afterward, her daughter Krystal graduated from Glendora High School.

Together, the mother/daughter combination put a cap on what's been a rash of graduations in the last few years for the Willis family. Renee also recently received her BA in 2005. Her husband, Larry, earned his MA in 2006.

"The biggest challenge over the last few years was the time spent tying up the computer, working out who gets to use it, when," Renee said.

Following her graduation from Glendora High, Krystal has entered the Summer Bridge Program at the University of California, Riverside, where she'll earn a few units of credit in math and English before she starts full time at UCR in the fall to study journalism.

The test of family, career and college together was one that Renee worked hard to manage over the last 13 years as she persisted through night school for her college degrees.

She was inspired to continue her education, though, prompted in part by a quote from Maya Angelou: "A woman who is convinced that she deserves to accept only the best challenges herself to give the best. Blessed are those who study, for they shall see their dreams come true."

Renee was also quick to point out that none of this would've been

possible for her without help from her supervisors, past and present, the folks on the 4th floor in Organizational Development and Training.

"The blessing is that Metro takes an active role in investing in the education of their employees," she said.

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