Rebecca Goetz earned an associate degree in interior design from IPFW in 1990 and decided to return to school and work on a bachelor’s degree to expand career opportunities. As a single mom, she enrolled in General Studies because of the program’s flexibility. She particularly enjoyed the online courses that made it possible for her to work two jobs and raise her family while completing her education as quickly as possible.

“I knew I needed, and wanted, to return to college to complete a bachelor’s degree. Yet knowing it would require a great deal of work, I was determined not to allow it to take too much time away from my work and family life,” Rebecca recalls.

She chose to enroll in classes year round. By adding one online course to each semester’s schedule and using her wireless laptop computer, she found that she could tap into lectures during her down time and complete her degree sooner. But the online aspect of the General Studies degree provided additional benefits. “By taking courses online, I increased and updated my technology skills, while feeling more comfortable utilizing software relevant to my job.”

Shortly after enrolling in General Studies, Rebecca was offered a part-time interior design position with Pizza Hut of Fort Wayne, Inc., which she worked while finishing her degree. Upon graduating with a B.G.S. in 2012, Rebecca was offered a full-time position with Pizza Hut and was promoted to chief interior designer in 2013 when the previous chief designer retired. “This all came about after sharing my success at IPFW. The combined added educational experience was the driving engine that cultivated the end result of a full-time position.”

REBECCA GOETZ • B.G.S. 2012
From single mom to chief interior designer