

# Title III, Closing the Education Gap

*People, Places & News*

Members of the Title III grant staff have relocated to the Goodpaster Building in room G101 and room G216. The grant team now also includes Jason Shields who will assist in the implementation of the AdvisorTrac program as well as other projects.

The College Drive Success Center, proposed as a part of the Title III grant, is located in G101 and will include space for academic advising, a transfer center, a career center, COMPASS testing, as well as Peer Mentor and Supplemental Instruction activities. Come see us in our new location!



The months of June and July were busy months for academic advising. On June 23, Dr. Susan Campbell, Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs at the University of Southern Maine travelled to ACTC to present sessions on Advising Best Practices as part of the ACTC Summer Institute. Faculty and staff attended the sessions providing favorable reviews. Included in Dr. Campbell's presentation were sessions entitled "Understanding Undecided/Exploratory Students" and "Academic Advising as Teaching." Advisors participated in interactive exercises to sharpen their understanding of the importance of the advising process.

In July, 20 CATS advisors, along with several Major Advisors had the opportunity to participate in the new advising process, presenting Information Sessions to new students, then following those sessions with one hour advising appointments, using the new advising model. To assist in these sessions, advisors received an Advisor Tool Kit filled with important advising information. Advising Tool Kits are available for all fall 2009 academic advisors. Approximately 235 new students were advised over five days in July. Also in July, returning students met with available advisors for "walk-in" advising and approximately 275 potential new students took the COMPASS exam. As you can imagine, Success Center staff, CATS advisors and Major Advisors were very busy in July.

## PEER MENTORING

Fall semester 2009, nine sections of GE 100, Introduction to College, will be offered in conjunction with Peer Mentoring. Ten Peer Mentors will assist students enrolled in the GE 100 courses, providing them with additional support and advice. The peer mentor function will support the new advising process by providing first time, full time developmental or undecided students with Peer Mentors who will assist those students in making career and degree plans. Peer Mentor training will be conducted on August 3 and 4 and the Peer Mentors will be prepared to meet with their mentees the first week of instruction. To learn more about the GE 100 class, or the Peer Mentor activity, contact Karen George.

## SUPPLEMENTAL INSTRUCTION

June 26, 2009 was a wonderful day of learning and practicing new and time proven techniques for supplemental instruction. Dr. Lisa Stout, Center for Academic-Development, University of Missouri-Kansas City, was onsite for our Supplemental Instruction Summer Institute. This translates to better interaction with our incoming students and the opportunity for them to receive quality supplemental instruction in some of their more challenging classes this fall.

Becky Gehringer will be hosting additional training for the SI leaders August 13 and 14. The training will reinforce the techniques learned during the workshop along with additional tools with which to help our students succeed.

*"Tell me, and I forget; show me, and I remember; involve me, and I understand." - Chinese Proverb*

### Title III Team

Steven Flouhouse, Project Director	326-2055
Karen George, Activity Director/Advising Specialist	326-2022
Becky Gehringer, Supplemental Instruction Specialist	326-2023
Jason Shields, Information Systems Developer	326-2090
Ella Smith, Administrative Assistant	326-2031