

#### Title III: Closing the Educational Gap

PEOPLE PLACES + NEWS

March, 2010

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# Academic Advising



During March the Advisor Update training was concluded, as advisors prepared to work with their advisees during priority registration. Workshop materials provided in the training included information about our new placement policy to be implemented fall 2010. You can access the materials in Blackboard in an E Community shell, ACTC Advisors. The training evaluation results revealed that a large majority of the attendees found the training to be beneficial. Specifically, those in attendance enjoyed the advising scenarios and have indicated a desire for additional opportunities to work with advising scenarios in future training. In response to the survey results, Jason Shields will be providing several mini-workshops on AdvisorTrac, beginning April 1 through April 16 on all three campuses. These workshops will address creating availabilities in AdvisorTrac and documenting walk-in advisees. Please contact Ella Smith (62031) for information or to register for one of the sessions. As a reminder, please be sure to provide availabilities in AdvisorTrac through the end of the semester and for the first two weeks in August before you leave campus for the summer. If you are available to advise during the following weeks in June and July, please contact Cris McDavid:

June 7-11 June 21-25 July 12-23



## Peer Mentoring & GE 100

Peer Mentors have been busy assisting their mentees with preregistration. Peer Mentors, working with students enrolled in GE 100, have introduced them to the Academic Programs portion of our ACTC homepage, where they download program checks sheets. Using those check sheets, the mentees then access the ACTC schedule of classes and create draft schedules which they take to their academic advisors. During this busy time, the mentors also provide their mentees with information designed to prepare students for final exams. The next few weeks will also include a career module and sessions devoted to creating academic, career and life goals. Volunteerism was addressed this past month as one group of GE 100 students prepared a basket for auction at the annual Hope's Place fundraiser at the Ashland Town Center Mall. Mentees and mentors donated candy, toys and school supplies to create two large baskets that were auctioned on Saturday, March 26. Unexpectedly, this project became an excellent team building exercise that the students will long remember.

Look for a Peer Mentor/Supplemental Instruction table during the Spring Fling April 12-14!

For additional information, visit the Peer Mentors on Facebook.



**GE 100 Peer Mentors** putting together their *Hope's Place* basket. Mentors from left to right: Heather Phillips, Heather Sherman, Eliza Lee, Bill Gallaher, Michael Bates, Wayne Warren, Sammie Sorrell, not shown Jeanette Wyrick.

See article under News & Events on the ashland.kctcs.edu webpage.



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### Online Orientation

On March 30 and 31, the new online student orientation was rolled out for new students enrolling for summer sessions. The orientation is available online for not only students who don't need to come to campus for COMPASS testing but also for those who do come to an in person orientation. This orientation familiarizes new students with our homepage, providing them with information about our services, programs and policies. Peer Mentors, trained to facilitate the orientations, will be assisting throughout the remainder of this academic year and over the summer. Approximately 60 orientations are scheduled to accommodate the influx of new, reentering and transfer students expected for summer and fall semesters.



# Supplemental Instruction

During March the Supplemental Instruction leaders participated in a lunch and learn session presented by Karen Coburn entitled "Understanding the Brain: Learning and Communication Styles". The session is designed to help one to understand their thinking process and in return how they communicate with others, based on that process. Every opportunity to learn new communication techniques will serve the leaders well in their S.I. sessions. In real estate it may be location, location, location, but in Supplemental Instruction it's communication, communication, communication!

Preparations are also in the works for the upcoming Spring Fling to be held during April. The Supplemental Instruction leaders will be sharing a table with the Peer Mentors during this event, so come by and visit us on April 12, 13 or 14!

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



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