

Title III: Closing the Educational Gap

PEOPLE PLACES + NEWS

Academic Advising

On August 12th, nine new faculty members attended Academic Advising training which provided them with information about what their advisees experience prior to meeting with an advisor, expectations of the advising visits and follow up for their advisees. Included in the training were explanations of the placement policy, the initial advising interview as well as the use of PeopleSoft to identify advisees and assist them in registering for classes. All of the participants agreed that the workshop provided useful information and strategies, while also indicating that additional training would be helpful. Currently plans are being formulated for advisor training specifically as it relates to PeopleSoft and AdvisorTrac. Suggestions for training topics are welcome and should be submitted to Karen George. Thanks for your continued support of academic advising at ACTC.

Peer Mentors



During the first couple of weeks of instruction you may have noticed large groups of students walking together to the library, or perhaps smaller teams of students roaming the hallways looking for specific college services. These students were participating in library visits and scavenger hunts as part of the GE 100 and GE 101 classes in an attempt to familiarize themselves with college services. This semester, the GE 100 Introduction to College classes and the GE 101 Student Success courses include peer mentoring designed to ensure that students are familiar with college services available at ACTC as well as our academic programs and our college website. In addition, students will learn how to be successful not only with regard to academics, but also in choosing a career and life path. Twenty sections of GE 100 and GE 101 with peer mentoring serve approximately 688 of our new, developmental and/or undecided students this semester. Combined with the services provided through Supplemental Instruction, it is clear that our students are being provided with supplemental services designed to ensure their success

Supplemental Instruction

Eleven students attended a two day training session on "Becoming an SI leader". The training was on Thursday and Friday August 12-13 from 8:30 to 2:00. The SI Leaders send many thanks to the Community and Technical College Foundation for helping us with a light breakfast and lunch both days. We would also like to thank Professor Wendy Fosterwelsh, Dr. Mary Cat Flath, and Professor Warren Howard for serving as guest lecturers during our training. We welcome new SI leaders Whitney Martin, Chris Mays, Olivia Black, Iesha Houston, Sarah Klein, Amy Lawson, and John Bowden. We welcome back SI leaders Trina Bayless, Josh Scaggs, Melinda Johnson, and Dave Pack. The latter four SI leaders will serve as mentors to our new SI leaders.

SI sessions are underway. Students enrolled in the following courses may attended Supplemental Instruction sessions: ART 100, BIO 137 & 139, MT 55, ENC 090 & 091, ENG 101 & 102. Students who attend SI sessions will learn how to combine learning the material with great ways to study and retain what they learn.



SI leaders are receiving additional training in our Friday weekly learning sessions. Our SI mentors will moderate some of these Friday sessions. SI Leaders learn and practice new skills that prepare them to be better students and better workers when they finish their college career.



Title III Independent Evaluator Visit

The Title III Grant Evaluator, Anne Farmer, was at ACTC College Drive Campus to visit on Wednesday, September 1st. She spent the day reviewing the Grant operations and evaluating the progress of the Peer Mentor and Supplemental Instruction programs. She also checked the compliance of the Title III Staff and activities.

People, Places and Things

Several S.I. Leaders and Peer Mentors are volunteering and giving back to their community. Josh Scaggs, Betsy Ferguson, and Jessica Null are participating with the I Believe Foundation's Fall Soccer League. The I Believe program is a non-profit foundation dedicated to providing a learning, fun and therapeutic environment for children with disabilities. The Foundation helps adapt everyday activities and sports to include children with physical and / or social-emotional disabilities. These students will assist soccer coaches on the field during games. Other volunteer opportunities with I Believe will be available later in the year.

Additional volunteer activities are available to students. The Peer Mentors and S.I. Leaders have also expressed interest in working at the annual Hope's Place Murder Mystery Dinner theater. These students will work as set up crew, hosts/hostesses, and food runners. Hope's Place is a children's sexual abuse advocacy center that serves the FIVCO District. The Murder Mystery Dinner is their largest annual fundraiser. The dinner will be held in late September.

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







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