Dear Colleagues,

Welcome back to a new semester! I hope that you all had an enjoyable winter break and took the opportunity to spend some quality time with your families and friends.

Wow, where has the time gone and what an incredible year it has been since the Center’s opening a little more than a year ago! I would like to take a moment to thank the faculty and staff who have paved the way to make the Learning Center possible. I appreciate your hard work and dedication. Together we have created a structured learning environment to support the conditions in which students learn best.

As always thank you for your unwavering support of the LC. We look forward to continuing to work with your respective departments in establishing programs to ensure that our students are thriving academically. Feedback and suggestions are always welcomed. Please let us know how we can better meet your needs.

Jennifer Mendoza, Ph.D.
Director, Learning Center

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**SMARTees**

**Student Mentors Assisting Relevant Transitions**

S.M.A.R.T. is a peer mentoring program designed to provide first-time students guidance from successful continuing students. S.M.A.R.T.ees assist their mentees by providing information about college resources and sharing insight about how to succeed in college.

The application for continuing students to become S.M.A.R.T.ees will be available beginning January 14 and should be returned to the LC for consideration by February 25, 2013.

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Important Dates</th>
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<tr>
<td>Financial Aid outreach</td>
<td>January 14</td>
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<tr>
<td>Math tutoring begins</td>
<td>January 28</td>
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<tr>
<td>Motivation &amp; Goal Setting Workshop</td>
<td>January 29</td>
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<tr>
<td>Full tutoring schedule begins</td>
<td>February 4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Learning Styles &amp; Study Strategies</td>
<td>February 5</td>
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<tr>
<td>S.M.A.R.T.ee applications due</td>
<td>February 25</td>
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Click to hear student voices
Student Success Workshops

Once again the LC will be sponsoring a series of workshops to assist students with academic and personal success.

⇒ Motivation & Goal Setting
⇒ Learning Styles & Study Strategies
⇒ Managing Your Time
⇒ Classroom Success
⇒ Preparing and Performing on Exams

See the LC event calendar on our website for dates and times.

Welcome Aboard

Our student assistants in the LC have done a great job helping students and assisting staff members. Most of them are returning for the Spring 2013 semester. We welcome one new member of the team: Rhandle Valete. You will be amazed at his energy! Additionally, last semester we added the entire Peer Tutor team to our LC family. Such talent! Such graciousness!! Such skill!!! We are totally blessed, and invite you to send your students to receive assistance.

Get Connected with LearnSmart

In today’s technology-driven world, a 21st century learning environment does not need to be a physical space but can take place virtually or remotely. Here in the LC we have set up an online support system to accommodate the unique learning needs of every learner. The CSM Learning Center Resources Across the Curriculum Portal was developed to help students learn faster, study more efficiently, and retain more knowledge in the following subject areas: American Government, Biology, Chemistry, Economics, English, History, Math, Physics Prep, and Psychology. LearnSmart-Connect software quickly connects students to the resources key to their success. The result is a reinvented learning experience rich in information, visually engaging, and easily accessible.

CRLA Certification

GOOD NEWS! The LC Tutoring Program is now certified by the College Reading and Learning Association (CRLA). CRLA Tutor Program Certification offers numerous benefits to CSM students. Our qualified-well trained peer tutors help students become independent learners, better understand the course material, and increase self-efficacy. Tutors are trained to create a positive learning experience, to clarify content, and to help students to attain higher academic achievement.

Fall 2012 Tutoring Data

- Eighty-two percent of students demonstrated an improved understanding of their course subject matter after tutoring.