



LEARNING

Fall 2012

CENTER CHRONICLE

News from your on-campus community for academic support

Message from the Director

Dear Colleagues,

First and foremost, welcome back and best wishes to all of you for the coming year. I hope that your summer vacation provided some respite from the hectic activity of semester's end and that you are returning refreshed and ready for the fall term.

As we begin the term, I would like to thank all of you for your continued support of the Learning Center (LC). The LC staff is committed to the success of CSM students and proud to offer quality programs to meet their academic needs. We are and will continue to be a collaborative environment, serving as a bridge to close the gap between student and instructor expectations. For this dynamic to occur, one must have a staff that is both dedicated and conscientious.

Let me take a moment to introduce our amazing Learning Center team. Ron Andrade serves as the LC Program Coordinator and is responsible for the coordination of the Mentor Program and Summer Bridge Academy. Our Instructional Aide, Pepper Powell assists in the coordination of the Tutoring Program and helps to maintain the day-to-day operation of the Center's services. On the floor assisting Pepper are our wonderful student assistants (SAs).

Last, but certainly not least, our partners and beloved faculty and staff from the Communication Studies Center: George Kramm, Yaping Li, Kate Motoyama, and Instructional Aide, Michael Manneh.

Jennifer Mendoza, Ph.D.

Student Success Workshops

The Learning Center will be sponsoring a number of workshops to assist students with achieving academic and personal success. Workshop topics include:

- Learning to Learn
- Strategies for Classroom Success
- Time Management
- Taking Effective Notes
- Preparing and Performing on Exams

Workshops will be held on Tuesdays and Wednesdays throughout the semester. Please see the LC website for details on day and time.

LC Brings Tutoring Programs to Campus

Commencing this fall, the Learning Center will offer CSM students free tutoring in a variety of subjects: Art History, Biology, Computer Information Science, Chemistry, Economics, History, Math, Nursing, Physics, Political Science, Psychology, Sociology, and Statistics. Tutoring is available by appointment and on a drop-in basis. This includes both individual and small-group tutorial sessions, led by academic-peer tutors! Appointments can be made online through WebSMART and in person at the Learning Center. To see when drop-in tutoring is available for a particular subject, please go to the CSM Learning Center website.

Building Bridges

Over the summer term the Learning Center kick started a renewed Summer Bridge Academy program. The program was targeted towards incoming students who placed below MATH 120 or ENGL 100. The participants came to campus every day for two weeks and received an extensive introduction to CSM support programs and services. This new group of Bulldogs also received assistance and counseling on college success strategies including managing time, planning for their academic success, and navigating the “CSM system.”

Did You Know... “The California Community Colleges is the largest provider of workforce training in the state and nation.”
-California Community Colleges
Chancellor’s Office

The LC is...Helping Faculty to Help Students

Many of the resources housed in the CSM Learning Center, like test proctoring, are designed to help faculty directly. A student can make up a missed exam in a supervised setting. Find information and a proctoring request form on our Faculty Services page.

As always, students benefit from the support the LC offers: Student Success Workshops, group study rooms, Mac and PC computers with software available for CIS, DGME and assistive technology needs. The new lab for Communications Studies is in full swing, with four recording booths, local instructional technology, and instructional staff. ESL holds their weekly conversation partners here every Monday and Wednesday, and the Honors Program is represented in the LC with information and forms available at the front desk. Additionally, Financial Aid representatives are on-site four days a week to assist students who are applying for the FAFSA.

New for fall semester the LC will have one of CSM’s wonderful counselors available on Thursday afternoons to provide **counseling support** for students. Also in the fall semester we will have a variety of **textbooks on reserve** which students can access within the LC. If any faculty wants to add a book to our reserve please feel free to drop off a copy. Look for the upcoming **peer mentoring program** to debut in Spring 2013. Just email us we are here to help!

Learning Center, College Center Building 10, Room 220 (650) 574-6570
collegeofsanmateo.edu/learning_center

What Can We Do for You

As we all know, the student assistants on campus often know more of what other students need than we ever will! And we are fortunate to have a really terrific crew of committed, welcoming students staffing the Learning Center.

Many of our student groups are represented – for instance Willie Mays (a younger version) plays for the CSM football team. Janice Ho and Christine Ramirez are both part of AGS. Keisa Havili and Jeff Stanley are new to our team and like our most seasoned SAs, Precilla Del Rosario, all possess the warmth and fine attitude we want in all our student assistants.

Each is great with technology, understands WebSMART and WebACCESS, and is polite and helpful, respecting the entire campus community.

Student Voices

“Maybe some tutoring services for basic skills subjects, such as math and English-maybe science.”

“Everything is going great right now, looking forward to coming in daily.”

“Great work/study area”

