WRITING CENTER OPEN HOUSE

On August 15th, the Academic Success Center (600 S. Blount St.) will be hosting an Open House for the Writing Center and Tutorial Services.

In addition to getting snacks and door prizes, visitors will be able to meet the new Writing Center Tutors, take a tour of our redesigned space, and register for the center.

The Open House will run from 10am to 2pm and 5pm to 7pm. Classes are welcome.

QEP PILOT

During Spring 2013, five English 110 classes took part in a pilot Writing Lab. These classes met once every week in the writing center for small group work.

Pre- and posttests showed growth throughout the semester, and a final portfolio demonstrated students' proficiency in content development, organization, style, conventions, and revision. 84% of students scored proficient or higher in their ability to develop content.

Here are a few comments showing what students enjoyed the most about the Lab:

- I LOVE Peer-review!
- The personal attention
- One on one time with the tutors
- The group activities involving writings and picking them a part
- Working on my thesis statements, making them stronger and revising papers

Fifteen ENG 110 classes will be participating this fall.

WRITING CENTER PHILOSOPHY

Conferencing, not instruction, is the work of a writing center. In order to prepare writers for whatever types of written communication they are asked to produce, consultations and workshops focus on skill development. The main emphasis is on higher-order skills, such as thesis development, organization, and use of the writing process. After major issues are addressed, skills such as grammar and mechanics are developed.

Writing is power, whether it is the power to secure employment, or the power to bring out emotion in a reader. Giving students the ability to grasp that power and project their authentic voice into whatever mode or genre is called for is the ultimate objective of the writing center.
Mervin Davis is a second year graduate student from the Bahamas. He is currently majoring in Education, so tutoring is basically second nature to him. He loves to impart knowledge into developing college students. While working in the corporate world, Mervin realized that he had a higher calling to reach out towards people by helping them academically. As a result, he now is part of Shaw's Master's Education program. After he graduates, he plans to earn his doctorate degree in order to become a college professor. At 27 years old, Mervin started to volunteer at religious institutions as an elementary tutor. During his years as a volunteer tutor, he developed a strategic way to relate information to diverse students. He has a passion for helping people as a whole, but is very intentional and impactful during his one-on-one tutoring sessions. Mervin anticipates enhancing the writing ability of many students this year.

By Abiodun Busuyi

SPOTLIGHT ON TUTORS

Abiodun Busuyi is truly a friendly and approachable guy; he is presently studying to achieve a Bachelor’s in English and plans to attend seminary. AB, as he prefers to be called, feels that his purpose is to impart scholastic knowledge, and he aspires to be an English instructor as well as fulfill a spiritual call to the clerics. AB is culturally rich with his paternal heritage from Africa and his maternal heritage from Jamaica. AB never really saw himself as a tutor, but was always prudent in his personal scholastic endeavors; his prudence was noticed by students and instructors alike, who requested that AB assist some of his fellow students. Though reluctant at first, AB agreed to impart his scholastic knowledge and best practices for student success; this begun AB’s journey as a tutor. Personally, I would refer students to seek out AB at the Writing Center and I guarantee you would not regret your visit.

By Mervin Davis

WRITING CENTER SERVICES

We offer 30-minute individual consultations for faculty, staff, and students focusing on

- Brainstorming
- Revision suggestions (from content development to sentence structure)
- Editing techniques
- Incorporating research
- Thesis development

We also provide a comfortable space to work—at desks, tables, or on the couch.

We take Walk-ins or Appointments

schedule at http://shawu.mywconline.com