

SUMMER - FALL 2009

Special Services Welcomes its Newest Faculty Member Michael Hoggatt

Learning Disabilities/Adapted Computer Technology Instructor

Mike graduated from Cal State Long Beach with a Masters in special Education and he also received a Masters in Public Policy from National University. Course subjects that Mike will be teaching include Math, Reading, Writing, and Adaptive Computer classes. Mike has extensive experience working with adult learners from various backgrounds and experiences with a variety of learning disabilities. His experience includes work with both the collegiate level as well as in social and human services. He is highly skilled in various learning strategies, assistive technologies and alternate media for learners with various needs. Mike is thrilled to be able to join the Special Services Team at Saddleback College to assist students with disabilities succeed at their college goals. Welcome Mike!



Michael Hoggatt
Learning Disabilities/Adaptive Computer Instructor

Special Services Coordinator “Budget Cuts: What does it mean for you?”

Welcome to the latest edition of the Special Services Newsletter. I want to give you some important information regarding the impact of the State Budget Reductions. These impacts will affect all disabled students who need educational accommodations. Categorical funds for Disabled Student Services was cut 16% by the State. In order to meet the budget demands, Special Services has had to reduce its costs. This means that:

- There will be fewer counseling appointments available for you. If you want an appointment for academic, personal or disability management, please make an appointment as soon as possible. (cont. p. 3)



Ardith Lynch,
Coordinator/Counselor
Special Services

Alternate Media

- Audio Books
 - Kurzweil 3000 books
 - Large Print
 - Assistive Listening Devices
- Explore the possibilities!
Contact Mike Sauter
Alternate Media Specialist
582-4249

Learning Disabilities: Overcoming Its Challenges

Dr. Kim d' Arcy

The Learning Disabilities Program is one of the special services offered at Saddleback College. The program is designed to provide learning disabilities assessments, evaluation and specialized support services to students who meet program eligibility requirements. The expected goal of participation in the program is to enable students to successfully complete academic courses, which may ultimately lead to the accomplishment of realistic academic goals.



Things to do as the Fall Semester Begins

Don't Forget to Notify Your Instructors of your Testing Accommodations

Once you are registered for the Fall Semester visit the DSPS Testing Office in Library 320 and sign your Instructor Notification Request Form or visit us at our web site <http://www.saddleback.edu/dsps/> and download the request form!

Important Dates

Instruction Begins
Aug 24

Labor Day observance
Sept 7

Last day to drop without a "W" grade
Sept 25

Last day to drop Fall semester classes with a "W" grade
Nov 5

Last day to apply for Fall graduation
Nov 1

Veterans Day observance
Nov 13

Thanksgiving Day observance
Nov 26-29

Final Examinations
Dec 14-20

Remember to Sign Your Annual SEC

All students enrolled in Special Services are reminded that they need to sign a new Student Educational Contract (SEC) for the academic year 2009-2010 in order to qualify for support services, including priority registration and authorized academic accommodations. It's very important to sign this form annually if you plan to use support services from Special Services. If you're not sure if you signed a new SEC, please stop by the Special Services office.

Need Alternate Media?

Once you are registered for classes come into the Special Services office and schedule an appointment with the front desk to see Mike Sauter for all of your Alternate Media needs. Call the front desk at (949) 582-4249 to make an appointment.

Available Programs in the Adapted Computer Access Lab

Kurzweil 3000 JAWS
MS Office Internet Explorer
Zoom Text Inspiration Dragon
Naturally Speaking

And more, and more, and more...!



Dr. Kim d'Arcy, (right).
Learning Disability Specialist
Takes a spontaneous moment for a candid shot with Aida Hobbs.

More than 2.6 million students have a learning disability and are receiving support services within the educational system, this represents about 45 percent of students with disabilities nationwide (www.IDEADATA.org). In spite of at least average intellectual ability, students with learning disabilities may typically demonstrate significant difficulties in one or more of the following areas: Reading, Mathematics, Spelling, Written Expression, Verbal Expression, Attention and Concentration, Auditory and Visual processing, and Planning and Organizational Skills. Learning disabilities may make it difficult to develop academic and/or social skills. According to the Title V regulations which govern the California Community Colleges, students with learning disabilities are eligible for support services as long as they demonstrate average to above average intellectual ability, severe processing deficit, severe aptitude-achievement discrepancies, and at least average achievement in an instructional setting. Once eligible, students may receive support services such as, and not limited to, testing accommodations, alternative media formatting, note-taking, and case disability management. The process for determining eligibility for learning disabilities services requires completion of an application to Special Services, an intake, assessment of intellectual ability and

(Cont. page 3)



- Accommodated Tests and Alternative Media: Likewise, if you need of either of these accommodations, then you need to see Sylvia Mejia (Ac. Test) or Mike Sauter (Alt. Media) as soon as you know you need either a test accommodation or a book transferred into an alternative form. It may take some time to schedule you for a test or finish a work request. Hours of availability have been reduced.
- If you need interpreters, see Sylvia right away for scheduling. Waiting too long might hinder the ability to secure an interpreter.
Please know that we do everything we can do to meet your educational accommodation. However, your active participation to get these matters handled in advance is absolutely necessary. Wait time will be necessary to fulfill all projects, etc.

(LD: Challenges cont.)

basic academic skill levels, and an interpretation of test results. It is during that interpretation appointment that the students' strengths and weaknesses are discussed and program eligibility is determined. The students' overall progress and educational goals are routinely evaluated each semester.

For Further Information Contact:

Special Services
Room 113
(949) 528-4246

Learning Disabilities Specialists:

Dr. Kim d'Arcy
Diane Crary, MA

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