

## **Academic Support Center**

### **Newsletter**

### *The Path To Academic Success*

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### ***LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR***

#### ***Changing It Up!***

Recently I was given the assignment to revise the mission statement for the Academic Support Center. I was frustrated at the thought of sitting at my desk and struggling with words. I had all the same reactions that any student would have mid semester! "I'm too busy." "What do other tutoring centers have for mission statements? Maybe I'll just borrow one online and turn it in!" However, I took a breath and made a plan.

The approach to homework assignments can be as big a deal as what is finally turned in to the teacher. Most of us have a tendency to "do" our work the way we've always done our work. This can get so routine and boring! Changing up the approach to completing homework can become the necessary ingredient to success.

I decided to change my approach to writing the department mission statement. The first step I took was to meet with my staff to discuss the assignment. An hour later it was clear that the six of us needed more time. One suggestion was to work as a group online using Google Docs. This tool, though new to most of us, allowed my busy staff to contribute to the creation of the ASC mission statement within a two week period. We not only accomplished the task, but we got to spend time together and we learned a new tool. The assignment that I originally dreaded turned out to be a fun experience.

#### ***ACADEMIC SUPPORT CENTER MISSION STATEMENT***

The mission of the Academic Support Center (ASC) is to provide a full service testing and tutoring experience that cultivates student success.

The ASC is comprised of a dynamic collection of dedicated educators who strive to enhance the learning experience and academic and professional achievement of HCC students through comprehensive services which include:

- Testing Center  
Provides placement, computer literacy, makeup, CLEP and DSST testing.
- Tutoring Center  
Provides one-on-one, drop-in, group, and online tutoring in most subject areas.
- Writing Across the Curriculum Center (WACC)  
Provides one-on-one writing tutoring to students in all subject areas.

By fostering a supportive environment, the ASC strives to inspire students at every level of preparedness to advance, to excel, and to reach their fullest potential.

## Spring is in the Air

Wow, I can't believe it's March, and we are almost two months into the spring semester! Spring is a pleasant season that signifies rebirth and growth. It's a season when we enjoy warmer days full of energy.

This spring semester we have experienced tough weather conditions which resulted in several cancellations. Many students, as well as faculty members, have fallen behind and have increased their pace trying to make up for the missed classes. Students might feel overwhelmed and stressed out. Some students are struggling to keep up with the pressure of the extra work and assignments.



Fortunately, tutoring can help! At the Academic Support Center, we have designed a tutoring program that meets the various needs of different learners. The one-on-one in English and most subject areas, drop-in math, mega Chemistry, group study, and online tutoring are all valuable tools which assist students of all levels to reach academic success.

Come down to the Academic Support Center and take advantage of all our free tutoring services, rich resources, and enjoy a brighter and less stressful spring semester!

**Aliss Obeid**  
**Tutoring Coordinator**



## WRITING ACROSS THE CURRICULUM CENTER

@  
The academic support center

From a blank page to a finished draft, the Writing Center tutors can help you develop a paper throughout every stage of the writing process. We look forward to making your writing experience both positive and rewarding.

### HOURS

Mon – Thurs: 9 am – 7 pm / Fri 9am – 4 pm

Please make an appointment. L H B116,  
or call 203-332-5019. Drop-ins are also welcome.

### WORKING ON A WRITING ASSIGNMENT?

HAVE A QUESTION?

DROP BY AND SEE US.

in BEACON HALL, Second Floor Lounge

Mon—Thurs: 11:30 -12:30 am & 3-4 pm



### Online Tutoring

@  
[www.etutoring.org](http://www.etutoring.org)

HCC students have access to free online tutoring, and each student has an established account. To get started so to: **etutoring.org**

**eTutoring:** *Easier Than Ever*  
*One Program — Three Options*

♦ **eWriting**— Submit your paper to our *Online Writing Lab* for suggestions on how to improve your work.

♦ **eChat**— Work online, one-on-one, with a live tutor in Math, Accounting, Biology, Chemistry, A & P.

♦ **eQuestion**— Leave your *eQuestions* for a tutor's response anytime, day or night.



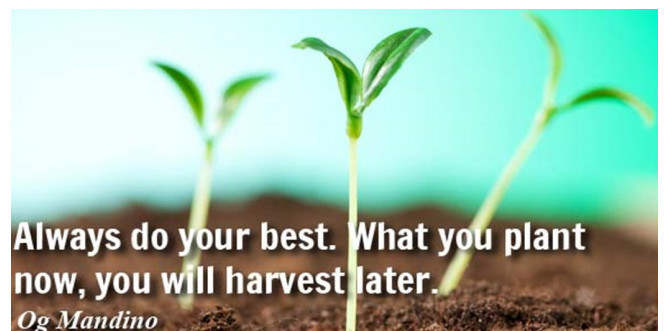
## Tips for Success

**Definitely**, every student strives to succeed academically. Academic success, as seen by many, is maintaining a satisfactory GPA, earning a degree, getting admitted to a graduate program, and finding a good paying job. Well, academic success is more than that; it's also developing lifelong skills which become personal qualities. Here are some tips to not only help you to achieve academically, but also to help you cultivate effective skills:

- 1. Goals--** Set up clear academic and future goals for yourself. Be proactive and work towards these goals with a positive attitude.
- 2. Attendance--** Avoid missing classes or being tardy . If it happens, then check with your instructor or classmates about the materials and topics covered, and make up the work immediately.
- 3. Discipline--** Every day dedicate few hours for studying, be strict with yourself and balance between studying and personal life and responsibility. Take action and be in charge of your own work without procrastination or relying on others.
- 4. Organization—** Keep the syllabus for each class in your book bag. Buy enough folders, binders, post it notes, and note books. Have a planner, electronic or old-fashioned note pad, and write down any coming up assignments, test dates, and appointments.
- 5. Persistence--** If you struggle in a subject or class, don't quit, keep trying. Try different study strategies, use the various resources available for you on campus, and never hesitate to ask for help.
- 6. Time Management--** Prioritize your time and divide it wisely between work and personal life. Establish a system to keep track of completion dates and deadlines for assignments. Schedule enough time to study for each class and assignment.
- 7. Preparedness--** Come to class prepared and ready to participate. Do your homework on time, read the assigned work before class, and write down questions and notes for discussions.
- 8. Partner/Group Studies--** Team up with classmates and form a study group. Find a study partner for each class. Working with peers enhances learning and helps promotes people and teamwork skills.
- 9. Communication--** Communicate regularly with your instructors, advisors, counselors and peers. Do so verbally in person or by phone, and in writing via emails, notes, or letters. Communication helps to gain more knowledge, and cultivate your people/communication skills.
- 10. Integrity--** Be authentic and true to yourself. Plagiarism is an academic violation with severe consequences that may range from getting zero on the assignment to be expelled from a program or the college.
- 11. Active Learning—** Be an active learner instead of a passive one. In class, listen attentively, participate orally, speak in a loud clear voice, ask questions, and interact in discussions.
- 12. Technology—** In the digital age, technology is crucial to both academic and professional success. Work on developing computer skills, keyboarding skills, Microsoft office, and use the Black Board.

**Aliss Obeid**

**Sources:** *opportunity.org, students.ucsd.edu, wpi.edu, dcccd.edu*





## ***Empowering Women - Empowering Humanity: Picture It!***

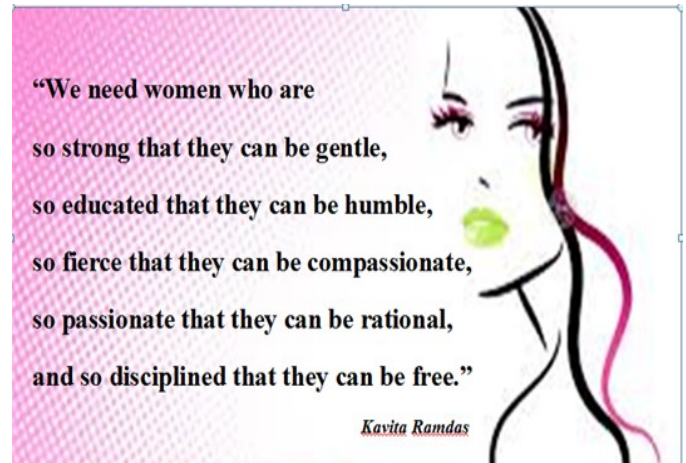
International Women's Day (IWD), celebrated every year on March 8, honors the accomplishments of women around the world and calls for greater equality. March 19, 1911 marked the first IWD, a day where women's rights were finally recognized after decades of struggle. Since then, women have gained greater economic, political and social rights.

However, according to a recent report from the United Nations: "There is no single country in the world where women have achieved full equality and full enjoyment of their rights." Thus, the path to achieve complete gender equality still requires plenty of effort.

***Make It Happen*** is the 2015 theme for IWD, it calls for:

1. Greater awareness of women's equality.
2. More women in senior leadership roles.
3. Equal recognition of women in the arts.
4. Growth of women owned businesses.
5. Increased financial independence of women.
6. More women in sciences, engineering, and technology.
7. Fairer recognition of women in sports. \*

Whereas women in most parts of the world are still fighting to gain basic rights, women in the US had been more successful in closing the "gender gap." The Women's Rights Movement in the United States achieved major changes in the status of women in the last 50 + years.



Women	1960	2015
Women with Four Years of College or More	6 %	32 %
Female College Athlete	1 %	43 %
Women in the Workforce	38 %	60 %
Ratio of Median Earnings	0.61 %	0.77 %
Women in Congress	2 %	20 %
Female Governors	0 %	10 %
Female State Legislators	2 %	24.5 %
Women in Corporate Leadership Positions	0 %	5.2 %

According to a study in 2011 in the *Newsweek*, the United States is ranked among the top ten countries in terms of women's rights and life quality. However, American society still need to overcome many challenges to fully close the gender equality gap.

Aliss Obeid

**Sources:** \*[internationalwomensday.com](http://internationalwomensday.com), [un.org](http://un.org), [census.gov](http://census.gov), [wikipedia.org](http://wikipedia.org), [unesco.org](http://unesco.org).





## Sudoku

1	6		9	2	5	3	7	
			8					1
2	5	3	4	7			9	
4		7	2				1	
				6				
	1				9	5		3
	8			9	7	4	6	2
9					2			
	2	4	6	1	8		3	9

## Jokes

**Doctor:** Do exercise daily for good health.

**Patient:** Sir i play football, cricket, tennis daily.

**Doctor:** how long do you play?

**Patient:** until d battery in my mobile goes down!!

www.Olaalaa.com

## 10 FUN FACTS

1. You can't wash your eyes with soap.
2. You can't count your hair.
3. You can't breathe through your nose, with your tongue out.
4. You just tried no. 3
6. When you did no. 3 you realized it's possible, only you look like a dog.
7. You're smiling right now, because you were fooled.
8. You skipped no. 5
9. You just checked to see if there is a no. 5
10. Share this with your friends to have some fun too! :-)

## Cryptoquote

### He Ought to Know

*Secrets to success revealed by someone who followed them.*

Q = T

QUALL BALDQ LYYLCQODSY QP DKUOLML

DCTQUOCB JPAQUJUOSL DAL, IOAYQ, UDAW

JPAZ; YLKPCW, YQOKZ – QP – OQOMLCLYY;

QUOAW, KPHHPC YLCYL.

---QUPHDY LWOYPC



Sources: word-game-world. Google.com, websudoku.com

**Laughing is the best medicine.**



**But if you're laughing for no reason, you need medicine.**

## Meet the Spring 2015 ASC Tutors



### Accounting

**Robin Dilg**

### All Sciences

**Victor Martinez**

**Arian Pagan**

**Karen Vo**

**Kyle Zander**



### ESL

**Beth Deshotel**

**Robin Dilg**

**Gigi Yanez-Hamberger**

### Foreign Languages

**Arabic: Driss Mellouk**

**French: Driss Mellouk**

**Spanish: Driss Mellouk**

**Gigi Yanez-Hamberger**



### Computer Science

**Jiyan Bedawi**

### Math

**Sheila Anderson**

**Ernst Angrand**

**Theodora Benezra**

**Betsy Bonini**

**John Curly**

**Jesse Eles**

**Kevin Fontan**

**Doran Lewis**

**Lamar Lloyd**

**Tajan Marshall**

**Tyler Mokarry**

**Miyanda Mudingayi**

**Marina Philips**

**Richard Rizzi**

**Karen Vo**



### English and WACC

**Lee Bayousik**

**Pat Beers**

**Ed Bloom**

**Eleanor Bloom**

**Betzabeth Castro**

**Morgan Dancy**

**Elizabeth Deshotel**

**Ed Fians**

**MaryAnn Landino**

**Sherly Montes**

**Alvado Morgan**

**Karyn Smith**

**Victoria Tomis**

**Eileen Williams**

**Cynthia Wolfe Boynton**

