



# Student Support Services Newsletter



August 2007

## Student Highlight: Michele Topping

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**Important Dates**

- \* August 8— Last day of Summer Semester
- \* August 13— Summer Semester Grades Posted
- \* August 20— Financial Aid Suspension and Credit Extension Appeals Due
- \* August 23— Academic Suspension Appeals Due
- \* August 27— Student Support Services Retreat
- \* September 3— Labor Day Holiday, campus closed
- \* September 4— Fall Semester Begins

Michele Topping, a nursing student who plans to continue her education at UNC, says that she was scared when she first started classes at Aims. It had been a while since she was in school and she wanted to do well in her classes. Michele has done this in part by building a relationship with her tutor and asking for help in her most difficult classes. She has tutored with Christina Gasaway for Chemistry 101 and 102, Anatomy and Physiology, and Phlebotomy.



Christina and Michele take a break from tutoring during finals week.

Michele and Christina agree that they key to academic success and valuable tutoring sessions is hard work. Michele says that all the extra effort is worth the hard work, especially when Christina notes that

Michele started tutoring sessions with a blank stare and

somewhere in the middle a bright light turned on.

How did Michele find this light? She schedules study time at Aims into her week to make sure she gets everything done. Since she also has a family, she wants to do her work here at Aims and spend quality time with her loved ones at home. Michele keeps her family included in her education by cele-

brating her successes with them and showing them an example of good study habits.

Finding creative ways to vary study methods has also been helpful for Michele. She records lectures so that she can listen to them in her car or at home while doing dishes. Using multiple senses at a time, she has also recorded herself saying the functions of cell types and listens to this while reading aloud and looking at the material in the book. Highlighting different concepts in different colors has also been a way to add variety and increase memory. Sometimes Christina will use a model skeleton in order to vary the ways Michele learns parts of the body.

Michele and Christina approach tough problems with creativity and multiple perspectives. Their love of learning is clear and it's a joy to see the laughter they add to all the hard work.

## Student Support Services Retreat

The Student Support Services Retreat will be here soon! **The retreat will be on Monday, August 27 from 8:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m.**

We will begin the day with a delicious breakfast and time to catch up with fellow students. The workshops for the morn-

ing will focus on academic success, tutoring, mentoring, and financial aid. We will also give you a schedule of the semester's events including workshops, classes, and campus visits.

*We are giving each student who attends a flash drive and*

*we will have a drawing for 3 \$100 gift certificates to the bookstore!*

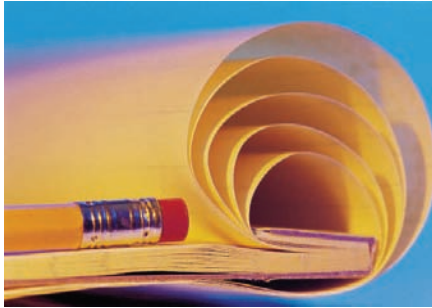
We look forward to kicking off fall semester at this exciting event! To RSVP, please call Frances Hernandez at (970) 339-6372 or e-mail her at: fran-



## Tutoring Corner

Fall is right around the corner and soon you will be starting a fresh new school year with a brand new class schedule. Right now, before you attend your first fall semester class, is the best time to schedule a tutor!

If there is a subject that you are concerned about, whether you have had a difficult time in the past or are worried about taking it for



the first time, let us know! We can schedule a tutor for you to start the first week of classes and you can have tutoring 1-3 hours per subject per week.

If you're ready to sign up, call Kim Wallin or stop by the office to fill out a purple tutoring request form.

To schedule your fall tutor, call Kim Wallin at 339-6383 or e-mail at [kim.wallin@aims.edu](mailto:kim.wallin@aims.edu).

## Tutor Tip

**Start tutoring before you get behind in class.** It is much easier to keep an A in a class than to pull up an F to a passing grade. If you don't have questions right away for a class, tutoring time can still be valuable. A tutor can go over the syllabus, give you ideas on creating study guides, talk in general about what you will be learning, and give you tips for homework and test taking specific to that particular class.

*This tip brought to you by Christina Gasaway.*

## Campus Construction Report

Two new buildings, Allied Health and Aviation, and one remodeled building, Ed Beaty, will make the Aims campus an even more beautiful place to take classes, meet with study groups, and make new friends. Construction on these campus projects is nearly complete, but may still be in progress on the first day of classes.

If you have a class that does not have an assigned room yet, check your schedule

online right before classes start to find out where you will be meeting. If construction is not complete on a building where

**Can't find your classroom? Let us know and we'll help you out!**

you have a class and you are confused about where to go, please know that there will be Aims employees all over campus

who have the latest information and there will be signs posted on each building with the most updated information.

If you cannot find your classroom on the first day of school, please feel free to stop by the office and we'll do our best to direct you!

## Register for Fall Semester

Have you registered for Fall Semester yet? The semester is approaching quickly, but there's still time to put together a schedule of classes. If you are planning to attend Fall Semester, now's the time to sign up!

The Student Support Services staff will be around all summer, so make an appointment with your advisor to go over your fall schedule as soon as possible! Remember, our office will be open Monday-



Thursday, 7:00a.m.-6:00p.m. until August 16 and Monday-Friday, 8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. beginning August 20.

If you have any questions about your schedule or registration, please call your advisor! If you would like to make an appointment with your advisor, you can also call Frances Hernandez at (970) 339-6372 or e-mail her at [frances.hernandez@aims.edu](mailto:frances.hernandez@aims.edu).

## Fall Semester Academic Calendar

Here are some important dates to mark on your calendar!

**August 24** — First 25% of tuition and fees due (unless you are on financial aid) or you will be dropped from classes

**September 3** — Labor Day Holiday, campus closed

**September 4** — Fall Semester Classes Begin

**September 19** — Add/Drop Deadline for full-term classes

**October 5** — Second 25% Tuition and Fees Due



**October 22-26** — Midterms

**November 2** — Final Tuition and Fees

Due

**November 26**— Withdrawal Deadline for full-term classes

**November 21-23** — Thanksgiving Holiday, campus closed

**December 21** — End of Fall Semester

**December 24-28** — Christmas Holiday, campus closed

**January 1** — New Year's Day Holiday, campus closed

**January 14** — Spring Semester Classes Begin

## i Focus Workshops

This year we will again be offering the i Focus workshop series. Starting off the series will be "Orientation to your Online Class." This workshop will be held on the **Greeley** campus on Wednesday, September 5 at 4:10-5:00pm and on Thursday, September 6 at 2:10-3:00pm in Horizon #342. On the **Loveland** campus, it will be on Monday, September 10 at 1:10-2pm in room 107 and in **Fort Lupton** on Monday, September 10 from 10:10-11:00am

in room 113. If you are taking on online class, we highly suggest that you attend one of these workshops.

We will have schedules of all workshops on all three campuses printed and ready to go before fall semester begins. We will also

e-mail a complete schedule to you.

Remember, all i Focus workshops count toward the two activities you need to be eligible for the Student Support Services grant. Hope to see you at the workshops!



## Office Hours Update

Summer office hours will soon be over and fall hours will start up again. Beginning August 20th, Student Support Services will return to a Monday-Friday 8:00 a.m.— 5:00 p.m. schedule.

While we are here nearly every day, there will be times this fall that the office will be closed. We will be **closed** on August 30th from 8:00



a.m.—1:00 p.m. for a staff event. The office will also be **closed** on October 1-3 all day.

We look forward to you seeing you in the office this fall!

## Discounted Groceries!

"If you eat, you qualify," is the motto for SHARE Colorado, a non-profit food network where you can order groceries each month at reduced prices. SHARE has a list of packages or individual items each month that you can order and pick up at designated places around northern Colorado. To find the closest location or to order online, go to: [www.sharecolorado.com](http://www.sharecolorado.com). For the month of August, order food online by the 17th for pickup on the 25th. Questions? Stop by the office and we can show you the website and how to order!

## SSS Student Support Services

Aims Community College  
5401 W. 20th Street  
Horizon Hall #344

Phone: 970-339-6372  
Fax: 970-506-6937

**We're on the web!**

<http://www.aims.edu/student/>

The Student Support Services (SSS) program provides opportunities for academic development, assists students with basic college requirements, and serves to motivate students towards the successful completion of their postsecondary education. The SSS program may also provide grant aid to eligible SSS participants who are receiving Federal Pell Grants. The goal of SSS is to increase the college retention and graduation rates of its participants and facilitate the process of transition from one level of higher education to the next.

Services provided by the program include:

- Instruction in basic study skills
- Tutorial services
- Academic Advising
- Assistance in securing admission and financial aid for enrollment in four-year institutions
- Information about career options
- Mentoring

**Direct financial assistance (grant aid) to eligible SSS participants who are receiving Federal Pell Grants.**

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## Your Student Support Services Staff

### **Director:**

Therese Lask  
970-339-6273

### **Academic Advisor:**

Natalie Nelson  
970-339-6554

### **Tutoring and Mentoring**

#### **Coordinator:**

Kim Wallin  
970-339-6383

#### **Staff Associate:**

Frances Hernandez  
970-339-6372