



# Student Support Services Newsletter



December 2007

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## Important Dates

- \* December 11— Student Support Services Holiday Party
- \* December 21— End of Fall Semester
- \* December 24– January 1— Holiday, College Closed
- \* January 7— All Financial Aid appeals due
- \* January 14— Spring Semester 2008 begins



## Tutoring Corner: Meet the Tutors!

If you haven't met the following wonderful tutors, you haven't been in the drop-in labs. This month's highlighted tutors are people who have been an active part of the Academic Resource Center for multiple semesters. We are very fortunate to have such a dedicated and talented group of people available.

**Pasquale D'Angelo** won't be found in the drop-in labs as he works one to one with students on Spanish and Italian. Pasquale attended college in Spain and Italy and is always willing to teach about the culture as well as the language. If you are considering taking either language go ahead and give it a try as Pasquale is ready to help you.

**April Eggers** is ready for math, physics and inorganic chemistry. She is an Aims alumnus and is currently attending CSU. April is an avid reader and would recommend the funny book, Cheaper by

the Dozen for a break from textbooks. April believes reading your textbook is of vital importance - even if you



don't understand everything you read the first time.

**Jayleen Gilkey** enjoys tutoring English, reading, study skills and for the Early Childhood program. Jayleen attended Aims, the University of Northern Colorado and The University of Cincinnati. She believes in being a lifelong learner and is currently enjoying her tap dancing lessons. Jayleen recommends using colorful markers and drawing

diagrams to help retain information as memory experts have found that creativity increases the likelihood of retention.

**Evelyn Goddard** is glad to help with questions relating to English, reading and writing skills. The Harry Potter series has kept Evelyn occupied during her rare leisure time. In addition to

tutoring, Evelyn teaches reading classes. She has learned to be organized to juggle her busy schedule and recommends planning ahead for her students and tutees. She says don't wait until the last minute to write your papers and do your homework everyday.

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## Spring Semester 2008

Spring Semester 2008 is quickly approaching!

The first day of classes is Monday, **January 14, 2008**. The add/drop deadline for full semester classes is **January 30**. The first 25% of tuition is due **January 7** and all financial aid suspension and credit

limit appeals are due **January 7** as well.

If you have not registered yet for spring semester, call your advisor and set up an appointment to look at your schedule.

Sign up for classes now to be sure you get the ones you want at the times that work for you!

To make an appointment with your advisor, call Frances Hernandez at (970) 339-6372, Therese Lask at (970) 339-6273, Natalie Nelson at (970) 339-6654 or Kim Wallin at 6383.

## Tutoring and ARC Hours

Do you have some last-minute questions for your tutor? Does your final paper need one last editing before you turn it in? Make sure you know the hours for the Academic Resource Center (ARC) and tutoring, both one-on-one and drop-in!

Talk to your one-on-one tutor if you would like to meet with them during finals week. Hours are not necessarily scheduled unless you plan ahead with them and schedule a time that works for both of you.

Drop-in labs will be open regular hours until December 21, 2007 and will be closed until classes begin again on January 14, 2008.

Let us know if you have any questions! We wish you the best during finals week!



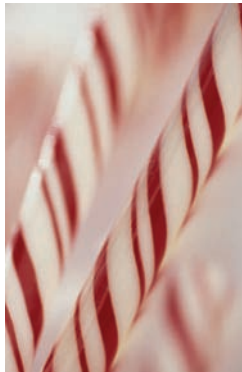
## Letters to Soldiers

Amanda Watkins, a member of Student Support Services, has “adopted” a group of nine members of the Army and is looking for your help! She said their most requested item is letters from people as this particular group is without family and misses communication from people. Amanda is looking for people who would be willing to write to one person once each month. She will also be sending packages each month to this division. If you have magazines, candy, puzzle books, or donations for shipping she would be happy to have your support on this project. You can contact Amanda at (970) 214-0062 or awatkin1@aims.edu.

## Holiday Party

Fall Semester 2008 is almost over and it's time to celebrate!

Please join us for our annual Holiday Party on **Tuesday, December 11, 2008 from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.** The party will be held in our office, Horizon Hall #344.



We will have all kinds of snacks, desserts, and hot drinks for the party. If you would like to bring a dish to share, we welcome trying all sorts of holiday treats! If finals aren't leaving you any time for baking, stop by and grab some food to reenergize your brain!

We look forward to seeing you there!

## SSS Office Hours

The Student Support Services office will be open during our regular business hours, 8:00 a.m.– 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday, until December 21st. We will, however, be **closed on Tuesday, December 18th** for staff development.

We will reopen again and continue with our regular hours on Wednesday, January 2nd, 2008. See you in the New Year!

## Study Groups: Not Just For Math by Kim Wallin

Research shows that one of the best ways to increase the amount of information you remember is to “teach” the information to someone else. The best way to do that is by studying with one or two other people. As you study together there will naturally be times when you are able to explain an idea or work a problem that the others in your group cannot.

As your group discusses the lectures,

review your notes and create practice tests. Your understanding of new concepts will grow and become more firmly embedded in your memory. Another advantage is the connection you make with others who are interested in the same subjects you are.

If you are interested in starting a study group for spring semester I would be glad to assist you. I have information on the how to get the most out of your

study group from setting it up to studying for finals.

I will have information available December 11<sup>th</sup> at our great Holiday Party or you can stop by my office M/W/F between 8:00 and 2:00 or Tues/Thurs between 11:00 and 5:00. To set up an appointment call 339-6383.

## Tutoring Corner: Meet the Tutors! (continued)

**Judy Grady** likes to tackle physics, inorganic chemistry, algebra, trigonometry and calculus. She attended Sacramento State College and the University of Wyoming where she honed her math skills. Judy enjoys listening to music to stimulate her mind and relax while reading. Judy believes the most important “secret” to being a successful student is attending class every time.

**Cathy Heise** can be found in the writing center Monday through Thursday. Cathy encourages students to come to the center early and often as the creative process takes time. Cathy attended the University of Delaware where she truly came to appreciate the written word. One of her favorite examples of well crafted writing is “The Long Walk” by Slavomir Rawicz. When not busy in the center you will find Cathy busy with her family and friend enjoying the great Colorado outdoors.

**Carol Kelly** wants to make sure every student can be successful. She tutors reading and English as she believes a strong foundation in the fundamentals will help a student throughout their entire college career. Carol developed her love of reading and concerts at Mason City Junior College in Iowa.

**Carol Lower** makes accounting and business math less intimidating and easier to understand for students. She believes an organized step by step approach can make even the most difficult concepts manageable. Carol calls the University of Nebraska her alma mater. This Cornhusker likes to play tennis, walk and garden.

**Judson A. McDowell** can make sure students understand arrays, pseudocode and algorithms development. He’s our resident expert on computer information systems and computer science. Jud became computer literate at Michigan State University and New York University. He even lists computer programming along with travel and woodworking as a favorite leisure pastime. Jud is another fan of the Harry Potter series. I have to admit that programming a computer seems like a magical ability to me.

**Bobbie Miller** enjoys math and music and learned about both of them at Colorado State University. When Bobbie isn’t playing violin she can be found with a good book in her hand. Bobbie believes that reading the next section will help you notice and focus on terms and concepts during an instructor’s lecture.

**Dave Olson** is our own Renaissance man. He enjoys learning in multiple areas and can tutor math, statistics, economics, physics, inorganic chemistry, astronomy and French. Dave believes that learning how to learn makes for a better student and a better future employee. He developed a love for the outdoors while attending the University of North Dakota and Colorado State.

**Veronica “Nike” Rovero** has lived in several countries but now spends her time in the math lab ready for your math, science, history and EMT questions. We are extremely fortunate to have Nike lead our Guided Study math groups as well. Nike attended Colorado School of Mines and Boston University. She enjoys reading, traveling and spending as much time as possible with her family. Her wonderful laugh is capable of banishing even the

worse case of math fear.

**Joann Vollmer** enjoys English composition and can explain the mysteries of grammar making her a valuable member of the writing lab team. Joann has a degree in Theatre from Colorado State University and her Masters from Fort Hays State University in English. Joann loves to read, to walk and to work on her golf game.

**Eric Westerman** is found at the Loveland campus where he tutors writing and math. This Colorado college graduate loves crossword puzzles. Eric strongly encourages his students to ask clarifying questions about all of their assignments. Take the time to write down the answers with so many things to remember it’s too easy to forget what you were told!

Next time you meet with one of the great tutors here at Aims, take a minute to tell these extraordinary people thank-you.



## 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  
970-339-6654

### **Tutoring and Mentoring**

#### **Coordinator:**

Kim Wallin  
970-339-6383

#### **Staff Associate:**

Frances Hernandez  
970-339-6372