



SSS Student Support Services Newsletter



December 2008

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Important Dates

- * December 2 and 3— Graduation Fairs
- * December 6— Photos with Santa
- * December 12— Last Day of Fall Semester
- * December 22-26, January 1-2— Holiday, Campus Closed
- * January 12— Spring Semester Begins

Good Luck, Diane!

Diane Filipe will be graduating from Aims with her AA degree this December and begin her classes at UNC in January.

Diane plans to earn a Bachelor's degree in psychology and work as a counselor. Diane has been an active member of Student Support Services. She is one of the original members of the Helping Hands Club and a frequent attendee at iFocus workshops. She gathered information about UNC from the transfer fairs and learned more about herself from Myers Briggs and Strengths Quest. Diane is also an accomplished member of the Ceramics club.

She managed to do all of this and maintain a very respectful GPA of 3.3.

Diane is the first to tell you that she did not accomplish all

of this without help and encouragement. She gives credit to the Director of the Colorado Center for the Blind, Julie Deden, who helped her

of Aims as contributing to her success, in particular: Randy Boan, Rita Clark, Dr. Alan Obert, Tim Preston, Dr. Sarkis, Jim Stone, Kim Wallin, Dr. Shawna Washam, and her math tutor Nike.

Diane is a great example of what can be accomplished with hard work and determination. We asked her to share some tips for success.

1. Sometimes you just need to keep your mouth shut and your brain open and take in everything you can.
2. Always arrive to class early. Do not put all of your belongings away to leave just because the clock says it is time to leave class. You never know what information you might pick up during the last seconds of class!

Good luck at UNC Diane. We know you will be successful in all of your future endeavors.



Diane Filipe with her advisor, Kim Wallin

believe that anything is possible, her Voc-Rehab counselor Joe Hintz, and her mom and grandma. Diane wanted to include the staff and faculty



In Remembrance

The end of the semester is always a time of remembering; remembering if we have any outstanding assignments, remembering where our library books are located and remembering the material for finals.

As this semester draws to a close we, the staff of Student Support Services, would like to take time to remember two students from our program that passed away, Dominic Salazar and James Melton.

Dominic Salazar's conversations were filled with his love of music. He was interested in finding a career that would incorporate that passion and allow him to making a good living. It makes sense that Dominic would take audio production

classes while at Aims. Dominic's desire to be successful was fueled by his love for his young son. Dominic managed to touch an amazing number of people during his life and that is truly the measure by which success should be judged.

James Melton was a modern troubadour. James loved stories and songs and was happiest when he could brighten someone's day with a fantastic tale. James' life hadn't always been an easy one, but he was not one to complain or look back with regret. He shared heartfelt snippets from his life and the morals he had learned. James had the amazing ability to find wonder and beauty in the most ordinary things, liking making

cookies with his granddaughter. His family was a source of great joy to him and he was very proud to be attending school with his daughter and son-in-law.

While Dominic and James never met they had much in common: a love of music and family, the desire to know more about the world and a belief in education. They will be remembered with fondness.



Dominic Salazar



James Melton

Important Graduation News!

Congratulations graduates! It's time to start thinking about celebrating your big accomplishment!

Aims Graduation Ceremony will be on Friday, May 8, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. It will be located at the Island Grove Regional Park Event Center and tickets will not be required for your family and friends to attend.

There will also be two graduation fairs for

students who have applied for graduation on December 2 and 3, 2008 at 10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. and 4:00-6:30 p.m. in the College Center Lounge. Students will be able to order caps and gowns as well as purchase



other graduation items. More information will be sent to graduates in a letter, but if you have any questions please call (970)339-6450.

ARC End of Semester and Holiday Hours

The Computer Learning Lab in Horizon Hall will be open for normal operating hours on Friday, December 12, from 7:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. If you will be taking a test in the lab, please make sure to arrive early enough to allow sufficient time to complete your test by 5:00 p.m. Tests cannot be started after 4:00 p.m.

The Academic Resource Centers on the Loveland and Fort Lupton campuses will also be open for normal operating hours on Friday, December 12. Loveland will close at



7:30 p.m. and Fort Lupton at noon.

All labs will be closed for normal business from December 13 through January 11, and will reopen for the spring semester on Monday, January 12.

Santa's Coming to Town!

Bring your camera and your smiles for this FREE opportunity to sit on Santa's lap! Children and pets are welcome on Saturday, **December 6, from 10 a.m. to noon** at First National Bank, 1701 23rd Ave.

You can take all the photos you want, so don't forget your camera! In the spirit of holiday giving, please bring a canned food item to benefit the Weld County Food Bank.



For more information, call Student Life at 339-6563. Sponsored by the Associated Students of Aims Community College and First National Bank.

Graduation Party

Please join the Student Support Services Office to celebrate and congratulate Natalie Nelson on completing her Master of Arts degree in Educational Leadership and Policy Studies. Celebrate with us at an Open House in the Student Support Services Office (Horizon 344) on Friday, December 12 from 2:00 p.m. until close.

Awards Reception

To honor all students receiving the Student Support Services grant in Spring Semester, we will be having an Awards Reception on **Friday, January 9 3:30-5:00 p.m.** at the Corporate Education Building Room #129.

Students receiving the award have worked hard to keep up their grades, be an active member of Student Support Services, and participate in learning opportunities on campus.

All award recipients, Student Support

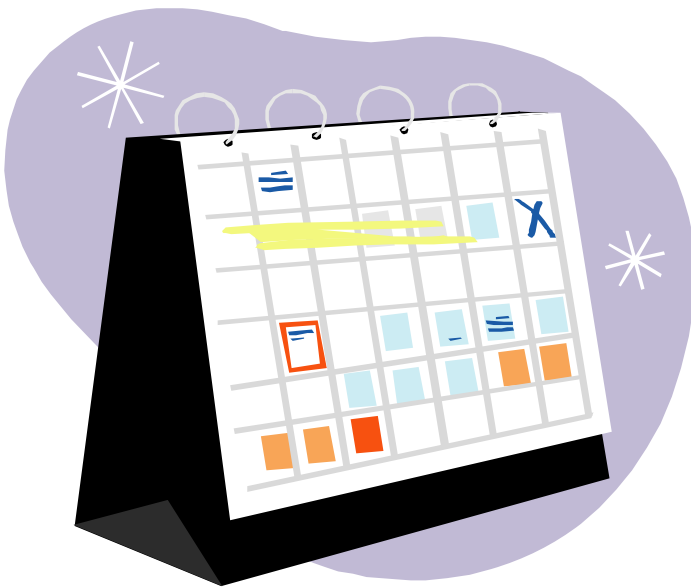
Services Students, families, and friends are invited to celebrate this achievement.

Questions? Please contact Frances Hernandez at (970) 339-6372 or frances.hernandez@aims.edu.

Student Support Services Helping Hands Club Page

Spring Semester Meetings

Helping Hands Club would like to invite you to attend meetings in Spring Semester. The schedule is all set, so get out those planners and mark the meeting dates! All meetings are held at 1:00 p.m. in the Student Support Services office, Horizon 344. The club will only be successful with your participation, so we look forward to seeing you at meetings in spring!



Spring Semester 2009 Meeting Dates:

- January 16
- January 23
- February 6
- February 20
- March 6
- March 27
- April 10
- April 24

**All meetings are in the Student Support Services office (Horizon 344) at 1:00 p.m.*

SSS Student Support Services

Aims Community College
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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.

Your Student Support Services Staff

Director:

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