

DASS

# Disability Accommodations & Success Strategies

Located in the A-LEC



### **TOPICS**



- FINALS-LAST CALL
- TIFFANY SUNDAY'S VISIT
- THERAPY DOGS
- SUMMER LETTERS

Tiffany Sunday is an author, conference speaker, and entrepreneur. She is internationally known for her book *Dyslexia*'s



Competitive Edge and 2015 TEDx Talk Dyslexia 2.0: The Gift of Innovation and Entrepreneurial Mind. Her third book, How Dyslexics Will Rule the Future, will be published later this year. For more information about Tiffany's books, visitwww.tiffanysunday.com.

### PAWS and take a break

We don't have a date and time yet, but be on the lookout for information on visiting therapy dogs on campus during finals week!



## FINALS AT DASS



Certain time slots are no longer available!

If your professor wants you to test at DASS for finals, you need to schedule the final using our Online Scheduler as soon as possible. The deadline to schedule is 4/30/18. If you need to take the final at a different time than the class (only for valid reasons), you MUST get written permission from your professor and forward the email to DASS. We cross-check them all and could cancel your reservation if you haven't gotten permission. Please don't wait to tie up these details until the week of finals, that causes lots of stress for you and others.

### VISIT from TIFFANY SUNDAY, SMU Alum

On April 18, DASS's student organization for students with dyslexia and ADHD, *Students for New Learning*, welcomed internationally known lecturer, author, and SMU alum Tiffany Sunday, for a fireside-style chat.

She began by directing the students, "Look around you. Everything you see in this room started as someone's idea." Tiffany then asked students to identify their "thing," that being what they've always, even as child, loved to do and done best. From there, the interactive and lively discussion shifted from developments in assistive technology, to quantum computing, to automation of jobs. Through it all, she returned to a common thread - the central role of creativity and creation to the happiness of those with dyslexia.

Sharing historical and personal stories helped students to see that success is exhilarating, but that failure is how we truly learn. Tiffany also challenged them to focus on their talents, gifts, or strengths, not weaknesses or shortcomings. She drove home the point that those who learn and think differently aren't "broken" and therefore don't need to be "fixed," but instead should be recognized and employed for their unique cognition.

Companies began years ago hiring students on the autism spectrum for their unique traits and talents, but recently, major corporations, especially engineering, tech, marketing, and communication companies have begun to actively look for new hires with dyslexia. Tiffany presented the students with a long list of these employers, including Ford, Audi, Apple, Roche, AT&T, Texas Instruments, and Lockheed-Martin. These companies offer careers that tap the skills that people with dyslexia tend to have in abundance: identifying patterns, using intuition, and thinking forward, differently, and outside the box. They are looking for employees with ingenuity and are finding them in those with dyslexia.

Her final advice to the students referenced Winston Churchill, himself a dyslexic, "Never, ever, ever give up."



**Don't forget!** Request your accommodation letters for MayTerm and Summer 1 & 2 NOW! Pick them up before the end of the semester. You want to email your instructor to give them a head's up regarding your accommodations.

# **ACT NOW!**