



Altshuler Learning Enhancement Center

AccessAbility

THIS ISSUE:

- PHILLIP SCHULTZ APPEARANCE
- CONGRATS TO ALEXA !!
- EXTRA MILE NOMINEES
- KEEP YOUR COOL
- "WISE" WORDS

VOTE



Vote for up to three of the following faculty members who were nominated for the Extra Mile award.

Extra Mile Award Nominees

- Liliana Hickman-Riggs (Cox)
- David Crow (Dedman)
- Joci Caldwell-Ryan (Dedman)
- Carolyn Barta (Meadows)
- Tony Pederson (Meadows)

We need your votes by
March 22!
Send to alexat@smu.edu

KEEP YOUR COOL WHEN GETTING FEEDBACK



Harvard Business Review offers some tips that may help when getting feedback from professors on papers, tests, or classroom performance. While no one likes getting criticism, everyone can improve. Next time you receive constructive feedback, do these three things:

PHILLIP SCHULTZ IN METROPLEX:



A recent article in Plano Profile focused on the author Phillip Schultz, who wrote My Dyslexia. In his memoir, he reflects on his dyslexia, a lifelong disability that was not diagnosed until late in his adulthood. He didn't learn to read until age 11.

Students, parents of dyslexic students, and teachers have the opportunity to hear Schultz discuss his learning difference and how it affected his life. The days, times, and locations will be:

March 5, 7:00 p.m. Collin College Preston Ridge Campus, 9700 Wade Blvd. Frisco (Conference Center)

March 6, 7:00 p.m. Collin College Spring Creek Campus, 2800 E. Spring Creek Parkway, Plano (Living Legends Conference Center)

March 7, 1:00 p.m. Collin College McKinney Campus, 2200 W. University Drive, McKinney (Conference Center)
This event is free of charge.

- ◆ **Relax.** It's understandable to be nervous during a feedback session. The other person holds all the power. Accept this imbalance and be easy on yourself.
- ◆ **Expect to be surprised.** You're likely to hear something that you weren't aware of. Perhaps something was a bigger deal than you thought, or something you thought was resolved wasn't.
- ◆ **Don't be defensive.** Even if you disagree, hold your tongue. Instead of defending yourself, ask questions. Once you've cooled down, you can always follow up.

CONGRATULATIONS, ALEXA!!

Alexa Taylor, DASS's Team Leader, was recently given the 2013 President's Continuing Excellence Award. One of the five President's Staff Recognition Awards, this award highlights the University employee who shows

- * Significant impact on the University through demonstration of competence, dedication, outstanding performance, problem solving, customer service and ingenuity
- * Contribution and demonstrated commitment to the University's core purpose and values
- * Exceptional ability to foster collaboration, communication, and cooperation among colleagues and University constituents
- * Performance at a level above and beyond job requirements

DASS and the SMU community are so lucky to have her extraordinary leadership

Also, Alexa will be having a baby at the end of this month. She will be on maternity leave for a couple of months, so stop by to see her and convey your good wishes.



SNL Meeting



February's meeting was eventful, with our guest from Biology, **Prof. John Wise**. As a past **Extra Mile Award** winner, he has shown great sensitivity to students with disabilities, and shared his perspective with the group on 2/27.

Here is some of his advice: *"Don't hesitate to use your accommodations, it is your right. Don't be aggressive about it, but be assertive."*

When asked if he expected students with accommodations to have more trouble in his class, he said *"I don't think they will perform worse or better than anyone else. Every student is different."*

Prof. Wise really understands the need to teach to all types of learners, and is willing to put in the time during office hours as well to work with students. Thank you for your time, Prof. Wise!