



Altshuler Learning Enhancement Center

AccessAbility

THIS ISSUE:

- FINALS
- BECCA'S RETIREMENT
- MAKING A DIFFERENCE
- ALEXA TAYLOR
- EXTRA MILE VOTE
- WRITING HELP
- REGISTRATION
- VOLUNTEER

SCHEDULING FINALS



We hope you have already discussed plans with your professors for how and when you will take your final exams this May. If your professors and you determine that you need to test with DASS, be sure to call Candy to schedule your exam(s) no later than **April 23rd!** Please be considerate! Don't schedule with DASS and then not show for your final exam; doing so wastes the time and efforts of many people during what is an incredibly busy time.

BECCA'S RETIRING

After 15 years of working in SMU's disability services office, Becca Marin has decided to retire this July. Becca directed the office for 12 years until she started working part-time three years ago. She's excited by the way the department has blossomed under Alexa Taylor's leadership, along with the specially talented additions to the staff.



She's loved knowing and working with the students and the DASS and LEC staff, but wants to make time to pursue other interests. Please do stop by or drop her a line to send your good wishes. If you have questions about whom to see after Becca leaves, please contact Candy (214-768-1470) who can direct you to the new Coordinator.

DASS STUDENTS

MAKING A DIFFERENCE

Since January, DASS students have participated in successful campus outreach efforts. **The DASS Ambassadors**, a volunteer group of students willing to share their time and insights with prospective students, have met with students and families during campus visit days. These informal 1:1 visits allow prospective students to ask questions about campus life and accommodations in a friendly setting. These meetings have generated high praise for our DASS students and interest in SMU enrollment from many prospects. In January, two DASS students presented to the Dallas Dyslexia Information Group at The Winston School in Dallas. Virginia Hadley and Morgan Bufkin spoke about "The Journey Through College for Students with LD/ADHD" to an audience of educators, students and parents. Their presentation was stellar, and many guests remained afterwards to ask them questions.

If you would like to participate in DASS community outreach efforts, please let us know by emailing dass@smu.edu. We'd love to have you join in these efforts!

WRITING HELP at the LEC



If you have LD issues that impact your writing and have used the Writing Center and LEC writing tutors but need more help, please speak to a DASS staffer.

REMINDER

Alexa Taylor will be on maternity leave starting at the end of this month. For assistance in her absence, contact Candy who will put you in touch with the appropriate DASS staff person .



SUMMER/FALL REGISTRATION April 8-26

The Registrar's office will soon email undergrads when enrollment appointment times are available in Access. Meanwhile, be sure to update your personal info in Access, and clear any holds to your registration as soon as possible; *students will NOT be able to enroll until holds that block enrollment are cleared.* Also, be sure to schedule an appointment and meet with your academic adviser to discuss your counselor for the summer and/or fall semester.

CAST YOUR VOTE

We need final votes for the Extra Mile Award to recognize faculty members who have "gone the extra mile" in working with students with learning differences! Please vote on those nominated, or submit your own nomination to Alexa Taylor at alexat@smu.edu by noon on March 25th:

Joci Caldwell-Ryan (Dedman)

Carolyn Barta (Meadows)

Tony Pederson (Meadows)

EQUEST:

If you are looking for a fun and rewarding place to volunteer to help people with disabilities, then you should check out Equest! It is one of the largest therapeutic riding centers in the nation. You don't need to be a "horse person" to participate. This facility is very easy to work with and open to all help. Working there is also such a great experience and very rewarding. For more information, go to <http://www.equest.org/> or call 972-412-1099.

