The Learning Commons Welcomes Dr. Tom LoBasso

As an avid reader (recently reading Malcom Gladwell’s *Outliers*, the *Steve Jobs* Biography and *Killing Lincoln*... not to mention, *The Diary of a Wimpy Kid*, *Harry Potter* and *The Hunger Games*, read with his kids), Dr. LoBasso is a natural advocate for the access to research and literature provided to DSC students by the library. While working toward his doctorate and writing his dissertation, Dr. LoBasso became a frequent library user, receiving research assistance from both the UCF liaison librarian and DSC librarians. Also, as a former community college student, he utilized the tutoring services for his math courses, improving his math skills and fostering a love of statistics. As a strong writer, Dr. LoBasso understands the importance of the writing services provided by the DSC-UCF Writing Center.

Dr. LoBasso launched his academic career in Keystone College in Pennsylvania and has always been drawn to community-based colleges because they are open-access. Prior to working at DSC, Dr. LoBasso managed enrollment services at Sage Colleges, a system that offered a junior college through a graduate school in upstate New York. He relocated to Florida in 2001 and has held various leadership positions at Daytona State including Director of Admissions, Dean of Enrollment Development, VP of Enrollment and Student Development, and Senior Vice President. He has also been an adjunct instructor in the BAS department. Dr. LoBasso served in the Army National Guard for 21 years until his retirement in 2007.

When Dr. LoBasso is not at work (or responding to emails from his iPad), he can be found on the soccer fields, alongside his wife, cheering for his two children.

“I attribute my success to my first two years at junior college. It gave me a chance to go to college, play soccer and gain academic confidence.”

- Dr. Tom LoBasso
New Staff

Beata Kozlowski this spring joined the DSC Library Circulation staff as a Library Media Technician. She previously worked at a local second-hand and antiquarian bookstore and also was a volunteer at the public library. Guided by her love of research and information, she plans to pursue a master’s degree in library and information science. She holds an undergraduate degree in environmental studies from Binghamton University. In her free time, she enjoys reading, creative endeavors, film and researching obscure music.

Academic Support Center’s Debra Leonard Collaborates with the DSC Science Department and Embry-Riddle

Since spring 2013, Academic Support Center Learning Specialist Debra Leonard has been working with Daytona State College Physical Science faculty, Dr. Michael Olson, and the DSC Science Department to research and assess student performance in online courses vs. face-to-face courses. This collaboration began with the creation of Dr. Olson's first online section of Meteorology (MET2010), which students began taking Summer B semester. While conceptualizing the online course, Ms. Leonard and Dr. Olson worked together to create measures to determine if the online sections of the course were as effective in teaching the basic meteorology concepts as the traditional face-to-face sections of this course.

This partnership between the Academic Support Center and DSC Science Department further expanded to our neighbors over at the Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University Meteorology Department, who also are looking to assess their own online version of Meteorology (MET2010), which students began taking Summer B semester. While conceptualizing the online course, Ms. Leonard and Dr. Olson worked together to create measures to determine if the online sections of the course were as effective in teaching the basic meteorology concepts as the traditional face-to-face sections of this course.

This partnership between the Academic Support Center and DSC Science Department further expanded to our neighbors over at the Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University Meteorology Department, who also are looking to assess their own online version of the MET 2010 course. As a current Embry-Riddle graduate student, Ms. Leonard will work with Dr. Olson and Dr. John Lanicci, ERAU Applied Aviation faculty, to compile and submit the data collected from these online courses as part of her graduate capstone project. Statistical analysis will continue throughout the fall 2013 semester, with the future goal of writing a joint publication on their findings.

The following personnel are involved in the project:

- Dr. Michael Olson
  (DSC Faculty - Physical Science) – primary researcher
- Debra Leonard
  (DSC ASC Learning Specialist - Science) – primary researcher
- Joshua Cruz
  (DSC CWC Learning Specialist – Writing) - proofreader
- Dr. John Lanicci
  (ERAU Applied Aviation Faculty – Aviation Meteorology)
- Dr. Marvin Smith
  (ERAU Applied Aviation Faculty – Educational Technology)
- Dr. Nancy Lawrence
  (ERAU Applied Aviation Faculty – Human Factors)

New Books and E-books Available

If you are looking for autumn reading, look no further than the DSC Library! With over 87,000 print and 152,000 e-books available, you'll find lots to choose from, including bestsellers, classics and non-fiction works on everything from astronomy to zoology. Make this the season that you finally read Moby Dick, learn how to make the perfect panna cotta, or brush up on your quantum physics. Check out the library homepage at http://www.daytonastate.edu/library.

The Graphic Novel Book Club is a library discussion group started in 2012 for Daytona State and UCF students. Some of the books the group has discussed include The Walking Dead, Watchmen, V for Vendetta and Understanding Comics. Made up of DSC and UCF students, faculty and staff, club members typically meet in the “Cellar” downstairs area of the Writing Center in the afternoon and share opinions about the books in a roundtable-style format. Club members enjoy dissecting themes throughout the books, social issues, characters, artwork and putting these fictional stories into the context of our own everyday society.

Interested in joining the group? Students and staff are welcome to participate! For additional information, email UCF Regional Librarian Michael Furlong, Michael.furlong@ucf.edu, or Seth Blazer, School of Humanities & Communication faculty, BlazerS@daytonastate.edu.

Want more information? Read Orion Christy’s article from the Student Newspaper InMotion: http://www.daytonastateinmotion.com/graphic-novel-club-proves-comics-not-just-kids-stuff/
The Leadership Development Institute at DSC is a three-year program for staff and faculty. The structure promotes collaboration and team-building through leadership-related activities and projects. The overarching mission of LDI is to develop and promote leadership excellence for personal and professional growth while enhancing the members’ leadership abilities. Some of the Learning Commons’ own are either currently in the program or proud alums. Rachel Wendt, ASC Senior Learning Specialist, Diane Holmes Curtice, ASC Learning Specialist, and Cheryl Kohen, Emerging Technology Librarian, have started LDI 3 this fall. Brandi Horn, ASC Learning Specialist, and Jenna Kranz, Writing Center Associate Director, have moved to LDI 2. Valerie Lee, Library Media Technician, Terrie Greenbaum, ASC Senior Learning Specialist, Michi Gosney, ASC Assistant Director, and Dr. Michelle McCraney, Associate Vice President of our division, have successfully graduated the program, carrying with them fond memories and lasting connections.

From LDI 1 to LDI 3, and even after graduation, the most far-reaching sentiments regarding the entire LDI experience have been about networking and relationships. As Rachel Wendt says, “Through LDI, I have had a chance to work closely with other members of the college community who are from departments that we don’t work with on a regular basis. It has given me a new perspective on approaching students and solving problems.” Dr. McCraney, who began the program as a Director II and is now an AVP says, “Without LDI, I would have never gotten to know so much about the college or met so many professionals.”

LDI is open to all staff and faculty. To find out more, or to apply, visit http://daytonastate.edu/LDI/.

“\(\text{If we knew what it was we were doing, it would not be called research, would it?}\)"

– Albert Einstein
ASC Hosts Chem Up

School of Biological and Physical Sciences faculty and ASC staff worked together to concoct a solution – Chem Up – to the growing “chemistry gap” of students enrolled in introductory science courses. Chem Up is a four-day series of workshops designed to prepare students for success in their introductory science courses such as Anatomy and Physiology, Microbiology, Biology and Chemistry. Chem Up was offered August 5 – 8, and over 40 students participated.

Chem Up was created in response to the growing number of students who were requiring assistance with basic chemistry concepts, especially those looking to enter Allied Health programs, where chemistry is not a prerequisite. As a result of this increased demand for tutoring assistance, faculty spent the first week or more reviewing material that is not the focus of the course. Faculty have found that students who have a better grasp of these topics tend to be more successful in their science courses.

ASC and faculty collaborated to identify the concepts that are critical to review in Chem Up, as well as fun and exciting ways to deliver the material. Dr. John Picione facilitated many of the sessions and entertained the students with his “explosive” love of chemistry.

In addition to Chem Up, the Learning Commons also hosted two other first-time initiatives this fall, Math Up for MAT 0028 and Word Up for ENC 1101. The ASC also offered Math Up for MAT 1033.

Michael Lanford Lands Fellowship

Mike Lanford, UCF Coordinator for the DSC-UCF Writing Center, has been granted a fantastic opportunity at the University of Southern California. He has accepted a fellowship offer where he will be working toward a Ph.D. in higher education policy, with a cognate in urban and global studies. His fellowship will include doing research for the Pullias Center for Higher Education. His advisor, Bill Tierney, is completing his tenure as president of the American Educational Research Association and was formerly the president of the Association for the Study of Higher Education.

Mike says he plans to take two years to complete his coursework and two additional years for his dissertation. His career goal is to serve as a professor of higher education with interdisciplinary strengths in anthropology and the humanities.

Learning Commons Staff Cross-train, Collaborate

In the spirit of collaboration and in line with the “under-one-roof” model, staff from the Academic Support Center (ASC), Library and DSC-UCF Writing Center have been receiving cross-training to learn more about the other academic departments within the Learning Commons. The overall response has been very positive and educationally enlightening for all who are participating in this experience.

Many staff members chose to participate in order to become better informed and familiar with the day-to-day operations and service point resources of other student support departments. Some participants wanted to learn more about how the services provided by the Writing Center differ from the ASC. Others wanted to compare and contrast the differences between the ASC in building 210, which is geared more for tutoring English and Modern Languages, with those of the ASC in building 500, which is geared more for tutoring math and sciences. Still, others wanted to increase their knowledge of digital literacy and enhance their research skills.

According to Thomas Moore, Senior Library Media Technician, cross-training helps staff make better referrals and “assists the lost in finding their academic way.” When asked whether the cross trainings have been beneficial, Melinda Cascioli, Library Media Technician, who cross-trained in the DSC-UCF Writing Center, stated: “Honestly, I learned more about myself personally, which I can use professionally to improve myself.” So not only is this cross training beneficial for staff helping students more effectively, it is also very beneficial to the DSC community as a whole.

“Being ignorant is not so much a shame, as being unwilling to learn.”
– Benjamin Franklin
The Karl Learning Resources Center Has a New, Innovative Look! Come and See!

The Bean
In the Library
Monday - Thursday
8:30 a.m. - 4 p.m.