ASC Hires Eight Full-Time Learning Specialists

The Academic Support Center recently welcomed eight learning specialists to staff. While they are new full-time employees, none of them are new to Daytona State. The ASC is following the college-wide movement to convert part-time TS Staffing Services employees to full-time positions. For the ASC, this meant converting 23 TS Staffing Services members (who were working anywhere from three to 30 hours a week) to eight full-time DSC professional employees.

According to Bob Balsamo, coordinator of Academic Support Services, this transition has expanded the skill level and content area expertise of full-time learning specialists to better serve more students. “This expansion of knowledge allows the ASC the capability to liaison with all divisions and departments within the college.”

Jeanie Johnson, one of the new hires, said the conversion allows for more continuity and opportunities to grow personally and professionally. “Being here full-time allows me to have a complete understanding of the day-to-day operations, changes and curriculum, as well as a more fulfilling relationship with the instructors, staff and students,” Johnson said.

Another new hire, Adriana Paiva, exemplifies a true Daytona State success story. She began at the college in the former English Language Institute. She then enrolled in college-credit courses and did so well that she became a peer tutor and Supplemental Instruction (SI) leader, earning the 2012 SI Leader of the Year award. Now a full-time learning specialist, Adriana said her journey as an English language learner has made her empathetic and has empowered her to understand students and their struggles. “I love to help people and be a part of their success, and now I can do that on a full-time basis.”

Florida Writing Symposium

The Florida Writing Symposium at UCF was an all-day event dedicated to writing and writing-related topics in education. Individuals from across the state came to listen to their colleagues and participate in collaborative conversations about the current state of writing in Florida schools and where it is headed in the future. There were presenters representing all levels of writing education and topics that ranged from fostering civic engagement through curriculum design to how ESL writers navigate academic terrain. Dr. Rebecca Block, director of the DSC-UCF Writing Center, helped facilitate a symposium-wide discussion on how to help engage underprepared writers at all levels. “It was very exciting to have the opportunity to discuss writing with teachers from middle schools, high schools, community colleges and universities all in one location. It helped us all to better understand where our students are coming from and where they are going in terms of writing expectations.”

Other symposium attendees from the DSC-UCF Writing Center included Jenna Kranz and Mike Lanford; more than 10 faculty from the School of Humanities and Communication also attended.

DSC-UCF Writing Center New Locations

Writing Center Learning Specialists are available on all DSC campuses! For the most up-to-date information on hours and locations, please visit www.daytonastate.edu/cwc or call 386-506-3297.
**Presenting Pinterest @ the DSC Library**

Associate Professor and Baccalaureate Studies Librarian Rachel Owens and Emerging Technology Librarian Cheryl Kohen presented in July to the College Center for Library Automation on how the DSC Library is effectively using the social media tool, Pinterest, as a fun way to promote library services and resources and engage with students (http://pinterest.com/dsclibrary/). Begun in 2010, Pinterest describes itself as “a content sharing service that allows members to “pin” images, videos and other objects to their pinboard.” The site has received many awards, was touted as the number one startup website in 2011, and has seen tremendous growth these past two years.

After doing some informal research, the DSC Library staff decided to create a Pinterest page that would spark interest around its print and electronic resources, make library staff look more friendly and approachable, and market other DSC events and information. Some boards include pictures of DSC staff and faculty with their favorite library books, links to our different Research Guides, links to our various databases with millions of articles and popular author profiles. In September, the library celebrated Read a Banned Book Week and, for fun, created a Librarian Zombies board for Halloween! Pinners may also be pleased to learn that now the DSC-UCF Writing Center (http://pinterest.com/dscucfwc/) and Academic Support Center (http://pinterest.com/dscasc/) also have Pinterest pages! Follow these pages to get informative and fun facts about these services. **Happy pinning!**

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**RECOGNITIONS**

*Cheryl Kohen*, emerging technology librarian, was invited to serve on the Collections/eResource Licensing Task Force through Florida Library Virtual Campus by the Executive Committee of the Members Council on Library Services.

Under the direction of *Mercedes Clement*, senior professor and chair of Library Services, the DSC Chapter of the Association of Florida Colleges received the 2012 Silver Chapter award.

*Terrie Greenbaum*, senior learning specialist of the Academic Support Center, received the Association of Florida Colleges (AFC) Region III Unsung Hero Award at the 63rd annual AFC State Convention.

The Writing Center now has a coordinator! *Chris Gebhardt* started at the Writing Center in August of 2010 as a professional tutor and has moved his way up. His job duties include providing day-to-day supervision of the regional campuses and the new programs being piloted in the Writing Center this year, managing the schedule for all campuses, and assisting in reporting and assessment.

*CHINESE PROVERB*

Tell me and I’ll forget; show me and I may remember; involve me and I’ll understand.
Jaime Brown earned her bachelor’s degree in psychology from Florida State University. While teaching elementary school, Jamie continued her education at the University of Georgia to obtain a master’s degree in Education. She taught elementary school for seven years. Since 2010, Jamie has worked in the Academic Support Center on the Deltona Campus. Jamie enjoys spending time with family and friends.

Dana Davidson received her B.A. in English at Florida State University and M.A. in Teaching at Stetson University. She taught middle, high school and college-level English and worked at DSC for many years as a learning specialist in the DeLand Campus ASC before joining the Daytona ASC in November. She shares her time at home with her husband, Brian, two children (Claudia, 14, and Thomas, 8) and basset hound Freddy, who thinks he is her third child. Dana enjoys catching up on her favorite TV shows, reading, and spending time with family and friends.

Andrew Kandefer graduated from Embry Riddle Aeronautical University with a degree in Aerospace Engineering and a concentration in propulsion. He is a business owner/partner with Blake C. Buck of Atlas Business Holdings LLC, a Web/APP development and ecommerce company. Prior to being hired as a full-time learning specialist at the Flagler/Palm Coast Campus, Andrew worked as a professional mathematics tutor at the ASC on the Daytona Beach Campus. His passions include his family, his home city of Buffalo, NY, and the Buffalo Bills and Buffalo Sabres sports teams.

Debra Leonard obtained her B.S. in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Central Florida and is presently enrolled in the Master of Aviation program at Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University with specialties in Education Technology and Meteorology. She worked as a professional tutor at Daytona State College tutoring Science and Math for the ASC, TRIO Talent Search and TRIO Student Support Services before becoming a learning specialist. When not working, Debra enjoys reading science fiction, watching TV, gaming, boating and swimming.

Adriana Paiva moved from Brazil in 2005 and enrolled in the Daytona State College English Language Institute to learn English, since her first language is Portuguese. Since then, she has continued her studies and graduated with her Bachelor of Applied Science in Supervision and Management from DSC in 2012. While going to college, Adriana worked in the Academic Support Center as a peer math tutor and a supplemental instructor for college algebra for 4 years, winning SI Leader of the Year in 2012. When she is not working, Adriana enjoys spending time with her family and friends.

Joy Bancroft began working in the Writing Center in June 2012. She hails from Kansas and received her M.A. in Rhetoric and Composition from the University of Kansas in December 2011. She has previously taught college composition for two years and worked in writing centers for five years; her research interests include writing center theory & praxis, digital/new media literacies, rhetorical grammar, and the literacy practices of graduate students. She plans to eventually pursue a doctorate in composition and own a South African penguin.

Meredith Krall became a learning specialist in July of 2012. Prior to her time here, she taught literature and writing classes at the University of Rhode Island for over seven years. She also worked as a writing tutor for the Talent Development program and as a tutor of student athletes. Meredith received her M.A. (with distinction) from Northern Arizona University in 2003 and is currently working on her Ph.D. in Literature at the University of Rhode Island. Her research interests include the British Victorian Novel, British Modernism, and the works of George Eliot.

Kristen Bailes joined the DSC-UCF Writing Center in August 2012. Originally from the Hoosier State, Kristen left Indiana to attend Wright State University in Dayton, Ohio, where she earned her B.A. in Integrated Languages Arts and her M.A. in English Literature. While at Wright State, she also worked at the writing center for five years and taught composition courses. In addition to her love of English literature, Kristen prides herself on being a classic film buff, avid sports fan and animal lover.
Dustin Weeks  Senior Professor, Head of Technical Services

“Catch 22” by Joseph Heller

“I chose Catch 22 because it has been a favorite of mine since high school. Catch 22 has become a common catch phrase for any situation which circular logic makes inescapable. But in its original context it conveys the absurdity, moral ambiguity, and insanity of war. Insanity can’t be a valid reason for not flying bombing missions because if you don’t want to fly bombing missions you must be sane. It does this with equal doses of humor and horror.”

Valeri Lee  Library Media Technician, Circulation

“Tarzan” by Edgar Rice Burroughs

“I chose the Tarzan book because I grew up watching the Tarzan movies and TV series. They are very endearing and funny to me, and the fact that it was banned saddened me.”

Sally Ferguson  Senior Library Technician Cataloging, Technical Services

“Lady Chatterley’s Lover” by D.H. Lawrence

“I have to confess, my choice of Lady Chatterley’s Lover by D.H. Lawrence was based on the fact that my mother forbade me from reading the book when I was a teenager. Later as an adult, I did read it but was a bit disappointed because it was not that good. I suppose my mind had built up more salacious images than I found in actually reading Lady Chatterley’s Lover. It may be true also with banned books in general, and human nature in particular, that we want to read a book just because someone says we can’t!”

Michael Furlong  UCF Regional Librarian

“It” by Stephen King

“Stephen King’s It has staying power because it explores the darker elements of humanity, while also remaining optimistic in the face of adversity. King reminds us that you can’t always go back, but you can move forward in interesting ways. Originally published in 1986, I believe It is still incredibly relevant.”

Joyce Scott  Library Media Technician, Technical Services

“Dr. Zhivago” by Boris Pasternak

“Doctor Zhivago is about the life of a Russian Doctor/poet who, although married, falls for a political activist’s wife and experiences hardships during the Bolshevik revolution. I initially chose this book because I thought it was an interesting love story during the Russian Revolution.”

Melinda Casciolo  Senior Library Media Technician, Circulation

“Gone with the Wind” by Margaret Mitchell

“I chose Gone With the Wind in honor of my mother and her autograph book signed by Clark Gable (her then heart throb). My favorite scene from the book has always been Scarlet O’Hara asking her estranged husband, “Rhett, Rhett! Where shall I go? What shall I do?” and his famous response, “Frankly my dear, I don’t give a damn,” and then he was gone with the wind. This is for my mom.”