



SSS Bulletin

SPRING 2011, ISSUE 2

APRIL—MAY 2011

Gearing Up for Finals

By Kay Love, Academic Counselor/Mentor Coordinator

Well, the semester is almost over. Finals are here. We at Student Support Services are gearing up to help you through the next few stressful days of testing. First, inside this issue of the "SSS Bulletin" you will find articles on not only how to prepare for those dreaded tests, but also how to survive them.

Second, tutoring help is still available. Some of the labs will still be open and individual

tutoring in some subjects will still be available. We encourage you to seek help before finals are over. Please check with the lab directors or with our office to see how we can help you end this semester successfully.

Then, when you have finished another school year, we hope you will enjoy the break before classes begin full force again.

If you are taking summer

classes, remember that the academic labs are ready to help get you successfully through the semester.

We are busy working on selecting fall activities, so stay tuned for exciting new options coming Fall 2011!



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SSS Students Inducted Into Freshman Honor Society



Dr. John McArthur, VP for Academic Affairs, SSS Student Nene Niane, and Jennifer Holland, VP for Student Services at the 26th annual Phi Eta Sigma Induction Ceremony

On March 3, 2011, the Cameron chapter of the freshman honor society Phi Eta Sigma held its 26th annual induction ceremony. Phi Eta Sigma is an interdisciplinary honor society that recognizes outstanding students who have completed 24 to 42 hours of course work while attending full-time, are degree seeking, and have earned a

GPA of 3.75 or higher. This year, 53 students were installed; 6 of whom are SSS participants.

Claudia Birdsall, Gina Haggard, Joshua Leaming, Nene Niane, Jeremiah Phelps, and Ann Rolff for their hard work and dedication to excellence.

Please join the SSS staff in congratulating



SSS Program Director Doreen Thomas with Lilly, SSS Academic Counselor Kay Love with Lightning, congratulate SSS Students and Phi Eta Sigma inductees Claudia Birdsall (left), Ann Rolff (second from right) and Nene Niane (far right) on their achievement.

Cameron SSS Student Speaks at TRiO Day

Each year, Oklahoma TRiO programs from across the state meet at the State Capitol for a one-day celebration to meet state legislators and talk about everything TRiO. This year, on February 23, 2011, over 1,000 students and staff met to hear state representatives, senators, former TRiO participants, and current students speak about their experience



Cameron SSS students listen to TRiO Day speakers from the State of Oklahoma Senate Gallery.

with TRiO participation. Four students representing Upward Bound, Veterans Upward Bound, McNair Scholars, and our own Debria Schuler representing Cameron Student Support Services spoke about their personal triumphs with the help of TRiO.



SSS participant Debria Schuler was selected to be a guest speaker at the Spring 2011 TRiO Day conference at the Oklahoma State Capitol.

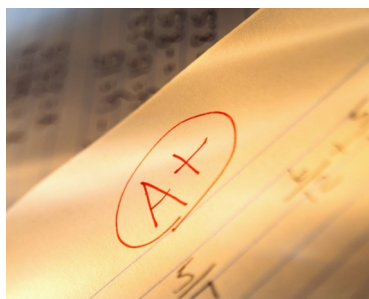
For some
Cameron
SSS

members, attending the TRiO Day activities was the first time they had been to the State Capitol. Most hope to return next year. The day's events culminated with lunch at Spaghetti Warehouse in Bricktown provided by CU SSS.

“ Within all of us students is a little light, and the TRiO staff and faculty are the guardians of that light, ” stated Debria. Growing up a small town in Southwest Oklahoma during the time when the state was much less racially tolerant, Debria talked about wanting go to college, but the most she could hope for was to attend vocational school. Today, as the mother of five, grandmother of nine, and soon to be great grandmother, she will earn her bachelor's degree in education in December 2011. “With the help of everyone at Cameron's SSS program, I am realizing my dream to be a teacher. ”



SSS group attending the 2011 TRiO Day events at the OK State Capitol included left to right: (back row) Christopher Watson, Christy Shepherd, Jodi Hamilton, Jonathan Watson, (third row) Sharon Wells, Heather Nance, (second row) Doreen Thomas, Mata Soolua Ann Rollf, Oralia Jones, Debria Schuler, (front row) Kita Blue, Kay Love and Lightning.



Finals Survival Tips

By Heather Nance, Academic Counselor/Tutor Coordi-

Be sure you have full and accurate information about the final. Know when and where it is to take place. This can be found in your class syllabus or in the current schedule of classes. Note that these may be given in a different room than your normal class. Ask to be sure.

Be very clear about what the final is to cover (is it over everything you have studied? some significant subset of that material? what have you studied since the last exam?)

Be very clear about how the final is to be constructed; preparation for essay tests differs from that for short answer or blank-fillers.

If it is possible to see earlier exams in the course, look at them--not to study the answers to those questions (they are unlikely to recur) but to get a sense of the nature of the questions, where they are drawn from (lectures, texts) and the weighting of the exam. Note typical questions. Practice on previous exams, note the sort of errors you make and then guard against them. Look for and become familiar with "tricky questions."

Listen when your teacher talks of the exam. Watch in lecture and review exercises where he/she puts emphasis.

What equipment, if any, is permitted in the room? Calculators? Open books? Notes? Formula lists? Ask your professor to address this.

How is the exam graded; e.g., does one get partial credit? Do only right answers count (in which case a guess cannot hurt), or do wrong answers bring penalties?

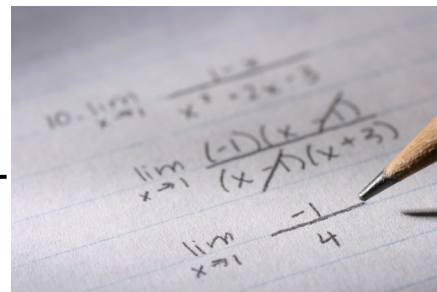
A final is often the summary exercise for a course. Earlier course assignments (papers, labs, reports, exams) can serve as practice exercises. Look back at them and know the materials and the processes they required.

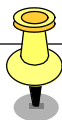
Preparing for Mathematics Finals

By Neal Washington, Math Lab Director

A common quote from the typical student: "I used to put off doing my assignments at the beginning of the semester, but then the coursework would catch up with me and I'd be swamped." Finals may appear to be in the distant future; but before you know it, the time comes quickly. The lab highly recommends that you start now to prepare for final exams.

Another typical student quote: "Attending class is really important. When you miss a class, it's hard to get back on track." The lab will also be open during finals week, but come in now and continue to get help before finals start.





Word Match Is a Great Way To Improve Vocabulary

By Pamela Holland, Reading Lab Director

I hope you 're learning new vocabulary words each week. The more words you know and understand, the better your reading and comprehension will be.

- | | |
|----------------|--|
| 1. Forlorn | a. A concluding section at the end of a literary work; such as a brief description of the fates of the characters in a novel |
| 2. Epilogue | b. good-fellowship; brotherhood |
| 3. Cohesive | c. lonely and sad; miserable; feeling hopeless |
| 4. Camaraderie | d. to take back or withdraw |
| 5. Revoke | e. tending to stick together; united |

Answers on Page 6

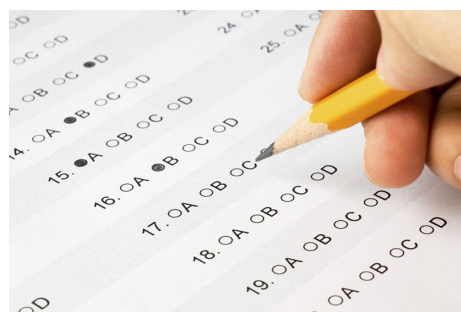
Help Preparing for Science Finals

Brandon McDonald, SSS Science Lab Director

Finals are just around the corner. Regardless of how you have performed in your classes this semester, now is the time for extra motivation and effort towards ending on a good academic note. For many science classes, this time of the semester marks approaching deadlines for term papers, lab reports, and

presentations. Instead of putting such assignments off until it 's too late, make plans to visit me in the SSS Science Lab for help. If you are having trouble learning how to study for your science classes, now is a good time to find help. Feel free to contact me via email at bmcdonal@cameron.edu to

schedule a time to visit with me.



Reminder!

New Address? New Phone Number?

FYI: All Federal TRiO programs, of which SSS is one, maintain student records in a program unrelated to the University's AggieAccess. Therefore, if you change your address, phone number, or e-mail address, please let us know immediately in order that we may keep you informed of what is happening in SSS.

Workshop Demonstrates Importance of Therapeutic Relationships Between Humans and Animals

By Kay Love, Academic Counselor

The SSS annual Human & Animal Relationship workshop was held recently to discuss the importance of animals in our lives. At this year's workshop, dogs were highlighted as assistance animals to help their handlers or as therapy animals to provide love and acceptance to others. Several handlers from around the state attended to discuss their dog's job in providing assistance.

Janet Hall brought her Great Dane, Caleb, who assists her with physical support and balance due to a disability that causes her to need more support than a cane allows. Caleb not only helps

Janet but also works as a therapy dog and is a well behaved and gentle giant in the canine world. As a "Read Dog," Finn, an Irish Setter, lays quietly while children with reading issues, such as shyness or reading difficulties, read to him. His handler, Katy Young, stated, "He loves children and is especially gentle around children. That's something that comes from the dog, you can't train them to do that."

Representing therapy dogs: Elizabeth Martin showed off her Border Collie Bryson. They go to the Lawton Veterans' Center to visit with and brighten the day of the residents there. Bruce and Carlene Storm introduced Bubba, a chocolate lab, and Maggie, a King Charles Cavalier Spaniel, and discussed their work with veterans at VA hospitals and anywhere throughout the state where there is a need for a therapy dog. Candi Nettles, with her yellow lab Summer, and Doreen Thomas, with Lilly a Great Pyrenees, discussed their roles with the Fort Sill Red Cross and their volunteer work with patients at Reynolds Army Hospital. Doreen also talked about the Cameron University Therapy Dog Program and how the program was established to help students deal with stress from taking tests, homesickness, and other college pressures. Lilly is available for visitors at the North Shepler Wellness Center and in the SSS Office several days each month.

As a leader dog handler, Kay Love briefly discussed the role of a dog guide and the Leader Dog School for the Blind program.

Besides highlighting dogs as assistance animals, information on the Giddy-Up-N-Go Therapeutic Horseback Riding program was also provided. Giddy-Up-N-Go is a local support organization that provides therapeutic horseback riding for children with physical and developmental disabilities.



(left-right) Janet Hall with Caleb, Elizabeth Martin with Bryson, Bruce Storm with Bubba, Katy Young with Finn, Candi Nettles with Summer, Doreen Thomas with Lilly, Kay Love with Lightning, and Carlene Storm (front) with Maggie at the animal therapy workshop.

Keep a look out for the SSS Spring 2012 schedule of events to see what is in store for you at our next animal therapy workshop.



