

A huge thank you to the following for supporting the Tutor Program, the Tutors' Training Day, and most importantly, the Tutors:

- Southwestern Community College
- Perkins Funds
- TRIO Grant Funds
- the Bookstore at SCC
- the Cosmetology Program at SCC
- the Therapeutic Massage Program at SCC
- Ceretta Davis and the Culinary Program at SCC



Makes a Difference!

The *Tutor Review* is a publication from the Student Support Services Office. SSS is a federally funded **TRIO** program providing over one million dollars to support student success at Southwestern Community College.

Student Support Services
Southwestern Community College
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Sylva, NC 28779
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Spring 2015

TRB

The Tutor Review



*Assisting
students
along their
educational
path*

The Tutor Program Challenge

To actively engage students in their learning, and to tutor students in such a manner that they eventually become confident, independent learners.

A Special Thanks to Our Tutors:

Brandy Anders	Chandon Ivey	Rebecca Prichard
Mary Chauvin	Tessy Izquierdo	Carol Scott
Russell Conover	Eileen Kessler	Dani Teague
April Crawford	Daniel Lee	Elizabeth Vickery
Jacob Elliott	Lindsey McGregor	Winnie Virga
Rubi Guadarrama	David Parker	Sarah Westmoreland
Pamela Hardin	Everett Parris	George Whisnant
Nichole Hill	Jamee Pelcher	



It is not what we do that helps our students succeed or fail, but what we empower them to do for themselves!

What a challenging semester with snow, ice, college closures, and missed tutoring sessions!

Yet as always, you each handled the situations with professionalism and respect for the students you assist. You offered extended sessions and many agreed to meet with students over spring break. This simply demonstrates your dedication not only to SCC and the Tutor Program but also to the students you tutor.

I stop by the Tutoring Room and witness you working with students utilizing many of the strategies and techniques you learned in training. You engage students, review study skills, share test-taking tips, and offer the encouragement that students so often need to be successful. You not only review content material and help students understand course-specific concepts, but you also provide a platform on which students can develop or improve their critical thinking skills. You create an environment in which students have the opportunity to “learn how to learn” and how to discover answers on their own. Many students attest to a tutoring environment in which they feel “safe” - free to ask questions and propose possible answers or outcomes—right or wrong. You then provide the direction they might need.

As tutors you dedicate many more hours than simply those spent in tutorial sessions—hours in training workshops, tutor meetings, and completing paperwork. Additionally, many of you spend time devoted to those “after-hour” text messages, emails, or phone calls from panicked tutees confused with some particular concept and unable to proceed in completing a particular assignment. You go above and beyond!

You are one of the reasons the vision of SCC’s Tutor Program holds true: “To be recognized as a valuable academic support service among faculty, staff and students at Southwestern Community College.”

The Tutor Program **IS** a **valuable academic support service** because of you! The Program’s success rate continually exceeds its goal of 70%—for fall semester 2014, SCC’s Tutor Program **success rate** was **87.3%**!

Thank you for all you do and for being an integral part of SCC’s tutor team, Laurie

TUTOR STATISTICS

Spring Semester ~ as of April 15, 2015

Number of Tutoring Relationships Established	135
Unduplicated Student Count	115
Number of Tutoring Hours	1,262*
Tutoring Expenditures including training	\$10,236
<u>Cumulative</u> Success Rate	81.0%

* Individual student hours; does not account for group work

Spring Semester All-Day Tutor Training ~ January 9th

- *Review Level I Topics*
- *Case Studies*
- *Session Structure in 4 Steps & Role Play*
- *Identifying and Using Campus Resources*
Presenters: **Peter Buck**, Student Disability/Academic Engagement Coordinator & Counselor; **Toni Knott**, LAC Coordinator; **Patty Kirkley**, Career Counselor; **Tracy Musick**, Librarian; **Erin McCully**, e-Learning Specialist and **Kristy Sartain**, Instructional Design Specialist
- *Dynamics of Group Tutoring*
Presenter: Joshua Wilkey, Veteran Tutor
- *Brain Dominance*
Presenter: Tessy Izquierdo, Veteran Tutor & Adjunct Instructor
- *Tutor Jeopardy*

Semester Training Workshops

Six Habits of Highly Effective Tutors

Presenter: Laurie Butler, Tutor Program Coordinator

Tutoring Students with Disabilities & When and How to Refer

Presenter: Peter Buck, Student Disability/Academic Engagement Coordinator & Counselor

Help Students Refine their Research Skills

Presenter: Tracy Musick, SCC Librarian

Co-dependency: Learn ways to prevent tutee dependence!

Presenter: Sarah Altman, SCC Human Services/Substance Abuse Program Coordinator and Instructor

Evaluation Comments from Student Tutees

"This was a wonderful experience for me from the first call... I really appreciate the tutoring program and [my tutor]. I was so discouraged, failing two classes ... Now I am succeeding again and it feels wonderful. [My tutor] asks me questions to make sure I have comprehended what we went over. Two thumbs up for the tutoring experience... I would recommend the tutoring program 100%."

"[My tutor] is phenomenal. She has helped me so much through my math this semester. I would recommend her to other students."

"I got a tutor around mid term and I wish I had done so at the beginning of the semester. I would recommend getting a tutor to any student who wants to understand a subject in more depth."

"Great tutor. Really knows his stuff! A+++"



"[My tutor] has been very helpful. I always feel comfortable going to tutoring, because no matter how stupid I feel about a subject, I know [my tutor] is not judging me."

"Excellent tutor, brings handouts and notes on each chapter to help students."

"[My tutor] is a most helpful tutor. He has been encouraging all the way and shows each process perfectly. Thank you for assigning him to me. "

"[My tutor] has been a really great tutor. He made the horrors of math slightly less horrible. I felt comfortable enough to ask any questions I had and was able to stop at any point I didn't understand something..."

"I have learned how to perform math problems differently with [my tutor's] help. She is a bright enthusiastic person with good communication skills. I would highly recommend her for a tutor for others. "

"[My tutor] was very patient and understanding. She came to tutoring sessions prepared... she helped me better understand my assignments and find more effective ways to study for tests. She was very helpful... because she let me try to figure it out on my own, but did not hesitate to help..."



Meet our **NEW** Tutors



Name: April Crawford

Currently attending WCU

Major: Mathematics & Computer Science

Subject Specialties: Math & Physics



Name: Sarah Westmoreland

Currently attending SCC

Major: Associate in Arts/College Transfer

Eventually pursuing Bachelor's and Master's Degrees in Creative Writing and Spanish

Subject Specialties: Spanish

The most important outcome in a tutor session is not necessarily the answer, but the process that helps the student discover the answer.

SCC's Tutor Program's:

Vision

To be recognized as a valuable academic support service among faculty, staff and students at Southwestern Community College.

Mission

The Tutor Program at Southwestern Community College is an academic support system designed to help curriculum students achieve success by providing high quality tutorial assistance to meet their academic needs. Our mission seeks to encourage and facilitate independent learning and critical thinking skills that can help students be successful in their current educational pursuits, academic tenure, and future careers.



Goals

- Offer high-quality academic tutorial support
- Improve student retention, reduce course withdrawal/failure rates, and achieve a minimum 70% success rate in the courses in which students receive tutoring
- Create a learning environment that presents material according to students' learning needs and styles, helps boost student self-confidence, and demonstrates a positive attitude toward learning
- Reinforce and clarify classroom instruction and textbook lessons to enhance students' understanding of course material
- Provide opportunities to develop and improve study strategies
- Engage students in their learning and present tutorial support in a manner that helps them achieve the necessary skills to become more independent, self-directed, and successful individuals
- Establish a safe, engaging environment that promotes student achievement and academic excellence