



THE FACILITATOR

From Shippensburg University's Learning Center to YOU!



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Newsletter Date

Inside this issue:

Welcome Back!	1
–A Message from Nanette Hatzes	
–A Message from Karen Johnson	
Workshops to Consider	1
New Initiatives	2
GA Corner	2
Writing Process Tutors	2

A Message from Our Fearless Leader and Learning Center Director, Nanette Hatzes:

Don't put it off another moment! Please come visit the beautifully renovated Library and Learning Center. This much needed face lift demonstrates the value the university places on supporting you on your voyage of discovery. We have over thirty peer tutors who are waiting to help you find efficient and effective ways to understand, remember, and internalize the concepts and theories you're learning about in

class. Bring yourself. Bring your friends. We're here to help. Call 1420 to make an appointment!

A Message from Our New Assistant Director, Karen Johnson:

Joining the outstanding team at the Learning Center has been a wonderful experience. The faculty, staff, and students are a pleasure to work with and often inspire me to consider new approaches to improving our services here. The upbeat atmos-



**Completed by SHIP Learning Center tutors:
Cassie Shive
Nicole Bollinger**

phere and enthusiasm housed within our learning community creates a haven where new discoveries and learning can emerge.

Special points of interest:

- *New Location is on the Main Floor of the Library*
- *Call ext. 1420 or visit our receptionists to make an appointment!*
- *We work in conjunction with library staff, professors, and the counseling department to meet the needs of all students on the Ship campus.*

Coming Soon: Workshops to Consider!

The Learning Center offers many workshops that are beneficial for any college student! Here are some upcoming workshops available for anyone:

Tues 11/3 & Wed 11/4: **How to Avoid Plagiarism.** In this workshop, students will discover how to avoid one of the most common errors in their written work. It will discuss how to produce their own ideas and differentiate them from cited sources.

Tues 11/10 & Wed 11/11: **Dealing with Stress in College.** This workshop helps students learn how stress affects them, why they experience stress, and what they can do to effectively manage stress.

Tues 11/17 & Wed 11/18: **Taking Exams in College.** Students in this workshop will learn how to prepare for a variety of test questions, discover ways to approach test taking tasks, and implement strategies to reduce test anxiety.

All Tuesday workshops are at 4pm. Wednesday workshops are at 7pm. Both take place in Learning Center room 134.

–Cassie Shive



New Initiatives in the Learning Center

The Learning Center is now offering some new initiatives that will further benefit Ship students. One new initiative includes small group tutoring as an option for learning new material. While a trained tutor guides a small group session, students learn how to help each other master complex ideas and retain more information. The interaction between the students throughout the session can boost their confidence in their academic work. Also, stu-

dent participants in small group tutoring tend to feel like they are under less pressure than a one-on-one session. In small groups, students can freely discuss ideas, breaking the pattern of the traditional question-and-answer format often found in individual tutoring sessions. Students in small groups assist one another by bringing forth new ideas.

In addition to small group tutoring, the Learning Center hopes to begin Skype tutoring, which

is an online communication service, supporting voice, chat and video methods. To participate in a Skype session, students will need to go to skype.com to download the program and follow the tutorial to set up an account. This type of tutoring would be beneficial if a student is sick but needs help in a particular subject. A student can still get many of the same benefits as a face-to-face tutoring session.

—Cassie Shive

GA Corner: In the Words of a Tutor...

“As a tutor, my main concern is for my tutees.”

“How Can I Help You?”

As a tutor, my main concern is for my tutees. I strive to aid their academic growth as well as their transitions into social and professional beings. Before becoming a Graduate Assistant this semester, I was a tutor for three years at the Learning Center. I have never met a more committed and pro-active community of staff and students before joining

the Learning Center team. As part of “Team Sweetness,” I help to train tutors in the writing process as well as assist in regular tutor trainings and workshops for students. I am overjoyed to have been asked to return as a Graduate Assistant and can’t wait to see what happens next! I remember when the Learning Center was only six tables large in the basement of the library. Now,

looking at my new surroundings on the main floor, I am in awe of the possibilities that are housed in the Learning Center. The opportunities for SHIP students have never before been so vast due to our available resources. I can’t wait to continue my work with the Learning Center and provide the best services that I can.

—Nicole Bollinger

Writing Process Tutors

As an undergraduate, I felt like I was a bit lost when it came to formulating a specific structure for my papers. One of my professors once said, “Each paper is different. Teachers have their own standards on assignments and grade in different ways. So just try to do your best.” After that, I felt more lost than ever.

For students who are going through something similar or who just need a leg-up on their writing skills, our Learning Center has tutors, as well as professional and graduate staff members, who are more than willing to help.

Students can set up a writing process tutoring sessions at our

receptionists’ desk or can call in to make an appointment. Our tutors can help students at any step in the writing process — ranging from brainstorming sessions to discussing and polishing final drafts.

—Nicole Bollinger