

Annual Report 2007-2008

STUDENT SUCCESS CENTER

Mission Statement

The mission of the Student Success Center is to support undergraduate students in their learning and to contribute to their growth and development as learners.

Goals:

1. To provide necessary support for students in all 100- and 200-level courses through the tutorial program and Supplemental Instruction.

Objective:

- A. Hire, train, and supervise tutors and Supplemental Instruction leaders.
- B. Provide cluster opportunities that will support our tutors and SI leaders
- C. Provide one-on-one tutoring sessions for all requests for 100 and 200-level courses and for all writing assignments.
- D. Provide study groups in academic areas where there is an interest.

2. Offer developmental courses in reading to strengthen students' skills to enhance their success in the academic demands of college.

Objective:

- A. Identify incoming first year students and incoming transfer students who need to enroll in LS 100 during the academic year.

3. Expand campus awareness of the Student Success Center and its services.

Objective:

- A. Specific populations of students will be identified to receive written or verbal information regarding services of the SSC.
- B. SSC tutors and staff will visit classes and attend faculty meetings etc., to share information regarding the services of the SSC.

Overview for 2007-2008

This was another successful year for the Student Success Center.

Last year, we connected the Student Success Center and Academic advising, and Placement Testing. We are seeing the benefits of having these areas that support academics under one umbrella. We were able to be more intentional in requiring all new students to enroll in appropriate developmental coursework when placement or tests indicates there is a need for such work.

Building on past training sessions, we continued to involve experienced tutors in the training session for fall 07 and Spring 08. During the spring event, the experienced tutors were responsible for a significant portion of the event. Comments and evaluations noted that this experience was beneficial to the tutors involved in planning and presenting the training session and also to the tutors participating in the event.

Student Success Center Overview

We have 53 tutors working in the SSC. Sixteen tutors graduated during 2007-2008.

Tutorial Program

As we did last year, we continued to place a high level of importance on requiring tutors to complete paperwork after each session. This Tutor Session report has been beneficial as faculty and advisors are able to inquire about students they recommend receive tutorial assistance.

Tutor Training

We continue certification through the College Reading and Learning Association (CRLA). Tutors earned certification through CRLA at the following levels:

Certification Level: Beginning Regular Advanced Masters Total Certified

Number of tutors: 2 25 22 4 53

For each level of certification, tutors participated in a full day of training before classes started in August, and a half day of training before classes started in the spring. Each tutor was encouraged to attend at least three training clusters each semester. New writing tutors attended weekly, one-hour seminar sessions during the fall semester.

Tutor Clusters (Fall 2007)

Topics:

Tutoring Students w/Disabilities

SSC Presentation/Introduction to
New Student Seminars

Leadership Series
"Get what you want from life"

Leadership Series
"Thriving in Chaos"

Leadership Series
"Values that Stick"

Presentation at Tutor Training

Writing Guidelines for Nursing students

Math Department

Presented by:

Ryan Saddler & Staff

Tutors

Michael Miller

Tracy Knofla

Jay Zarr

tutors

Nursing Dept

Kathy Potter

Tutor Clusters (Spring 2008)**Topics:**

SSC Presentation/Introduction

Ingredients for a good tutoring session

Presented by:

tutors

Maureen Baldwin

Contractual and Drop-In Tutorials

A contractual is a set weekly appointment. It is a “contract” between the tutor and the tutee to meet on a weekly or bi-weekly basis for a tutoring session. We saw an increase in the number of students who elected to use this part of our program. This year, 212 students signed contracts for the fall 07 semester. During the spring 07 semester, 173 students signed contracts.

Our Drop-In services continue to be popular. During the fall semester 369 students selected this option and 248 students used this option during the spring semester.

As usual, math contractals were the most requested tutorials and writing was the most frequently used drop-in tutorial. The students received help with essays for composition classes as well as for writing in content courses.

The fall and spring contractual and drop-in tutorials are listed on the following page:

Courses For Which Tutoring Was Provided (Fall 2007)

Class	Contractuals	Drop-Ins
Acct 201	15	6
Acct 202	5	7
Bio 101	13	10
Bio 103	2	2
Bio 104	0	1
Bio 106	2	1
Bio 202	17	7
Bio 211	3	0
Chem 103	4	7
Chem 105	15	1
Chem 207	5	2
CSCI 120	0	6
CSCI 195	4	2
CSCI 210	0	3
CSCI 275	0	3
Econ 201	2	1
Econ 202	3	1
Engl 101	1	0
French 101	1	0

Germ 101	2	0
Hist 101	2	0
Hist 102	0	1
Hist 112	1	0
IE 110	0	1
MA 090	2	0
MA 095	11	3
MA 131	8	4
MA 151	20	16
MA 152	5	3
MA 161	10	3
MA 171	3	0
MA 191	1	1
MA 192	2	3
Nsci 105	0	1
Nurs 160	0	1
Phil 101	1	0
Phil 201	0	2
Phys 110	2	0
Phys 203	2	3
Psych 105	14	9
Soc 101	3	6
Span 101	13	9
Span 102	4	2
Span 103	0	2
Span 201	6	1
Stats 213	4	3
Theo 101	3	3
Theo 201	1	0
Writing (Proofreading)		232
TOTALS	212	369

Courses For Which Tutoring Was Provided (SPRING 2008)

Class	Contractual	Drop-Ins
Acct 201	9	6
Acct 202	6	8
Bio 101	3	2
Bio 103	1	1
Bio 104	1	0
Bio 106	9	2
Bio 123	1	0
Bio 202	7	0

Bio 204	8	1
Bio 211	1	0
Chem 103	5	7
Chem 106	9	9
Chem 207	0	2
Chem 208	6	0
CSCI 120	2	0
CSCI 195	4	6
CSCI 270	1	0
CSCI 295	2	1
Econ 201	2	1
Econ 202	4	3
Hist 101	1	1
Hist 112	3	1
Hist 219	0	9
KIN 149	0	4
MA 090	2	0
MA 095	5	9
MA 151	14	12
MA 161	3	1
MA 191	3	2
Ma 192	2	0
MA 210	5	5
Nurs 160	18	4
Nurs 260	11	2
Phil 201	1	1
Phil 207	1	0
Phys 201	1	0
Phys 204	2	0
Phys 251	0	1
Psych 105	1	0
Psych 215	0	4
Psych 284	1	0
Soc 101	1	0
Span 101	3	0
Span 102	6	3
Span 201	2	0
Span 202	1	0
Stats 213	2	5
Writing (Proofreading)	3	135
TOTALS	173	248

Study Groups

In addition to students using our one-on-one tutoring sessions, in the fall we offered study groups in Physics 203 and Math 191. Our Physics study group leader reported an average of 15 attendees per session in the fall. However, the Math 191 study group reported an average attendance of 5 students per session. During the spring, we offered study groups in Physics 204. Average attendance was 8 students. We plan to continue the Physics study group and also offer additional study groups in other courses.

Supplemental Instruction

Fall 2007

Chem 105		57% attended SI sessions	
SI group #	46	Non-SI group #	35
GPA	3.23	GPA	2.59
DWF rate	6.5%	DWF rate	43%

Bio 103		63% attended SI sessions	
SI group #	45	Non-SI group #	26
GPA	3.24	GPA	2.45
DWF rate	0%	DWF rate	23%

Spring 2008

Chem 106		78% attended SI sessions	
SI Group #	42	Non-SI group #	12
GPA	3.11	GPA	2.85
DWF rate	5%	DWF rate	25%

Bio 103		62% attended SI sessions	
SI Group #	18	Non-SI group #	11
GPA	2.36	GPA	2.31
DWF rate	11%	DWF rate	36%

For all courses using SI 57% or more of the students attended SI sessions. For all courses the SI group had a higher GPA and lower DWF rate. The most significant data was for both courses fall and Chem 106 in spring. Overall the average GPA for Biol 103 in spring was lower but there is still a significant difference in the DWF rate.

Learning Skills Classes

Students are placed into College Reading and Study Skills (LS 100) using an ACT reading sub-score of 18 or below. We continued to offer three Advanced College Reading classes in the spring semester: LS 204, Standardized Test Preparation; LS 201, Vocabulary; and LS 203, Critical Reading. Enrollment for Learning Skills classes appears on the table below.

Fall 2007

Course Name **LS 100 (5 sections)**

90 (plus one adult learner auditing the course)

Of the 90 students who completed LS 100 in the Fall of 2007, 65 returned for classes in the Fall of 2008 (72.2%). Overall at St. Ambrose, the rate for students entering in the Fall of 2007 and enrolling for Fall of 2008 was 75.6%. Two students were dismissed by the Board of Studies after the Fall, 2007 semester; two students were dismissed after the Spring, 2008 semester.

Spring 2008

Course Name	LS 100	LS 204	LS 201	LS 203
	0—Course not offered	6	5	5

Statistics:

	Average Current GPA	% Fr. Return Soph. Year
LS 100 Students Fall, 2007	2.98	72.2%
SAU First-Year Students Overall 2007	3.15	75.6%

Placement Testing Overview

We provide placement information to new students and also administer placement tests to students when required. The numbers listed below are based on individuals who started during the fall semester. The criteria have been established by the respective academic departments. Three years of information is included here for comparison. There is an increase in the number of students entering SAU with their General Education requirements in math and foreign language having been met.

Math

Course Required to Start Sequence	Fall 2006	Fall 2007	Fall 2008
Math 090	32	4	N/A
Math 095	84	54	122
Math General Education	182	257	222
General Education Met	202	188	255

English

Course Required to Start Sequence	Fall 2006	Fall 2007	Fall 2008 362 tested
Engl 100	75	68	72

Foreign Language

	Fall 2006	Fall 2007	Fall 2008
General Education Met	320	300	377

This year, 136 students took the Foreign Language placement test prior to their orientation event. This information is for students entering SAU fall 08.

Language	Total Students	Semester 1	Semester 2	Semester 3	Semester 4	300-level
Spanish	121	95	10	7	5	4
French	12	9	1	2	0	0
German	3	2	0	1	0	0

CLEP Test Overview

The CLEP testing has been located under the umbrella of Success Programs for the past two years. In fall 2005 we administered 26 CLEP tests, in fall 2006 we administered 41 tests and fall 2007 we administered 32 tests. During the spring 2006 semester 32 students completing a CLEP test. Spring 2007, 27 student attempted the test and in spring 2008, 18 students tested. The CLEP test breakdown is as follows:

Fall 2007

Exam Title	Number of students	Number Passed	Number Failed
Intro to Psych Educ	1		1
College Algebra	2	1	1
English Comp with Essay	13	10	3
Biology	1		1
Info Systems & Computer Application	1	1	
College Spanish Language	3	2	1
College German Language	1		1
Western Civ	1	1	
US to 1877	2	2	
US since 1877	3	3	
Precalculus	1	1	
Calculus	1	1	
Intro to Sociology	2	1	1

Spring 2008

Exam Title	Number of students	Number Passed	Number Failed
Analyzing & Interpret Literature	3	3	
College Math	1		1

Principles of Marketing	1		1
College Spanish Language	2	1	1
English Comp with Essay	7	5	2
American Government	1	1	
Info Systems & Computer Application	2		2
Education Psychology	1	1	

Looking Forward

We continue to be excited to serve the students in 100 and 200 level courses and all areas of writing. We will continue to send letters during the fall semester to all students placed into ENGL 100 and to specific populations of ENGL 101 informing them of our services and encouraging them to stop in the Center. We will also continue to send a welcome letter to all students who sign up for a contractual and also to those individuals who miss their appointment.

This is the last year Placement testing reporting will be included in the Student Success Center's Report. Next year, we anticipate separating the reports.