**Student Support Services**

The Pinnacle

**“Our mission is to support you in your success.”**

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# From Murphy Student Services Center

Patricia Staskiel, Coordinator TriO SSS

Happy New Year and welcome back to Penn State Wilkes-Barre for the spring semester of 2015. Our first SSS Mandatory Meeting this semester “Getting Back into the Swing for the Spring” will be held on Thursday, January 15th at Noon in S101. Be sure to attend to see what we have planned for the spring semester. We will also introduce our new Career/Academic Advisor, Heather Paris. Remember the Regular Drop/Add Period for classes runs from January 12th through January 21st. After this period, you will need to use your late drop credits to drop a course. You can also go onto Elion and add courses during this period. If you need to make changes to your schedule, be sure to consult with your academic advisor. Also, make sure to check out Marilyn Olenick’s and Anson Carter’s tutoring hours for English and math, respectively, for the spring semester. In the spring semester of 2015 the Entrance to Major Process will take place for sophomore students; with students being able to go onto Elion to declare their major and choice of campus location. If you need assistance with this process, please let us know. We will be offering an ETM workshop on February 3rd, in SSS. If you are unsure of your major, please schedule an appointment with one of our staff to explore majors and career choices. Please make sure to start off the New Year right by attending all of your classes! This way you will be able to stay up-to-date with all of your course requirements. Most faculty members count attendance and class participation as key ingredients to success in their courses. If you are not there, you cannot participate; with the result being you will quickly fall behind the other students in the class.

You are welcome to use our SSS space to study and also to complete your class assignments on our computers. Also, remember to check your e-mail on a regular daily basis for important announcements and deadlines! As we begin the new year, 2015, we want to let you know that all of the SSS staff are here to assist you in your college success. **Our workshops, study** **area, tutoring services, academic advising, and career counseling are available for you to participate in to help ensure your success**. Please don’t hesitate to contact us if you need help. Have a great spring semester and continue to have a good college experience! ◊

# English & Math Tutoring

Don’t forget about the free English and math tutoring available to all SSS students. Anson Carter’s math tutoring hours are Monday through Friday, from 1:00 to 3:00 pm. Marilyn Olenick’s English tutoring hours are Monday thru Friday, from 3:00 to 5:00 pm. Both Anson and Marilyn’s tutoring hours are posted in the SSS Department. Stop by and say hello and review your assignments with Marilyn and Anson.◊

# Book Resource Program a Great Opportunity

There are many perks associated with the SSS program, but one of the most popular is the Book Resource Program. The program is available to all active Wilkes-Barre SSS students. If you are enrolled in an English or Math course offered on our campus, you may use the book in our SSS area or you may borrow the book on a limited basis. In return, students will attend a minimum of three workshops. The deadline for requesting a book is Wednesday, January 21st. Be sure to stop by the office to complete a Book Resource form and save yourself some cash! ◊

# Math Matters

Old Man Peabody had grandchildren ages 2, 4, 5, and 7. He gives each grandchild twice as many birthday gifts as they are in age. In return, each grandchild gives him one less birthday gift than they receive from him. How many gifts does Old Man Peabody get from his grandchildren?

Do you know the answer?

Submit your solution by email to (adc15@psu.edu) or in the SSS office (Murphy Center 109). Correct solutions received by January 26th will receive 1 activity point from SSS. ◊

— Anson Carter, Instructor in Mathematics

# Important Reminders

Please remember to sign in when you come into SSS when you are utilizing our study area, books, and computers; as well as visiting any of our counselors or tutors. This helps document for the Department of Education the number of students using our services. Please also remember if you are participating in the Book Resource Program to sign your name in the Weekly Log Binder on a once a week basis. ◊

# Winter Weather

Now that bad weather is a possibility, be sure to check our campus website for delays or cancellations. It’s a great idea to sign up for campus text messages on your cell phone if you haven’t already done that. You also have the option of checking local TV/radio stations for cancellations before you venture out on potentially dangerous roads. ◊

# Grammar Tips: Transitioning

When you pick up a new book or periodical, pay attention to the transitions between paragraphs. When you identify those words, phrases, and sentences that link former ideas to new ones, you will find the secret: comparing them for a commonality that advances the thesis. Recognizing transitions in works you enjoy makes it easier to apply them to your own writing. ◊

— Marilyn Olenick, English Tutor

Congratulations!

We would like to extend our congratulations and best wishes to our SSS fall 2014 graduates: William Dankwah, Taylor Shepley.◊

Student Mailing Address

On occasion we will be mailing correspondence to our students and we want you to receive it in a prompt manner. If you have not already done so, please give SSS your local mailing address.◊

Event Calendar for January 2015

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|  |  |  |  | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
| 11 | 12**Welcome Back!Classes Begin** | 13 | 14 | 15**Getting Back into the Swing for the Spring-MeetingALL SSS StudentsNoon-S101** | 16 | 17 |
| 18 | 19**No Classes!** | 20 | 21 | 22**Perfecting Your Notes-Academic WorkshopNoon-AC107** | 23 | 24 |
| 25 | 26 | 27 | 28**Essay Writing Made Easy-Academic WorkshopNoon-AC107** | 29 | 30 | 31 |

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