



Provost Newsletter

News from the Provost

We have just a few short weeks before the end of the term and it has certainly been a busy and exciting semester. It has also been a historic semester, given the impact of the recent presidential election on college campuses across the country. I am incredibly proud of the way in which UC faculty, staff and students have respectfully responded to the outcome of the recent presidential election. In so many places throughout campus – especially in our classrooms – the outcome of the election, the process and predictions of the election, and the myriad social, political and economic circumstances leading up to its ultimate result, have created powerful learning opportunities.

While addressing the intense feelings created by the long and negative presidential campaign, Richard H. Brodhead, President of Duke University rightly acknowledged that, “.... we must not simply tolerate difference of opinions but create the conditions for respectful dialogue that allow mutual education to take place.” That is our charge; our duty. We are a University and the way in which we have managed our charge these past few difficult weeks has been nothing less than laudable. Please know that my office is available for any support or guidance you may need, as well as to listen to any suggestions you may have. This extends to any UC faculty member, staff, or student. ■

Patricia A. Lynott
Executive Vice President and Provost



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The Learning Center Continues to Expand & Thrive During Fall Semester 2016

By Evan Bodi and the Learning Center

Mid-term season is now over, but The Learning Center is gearing up for a busy end to a fall semester that continues to bring new beginnings for one of Southern New Hampshire University's biggest offices in terms of student employment.

The overall numbers are impressive, as The Learning Center has recorded over 1,200 student visits through mid-October, with the busiest part of the semester yet to come. Walk-in Tutoring continues to be the most popular tutoring method with students, comprising 57% of our total visits to date.

Math and Mentoring represent two of The Learning Center's most popular services in terms of total student visits by discipline at 44% and 22%, respectively. The business and writing disciplines also continue to be successful in assisting students as the semester progresses towards finals.

Math tutoring encompasses general University Math courses like Math 130 and Math 240, as well as many upper level and newly established math courses that have been added to the course catalogue.

Business tutoring comprises a wide variety of course areas, including (but not limited to) the following subjects: accounting, economics, finance, information technology, marketing, and operations management.

Writing tutoring covers any University course that includes a writing component, which can range from research papers to personal narratives, as well as argumentative essays and speeches. Other writing services that continue to be offered

include Conversational English, where international students can practice their English speaking skills in groups with peer educators, and Peer-to-Peer Workshops, where peer educators review topics related to writing fundamentals, such as thesis statements and citation styles.

Mentoring services provided by The Learning Center include: Peer Mentoring, Second Start Mentoring, Commit to Success Mentoring, and Scholarship Retention Program Mentoring. The new Academic Coaching Program is designed to provide Freshman students with guidance and support related to academics and college life on a weekly basis.

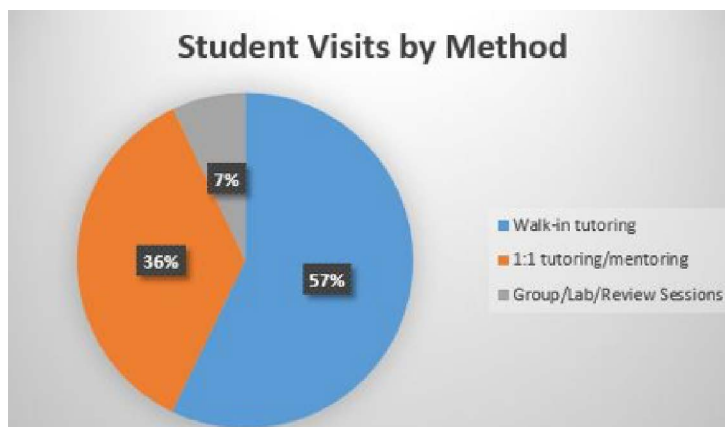
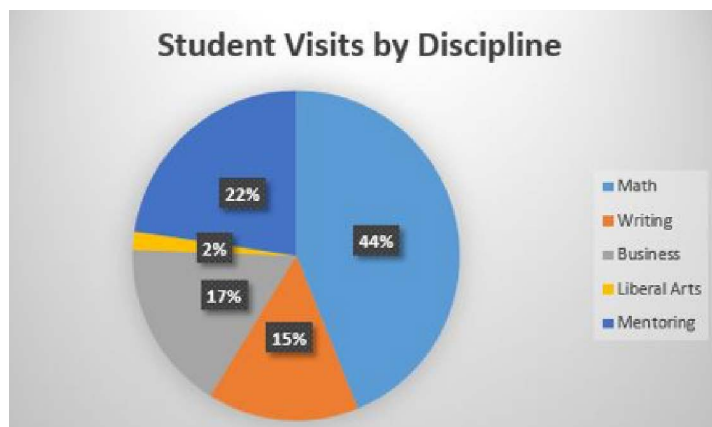
With regards to writing tutoring and mentoring services, the Learning Center is excited about the roll-out of two new pilot programs this fall: Appointment-Based Writing Tutoring and Walk-in Mentoring.

Appointment-Based Writing Tutoring is designed to bridge the gap between Walk-in Tutoring and One-to-One Tutoring; it is for the student who occasionally needs one-on-one benefits but does not require semester-long assistance.

Walk-in Mentoring fills a similar need for the Mentoring discipline, as it gives students the opportunity to improve their time management, organization skills, and study skills at their own convenience without being enrolled in the mentoring program.

The continued success of its existing offerings, combined with the addition of new services to address the evolving needs of SNHU students, demonstrates that The Learning Center continues to be a significant source of support and retention for all the students it serves. ■

Breakdown of student visits to the Learning Center.



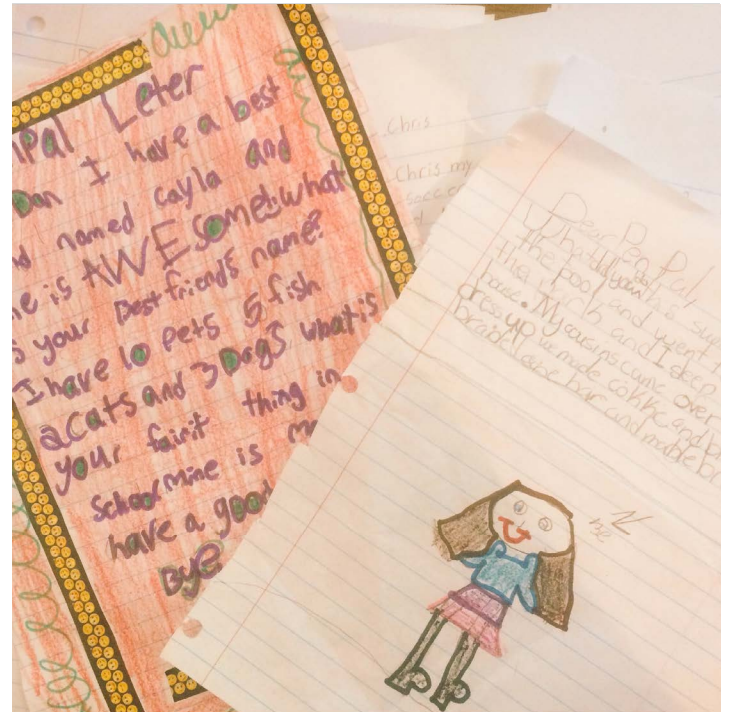
Pen Pals Reinforce Importance of Hand-Writing

By Joshua Harwood

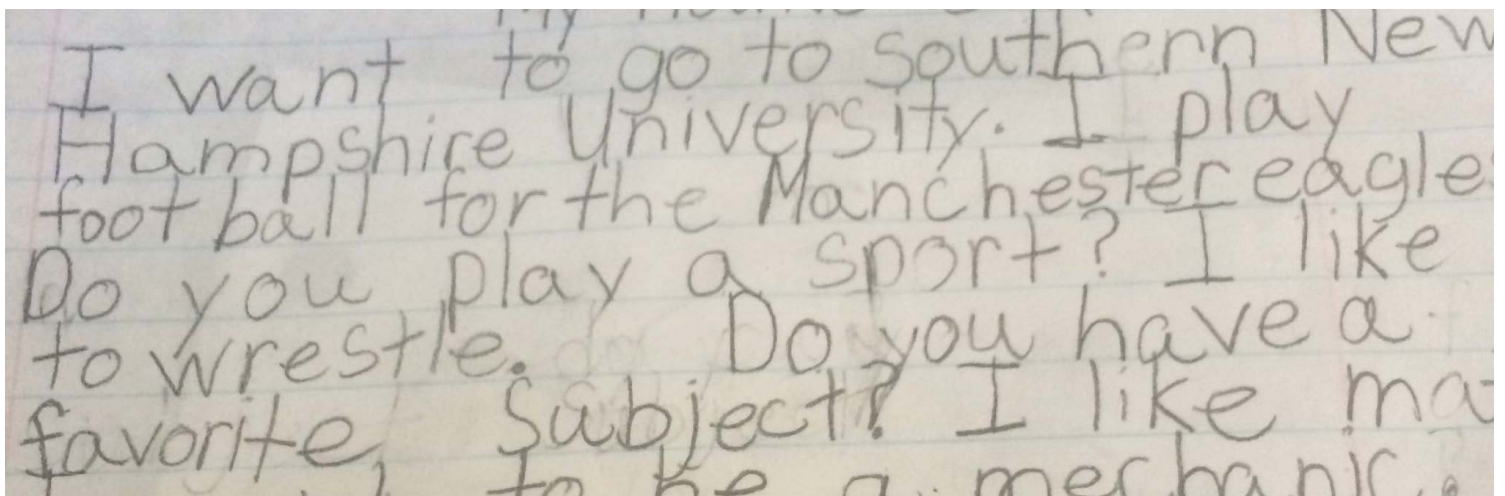
Hand-writing a letter is a lost art in today's world of fast-paced technology driven business. However, in my Foundations of Management course (OL-105) I am trying a brand-new service learning experience. My students have a unique ability to hand-write letters to 4th and 5th graders at Gossler Park School in Manchester, New Hampshire. The impact that a Southern New Hampshire University student can have on a younger child is so amazing, and the added benefit of writing these letters not only helps the elementary students with their writing skills, but it also helps my students take time out of their technology driven lives to connect with the community in a way that they would typically never connect. In business today, everything is about how quick someone can view, send, or receive a message. The connection my students are learning focuses more on patience and anticipation. Taking that foundation, and using those skills to being a successful leader is important as a fast-paced technology continues to be the norm in society.

Yes, I am one of those crazy instructors that permit minimal use of cell phones in class (as long as there is no disruption to anyone), and there is even social media in-class assignments. However, there is this amazing thing occurring because of this service learning experience. Although I do not have a study to back-up this research, what I have found is that my students are more patient, and the visibility of technology in my classroom is almost completely gone. Connecting SNHStudents to 4th and 5th grade students is by far one of the best experiences I have had as an educator, and based on feedback from my students, it is theirs as well.

Here is a suggestion to anyone who wants to work with people. Make it a point to occasionally hand-write a letter! It has a different meaning in the world today, and the impact it can make on one person is truly amazing. ■



Students from Gossler Park School write letters to SNHU students.



Welcome, Leila Samii

By Dan Martel

Leila Samii, who worked as an Adjunct here at SNHU from 2010–2014, has returned this semester has a full-time faculty member. With a Bachelor of Science in Forensic Psychology from John J College, a MS in International Business at SNHU, and a Ph. D. in International Business, with a Marketing focus from SNHU, Samii has a deep educational background that has guided her through many opportunities.

When asked if there was a difference for her between SNHU and other places she's worked and attended, she responded, "SNHU is amazing. The positivity of the staff here is mind-blowing. This University is increasingly innovative and the collaborative mindsets of the faculty are something you just don't see everywhere."

Dr. Samii's life isn't all work, everyday she gets to enjoy the best part of her life thus far, marrying her best friend. One of the most exciting things she has ever done was backpacking across Europe with her best friend she met in second grade. This trip enabled them to visit nine cities, including Paris and Barcelona, in just 21 days.

With a passion for anything digital marketing or social media related, Samii looks forward to teaching courses in these areas in the future. She has experience optimizing social media pages for companies, as well as running a Master's program at Aurora University.

Looking back at her days as an Adjunct, she realizes how different it is now that she is a full-time faculty member. According to Samii, "I've learned more about the inner workings of the University now that I'm no longer a student here. I've also grown, learned best practices, and learned how to better engage my students as I become



Headshot of Leila Samii.

more and more student focused each year." She talked about how much the school has improved since she began visiting campus at a young age.

Next semester, she will be co-teaching a new course, Data Driven Decisions (BUS-3ST1/ COM-3ST1, with communications professor Jon Boroshok. This class originated when Boroshok saw a void in the sector with students and analytics. He connected with Samii and they worked together to design a course that will teach students to embrace translating data into marketing deliverables. Students that take this class will also learn how to use IBM Watson. Stop by her office, Webster 120C, and give her a warm, welcome back to SNHU. ■

Handshakes, Connections, and Opportunities: Career Expo Success

By Institutional Advancement

Why was Wednesday, October 4th such a good day to be on campus? The weather was amazing – sunny and clear skies all day, and the campus was full of activity. The day was so good because of the Career Expo that brought together motivated students with employers and alumni looking for SNHU talent for internships and jobs.

The SNHU Career Expo continues to grow and attract

more students and employers. It was another record-breaking year with 860+ students in attendance. There was something for everyone – first year students made connections for informational interviews and shadowing opportunities and seniors were sharing their resumes and talking with recruiters as they worked to line up job interviews.

The gym in the Athletic Center was transformed into a sea of blue and white pipe and drape, where many alumni were among the 114 employers. Recent graduates were eager to return to campus to talk with friends and see their professors who attended the fair. Louise Murphy '16, now

working for Hawthorn Creative in Portsmouth, was excited to be on the other side of the table at the event recruiting for her company.

"I always loved the Career Center at SNHU, and even in my four years I saw huge growth in students attending events and utilizing their services," said Murphy.

"It was great to attend the Career Expo and see how SNHU is reaching out to more employers across more diverse fields to attract students of all majors," said Murphy.

"I was surprised at how many students were open to coming up to the table to chat. I liked that freshmen were encouraged to attend the fair as well, because early exposure can only help in the long run," Murphy said.

Murphy was also excited to see so many alumni representing companies, including many students she graduated with in May. Murphy said, "It tells me that those students are graduating with competencies that are relevant and interviewing skills that have obviously got them a job!"

Being on the other side of the table representing Hawthorn Creative makes Murphy grateful for her job. She remembers wandering around the gym last year searching for a company that she wanted to be a part of and feeling overwhelmed. Looking back now, Murphy feels like all the puzzle pieces just fell into place and she ended up where she needed to be. "I worked hard to be here and know a lot of the work I did in school really paid off," Murphy said.

"To the students that I saw at the Career Expo really trying to make connections and be professional – I wanted to tell them that everything would work out and it would be OK! Continue to work hard and improve your skills and you'll be impressed with where that can take you," said Murphy.

warm, welcome back to SNHU. ■



Gifts from last years' Angel Tree Program.

Angel Trees

By Jill Judd and the Angel Tree Committee of SNHU

The SNHU Angel Tree initiative supports several local organizations throughout the Manchester community, providing a little holiday cheer to children, families, and seniors in need. In the upcoming weeks, holiday trees will be displayed throughout campus adorned with Angel Gift Tags. SNHU students, faculty, and staff are encouraged to select an "angel" tag from the trees, purchase the items based on the information on the tag, and then return the gifts to the SNHU drop off location for delivery to the organization. For many children and families this holiday season these gifts will be all they receive.

The Angel Trees were all decorated by November 11. The Angel Tree program will run through December 8, with a basket raffle fundraiser occurring December 6–8. ■



Gifts from last years' Angel Tree Program.

Flights Booked: This Year's Alternative Breaks

By Rachael Straehle

Earlier this month eleven students and one advisor carefully read through dozens of applications looking for just the right participants for our four alternative break trips. After four hours of reading and discussion the participants were chosen. Now comes the fun part, getting ready for the trips!

This winter break a group will return to Dominican Republic to work with the organization Outreach 360 in Monte Cristi. Outreach 360 is a grass-roots organization focused on transforming the lives of children living in disadvantaged areas by providing them with educational opportunities and a life of choice. Students will be creating their own lesson plans teaching English in the local elementary schools, as well as having the opportunity to learn about the history and culture of Monte Cristi, Dominican Republic. This trip is titled "Breaking the Cycle: Empowering Children through Education," and is led by student leaders Erika Downing and Amber Rose. Cara Procek and Neena Fink will be the advisors on the trip.

Another group of students is headed to Atlanta, Georgia over winter break to work with the International Rescue Committee, an organization that responds to the world's worst humanitarian crises and helps people whose lives have been shattered by conflict and disaster. SNHU students will be assisting the organization with many different programs, and will learn about the refugee crisis,

as well as the resettlement process. This trip, Resettling Refugees: Deconstructing a Complicated Narrative, is led by student leaders Brian Hannigan and Elle Tibbits. The advisors are Bill Gillet and Jessica Erb.

Though our spring break trips are still months away, work has already begun for the pre-trip meetings. Students Julia Repaal and Adrian Ramos are getting ready to teach students about water access in rural Nicaragua. Themselves, along with advisors Chris Matthews and Jay Tifone, and eleven other SNHU students, will build a water harvesting system for a family in Santa Julia.

Finally, students Corey Biggins and Jess Gallant will lead a trip to Pulaski, Virginia to work with Beans and Rice, an organization working to improve the economic well-being of low income families in rural Virginia. Corey and Jess are joined by advisors Colleen Lubin and Sue Losapio and eleven other students.

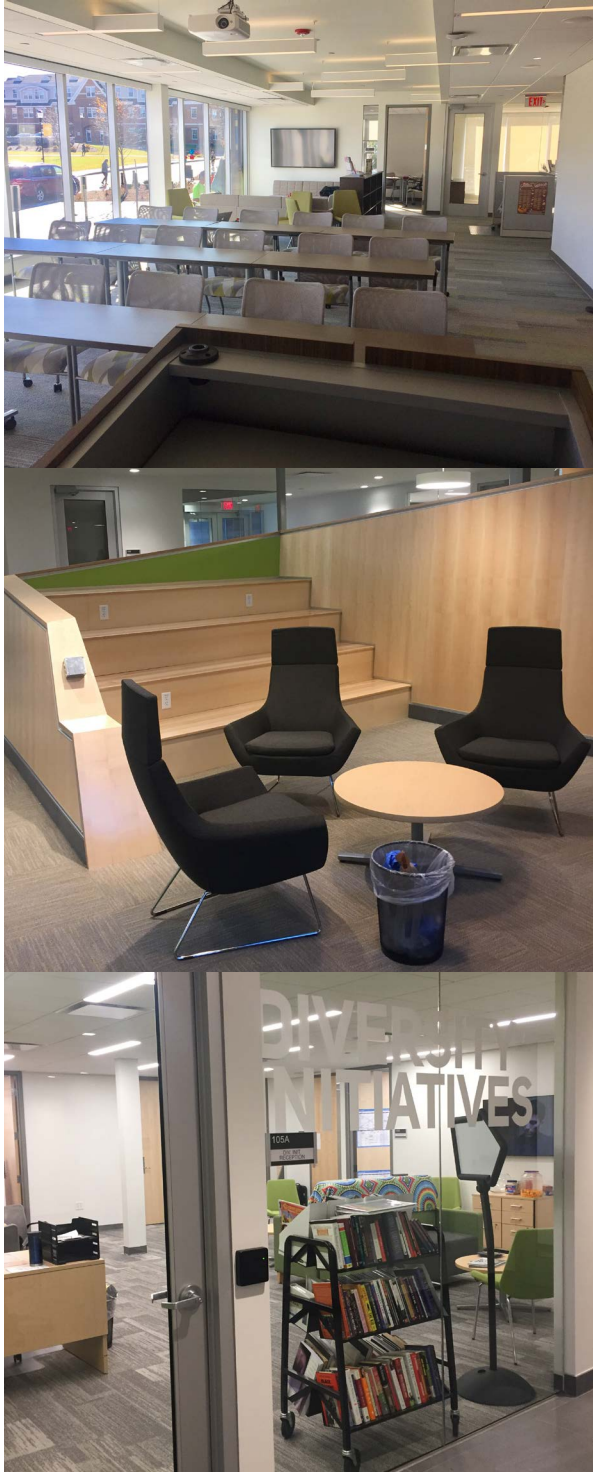
As a past participant of two trips, I can honestly say that this program is the greatest thing I have ever done at Southern New Hampshire University and it has completely changed my outlook on life. I came to SNHU thinking I was going to be a psychologist, and I am leaving this semester, knowing that I am going to spend the rest of my life working in low-income communities, working to create equity around the world. Alternative Break provides life-changing, perspective-shifting opportunities to students. If you know a student selected for one of these trips, ask them what they are learning! ■

SNHU students with children of Nicaragua.



SNHU Student Rachael Straehle and children in Dominican Republic.





William S. Green Center for Student Success Opening

By Dan Martel

Thanks to Analogue Studio, at the beginning of November, offices were able to officially move into the new William S. Green Center for Student Success. Community for Center Engaged Learning, Residence Life, the Deborah L. Coughlin Woman's Center, the Office of Disability Services, Academic Advising, Enrollment Ops, DeColfmacker Veteran's Lounge, ROTC, and International Student Services earned the opportunity to take advantage of SNHU's newest renovation. There is also room to expand the space available for diversity clubs.

The purpose of this building, according to Dean of Students Heather Lorenz, is to "create a center that brings all units together in a way to best serve students." These particular offices were chosen to go into this new space because it made sense with how well they work collaboratively. Students will be able to come to the William S. Green Center for Student Success and relax in the many lounge areas. There are conference rooms available for booking within the building (which can be booked through Conference Services).

The highlight of the William S. Green Center for Student Success is the Deborah L. Coughlin Women's Center. The Women's Center was designated a large portion of this new building and it is the first time on campus the Women's Center has its own space. According to Brooke Gilmore, Director of the Deborah L. Coughlin Women's Center, "This prominent space creates a welcoming atmosphere for people to come hang out in and learn about the missions and accomplishments of the Women's Center. It sends a positive message to the community and campus about the importance of women's rights and gender equality." It also includes a kitchen, a conference room (which can be booked by emailing womenscenter@snhu.edu), and a space large enough to hold classes. Many classes listed under the Gender Studies Minor will be held in here as well.

The Center For Community Engaged Learning is excited to be out of Stark Hall and in a location with a lot of foot traffic! Enrollment Ops, formerly located on Elm Street, is pleased to be back on campus.

When asked who deserves kudos for this building, Dean Lorenz responded, "the architects, facilities, and staff really all worked together to make this process as efficient as possible." The official Deborah L. Coughlin Woman's Center Dedication and the Ribbon Cutting Ceremony for the William S. Green Center for Student Success will be held on December 14, at noon and 2:00 p.m. respectively. ■