

Grade First Aid: Where to go when the going

Ahh. Doesn't it feel good. You've finally got all of your stuff crammed in the cubicle that you will come to call home for the next nine months. Your entourage of family members is beginning to painfully separate themselves from you and your new university surroundings. Reality creeps in. You've done it! You're a UNC student, chosen from thousands. Now you can sit back and bask in the glory of being one of the best and the brightest.

Or can you? Although you will undoubtedly hear 1,000 variations of "Look at the person to your left. Now, look at the person to your right. One of these two people will not graduate from this university," more than likely you still have the mindset that you will not be among the many to fall by the wayside. Good, the university would not have picked you if you did not have the ability or the stamina to graduate from UNC. However, the university also recognizes that even the best and the brightest need a helping hand once in a while and in order to provide students with just that, they have devised several programs on campus to do just that. So when the going gets rough and the possibility of a 4.0 is beginning to appear to be a harder task than you thought, check out these programs and give yourself the boost you need to a successful career at UNC.

--EFC

Academic Support Services

Programs that are as varied as the students and their needs fall under the umbrella of Academic Support Services. Among these are the Math Tutorials, the Writing Center, the Learning Disabilities Services and the Learning Skills Center and the Student Government Tutorial Services. The Academic Support Service serves as a main directory for the majority of the support programs on campus. Dean Bobbi Owen, Associate Dean of Academic Support Services, said that Academic Services was a type of "clearing house" and "As Associate Dean, I keep people from having to go to different places and having to speak with middle men." Owen stressed that she was enjoyed working directly with student and was available to answer questions and guide a student towards academic success. Although many of the programs that fall under the Academic Support Services category place special emphasis on students who are in General College (usually freshmen and sophomores), programs are open to any one and offer services from which most students could benefit. For more information on these programs, you can either contact the department that offers the program, or stop in 211 Steele and make an appointment to

talk with Owen. To give you an idea of the type of programs offered, here are a few of the programs offered and a brief overview of what they do.

Math Tutorial

This program is designed to help students who are having extreme difficulty in their mathematics courses. Students whose math grades are a "D" or lower are referred to the program which provides each student with tutors. Tutors are available for Math 1, 2, 3, 4, 22, 30, 31 and are assigned to a specific course, thus they are familiar with the course requirements of this class. Students are able to meet with their tutors weekly for a one-on-one meeting in which they can work on individual problems and on improving their mathematical skills in general.

However, if you have a higher than "D" average, but still want to improve your math skills and grades, the Department of Mathematics sponsors weekly math labs for mathematics classes numbered 22 to 33. Schedules for these labs are announced at the beginning of each semester and are obtainable from your professor or from the office of the Department of Mathematics.

The Writing Center

Have a research paper due and you

simply don't know where to begin? Need help organizing your ideas for a paper in a history class? Or do you simply need the answer to a small, nagging grammar question? If you answered "yes" to any of these questions or need help developing other aspects of your writing ability, the Writing Center is for you. This center offers tutorial assistance not only in classes that require that one has strong writing skills to succeed. The center provides tutors who help students develop their skills in everything from developing a topic for their research paper to improving their skills regarding literary style, grammar and syntax. In addition, the tutors will also work with students individually to help them analyze their own work.

The center has two locations, one in the lower level of Phillips Annex and the other in the lower level of Robert B. House Undergraduate Library. Owen stresses that although the location in Phillips Annex is not accessible by wheelchair, the center

and found to be learning disabled are able to take advantage of the assistance offered by the Learning Disabilities Services. The program aids students in time management, learning strategies, and preparation and supervision of alternate testing formats. Student who feel that they may be learning disabled and could benefit from such a program as this can be tested by the services. For more information contact 962-7227.

Learning Skills Center

The Learning Skills Center is a very diverse program, offering everything from learning strategies workshops to classes that help students prepare for the GRE, LSAT, MCAT and other post undergraduate testing. The main goal of the Learning Skills Center is to improve the students ability to learn and the program attempts to reach that goal through offering instructional classes in learning strategies that include organizing time, taking notes, preparing for exams and thinking analytically and critically while studying.

auspices of the Learning Skills Center is the Student Government Tutorial Services. The service, which is organized by student government, allows students who have taken a course for at least three semesters and have received no less than a "B" average, to receive three credits for tutoring other students who are having difficulty in their area of expertise. The students are selected and trained to participate as tutors. They hold weekly sessions in which they tutor students who need help on a first come-first serve basis. For more information on locations, dates and times of tutoring sessions, contact the Learning Skills Center at 962-3782.

The Office Of Student Counseling

The Office of Student Counseling (OSC) is another one of the many programs provided by the university to assist students in achieving their academic goals. Although the programs offered by OSC are open to all students,



Associate Dean Bobbi Owen(left) and Associate Dean Rosalind Fuse-Hall discuss academic support services

located in the lower level of the Undergraduate Library is. For more information contact 962-7710.

Learning Disabilities Services

The Learning Disabilities Services is dedicated to teaching learning disabled students to develop a confidence in themselves that will apply both to their college career at UNC and beyond this point. Students who have been tested

Although these services are directed primarily towards student in the General College, they are opened to all UNC students. For more information on the classes that will be offered by the Learning Skills Center this year contact the center which is located in Phillips Annex or call 962-3782.

Student Government Tutorial Services

Another program that runs under the

OSC is especially dedicated to assisting Native and African American students. OSC is coordinated by Associate Dean Rosalind Fuse-Hall and Acting Assistant Dean Harold Woodard. Fuse-Hall stresses that although students may have done well in high school, university studies can be a different ball game. "More than likely the skills you had in high school will not get you through your first semester