

POP Partners Program

UNIVERSITY CENTER FOR
UNDERGRADUATE ADVISING
(FORMERLY, ACADEMIC ADVISING CENTER)
www.csulb.edu/aac

SOPHOMORE ISSUE 1
AUGUST 2009



DEAR FAMILY OF SOPHOMORE STUDENTS

Your son or daughter is becoming a seasoned college student. Aren't you gratified to see a new maturity level? It is my true belief that sophomore students need to connect to the University in at least two ways. One, by joining clubs or organizations to meet people of similar interests; and two, connect with one or more faculty mentors. All the research shows that students that persist to graduation have faculty connections. So encourage those next important steps, your student will be happy you did.

Marilee Samuelson
Director
University Center for Undergraduate Advising



ACTIVE LEARNERS CLIMB THE LADDER OF ACADEMIC SUCCESS

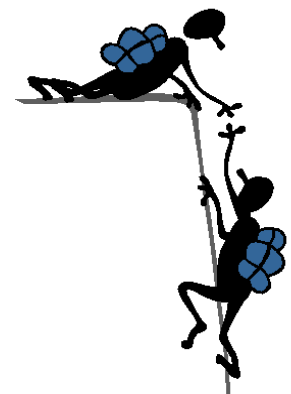
Parents, encourage your son or daughter to become an active learner. The dividends are huge!

The past "freshman year" has been one of intellectual growth. However, freshmen students are usually quiet, even passive in the classroom. The sophomore year can be the real beginning of an active learning experience. As John Gardner points out in his book "Your College Experience: Strategies for Success," as students become more comfortable in an academic and social setting, they learn they can have a voice in the learning process.

For example, active learners collaborate with other students on class projects or form study groups to enhance their own knowledge with what others in the group have learned. They polish their communicative skills to give better oral presentations. They learn how to support their own arguments when they question or disagree.

To be an active learner requires sitting close to the front of each classroom to better focus on the instructor. It requires connection with faculty for discussion or clarification about classroom issues. Active learning requires an open mind to new ideas and concepts and a willingness to ask questions.

What are the rewards of active learning? For one, active learners can control their own education. They can function independently and are better able to learn and teach themselves. Active learners can become partners with their instructors in the learning process and form important faculty relationships. The confidence that active learners acquire is so important. It helps build that ladder to academic success that all of us want for your sons and daughters.



CLIMB THE LADDER
OF
ACADEMIC SUCCESS

GET ON BOARD

BeachBoard, CSULB's e-learning environment, provides students with the opportunity to stay connected with their instructors and classmates. In fact, **BeachBoard** may be a component of some or all of a student's courses as either a supplement to the course, as an element of a hybrid course, or as structure for a completely online course.

BeachBoard may provide a method of receiving class material, online quizzes, a virtual chatroom and discussion boards, announcements, or as a method of checking or receiving grades.

In a completely online course, **BeachBoard** serves as the method for all of the course's faculty-student interactions.

To access **BeachBoard**, students need a CSULB Internet Account available at <http://www.csulb.edu/namemaster>. For all questions, contact the Technology Help Desk at (562) 985-4959, helpdesk@csulb.edu, or visit the THD website at <http://helpdesk.csulb.edu>.



IT'S AN HONOR

Academic achievement deserves honors at CSULB. Undergraduate students exhibiting scholastic achievement are honored by being included on the President's or Dean's List. Honored students receive a certificate for each semester in which they receive this recognition. Students placed on the President's List have completed 12 or more graded course units with a semester's grade point average (GPA) of 3.75 to 4.0. Students earning fewer than 12 graded units each semester will be placed on the President's List in the Spring semester of the academic year in which they have accumulate 12 or more graded units with the same above mentioned GPA.



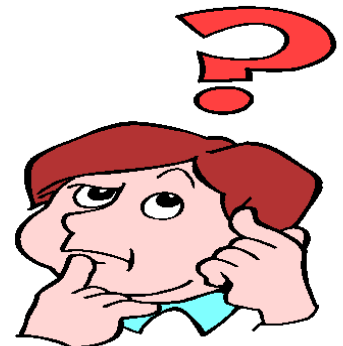
The Dean's List also requires 12 or more grade units with a semester's GPA of 3.5 to 3.74 GPA. The same Spring policy applies to students who have earned fewer than 12 graded units in a semester.

So parents - when those Honor Certificates begin to show up, burst with pride and tell your son or daughter how great Honors looks on a transcript or resume.

WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY MEDICAL WITHDRAWAL?

Unfortunately, some students have medical emergencies and must withdraw from the University for a full semester.

The University may allow a student to withdraw without academic penalty from all classes if a Medical Withdrawal Form is completed, required documentation is included, and both are submitted to Enrollment Services before the end of the semester. The request is then reviewed by the Provost. Remember parents, a formal Medical Withdrawal holds your son/daughter's place in the University.





Even the best students sometimes fall on to academic probation. At CSULB, academic probation happens any time a student's cumulative grade point averages, either at CSULB or all colleges attended, falls below a 2.0 Grade Point Average (GPA) or "C" grade.

Students (and parents) despair but help is here at CSULB in the form of the University Center for Undergraduate Advising's (formerly, Academic Advising Center) great workshops called "Strategies for Academic Success," a probation intervention program.

It is a mouthful - but students that attend the workshop also get an earful of important academic information. Moreover, they learn strategies about how to turn their grades around and return to good academic standing.

One very important strategy students learn in the workshops is a process called "repeat for grade forgiveness." With this process students have an opportunity to repeat the course in which they received D, F, or W/U (unauthorized withdrawal) grades. If students repeat the same course and receive a grade of C or better on that second attempt, the first grade of D, F, or W/U will be forgiven from the grade computation and the second grade will be used instead. There are a few caveats, however:

- the course must be repeated at CSULB,
- only the second attempt can delete the first, and
- the repeated course must receive an A, B, C, or CR grade.

Academic advisors in the workshops first must get

students to recognize why they did poorly in their first attempt of a course. If it was due to lack of attendance or focus they will probably do well at a second attempt of a course.

If the first attempt was unsuccessful because the student could not master the material they may not do well at a second attempt without a lot of learning assistance. This is a very important issue because the repeated course cannot receive another D, F, or W/U grade since both unsuccessful attempts remain on the transcript.

We ask students who could not master the material on the first attempt to participate in Learning Assistance Center workshops on:

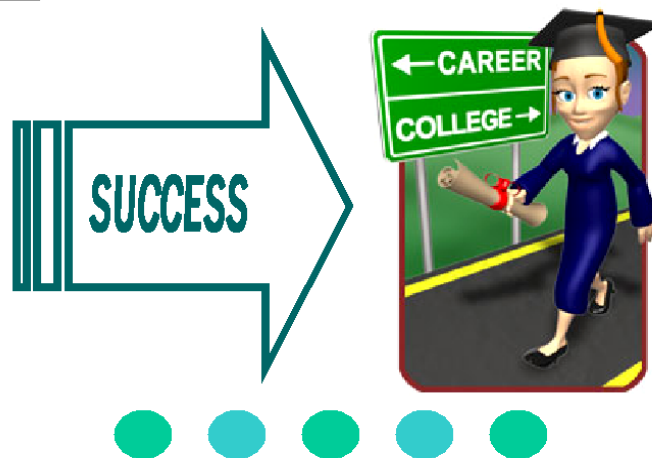
- reading text books critically
- time management
- preparing research papers
- memory/exam techniques
- listening and note taking
- planning for finals

We also recommend the Writer's Resource Lab to assist students who need help with writing papers. We recommend that students seek faculty who are available during "open office" hours to provide guidance and counseling.

In addition, the academic advisors in the Strategies for Academic Success workshops invite students to visit with them often in the University Center for Undergraduate Advising (UCUA) so that we can provide on-going guidance as they move up to "good standing."

Free workshops are held throughout the year and all students are strongly recommended by the University Interim Provost, Dr. Don Para, to attend.

Students are notified of their academic status by their "MyCSULB" account.



USEFUL NUMBERS

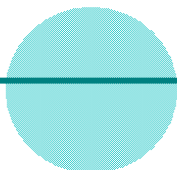


UCUA WORKSHOPS	(562) 985-7847
STRATEGIES FOR ACADEMIC SUCCESS	(562) 985-5296
LEARNING ASSISTANCE CENTER	(562) 985-5350
WRITER'S RESOURCE LAB	(562) 985-4329

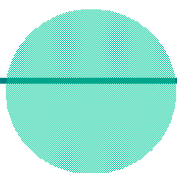
**SOME UNIVERSITY EVENTS
THRU DECEMBER 2009**



**UNIVERSITY CENTER FOR
UNDERGRADUATE
ADVISING**



WEB SITE:
www.csulb.edu/aac



At the Carpenter Center for Performing Arts

Complexions Ballet with Desmond Richmond

Saturday, October 24, 2009

Born in New York City and raised in U2, Stevie ray Vaughn, and Muddy Waters—this contemporary dance company literally rocks! From pointe to pop Complexions ponders the human condition coupling cutting edge music and choreography with the roots of classical dance.

An Evening with John Cleese

Tuesday, November 17, 2009

A Final wave at the World (or Alimony Tour, year One)

In which professor, Doctor Cleese will be discussing his career in the zany and hilarious world of comedy—as well as his most pressing medical problems, his inability to find suitable female companionship, his mistrust of folk-dancing, and his latest plan for world peace.

Troubadour Theater Co.

It's a Stevie Wonderful Life

Friday, December 4, 2009

This 'Signed, Sealed, and Delivered' hit will deck the halls with howls of laughter as the Troubadour Theater Co. gives everyone the gift of holiday hilarity! They fuse the holiday classic and the music of Stevie Wonder for your 'Cherie Amour' or the entire family.

"Some shows make us smile. Some offer a chuckle or two. Some may offer a thigh-slapping moment. But it's a rare and treasured show such as this one that makes us laugh until we drool, leaving us breathless."—Back Stage West

At The University Art Museum

An Evening with Brian Eno

Sunday, September 20, 2009 at 7 pm

Brian Eno is one of the most prolific and diverse innovators of our time. Creator of modern ambient music, producer for a wide range of artists—David Bowie, Talking Heads, U2, and Coldplay—his artistic influence continues to be a world-wide inspiration.

77 Million Paintings is a monitor-based exhibition that slowly evolves into endless combinations of colour and shape. It's exclusive Southern California installation at CSULB' University Art Museum. See the exhibition, then, join us for a rare lecture by Brian himself.

Look for other UAM events at our website (below.)

Long Beach State Athletics

CSULB hosts 14 NCAA Division I sports including prominent baseball, basketball, and volleyball teams. Check out the action at <http://www.longbeachstate.com>

The University Art Museum (UAM)

Location: The UAM is located on the campus of California State University, Long Beach, in the Steve and Nini Horn Center. Hours: Tuesday-Saturday, 12-5pm. Phone: (562) 985-5761
Website: www.csulb.edu/uam

The Carpenter Center

Location: The Carpenter Center is located at the north edge of CSULB at 6200 Atherton Blvd. in Long Beach. Ticket Hours: Monday-Friday, 11am-6pm and Saturday from 12-4 pm. Phone: (562) 985-4274
Website: www.carpenterarts.org