

French Hall Headlines

Summer 2013, Learning Assistance Center

Exciting Changes at the LAC!

This year provided wonderful growth opportunities for the Learning Assistance Center.

- This year was record-breaking in many ways. During Fall and Spring Semesters, the LAC completed more than **47,000 student contact hours** over more than **33,000 visits**. We saw **4,345 students!**
- We introduced a new online scheduling system called Tutor Trac, which provides real-time data on appointments.
- Both the Tutoring and Coaching programs received Level II Certification from the College Reading and Learning Association, a national reviewing body for Peer Education programs.
- Lastly, we had two new staff additions, Joseph Cunningham and Kaci Kortis. Joseph oversees the Academic Writing Center and is currently completing his PhD in Educational Studies. Kaci will advise Cincinnati Pride Grant recipients, teach LAC test preparation courses, and work with at-risk student support interventions. She is a recent graduate of UC's MS in School Counseling program.

Program Spotlight



Because writing competency is an important aspect of many college courses, the Academic Writing Center is a crucial component to student success across the university. As the new AWC coordinator, I hope to open new pathways for students to access our services in the AWC.

For instance, the AWC is increasing our support for distance learners. We're expanding online tutoring and currently developing blackboard-embedded academic support for several distance learning programs in CECH.

On campus, we're working with the Gen-1 house to promote professional writing skills and forming connections with several other groups on campus. In the future, I hope we can collaborate with other departments to offer dynamic forms of face-to-face and online writing assistance to our students.

~ Joseph Cunningham

Striking Stats

The number of students using our services has skyrocketed over the past two years. Check out the increases we have seen:

Tutoring Appointments

2010-2011		3,808
2012-2013		5,940

It must be because the word is out; students using the LAC excel. For example, students using Supplemental Instruction outperform their peers by an average of .45 points.

Student GPA

SI Participant		2.84
Non-Participant		2.39

Students who worked with academic coaches improved their overall GPA by nearly a full letter grade. The full breakdown is below.

5+ Appts.		.82
3-4 Appts.		.55
0-2 Appts.		.32

Not only do they perform better, but when students use our services, they are more likely to continue towards their degree. Just check out the year-to-year retention rates for some of our biggest programs.

LAC Freshman Retention Rate (2011-2012)

SI Students		88.20%
Tutoring Students		85.80%
All UC Students		76.70%



Meet the LAC Staff!

Malynda Messer is a senior Biology major and Chemistry minor in the McMicken College of Arts and Sciences. In her third year with the Learning Assistance Center, Malynda serves as the Senior Mentor for the Supplemental Instruction program. In this role, Malynda acts as the senior student staff member in the program, assisting program staff with supervision and guidance of SI leaders and mentors. In addition to her involvement with the LAC, Malynda maintains an impressive 4.0 GPA, is a ROAR tour guide, participates in research at Cincinnati Children's Hospital, and is a part of the Honors Program. She enjoys running and regularly participates in 5K races such as the Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure. Her future aspirations include attending medical school and becoming a cardiovascular surgeon.

We're extremely proud of the work we do and the students we help to succeed. We hope you'll learn more about us by following us on Twitter @UC_lac and Facebook.