Gulf Coast Student Success Conference
hosted by
Brazosport College Writing Center
and Student Success Center

Friday, November 13th, 2015
Brazosport College
500 College Drive
Lake Jackson, TX
8:00-9:00
Breakfast and Conversation
provided by Tommy’s
Gator Hall

9:00-10:30
Keynote Workshop
Dr. Brian Fallon, Fashion Institute of Technology
Gator Hall

10:45-11:45
Session I
F.102, 103, 104, 105

12:00-1:00
Session II
F.102, 103, 104, 105

1:00-2:00
Lunch
provided by Tommy’s
Gator Hall

2:15-3:15
Session III
F.102, 103, 104, 105

3:30-4:30
Session IV
F.102, 103, 104, 105

4:45-6:15
Open Forum
Gator Hall

Dinner provided by Tommy’s

6:30-8:00
“Moons: Worlds of Mystery”
BASF Planetarium
Brian is the founding director of the Fashion Institute of Technology's (FIT) writing center program, the Writing Studio. His scholarly work focuses on peer tutors' experiences as learners and teachers. He writes and speaks on empathy, listening, and confidence as key components to any tutoring situation. Inspired by Ken Bruffee, Harvey Kail, and John Trimbur, Brian's work revisits how the social dynamics of peer tutoring in writing influences current writing center epistemology and pedagogy. His most recent research project investigates the history of the National Conference in Peer Tutoring in Writing as a forum for undergraduate research and involvement in scholarly activity. In fall 2011, he delivered the keynote address at the NCPTW meeting in Miami at Florida International University. A copy of his 2011 keynote address was recently published in Fitzgerald and Ianetta's The Oxford Guide for Writing Tutors. Brian received the 2010 Ron Maxwell Award for distinguished leadership in promoting the collaborative learning practices of peer tutors in writing and co-won the 2007 IWCA scholarship award for an outstanding article.
The Creative Advantage: Creative Writers in the Writing Center  
F.103  
Ammar Habib and Haley Sietz, Brazosport College  
Our presentation connects our own backgrounds as fictional writers and as academic tutors to show how our experiences allow us to help students add emotion and voice into their writing. We will share strategies employed by creative writers, and discuss how we use these methods to help students communicate more effectively.

Tutoring and Customer Service  
F.104  
Geroya Richardson and Luis Molina, Lone Star College CyFair  
This session aims to educate and aid peer tutors, professional tutors, student mentors, and SI leaders in recognizing the role they play in providing quality service—guidance—in exchange for their visitor's time. This session utilizes a retail business model to make the customer service connection.

Supplemental Instruction from the Leader and the Professor Perspective F.105

Changing the Environment in the Classroom: Flip This  
Annie Johnson, Brazosport College  
After the lecture, when the instructor leaves, the SI session begins. The SI leader facilitates an inversion of “normal” classroom dynamics by flipping from teacher-focused to student-led active study with collaboration.

My Role as a Faculty Member  
Dr. Isaiah Schauer, Brazosport College  
During the lecture, the instructor works to create an engaged environment to support student success and SI sessions. My brief presentation will discuss how supporting SI lets me, as a faculty member, maintain an un-flipped classroom while still providing opportunities for students to actively solve problems.
Session II, 12:00-1:00
Choose from the following lectures:

**The Faculty Role in Integrated Reading and Writing NCBOs**  
*F.103*

*Dr. Chloe Diepenbrock and Dr. Lillian McEnery, University of Houston Clear Lake*

Dr. Chloe Diepenbrock, Writing Program Director, and Dr. Lillian McEnery, Reading Program Director, will discuss the NCBO model we created for the University of Houston—Clear Lake to satisfy the state’s new Integrated Reading and Writing requirements.

**KISS (Keep It Simple Silly): SI Formula for Success**  
*F.105*

*Gabby Gonzalez, Johnny Guerra, Harley Braun, and Veronica Garcia; Wharton County Junior College*

Our interactive presentation will discuss how SI benefits students with different learning styles. Participants will experience a mock SI session and learn more about real world learning techniques applicable beyond school boundaries. We will also share statistics and data analysis illustrating the effectiveness of SI sessions.

**Is my Student Lazy or Learning?: Exploring Reading and Writing Learning Differences**  
*F.102*

*Tabatha Rhodes, Brazosport College*

This interactive session offers attendees an opportunity to experience reading/writing differences from a student's perspective. We will explore methods for working with students with learning differences in Writing Centers and participate in an open discussion about appropriate techniques and tactics when tutoring students who learn differently.
Shining a Spotlight on Student Success: NCBO Instructors Speak about Learners’ Needs
F.103
Ellen Birdwell, Cresta Bayley, Irma Garcia, Julie Leiendecker, and Keith Vyvial, Alvin CC
Several Alvin Community College NCBO instructors will speak from their experience leading Reading Circles, focusing on practical ways to connect with and help the diverse populations we serve. We will also discuss our program’s methodology and outcomes, including other NCBOs like Writing Tutorials and ESL Companion courses.

Crunch Time SI Sessions that Work: Memory Momentum
F.104
Vanessa Calcote, Tiffany Truby, Amanda Powell, and Megan Bowen; Brazosport College
You—the SI Leader—have just returned from 4 days travel for a family emergency. You have classes to catch up on AND an SI Session in 2 hours! We’ll show how SI ingenuity, solid training, and historical preps for memory techniques can make that looming SI session a success.

Lunch, 1:00-2:00, Gator Hall

Session III, 2:15-3:15
Choose from the following lectures:
Fighting the Patriarchy One Session at a Time: Feminism in the Writing Center
F.103
Courtney Combs and Haley Sietz, Brazosport College
Our presentation discusses intersectional feminist theory and pedagogy as it applies to tutoring. We explain what intersectional feminism is and how we incorporate it into our own practice. By exploring various readings, we examine how to empower and educate students through a feminist lens.

Tutor Training: Incorporating Learning and Study Skills into Tutor Training for Optimized Student Learning and Content Mastery
F.104
Lindsey Randolph, Texas A&M University
In order to create a new innovative tutor training here at Texas A&M University, we utilized the VARK Questionnaire to teach the tutors about the various learning styles. From here, we challenged our undergraduate tutors to incorporate these learning styles and study strategies into each student contact to create a tutorial session personalized to the student.
Anxiety and Critical Thinking in Math and Humanities
F.105
Math-o-phobia: How to Teach Students With Math Anxiety (and Overcome Yours)
Ginger Weldon, Brazosport College
How do you overcome your own math anxiety and teach math to anxious students? I cried throughout my high school algebra class. Now, I help adults how excel in this subject. Join me as I discuss my journey through math anxiety and explain how I tutor math-anxious students.

My Soufflé is Not a Masterpiece: How Perfectionism Can Block Your Progress in Writing
Marva Doss, Brazosport College
Students sometimes cannot begin writing because they are too critical of themselves, they fear failure, or they over-evaluate their work. These students are perfectionists who struggle with an “all or nothing” syndrome. Using examples from my tutoring experience, I discuss ways tutors can help perfectionist students be more at ease.

Developing Critical Thinking Skills in Humanities and Beyond
Brandi Boak, Brazosport College
Developing critical thinking skills is crucial to student success, but many students find critical thinking a challenge. I will discuss how Humanities classes help expand critical thinking skills, and I will offer strategies used during group tutorials. Attendees will leave with strategies for tutoring/teaching critical thinking in their own discipline.
Open Forum, 4:45-6:15, Gator Hall

Group up with people from your school or another school, and collaborate on ideas for the 2016 Gulf Coast Student Success Conference (GCSSC). Our 2016 theme is: Achieving Equity and Student Success.

Session V, 6:30-8:00

**Moons: Worlds of Mystery**  
*BASF Planetarium*  
This full-dome show begins with a live night sky tour of what’s in the sky tonight and continues with the latest discoveries about the many intriguing Solar System moons.
GCSSC 2016: Equity and Student Success

The theme of the 2016 Gulf Coast Student Success Conference is Equity and Student Success.

During his 2012 Achieving the Dream presentation talk about equity, David Dodson, President of MDC, stated that equity was at the heart of student success. According to Dodson, students have different needs based on their lives and educational experiences; therefore, students need different levels of support in order to be successful.

Equity, Dodson contents, is not the same as equality. Equality means everyone is treated the same; equity, on the other hand, suggests we triage situations based on the needs of the individuals with whom we are working. Ultimately, Dodson refers to equity as “fairness with rigor.” An equitable system is one that offers students what they need to level the playing field and smooth out the road between them and their goals.

This year’s Gulf Coast Student Success Conference seeks to investigate the role of equity in our student success, tutoring, and SI programs and practices.
We would like to encourage participants to address the following questions:

• What is the role of equity in tutoring and SI programs/practices?

• How does your program and/or your work as a tutor/SI leader address inequity at your institution?

• How do the ways we serve students break down and/or build up barriers to student success?

• What policies and/or practices do we implement in our centers that level (and/or un-level) the field?

• How do we prevent structural inequalities in our tutoring and SI programs/practices?

Presentations may address any issue of interest outside of the theme, but preference will be given to proposals dealing with the issue of equity and student success. Break-out sessions will be populated with 50 minute presentations in one of these four presentation strands:

• Math Tutoring
• Writing Tutoring
• Supplemental Instruction
• Student Mentors

In keeping with our mission, the GCSSC provides a forum for tutors, SI leaders, and student mentors to share their practices, research, difficulties, and successes. While the GCSSC welcomes faculty, directors, coordinators, and administrators to attend, we prefer that they act as Chairs, Moderators, and/or Co-presenters with their tutors and student support staff. Individual and/or Panel presentations are acceptable.
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- Maximizing Your College Experience
- What It Takes To Be A Successful Student
- Exploring Careers & Choosing A Major
- Mastering The Job Interview
- Writing Resumes & Cover Letters
- Creating Your College Bucket List

**Personal Management**
- Emotional Intelligence: The Other Key To Success
- Time Management Strategies
- Overcoming Procrastination
- Financial Literacy: Smart Money Skills
- Stress Management Techniques
- Navigating The Financial Aid Process
- How To Develop Cross-Cultural Skills
- Achieving Well-Being, Balance & Success
- Improving Student-Faculty Relationships
- Setting & Accomplishing Realistic Goals
- Mental Health & Suicide: Help Yourself & Others

**Learning To Learn**
- Discover Your Learning Style
- Study Tips & Note-Taking Strategies
- How To Reduce Test Anxiety
- Understanding & Avoiding Plagiarism
- Learning Strategies Every Student Should Know
- Exam Prep Tips & Test-Taking Strategies
- How To Overcome Math Anxiety
- How To Succeed In Your Math Class
- 10 Habits For College Success
- The Difference Between High School & College
- Information Literacy: How To Master College Research
- Academic Integrity: The Do’s & Don’ts

**Reading & Writing Strategies**
- Pre-Writing Techniques
- Developing A Strong Thesis Statement
- Introductions, Paragraphs & Conclusions
- Reading Comprehension Strategies
- The Revision Process: How To Proofread & Edit

**Online Learning**
- 10 Tips For Success
- Effectively Communicating Online
- Staying Motivated & Disciplined
- Online Tests: Strategies For Success

**Success Strategies**
- Student Veterans: How To Succeed In College
- Strategies For First Generation Students
- Leading As A Student-Athlete In & Out Of The Classroom

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