



The Office of Accessibility Newsletter

Volume 1, Issue 4, Spring 2013

Recognizing Outstanding Faculty and Staff

The Office of Accessibility would like to recognize **Laura Melby** for her outstanding academic support to our students. Laura is a staff member of The Office of Accessibility and has worked with the office since 2007. She serves as a transcriber to students registered with The Office of Accessibility.

In the words of Laura's student nominator:

"Laura Melby goes beyond what is expected of her and strives to make mine and other students' academic experience a successful and positive experience. Not only is Laura good at her job, she also is a positive influence in my life. She expressed interest in my academics and activities. When I had a test, Laura would send me an email wishing me good luck. It's the little things like sending that email that go a long way. In addition to moral support, Laura also helped me explain my disability and the services that I needed with the professor and other students. She included me in the classroom and made others think it was just a normal, natural part of the class and not something that was weird or strange. While I was successful in explaining what my services were, Laura helped back me up and I greatly appreciated it because it is hard to explain sometimes.

Laura is actually a favorite among the other students in the class. Everybody loves how nice, sweet, and friendly she is. My friends think that she is really cool. Laura makes the accommodations that I require seem interesting. Other students have expressed interest in what my equipment is. Because Laura is so friendly and helpful, other students realize that the equipment is actually cool, not weird.

Laura Melby is great at her job and she goes way above and beyond to help me succeed in the classroom and to portray my accommodations as a natural part of the human experience."

The Office of Accessibility and the students we serve would like to thank Laura for all of her hard work and dedication as an outstanding staff member! For more information about nominating an outstanding faculty or staff member, please visit our website <http://www.uakron.edu/access/faculty-spotlight/>.

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"The more that you read, the more things you will know. The more that you learn, the more places you'll go."

-Dr. Seuss

UA adds to veteran-friendly initiatives

As published in The University of Akron's Email Digest on March 28, 2013

The University of Akron continues to build on its reputation of caring for students who have returned from active duty to begin or resume their studies. Last fall, thanks to a gift from the Blair Family Foundation, UA established an emergency fund that provides interest-free loans to student-veterans. The loans can be used for any unexpected event - such as a car repair or a housing deposit - that threatens to disrupt or prevent a student-veteran's college education.

Currently, the campus community includes approximately 1,300 student-veterans, along with 135 faculty and staff members who are military veterans. Over the years, UA has made a concerted effort to develop a veteran-friendly culture, and Crain's Cleveland Business recently called the University a "standout" for its offerings, (continued on page 3)

Utilizing UA's tutorial services

Did you know that students currently enrolled at The University of Akron are able to receive **FREE** tutoring services? This is an excellent opportunity for students to receive assistance in various classes that they may be having difficulties with. There are two tutoring centers on campus. They are located in Bierce Library and in the Polsky Building.

Bierce Library Tutoring



Bierce Writing Commons: For students seeking assistance with a paper assignment for any of their courses, including help with citation styles, visit Bierce Writing Lab. Bierce Writing Commons serves students from entry-level courses through graduate school.

Bierce Math Lab: Bierce Math Lab offers support for students having difficulty in entry-level math classes. Drop-in hours are available every weekday.

Tutorial Services: Peer tutors are available to students in a wide variety of General Education courses, with emphasis on classes in math and the sciences.

Learning Assistants Program: Specific sections of many courses include a trained Learning Assistant, who holds regular study sessions for students. The Learning Assistant Program provides assistance in the classroom throughout the semester, with professors and learning assistants working as a team encourage student success.

Polsky Building Tutoring



Polsky Writing Lab: The Polsky Writing Lab can assist with all phases of writing, including subject development, grammar and citations.

Polsky Math Lab: The Polsky Math Lab provides assistance to students having difficulty in most basic mathematics courses.

College Reading and Study Skills: The center helps students develop stronger studying skills such as comprehension, test prep, vocabulary, note taking, time management and memory techniques.

For more information visit their website, <http://www.uakron.edu/summitcollege/future-students/tutoring-study-tips/>, or contact **Andrew Richardson**, Coordinator, Tutorial Services by phone: 330.972-5480 or email: acr1@uakron.edu.

Online Tutoring Resources

As a student at The University of Akron, you also have access to online tutoring in the following areas:

- Accounting
- Chemistry
- Math (from the developmental level through Calculus II)
- Statistics
- Writing

Online Tutoring Services can be accessed through the following link, <http://www.etutoring.org/>.

For more general information regarding tutoring, please visit the website for Tutoring Services on campus, <http://www.uakron.edu/tutoring/>, or stop by the various tutoring centers on campus.

Reminders

Testing in The Office of Accessibility:

- ◆ Finals week is almost here! If you have an alternative testing accommodation and are testing in the OA, please remember to schedule your test at least **4 business days** prior to the day you would like to take the test. Tests can be scheduled by the student through the STARS website, <https://gunadiframework.com/Akron/>, under the Alternative Testing tab. For assistance in scheduling tests, please contact our office.

Schedule Classes:

- ◆ Registration for Summer 2013 classes began in March. Registration for Fall 2013 classes also began April 1, 2013. If you have not scheduled your classes for the summer or fall semesters yet, please do so immediately!

Update STARS:

- ◆ Once you have scheduled classes for the upcoming semesters, make sure to **update your class schedule in STARS!** It is very important that we have your most updated schedule in STARS to best serve your accommodation needs.

Request your accommodations:

- ◆ When updating your schedule on STARS, make sure to also request your accommodations for the upcoming semesters.
- ◆ If you are receiving transcribers or interpreters as an accommodation for next semester, it is recommended that you submit these long term transcriber and interpreter requests at least **six weeks prior** to the beginning of the semester.

Important Dates

April 2013
Fall 2013
Registration begins

May 6-12, 2013
Final Exams Week

May 10-12, 2013
Spring 2013
Commencement

May 20, 2013
Summer Intersession
Classes Begin

May 27, 2013
Memorial Day
Observance–
University closed

June 10, 2013
Summer Session
2013 1st 5-week
session and 8-week
session classes begin

July 15, 2013
Summer Session
2013 2nd 5-week
session classes begin

August 26, 2013
Fall Semester 2013
classes begin

UA adds to veteran-friendly initiatives

(continued from page 1)

which include the high-tech Musson Veterans Lounge, a fast-track two-year degree, and a partnership with the Louis Stokes Cleveland VA Medical Center to provide specialized therapies and clinical services.

The Blair Family Foundation was established by Faye Blair and her late husband, Tom, a Korean War veteran, Marine infantryman and local business leader who attended UA. The foundation has a long tradition of demonstrating its appreciation for men and women in all branches of the military, especially those who have returned from active duty to continue their education at UA.

In addition to the emergency loan fund, the foundation has provided financial support over the years to create and maintain a Korean War memorial on campus, and to establish the Musson Veterans Lounge, where student-veterans can relax, connect and attend programs of special interest to them.

Military service members interested in applying for this loan should contact the Military Services Center at veterans@uakron.edu or call ext. 7838. If you have questions, please contact Mary Rossett at ext. 7382.

For more information, please visit <http://www.uakron.edu/veterans/>, or stop in the Military Services Center located in Simmons Hall Room 120.



DID YOU KNOW?

For the fourth straight year, G.I. Jobs magazine has ranked UA among the top 15 percent of colleges and universities for its comprehensive support for student-veterans.



The Career Center

Your one-stop shop for everything career related!

The Career Center is your convenient one-stop shop for everything related to careers, including internships/co-ops, jobs on campus, career planning, interview prep, and career readiness.

They can help you at any point during your academic career.

The earlier you start, the better. They offer comprehensive lifelong support for UA graduates as well. Take advantage of their expertise and the wealth of resources they have to offer students!

Choose the right major and career

The Career Center can assist you in discovering which major and career will best fit your interests through self-assessment and potential career information. Explore their self-assessment tool, Focus 2, to learn how your skills and interests match up with majors and career paths. <http://www.uakron.edu/career/current-students/connect-your-major-and-career/focus2.dot>

Gain relevant experience

They can also assist you in securing a co-op or internship to integrate your academic coursework into a hands-on work experience. <http://www.uakron.edu/career/current-students/co-op-or-internship/index.dot>

Find student employment

For those seeking employment while enrolled in school, there are a variety of student employment resources available on and off campus. <http://www.uakron.edu/career/student-employment/index.dot>

Find a Job

The Career Center can help you begin your job search for your life post-graduation! Begin your career search **before** you graduate with their help. Utilize their career database, RooLink, to:

- review employer profiles
- search and apply for job openings
- connect with over 4,000 employers
- access information about Career Center events

<http://www.uakron.edu/career/job-search-resources/job-database-roolink.dot>

Attend events

Make sure you check out the various events the Career Center has to offer such as workshops, information sessions, and the all-campus career fair held each semester!

For more information, please contact the Career Center staff. They would be happy to meet with you to discuss your career goals, provide you with interviewing tips, and/or provide you with helpful resources in order to help you choose and find the best career for you!

Simmons Hall 301
Akron, OH 44325-4306
Phone: 330.972.7747
Email: career@uakron.edu

Visit their website to explore the many other resources they have to offer students, <http://www.uakron.edu/career/>

Suggestion Box

We want your feedback!

Email ooaga1@uakron.edu with comments about the current newsletter or ideas you would like to see in future newsletters.

Office of Accessibility Phone: 330-972-7928
Simmons Hall 105 TDD: 330-972-5764
The University of Akron Fax: 330-972-5422
Akron, Ohio 44325-6213 E-mail: access@uakron.edu

Fall & Spring Office Hours:
Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, & Friday 8 a.m.-5 p.m.
Wednesday: 8 a.m.-7 p.m.



Simmons Hall at The University of Akron