



News From The Center

Greetings from the Director

Welcome to the first fall 2006 issue of News From the Center. My name is Rebecca Sturgill and as Director of the Learning Center I try to provide students, faculty and staff with every learning opportunity possible. My staff is augmented by my assistant, Lisa Burns. School is now in full swing and chances are your student has called home at least once talking about how tough things are!

[More Details](#)

Fall Issue #1, 2006



“Never regard study as a duty but as the enviable opportunity to learn.”
Albert Einstein

Important Upcoming Dates

10/9 – mid semester estimate grades are out now. Students will access these from the WIN system. Please feel free to inquire of your student how he or she is doing! Please remember that without the signed Information Release Form we may not talk about grades with anyone.

10/16-17 – fall break; see “From RCL”

[More Details](#)

Conversation Starters

- “Who is your advisor and have you met him / her?”
- “Have you gone to office hours with any professors?”
- “What organizations are you interested in?”
- “What seems to be the best way / place to study for you?”

From Mr. Robertson in RCL



“Do not worry about your problems with mathematics, I assure you mine are far greater.”
Albert Einstein

Classes will not be held on Monday, October 16th and Tuesday, October 17th for Fall Break. The residence halls will close at 6pm on Friday, October 13th, and they will re-open at 2pm on Tuesday, October 17th. The last meal in the dining hall will be lunch on Friday, October 13th, and meals will begin again with dinner on Tuesday, October 17th. Please begin to make any travel arrangements now.

Students can remain in the halls over Fall Break if they gain permission by filling out the appropriate "Register to Stay" form on the Residential and Commuter Life website (www.longwood.edu/rci) between Monday, October 2nd and Wednesday, October 11th.

ROOMMATE CONFLICTS

It is not uncommon for parents to begin hearing about various roommate

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There are lots of resources here to assist them – all free! Hopefully they have heard about these in Longwood Seminar, but occasionally it takes some more encouragement to come in and ask for help.

Working with the professor should always be a part of the equation, however we also have academic coaches, a Writing Center and a Speaking Center to aid students in tackling their academic tasks. These services are all **free** as are our individual counseling sessions designed to help with study strategies, organization and time management. All of our contact information, along with schedules and helpful hints, are listed on our website at: <http://www.longwood.edu/library/services/learning.htm>.

We are located in the reference room of the library, alongside our Writing Center. This is a place for students to bring any writing that they have done (not just for English class!) and sit down with a trained student to work on improvements. A very new program for us is the Speaking Center, where students may go to practice their oral presentations before a trained student. Please encourage your student to contact us about this, as hours are currently limited.

I spend much of my time in individual meetings with students – answering their questions about study habits and exam stress, etc. If your student has any academic worries, please encourage them to stop by or call. I am able to stay into the evening on occasion, although these hours are not posted. My assistant and I also reach out to our academic community: faculty meetings, hall and Greek meetings, and class sessions, to give presentations on study skills and strategies and to inquire into faculty and staff needs and perceptions. We stay pretty busy!

While I cannot respond to personal questions in this forum, please feel free to contact me with any questions at 434.395.2050. Within the limits of FERPA, I am happy to answer questions or to help you find the correct person or office to contact. If you have specific topics that you would like to see addressed in future editions of this newsletter, please let me know this as well.

10/18 – final date to withdraw from a class (by noon). A “W” will show on the transcript, but there is no academic penalty. The student should consider this only after talking with his or her advisor.

11/6— academic advising for the spring semester begins. This is the time that freshmen **MUST** find their advisor to have their registration hold lifted. Do they remember how to use the WIN system? If not, call 434.395.2050!

conflicts. We know that it is difficult to avoid jumping in to try to solve the problem, but it is truly best to encourage your son/daughter to attempt the following steps:

(1) Talk to his/her roommate(s) first about the concerns and see if a simple conversation will help. This tends to solve the problem in most situations.

(2) There is a trained Resident Assistant (RA) on every floor who will be happy to talk to anyone about a roommate situation and help the two students work through the problem. Have him/her talk to the RA about the problem.

(3) There is a full time professional staff member (Residence Education Coordinator- REC) assigned to every building who is also willing to help. Encourage your son/daughter to make an appointment to talk to this person.

Please know that the residence halls remain overcrowded. Changing rooms may seem like an easy solution; however, there may not be an opportunity to do so. The RA and REC will help students and can provide potential solutions. Please encourage your son/daughter to talk to one of these people.