

# Academic Excellence

A Newsletter of the Academic Success Center

## Hot Studying

By *Omari Jackson*,  
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Many students at Wayne State take spring/summer courses. This is a great time to either catch up or get a head start on coursework. However, classes tend to cut into free time. With your acquiescence, classes can ruin your summer. Or you can choose to make summer the optimal semester to take courses. One might ask how summer may be the perfect semester for

coursework. Get a pen and paper ready, because it is possible.

Summer offers long days and great weather. If used properly, both can aid study. Many

times during our Michigan winters, we find ourselves trying to rush out of class and/or work to get things done before the sun goes down. With summer present, we have the luxury of daylight until approximately 8:30 p.m. These extra hours of sunlight allow us to increase our productivity. Use the evenings for bike riding, strolling downtown, or anything else you enjoy. It is easy for the majority of us to think that it is getting too late to study.

Conversely, not many of us assume that it is getting too late to enjoy the outdoors.

Speaking of outdoors, try studying outside. Many times studying can

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**Though sunny days  
are great, pay close  
attention to your  
course work.**

## Multi-state Conference Informs Tutors and Supplemental Instruction Leaders



See more photos on page 3.

by *Chardin Claybourne-Bey*,  
[claybourne@wayne.edu](mailto:claybourne@wayne.edu)

Wayne State University (WSU) hosted the third annual Academic Success Center Tutoring and Supplemental Instruction Institute (TSII) on April 23 in the McGregor Memorial Conference Center. This year's institute marked many changes from previous years, most notably a name change from "Tutor Institute" to reflect the inclusiveness of the proceedings.

The institute's theme, "Creating Learning Environments," was fully realized and fulfilled with the addition of Tutors, SI Leaders, faculty, and academic professional staff from a wide range of locations. While past institutes limited their focus only to Michigan colleges and universities, the TSII received participants and presenters from Ball State University (Ohio), Indiana-Purdue Fort Wayne (Indiana), and St. Petersburg College (Florida).

A final count placed the attendance in excess of 100 guests. The institute was well represented by WSU students, faculty, and staff from units across the campus, including Center for Chicano-Boricua Studies, Division of Community Education, and University Libraries System. Presentations covered various areas germane to academic and educational assistance programs, including topics of interest to program coordinators and techniques to improve SI and tutoring sessions.

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Summer Hours:

Monday –Friday

8:30 am - 5:00 p.m.

# Setting Goals for Success

**Identifying goals helps create opportunities for them to come true.**

by Susan Sheiner,  
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Writing your goal down is the number one guideline for successful goal setting, says Susan B. Wilson, author of Goal Setting. "Effective goals are written," she writes. "Many of us daydream about what we would like to accomplish. But...once a dream is committed to paper, it becomes concrete. Writing down your goals is the first step to achieving them."

After you write down your goals it is important to look at each one and evaluate them. This is the next step to achieving them. Online, this site, [www.goal-setting-guide.com](http://www.goal-setting-guide.com) outlines a method for "SMART Goal Setting."

- S = Specific**
- M = Measurable**
- A = Attainable**
- R = Realistic**
- T = Timely**

When evaluating goals, the website explains, goals should be specific. This helps individuals to focus their efforts and define what they are going to do, the website explains. "Ensure the goal you set is very specific, clear and easy." It is also important for a goal to be measurable. "If you can't measure it, you can't manage it," the writes Arina Nikitina the author of the website.

Identifying goals helps create opportunities for them to come true. Keep your goals within reach, Nikitina says. "A goal needs to stretch you slightly so you feel you can do it and it will need a real commitment from you," she says. Similarly, she writes that goals need to be realistic, though this does not mean easy. "Devise a plan or way of getting there which makes the goal realistic."

Finally, Nikitina advises setting a timetable. Effective goals are manageable. This is also an

integral part of Wilson's advice on goal setting.

In her book she writes, "Sometimes a goal can seem overwhelming because of its size. But if it is divided into smaller components, then it becomes easier to manage and is achievable," she said.

This process of setting goals can pertain to a getting an 'A' in a class as well as to degree and career strategies. With these tools and suggestions, you can identify, write down and begin strategies to achieve your goals.



**Jumpstart your academic success**  
*Check out our list of free workshops with strategies which can boost your grades at [www.success.wayne.edu/workshop\\_list.php](http://www.success.wayne.edu/workshop_list.php)*

**No matter your preferred days or times, carefully select those that work best for you.**

## Hot Studying... *continued from page 1*

become so routine that we are not as effective as we would like to be. If you enjoy the outdoors, study while drinking a cold beverage and lying on one of Wayne State's manicured lawns or sitting under a shaded bench area. Due to the typical Michigan weather, studying outside offers a different and unusual approach to studying. Take advantage of it.

Though sunny days, blooming flowers, and

extended daylight are great, it is important that you still pay close attention to your course work. School is still a priority and the need to do well is still present. Consider making a study schedule; taking into consideration the best days and times to study.

For example, Friday may not be your preferred day to study, particularly if the week has been difficult. Furthermore, those with an extensive commute home, after work and/or school,

may consider studying inside his/her air conditioned office or a WSU library for an hour or two while traffic eases. This allows one to enjoy the rest of the day once arriving home.

No matter your preferred days or times, carefully select those that work best for you.



## Photos from the Tutor and Supplemental Instruction Institute



by Liza A. Lagman Sperl

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## Landing the Ideal Internship: Strategies for Finding and Impressing Employers

by **Nannette McCleary Shaw** [n.shaw@wayne.edu](mailto:n.shaw@wayne.edu)

and **Kimberly Streeter** [kimberly.streeter@wayne.edu](mailto:kimberly.streeter@wayne.edu)

It is a well-known fact that 80% of available positions are unadvertised – this is what is called the hidden job market. So how does this affect students seeking summer internships? Simply put there are two ways to look for an internship: answering job postings or finding your own opportunities. Students will want to use both strategies effectively. Savvy students also remember the 80-20 rule: spend 80% of your time connecting to the hidden market and 20% of your time responding to job postings. Here are some more tips:

**Clarify Your Goals and Objectives:** What exactly do you want in an internship? Begin with a self assessment and an inventory of your skills, values and interests.

**Determine Your Resources/Leads:** Network! Resources can include your community, Career Services, faculty/advisors, and the Internet.

**Plan Ahead/Be Proactive:** The recruiting process for many opportunities begins in the fall.

**Create the Perfect Resume:** Be sure to include a cover letter and prepare your professional references.

**Research:** Learn what you can about the organizations in which you want to work.

While it is not expected that intern applicants have actual direct work experience, students will need to be able to communicate their abilities and how their academic preparation is relevant to the position. Employer representatives are impressed with prepared and professional students. Students interested in obtaining information or assistance regarding internships should contact Career Services at 1001 Faculty/Administration Building, (313) 577-3390 or register on-line at [www.careerservices.wayne.edu](http://www.careerservices.wayne.edu)

**Interested in sharing  
your academic success  
tips with WSU?**

*Submit a manuscript to  
[asc@lists.wayne.edu](mailto:asc@lists.wayne.edu)*

# A Newsletter of the Academic Success Center

*Leading the way in evidence-based academic support and excellence.*

**WAYNE STATE  
UNIVERSITY**

## Academic Success Center

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## Mission Statement

The mission of the Academic Success Center is to help students become independent and motivated learners.

To support students' success in the University environment, the Academic Success Center aims to provide individualized services and the tools to develop effective learning skills.

## Free services that the office offers include:

- Tutoring and Supplemental Instruction
- Individual Support by a Learning Specialist
- Study Skill Enhancing Workshops
- Accessibility Services such as Alternative Testing

## Thank you to our editorial board:

Naida Simon, Angela Zanardelli, Arnelle Douglas, Bernard Jackson, Chardin Claybourne-Bey and Laura Woodward, Chair.

## Top Ten Cultural Sites on or near Wayne State University

by Susan Sheiner, [ax5983@wayne.edu](mailto:ax5983@wayne.edu); and Angela Zanardelli, [azanardelli@wayne.edu](mailto:azanardelli@wayne.edu)

**1. Elaine Jacob Gallery** - 480 W. Hancock St., attached to Old Main. The gallery will be 10 years old in September and is part of Wayne State University's Art and Art History Department. This classic contemporary space holds exhibits featuring national, regional and international artists.

**2. Community Arts Gallery** - 150 Community Arts Building (attached to WSU Art Building). This gallery is also part of the university's Art and Art History department featuring prominent Michigan Artists since 1956. The current exhibit of Michigan water colors ends July 22.

**3. Hilberry Theater** - 4743 Cass Avenue at Hancock. This architectural jewel is home to the Hilberry Repertory Company, Wayne State University's MFA Graduate Theater Company. The 2007- 2008 season includes *The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (abridged)* and *The Lusty and Comical History of Tom Jones*.

**4. Bonstelle Theater** - 3424 Woodward Avenue. This historic building is home to Wayne's undergraduate theater student performances. The 2007-2008 calendar of performances include; *Uncommon Women and Others* by Wendy Wasserstein, and *Black Nativity* by Langston Hughes.

**5. Charles H. Wright Museum of African American History** - 315 E. Warren Avenue. Founded in 1965, it is the largest museum celebrating the diverse history and culture of African Americans. *And Still We Rise* is a multi-level interactive exhibit part of the permanent collection.

**6. Detroit Public Library** - 5201 Woodward Avenue. There is much more to the Detroit Public Library's Main

Branch than books. Check out the annual Detroit Public Schools' Student Exhibition as well as the extensive art collection on the second floor.

**7. Detroit Institute of Arts (DIA)** - 5200 Woodward Avenue. Exhibitions, the film theatre, great dining, and Friday night musical entertainment? Walk



over between classes to expand your mind or make it a weekend adventure. There's something for everyone.

**8. Detroit Science Center** - 5020 John R Street. Between the IMAX, the Planetarium, and the traveling exhibits, the Science Center will entertain you while teaching you things you may have never learned otherwise.

**9. International Institute of Metropolitan Detroit** - 111 East Kirby. To expand cultural knowledge, this is the place. They have an immigration ship collection and an international doll collection on display. All that learning making you hungry? Visit the International Café in the basement.

**10. Detroit Historical Museum** - 5401 Woodward Avenue. Interested in the yesteryears of Detroit? Architectural as well as transportation histories are included in the museums many exhibits that display the growth and maturation of our beloved city.