

Fall Quarter 2016

Prepared by
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TLC Newsletter



Inside this issue:

Welcome to the TLC	2
TLC Workshops	3
Graduate Writing News	3
TLC Appreciation Week	3
Introducing...	3
2016-17 Symposium on Writing	4

A new academic year begins for the TLC...

Over the last several months, the TLC has seen many changes—with some still to come. With a new Writing Center Director and a new Associate Vice Chancellor (see page 2 for introductions), we also look forward to a new Writing Center Coordinator who will join us in January. But for all the changes, the TLC remains committed to working collaboratively with students, and actively supporting them in their learning.

January. And of course, we have many wonderful peer writing consultants, both seasoned and new.”

Kelvin Keown
Interim Writing Coordinator



Notes from the Quant Center

The Quantitative Centre in the TLC is very excited about this upcoming year. After adding support for computer science in the last year we will expand and continue to support students with quantitative assignments of any type. We will be returning several tutors from the spring quarter and welcoming two new tutors this fall. The addition of a Mathematics major at UWT has also expanded the talent pool for Mathematics tutors so we look forward to the new hires we will make in the coming quarters.

Lastly, the Quant side of the TLC is excited about partnerships we have formed and the fruit that will come from these. We are partnering with a number of UWT professors in envisioning new ways to support students in their subject areas. In the past year, we have partnered with other Learning Centers at universities and colleges in the area (including the University of Puget Sound, Tacoma Community College, and UW Bothell) to figure improved ways to support our campus.

2016 -2017 will be a great academic year.

Stay tuned.

Dwayne Chambers
Associate Director
Quantitative Center



TLC Scientific Calculator Lending Program

Students who need a scientific calculator for their classes can borrow a calculator at the TLC for day-of, in-center use by leaving one form of ID with a TLC receptionist. This program will continue and be complemented by the calculator loan program.

This program lends **TI-36x Pro calculators** to students **for work outside of the TLC**. The TI-36x is required for TMATH 110 and is useful for other math and science courses.

Short term loans are one-day only, e.g., for taking exams. Long term loans can be from two days to an entire quarter. Students must complete a loan form for TLC records but are not required to leave any ID.

Notes from the Writing Center

“We’re excited about this new academic year for several reasons. For the writing staff, we get to work directly with a nationally recognized composition scholar and writing program administrator, and we anticipate welcoming a new writing coordinator in



**The
2016-17
TLC Staff
hopes to see
you soon!**

Welcoming to the TLC ...

Jill Purdy, Associate Vice chancellor for Undergraduate Affairs and Asao Inoue, Writing Center Director,



A member of UW Tacoma faculty for 23 years, Jill Purdy is first and foremost a musician.

“That’s one of my things—this core piece of my identity. I have played the piano since I was four.”

She also has a very musical family, and once performed with her husband and two daughters. “I was raised on classical music, but I like jazz and blues— and I love the American standards.”

Music is also how she first met her husband—where she was a last minute fill-in for a friend’s rock band where her future husband played guitar, and she became singer and keyboardist.

“So, how did she get from rock musician to a PhD. in Business Administration?”

“Growing up, my parents always talked about their work lives. I was fascinated by it, and I thought ‘wouldn’t it be nice to contribute to making people’s work lives better?’ People spend this huge percentage of their lives at their place of work.” Chuckling a bit, she added, “It seemed there were an awful lot of problems discussed over dinner.”

In college, she thought management might be interesting, but was also excited about her psychology and sociology classes, which fed her eventual interest in organizational sociology.

In addition to her current role as Associate professor in the Milgard School of Business and Associate Vice Chancellor for Undergraduate Affairs, Purdy was founding director of the MBA program, where she was also interim dean.

Her current role includes oversight of those “who touch undergraduate education in any way”—including the TLC. Her job is to “help other people understand the expertise they bring to the table.”

“I know how valuable it is to have a variety of coaches along the way, people who are walking beside you on that journey. And I love that about the TLC. It’s just such a cool thing. It’s not just tutoring to get you through a class so you get a passing grade. It’s a much more lofty kind of mission. It’s the essence of why we’re here.”

Purdy acknowledges the real challenge is figuring out how to make the TLC as accessible as possible, helping people to see it as a way to level the playing field. She also said she’d given a lot of thought to the question of how to take the TLC and “make it more than a place. How do we get it out to where the people are?”

“I always tell my students... the answer to any question is ‘it depends.’ The challenge is to figure out what it depends on. If we think about the TLC and what could it be, the answer is, “it depends—on what we want it to be. We should start with imagination being the only limit. I

’m kind of an idealist, so I always think ‘Let’s dream big, and then figure out how to be pragmatic in doing it.’



Although Asao Inoue has been at UW Tacoma for two years now, he just can’t seem to stop. In the fall of 2014, he was appointed the Director of University Writing, and Associate Professor in Writing Studies. And just last spring, he took on the newly-created position of Writing Center Director. But, as if that wasn’t enough, he was also recently elected Assistant Chair to the Conference on College Composition and Communication, the first year of a four-year rotation.

Speaking of his new role in the writing center, Inoue said, “I think that my job—primarily—is the research/faculty head of the writing center. The coin of the realm is scholarship—and if you’re going to be taken seriously, for better or worse, you must be a producer of knowledge. A writing center that doesn’t do that risks...despite the fact that it does lots of good in other ways, it just will be perceived simply as supplemental help—and it is so much more than that. In order for anyone to hear that message—that we’re more than supplemental help—there has to be a way that we can move forward with research. And that’s part of my job. To do that—without risking the other.”

In order to accomplish this goal, professional staff in the writing center have begun

projects to help assess the writing center’s work, as well as “to discover new things about the students we serve.” Inoue also spoke of a desire to “see more student publications. I think that the writing center could become literally a center for that kind of work. Not just in terms of scholarship, but student scholarship. We see a lot of language here, and it would be great to find a way to showcase that for students.”

Asked whether if he envisioned any major changes coming, Inoue answered, “No, given that this is my first year, I want to see how things run first. If there are going to be any changes I’d like it to be more like... a stream that slowly changing course and shape. Over time, you turn around and say, ‘Oh, we made a new bend. We’re doing something a little differently,’ but it doesn’t feel dramatic.” Laughing a little, he added “I’d rather see what come about by all of us. And then we can decide.”

But there was one thing Inoue was adamant about. “I always want to make every place I work—whether at work or at home—pretty much play. To make it something that’s fun, someplace I want to be. I’ve cultivated a life that allows me a lot of freedom to do the work that I do, because I love it, and its engaging to me and meaningful in ways that help the communities I’m a part of. I’d like to see the writing center be like that—and I think that it already is in many ways. But I’d like to see what else we could do. Good honest work ought to feel like play!” And if it doesn’t? Smiling, he added, “Maybe you’re doing the wrong thing.”

“There’s not a day I’m not working, but then that means there’s not a day I’m not playing either, so... it’s great!”



Graduate Writing News

The TLC once again has a point person for graduate writing assistance! Jeff Fitzgerald has recently been appointed to the position of Coordinator of Graduate Programs for the TLC and will be assuming many of the responsibilities of Amy Whitcomb, our former graduate writing specialist. Jeff has worked with graduate students from multiple disciplines in his previous capacities at the TLC and hopes to continue providing UWT's graduate student population with the most effective support possible. He will also be happy to work with faculty to provide orientations and workshops on topics relevant to the writing tasks our graduate students are asked to perform. Feel free to contact him at jefffitz@uw.edu

Thank you!

TLC Appreciation Week

October 31–November 4, 2016

The TLC would not be able to offer the thousands of support hours for students if not for the **knowledge, diligence, and friendliness of our quantitative tutors and writing consultants., and front-desk staff.** We like to invite students and faculty to join us in expressing our appreciation for our student staff during a week full of special events to honor our amazing student staff.

October 31—Costume Contest

November 2— Selfie Contest! Take a selfie with your favorite tutor and post on Facebook or Twitter #TLC appreciate

November 4— TLC Open House

See our website for more information.

Fall Quantitative Support Workshops

TESC 141 (Chem I) Support	Mondays, 10-11am Tuesdays, 11:15-12:15pm
TESC 251 (Organic Chem) Support	Mondays, 11-noon
TESC 121 (Physics I) Support	TBD
TBUS 301 (Quant Methods) Support	Mondays, 12:30-1:30pm
TBUS 500 (Quant Methods) Support	Tuesdays, 5:30-6:30pm
TMATH 110 (Statistics) Support	Wednesdays, noon-1pm
TMATH 120 (PreCalculus) Support - twice weekly	Tuesdays 2-3pm Fridays 12:30-1:30pm
TMATH 124 (Calc I) Support - twice weekly	Wednesdays 10-11am Thursdays 9-10am
TCSS 307 (Differential Equations) Support	Thursdays 5-6pm (tentative)
TCSS 321 (Discrete Mathematics) Support	TBD
TACCT 210 (Financial Accounting) Support	TBD
TACCT 301 (Intermediate Accounting I) Support	TBD
TACCT 303 (Intermediate Accounting III) Support	TBD
TCSS 142 (Introduction to Programming) Support	TBD

For more information about TLC workshops, please contact Dwayne Chambers (dwaynech@uw.edu), Su-Maio Lai (sm10@uw.edu), or Carly Gelarden (gelarc@uw.edu), or visit the TLC (SNO 260).

Introducing Rebecca Disrud

In January 2017, Rebecca Disrud will be joining the TLC professional staff as Writing Center Coordinator. A multi-disciplinary scholar, she earned her Ph.D. in literature and musicology at Indiana University, Bloomington. She is interested in disciplinary writing conventions and values, and is currently working on a research project considering how personality types affect tutoring. Disrud comes to UW Tacoma from Utah Valley University where she worked with graduate students and faculty across campus. She also has a background in career services, including resumes and cover letters, and has helped students applying to graduate school with their personal statements and GRE preparation. She is looking forward to talking with UW Tacoma students about weaving, baseball, or that book you're reading.



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Faculty and Staff Referrals to the TLC

Referrals to the TLC are greatly encouraged. Faculty members are welcome to request verification that a student has met with a TLC tutor or consultant.

Support for Multilingual Students and Concerned Faculty

Kelvin Keown, interim writing coordinator, is trained in TESOL (Teacher of English to Speakers of Other Languages). Contact Kelvin directly (kelvin3@uw.edu) if you would like to make a student referral or meet with him for a faculty consultation.

Support for Graduate Students and Concerned Faculty

Jeff Fitzgerald, Instructional Consultant, focuses on learning and applying best practices for working with graduate students in a writing support center. Contact Jeff directly (jefffitz@uw.edu) if you would like to make a student referral or meet with him for a faculty consultation.

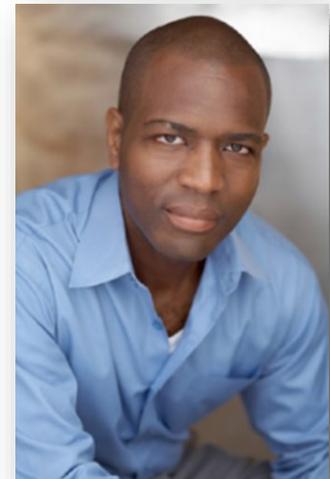
Classroom Presentations

Tutors and consultants will introduce students to the TLC with several classroom visits this quarter. Write to uwteach@uw.edu to collaborate with us on classroom instruction for special topics.



2016-17 Symposium on Writing – Professor Vershawn Young

Join us October 28th as the UW Tacoma University Writing Program welcomes **Vershawn Ashanti Young**—Associate Professor of Drama and Speech Communication at the University of Waterloo, Canada. Young teaches communication, English, and performance studies. Valuing collaboration, he has served as a consultant to schools and other organizations in the areas of cultural competency and diversity. Young has authored and co-authored several books including *Other People's English* (Teachers College Press 2014) and the *Routledge Reader of African American Rhetoric* (forthcoming Routledge 2016). For the past decade, he has been developing the concept of code-meshing, and using multiple Englishes and dialects in formal written and oral communications.



Faculty Workshop

Friday, Oct 28 from 10:00 am to 11:30 am

Dawn Lucien Boardroom – GWP 320

Allies of Code-Meshers and Translingual Writers: Who? How? And Why?

Public Lecture

Friday, Oct 28 from 3:00 pm to 5:00 pm

Carwein Auditorium - Key 102

Making Black Lives Matter in Online Spaces: Lessons for Critical Literacy Education

Limited seating. Please RSVP for each at: <https://catalyst.uw.edu/webq/survey/hlp3/313151>