



SUPPLEMENTAL INSTRUCTION news

Issue 15, May 2008

Touching Tomorrow

SI Leaders Needed

Do you know any good students who are committed to both studying and service? If so, you might want to consider referring them to the Office of Supplemental Instruction for a great service learning experience. The SI Program is looking for qualified students to fill several SI Leader positions for 2008-2009.

The SI Program supports traditionally difficult courses – those with high failure and withdrawal rates. SI Leaders are students who have taken these difficult courses and demonstrated competency. The SI Leaders are then paid to re-attend the course to model effective classroom behavior, taking copious lecture notes and reading the assigned text. In turn the SI Leaders offer weekly group study (SI sessions) allowing students the opportunity to study with their classmates as well as with someone who has already taken the course and will guide their study efforts.

A typical SI session might include a comparison and clarification of lecture notes, group discussions regarding assigned textbook readings, assessment and development of specific study skills (e.g., note-taking or test-taking strategies) and activities geared toward learning how to predict exam questions. SI is guaranteed study time for tough classes. The program goal is to help students to become independent learners.

Beginning pay for SI Leaders is \$9.00 an hour with a maximum workload of 15 hours a week. Most SI Leaders work an average of 10 hours per week. Other than the set schedule (three hours) of the class they support, SI Leaders have the flexibility to arrange their individual work schedules.

SI Leader qualifications are as follows:

- 3.0 GPA minimum
- Second semester sophomore standing
- Grade of B or better in supported course
- ASU student for at least one year
- Faculty support and written recommendation
- Demonstrated excellence in responsibility and reliability

While we have only a few SI Leader positions available for the coming year, we are always interested in talking to students who are interested in being an SI Leader. SI-supported courses for 2008-2009 are listed below.

- ACCT 2301/2302: Principles of Accounting I and II
- BIO 1410: Human Biology
- BIO 1411: Man & the Environment
- BIO 2423: Human Anatomy
- BIO 2424: Human Physiology
- CHEM 1411/1412: General Chemistry I and II
- GOVT 2301/2302: Federal & State Government I and II
- HIST 1301: History to 1865
- HIST 1302: History from 1865 to the Present
- MATH 1302: College Algebra

For more information about SI, students can call or visit the Center for Academic Excellence (CAE) which is located on the third floor of the Library (942-2710). Students interested in applying should complete an application packet which they can get from the front desk at CAE. Those looking for additional information about the SI

2008-2009 SI

This fall the Office of Supplemental Instruction looks forward to welcoming the following veteran and newbie SI Leaders. Also noted are the SI Leader positions we still have vacant.

- (ACCT 2301/2302) VACANT
- (BIO 1411/1412) Biology major **Jennifer Jackson**
- (BIO 2423/LAB) Biology major **Erica Schalek**
- (BIO 2423/Lecture) Biology major **Ben Sergeant**
- (CHEM 1411/1412) Chemistry major **Katy Kirchhoff**
- (CHEM 1411/1412) VACANT
- (GOVT 2301/2302) Government major **Heather Guthrie**
- (HIST 1301/1302) Journalism major **Chelsea Preas**

Important SI Dates

MAY 2:

Spring 2008 SI sessions end with last day of classes

MAY 5-8:

SI Leader Self-Assessment/Final Portfolio Review
For graduating seniors: SI Exit Interview

MAY 9:

SI Leader Luncheon

To:

So Long, Farewell

As we finish another successful year in Supplemental Instruction, we pay tribute to our graduating SI Leaders, preparing to enter a new phase in their lives. Their dedication and commitment to the SI Program were indispensable, and we wish them all the best as they venture into the “real world.”

Biology Honors major **Jason Bodiford** has several years of school ahead of him. President of the Honors Student Association and recipient of a Tri-Beta Foundation Research Scholarship Grant, Jason plans to attend medical school after graduation. He is currently on the alternate lists at UTMB in Galveston and UTHSC in Houston, and he has already been accepted to the Master of Science in Medical Sciences program at UNTHSC in Fort Worth. Through his experience as an SI Leader, Jason learned that “if you truly care about helping people, and work hard to do so, they... will work harder themselves.” Jason encourages future SI Leaders to seek the input of students regularly to ensure their needs are met.

Psychology major **Anna Ermakova** will return to her home in Russia following graduation. Anna was a member of Psi Chi, the discipline’s honor society, and she received the Psychology Department’s Student of the Year award for her outstanding work. Upon her return to Russia, Anna plans to take a year off from school and serve as a missionary among her fellow countrymen. The time she spent as an SI Leader has inspired her to consider a career in academia and after her sabbatical from school, she may return to the U.S. to pursue graduate school in counseling. Anna’s philosophy regarding SI is simple: “Be excited about your sessions. They are a playground, a chance to express creativity.”

Biology Honors major **Matt Jackson** will look forward to integrating patient education in his future medical practice. Recipient of the Distinguished Student Award for the College of Sciences and a Tri-Beta Research grant, Matt will attend medical school at University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio. On his experience as an SI Leader Matt reflected, “Interacting with several motivated students creates a remarkable dynamic if you can keep people engaged, laughing, and having fun with the material.” Matt suggests that incoming SI Leaders over-plan for their SI sessions to ensure enough activities to last the entire hour. Most of all, his recommendation to SI Leaders: “Keep things loose, informal, and fun.”

Nursing major **Anna Romero** is ready to put her education into practice. Anna has accepted a position at Shannon Medical Center and will immediately begin work as a Graduate Nurse (GN) on 4-South in the Trauma and Intermediate Care units. After taking and passing her boards this summer, Anna will become a full-fledged Registered Nurse. Working in SI showed Anna how much she loves teaching and watching “that spark of understanding” appear on the faces of her students. The instructional skills she learned will serve her well as she cares for and educates her patients. To

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Graduating SI Leaders Spring '08



Jason Bodiford
Man & the Environment



Anna Ermakova
College Algebra



Matt Jackson
Human Anatomy



Anna Romero
Human Physiology