AU Launches the Writers’ Exchange

The AU Learning Commons through the Antioch University Virtual Writing Center now offers professional writing services to both its students and external communities. After 6 years of providing free peer writing support to graduate students, the team at the AU VWC has recognized the need for more specialized editing support for theses and dissertations. The Writers’ Exchange (WEX) offers a full menu of professional coaching, editing, webinars, and practical writing resources. Now, AU students, alumni, staff and faculty have online access to “vetted” editors, proofreaders and coaches for all their writing needs. Services are offered at discounted rates for the AU community.

This past year, Dr. Anne Maxham, AU Director of Writing, convened a collaborative team of AU experts and other writing professionals to develop a new website (wex.antioch.edu). After this summer’s successful pilot program, WEX is now ready for the full AU community.

The Writers’ Exchange is a direct response to growing evidence that successful writing is essential to academic and professional success. We believe that all writers deserve to realize their potential through writing and that having individualized coaching and editorial support can be the catalyst for significant writing growth. Wherever and whoever you are, you will find experts committed to your progress at The Writers’ Exchange.

AULA co-sponsors VetsHack

Antioch University Los Angeles partnered with Sabio, a Los Angeles-based software engineering program, and Operation Code, a non-profit organization that aims to get veterans coding, to host VetsHack over the Labor Day weekend. Eight teams competed for a top prize of $2,500. The second place team received $1000, and the third place team received $500.

The objective of the hackathon was to bring civilians and veterans together by providing an opportunity to create software solutions for the daily challenges that veterans and their families face. Some of those challenges include: housing, educational opportunities, social and emotional health, employment, and resources for veterans who want to pursue entrepreneurial opportunities.

The winning team created a way for Veterans to easily identify mentors and to chat with them anonymously. Billy Martin, a Veteran on the winning team, is a student in AULA’s undergraduate program.

Read more.
AUNE | SERD Symposium Presenters Win APA Award for Syrian Refugees Program at the 2016 APA Conference

Clinical Psychology students and a faculty member recently presented at the 2016 APA Conference in Denver. PsyD students Lauren Weisberg, Chad Lazzari, and Sarajane Rodgers, and Dr. Gargi Roysicar, Professor of Clinical Psychology and Director of the Multicultural Center, gave their respective presentations at the APA Conference. Their research, which began last November, resulted in a proposal that was accepted by APAGS (American Psychological Association of Graduate Students) and sponsored by several APA divisions.

Their program, “Syrian Refugee Crisis: Psychologists’ Responsibility for Human Rights and Mental Health,” is the winner of the 2016 Stuart C. Tentoni Outstanding Professional Development Program Award. The award was determined after the careful review of the impressive APAGS-accepted convention program proposals, review of the SERD symposium presentations by members of the APAGS Convention Committee, and review of the participant evaluations collected following the symposium.

Read more.

AUNE | MFT Program partners with County for Systems of Care Grant

The Federal Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) recently announced awards of the Systems of Care grants and Antioch’s Marriage and Family Therapy (MFT) program is a key partner in the Cheshire County award. The project will implement a System of Care in New Hampshire’s Monadnock Region to improve access and delivery of mental health services to youth and families.

As a partner in the Monadnock Systems of Care, students and faculty from the Applied Psychology Department will provide training and clinical support to the region on trauma, family therapy, and home-based services. Dr. Janet Robertson, with several others, were involved in the planning grant, as well as implementing a family-centered qualitative research approach to the assessment of family needs.

This award will contribute to the establishment of a clinical training center within the Applied Psychology Department to meet the needs of the local community.

Antioch University Los Angeles Book Exchange

With the rising cost of textbooks, AULA students are taking issues into their own hands and solving their problems the old fashioned way—by lending a hand (or in this case, a book) through social media. Students have created two textbook exchange groups on Facebook. These textbook exchanges will provide another way to access the textbooks that students may need for their courses. It will help them engage with one another in community support and encourage them to read, read, read the material they need to be the best scholars. The textbook exchange will also help students save money by buying and selling textbooks between their classmates.

PSYCHOLOGY STUDENTS - This group has been building momentum and accomplishing its goal nicely. Members of this group are selling and swapping their Clinical Psychology program text books. Read more.

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS - This is a new and closed group Book Exchange where students may post requests for textbooks they are seeking as well as post lists of textbooks they are willing to lend or sell to fellow students. Read more.
GSLC to Host Reception in Coordination with The International Leadership Association Annual Conference

The GSLC learning community welcomes registrants of the annual International Leadership Association conference this coming November to join us for a reception in Atlanta on Thursday, November 3, 2016.

Contact Leslee Creighton to RSVP and gather details: lcreighton@antioch.edu.

GSLC Provost Alexandre’s 2016 Timely Commencement Speech

This past August the GSLC concluded its 11th commencement ceremony. GSLC Provost, Dr. Laurien Alexandre’s commencement remarks focused on the role of public intellectuals and scholar-practitioners in a time of divisiveness.

Read more.

The AUS eNews Tour of the New Community Counseling and Psychology Clinic

The AUS eNews met with Antioch University Seattle (AUS) Community Counseling and Psychology Clinic Director Doug Wear on Wednesday, September 7, 2016 to learn about the new clinic location in the Trianon Building at 2505 3rd Avenue, Seattle, WA 98121. Wear even brought a foster dog, Bryce, along for the walk. The new clinic space is located at the intersection of 3rd Avenue and Wall Street. This places the clinic just across the intersection from the Antioch University Seattle new campus, which stretches along 3rd Avenue between Wall Street and Battery Street.

The two spaces are so close that most rooms in the new AUS Community Counseling and Psychology Clinic have a stunning view of the state-of-the-art new AUS campus. The team responsible for selecting the new clinic location made this choice deliberately. Not only are student clinicians granted greater ease of travel between their classes on campus and their work in the clinic, but AUS students are also welcome to utilize the AUS Community Counseling and Psychology Clinic as clients. In fact, in a decision that supports both the mental health of the student body and the clinical practices of the student clinicians, AUS students have been granted unlimited therapy sessions free of charge at the AUS Community Counseling and Psychology Clinic!

One particularly striking element of the new clinic location is its abundance of natural light. Not only are there large windows throughout the offices, but there is also a large, architecturally interesting skylight at the building entrance, which the new clinic wraps halfway around. Those concerned about the impact that the large interior and exterior windows will have on the confidentiality of the counseling services needn’t worry. The clinical offices will be adapted for sound and visual access to protect the privacy of clients.

The counseling offices in the new clinic location will be fewer in number, but much larger in square footage and richer in natural light than the counseling offices in the current location of the AUS Community Counseling and Psychology Clinic at the corner of 6th Avenue and Bell Street. The clinic will also have supplies for Play Therapy, Drama Therapy, and Art Therapy mental health services to take place in the clinical therapy rooms.

When speaking with AUS Community Counseling and Psychology Clinic Program Associates Kathleen Cox and Theresa Halsell after the tour, these themes were echoed. Halsell concluded “Location, light, and larger. That’s my quote!”
AUS New Campus Features

In just under two months, the new Antioch University Seattle campus is slated for completion. The new building embodies the best of Seattle and Antioch’s values: technology, inclusion and collaboration.

The layout encourages interaction, with open spaces and glass dividers that allow students to share their ideas and energy without the confinement of traditional, overly dark walls. Light will play a huge role in the experience of the space, with the design firm, Gensler, selecting the dappled light of a rooftop canopy as their inspiration for illumination in certain parts of the campus. Natural light will brighten the campus from the ceiling-to-floor windows. The campus as a whole reflects the open spaces and feel of the best of the Pacific Northwest—natural beauty and technology that encourages people to explore.

And there’s so much to explore. From the student lounge, to the dining hub, to the study rooms, there are plenty of new areas that encourage students to relax, learn, and collaborate.

Focus Rooms
Students have the ability to reserve rooms electronically for their studying and meeting needs, and can look up availability and book rooms remotely.

Campus Dining Hub
The new campus boasts a dining hub to bring community together in the age-old tradition of sharing food, or just hanging out in a room with plenty of natural light and open space.

Dividable Classrooms
The classrooms are dividable so they morph to suit class needs. More room for bigger happenings, and less for intimate ones.

Lecture Hall
Get together in the new lecture hall, featuring lots of space for events and speakers to engage students.

Smart Boards for Education Department
Antioch believes in real-world education, and most K-12 classrooms use smart boards for teaching, thus giving you hands-on experience with the latest field technology.

Outdoor View Balcony
Unwind on our spectacular private balcony with views of the sound and city.

Our new campus opens its doors this December, and the Winter Quarter is the new campus’ inaugural quarter. We’re excited to start a new chapter in the season that helps define Seattle, but especially to start it with the heart of Seattle—YOU.

AUS Volunteers in the PAX West AFK Room

PAX, short for Penny Arcade Expo, is the first and largest gaming (video games, board games, card games, etc.) fan culture convention. Originally a 4,500-person event in 2004 in Bellevue, Washington, PAX has grown into multiple conventions: PAX West, in Seattle, Washington; PAX East, in Boston, Massachusetts; PAX South, in San Antonio, Texas; and PAX AUS (no relation to Antioch University Seattle) in Melbourne, Australia. In addition, there is PAX Dev, which is a two-day extension of PAX West, taking place the Wednesday and Thursday before the start of PAX West, which happens Friday-through-Monday of the American Labor Day holiday.

As the school that launched the founders of the tabletop gaming mental health therapy organization Wheelhouse Workshop, it may be no surprise that our
students and alumni created a strong Antioch University Seattle presence at PAX West this year!

The mental health nonprofit Take This organizes and provides AFK Rooms at PAX and other conventions.

“AFK” is an internet slang abbreviation of “Away From Keyboard” and in this context, the AFK Room is a quiet, safe space, staffed with mental health volunteers, including licensed therapists, inside of a convention, including every PAX… Even PAX in Australia!

AFK Rooms are open to all convention attendees, and people use AFK Rooms to recharge, get mental health support, or even just to take time out from the convention to sit down and recharge their electronics.

This year at PAX West, when The AUS eNews visited the AFK room, approximately half of the volunteers and clinicians in the room were graduates or students of Antioch University Seattle! The AUS eNews did not take any photos of the inside of the AFK Room, out of respect for the privacy of the space. However, we have been granted permission by one of the clinical volunteers, Antioch University Seattle alumna Paulette de Coriolis MA, LMHCA, to use a photo of her standing outside of the AFK Room, next to its sign, taken during this year’s PAX West!

Antioch University Seattle community members who are interested in volunteering for AFK Rooms are encouraged to contact Take This directly.

________________________________________________________________________________________________________

AUM Alum, William Louis-Dreyfus, Leaves Legacy of Philanthropic Work

William Louis-Dreyfus, a billionaire businessman, art collector, and Antioch University alumnus, passed away on Sept. 16. Louis- Dreyfus made headlines after he decided to start donating the art collection he’d spent decades acquiring to The Harlem Children’s Zone, a nonprofit that provides support to underprivileged children.

His collection was estimated to be worth between $10 million and $50 million and included works by more than 170 artists. He had also opened his personal gallery in Mount Kisco, NY to help raise money for organizations, such as the Bedford Hills Free Library and the Horace Greeley Scholarship Fund, giving the public a chance to see rare works of art while supporting good causes.

Louis-Dreyfus received his Master of Arts in Creative Writing in September 2001. He was honored on the recent Primetime Emmy Awards show by his daughter, Julie Louis-Dreyfus, who won an award for her portrayal of President Selina Meyer on HBO’s “Veep” and dedicated it to her father.

Memorial donations may be made in his name to the following:

• Duke University School of Law, Attn: William Louis-Dreyfus Fund –Wrongful Convictions Clinic, Box 90389, Durham, NC 27708.

________________________________________________________________________________________________________

AULA MFA Faculty Featured in the Wall Street Journal

Author and MFA in Creative Writing Faculty Tananarive Due’s writing career (as well as the chair she’s owned since she was ten) was highlighted in The Wall Street Journal’s article “The Chair That’s Followed an Author’s Career” written by Kenneth Hicks.

Ms. Due writes novels and short stories that play with elements of horror, mystery, science fiction and history. Her first novel, published in 1995, was “The Between.” She has since published nine solo books and eight
collaborations, including a memoir with her mother and several novels with her husband, Steven Barnes.

The article examines what this childhood chair has meant, not only to Due's literary beginnings, but also what it means to her now when reflecting back. It's an article that "sits" with you. Due has been an AULA faculty member since 2007.

Read more.

Recycle for JOBS

Antioch University Los Angeles is partnering with Recycle for JOBS to help create positive work for people whose economic opportunities are limited because they or a loved one have been incarcerated. By putting California Redemption Value (CRV) beverage containers into the specifically marked bins around campus individuals will support this job creation.

Mary Sutton, student in the MA in Urban Sustainability program, initiated Recycle for JOBS, with members of the Fair Chance Project, as part of her final capstone project, Collective REMAKE: Art, Business, Education, News, People, and Recycling for Sustainability.

Collective REMAKE will support the development of worker-owned businesses with people that are impacted by incarceration. Recycle for JOBS is the first pilot project. This project will also help to clean the environment and slow climate change by directly supporting the State of California's ZERO landfill goals and raise awareness about the benefits of recycling correctly.

Read more.

Chancellor's Corner

You’ve all heard the mantra, ‘enrollments, enrollments, enrollments’ and, indeed, we’re seeing the fruits of the hard work, long hours and dedicated time of faculty, staff and administrators across this University. I’m very pleased to share that for the first time in a long time, the University tuition-generated revenue for FY17 Summer term exceeded targets by about $80,000. While some campuses and units did not meet their numbers, other campuses and units did better than expected. So, overall, our Summer income is good.

Two campuses have completed their Fall enrollment cycle. The west coast campuses are still busily focused on converting curious Fall term inquiries to qualified applicants and matriculants. So far, our projections for Fall are showing a 3% to- 5% shortfall from projected revenue. We will be analyzing the results of that effort and sharing more information about where we stand in the next couple weeks as we complete enrollments for the Fall term.

I want to recognize the efforts of so many of you to improving recruitment and enrollment efforts, adding more options for the delivery of our curriculum, insuring high touch faculty and student engagement and the provision of high quality academic support services. These are all important elements to attract, retain and graduate our students.

At the same time, I need to emphasize how imperative the change in our downward enrollment trends is. We cannot continue to absorb annual operating deficits and continued cuts in our staff erode our capacity to operate.
To get there, we’ve already implemented significant structural changes, and no system can go through this level of reorganization without some bumps along the way. I do understand the frustrations being felt system wide. Let me tackle some of those of which I’m aware.

Expanding existing programs and creating new ones takes time and resources, both in limited supply. I know many of you are asking for more resources to do the things being asked. I want to promise you that we are seeking resources to support the strategic academic and enrollment plan and I hope to have more specifics in the near future. Most immediately, as I believe you are all aware, the Board of Governors has authorized additional new scholarship dollars to be used strategically to increase enrollment. Susan Howard and her financial aid team will be collaborating with the Admissions officers to coordinate the timely and strategic use of these scholarship funds.

The transition of our IT infrastructure from five or more instances to one unified infrastructure has taken up much time over the last two years, but we are in the home stretch. The process and operations of the campuses have largely evolved over time independent of each other and this has led to a significantly complex array of approaches. Complexity is the enemy of efficiency. For example, in the application process alone, we have over 180 different application forms for students. The Radius system must support all of them. This is untenable. We simply must simplify.

Nonetheless, we have had a number of recent successes including: the launch of registration on all campuses, the migration of student academic credit histories into one environment, the transition to Radius for admissions and, more efficient use of Colleague for financial aid awarding resulting in more counseling time. Of course, more work remains. Some modules in Radius still need to be built or improved including the narrative evaluations, the degree audit reports, and the single Antioch University transcript. I recognize the transition has been challenging and appreciate work and patience so many of you have demonstrated as we implement and improve these new University-wide systems.

Finally, all budgets, as approved by the Board of Governors in early July, have now been set-up in our Colleague system for access by budget managers and campus/University administrators. This will allow timely and attentive monitoring of budget performance going forward. In an effort to provide as much transparency as possible, I have created several pie charts that show how the University overhead budget is allocated. The charts are available on the Sakai One Antioch University site.

As we all know, making the significant and necessary changes in our University to reverse the trajectory of our enrollments takes time, focused efforts, tremendous collaboration and good will. I keep the Board of Governors informed of the successes and challenges of our efforts, but we know that many of you would like to have the opportunity to communicate directly with the Board. To that end, Dr. Charlotte Roberts, Chair of the Board of Governors, and I will be travelling to each of the campuses again this fall to hold community and small group meetings. Charlotte and I look forward to visiting with you then. Your provosts will provide you with specific meeting times closer to our time together.

In the meantime, I again want to thank you for all that you’re doing for our students and the University. I’m privileged to lead this amazing team.