



**DASS** Disability Accommodations & Success Strategies Located in the ALEC

# TOPICS

- VOTE EXTRA MILE AWARD
- 7 DAY RULE
- EUREKA MOMENTS
- SNL MEETING
- ASL AS 2ND LANGUAGE
- MAY TERM 2014

## SNL MEETING

Students for New Learning

3/27 @ 5 PM Rm 217 LEC

ADD, Dyslexia, or other Learning Disability ??

FOOD PROVIDED

### **HOT OFF THE PRESS!**

# ASL will be offered this summer

If you struggle with foreign language, or just want to learn American Sign Language, you can meet your UC requirement for a second language all in one summer by taking 2 semesters of ASL on the main campus here at SMU this summer! Please contact DASS Coordinator, Michelle Bufkin, for more information

mbufkin@smu.edu



#### May Term Letters

If you decide to enroll in classes for the May Term, please request your letter of accommodation as soon as possible and we encourage you to attempt to deliver it to your instructor BEFORE classes start on **May 15th.** Call the department for contact information for the professor.

# PLEASE VOTE ON THESE NOMINATIONS FOR THE EXTRA MILE AWARD! DUE BY 3/28/14

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Send your feedback to <u>alexat@smu.edu</u>. If you have experience with these faculty
 members, let us know if you support them receiving an award that recognizes
 professors who go the extra mile for students who learn differently.

- ⇒ Dr. Victoria Lockwood Anthropology
- ⇒ Dr. Leslie DeArman Sociology
- $\Rightarrow$  Dr. Ed Countryman History

 $\Rightarrow$  Dr. Steve Robertson – Statistics

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### **REMEMBER THE 7 DAY RULE FOR TESTING AT DASS!**

If you and your professor want you to take a proctored test at DASS, you must schedule it at least **7** days before the test day, using the Online Scheduler. Please review the directions at



http://www.smu.edu/Provost/ALEC/DASS/DisabilityAccommodations/TestProctoring

Note: the rules are different for finals, please read more at the above website

## Eureka Moments

Breaks during study time increase productivity.

David Burkus, in an article by Harvard Business Review, explains:

"Eureka moments feel like flashes of insight because they often come out of a period when the mind isn't focused on the problem, what psychologists call a period of incubation. Incubation is the stage where people briefly step back from their work." In recent studies, subjects who took a break from a complex problem or activity were found to generate on average 9.8 new ideas, as compared to only 6.9 ideas from a group which worked continuously on the same problem. Burkus continues:

"One possible explanation for these findings is that when presented with complicated problems, the mind can often get stuck, finding itself tracing back through certain pathways of thinking again and again. Taking a break from the problem and focusing on something else entirely gives the mind some time to release its fixation on the same solutions and let the old pathways fade from memory. Then, when you return to the original problem, your mind is more open to new possibilities – eureka moments." Applications:

\*If your mind tends to get stuck on a pressing assignment, blocking creativity, try switching tasks and then returning to the assignment at hand.

- 1. Break down projects into smaller steps which can be tackled in short incubation periods.
- 2. Have alternative projects close by when you need to briefly switch tasks.
- 3. Schedule time for mundane tasks, such as checking emails, when you need a break from a task.

### FINALS at DASS

Watch for details about scheduling a final at DASS in your email and newsletter !
Coming Soon!

The DASS Team – 214-768-1470

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