Inside Penn State Learning: A Tutor & Receptionist Newsletter* October 2015

Welcome to the Penn State Learning newsletter for tutors and receptionists! The brainchild of your tutor and receptionist coordinators (see "Resources" below), this newsletter has been created to foster communication among everyone who works at Penn State Learning. The newsletter may include:

- Activities you're involved in (concerts, performances, games, etc.) that others might want to attend
- Birthdays
- Tutor profiles
- Links to your personal websites or e-portfolios (if you're willing to share!)
- Announcements & reminders
- Resources

If you have anything you would like to add to the newsletter, please email Cindy Clem at crc189@psu.edu.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. SAVE THE DATE: **Friday, December 4th, 5p.m**. - **Penn State Learning Holiday Party**! Be on the lookout for more information about how to RSVP, what to bring, what to wear, and what to get excited about.

2. Receptionist **Asher Dubin** has a role in the acclaimed comedic musical A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum, showing November 10-14 at the Penn State Downtown Theatre. Support Asher! Buy tickets here! (http://fuseproductions.org/20152016-season/, if the embedded link doesn't work)

3. Writing tutor **Lucy Ruzzini** will participate in the University Choir concert on Sunday, November 8, at 4 p.m. in Esber Recital Hall, Music Building 1. support Lucy! Tickets can be purchased at the event ($2 for students; $4.99 for general admission). More information at http://music.psu.edu/events.

OPPORTUNITIES

1. Call for Presentation Proposals
Student Lightning Presentations @ the 2015 Engaged Scholarship Expo
November 18, 2015 | Heritage Hall, Hetzel Union Building, University Park

The Council on Engaged Scholarship (COES) invites all undergraduate students to submit a proposal for a lightning presentation about how going beyond the classroom (internship, study abroad, research) made a difference in their Penn State experience. Lightning presentations are designed to be quick and engaging—lasting no more than five minutes—so we can pack the most into the expo as possible.

If your proposal is selected, you'll have the chance to showcase your experience along with other students at the upcoming Engaged Scholarship Expo in November! (Presenting at the expo is a great experience to talk about during future interviews, by the way!) Proposals due October 30, 2015. www.engagedscholarship.psu.edu/events

2. *Name this Newsletter! If you have a good idea for the name of this newsletter, please email it to Cindy Clem (crc189@psu.edu). The person with the winning entry will be awarded a) a new car, b) a cruise, or c) Neill Johnson's extra "Vegetable Korma: curry with rice" microwaveable dinner. What's the correct answer? Find out! Submit a newsletter title!

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

Rebecca Hovingh, French Tutor, October 5th

Year: 5th year senior
Major: Food Science
Post-grad goal: TAPIF (Teach Assistant Program in France)
Time at PSL: ~3 years
What do you wish would come back into fashion?
I love the feedsack dresses of the 1930s!
If you could only eat one meal for the rest of your life, what would it be? Frittata

Genevieve Stafford, Writing Tutor, October 7th

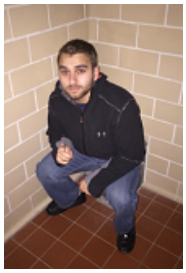
Year: Sophomore
Major: Psychology and Spanich
Post-grad goal: Work in psychological counseling with teens or young adults

Time at PSL: 1st semester
What is one of your favorite books? Catcher in the Rye
What's the most daring thing you've done? Indoor sky diving
What is one talent or skill you have? I crochet and quilt (I made the table runners in my picture!)

Libby Rush, Writing Tutor, October 19th

Year: Senior
Major: CAS & Spanish
Post-grad goal: Live in a big city, work for a magazine/TV show, go to grad school Time at PSL: 2 years

What was the last movie you went to? What did you think? The Visit. I scream-cried and had 47 nightmares Who would you want to play you in a movie of your life? Tom Hardy
What makes you laugh the most? Everything



Evan Rosenberg, Writing Tutor, October 20th

Year: Senior
Major: Finance
Post-grad goal: start working in the investment banking industry, but eventually start a small business.
Time at PSL: 5 semesters
What is one of your special skills?
I am one of this world's most incredible ping pong players.
Aside from necessities, what's one thing you could not go a day without? Music
What do you wish would come back into fashion? Overalls
Favorite movie? Anything with Will Ferrell in it

Lyndsay Goldfarb, Writing Tutor, October 21st

Year: Sophomore
Major: CSD & Spanish
Post-grad goal: Travel the world! (Oh, and grad school..)

Time at PSL: 1st semester
If you could share a meal with any 4 individuals, living or dead, who would they be? Paul, John, George, and Ringo
What's the most unusual thing you've ever eaten? A cricket
If you could go back in time, what year would you travel to? It's a tie between 1969 (to attend Woodstock) and any year during the Mesozoic Era (to see dinosaurs)

Shaurya Rastogi, Chemistry Study Group Leader, October 22nd
Year: Junior
Major: Computer Engineering
Post-grad goal: to work in Finance on Wall Street
Time at PSL: 1st semester
What is one of your favorite books? Secret, by Rhonda Byrne.
What is a special talent or skill you have?
I am a very very astute observer and seem to remember things effortlessly. I seem to have very strong senses which develop a very strong connection between what I see, hear and smell and then I seem to remember everything effortlessly.
If money was no object, what would you do all day?
I would read and read and explore the world to understand the different processes at work. I would read about Finance (although it would not have any significance because money would have no significance), Roman Architecture, the History of the Caliphate world, and would immerse myself in gaining exquisite knowledge. I would take the untrodden path and explore countries like Mongolia, learn about their culture, spend my time there for some months, or see how the glaciers are receding in the Himalayas due to global warming and human activities.

Julianna Azzizzo, Italian Tutor, October 26th
Year: Junior
Major: Communication Sciences and Disorders (aka Speech Pathology)
Post-grad goal: to be a Speech Therapist. I hope to work in the schools and help young children who have special needs or disabilities.
Time at PSL: 1st semester
What is a special talent or skill you have? My talents include reading the entire Harry Potter series in just one week, quoting the entire movie "Mean Girls", and cooking all kinds of Italian foods, especially spaghetti and meatlballs.
Are you related or distantly related to anyone famous? I am not related to anyone famous but sometimes I feel like I am, because my grandfather is a baker and many years ago he gave a job to Buddy Valastro Sr. (aka the Cake Boss's father) in his bakery. My grandfather trained him and taught him everything about baking.
What are your favorite movies? Titanic, The Notebook, Mean Girls, The Godfather, Forrest Gump, Hocus Pocus, and My Cousin Vinny

Alexandra Jubault, Receptionist, October 30th
Year: junior
Major: psychology with a business option; minor in media studies
Post-grad goal: to be a creative director for a fashion company
Time at PSL: going on 2 years
If money was no object, what would you do all day? Watch Neflix in bed
Aside from necessities, what's one thing you could not go a day without? Mascara

Jeff Ross, Guided Study Group Leader for Math, October 5th
Jacob Leedy, Spanish tutor, October 9th
Adrian Readmond-Mietus, Guided Study Group Leader for Physics, October 17th
Blake Burger, Math tutor, October 20th
Daniel Barker, Math tutor, October 21st
Krishna Desai, prospective Hindi tutor, October 25th
Homa Kafley, Receptionist, October 27th

FUN FACTS

Number of tutors at Penn State Learning: 156
Number of receptionists at Penn State Learning: 17
Number of cats at Penn State Learning: 0

National Tutoring Week, during which tutors are recognized and appreciated, was October 5-9. We missed it.

Evan Rosenberg (above) is sitting on a prison toilet in Alcatraz.

Indoor sky diving = floating on a vertical wind tunnel. Rumor has it you'll be able to indoor skydive at King of Prussia (Philly) soon.

Feedsack dresses look like this.

RESOURCES

Your Peer Coordinators:

- Blake Burger, math tutor
- Asher Dubin, receptionist
- Laurel Kandianis, writing tutor
- Katie Krissinger, French tutor
- Danny Magerman, writing tutor
- Phil Miller, math tutor
- Libby Rush, writing tutor
- Lucy Ruzzini, writing tutor
- Ilana Shtivelman, Spanish & French tutor
- Gabrielle Steiner, math tutor
- Gabe Williams, Korean tutor
- Jake Wisser, math tutor
- Ni Yang, Chinese tutor