

The Academic Achievement Center

The AAC needs YOUR involvement

*Picture YOUR NAME
among the honor roll of
faculty who have accepted
alternative responsibility
assignments in the AAC!*

Bettina Aten
Saul Auslander
Michael Boyd
Aida Bruns
Elaine Bukowieki
Heidi Burgiel
Walter Carroll
Kevin Curry
Paul Dubois
Mahmoud El-Hashash
Kathy Evans
Paul Fairbanks
Mike Farley
Ruth Farrar
Mercer Fellouris
Diana Fox
D'Ann George
Harriet Jacobster
John Jahoda
Jack Jones
Sylvia Keyes
Tammy King
Cindy King-Frode
Bob MacMillan
Anna Martin-Jearld
Susan Miskelly
Nancy Moses
Orlando Olivares
Nancy Paxcia-Bibbins
Evelyn Pezzulich
Dorothy Pulsifer
Dick Quindley
Suzanne Ramczyk
Robi Robinson
Roya Sayadi
Uma Shama
Mary Shorey
Peter Sietins
Julia Stakhnevich
Jean Stonehouse
Lee Torda
Jeff Williams
Nancy Witherell
Lynne Yeamans
Steve Young

*Please see the back of this
sheet for additional
information about
alternative responsibility
assignments in the AAC...*

By joining the AAC team, you can be a part of an innovative program working to increase retention at BSC. The AAC addresses...

- Academic advising needs of students
- Learning assistance needs of students

Advising Services

- Placement testing (mathematics, reading, writing)
- Orientation group advising for freshmen, transfers and students re-admitted after academic separation
- Haughey First-Year Advising Program
 - Faculty-defined curriculum for five advising contacts per student
 - Advising 101 & 102 at Orientation
 - Large Group, Small Group by-major & Individual in first semester
 - Attention to needs of students with disabilities and students from academically disadvantaged backgrounds

Learning Assistance Services

- **Study and Research Services**
 - Teaches strategies for effective textbook study, note-taking, test-taking and exam preparation
 - Teaches effective research skills
- **Writing Studio**
 - Offers critical yet supportive feedback to student writers working on projects in any academic discipline and at any stage of the writing process – from just getting started to final editing and polishing
- **Mathematics Services**
 - Supports mastery of content in all mathematics courses
- **Communication Lab**
 - Assists students topic selection, outlining, research and with presentation practice and with
- **English as a Second Language Services**
 - Provides ESL Assessment at Referral
 - Provides ESL tutoring and Conversation Partners for ESL students
- **Content Tutoring for GER & introductory courses**
 - Supplements assistance provided by other AAC services through individual and group tutoring
- **Disability Resources**
 - Works with faculty and students to ensure that access is provided and academic standards are upheld
 - Identifies appropriate classroom accommodations

What your faculty colleagues say about their involvement in the AAC...

"As part of the AAC team, I feel that I'm helping to make a difference at BSC. I enjoy forming relationships with individual students and helping them succeed. I also find it exciting to be part of a team that has an innovative, award-winning approach to advising and that draws visitors from universities around the country.

While correlation doesn't equal causality, there is no doubt in my mind that this is no coincidence: after the AAC was instituted in 1997, the percentage of students on the dean's list has doubled—and the percentage of students on probation dropped from 19% to 11%. It's immensely rewarding to be part of a team that is making such a difference at the college."

Kathryn Evans ~ English

"... I have developed a better understanding of the students who attend BSC, and for the policies and procedures of the College. Being a member of the team is personally rewarding when I know that the advisement and guidance we give will assist students in finding the direction they need for academic success."

Mary Shorey ~ Early Childhood Education

"After 33 years at BSC, I've learned all kinds of information about advising that I never had before. It is a great experience."

Susan Miskelly ~ Communication Studies

"In addition to the knowledge gained and the potential for increasing my own skills as an advisor to students, the AAC offers faculty an opportunity to meet colleagues outside of their departments and greatly increases the sense of community at the college. I enjoy being a member of the 'BSC team' all the more because of this experience."

Diana Fox ~ Anthropology

"Good people – Good times – Students that need you."

Jeff Williams ~ Physics

"Overall, I feel that by being involved in our first semester freshmen's lives here at BSC and helping them go through that difficult first semester, I have become part of the many successful stories..."

Tammy King ~ Chemistry

"Working at the AAC is the best introduction to the College's student populations, institutional policies and procedures. But it is more than that: it is an experience of seeing students achieve their goals and fulfill their true potential. It is an extremely rewarding experience because you see the learning process in all of its complexity and have an opportunity to make a real difference in students' lives."

Julia Stakhnevich ~ Foreign Languages

"The informal environment here allows me to get to know students in a way that I have not been able to as a lecturer... Small group and individual tutoring sessions allow me to try out various ideas for explaining math concepts..."

Heidi Burgiel ~ Mathematics

"Advisors get to know students in their major very early in their college careers. This early relationship pays dividends throughout the remaining years both in and out of the classroom."

Mike Farley ~ Aviation Science

"As a cornerstone component of BSC, the AAC, through faculty involvement, reinforces a culture of active learning, high expectations, and values the development of successful learners..."

Anna Martin-Jearld ~ Social Work

Some specifics about alternative responsibility in the AAC...

- A typical alternative responsibility assignment in the AAC involves a 2-course release.
- Faculty work 18 hours per week in the AAC on a schedule that coordinates with teaching and other duties in the home academic department.
- It is also possible for faculty to accept a 1 –course release and work 9 hours per week in the AAC.
- Office space, a computer and internet access are provided.

The most pressing need for faculty involvement is in the advising component of the Haughey First Year Program.

- Faculty are typically asked to commit to two semesters of service.
- During each academic semester, faculty advisors teach group advising sessions and see freshmen advisees one-on-one.
- In addition, faculty advisors meet for one hour each week with AAC staff. Meetings focus on defining and improving the curriculum of the advising program and its delivery.
- Authority over the advising curriculum is the purview of faculty advisors.
- Faculty advisors are paid an additional per day stipend to participate in New Student Orientation during the months of June (12 days), August (1 day) and January (1 day).

The steps that lead to becoming involved in the Haughey First Year Program are:

1. Support of the departmental Chairperson to seek a course release for alternative responsibility.
2. Support of the Dean of your School.

If you need additional information about this opportunity, please contact:

Peggy Smith, Director
Academic Achievement Center
508-531-1214