



DSUTM

DIXIE STATE UNIVERSITY
ST. GEORGE, UTAH

Library Links

vol. 2 no. 1

— A Link to Lifelong —
Learning

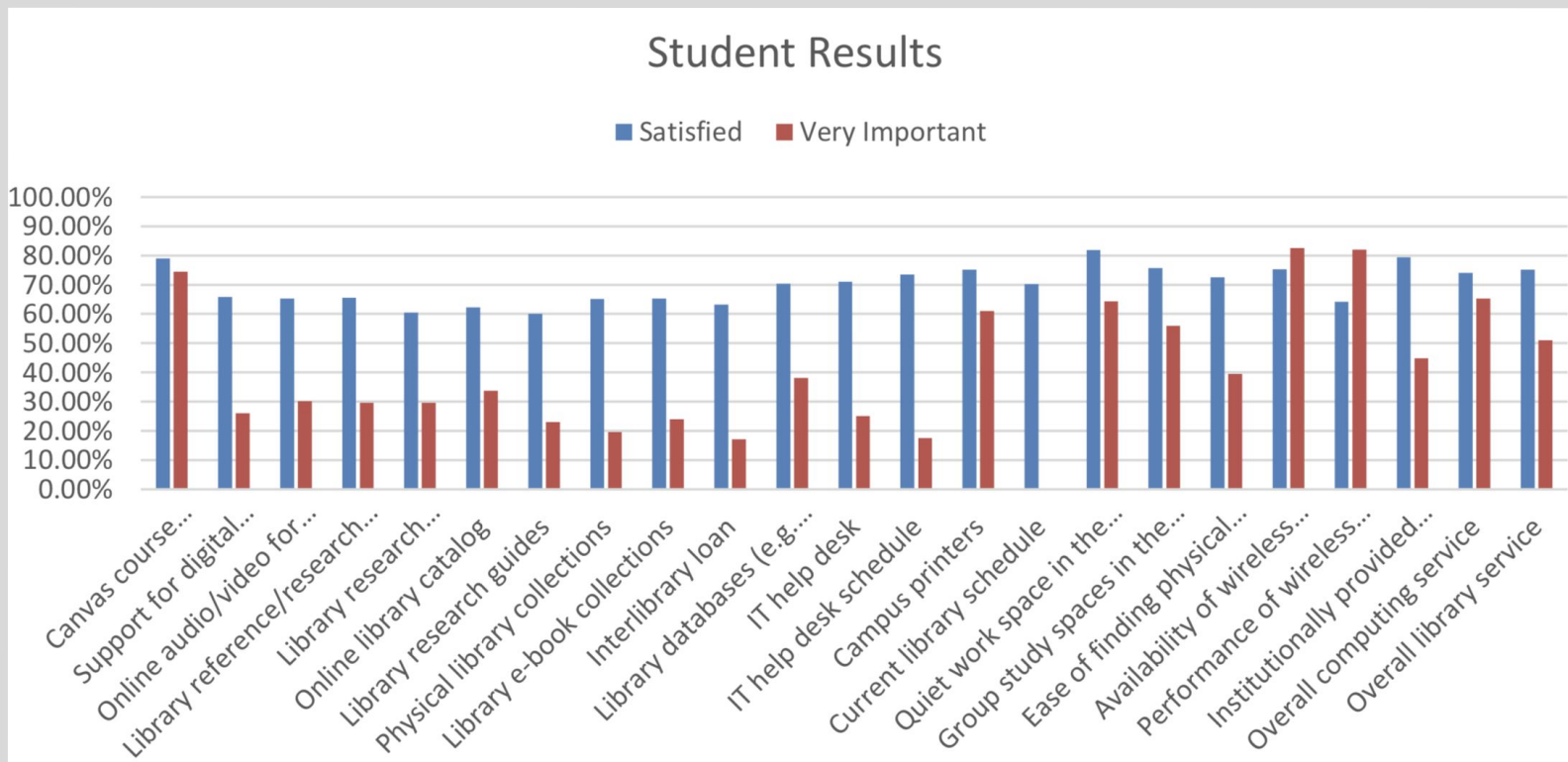
The MISO Survey results are in!

You asked. We listened.

By Devon Rice

The Measuring Information Service Outcomes (MISO) survey is used and distributed by multiple colleges around the nation to collect feedback from faculty and students about the school's library and IT services. Each school can customize the questions in the MISO to better fit the school's needs.

Dixie State students and faculty were invited to fill out the survey in Fall 2019. With the results of the survey, the library found 3 common requests from the students: they want a quiet library, the ability to reserve study rooms, and more scholarly databases and journals. The library has already made improvements based on these desires.



Continued

In an effort to make the library quieter, there is new signage coming in to help designate quiet zones. Along with this, the library is working on adding noise-reducing furniture to the third floor. The third floor is currently the only quiet zone on campus, so the library has made a goal to add more quiet zones to the Holland building.

Study rooms have become very popular in the Holland building. They are oftentimes full, which has prompted the library to implement a way for students to reserve study rooms. This plan will go into effect this Fall.

Many students requested that the library should get more scholarly databases and journals. The library added a handful of new titles such as, *Scopus*, *JAMA: The Journal of the American Medical Association*, and *IEEE IEL Online*.

There are many areas in DSU's library that students and faculty are impressed with, such as the current technological resources including available printers and computers. The MISO survey provided the DSU library with lots of valuable feedback, which has helped the library recognize what they've done well with, and what still needs work. For more information, please visit the library's web page at library.dixie.edu.

Student Tutor Guides Peers in Academic & Career Pursuits

By Ashton Corsetti

Academic Performance and Tutoring Center employee Kurtis Hinton knows it all: chemistry, biology, anatomy, physiology, physics and psychology.

That's because, as a college senior preparing for medical school, he has achieved at least an A- grade in each of the courses that he tutors.

What Hinton loves most about his work in the tutoring center is when students want to learn for the sake of learning.

"I love to be able to help the students grasp the knowledge," Hinton said. "I feel like there are students coming in that just try to get assignments done or whatever it may be, but there are some that come in and they are actually seeking the help, and then when they grasp the knowledge, I love that aspect of it: when they understand and it clicks for them."

While Hinton is still unsure about what medical practice he wants to pursue, he is willing to help other pre-med students find their paths. In addition to tutoring, Hinton serves as a peer mentor with the Utah Rural Health Scholars, where he advises students who are looking to start health-related occupations and graduate programs in any field.



Writing Center and Tutoring Center Both Help Students Succeed

By Cadence Summers

The Writing Center and the Academic Performance Center (also known as the Atkin Tutoring Center) have much in common: they're both on the fourth floor of the Holland Building, they are both free to students, both offer online services, and they both employ the best Dixie State University students to help coach their peers through various difficulties they may encounter in a variety of subject areas. But what sets the two centers apart from one another?



As the name suggests, the Writing Center helps students with writing, primarily focusing on helping students grow stronger and more confident as writers in many different subject areas. The APC also offers help in various subject areas, as well, but their main focus is on helping students learn valuable study skills that will help them in all areas of their academics. They also help them to better understand difficult concepts and achieve higher test/ assignment scores through group tutoring, one-on-one tutoring sessions, homework help. The tutoring center provides help for General Education courses but also offers tutoring in some upper-division courses.

Often, these peer-tutoring services are less intimidating and more flexible to fit student schedules, and when a student books an appointment in either center, their professors receive a report of the student's visit. To schedule an appointment with either center, students can visit accusql.dixie.edu

Library & Learning Services Wins Award for Teaching Freshman GRIT

By Julie Handy



This year during the freshman orientation breakout sessions, the Library & Learning Services' (LLS) team taught incoming freshman about Institutional Learning Outcomes, or ILOs. This was a collaborative effort between Career Services, the Student Success Center, the Multicultural Inclusion Center, and the DSU Student Association.

Members of Library & Learning Services focused on ILO number five, GRIT. Robert Gray said that the purpose of GRIT is “to develop passion and perseverance towards long-term goals despite significant obstacles.” The group explained, “the differences between high school and university students and let students know the heightened expectations.”

After outlining these differences, they made sure to highlight the many resources that Library & Learning Services has to offer these freshmen to help them succeed while at Dixie State University. These services include: the Writing Center, the Academic Performance Center, and Supplemental Instruction.

In order to make these breakout sessions more successful, LLS had groups of students collaborate and compete to answer Kahoot! questions and win prizes.

Gray stated, “We related how students had to use others to find answers to using tutoring and supplemental instruction services.” Library & Learning Services won the Best Freshman Breakout Session award based on the vote of Peer Coaches who observed each session.

Open Educational Resources are a Potential Textbook Replacement

By Julie Handy

Dixie State University conducted a survey in Spring 2019 to find out how often Open Educational Resources are used by faculty. Fifty-four percent of faculty were unaware that OERs could be used to replace required textbooks and published resources; fifty-eight percent of professors were willing to use OERs if they were suitable to the course and could be identified.

A similar survey targeting students' use of textbooks was conducted in 2016. In accordance with the survey, sixty-eight percent of classes require a textbook and thirty-nine percent of students dropped a course because of textbook costs. Sixty-eight percent of students did not purchase a textbook because of the cost and, more concerning, the survey showed that twenty-six percent of students claimed that not having a textbook was the reason for failing their course.

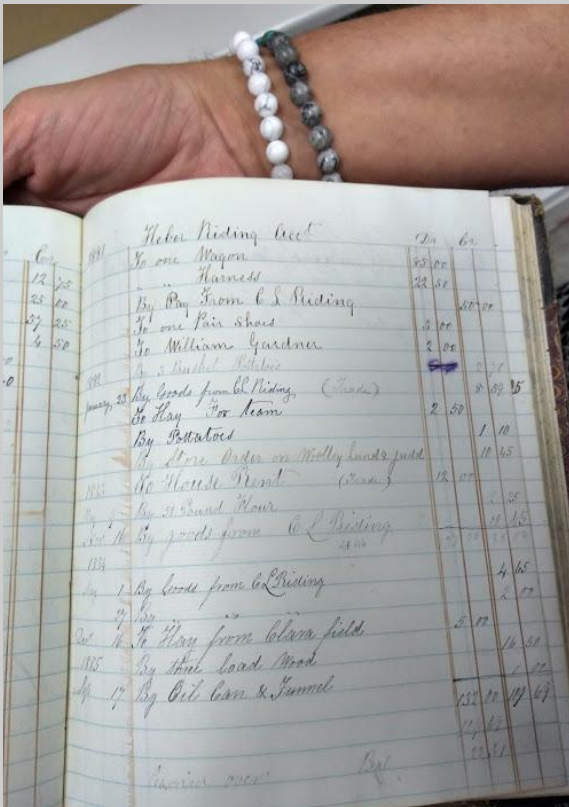
The rising cost of textbooks puts a drain on a college student's wallet, increasing students' stress throughout the semester. Open Educational Resources provide a free option for students to access interactive materials that can be used in place of expensive textbooks which allows each student to have the opportunity to succeed in their classes. More information regarding the use of OER's and how to find one for your classroom can be found at oer.dixie.edu.



Tammy Gentry Loves Her Job

By Cadence Summers

Born and raised in St George, Tammy Gentry is the Supervisor of the reading room in Special Collections & Archives, located on the third floor of the Holland Building. Besides aiding researchers both in person, on the phone, and digitally, she also supervises student projects and helps process materials that are donated to Special Collections. Her favorite collection was from her three times great-grandfather, Aaron Nelson, a shoemaker/shopkeeper among the first pioneers to arrive in St George. Assigned to process this collection at random, Tammy enjoyed studying her ancestor's records and especially enjoyed analyzing his handwriting. Tammy's other favorites include



books by Kristin Hannah, songs by Ed Sheeran, chocolate cake, and lilac flowers. Her favorite thing about Dixie? "I think my favorite thing about Dixie is to see how much it has grown and changed over the years"

Stop by HCC 330 from 10-12 and 12-5 to visit Tammy!

Dixie Forum to Host Mariachi Divas, Other speakers and Performers

By Ashton Corsetti

All audiences interested in learning about diverse subjects should attend *The Dixie Forum*, a free lecture series running every Tuesday from 12 - 12:50 p.m. in the Dunford Auditorium in the Browning Learning Center.

Forum coordinator John Burns believes that the invited speakers and performers are contributing to global progress. "The people that speak at *The Dixie Forum* are moving the human race forward in fascinating ways, and there is nothing more valuable than knowledge and experience," he said.

While Burns is excited for all of this year's speakers, he's been working especially hard on hosting The Mariachi Divas -- the two-time Grammy Award-winning all-female mariachi band -- for the Oct. 29 forum. Burns came across the group during a trip to Disneyland and was impressed by its performance.



Students who wish to attend the lectures regularly can also enroll in the one-credit course, LLS 1000R. Further information about the course, scheduled speakers and email list can be found at <https://libguides.dixie.edu/c.php?g=892729>