

Academic Research & Resources

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The Division of Research and Academic Resources

2014 ALLI Summer Bridge Program

"After three days in math class, I actually look forward to solving math problems. I want to wake up and do math."

In August, 17 incoming First Year students participated in a new program, the Academic Learners and Leaders Initiative (ALLI), intended to help prepare them for college with a focus on strengthening their quantitative skills. Students were selected based on SAT scores and high school GPAs. Curriculum and program activities in ALLI were developmentally based with a strong support system built around the each activity. This approach ensured the program met students where they were in terms of their academic abilities, yet challenged students

with a rigorous day-to-day schedule, homework, and enrichment activities. Students were encouraged to face their struggles with mathematics head on, confronting their math anxieties with the support of an instructor, math coach, and two peer tutors. Practicing the art of asking for help combined with daily successes of completing the homework, empowered and motivated students to engage with difficult material. As a result, significant learning took place and students were able to find confidence in their mathematics abilities.

"After three days in my math class I feel discouraged because it's getting more difficult, but motivated because I'm not going through this struggle alone and I have a strong support group."

Own Your ALLI Story

The culminating project of the ALLI program was a digital story assignment, "Own Your ALLI Story," which each student planned, developed, and executed. Students were asked to consider: what has ALLI meant to you? What have you learned about yourself during ALLI? Who have you met during ALLI? What would a future ALLI student need to know about program? Students responded to this challenge by creating stories depicting every aspect of the ALLI program, from their dorm life to their bike trips! All of the stories were showcased to a group of their peers, faculty, staff, and parents during the ALLI Open House held on the last day of the program. The pride and accomplishment these students felt was aptly demonstrated through these short videos.

Program Results

"It's the best thing that has happened to me! It was a great experience that [others] should have the chance to do."

Most notable is the average post-test difference on each assessment for the group as a whole. The average improvement for the MAT104 test was 38.11% while on the Accuplacer Elementary Algebra test, students averaged a 24.17% increase in scores. One student improved her Accuplacer Elementary Algebra score by 54 points, while another improved her MAT104 test score by 64%!

Such remarkable improvement in test scores and the instructor's individual assessment of students' homework indicated ten students were prepared to move into a more challenging course for the fall 2014 semester.

"I feel more confident now than I ever did in high school. The adults are extremely helping and caring."

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Meet Chris Gaudreau

As Learning Technologist, Chris is responsible for the successful delivery of the University's iPad Initiative; supporting faculty, staff, and students in teaching and learning with technology; and Canvas support (both on ground and online). Chris has been working in education (formally) as a substitute teacher in the Longmeadow Public Schools and (informally) with Apple, Inc. since 2007. With Apple, he led the training and technical support for retail stores in Holyoke, MA and Farmington, CT. A few years ago he began working towards his Master's degree in Learning, Media, and Technology at the University of Massachusetts. He also holds degrees from Springfield Technical Community College and Elms College. Outside of work, he has been playing drums for twenty years, currently with a band called Crowrider. He lives in Springfield with his girlfriend, their three cats, and an increasing need for space. He



Chris Gaudreau, Learning Technologist

New Staff at Hatch Library



Hatch Library welcomed Marcia Monro to Bay Path as their new Library Associate for Acquisitions. Marcia is a 2012 Liberal Studies graduate of Bay Path's One Day program, so she already knows her way around campus! She has a wide range of experience, from office management to interviewing for the U.S. Census Bureau and teaching in the Enfield (CT) Public Schools.

For more information on Hatch Library including staff bios, library hours and library services, visit their newly redesigned website!

[Hatch Library Website](#)

New Faculty Orientation Program

New faculty at Bay Path University are currently taking part in a new orientation program designed to introduce them to the policies, procedures, and culture of Bay Path. The program includes:

- ◆ A one-to-one orientation by their immediate supervisor.
- ◆ A Kick-off Week introducing them to the New Faculty Orientation Program, Workshops and Information Sessions during Opening Week
- ◆ A New Faculty Mentor Program connecting a new faculty member with a veteran faculty member from a different department. The Mentor assists the new faculty member in making the transition to Bay Path University's culture and community and establishes a relationship with the new faculty member that supports professional development
- ◆ A Provost Luncheon Series held seven times in the fall for lunch with personnel from various departments including advancement, business, online and digital learning, and Hatch library.
- ◆ A New Faculty Learning Community meeting frequently throughout the year with the time and agenda set by the new faculty.
- ◆ Faculty Development Workshops that will be held on various Wednesdays during the fall and spring terms.

Title III Updates

Title III Consultant Visit

On October 3, 2014 our Title III consultants visited to discuss the progress made during the second year of our grant. During the day the consultants met with a total of 38 people involved with Bay Path's Title III grant including the WELL, Advising, Career Planning, and Retention Team, the Reporting and Evaluation Team, and Cohort 1 and 2 course redesign teams. In their final comments, both consultants commended Bay Path on the extremely impressive progress over the first two years of the grant.

WELL, Advising, Career Planning, and Retention

The WELL, Advising, Career Planning, and Retention Team is currently working on infusing a greater amount of career and leadership development into the WELL Program. Program additions include the following:

- ◆ Addition of a Leadership Unit to WEL100
- ◆ Redesigned WEL210 to enhance ties to leadership
- ◆ Fall 2015 addition of 200 or 300-level special topics class on leadership development
- ◆ Addition of a leadership unit to all WEL400 sections in spring 2015
- ◆ Special designation of one WEL400 section that is an Advanced Leadership Seminar
- ◆ Increased career integration including career-focused assignments, strategies for career success, career team class visits, and post-graduation planning assistance



Visit the [Advising and Retention](#) page on the Bay Path Portal for more information.

Course Redesign

The Title III Course Redesign Initiative enters its third year with the launch of seven new course redesign teams, spanning the arts, sciences and professions. These *Cohort 3* teams will spend the year researching instructional trends in their fields and planning ways to improve student success in their courses. Meanwhile, *Cohort 2* course redesign teams will pilot their redesigned courses this year, and *Cohort 1* teams will fully implement their redesigns across all sections of their courses, having piloted the redesigns last year. Redesigns include a wide array of active learning methods, uses of technology and embedded academic supports including computer simulations, role-playing, multimedia projects on iPads, self-assessments, flipped classroom designs, small group discussion, self-paced tutorials, and embedded Student Learning Assistants (SLA).

COHORT 3 COURSE REDESIGN TEAMS

BIO112-Biology 2 & Lab (for majors)

Sandra Haddad
Gina Semprebou

BUS235-Dynamics of Management

Karen Carlson
Tom Loper

CHE121-Chemistry 2 & Lab

Adrian Garcia Segal
Hsiang Kung

ENG134-Literary Genres

Brenda Hardin Abbott
Kris Barnett
Courtney Patrick-Weber

HIS115-United States Since 1870

Bob Surbrug
Steve Vossen

LAW103-Introduction to the American Legal System

Sue Barrett
Justin Dion
John Woodruff

MAT112-College Mathematics

Vicky Gruneiro
Jane Weyant



Zahra Chaudhry

Meet Zahra Chaudhry

Zahra graduated from Bay Path University in 2011, with a major in Biology. After graduation she became involved in several volunteer activities such as youth group and summer camp director. Currently Zahra is enrolled in the Master of Science in Clinical Mental Health Counseling program at Bay Path. Zahra is very excited to be working as the graduate assistant in the Division of Research and Academic Resources. In her free time she likes to escape from everything and just relax and ponder or do the complete opposite—eat and shop.



Contact Us

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Visit us on the Web!

[Division of Research and Academic Resources Website](#)

