

We are pleased to share with you our Newsletter from the Academic Support Lab at Miami Dade College West Campus.



Academic Support Lab Newsletter

Hello Faculty and Staff Members,

We would like to take this opportunity to reach out and update the community on what is happening at the Academic Support Lab and within Academic Affairs. In the Academic Support Lab have been able to expand and improve our services through the peer tutoring program and the hiring of new staff and tutors. Meanwhile, Academic Affairs has continued to support and work closely with faculty members. In this newsletter we hope to spotlight some of these faculty members. With the

growth of Miami Dade West campus, we in the Academic Support Lab also intend to grow and prosper-- we hope you come see us soon!

Come to West Campus Today

New Hires: New Opportunities

Last semester we added many new members to our team at the Academic Support Lab. These include Jennifer Deronville, Rocio Garcia Miniet, and Harrison Liddle. Jennifer Deronville works as an instructional assistant in the Academic Support Lab and provides vital support to all Lab members. Rocio Garcia Miniet works as a Math tutor, while Harrison Liddle is our newest Writing tutor hire.



Jennifer Deronville, our new Instructional Assistant and Harrison Liddle, writing tutor.



Rocio Garcia Miniet our newest math tutor.

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Pictured above are two of our newest peer tutors, Josefina Freirag and Amy Ramos, meeting with the Academic support Lab Manager, Wanda Curtiss. Josefina volunteers as a Writing and Math Peer tutor, while Amy volunteers her time as a Math Peer tutor.

Introducing New and Returning Faculty Members

As the semester sails by, we would like to take this time to recognize and spotlight both new and returning faculty members. These faculty members make enduring contributions to our Campus and community.



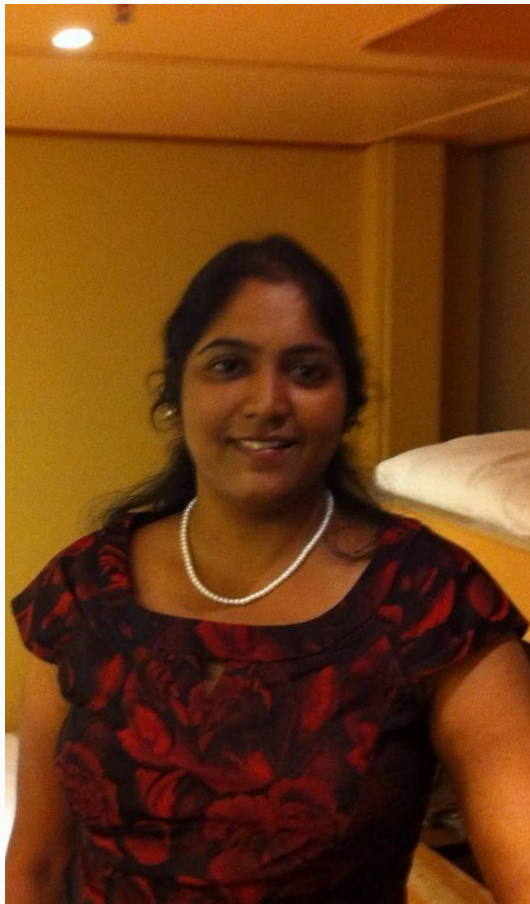
Ms. Rios currently serves as an accounting faculty at Miami Dade College (MDC), West Campus. She originally began her career at MDC as a fulltime professor and later became chairperson of the School of Business and the School of Technology & Engineering at the InterAmerican Campus. Later, she transferred to the Homestead Campus where she also chaired the Community Education department and launched the Electrical Power Technology program in partnership with Florida Power & Light Turkey Point. Ms. Thania Rios later served for five years as the Associate Dean of the School of Business at Miami Dade College, managing departments on seven campuses. The School of Business offers numerous academic programs in the areas of accounting, economics, banking, small business management, entrepreneurship, business administration and marketing; two baccalaureate degrees, one in Supervision and Management and a Bachelor of Applied Science in Supply Chain Management.

Ms. Rios holds a bachelor's degree in Business Administration from the University of Miami and a master's degree in Accounting from Florida

International University. She is a Florida licensed Certified Public Accountant (CPA).



Sarah Jacob is a new philosophy faculty member based in MDC's West Campus in the department of Arts and Letters. She received her Associate of Arts degree from Miami Dade College (Wolfson Campus), her Bachelors in Philosophy and Masters in Liberal Studies from Florida International University and she is presently studying for her PhD in Philosophy at the University of South Florida. Her passion for teaching was ignited at Miami-Dade College (North, Wolfson and Kendall Campuses) when she taught as an adjunct from 2012 to 2016. Sarah is an avid defender of the humanities and arts and in her spare time likes to write songs, practice yoga and mindful living techniques.



Professor Brinda Surendar teaches English and is very passionate about literature and reading. She has been teaching the various nuances of the English language from phonetics and pronunciation to composition and literature for more than 16 years. She holds a master's degree in English from the State University of New York, Albany and a master's degree in English from the University of Hyderabad in India. Having taught in several schools in the South Florida region, she has a unique perspective on academic life in Miami. Professor Surendar joined the MDC Arts and Letters Department this semester and is looking forward to working with this great team of professionals.





Dr. Trinidad Argüelles joined MDC West as a full time Psychology instructor in August 2013. She is an Applied Gerontologist, and has completed graduate work in Applied Psychology, Organizational Leadership, and Adult Education. In addition to her teaching experience at MDC, she has also taught at FIU (Cognitive Psychology, Industrial and Organizational Psychology, and Research Methods in Psychology); and at the University of Miami, where she taught at the Human Resource Management Certificate Program. Her research in the areas of Aging and Human factors and most especially her work in outreach to the aging minority populations gave her the opportunity to be a recipient of the Andrus Foundation Fellowship for the AARP foundation in 2000. Dr. Argüelles is strongly committed to the community she serves and has remained active in local, national, and international organizations (The Alliance for Aging, Inc., the Gerontological Society of America) for many years. In addition, she has been a consultant to numerous projects at the Psychological Corporation, NIDA, NIMH, NINR, NIOSH, Pfizer Pharmaceuticals, the Veteran's Administration, and UM.

In addition to her teaching responsibilities at MDC West, and her participation in various committees where she serves, (IMPACT tri-chair for West Campus, the Legislative Advocacy Committee, and the CASSC Research and Testing Committee where she serves as the Social Sciences Representative), Dr. Argüelles also serves as a mentor to STEM students in the SPARC (Science Peer and Research Collaborative) program. SPARC is under the auspices of the MDC School of Science which is supported by the U.S. Department of Education

under the Minority Science and Engineering Improvement Program.



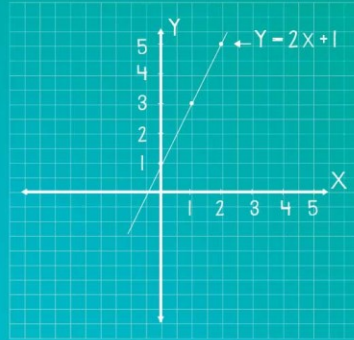
Dr. Hien Nguyen, a senior associate professor in the Technology Department for the School of Emerging Technology (formally known as Engineering + Technology (EnTec)), holds a Master's Degree in Telecommunications and Networking and a Ph.D. in Computer Science at FIU where he was a World Ahead Graduate at the FIU graduation ceremony. His research interests include computer programming, learning systems, intelligent tutoring systems, mobile learning and computing. His Ph.D. dissertation title is "*Modeling, Designing, And Implementing An Ad-Hoc M-Learning Platform That Integrates Sensory Data To Support Ubiquitous Learning.*" Professor Nguyen graduated from MDC in 2000 and began his full-time career at MDC North campus in 2007 after working as an adjunct professor at Kendall campus for four years. In May 2005, Professor Nguyen participated and was a graduate grand prize winner in the Howard J. Leonhardt New Venture Challenge International Business Plan Competition at FIU, where he was the founder of IntelliMath, LLC. He built the teaching and learning communication system, currently run at www.IntelliMath.com, for all faculty and students use for free at the domain www.DynaFlip.com. In 2015, he was one of the nine faculty who received an Endowed Teaching Chair Award at Miami Dade College. In addition, Professor Nguyen was the former faculty advisor for the honor society Phi Theta

Kappa – Mu Epsilon Chapter at the North Campus, and he is the founding faculty member leading the Modernize Education through Students (METS) Initiative at MDC-West Campus. He is the creator of DynaFlip Technique (DFT), a novel and modern teaching and learning technique where faculty and students have the opportunity to maximize their teaching and learning at their full potential. He also participates on campus and college-wide committees about the impact of teaching and learning. His working motto is “You know, you show, we all share and grow.”



In addition, we are proud to present another Math focused workshop led by our Math tutor team.

Math MaNia



PRACTICE MAKES PERFECT...SO PLEASE JOIN US!

TUESDAY
FEBRUARY 7TH
9:00 - 10:30 A.M.
ROOM 2121

MONDAY
MARCH 20TH
3:30 - 5:00 P.M.
ROOM 2121

STUDENTS ARE INVITED TO ATTEND THE MATH WORKSHOPS. CONNECT WITH MATH PROFESSORS AND TUTORS TO LEARN ABOUT MDC-WEST CAMPUS' RESOURCES AND ACE MATH! IN ADDITION, WE WILL ALSO BE PROVIDING:

- ONSITE TUTORING
- GIVEAWAYS



FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT ACADEMIC SUPPORT LAB
ROOM 2121 OR AT 305.237.8986

We would also like to highlight the achievements of members of the Academic Support Lab Team. Jennifer Deronville who has just recently earned her Bachelors of Science from West Coast University. Jennifer has been working as an Instructional assistant in the Academic Support Lab while pursuing a degree. She hopes to enter into a New Graduate Registered Nurse program in the near future, and to eventually become a Nurse Practitioner.

In addition, Cheryl Mudrow, Instructional Assistant, has received her associate's degree in Business Administration from Miami Dade College. She hopes to continue her education, culminating in a Bachelor's degree.

Finally, Rocio Garcia Miniet will be completing her Master's Degree in Math Education from Nova Southeastern University this coming May.

We are proud of all members of the Academic Support Lab continuing to pursue knowledge and hope they can serve as valuable models for our students.

Looking Forwards

As MDC West grows, we hope to grow with it. This spring brings many changes and improvements to Miami Dade West Campus and we are proud to be a part of those changes. To all faculty and staff we want to express that we want to hear from you all on how best our Lab can support you and your students. We are open to all ideas and want to stress communication and cooperation.



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