

## Tutor Profile



*Matthew Williamson*  
Writing Tutor  
Orlando SEC

Matthew has been tutoring at NSU for three years. He holds a bachelor's degree in English literature from Hamilton College in New York. Matthew works full-time for Universal Orlando as a Supervisor of Guest Services Communications. In his role, Matthew oversees written and verbal communication with resort guests through letters, emails, and telephone calls. Matthew enjoys the craft of writing and the art of helping others to express their thoughts and passions through the written word. Matthew also enjoys performing, and he is currently working on the libretto for an opera. Next year, Matthew plans to pursue a master's degree at Rollins College.

## Building Annual Traditions



From October 5–9, 2009, the Office of Academic Services celebrated a Week of Tutor Appreciation. The tutors received useful and tasty treats that put smiles on their faces. On October 7, the doors were opened to students, faculty, and staff for the Annual Open House. The event attracted a number of students who learned about the services and materials available to them from the Office of Academic Services. A lucky winner of the raffle walked away with a gift bag filled with academic and confectionary delights.

## Director's Message

Welcome back! I hope everyone had an enjoyable and restful holiday break alongside loved ones.

The winter 2010 semester promises to be one full of new exciting opportunities for NSU students to excel and become engaged with the NSU community.

The Office of Academic Services (OAS) will be adding a part-time writing tutor to the Ft. Myers Student Educational Center (SEC) effective January 2010. A supplemental instruction pilot program will be launched this semester as a proactive means of bringing academic support services to the classroom.

The EyeQ speed reading and comprehension program initiative will

be expanded to reach a wider student audience.

Additionally, OAS staff is excited to host an array of student success workshops as part of the "Tools for Success" series sponsored by the Title V Office. As usual, faculty workshop or presentation requests continue to be honored through the online request form available on the OAS Web site.

OAS is always ready and eager to be of assistance to the NSU community in supporting student success. We encourage you to *COME IN* and find out more about the services and resources available to you. Best wishes for a great semester!

Lisa Walther-Austin, Director  
Office of Academic Services

## Tutor Profile



### Sonya Chacko

Math Tutor  
Main campus

Sonya is a junior in the Dual Admission Program for pharmacy. She is a biology major with a minor in chemistry. During her undergraduate years, she participated in the Undergraduate Student Symposiums and the NSU Bossa Nova Chorale. She has also held various executive board positions, such as the vice president of the Honors Students Association, public relations chair of Intersarsity Christian Fellowship, and the secretary of Beta Beta Beta. She has been recognized as a Dean's List Scholar and has been awarded the Honors Distinguished Student Scholarship for her achievements. Outside of school, Sonya is involved in her church community as a leader in the choir and as a Sunday School teacher. Sonya enjoys being a tutor because it gives her an opportunity to help others, especially when she is able to help other students enjoy what they are learning. In addition, tutoring is preparing her for a future career as a pharmacist!

## Student Testimonials

*Beyond working on grammatical corrections, the tutors at the Kendall campus assist me with molding my thoughts and translating them into coherent words on paper. I attend tutoring not only to deliver improved papers to my instructors, but also to become a better writer. I encourage every student to take advantage of this service.*

Hassan Sharam  
Education, Miami SEC

*As a student with a learning disability, I have used testing centers at the three universities I have attended. NSU's testing center, which I have been using for two years, has surpassed all my expectations. I found the staff to be very responsive and accommodating to student concerns.*

Keisha F.  
Sociology, Main Campus

*I was having a hard time writing my sociology position paper. I went to the tutoring center, they showed me things that did not work, and we talked about what I needed to do. I got a high grade on my paper, and that was great. I encourage everyone to take advantage of this service.*

Nicolle Joseph  
Nursing, Main Campus

## Welcome Ft. Myers

The Office of Academic Services is excited to welcome the Ft. Myers site into the tutoring family. Effective January 2010, Karen Ryan, a new tutor, will be offering writing tutoring services at the Ft. Myers Student Educational Center. We expect Karen to stay busy providing one-on-one tutoring and delivering workshops.

## Faculty Corner

**When using testing services, do you remember to...**

- ✓ Advise your students to schedule testing appointments at least 24 hours in advance;
- ✓ Indicate time accommodation on the instructor cover sheet (when needed);
- ✓ Complete the instructor cover sheet fully;
- ✓ Deliver tests at least 24 hours prior to the student's scheduled appointment time;
- ✓ Pick up tests in a timely manner?

## Tutors Needed

**The Office of Academic Services is looking for tutors in physics, organic chemistry, and statistics II.**

If you want to become a peer tutor (math, science, or business), you must have:

- A minimum of 30 earned credits
- An overall GPA of 3.4 or higher
- A "B+" or higher in any course to be tutored

To apply, go to [www.fcas.nova.edu/academic\\_services](http://www.fcas.nova.edu/academic_services), fill out an application, and drop it off at our office (Parker 100).



## Contact Us

### Main Campus

Parker 100

Monday–Thursday

8:30 a.m.–7:00 p.m.

Friday

8:30 a.m.–5:00 p.m.

Saturday

10:00 a.m.–2:00 p.m.

(Hours subject to change)

Front Desk

(954) 262-8350

Testing

(954) 262-8374

Lisa Walther-Austin,

Director

(954) 262-7919

Gail Levine,

Assistant Director

(954) 262-8354

Teshie Herbert,

Coordinator

Main Campus Tutoring

(954) 262-7902

Natalie Candela,

Coordinator

Off-Campus Tutoring

(954) 262-8356

Armante Labady,

Coordinator Testing

(954) 262-8373

### Student Educational Centers

For appointments, call 800-757-7257, ext. 28350

Tutoring hours vary.

## Contributing to the Community

This year, the Office of Academic Services has undertaken several service projects within the local community. In preparation for the new school year, office staff collected school supplies, which were donated to children at Wilton Manors Elementary.



The school was thrilled to accept the much needed supplies.

To celebrate the holiday season, the Office of Academic Services organized a food drive and donated all collected food to the Broward Outreach Center in Hollywood, FL. The center currently provides emergency shelter, counseling, education, and job placement to over 600 people. The office staff also was happy to participate in a pie drive by donating twelve pies for the Center's Thanksgiving Dinner.



## Blockbuster Rentals

Does the Office of Academic Services rent out blockbuster DVDs for free? Well, that all depends on how you interpret the word "blockbuster." When we think of blockbusters, the words that come to mind are *hit*, *best-seller*, *runaway success*. The math DVDs in OAS come close to fitting that description. Here is what NSU students say about our math DVDs available for free one-week rentals.

*"The DVDs allow me to feel like I have my own personal math teacher."*

*"The DVDs are structured and well organized. They provide reinforcement of the material when I'm just reviewing and studying on my own."*

*"Working with the DVDs allows me to learn at my own pace and go back and hear information repeatedly, if necessary."*

*"The DVDs provide information in a lecture format, with practice examples that I can work along with."*

*"Sometimes the material in class goes too fast or I just need a refresher. The DVDs provide that review."*

Come and check out one of our DVDs. They are rated "S" for success!!!

## EYE Q Speed Reading Program

EyeQ is a computer-based software program that guides students through various exercises that help strengthen the brain-eye connection in an effort to enhance reading speed and comprehension. A trial program was implemented over the last year, and students using the program reported great success. For more information, please contact [AcademicServices@nova.edu](mailto:AcademicServices@nova.edu) or call (954) 262-8350.