

# Access

## Disability Services

Sinclair Community College

Spring 2009

### Important Dates to Remember

Deadline for financial aid guarantee (for fall 2009)	August 1, 2009
Registration for fall quarter begins	May 27
Last date to drop a class with a "W"	May 22(for C Term)
Spring quarter ends	June 14

**Access** is a quarterly newsletter meant to be a source of information for students regarding current issues related to aspects of disabilities. In each issue you may find information related to a specific disability or possible "reasonable accommodations" according to federal mandates. Students will be informed of upcoming events. We also encourage you, as a Sinclair student, to take part in this newsletter. If you have questions, concerns, or information you want to share with your peers, please submit the information for publication consideration.

### Friendly reminder

Requesting and submitting Self-Identification letters to your faculty for the quarter is your responsibility. We continue to have Self-Identification letters left in the office each quarter. Remember, we are happy to assist students; all you have to do is contact us.

### What's New?

In a recent conference, we took note of a number of new pieces of personal equipment that have been developed over the past several months. Assistive personal devices are definitely the "new wave" as students enter college or continue their college careers. More colleges and universities are actually using blogs and IM/texting as ways to dialog with students. Several items are available for you to consider:

- [Digimemo](#), a useful device for students who have difficulty taking notes. It is basically a clipboard that comes with its own writing utensil. A classmate would take his/her notes using this clipboard, thereby having their personal copy. What is neat is that students who own the Digimemo can upload the notes to their computer through a USB port, thereby having an electronic copy of the notes that were taken.
- Are you tired of carrying around your laptop or finding an ADA station? [Read & Write Gold](#) is a mobile version of Text reading software that you have on a USB thumb drive that works on any computer. All you do is provide the scanned information or internet site for it to read. Finally, for anyone who procrastinates - consider the numerous PDAs, organizers, on cell phones, or Microsoft Outlook to assist in monitoring your time. If you recently acquired a technology device, please provide us with your feedback. Call me old fashioned, but some counselors still like seeing and speaking with students in person. So IM or call your counselor to set up an appointment. Share your thoughts.

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## Speaking about technology...

Would you like a few decent websites? Browsing through different sites, I found a few geared more toward students with ADD or Learning Disabilities; however, I think they provide information that can be helpful for a wider number of people.

This first site I received six months ago via e-mail. It is geared more for ADD and learning issues. PBS had a documentary that impressed me in which they mentioned [MisUnderstoodMinds](#). This site addresses different aspects of LD and ADD including the potential problems not only in math, reading, and writing, but also with the memory and attention skills that impact students.

A second site I browsed several times is focused more on ADD, but it also addresses areas of interest for those of you who have difficulty with concentration, memory, or related academic concerns. [ADDitude](#) offers information on various aspects of life in general such as relationships, work, and life skills.

Additude recently published a list of different summer programs. Even though many family budgets may be tight this summer, I decided to provide a list of these [summer programs](#) for your consideration.

## A final note:

I found this poem in a research article I was reading a month or so ago. I thought it was very appropriate because even I, as a parent, student, and counselor, sometimes forget what is truly important. This poem has many renditions, but appears to be attributed to a Lewis Timberlake book titled *It's Always Too Soon to Quit*.

Failing doesn't mean I'm a failure;  
it means I haven't yet succeeded.  
Failing doesn't mean I have accomplished nothing;  
it means I've learned something.  
Failing doesn't mean I've been disgraced;  
it just means I dared to try.  
Failing doesn't mean I don't have what it takes;  
it just means I must do things differently next time.  
Failing doesn't mean I am inferior;  
it means I'm not perfect.  
Failing doesn't mean I've wasted my time;  
it just means I have reason to start over.  
Failing doesn't mean I should give up;  
it just means I must try harder.  
Failing doesn't mean I'll never make it;  
it just means I need more patience.  
Failing doesn't mean I'm wrong;  
it just means I must find a better way.

## Would you like to submit something for the next edition of ACCESS?

Please submit information by March 5, 2009 either by:

1. Email [james.shuler@sinclair.edu](mailto:james.shuler@sinclair.edu) (subject "ACCESS")
2. In person at 10421 (DDS office), please include your name with the material so we can return it to you

Everything will be considered; it is up to the discretion of DDS staff whether to publish submissions.

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