Welcome! It is hard to believe that summer is over and we are starting the 2012-2013 academic year. I hope you enjoyed your summer break. I encourage you to take a few minutes to read this edition of our E-Newsletter which has important and relevant information to assist you throughout the semester and year.

Feel free to come by the DSS Office to say hello and let us know how you are doing. We are here to assist you.

Wishing you a successful semester!

Priscilla F. Levine, LCSW
Director

### Note from the Director

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### An Additional Resource for Educational Enrichment

The Kelter Center is a learning to learn center founded in 1977. Their mission is to assist students' close the gap between their current skills and what is expected in the classroom through one on one instruction. Typically students seek The Kelter Center because they are struggling in the traditional classroom setting. The company commits to the following values: Dedication, Honesty, Equality, Respect and Collaboration. These values combine to create a learning environment that delivers high quality teaching, open communication and constant support.

Currently they have locations in West Los Angeles, Beverly Hills, Tarzana and looking to open additional centers in parts of Los Angeles. The Kelter Center is currently offering to come to LMU if you can’t make it to one of their locations. For fees and inquiries or to schedule an appointment contact Nicole or Noelle at (310) 312-1056. To contact Noelle directly please email noelle@thekeltercenter.com.

To learn more about The Kelter Center, please visit their website at www.thekeltercenter.com.

### Fall 2012 Schedule

- Aug. 27—Classes Begin
- Aug. 27-Aug. 31—Visit the DSS Office to complete your accommodation forms
- Aug. 31—Last day to Add/Drop classes for 100% tuition refund
- Sept. 3—University Closed/No Testing
- Oct. 12—Autumn Day/No Testing
- Nov. 2—Last day to withdraw from classes & apply for credit/no credit grading
- Nov. 9—Priority Registration begins for Spring 2013
- Nov. 21-23—University Closed/No Testing
- Nov. 26-Nov. 30—Completed proctoring forms for Finals are due!
- Dec. 10-14—Finals Week

### Spring 2013 Schedule

- Jan. 14—Classes Begin
- Jan. 14-18—Please visit the DSS office to complete your accommodation forms
- Jan. 18—Last day to Add/Drop classes for 100% tuition refund
- Jan. 21—University Closed/No Testing
- Mar. 4-Mar. 8—Spring Break/No Classes
- Mar. 22—Last day to withdraw from classes & apply for credit/no credit grading
- Mar. 27-29—University Closed/No Testing
- Apr. 5—Priority Registration begins for Fall 2013
- Apr. 15-26—Completed proctoring forms for Finals are due!
- May 6-May 10—Finals Week
Meet the New Staff & Graduate Assistants

This summer the DSS Office has gained some new faces. In August, Leticia Barbosa was hired as the new Administrative Assistant. Leticia worked at El Segundo High School as a Senior Office Assistant/Job Developer in the Special Education Department. Leticia assisted students with career assessments, job placement and local internships. Leticia is excited to continue helping students and to be part of LMU’s Disability Support Services staff.

We are also welcoming three new Graduate Assistants working in our office this year. Chantelle Wells is an incoming graduate student in the School of Film and Television pursuing a Masters in Writing and Production for Television. Chantelle received a Bachelor of Science in Marketing from Northeastern University in 2003. She is looking forward to being a positive force in another student’s life. “Students with disabilities are probably the bravest of us all,” shares Wells, “and being able to help them, and know them, is rewarding for me.”

Jaqutelyn Cardenas is a first year graduate student in the School of Education pursuing a Masters in School Psychology. Jacquelyn received a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology from California State University, Northridge. She is looking forward to working with and getting to know the students. “I hope to gain the experience needed for my future as a school psychologist,” says Cardenas. “Mostly, I am looking forward to assisting students with disabilities at LMU.”

Our final graduate student who will be working in the DSS Office is Wendy Sanchez. Wendy is a continuing graduate student in the School of Education pursuing a Masters in School Psychology. Wendy received a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology from California State University, Long Beach in 2011. “I am excited to work with a team that is focused on meeting student needs by providing them with necessary equipment and people to make their college career lives as successful and comfortable as possible,” says Sanchez.

If you have not yet had a chance to introduce yourself to our new staff members, please make some time to stop by and say hello.

Second University Advisor Comes to the ARC

In the Spring 2012 edition of the DSS Newsletter, we introduced you to University Advisor Sandra Luca. Since that time the Academic Resource Center (ARC) has welcomed another University Advisor, Shelby Schaefer.

Schaefer, while a new face in the ARC, is not new to LMU. Schaefer spent 5 years as an instructor for the English Department during which time she completed her masters degrees in English and Education. “I really enjoyed that time,” says Schaefer, “and I came out of it with a great education.”

Like Luca, Schaefer will be available to students as a resource for understanding academic procedures and programs. “I found during my time teaching that there were a lot of students who didn’t know some necessary tools, like how to access PROWL, register for classes, or look at their CAPP report. I would end up using class time to show them how to do these things,” shares Schaefer. “Now there’s a place for students to get these answers and I’m happy I get to be a part of that.”

As we shared last semester, the University Advisors serve as a key resource for students seeking clarification about University academic policies and their program of study. This fall, Schaefer says to be on the lookout for a service called “Kickstart” that will be open to all new LMU students. Through Kickstart, students will be able to access different academic resources online via MyLMU Connect. To join in the fall, just type “University Advising” into the MyLMU Connect organization search bar and click the link. “The plan is for students to be able to conveniently access tools they need, such as time management and test preparation,” says Schaefer. “They will find advising resources on registration, how to go into an advising meeting prepared and so forth.”

The University Advisors will also provide activities for undeclared majors to make the major selection process easier. “In collaboration with BCLA, we are planning a Majors Fair where department members will be in attendance and students can ask questions in an informal setting,” says Schaefer. “It’s a way to get students connected with the right people.”

In the meantime, Schaefer invites everyone to stop by and introduce themselves. “I love playing video games, gardening and I also love barefoot running. That’s a little bit about me,” shares Schaefer. “I hope our students feel comfortable walking through my door.” If you are interested in meeting with Schaefer or any one of the University Advisors, feel free to contact them via email at advising@lmu.edu.
LOYOLA MARYMOUNT UNIVERSITY
DISABILITY SUPPORT SERVICES
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Los Angeles, CA 90045-2659
Phone: 310-338-4216
Fax: 310-338-5344
E-mail: dsslmu@lmu.edu

DSS MISSION & GOALS:
Loyola Marymount University’s Disability Support Services (DSS) Office provides specialized assistance and resources to enable students with physical, perceptual, learning, ADHD and/or psychological disabilities to achieve maximum independence while pursuing their educational goals. Services are offered to students who have established disabilities under federal and state law.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS:
• Accommodation Form Reminder:
Accommodation forms must be completed for each class. DSS must approve and stamp your Accommodation Forms before you present them to your professors. Once your professor has signed your forms, it is your responsibility to return them to the DSS Office. You are encouraged to complete your Accommodation Forms as early in the semester as possible.
• Educational Testing Services (ETS):
Many of you will be taking the GRE, GMAT, PRAXIS, TOEFL, or some other high-stakes examination this year. To help you prepare more effectively, the Office of Disability Policy at ETS has developed a brochure, “Tips for Test Takers with Disabilities.” This brochure can be found on the ETS Office of Disability Policy website at: www.etc.org/disabilities
• Bookshare:
Bookshare is an online accessible digital library for individuals with a print disability that consists mainly of Braille and Digital Accessible Information System (DAISY) format. DAISY Format is accessible on many adaptive player devices and reading software including Kurzweil.

If you are interested in exploring and signing up for Bookshare, it is located online at http://www.bookshare.org. If you need any assistance in getting an account set up, please feel free to stop by the DSS Office to see the DSS Administrative Assistant, Leticia Barbosa, for assistance.
• Learning Ally:
Learning Ally, formally known as Recording for the Blind & Dyslexic (RFB&D), serves more than 300,000 K-12, college and graduate students, veterans and lifelong learners – all of whom cannot read standard print due to blindness, visual impairment, dyslexia, or other learning disabilities. Learning Ally’s collection of more than 75,000 digitally recorded textbooks and literature titles – downloadable and accessible on mainstream as well as specialized assistive technology devices – is the largest of its kind in the world.

You can sign up for an individual membership for $99/year on the Learning Ally website. Learning Ally also offers financial aid to those who can demonstrate serious financial need. For more information visit Learning Ally’s website at www.learningally.org. Also, please feel free to stop by the DSS Office if you need some assistance in registering for a membership.

DSS Student Testimonials
“Don’t be ashamed and take advantage of your accommodations.”
-Communication Studies Major
Class of 2012

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-Communication Studies Major
Class of 2012

My advice would be to take advantage of the services at DSS, because even if you don’t think you need any help, it’s good to know that it is available to you in the office. It also helped to make sure I got all the paperwork done in the first few days of each semester.”
-Communications Studies Major
Class of 2011

“The DSS Program provided by LMU is a great benefit to those students who make the effort to put forth the time and energy into their individual education. If you have your priorities in line and if you ask the questions in need, the DSS Office and staff will fully support and guide you into the right direction.”
-Studio Arts Major
Class of 2012

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