

PEER TO PEER

THE COLLEGE OF ARTS & SCIENCES
ACADEMIC STUDENT NEWSLETTER

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AMERICAN UNIVERSITY

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STUDENT FAQ OF THE MOUTH:

How do I declare a major in CAS?

Declaring a major is not a difficult process. Just ask your peer or academic advisor or pickup a form in Battelle 100. It is, however, a process you should spend some time thinking about. You are not required to declare a major until the end of your sophomore year. Students should take a few classes in their desired major before declaring. Some other suggestions for help deciding: go and speak to a professor about majoring in their field, or explore your interests at the career center. For more information about declaring a major, visit www.american.edu/cas/advising/declaring.cfm.

AU'S PRE-MEDICAL PROGRAM

The **Pre-Med program** (or Pre-Health Program) here at AU is unique because the university does not offer a specific medical degree. Students are able to major in any field of study while also taking courses that prepare them to apply to medical school after graduation.

Dr. Lynne Arneson holds the unique position as the Pre-Med Coordinator/Advisor for American University. She stopped by our office to chat about the program for this month's *Peer to Peer* newsletter and podcast. When students join the program, they are in her very capable hands until they are admitted to a medical school.

For students in the Pre-Med program there are many opportunities available while studying here at AU and post-graduation. **Assisting in research laboratories** on and off campus and **volunteering at local hospitals** and doctor's offices are just two examples of the many things Pre-Med students can do to gain experience in the field of medicine. Dr. Arneson stressed the importance of these experiences when applying to a medical program.

If you are interested in learning more about the Pre-Med/Pre-Health Program, feel free

to contact Dr. Arneson by email at: larneso@american.edu or you are welcome to stop by her office in **Beeghly 108** during her office hours.

To hear the interview with Dr. Arneson in its entirety, check out our podcast! See page 2 for more information.



Pre-Med advisor Dr. Lynne Arneson

WEDNESDAY WORKSHOPS WITH KATIE YOUNG

There is a great new opportunity for CAS students to get the academic advising information they need! Wednesday workshops with Undergraduate Assistant Academic Advisor Katie Young!

These workshops are informal meetings on a topic that every AU student should know. Katie explained the workshops saying, *"These workshops contain information I wish I had known sooner rather than later."*

The workshops consist of a brief

presentation on an academic advising topic of interest. This is followed by an opportunity for questions and group discussion. This is all fueled by **FREE PIZZA!**

E-Mail Katie Young @: ky3492a@american.edu with questions. No registration necessary, just drop on by. Workshops are held **5:30-6:30pm** in **Battelle 130**.

All are welcome and encouraged to attend!



Dates and subjects that will be covered:

10/14 Spotlight: Social Sciences

10/21 Spotlight: Natural Sciences

10/28 Learning Styles

11/4 Building a Class Schedule

11/11 4-Year Planning

11/18 Research Opportunities

12/2 Study Tips

RESOURCE SPOTLIGHT: CAREER CENTER



Need help choosing a major? Looking for a job or internship? Creating your first resume or cover letter? Then visiting the Career Center should be your next stop!

The AU Career Center is a great resource for anyone who is looking for some direction. They have staff that are trained in resume writing/revising, career/internship searching, and

even graduate school advice.

The Career Center is located on the 5th floor of Butler Pavilion. Stop by their open hours or feel free to send them an email at careercenter@american.edu. There are two advisors in the career center designated for CAS students: **Marie Spaulding**, and **Anna Litman**.

For more information on Career Center events and resources visit their website

at: www.american.edu/careercenter

Upcoming Career Center Events:

Whose Life is it Anyway? 4-part series using self-assessment tools to explore your passion. Series begins 10/19 but registration ends 10/9 so don't wait!

Applying to Graduate School Workshop: 10/13, 6-7:30pm in McKinley 155

CHECK OUT OUR PODCAST!

Get ready for the newest addition to the peer advising repertoire: the supplemental *Peer to Peer* Podcast!

We are very excited to be hosting a digital podcast for your enjoyment. We plan to cover a number of academic topics throughout the year in our "sometimes monthly" submissions.



Here is some of what we plan to feature regularly:

~Interviews with students and faculty regarding interesting academic opportunities/experiences

~Q & A session

~Entertaining and informational hosts

We want your input too! Each month you can submit questions and suggestions for pieces that you would like to be featured in the podcast.



We will choose one submitted question to answer in the next month's podcast. Whoever submits the chosen question will win \$5 in Eaglebuck\$!

So check out our podcast by going to our website (www.american.edu/cas/advising/peer.cfm). **The first podcast will be available on 10/15.** Send your questions and suggestions to CASPeerAdvisors@american.edu.

REGISTRATION 101: HOW DOES IT WORK?

Heads up continuing students! Registration for the Spring 2010 semester is right around the corner! (Priority registration starts on 10/26; registration times are assigned by number of credits earned). So how does it work for CAS students? For all continuing students, *except* new F09 freshmen and transfers, you **MUST** be cleared to register by your academic or faculty advisor. How do you know which one? If you are UNDECIDED, you should meet with your academic advisor. If you are DECLARED, you should meet with your faculty advisor. Remember, students need to be cleared to register EVERY SEMESTER. So don't wait until the last minute!

***New F09 freshmen:** You are required to attend a REGISTRATION WORKSHOP before you meet with your advisor to be cleared to register. We will be sending information to sign up for the workshops soon; keep an eye out for the email. You are **REQUIRED** to attend a registration workshop AND meet with your academic advisor to be cleared to register. So plan accordingly. Peer advisors will also be available to help put together your spring schedule. If you have further questions about the registration process, email us at CASPeerAdvisors@american.edu.

DATES TO REMEMBER

- 10/9: "Whose Life is it Anyway" Workshop registration deadline. See career center website.
- 10/16: Fall Break; no classes, university offices open.
- 10/23: Last day to drop a course. Please see your advisor before dropping a course.
- 10/24: English Competency Exam, 10 am– 1 pm, Ward 2
- 10/27: "You're in the Majors Now!" CAS Majors Fair. Battelle Atrium, 11 am-2 pm. Still undecided about a major? Check out our annual majors fair! Representatives from all major departments and schools will be present. There will be games, free food, and prizes! Come find the perfect major and hit a home homerun!

