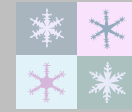


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# Awakenings

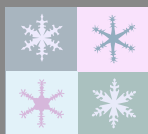
Editor: Karlsun Allen



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- A Great Resource

The Caldwell College Academic Support Center wishes everyone a Happy Holiday Season!



## Academic Support Center, Caldwell College

### What Goes On at the Caldwell College ASC

By Karlsun Allen

In the last issue of Awakenings, the history of the Academic Support Center was related; now this article will describe its offerings more in depth.

The Academic Support Center offers many great opportunities for students, tutors, and teachers—basically everyone at Caldwell College.

I was able to speak with Nancee Roth regarding the functions of the Caldwell College Academic Support Center. Nancee Roth, in her own words, is a “multi-tasker”; her official position is Coordinator of Tutoring Services, but as she said, “she does a lot.” She is on several committees, assigns subject tutors to their students, keeps track of what is going on in the tutoring sessions, handles a lot of paperwork, and generally

sees to the needs of the department.

The Academic Support Center offers a chance for students to learn from peer tutors and professional tutors and to become involved in extra educational programs. There are approximately forty-five peer tutors (tutors who are themselves students at Caldwell College) and four professional tutors.

There are tutors for all subject that are offered by Caldwell College. As Nancee Roth said, “If someone is having trouble in a particular subject, I’ll do whatever I can to get him or her a tutor.”

The most popular tutoring subjects are Math, Science, and Writing. Roth relayed that math is at the top of the subject tutoring list because “there are so many different math courses

offered.”

The Writing Center, headed by Dr. Sandra Duguid, has the most peer tutors, and its peer and professional tutors assist students with writing across the curriculum.

Most of the subjects tutored are set up on a one-on-one basis; however, several subjects have multiple tutors. Again math, writing, and science make the list because they are so frequently used; however, philosophy also has multiple tutors. According to Roth, in the last fall semester (2008), 2,000 hours of tutoring occurred in the Academic Support Center.

There are several qualifications for becoming a tutor: normally, a tutor should be recommended by a professor who teaches in the respective subject. A strong GPA is also important;

(Cont. on page 2)



By Namech Rajbhandari

A popular novel about a dystopian world, 1984 transcends the satire on totalitarianism and its threat, rife in the days when George Orwell wrote the book. The book leaves its reader dumbfounded and grateful as he/she realizes what could have been during the era of KGB and the Stasi. However, the book also should make every reader realize what has come to pass. The Big Brother concept has featured prominently in popular

media; however, the use of the concept in politics has gone vastly unmarked and unchallenged.

The protagonist, Winston Smith, is a government employee who works for the Ministry of Truth. Ironically, his job is to fabricate the news in papers printed in the past to fit what the party has done since and what Big Brother, the party leader, has said since. However, the humdrum of daily life, the never ending surveillance, the

constant threat of being “named,” and the impossibly antagonizing task of not committing thought crime sows a feeling of hatred in Winston. His wish of revolting against the party is soon realized when he meets Julia and establishes an intimate physical/emotional relationship with her. The thrill of opposing the indoctrination of celibacy and the knowledge of the existence of other rebels (like Julia) soon take him to O’Brian, a member of the

(Cont. on page 2)



## What Goes On at the Caldwell College ASC [Cont.]

almost all tutors in the Academic Support Center have GPA's over 3.5. Tutors also must possess a great deal of patience and the ability to multi-task and communicate their subject effectively to any number of students. They must also possess a good personality, be able to legally work in the U.S., and be reliable and confidential. Tutors are paid at the rate that Human Resources mandates; currently, tutors make \$7.40 an hour to start, and if the tutor earns \$300 dollars or more in that year, the next year the tutor is eligible for a raise.

Nancee Roth told me that being a

tutor says something about a person. Being a tutor says that you know how to teach others to understand material and to think critically. Several years ago the Caldwell College Academic Support Center signed up to be eligible for the College Reading and Language Association's "Master Tutor Program." This is a three level process which helps tutors understand and teach certain subjects better. Although this program does not make one into a professional tutor, according to Roth, having it on one's resume is impressive.

There is no limit to the number of times a student may come in for tutoring, and tutoring is always free of charge. The Center is regularly open from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm. The Writing Center is also open from 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm on Monday, 5:00 pm to 8:00 pm on Tuesday, and writing help is available in the dormitories three nights a week. Math and a small selection of other subjects are also offered on a regular basis in after hours. The tutoring process begins even before the semester gets under way and continues through to the end. So come soon, come often, and consider becoming a tutor yourself.

## Book Review, 1984 [Cont.]



Brotherhood, which is an underground political entity that works against the Party. However, Winston gets arrested by the Thought Police for offenses against Oceania, one of the three super-states of the world in the book. He is betrayed by O'Brian.

The book deals with thematic issues of seclusion, love, rebellion and betrayal. However, the important concepts that make the book 1984 enduring are the novel concepts of Telescreen, Thoughtcrime, and Newspeak, the tools of the party to

subdue the masses. These concepts can be seen in various actualized forms in today's world. The increasing limits on freedom of speech and the need to be "politically" correct have obliterated some phrases and words, just as does Newspeak, the new language created for the state of Oceania. Similarly, Telescreen is parallel to CCTV cameras. There are more profound connections to the present world that readers may infer from the book.

George Orwell is one of the most

accomplished writers in English prose. His simple yet detailed writing makes the book all the more enjoyable. In my opinion, he is one of the most effective writers when it comes to descriptions; his attention to details while maintaining a detached relation to the object being described is impressive. 1984, in this sense, can serve a dual purpose; it is a prime example of beautiful English prose, and, most importantly, an eerie image of the close proximity our society has to the dystopia described in the book.

### By Cristina Sinanan

While doing research for one of my classes, I discovered a website, The Owl at Purdue ([owl.english.purdue.edu](http://owl.english.purdue.edu)), that I think is worth sharing with my fellow classmates. This website encompasses all the major fields in writing and is fully detailed and self-explanatory as well. It contains almost all the information students need to know when writing their papers. Everything is clearly outlined and very simplified, so that students who are struggling with their papers will find it very easy to understand and follow. Most importantly, the website is very up-to-date with MLA and other styles.

The Owl at Purdue contains examples of all different types of citations, as well as practice questions

in full detail, which help to keep students from making errors in their papers.

After telling my friend about this website, she was able to increase her grade from a C to an A in her research paper. After following some of the guidelines in this website, I was also able to ace all my research papers during the summer, and I hope to continue using it since it has proved to be a great resource.

Students whose first language is not English should not feel that this website is of no use to them because it incorporates an entire section for ESL (English as a Second Language) students. This website is a great resource for all students because it focuses on a wide variety of writing

techniques, such as "Research and Citation, General Academic Writing, Grammar and Mechanics, Creative Writing, Internet Literacy, Professional, and Job Search Writing," just to name a few.

Writing is very important to people who want to become educated because it is used as a form of expression, and sometimes people associate the personality of an author with what he or she writes. Therefore, we should not take writing for granted and should try very hard to become the best at it. I hope students use "The Owl at Purdue" as a tool when writing their papers, in addition to making frequent visits to the Writing Center where our enthusiastic staff await everyone in need of assistance with their papers!

