

# NEWSLETTER

NSU's Tutoring and Testing Center

Volume 13, Fall 2014

## TUTOR PROFILE



My name is Patrick McGowan and I'm a Florida native returning to Broward after spending the last ten years pursuing my education in other regions of this state. I have teaching and tutoring experience at University of Central Florida, University of South Florida, University of Florida, Santa Fe College and Broward College. I look forward to having new experiences working with students and colleagues at NSU. I've been passionate about tutoring since I started at University of Central Florida in 2007 and I continue to grow as a tutor during every shift.

I'm currently a PhD candidate at University of Florida. My dissertation focuses on the overlap between American hard-boiled detective fiction and American social sciences throughout the twentieth century; however, my academic interests include cultural studies, modernism and genre fiction more broadly. I'm also interested in many music genres and, while not a traditional musician, I spend my downtime using computer software, keyboards and music samples to compose songs in electronic, dance, and hip hop genres. Although I never watched sports growing up, I have become a football and basketball fan in the last couple of years.

## Director's Message

### *Welcome to the Fall2014 semester!*

The Tutoring and Testing Center (TTC) is committed to your success, and we want you to make this semester your best yet. As part of this effort, I invite you to visit our facility during Academic Success Week (9/15 – 9/19) when we will be highlighting all the wonderful resources available. I want you to think of tutoring as a resource to support your everyday study habits, not just something you may turn to when you are already falling behind. To be proactive is key in keeping your edge as a student.

Also, don't forget that as part of our resources we have study areas with computer access within our facility - you can simply drop in to study and take advantage of these quiet

spaces. Once again, I urge you to take action early in the semester and discover how TTC can support your academic success!

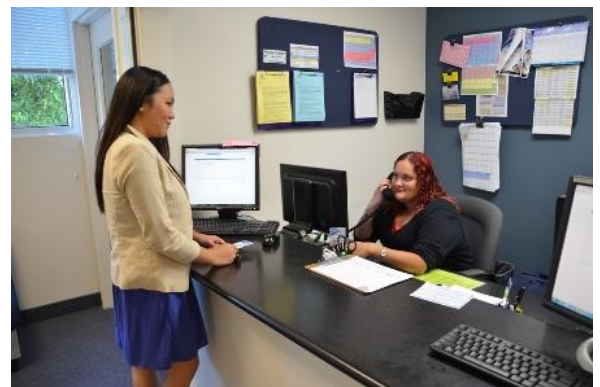
Best wishes for a great semester!

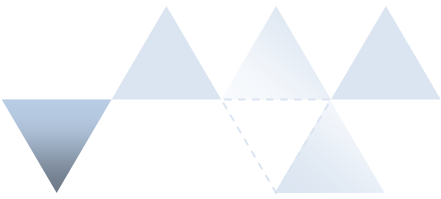
**Lisa Walther-Austin**  
Director, Tutoring and Testing Center



## Recognition 2014

On April 17<sup>th</sup>, the Tutoring and Testing Center hosted its 7<sup>th</sup> annual celebration to recognize NSU tutors for their hard work, valuable contributions to the office, and achievements throughout the 2013–2014 academic year. Tutors were addressed by Dr. Brad Williams, Vice President of Student Affairs and Dean of the College of Undergraduate Studies. Our graduate speaker for the evening was Math Education major Marissa Hoffman. We were also pleased to welcome Micah Moreno as our alumni speaker. Micah was part of the 2010 class and a graduate of NSU's humanities program.





## TTC Community Service

Traditionally, the Tutoring and Testing Center spends a day once a year to take a retreat from the office and reinforce our commitments to team work and a positive office atmosphere. However, this year, the Tutoring and Testing Center staff chose to do something different than our standard lunch and staff development meeting.

On August 12<sup>th</sup>, the TTC staff volunteered to work with LifeNet4Families at the Edward W. Smith Jr. Family Nutrition Center. We spent the afternoon working side-by-side with LifeNet4Families staff unpacking shipments of donated food, arranging and categorizing food on the shelves, and assembling the boxes of food needy families would be picking up. The entire TTC staff had a rewarding experience and felt great about the contributions we were able to make in just the single afternoon we spent there. We wish the staff at LifeNet4Families the best of luck in their future efforts to aid the underprivileged in our community.

### TUTOR PROFILE



My name is Steffani Tiomno and I'm a Biology major with a double minor in psychology and business. I grew up in Weston, FL and have been at NSU since August 2011. I am finishing my Bachelor's degree in December 2014, with pursuits of starting Optometry School in Fall 2015. I've been a peer math/science tutor since Summer 2012 and have a pure passion for helping other people in many ways.

In the past I have been Treasurer and President of Rotaract (a community service organization), with heavy involvement in helping with various community service projects. In addition to working at Tutoring and Testing at NSU, I have been babysitting since high school and just started to work as an Optometry Technician at Pearle Vision in July 2014. My dream is to one day open my own Optometry practice with a continuation in helping others in any way I possibly can! When I'm not busy working and studying, I enjoy running, yoga, reading, and spending time with my friends.



Tutoring centers come in many shapes and forms. Some have a multitude of resources—such as computer labs, study rooms, textbook resources, and satellite locations.

But the goal for all remains the same: **Assist students to become active and independent learners!**



*Robert Miyares,  
Coordinator of  
Tutoring and  
Testing*

## Testing Basics

Testing Services continues to be a test administration site for CLEP, DSST, and NYU Foreign Language Proficiency exams. Students must contact their academic advisor before making appointments to take any exam and then contact Testing Services for specific dates or appointments. Students can also contact the Office of Student Disability Services for more information on individualized accommodations for students with documented disabilities.

## Success Tips

We hope your efforts to stay on track and keep up with the rigors of college-level study are effective. However, if there are topics that you are struggling with in your attempt to reach this goal, please stop by the Tutoring and Testing Center and see what we have to offer. You may be surprised!

## Tutors Needed

If you want to become a peer tutor (math and/or science), you must have the following:

- minimum of 30 earned credits
- overall GPA of 3.4 or higher
- “B+” or higher in courses you want to tutor

To apply, visit <https://www.nova.edu/webforms/tutoring-testing/tutor-application/index.html> fill out an application, and drop it off at the TTC office in the Student Affairs Building. Additionally, an application through JobX will be required. JobX is found through your SharkLink portal.

## Testing News: Upay

Effective the Fall 2014 semester, **all TESTING payments will be done through the Upay** system located on our website at:

<http://www.nova.edu/tutoring-testing/testing-services/index.html>

Upay provides students with a sophisticated, secure, and efficient online payment facility.



## CONTACT US

### MAIN CAMPUS HOURS OF OPERATION:

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.

### REGIONAL CAMPUSES

Tutoring hours vary.  
For appointments, call  
800-541-6682, ext. 28350

These hours are subject to change.

**FRONT DESK**  
(954) 262-8350

**TESTING**  
(954) 262-8374

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(954) 262-7919

Gail Levine, Associate Director  
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