What is a peer mentor?

Our learning community has peer mentors who work with members of the CLC. Peer mentors coordinate out-of-class activities, ranging from study groups to social events. They also provide a voice of experience and consult with individual students.

The peer mentors for the 2010 – 2011 academic year are:

Samantha Journot, sammyj@iastate.edu
Travis Cordes, tjcordes@iastate.edu

They will each hold two office hours a week; the location will be announced.

Here’s what students say about learning communities....

“The thing I liked most about being in the learning community was the immediate sense of belonging, coming in as a freshman in college.” Emily

“I have people I can study with, people with the same study habits who are focused and want to get good grades in class.” Laura

“Some of the people that I met through the learning team are my best friends at Iowa State. If I had to do it all over again, I would make sure that I entered Iowa State as a learning team member.” Jeremy

“Networking with professors also had a very positive affect on my academics, a result I still benefit from today.” Carlene

Interested in signing up for the Chemistry Learning Community?

Joining the learning community is easy. Just follow these steps:

1. E-mail one of the people listed below.
2. Sign-up for summer orientation.
3. Meet with your adviser at orientation to get into the learning community.
4. Show up in August for the learning community pizza and ice cream social and classroom hunt that will be held the Sunday evening before classes start.

College is an exciting time of life.
You can explore the hundreds of opportunities available to you on campus. Iowa State Learning Communities are one of the exciting opportunities awaiting you.

Contact Us:
Prof. Theresa Windus
twindus@iastate.edu
515-294-6134

Dr. Joe. Burnett
joe_b@iastate.edu
515-294-6352

Website:
www.chem.iastate.edu/undergrad/learning-community.html
What is the Chemistry Learning Community?

The Chemistry Learning Community (CLC) seeks to build a community environment that fosters the educational and emotional growth of chemistry students. Because of the strong emphasis on research in the chemistry community, it is centered around a research theme. The CLC consists of weekly meetings and activities with freshmen and transfer students in the Fall semester and in the Spring semester enrollment in Chemistry 110X “Cutting Edge Chemistry: Research and Career Opportunities” and additional activities.

Our goals include

- building a supportive community for our freshmen and transfer students by creating and promoting connections between the majors, peer mentors, faculty and staff,
- exposing freshmen and transfer students to undergraduate research opportunities, and
- helping students learn coping, problem-solving and communication skills.

We will introduce students to support services, resources, and opportunities at ISU including AccessPlus, WebCT, and the Society of Chemistry Undergraduate Majors (SCUM) – our chemistry club. We will develop team-building, problem-solving, and professional skills, provide educational- and service-based field trips, and invite faculty to discuss their research. We will also have some fun activities!

Why join the CLC?

- Make a fast, smooth, and easy transition to Iowa State
- Get to know people and make friends in your major or area of interest right away
- Develop a supportive network with other students, peer mentors, and professors
- Learn about interesting research in the department
- Explore career opportunities
- Have fun!

Are learning communities helpful for students?

Students who participate in LCs are more likely (than non-participants) to remain at Iowa State and they are more satisfied with many aspects of their academic experience, including their overall experience at ISU.

This year is the debut of the CLC and we need you to make it a success!!

Also, LC students have reported greater satisfaction with their opportunities to:
- interact closely with faculty, participate in study groups, apply their learning to real world problems, and work with other students.

“Coming in as a freshman to ISU, you need to feel like you belong and that you have a support network. The LC provided me with this support and exceeded all of my expectations.” - Lakisha