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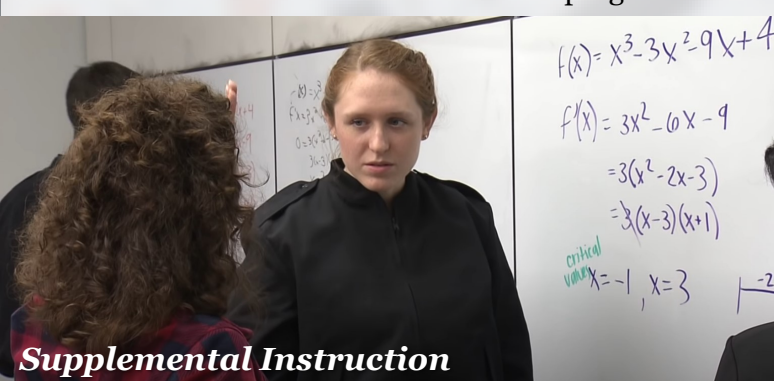
*Summer*  
*Academic Year 2021*

Greetings, Class of 1963!

As the Director of the Class of 1963 Center for Academic Excellence (CAE), I would like to update you on an unusual though highly successful year. Academic Year 2020 will forever be associated with COVID-19 and USNA's response to the global pandemic--the challenge of abruptly halting classes after nine weeks of spring semester to transition to online-only instruction, the debate over pass/fail grades, and the images of midshipmen graduating in masks. However, for CAE, this year also proved that we can adapt and overcome. Despite enormous hurdles, CAE conducted 45,811 total visits, making this our second-highest year to date! That's an average of 1,347 student visits per week. We even broke a new record during week 6 of the fall semester with 2,375 visits in one week.

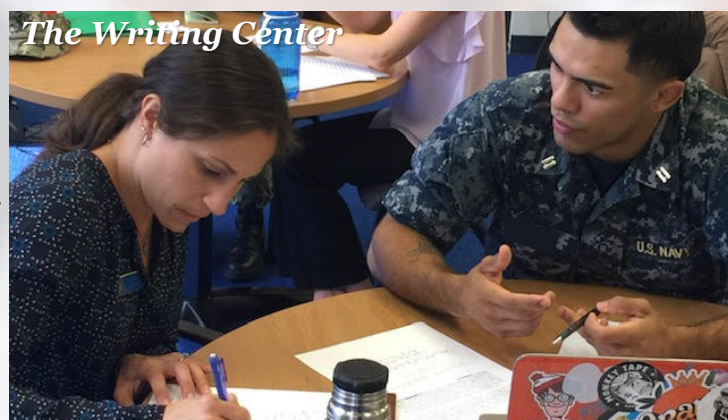
A notable highlight, this year we saw the highest percentage ever of the plebe and youngster classes, with 98% of 4/Cs and 84% of 3/Cs utilizing a CAE-provided service; of the Brigade, 3,114 unique students visited CAE, which is 70.7% of all midshipmen. From our sports teams, 72% of varsity athletes utilized CAE, with an average of 12 visits per week. Yet another record-breaking number, 80% of students with a 4.0 QPR visited an average of 13 times per week--a testament to our devotion to supporting academic excellence.

Our proudest accomplishment this year, however, is that during the early weeks of the country's quarantine, we were able to reboot and transition to online services quickly, continuing student support in all of our programs. In the final 5 weeks of the spring semester, we saw 1,247 unique students virtually for a total of 5,271 midshipmen visits, over 1,000 visits per week. During uncertain times, we were able to reassure the Brigade that CAE remained committed to their academic success with these effective programs:



♦ **Supplemental Instruction (SI)** - Students enrolled in traditionally difficult STEM courses can sign up for these non-credit SI classes with no homework, no quizzes, and no tests--just helpful support. There are an average of 65 SI courses per semester, with around 10 students enrolled in each course. With over 12,300 visits from 720 students, SI continues to be CAE's most popular service.

♦ **The Writing Center (TWC)** - TWC offers one-on-one writing consultations for midshipmen for all writing projects at every stage of the writing process. Our professional and peer tutors work collaboratively with students to improve both the work in progress and the student's overall writing proficiency. We also provide dynamic writing and public speaking workshops throughout the semester. This year, our public speaking expert conducted three distinct workshops for the entire plebe class, a series that was very well received. We also reached a record-high number in fall term with 2,704 midshipmen visits and finished the year with 3,777 total visits; that's an average of 118 visits per week.



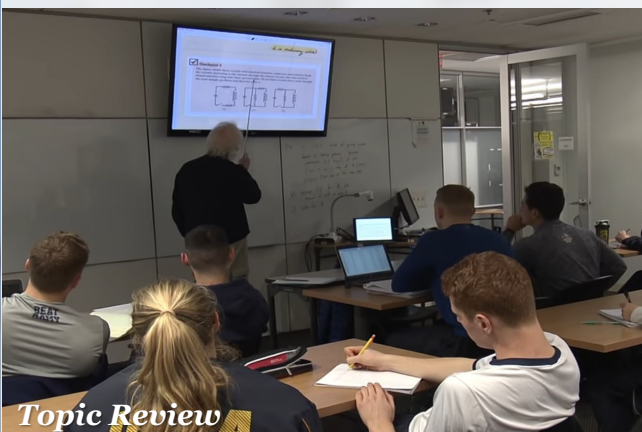
♦ **Midshipmen Group Study Program (MGSP)** - Approximately 120 MGSP Leaders work closely with their paired faculty sponsors throughout the year to support their peers by facilitating weekly group study sessions. Dozens of courses are supported. In AY2020, leaders were responsible for 10,209 visits. New leadership and more rigorous training continues to bolster the program, making it one of the most sought-after forms of academic support in CAE for the second year in a row.

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*The mission of the Class of 1963 Center for Academic Excellence is to support the mission of the Naval Academy by providing the highest quality academic support programs for all midshipmen seeking to improve their academic performance.*

- ◆ **Evening Tutoring** - Offered Sunday through Thursday evenings every week, this program is designed to augment Extra Instruction with professional mathematics, chemistry, and physics tutors. The Brigade took great advantage of these valuable tutoring sessions this year with 5,166 visits, a number that is up 442 visits since AY2019.

**Evening Tutoring**



**Topic Review**

- ◆ **Topic Reviews & Exam Reviews** - Each week, our professional staff holds Topic Reviews for specific areas of core-course-related material, such as "Derivatives," "Electrical Circuits," or "Internal Combustion Engines." In addition, to help students prepare for six-week, twelve-week, and final exams, Exam Review sessions are held in propulsion, physics, chemistry, and calculus. Last year we conducted 526 review sessions, approximately 16 per week.

- ◆ **Advanced Learning Skills** - Through one-on-one consultations and custom workshops, our learning skills program helps midshipmen develop critical skills and learn strategies in memory improvement, note taking, time management, reading, test preparation, and test anxiety. Our Learning Specialist has continued to extend her reach throughout the Brigade via one-on-one consultations, traditional workshops, and company workshops. This year alone, she had 564 visits with 398 unique students.

- ◆ **ACE Reader** - This 4-6 week program has proved to dramatically increase midshipmen's comprehension while greatly improving reading speed, and therefore remains an enticing draw for all midshipmen, plebes in particular. Consistent with the last several years, almost 40 midshipmen completed the program in AY 2020 to enhance their reading performance. This year, we once again implemented a customized ACE Reader course focused on Navy-specific articles. 4 workshops were offered, yielding 159 total student visits.



**Learning Skills Workshop**

Thank you, Class of 1963, for your valuable support. This year midshipmen were forced to navigate uncharted territory personally and academically while continuing their studies across the country at home. Thanks to your patronage, we were able to guide them through new learning challenges. Dedicated to this mission, we see the new academic year as an opportunity to help these future naval officers thrive, no matter the circumstances!

Sincerely,

Dr. Bruce J. Bukowski  
Director, The Class of 1963 Center for Academic Excellence