A FRESH START

The spring semester is finally here and winter break is over. Are you ready to embark on a new journey? You have the chance to start afresh, especially if you are disappointed with your fall semester grades. The spring semester is an opportunity for a fresh start. You have the ability to learn from the mistakes that you may have made in your first semester in order to turn your grades around. One of the best ways to begin the new semester is to recommit to managing your time wisely.

You may do this through a wall calendar in your room, a planner, or maybe you prefer to use the calendar on your smart phone or PDA. No matter which option you utilize, it is important to plan out your time very carefully. In your calendar you will need to block off all of your classes plus all assignments for each of your classes. After you have done this you may want to put any intramural events, home sporting events, and Campus Activities Board activities into your calendar. Carry your planner or calendar with you when you go to class, because professors may adjust an assignment deadline or test date. It is important that you write these assignments into your schedule as well. After writing all of these things into your calendar you may find it helpful to plan out times when you plan to study. This tip can be helpful when it comes time for midterms and finals. Finally, in order to better manage your time, you have to actually look at your calendar or planner everyday to make sure that you are getting your assignments completed on time.

What about weeks where everything seems to pile up (i.e., papers, weekly assignments, exams)? Here are some tips to handle this type of situation:

— Identify the most time intensive and important assignment and when it must be turned in.
— Estimate how many hours it will take to complete the assignment.
— Divide the total number of hours that it will take to complete the assignment into 1-2 hour blocks of time and fit them between your other time commitments.
— Repeat the first 3 steps for assignments that are second, third, and fourth priorities.
— Finally, it is important that you schedule at least 1-2 hours per day doing something that you enjoy doing.

If you take these time management tips into consideration and apply them to your semester you can make a fresh start!
REFLECTIONS OF A PEER MENTOR: RELATIONSHIPS IN COLLEGE

BY: JOANNA D’ANCONA

By now many of you have figured out the new friend thing, and now that you have received your grades for the fall semester I am sure you also realize which friends you can hang out with during finals week and which friends are better for a night out. Of course, we have been learning how to make new friends since kindergarten. So for college students, creating new relationships with our peers should be pretty easy. But, how many of you have thought about a relationship with your professors, or staff members like those who work in the business office or the staff in Marshbanks?

The truth is, while peer relationships are important for many reasons, relationships with the faculty and staff on campus can open vast opportunities for you. I won’t be the last to tell you that you do not need a bad grade on a test or paper in order to go see a professor. A professor’s office hours exist for a reason; for students to come and talk to their professors. While discussing class material or a paper topic is a fantastic way to start a one-on-one relationship with a professor, most if not all professors at Campbell are excited to talk to you about future career plans, project ideas, or college life in general.

I am lucky enough to have co-taught my CUFS 100 class with my academic adviser. If there is one professor you should get to know outside the classroom it is your academic adviser. This person can be so much more than just a professor who puts in the advising code for your classes. This semester I was able to spend an hour or two a week planning for my CUFS class with my adviser. Not only did we plan for class but I was able to discuss my future plans, internship opportunities and life in general. It was a great outlet for stress about future concerns and current concerns about grades and many other things.

Other mentors are all over. Take a look around, talk to the staff at Marshbanks, ask the employees at the Registrars office what their summer plans are, you will soon find that everyone who works at Campbell wants to hear from you and see you succeed.