

# Disability Support Services Newsletter

## Contact Information

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Please visit our website at

<http://www.iusb.edu/~sbdss/>

Summer is going by way too quickly! As we prepare for another busy and productive year, the office of Disability Support Services would like to introduce our newsletter. The purpose of this publication is to provide students and others with information regarding events and issues related to students with disabilities.

This issue will introduce our staff, hours, and the mission of the office of Disability Support Services. Future issues will include information on different disabilities, IUSB events and dates to remember, and community information. We will offer tips and strategies for the classroom environment and ways to enhance the academic experience.

It is our goal to use this newsletter to disseminate useful information. If there are topics that you would like to see in future, or if you have suggestions for the newsletter, please submit those to DSS and we will do our best to cover those issues. If you have a submission for the newsletter, please contact the DSS office, and pending approval, we will publish it in the newsletter.

Any questions or comments please send to:

[anmdrake@iusb.edu](mailto:anmdrake@iusb.edu)

## Mission Statement

Indiana University South Bend understands and endorses the ideal that everyone should be given an equal opportunity to learn. The Office of Disability Support Services (DSS) is committed to assisting the university community so that people with disabilities are assured an equal opportunity to participate in, contribute to, and benefit from all university programs, services, and activities. DSS supports individuals with disabilities in achieving their academic potential to the greatest extent possible by coordinating reasonable accommodations and facilitating services. We are committed to providing equal access to higher education for academically qualified individuals with disabilities.



## DSS Staff

Did you know.....

In an average academic year, the DSS office serves approximately 260 students.

The breakdown by disability type is as follows :

- Learning Disability 22%
- ADHD/ADD 28%
- Psychological 18%
- Other Health Impairment 13%
- Deaf/Hearing Impairment 3%
- Blind/Visual Impairment 2%
- Orthopedic Impairment 8%
- Autism Spectrum 3%
- Cognitive Impairment 3%

Last academic year grade statistics are :

- GPA  $\geq$  3.0: **37%**
- GPA  $\geq$  2.0: **82%**

The students we serve through our office are extremely hard working and successful !

- Dr. James Hasse, PhD. Director of DSS

Dr. Hasse has been with Indiana University South Bend for over 2 years as Director of Disability Support Services. Previously, he held the same position at Lake Michigan College.

- Anne Drake, BA. Disabilities Specialist

Anne Drake has been working with the Disability Support Service office since January of 2009. She graduated from Indiana University South Bend in 2008 and is currently pursuing a Masters in Social Work.

- Tabitha Drake

Tabitha is Anne's Leader Dog and is a favorite of students , staff , and faculty on campus. She currently is pursuing as many Milk Bones, walks, and naps as she can get.

- Rachel Meredith, Student Worker

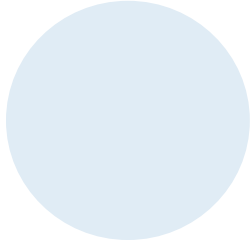
Rachel Meredith has been working with Disability Support Service office since 2008. She is currently pursuing her Bachelor's degree. Rachel is a valuable asset to the DSS office .

### Spotlight on Disabilities- Learning Disabilities

The term Learning Disability or LD refers to a group of disorders that affect a broad range of academic and functional skills, some of which may be the ability to speak, listen, read , write, and spell. An LD does not mean the individual has low intelligence. In fact, a diagnosis of a learning disability requires average or above average intelligence. Causes of LD's include a deficit in the brain that affects the processing of information.

The presence of a learning disability is usually detected in early childhood, and accommodations for the LD are set up for the child throughout the school years. It is possible however for the LD to go undiagnosed and the individual may not know that they have an LD until later in life.

A learning disability can't be cured or fixed; it is a lifelong issue. With the right support and intervention, however, individuals with learning disabilities can succeed in school and go on to successful, often distinguished careers later in life.



## **QUOTE OF THE MONTH -**

**"DISCIPLINE IS THE BRIDGE BETWEEN GOALS  
AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS."**

**-JIM ROHN**

## **Tips and Strategies**

- Get organized! Keeping your class papers and books in an organized manner helps you not only find what you need, but also helps you stay focused for the class and tasks at hand. Keep each class's paperwork, syllabus, handouts, homework etc. in it's own folder.
- At the beginning of the school year, you can buy folders for as little as 10 cents each! Buy ten, that's only \$1.00! Notebooks and other supplies are very inexpensive at the beginning of the school year as well.
- Keep each class's books, notebooks, and folders separate. It is easier to locate what you need for any work, and easier to pick out what you need for the next day.