

# SUCCESS

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

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**UMKC** Academic Support  
and Mentoring



## BEST OF BOTH WORLDS: VIRTUAL AND IN- PERSON SERVICES

ASM's services for Fall 2021 will be a combination of in-person and virtual sessions via Zoom. UMKC Tutoring offers in-person and virtual appointments based upon the student's request. Drop-in hours for tutoring are predominantly in-person with the exception of virtual hours on Tuesday, Thursday and Sunday nights. Supplemental Instruction will offer at least one session in-person each week, and the second session's location and time will be decided by polling students. Writing Studio continues to offer services to students in-person, virtually via Zoom, and by email. For a complete overview of services for this fall, check out our services on the [ASM website](#).

## ABOUT ASM

UMKC's department of Academic Support and Mentoring (ASM) offers a wide range of services and programs to help students meet their academic goals. Services available through ASM include the Writing Studio, Supplemental Instruction, Tutoring, and Roo Up Seminars. ASM also provides programming and resources for Summer Bridge Scholars, First Gen Roo, Jumpstart KC, and Trustees' Scholars.

ASM's **mission** is to provide innovative support services and resources to ensure educational access and personal success for every student. Our **vision** is that every UMKC student persists and graduates with the personal and professional skills to achieve their vision of success. Learn more about ASM on our website at [www.umkc.edu/asm](http://www.umkc.edu/asm).



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## MORE COURSES, PLEASE!

UMKC Tutoring and Supplemental Instruction (SI) are pleased to support more courses this fall than in the prior year. SI will now be offered for Accounting 211 and resuming support for several nursing courses. UMKC Tutoring is now supporting courses in Civil/Mechanical Engineering, Electrical and Computer Engineering, and Computer Sciences in partnership with the School of Computing and Engineering. In addition, tutoring will be offered for the first time in Conservatory 351-History of Music in Western Civilization I. Check out the ASM website for a complete list of support courses for [SI](#) and [UMKC Tutoring](#).

## ASM BY THE NUMBERS: FALL 2021

- 37** Courses Supported by SI
- 61** Courses Supported by UMKC Tutoring
- ALL** Courses Supported by Writing Studio

## DID YOU KNOW?

### ASM SERVICES AVAILABLE DAY ONE

UMKC Tutoring, SI, and Writing Studio services are all available for students beginning the first day of the fall term. For more information, including hours and locations, check out the [Fall 2021 ASM Info Sheet](#).

## UMKC PEER MENTORING

Last spring, a collaboration among First Gen Roo and Summer Bridge Scholars within ASM, PAL, Honors, and Multicultural Student Affairs resulted in streamlined application and hiring process for peer mentors across the various programs. This new initiative ensured that the departments were no longer competing for a pool of qualified applicants, helped applicants understand the various types of peer mentorship opportunities and responsibilities, and allowed for collaborative hiring across programs in some cases (i.e. candidates hired to be both PAL and a Summer Bridge Peer Mentors). Approximately 59 applicants were interviewed, and 53 students were hired to serve in these crucial roles.



# UMKC IS FIRST GEN PROUD!

## ABOUT FIRST GEN ROO

First Gen Roo was launched through the College of Arts and Sciences in 2019 as an effort to better support UMKC's first-generation college students, and transitioned to the ASM department in December 2020. UMKC defines a first-generation student as any student whose parents or guardians did not receive a bachelor's degree in the United States. UMKC's first gen initiatives include [First Gen Roo Scholars](#), a weeklong experience prior to the start of the fall semester; and [First Gen Proud](#), a community of students, staff, and faculty who are proud to be first generation themselves or who are declared supporters.

## FIRST GEN ROO SCHOLARS PROGRAM EXPANDS

The First Gen Roo Scholars Program expects to host 80 or more scholars August 15-20, nearly double the number of participants in Fall 2020. Scholars will participate in in-person, online synchronous and asynchronous activities designed to provide an early introduction to campus and resources, community-building, academic experiences, interactive programming, peer mentorship, and assistance in forming personalized plans and goals for the first semester of college and beyond. For more information, visit the [First Gen Roo Scholars website](#).

## FIRST GEN SCHOLARS PAY IT FORWARD

UMKC's First Gen Roo Scholars benefit from other students who have "been there" and "done that," and are now serving as FGR Peer Mentors. This year 13 students have been hired to serve as peer mentors for students throughout the program and beyond.

*"I've learned the beauty of first-generation identity and why it's important to have a place on campus that recognizes us. This program was super inclusive of me and everything that I am and what I had to offer. It didn't pick and choose parts of me that would be beneficial but rather accepted me as a whole as I worked on areas of growth."*

-2020 FGR Peer Mentor

**ARE YOU  
FIRST GEN  
PROUD?**

Join UMKC's First Gen Proud Community

Access First Gen Zoom backgrounds

View the First Gen Proud Registry

Follow us on Instagram



A DeBruce Foundation staff member leads members of the 2021 Summer Bridge cohort in a discussion.

## SUMMER BRIDGE SCHOLARS SUCCESS

This year's Summer Bridge Scholars Program served a cohort of 24 students in a hybrid model, with three weeks of online programming before moving to campus. The [UMKC Summer Bridge Scholars Program](#) provides an academically rigorous summer experience for provisionally-admitted incoming first-year college students to prepare them for a successful college career at UMKC. This year's scholars benefitted from a partnership with the [DeBruce Foundation](#) in helping each student identify and develop their [Agilities](#) and explore how their unique skills are applicable to future endeavors. The 2021 cohort completed four hours of intensive coursework in the final five-week summer term including, for most students, Political Science 210 and University 100. The overall combined summer GPA for this year's cohort was 3.45, with 78% of scholars earning a 3.0 or above and seven students earning a 4.0 GPA.

## GRADUATE WRITING INITIATIVE UPDATES

Dr. Marcus Meade recently joined the Roo family as UMKC's Graduate Writing Specialist. Marcus brings a number of wonderful experiences and skill sets to the Graduate Writing Initiative (GWI), which is overseen by Dr. Thomas Ferrel, Writing Studio Director, and Dr. Chris Liu, Vice Chancellor for Research and Economic Development and Dean of the School of Graduate Studies. Information regarding the Graduate Writing Initiative is now available on the [GWI website](#), including [fall programming](#).

## JUMPSTART

Jumpstart KC provides an opportunity for students to volunteer with area preschools to help young children develop literacy skills. As an AmeriCorps program, Jumpstart is a great way for college students across all majors and areas of interest to give back to their community. Students who participate in 300 volunteer hours are eligible to **earn an education award of \$1342**, which can be used at UMKC to supplement their education costs. Interested students can [apply to volunteer with Jumpstart online](#) or contact [Silvina Munita](#) for more information.







## ASM BECOMES A ROO PANTRY SATELLITE LOCATION

ASM is pleased to announce that as of this summer the department is hosting a satellite Roo Pantry. There is even a refrigerator for perishable items! The ASM satellite pantry is located in the far southeast corner of the ASM space near the Writing Studio. This location was selected to draw more students into the space and to help eliminate the stigma of food insecurity.

## SI TECHNOLOGY PARTNERSHIP

The [International Center for Supplemental Instruction \(ICSI\)](#), staffed by members of the ASM team, has recently entered into a partnership agreement with [TEDU](#), an education software provider, for UMKC's campus SI program and as a partner with the ICSI which provides training and support for SI programs in institutions around the world. The TEDU (tee-doo) program is designed specifically for the unique needs of an SI program including the ability to schedule sessions during optimum times, communicate directly with students, collect attendance data, and generate detailed reports. The ICSI and campus SI team are excited to experience the benefits of this new technology.



## DO YOU SPEAK "COLLEGE?"

Summer Bridge Scholars field tested the use of Student Lingo®, an online service that provides student success workshops. ASM is working to develop ease of access for students and utilize this program for UMKC's RooUp Seminars. More to come!

## INTERNATIONAL CENTER SI LEADERS

Two experienced UMKC SI Leaders, **Lakshmi Kasi** and **Chandler Tarrant**, are serving in a student leadership capacity within The International Center for Supplemental Instruction. In these roles the students are taking part in such activities as updating materials for use by other institutions and providing professional development on a national/international level. These two stellar students will also help shape the SI Leader Council, an international collaboration and leadership opportunity for SI Leaders around the globe. The SI Leader Council will launch in June 2022 during the [12th International Conference on Supplemental Instruction](#) hosted by the ICSI.

# ASM WELCOMES A NEW TEAM MEMBER

## MEET EVAN WIKE

ASM is pleased to welcome **Evan Wike** to our team. Evan served as an SI Leader before graduating this past spring, then assumed a consultancy role in ASM to assist with data management. Evan began serving full time on July 19 as a Student Data Management Specialist, replacing Kori Martiny who was recently promoted to academic advisor. We are thrilled to have Evan on the team! In Evan's words:



*I'm most excited about the opportunity to apply everything I learned throughout my time as a Computer Science student and Supplemental Instruction Leader here at UMKC. In this new role, I'll be working toward improving what we already do, with technology – be that by creating new ways to take and track attendance across all ASM services or analyzing student demographic data in order to identify and better target underserved groups – and I think my background as both a CS student and SI Leader offers a unique perspective and ability to leverage one for the benefit of the other. I'm also looking forward to continuing to work closely with TEDU, a tech startup we're partnering with to launch the official SI mobile app this Fall, and everyone else that I've gotten to know over the past few years here at ASM!*

## ASM'S JEDI EFFORTS

The ASM team has been working individually and collectively to improve in the areas of JEDI—justice, equity, diversity, and inclusion. Following a year of monthly professional development in AY21, the team participated in a full-day retreat in May to create a plan of action around four pillars: examine data, pursue development, create safe/brave spaces, and demonstrate advocacy and allyship. In addition to creating and publishing a [statement of beliefs, mission, vision, and commitments](#), our primary focus for the fall term has been to create safe/brave spaces for all UMKC students. Just as all students are welcomed here, we invite all faculty and staff to come visit us on the second floor of the Atterbury Student Success Center.

